

Home LifeStyle

PAGE 12

The Arlington Connection

SPORTS, PAGE 13 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 14

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION

Katerina Skowronek, winner of the girls' age 1-7 bracket, and Karl Skowronek.

'Love the Run You're With'

NEWS, PAGE 3

Couples Who Work Together Stay Together

HomeLifestyle, PAGE 12

Winter Harvest

NEWS, PAGE 2

W-L's Guenther, Yorktown's Kappel Win Wrestling Titles

SPORTS, PAGE 13

NEWS BRIEFS

Only Days Left To Enroll

ENROLL-Virginia's certified navigators and in-person assisters will be extending their work hours this last weekend of open enrollment in healthcare.gov to assist last-minute walk-ins from 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 14, and from 1 - 6 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 15, at Kenmore Middle School. No appointment is necessary. Individuals interested in getting help need to bring: 2013 tax return or recent pay stubs, certificate of citizenship or other legal immigration documents, social security numbers for every member of the family, employer name and phone number, and an email address accessible the day of the event.

Those needing local application assistance during the week can make an appointment on getcoveredamerica.org/connector. For questions related to the Kenmore Middle School events, contact Leni Gonzalez, education and outreach specialist with ENROLL-Virginia at 703-778-4808. For questions related to the enrollment process, eligibility or to volunteer at one or both events, email nova@enroll-virginia.com or contact Jacqueline Pujol at 703-647-4750 or Fernando Violand-Mercado at 571-355-3535, education and outreach specialists with ENROLL-Virginia.

Democratic Committee Backs Primary

At its monthly meeting, the Arlington County Democratic Committee voted unanimously in favor of a primary for local candidates in the November 2015 election. By state law, the primary will be held on Tuesday,

June 9 at all of the 52 polling locations in Arlington County. Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Absentee voting will be available both in person and by mail.

The committee also approved two School Board caucuses, if they are required.

- ♦ May 14 - School Board caucus, Drew Model School, 7-9 p.m.
- ♦ May 16 - School Board caucus, Washington Lee HS, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Other important dates for citizens wanting to run for office and/or to vote:

- ♦ Feb. 24 - Notification of adoption of primary for party nomination deadline
- ♦ March 2 - School Board candidate filing deadline and training 7 p.m.
- ♦ March 9 - Candidates can begin filing with the party chair
- ♦ March 26 at 5 p.m. - Deadline for candidate declarations filed with Department of Elections - Outreach Meeting and Finance Meeting
- ♦ March 31 at 5 p.m. - Party chair certifies candidates
- ♦ May 18 - Last day to register to vote for the primary June 9 - Primary Election Day.

The Virginia General Assembly is considering moving the official primary date from the second Tuesday in June to the third Tuesday in June. If passed, the primary date may be changed to June 16.

Selling Land for Affordable Housing

Approximately 200 commissioners of the National Capital Presbytery gave unanimous approval on Jan. 27 for Arlington Presbyterian Church to sell its property to the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) to build approximately 140 units of affordable housing on the church site along Columbia Pike.

APAH will be seeking the necessary financing and land use approvals during 2015, with hopes of closing on the property in July 2016. The church will continue to worship in the building until that time.

The church has the right of first refusal to lease back the street-front retail space from APAH in the new building where the church now stands.

For more information on Arlington Presbyterian Church, visit www.arlingtonpresbyterian.org, for more information on APAH, visit www.apah.org.

NEWS

Winter Harvest

Half a dozen vendors set up tables laden with winter fruits and vegetables, handmade jams and jellies, grass-fed meats, eggs and home cooked foods, freshly baked pies and breads at the Sunday farmers market on Columbia Pike. The year-round market organized by the Columbia Pike Revitalization Committee is celebrating its 20th year. The market is located at the corner of S. Walter Reed Drive and Columbia Pike. The hours are Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to street parking, parking is available across the street on the first underground level of the Halstead's parking garage.

Acme Pie Co. head chef and pie cutter Sol Schott and Stephanie Thomas hold a Blackberry pie with a hint of lime and a lattice top. The Acme Pie Co., a whole bakery, offers a selection of freshly baked pies for sale at the market on Sunday.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION



Japanese and Beauregard sweet potatoes and carrots.



Fuji, Stayman, Pink Lady, Nittany and more apple varieties from the Twin Springs Fruit Farm in Orrtanna PA.



A selection of Felicity's handcrafted soaps.



Michael Kress from Twin Springs Fruit Farm sets out more apples at the market.



Brussel Sprouts and winter white radishes.



Melissa Columbus greets customers at the Twin Springs vegetable and fruit stand.



Fairy cabbage.



Wallis Lahtinen offers her daughter Felicity's handcrafted soaps for sale.



Samples are available of many of the freshly baked breads and pastries at Grace's Pastries stand.

‘Love the Run You’re With’

Valentine’s Day race draws a crowd.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

After weeks of miserable cold, the weather warmed up just enough to make the Pacers Running “Love the Run You’re With” 5 kilometer race in Arlington bearable. More than a thousand runners came out to Pentagon Row at 9 a.m. on Feb. 8.

“The weather was fantastic this year compared to last year,” said Maggie Lloyd, one of the runners. “Last year we were freezing. This year’s a lot more comfortable, so I think we’re a lot happier with our times.”

Lloyd was running in a co-ed singles team with Dustin Renwick.

“We ran it last year and we were somewhat disappointed with our times,” said Renwick. “I don’t know if it was the cold, the course, or what. This year it felt a lot better.”

Renwick noted that this is one of the first early season races in the area. The warmer weather was one possible reason for the large turnout. For many runners who’ve started over the winter break, this was the first chance to show off their progress in a race.

“This was my first 5k,” said Darina Markozashvili, “it got pretty challenging towards the end.”

Her running mate, Sari Dallal, was a little more experienced.

“The course was really fun,” said Dallal. “This was my fourth race. Two of the other ones I did were with the same event company, so they all have a very similar vibe.”

Volunteers at the race helped keep track of runner’s times and set up refreshments at the finish line. Margaret James, one of



Runners turn the corner on the final stretch of the 5k race.

the volunteers at the race, handed out granola bars and bananas to race participants once they passed the finish line.

“I’ve been doing this since 2008 as a volunteer,” James said. “There is so much energy here, and the people are all very nice.”

Some reactions to the race were mixed. “I’ve run a lot of other Pacer’s races before,” said Wallace. “This one was pretty average.”

Wallace said he prefers Crystal City’s 5k Fridays and the Twilight Run.

“There was nothing really special for me here,” said Wallace, “but the karaoke is still to happen.”

Wallace’s running partner, Christina Glover, was looking forward to the karaoke as well.

“I didn’t meet any single guys, but it’s not too late, there’s still the karaoke,” said Glover, who was deciding between Katy

Perry’s “Firework” or Al Green’s “Tired of Being Alone”, which she noted was “Really going to be a great mood booster for the crowd.”

The karaoke immediately followed the awards ceremony held at Champps restaur-

ant. The fastest runner was Kevin McNab, a 28-year-old from Washington D.C. who ran the three miles race in just over 15 minutes. Other awards were broken up by ages and split between couples, singles, and “it’s complicated.”

Runners
Christina
Glover and
Brett Wallace
relax after
the race.

PHOTOS BY
VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET



Board Revisits Plan To Address Growing Enrollment

Goal of 725 new elementary school seats no later than September 2018.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

The Arlington School Board responded to the County Board’s decision not to approve a new elementary school site with a statement expressing the School Board’s renewed commitment to engaging with the community to find a solution.

The site chosen by the School Board was immediately adjacent to Thomas Jefferson Middle School and the County Board ex-

pressed concerns that School Board had conducted no studies to determine the school’s impact on the local neighborhood or traffic. Without directly addressing any of those concerns, at their Feb. 5 meeting, the Arlington School Board members took turns reading a “joint message” in response to the County Board’s decision.

“We’ve been talking a lot about capacity,” said Arlington School Board Chairman James Lander. “We had an opportunity to engage with the County Board with regard to discussing options that included the building of a new

elementary school at the preferred location of the School Board.”

Lander said the School Board will move forward focusing on the fact that the County Board offered to help find new sites on publicly owned land. On Jan. 28, Lander sent a letter to County Board Chair Mary Hynes to begin immediate discussion on alternative plans.

“We are moving forward and working with the county manager to identify a new set of short-, mid-, and long-term solutions,” said School Board Vice Chair Emma Violand-Sanchez. “The School Board

“We are moving forward and working with the county manager to identify a new set of short-, mid-, and long-term solutions.”

— School Board Vice Chair
Emma Violand-Sanchez

will seek input of its advisory councils, Parent-Teacher Associations, Civic Associations, and community organizations.”

The sense that the School Board had not engaged sufficiently with the local community was one of the primary reasons the County Board had voted against the proposal. However, at the County Board meeting, all members who voted against the plan still emphasized their support for finding a new school location for the additional required seats.

The School Board said that the goal is still to add a minimum of 725 new elementary school seats no later than the beginning of school in September 2018, and said that the funds from last election’s school bond are still committed to this purpose.

The School Board noted that the Thomas Jefferson site the County Board voted against would still remain in consideration as one of the potential sites.

PEOPLE

Protecting Wildlife and Planes

Reagan National Airport biologists help move birds from flight paths.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Reagan National Airport was deserted as more than 4,600 flights had been cancelled in anticipation of a record-breaking snowstorm on the East Coast. Clay Mealman, the new USDA wildlife biologist at Reagan had been up at dawn patrolling the airport perimeter. Ryan Stewart was transitioning Mealman into the position. Stewart had been “burning the midnight oil”

shuttling back and forth nearly daily between Dulles, where he is currently the wildlife biologist, and Reagan.

Stewart said at Reagan there are between 35-55 bird strikes a year. “We have picked up goose carcasses halfway to the bridge from wildlife strikes,” he said from his vantage point at Gravelly Point right under the flight path at the airport. In the winter there can be 5,000-10,000 geese. He added, “wildlife on the field can be a hazard. They can strike the aircraft and cause damage and hurt passengers.”

Mealman interjected, “Our goal is to protect flight safety and protect birds at the same time so they don’t get injured.” Reagan has had a wildlife biologist since 1999. The strike problem came more in focus as the FAA started collecting data in 1990 that showed these bird strikes could be costly to aircraft. The goal is to scare away flocks of birds or to capture them and relocate.

Stewart added, “See this red cartridge is a banger that projects up in the air with a cap gun. And this yellow one is a screamer that makes a loud noise like a rocket.” He says they also extend the pyrotechnics out onto the water to “extend the reach.” These are used to scare birds away. Stewart points to a Bal-Chatri trap with an agitated pigeon trapped inside. “These have been used for thousands of years and work with a noose. It doesn’t hurt the bird. And this is an Avian Dissuader,” he said, moving a glowing red dot around on his white truck door with a laser. He says it is harmless and very effective. Sometimes they use the pole trap. Birds perch on the top of the pole and a spring trap closes on the bird’s legs.

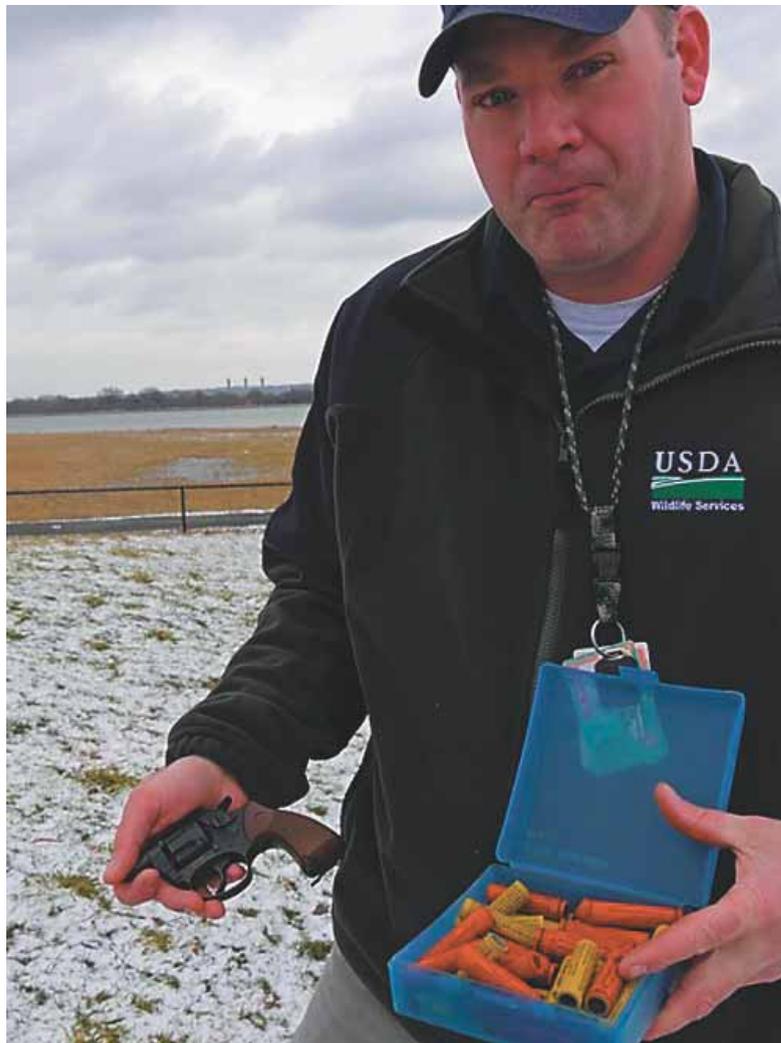
“But,” Stewart said, “it is a softer spring and a padded jaw so it won’t damage the bird.”

They catch a number of raptors including red-tailed and red-shouldered hawks, kestrels and an attempt to catch a snowy owl. “After last year’s eruption, the snowy owls are back so we’ve been trying to capture one. There have been two at Reagan and six at Dulles.”

Mealman added, “We think the snowy owls like Reagan airport because where else can you find acres of open grass in a big city.”

Stewart said the wildlife problem is seasonal with summer causing fewer problems. “Not as many birds migrate in the summer and some are molting so they aren’t flying.”

Mealman says he received a natural resources aviation degree from the University of Minnesota and then helped farmers protect their crops from blackbird damage. He



The red cartridge is shot into the air with a cap gun and the yellow cartridge is a “screamer” that lets out a loud noise.

earned a commercial pilot’s license and studied prairie chickens in graduate school. “I started looking for a job in a pretty competitive field. I didn’t even know these jobs existed. But I grew up being outdoors so this was a natural fit.” He had several shorter-terms jobs before starting three weeks ago at Reagan National.

Stewart got his start as a science major in school. Then his college roommate told him how he had caught a woodpecker, “and I thought it was really cool.” He came from Virginia Tech to Dulles where he has been the wildlife biologist for eight years and was a wildlife specialist for four years previous to that.

Stewart presses a button moving the motorized car across the grass scaring any birds in its path. He has a miniature boat used for the same purpose on the water. Stewart said the biggest challenge at Reagan is the Potomac River which is a significant wildlife attractant. Stewart said it is a small piece of land to manage but the key is habitat modification; it is important to educate the public on the bird strike issue, pointing to a man in the parking lot throwing crumbs at pigeons surrounding him on the concrete. “That’s not helpful.”

There is always something different every day in this job. “One day a dog got loose on the field from one of the airplanes and ran straight for the river.

The river rescue responded and pulled the dog from the water.” They returned the dog to its owner. “It was some kind of special dog.” Both wildlife biologists agreed they got into these jobs because they like wildlife. Mealman concluded that it’s all part of an integrated management program. The goal is to manage the various aspects of the airfield, use all methods to move birds in the safest way possible while promoting air safety.



Ryan Stewart sets up a pole trap to entice birds to perch on the top where a “soft” spring trap closes on the bird’s legs



The motorized car in the foreground scares off birds on the ground. The small boat is used for the same purpose on the water.



The laser gun shoots a small red dot that is very effective and safe at scaring off birds.



An agitated pigeon is caught in a cage that uses a noose to entrap the bird. The bird isn’t harmed in the process.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THROUGH FEBRUARY

Low Cost Spay/Neuter Vouchers.

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington, 2650 S. Arlington Mill Drive, is offering low-cost spay/neuter service vouchers for sale in honor of National Spay/Neuter Awareness Month. Surgeries will take place at one of the participating vet clinics. Voucher pricing: \$25 for male

cats, \$50 for female cats and \$75 for dogs. Pit Bulls will be spayed or neutered for \$25. A limited number of rabbit spay and neuter appointments are available for \$50 per rabbit. Pet owners are required to purchase their voucher in-person at AWLA and schedule their pet's surgery directly with the one of the participating vet clinics. Interested D.C. metro residents must meet the annual household income requirement of \$60,000 or less (proof of household income is required at purchase). Low-cost spay and neuter vouchers are limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call 703-931-9241, ext. 200 or email Adrienne Mintz at amintz@awla.org.

SCAM ALERT

The Arlington County Police Department and Sheriff's Office is warning the public about a missed jury duty telephone scam targeting County residents. The latest incident was reported Jan. 26, 2015, where an Arlington County resident received a phone call from an individual claiming to be a lieutenant with the Sheriff's Office. The victim was accused of failing to appear for jury duty and a warrant for their arrest was to be issued unless a fine is paid. The suspect asked for a "good faith" payment to be made immediately with a debit card and PIN number. If you receive a call of this nature, immediately hang up and

verify the claim by calling the Arlington County Sheriff's Office at 703-228-4460. Never use a phone number provided to you from the caller to verify their credibility. Also, never provide personal PIN numbers to anyone over the phone, this is a fraudulent request. After making a verification call, if you find that you were a victim of a scam or were a target, please file an online police report at <http://police.arlingtonva.us/online-police-reporting-system/> or call the non-emergency police line at 703-558-2222.

a.m.-7 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy St., Arlington. Tuesday, 1:15-7:45 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 South Walter Reed Drive. For taxpayers with low and middle income. All ages, with special attention to seniors. Federal and Virginia tax returns prepared and electronically filed by IRS-certified volunteers. Tax questions can be answered. Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), tax documents, and your prior year tax return.

FEB. 1-APRIL 15

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SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 7



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OPINION

Not the First or Only Time

Secrecy around police shootings has been a problem for at least a decade.

The official position of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on the need for changes in policy after the shooting of John Geer by police in Springfield in August of 2013 appears to be that this is the first time police policies have been a problem:

"Policies for handling police-involved incidents, which served us well for decades, were inadequate in this complicated situation."

Police-involved shootings have resulted in excruciating obfuscation and delay by Fairfax County Police dating back more than a decade. In this editorial, we refer to two high-profile cases, but these are not the only cases where police secrecy had caused incalculable pain to families while damaging the credibility of the police and other county officials. And this issue is not limited to Fairfax County. Alexandria and Arlington use similar approaches to limit public access to information.

Most Northern Virginia residents think very highly of their police. We are very safe here. People understand that sometimes mistakes happen, that sometimes force is needed, and that sometimes police will exercise deadly force. What they are unlikely to accept is secrecy that shrouds mistakes, and failure to take responsibility for explaining events of deadly force.

We'll quote the father of David Masters who wrote a letter to the Mount Vernon Gazette (a Connection Newspaper) in June, 2013, two months before John Geer was shot:

"I am the father of David Masters. David was shot to death by a Fairfax County police officer on Nov. 13, 2009 while sitting in his truck at a stop at the intersection of Route 1 and Fort Hunt Road. I don't know any more about the circumstances of this grim fatality now than I did then and now, as then, the records of this tragedy are not available to anyone outside the police department. The officer who shot my son was ultimately and I must say secretly fired by the then police chief, David Rohrer. But even that was done without any admission of culpability by anyone in the county. ... I don't understand why the Virginia Freedom of In-

formation Act gives blanket exemption to police matters. ... As it is now, the police department can, and seemingly does, operate in a culture of complete autonomy without fear that its actions will be held up to any kind of scrutiny."

The Connection reported in 2006 about the accidental shooting of an unarmed Salvatore J. "Sal" Culosi Jr. during his arrest on gambling charges:

"With red-rimmed eyes and her voice cracking, Anita Culosi expressed outrage Thursday evening [March 30, 2006] that a Fairfax County police officer will not be charged with a crime for accidentally killing her 37-year-old son. 'My son is laying in a cemetery,' she said, surrounded by family members holding framed pictures of her son. 'That man pulled a trigger and shot my son dead.'"

EDITORIAL

Anita Culosi's son, Salvatore J. "Sal" Culosi Jr., was accidentally shot to death by a Fairfax County SWAT team officer on Jan. 24 outside his Fair Oaks townhouse. He had been under investigation for illegal sports gambling for the previous three months, accepting at least \$28,000 in bets from an undercover Fairfax County detective.

In July, 2012, more than a year before John Geer was shot and killed, a group of citizens identified four cases, including Masters and Culosi, where police secrecy continued to block questions about shooting deaths. Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability characterized "questionable circumstances" around the shootings, noted that no one, including the families of the deceased victims, had been able to obtain a police incident report despite the fact that the four cases are closed.

CCPA Executive Director Nicholas Beltrante sent letters asking for the release of documents, "to find out what happened in the shooting deaths, why deadly force was used instead of a taser gun or beanbag gun, and to find out if police misconduct took place."

Beltrante said: "Our letters will highlight to the public the importance of amending the Virginia FOIA to require the release of police incident reports, and the value of improving police accountability by creating an indepen-

dent police citizen oversight panel made up of Fairfax county citizens Unnecessary use of deadly force by the police, if it is occurring, will undermine the integrity and confidence of the public in our police and our elected officials."

The revelations about the shooting of John Geer as a result of a civil lawsuit seriously undermine the credibility of the investigation process.

Aside from the officer who shot Geer, four other officers on the scene told investigators that same day that they were shocked by the shot that killed Geer and thought the shooting was unnecessary. (One officer described his first reaction: "WTF.") There was no weapon in view, although Geer was a gun owner and had a holstered gun nearby. Geer made great effort to be predictable in his actions, asking permission to scratch his nose, otherwise keeping his hands up on the doorframe.

But a day after the shooting, police released the following update:

"The preliminary investigation indicates that when officers arrived on the scene, they were met by an individual who displayed what appeared to be a weapon in a threatening manner and was subsequently shot."

And last month, before the statements of the other officers were released, the police released this update with the name of the officer:

"Geer was reported as having multiple firearms inside the home, displaying a firearm that he threatened to use against the police, and refused the officers' requests that he remain outside and speak to them. Officers, including a trained negotiator, attempted to peacefully resolve the situation. They spoke with Geer for more than 30 minutes as he stood in the doorway of his home. When Geer began lowering his hands at one point during the negotiations, PFC Adam Torres fired a single shot that struck Geer."

But investigators knew that the negotiator had not seen Geer holding a weapon.

We don't agree with this statement by Bulova: "The Board of Supervisors has taken the steps needed to ensure its policies allow for justice to be fairly and swiftly served."

This is not an isolated case. The Board of Supervisors must demand transparency from the police.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Legislating Against Discrimination

BY ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



COMMENTARY

Passed several bills last week that would advance equality for women, gay and lesbian married couples, and LGBT state employees.

My resolution to ratify the federal Equal Rights Amendment (the ERA, SJ216), was approved 20-18 by the Senate on Feb. 5.

The passage of the ERA would bring the U.S. Constitution into conformity with Virginia's values. We are one of five states that prohibit gender discrimination in our state Constitution

but have not yet approved the ratification of the federal amendment.

SJ216 would add Virginia to the majority of states supporting the addition of the ERA to the U.S. Constitution. The language would explicitly

guarantee that women and men are citizens of equal standing under federal and state law. This is an important distinction to make when it comes to protecting the legal advances that have been made in the area of women's rights over the last 50 years. Supreme Court Justice

Antonin Scalia clearly articulated his opinion about gender equality when he stated "the Constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only issue is whether it prohibits it. It doesn't."

The ERA would guarantee equal pay for equal work. This is an economic issue impacting many Virginia families. The money that comes into a household helps the whole family, and when women are being discriminated against in the workplace, it affects everyone.

In the wake of the Supreme Court's decision last fall to let stand the 4th Circuit Court's deci-

SEE DISCRIMINATION, PAGE 15

The
Arlington
Connection

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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"FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs, for Feb. 23-28.

Senior centers: Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Langston-Brown, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Culpepper Garden, 4435 N. Pershing Dr.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Arlington Mill, 909 S. Dinwiddie St.; Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.

Senior trips: Monday, Feb. 23, Hollywood Casino, Charles Town, W.Va., \$9; Wednesday, Feb. 25, tour U.S. Supreme Court, D.C., \$7; Thursday, Feb. 26, DEA Museum, Arlington, \$6 Arlington County 55+ Travel,

703-228-4748. Registration required.

Spellbinders StoryFest, Sunday, Feb. 22, 3 p.m., Long Branch Nature Center. Free. Details, 703-228-6535.

Gluten-free diet, Monday, Feb. 23, 1:30 p.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Home modifications made easy, Monday, Feb. 23, 2 p.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-6300.

Heart healthy pantry, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Register, 703-228-

6300.

Benefits of acupuncture, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 6:30 p.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955. 55+ Nature Hike, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 4 p.m., Long Branch Nature Center. Free. Register, 703-229-6535.

Beginners full fitness exercise, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Lee. \$60/15 sessions or \$4 per class. Details, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Mill Trekkers, Tuesday, Feb. 24 9:30 a.m. Free. Register, 703-228-7369.

Table tennis, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., -12 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Music and movement class, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Duplicate bridge, Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Aurora Hills. Cost \$5. Register, 703-228-5722.

Arlington Walking Club, Wednesdays, 9 a.m., Culpepper Garden. \$4. Register, 703-228-4403.

Easy do-it-yourself projects, Thursday, Feb. 26, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

APPLICANTS NEEDED

Arlington Commission on Long-Term Care Residences needs advocates who work or live in Arlington. The Commission is currently seeking prospective commission members and volunteers willing to serve as liaisons to long-term care residences. For more information or an application, go to the Commission on Long-Term Care Residence's website: commissions.arlingtonva.us/ltrc/, or contact the Agency on Aging 703-228-1700, via TTY (703) 228-1788, or via e-mail ArlAAA@arlingtonva.us.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 11

Women's History Presentation. 7 p.m. in the Patrick Henry Elementary School Library, 701 S. Highland St, Arlington. AAUW Archivist, Suzanne Gould will share stories about fascinating women and events in AAUW's

history, including Ellen Swallow Richards, the first woman to earn a chemistry degree and one of the founders of AAUW; Eleanor Roosevelt and Frances Perkins. Sponsored by Arlington Branch of American Association of University Women. Free. Contact Sara Anderson at 703-532-3830.

THURSDAY/FEB. 12

Application Deadline. The Arlington Community Foundation - TMI Initiative will donate computers to nonprofits that could benefit from either additional computers or newer computers. The application can be downloaded from bit.ly/acftmi. Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving those who live or work in Arlington, including any organization that applied in 2014 is eligible. The TMI Initiative will be supplying used computers from their constantly rotating inventory; all computers will be no more than four years old. Visit www.tmiarlington.org.

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

FEBRUARY

2/4/2015 Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
2/4/2015 Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month
2/11/2015 HomeLifeStyle
2/11/2015 Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
Valentine's Day is Feb. 14 • Presidents Day is Feb. 16
2/18/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
2/25/2015 Pet Connection Pullout

MARCH

3/4/2015 Wellbeing
3/11/2015 HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout
3/18/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
3/25/2015 Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
FCPS Spring Break 3/30-4/3

APRIL

4/1/2015 Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout
Easter Sunday is April 5
4/8/2015 HomeLifeStyle
4/15/2015 A+ Camps & Schools
4/22/2015 Real Estate Pullout – New Homes
4/29/2015 A+ Camps & Schools Pullout
4/29/2015 ...Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts I
E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more information.



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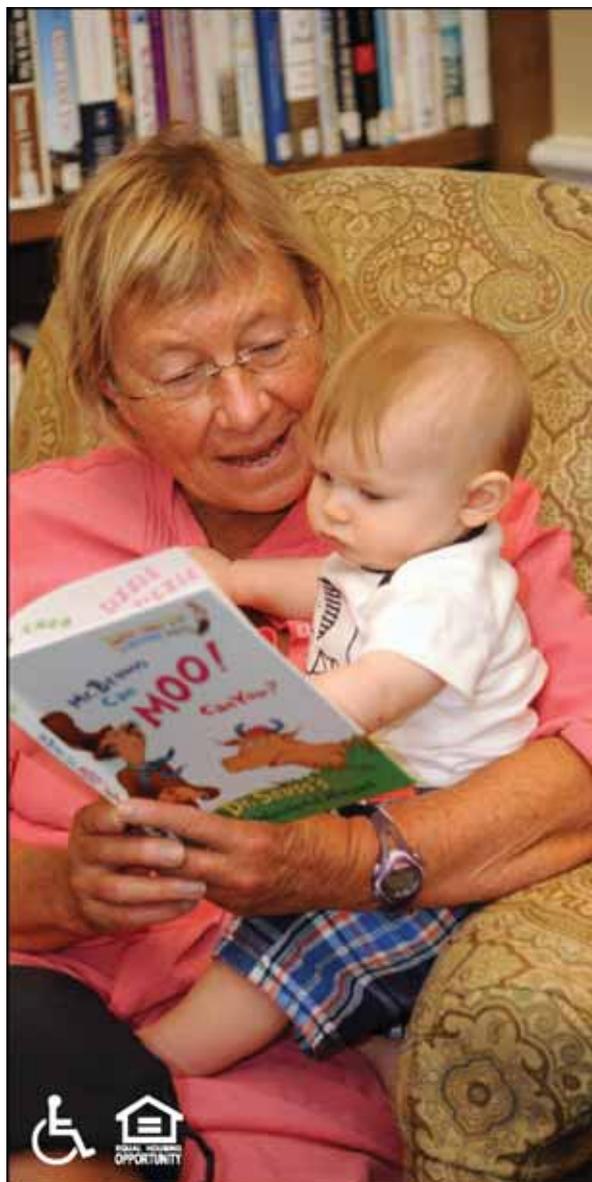
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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY KOKO LANHAM

Ben Cunis stars as Benedick and Irina Tsikurishvili stars as Beatrice in Synetic Theater's "Much Ado About Nothing."

Synetic Stages Its 11th Wordless Shakespeare

Shakespeare's talkative, "Much Ado About Nothing," with no dialogue.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Synetic Theater in Crystal City is staging the Shakespeare comedy, "Much Ado About Nothing," set in the 1950s Las Vegas, from Feb. 11 through March 22.

Directed and produced by Synetic Founding Artistic Director Paata Tsikurishvili, the show features confirmed bachelor Benedick and the equally spirited and unwed Beatrice as they spar, court and conspire in Synetic's 11th wordless Shakespeare adaptation. This show is loaded with rockin' tunes, rat packers, and dreamy chicks who will shake, rattle, and roll as only Synetic performers can.

Tsikurishvili said he was fascinated by the challenge of producing the play.

"This is probably Shakespeare's most verbally driven play, in that the soul of the thing isn't so much about symbolism and imagery, but about wit and banter," he said. "I was fascinated by the challenge of translating this specific kind of text into movement and visuals."

One of the reasons Tsikurishvili set the piece in the 1950s is because he sees a lot of relevancy and parallels between that time and our own.

"Then, as now, we have Cold War tensions brewing with an old rival, which the humor, youth and exuberance of the period (as well as the music) acted as a kind of counterweight to," he said. "For

me, this play is pure light-hearted comedy — a perfect relief from the similarly troubled times we find ourselves in today."

One of the challenges for Tsikurishvili was finding the characters' equivalents and archetypes in the 1950s setting they've chosen.

"Who, for instance, is Benedick in this setting?" he said. "Who is Beatrice? What are their identities? Making these decisions are always among the greatest challenges."

Tsikurishvili hopes to remind people of the joy, happiness and love to be found in life — "even when it's problematic, even when it isn't neat and tidy, even when the world around you seems to be in complete chaos, threatening to blow itself up," he said.

Synetic Theater is staging "Much Ado About Nothing" from Feb. 11 through March 22, Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. Synetic Theater is located at 1800 South Bell St., Crystal City, Arlington. This production is recommended for ages 14 and older for some drug use and stylized sexual content. \$20-\$55. Call 866-811-4111 or visit www.synetictheater.org. The matinee on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m. offers childcare, featuring theater games, at an on-site studio for \$5 per child beginning at noon. A \$25 Young Professionals Night will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 18 with a pre-show happy hour at Jaleo Crystal City beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

"Choir Boy." Through Sunday, Feb. 22 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. A music-filled story of masculinity, tradition, coming of age, and speaking your truth, set in the gospel choir of an elite prep school for young black men. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for more.

Films of Modern Love. Thursdays in February, 3 p.m. at the Columbia Pike Branch Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive, Arlington. February's movies matinees take on divorce, virtual reality, fictional dream girls and, of course, love. Call 703-228-5710.

"Othello." Through Sunday, March 1 at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. WSC Avant Bard presents "Othello." William Shakespeare's tragedy unfolds against the backdrop of war in the Middle East and the struggles of veterans to cope with their traumas. \$30-\$35. Visit <http://wscavantbard.org/season-3/othello/> or call 703-418-4808.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 11

Make a Valentine. 4 p.m. at the Aurora Hills Branch Library, 735 S. 18th St., Arlington. Children get in on the Valentine's Day crafting fun after school with Ms. Kim. Call 703-228-5715.

Novel Swap. 7 p.m. at the Shirlington Branch Library, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Bring in already-read romance novels, and swap them for new-to-you books — then decorate and eat delicious cupcakes. Call 703-228-6545.

THURSDAY/FEB. 12

Arlington Historical Society. 7 p.m. at Marymount University, 2807 N. Glebe Rd, Arlington; the talk will be held on the main floor of the university's library, Rowley G127. The Arlington Historical Society presents author Sue Eisenfeld. Call 703-942-9247.

FRIDAY/FEB. 13

Upcycling! Crayons. 4-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Find new ways to repurpose old things. In this session, make some colorful creations with old crayons. \$5 fee due upon registration, program #622925-L. Call 703-228-6535.

Parents Night Out. 6-10 p.m. at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th St. S, Arlington. Children ages 4-11 will have a blast thanks to the Teens Making a Difference Club. Children will enjoy an evening of games, art and fun. Visit registration.arlingtonva.us and search activity 970008.

Stand Up Comedy. 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike, Arlington. Sara Schaefer is a critically acclaimed stand up comedian, writer, and producer currently based in Los Angeles. She was recently the co-host of MTV's late night show Nikki & Sara Live. \$22. Visit ArlingtonDrafthouse.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 13-14

"The Comedy of Errors." 8 p.m. at The Thomas Jefferson Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington. Adults, \$20; senior and juniors \$15. Visit <http://beta.thearlingtonplayers.org>.

SATURDAY/FEB. 14

Valentines Day Party for Nerdfighters. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. For tweens and teens — raffles, cookies, giant poetry, button-making. Call 703-228-5990.

The Young Hearts. 2 and 8 p.m. at the Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St., Arlington. Spend Valentine's Day with The Young Hearts and singer-songwriter Rachel Platten. And while you're there, join the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry. Refreshments will be available. Suggested donation \$20/person; space is very limited, so reserve tickets early. To donate and reserve your ticket via cash or check, email YoungHearts@YoungHeartsFoundation.org.

Author Event. 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St., Arlington. Children's author and illustrator — and Arlington native — Julia Sarcone-Roach shares from her newest picture book, "The Bear Ate Your Sandwich." Free, open to the public. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

Valentine Celebration. 6:30 p.m. at NRECA Building, 4301 Wilson Blvd. (at N. Taylor Street), Arlington. Opera NOVA presents "That's Amore," which will include popular opera arias, interspersed with romantic songs. Light refreshments before program starts at 7 p.m. Free indoor parking. Suggested donation with prior reservations: \$10 members, member's guests and students; non-members \$15. Without reservations at the door: \$20. Contact Opera NOVA at 703-536-7557 or mcdm1@verizon.net for reservations.

Valentine's Day Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Artisphere Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N Kent St., Arlington. National Chamber Ensemble presents a Valentine's Day concert with music by one of the most romantic composers, featuring Tchaikovsky's great works, including the "String Quartet No.1," "Serenade for Strings" and more. \$30. Visit www.rosslynva.org/do for more.

FEB. 17-MARCH 22

"Kid Victory." 7:30 p.m. at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. From John Kander and Greg Pierce comes a new musical about coming home and breaking out. Buy tickets online, at the Box Office or by calling 703-820-9771. Visit www.signature-theatre.org for more.

FEB. 19-MARCH 8

"No Hay Que Llorar" (No Need to Cry). 8 p.m., Gunston Arts Center, Theatre Two, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. A play by Roberto "Tito" Cossa (Argentina), in Spanish with English subtitles. Visit www.teatrodelaaluna.org. Free parking, handicapped accessible.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 18

Online Dating for Seniors: Tech Class. 11:00 a.m.-noon at the Aurora Hills Branch Library, 735 S. 18th St., Arlington. Learn about the best wording for profiles, taking selfies, different site options, and safety. Call 703-228-5715.

THURSDAY/FEB. 19

Author Event. 6:30 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 North Westmoreland St., Arlington. Margery Leveen Sher discusses her book "The Noticer's Guide to Living and Laughing: Change Your Life

ENTERTAINMENT

Without Changing Your Routine." Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com or call 703-300-9746.

FRIDAY/FEB. 20

Natural Selection. 6:30 p.m. at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. 40 minutes; suitable for family audiences and school groups. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.
"Evolution in Everyday Life." 7:30 p.m., at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. Visit friendsoftheplanetarium.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 21

Mongolian School Concert and Dinner. 4:30-7 p.m. at the Wilson School, 1601 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Food and entertainment will include Mongolian clothes and costumes, Mongolian musical instruments, dancers and song; Mongolian milk tea and authentic Mongolian cuisine. \$40. Email mongolianschoolnca@yahoo.com, dolgorp@gmail.com or call 703-731-9492, 571-465-8005. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/MSNCA/ for more.
Natural Selection. 6:30 p.m. at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.
"Inherit the Wind." 7:30 p.m. at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. This film tells the story of the 1925 "Scopes Monkey Trial." Running time: 128 min. Suitable for older children and adults. friendsoftheplanetarium.org.
'Noche de Luna' Reception Performance. 8 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center, Theatre Two, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington. A play by Roberto "Tito" Cossa (Argentina), in Spanish with English subtitles. \$40.

Reservations can be made online at www.teatrodelaluna.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 22

Natural Selection. 1:30 p.m. at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org for more.
"Cell, Cell, Cell." 3 p.m. at the David Brown Planetarium, 1426 North Quincy St., Arlington. 45 min; suitable for all ages. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org.
Concert Series. 4 p.m. at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4250 North Glebe Road, Arlington. "A Rock & a Hard Place: Songs of Obsessive, Wonderful, Terrible Love" is an entertaining and enlightening hour of music with soprano Tracy Cox, and Kim Pensinger Witman, piano. Admission is free. Contributions of non-perishable food items are encouraged, donations accepted. Visit www.stpetersmusic.org.
Quartet for the End of Time. 4 p.m. at Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 North Irving St. Messiaen's work was written and premiered in a WWII prison camp. The quartet is based on the Book of Revelations. Free. Visit ibischambermusic.org for more.
Lenten Evensong. 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 228 South Pitt St., Alexandria. Arlington's Tina Chancey will play early musical instruments, including the rebec, vielle, kamenj, viol, and lyra viol. Free. Donations will go to St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry. Call 703-549-3312 for more.

MONDAY/FEB. 23

Laughter Yoga. 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington. Free. arlingtonlaughteryoga@yahoo.com

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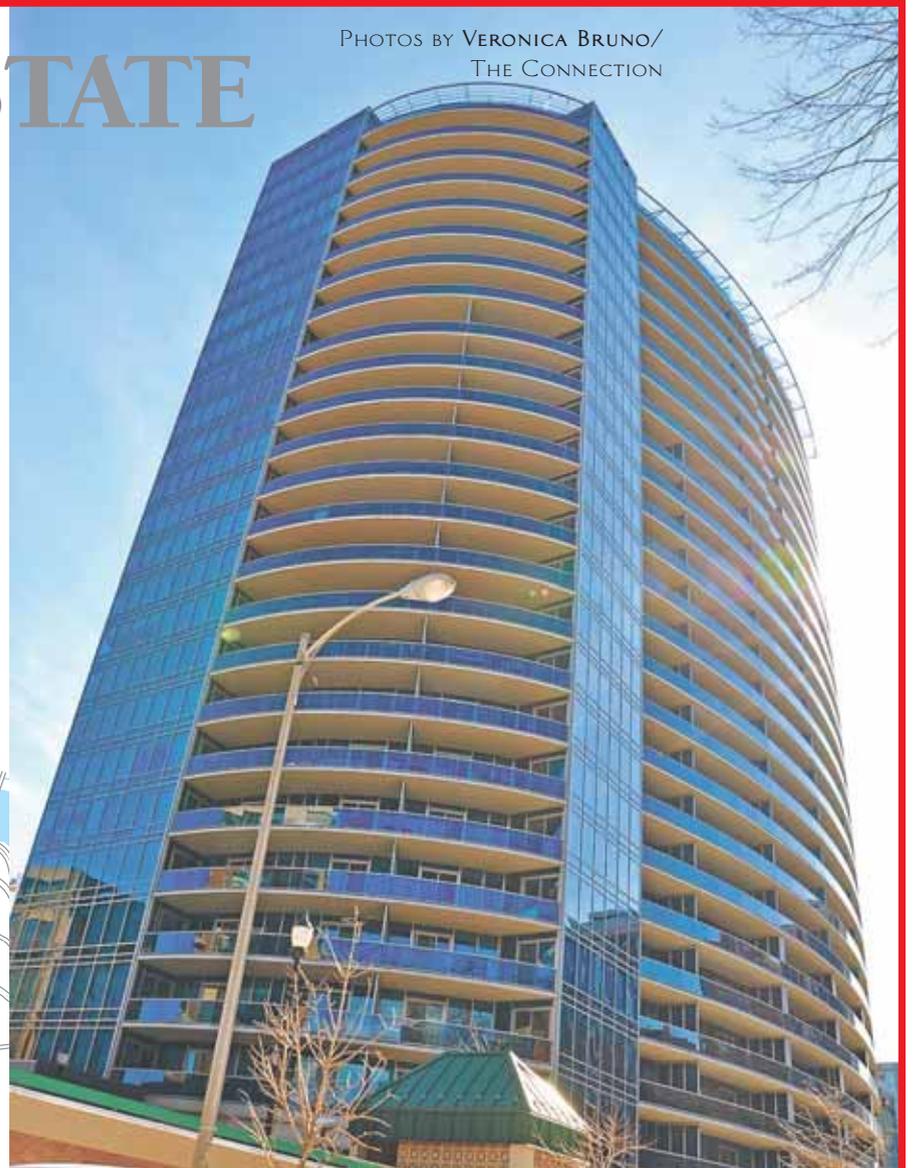
PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/
THE CONNECTION

Top Sales in December, 2014

IN DECEMBER 2014, 243 ARLINGTON HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,282,280-\$50,000.



10 2147 Troy Street North — \$1,655,000



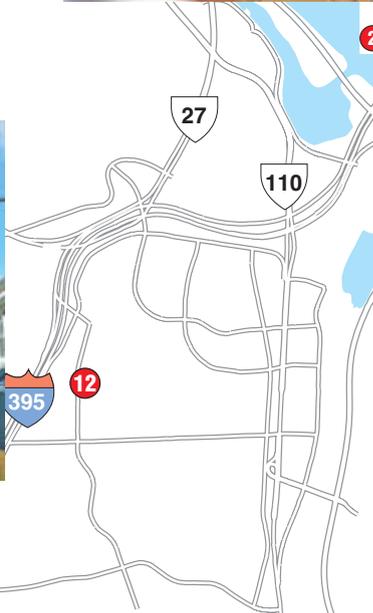
2 1881 Nash Street #1812 — \$2,160,000



8 930 Daniel Street North — \$1,735,000



9 928 Daniel Street North — \$1,675,000



7 1810 Cleveland Street — \$1,775,000



12 1925 Arlington Ridge Road South — \$1,600,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 4625 35TH ST N	5	5	2	22207	ARLINGTON	\$2,282,280	Detached	0.33	22207	COUNTRY CLUB HILLS	12/12/14
2 1881 NASH ST #1812	2	2	0	22209	ARLINGTON	\$2,160,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209	TURNBERRY TOWER	12/01/14
3 5555 LITTLE FALLS RD	9	5	1	22207	ARLINGTON	\$2,035,000	Detached	0.39	22207	MULLERS ADDN COUNTRY CLUB ESTS	12/29/14
4 2773 WAKEFIELD ST	5	4	2	22207	ARLINGTON	\$1,825,000	Detached	0.37	22207	BROYHILL FOREST	12/08/14
5 5215 31ST RD N	5	4	1	22207	ARLINGTON	\$1,790,000	Detached	0.23	22207	CRESCENT HILLS	12/15/14
6 5040 36TH ST N	5	5	1	22207	ARLINGTON	\$1,790,000	Detached	0.23	22207	COUNTRY CLUB MANOR	12/05/14
7 1810 CLEVELAND ST	6	5	1	22201	ARLINGTON	\$1,775,000	Detached	0.13	22201	IYON VILLAGE	12/31/14
8 930 DANIEL ST N	5	4	1	22201	ARLINGTON	\$1,735,000	Detached	0.14	22201	IYON PARK	12/22/14
9 928 DANIEL ST N	5	4	1	22201	ARLINGTON	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.14	22201	IYON PARK	12/17/14
10 2147 TROY ST N	4	3	1	22201	ARLINGTON	\$1,655,000	Detached	0.53	22201	DAWSON	12/18/14
11 2026 TAYLOR ST	6	4	1	22207	ARLINGTON	\$1,630,000	Detached	0.17	22207	CHERRYDALE	12/19/14
12 1925 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD S	5	5	1	22202	ARLINGTON	\$1,600,000	Detached	0.31	22202	TOP OF ARLINGTON RIDGE RD	12/10/14

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HOME SALES

In December 2014, 243 Arlington homes sold between \$2,282,280-\$50,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,282,280-\$710,414 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code
4625 35TH ST N	5	5	2	ARLINGTON	\$2,282,280	Detached	0.33	22207
1881 NASH ST #1812	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$2,160,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209
5555 LITTLE FALLS RD	9	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$2,035,000	Detached	0.39	22207
2773 WAKEFIELD ST	5	4	2	ARLINGTON	\$1,825,000	Detached	0.37	22207
5215 31ST RD N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,790,000	Detached	0.23	22207
5040 36TH ST N	5	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,790,000	Detached	0.23	22207
1810 CLEVELAND ST	6	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,775,000	Detached	0.13	22201
930 DANIEL ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,735,000	Detached	0.14	22201
928 DANIEL ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.14	22201
2147 TROY ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,655,000	Detached	0.53	22201
2026 TAYLOR ST	6	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,630,000	Detached	0.17	22207
1925 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD S	5	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,600,000	Detached	0.31	22202
5113 YORKTOWN BLVD	5	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,508,523	Detached	0.28	22207
4108 35TH ST N	6	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,500,000	Detached	0.23	22207
2364 FILLMORE ST	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,480,000	Detached	0.16	22207
4819 15TH ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,453,513	Detached	0.21	22205
5089 LITTLE FALLS CT	7	5	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.33	22207
2138 STAFFORD ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,399,000	Detached	0.25	22207
1609 JOHNSON ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,288,525	Detached	0.14	22201
4524 32ND RD N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,275,000	Detached	0.22	22207
1705 TAYLOR ST N	5	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,260,000	Detached	0.17	22207
5145 38TH ST N	6	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.58	22207
1001 KENSINGTON ST	6	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,224,000	Detached	0.17	22205
4720 25TH ST N	4	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,200,000	Detached	0.19	22207
1700 JEFFERSON ST	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,189,000	Detached	0.23	22205
3130 QUINCY ST	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,185,000	Detached	0.21	22207
610 MONROE ST S	5	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,158,500	Detached	0.17	22204
6419 28TH ST N	5	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,140,000	Detached	0.15	22207
2612 GLEBE RD N	3	3	2	ARLINGTON	\$1,100,000	Townhouse	0.06	22207
2749 WAKEFIELD ST N	5	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,098,000	Detached	0.28	22207
1600 OAK ST #219	3	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,095,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209
2749 11TH ST N	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,027,500	Townhouse	0.02	22201
4856 35TH RD N	5	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,010,000	Detached	0.23	22207
1881 NASH ST #201	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$995,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209
4628 23RD RD N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$990,000	Detached	0.14	22207
5226 26TH RD N	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$987,500	Detached	0.12	22207
1682 QUINN ST	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$980,400	Townhouse	0.02	22209
815 DANIEL ST N	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$977,600	Detached	0.13	22201
2507 VERNON ST N	4	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$938,000	Detached	0.26	22207
6235 19TH ST N	4	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$909,900	Detached	0.15	22205
2713 ARLINGTON RIDGE RD	5	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$890,000	Detached	0.34	22202
817 BARTON ST N	4	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$880,000	Detached	0.11	22201
1600 OAK ST #1720	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$880,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209
1200 NASH ST N #1123	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$875,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22209
23 OAKLAND ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$855,000	Townhouse	0.08	22203
417 UPTON CT	3	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$845,000	Attach/Row Hse	0.02	22203
1600 STAFFORD ST N	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$843,675	Detached	0.18	22207
417 GEORGE MASON DR	3	3	2	ARLINGTON	\$840,000	Townhouse	0.03	22203
2341 QUEEN ST S	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$830,000	Townhouse	0.07	22202
3055 MILITARY RD	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$825,000	Detached	0.19	22207
2563 KENMORE CT	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$815,000	Townhouse	0.03	22206
1418 RHODES ST #B419	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$815,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22209
3357 KEMPER RD	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$802,000	Townhouse	0.03	22206
5614 8TH RD N	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$800,000	Detached	0.28	22205
3711 MILITARY RD	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$800,000	Detached	0.37	22207
3925 30TH ST N	3	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$799,950	Detached	0.23	22207
4733 17TH ST N	3	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$785,000	Detached	0.15	22207
1710 GREENBRIER ST N	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$780,000	Detached	0.21	22205
2619 POCOMOKE ST	4	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$779,000	Detached	0.12	22207
226 BRYAN ST N	3	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$775,000	Detached	0.14	22201
307 BARTON ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$770,000	Detached	0.12	22201
3316 21ST AVE N	4	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$769,000	Detached	0.12	22207
2306 LEE HWY	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$765,000	Townhouse	0.02	22201
619 20TH ST S	4	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$764,500	Duplex	0.20	22202
2422 OHIO ST	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$755,000	Detached	0.12	22207
1600 CLARENDON BLVD #W210	1	1	1	ARLINGTON	\$755,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22209
4308 4TH CT N	3	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$749,000	Townhouse	0.02	22203
872 KENSINGTON ST	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$743,500	Detached	0.12	22205
2220 FAIRFAX DR #708	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$736,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201
4501 19TH ST N	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$735,000	Detached	0.14	22207
6275 15TH RD N	4	3	0	ARLINGTON	\$730,000	Detached	0.16	22205
835 QUINCY ST	5	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$720,000	Detached	0.14	22204
1125 20TH ST S	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$715,000	Detached	0.13	22202
6247 12TH ST N	3	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$715,000	Detached	0.18	22205
1047 MCKINLEY RD	4	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$715,000	Detached	0.24	22205
4714 20TH PL N	3	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$715,000	Townhouse	0.03	22207
3409 WILSON BLVD #702	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$714,900	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22201
2220 FAIRFAX DR #510	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$710,414	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22201

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Couples Who Work Together Stay Together

Local couples offer advice about keeping a relationship healthy at home and on the job.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Going into business with one's spouse can bring both joy and challenges. As Valentine's Day approaches, three local husband and wife real estate partners share their experiences and offer advice to other couples.

Min and Jimmy O'Burns of Long and Foster in Reston, have been in business together for 15 years. The two met when they were neighbors with identical condos. They started dating after six months "and have been joined at the hip ever since," according to Min O'Burns.

"I burned out on selling new homes and wanted to join Jimmy," Min O'Burns, who originally worked for a builder, continued. "I had to convince him that I would be an asset rather than a ball and chain. Pretty soon we became what is our motto, 'The power of two.'"

Working as a team allows them to spend a significant amount of time together. "It's not suited for everyone," said Min O'Burns, adding that the nature of real estate makes it ideal for couples, with flexible appointments and the ability to enjoy lunch together. "You both need to be of the same kind of mindset. You have to have the same work ethic and diligence."

Understanding your own personality as well as your spouse's is key to working together successfully as a married couple. "You have to identify each other's strengths and figure out who's good at what," said Min O'Burns. "The two of us together make a pretty good team."

"Jimmy is a strong negotiator and strategist," she continued. "I'm a good writer, I'm organized and I'm good at marketing. I'm also a little bit of a hand holder."

"We still enjoy it after all the years we've been in business together. In my mind there is no downside," added Jimmy O'Burns. "We're serious about our business and we think that business should come with a little bit of humor."

Deborah and Lenny Manarin of the Arlington office of McEneaney Associates Inc, Realtors, have been married for 10 years. They met through their work in the real



Husband and wife real estate team Deborah and Lenny Manarin of the Arlington office of McEneaney Associates Inc, have a combined total of more than 65 years of experience in the real estate industry.



Husband and wife real estate team Debbie and Damon Nicholas met while they were students at the University of Virginia.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

estate business. In fact, Deborah, an Alexandria native, has 25 years of experience and Lenny more than 40.

"We tell clients 'You're paying one commission, but you're getting the experience and knowledge of two people,'" said Deborah Manarin.

She added that one big asset of working with a spouse is a shared knowledge of the industry. "We both understand the business and the stresses of dealing with people 24-7. Each of us is a good sounding board for the other on issues you're dealing with," Deborah Manarin.

Debbie and Damon Nicholas of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Fairfax met as students at the University of Virginia and have been married for 32 years.

Debbie was a real estate agent and Damon was a full-time federal employee when they had their first child, who was born with severe disabilities. Two other sons quickly followed.

"We found ourselves going to two to three doctor's appointments per week," said Debbie Nicholas.

After a promotion took away all of Damon Nicholas' flexibility, he switched to real estate full time. The move meant Debbie Nicholas could stay home, Damon could go



Reston-based real estate agents Min and Jimmy O'Burns of Long and Foster have been in business together for 15 years. They say one of the keys to their long-lasting business relationship is understanding each other's strengths.

to doctors' appointments and they could get more involved at school. The couple also developed a Special Olympics program at Willow Springs Elementary School in Fairfax and coached their younger sons in youth leagues.

Working together offers both pleasures and challenges.

"It's difficult and easy at the same time," said Damon Nicholas. "It's difficult to shut off work at times because we have a passion for helping our clients and we love what we do. The good news is that we see each other a lot more than other couples.

And we like each other so that's good."

The Nicholas' three sons are now adults. In 2013, their middle son joined their real estate team.

Debbie and Damon Nicholas offer simple advice to other couples considering going into business together.

"It's always important to respect your spouse," said Debbie Nicholas. "Above all we want to demonstrate to people that we love each other and respect each other. Working together is not something that you commit to if you can't respect each other in public and in private."

Groundbreaking Set on New Affordable Housing

With this week's closing of construction financing for The Springs Apartments at 555 N. Thomas St., Arlington, the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) has scheduled a groundbreaking ceremony for March 11, 1-2:20 p.m., and completion will be in fall 2016.

Financed with equity from Bank of America Merrill Lynch and construction loan proceeds from Bank of America

Merrill Lynch and the Virginia Housing Development Authority, The Springs will provide new committed affordable housing close to the Ballston Metro.

This new construction will consist of 104 units a half mile from the Ballston Metro station, near major employment and retail including the Ballston Common Mall. The Springs will be a five-story, family friendly re-development of APAH's aging 27-unit Carlyn Springs Apartments. Unit sizes will

range from studios to three bedrooms; 81 percent of the units will be family-sized. All units will be accessible; 10 percent will be barrier free. The Springs will have underground parking and bicycle storage; community room for resident services; a business center, and landscaped courtyard, picnic area and playground. The Springs, constructed using green building design, will be EarthCraft certified.

APAH selected Bank of America Merrill

Lynch as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) equity partner for construction; \$22 million in tax credit equity will be leveraged to finance construction for The Springs. The LIHTC program was created by Congress through the Tax Reform Act of 1986 to develop affordable rental housing.

APAH's development team includes Bozzuto Construction Company, KGD Architecture and Walter L. Philips, Inc. APAH, a nonprofit, develops, preserves, owns, and advocates for quality affordable housing.

W-L's Guenther, Yorktown's Kappel Win Wrestling Titles

Generals tie for fourth, Patriots finish sixth at conference tournament.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Washington-Lee and Yorktown wrestling teams were well represented in the final round of the Conference 6 championship tournament Saturday at Hayfield Secondary School, but each school managed to win just one individual title.

On a day dominated by McLean and Madison, W-L junior Ethan Guenther and Yorktown senior Jason Kappel captured conference championships for their respective Arlington schools.

Guenther won the 220-pound final, beating Hayfield's Brendan McCarron via 5-3 decision. Guenther trailed 3-2 early in the third and final period, but tied the score with an escape before scoring the winning points with a takedown.

"I was a little nervous, but I didn't want to get ahead of myself," Guenther said of his third-period deficit. "If I can make the match go on longer, I figure can handle that. I was hoping the longer it went, I could maybe outlast him — I'm good at outlasting opponents. I've done that a fair amount over my career."

Guenther said Saturday's victory was the product of a long journey.

"I wasn't very good at first. I struggled a lot," he said about his experience wrestling in the sixth grade. "... In 10th grade ... I got fifth place in the conference. I think we all saw what happened this year."

Guenther was one of four Generals to reach the finals. Jose Araujo finished second in the 145-pound bracket, Thomas

Sheehy was runner-up at 152, and Nikolay Valov placed second at 182.

Yorktown's Kappel wrestled at 182 pounds for most of the year before moving up to 195 for the postseason. Kappel defeated Madison's Ryan Partridge via 4-2 decision to win the 195-pound championship — the first conference title of his varsity career.

Kappel took the lead with a reversal in the second period.

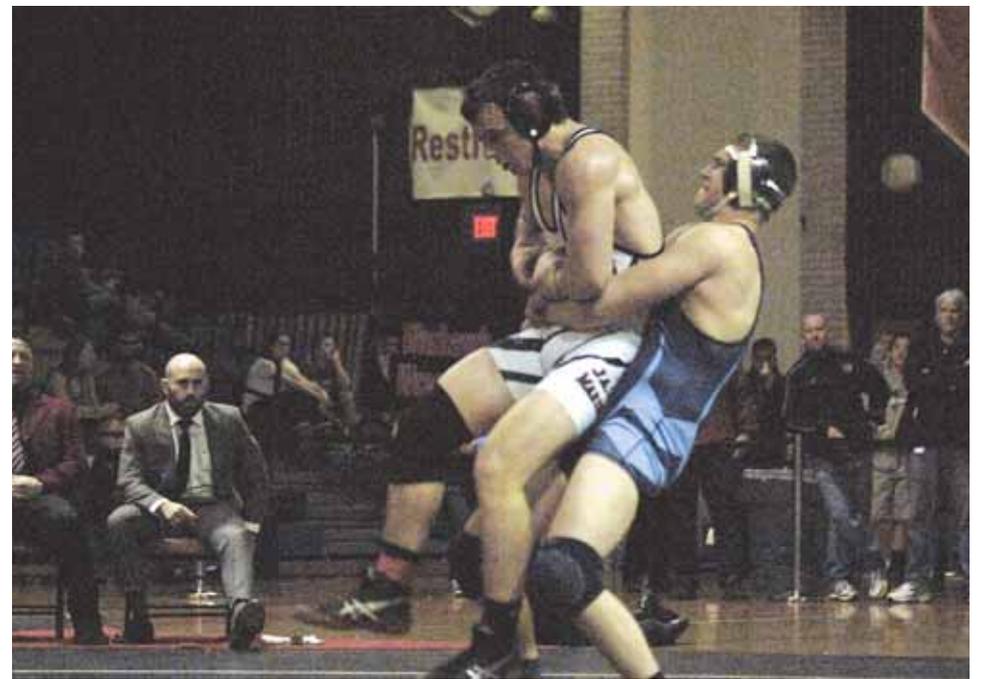
"It's a great feeling," he said. "Three years of hard work paid off. It means a lot because I worked hard for this. Seeing all my teammates out there cheering for me; that meant a lot."

Kappel was one of three Patriots to reach the finals. Talha Farooq finished runner-up at 113 and Kyle Callan was second in the 120-pound bracket.

Other individual winners included: Fairfax's Vincent Tamaro (106), Hayfield's Grant Saunders (113), McLean's Brendan Grammes (120), McLean's Eric Johnston (126), Madison's Tyler Megonigal (132), Madison's Taylor Christensen (138), Madison's Luke Kustra (145), McLean's Conor Grammes (152), McLean's Gavin Legg (160), McLean's Mack McCune (170), Hayfield's Antonio Agee (182), and Madison's Drew Smith (285).

McLean captured the team title with a score of 269.5, edging Madison's total of 268. Hayfield was third with a score of 238.5, followed by Fairfax (179) and W-L (179), Yorktown (130), Langley (126) and South Lakes (70).

The 6A North region championship tournament is scheduled for Friday and Saturday at Centreville High School.



Yorktown senior Jason Kappel, right, won the 195-pound title at the Conference 6 wrestling championship tournament on Feb. 7 at Hayfield Secondary School.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Washington-Lee junior Ethan Guenther, top, beat Hayfield's Brendan McCarron via 5-3 decision to win the 220-pound Conference 6 wrestling title.



SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Kyra M. Klontz was named to the Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) fall 2014 dean's list.

Andrew Wagner earned a spot on the fall 2014 dean's list at Hofstra University (Hempstead, NY).

Jhonnn Guzman-Gonzales, a freshman majoring in aeronautical engineering; and **Samantha Salotto**, a senior majoring in environmental engineering have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester at Clarkson University (Potsdam, NY).

Andrew Kent Graykowski was among 847 students from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) who received degrees during commencement Friday, Dec. 12, 2014. Graykowski received a Bachelor of Science in kinesiology and health degree.

Joseph Breslin was named to The University of Scranton (Pa.) dean's list for the 2014 fall semester. Breslin is a senior neuroscience major in the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

Jason Ravencroft, majoring in informa-

tion technology, was named to the dean's list at University of Massachusetts Lowell for the fall 2014 semester.

Eileen O'Connor was named to the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester at the University of Vermont. O'Connor is a first-year student Environmental Studies major.

Thomas Athanasios Vasilopoulos, has been named to the president's list at James Madison University for the fall 2014 semester.

Nathan Hughes, a junior majoring in robotics engineering and computer science, was named to the Worcester Polytechnic Institute's (Worcester, Ma.) dean's list for the fall 2014 semester.

On Oct. 17, 2014, the police department dispatch center received a call about an unconscious student employee at the West End Market. Virginia Tech police officer Kendrah Cline arrived at the scene and found the student was not breathing. She performed CPR until members of the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad, including **Alejandra Espinoza**, of Arlington, a senior majoring in human nutrition, foods, and exercise, arrived. The student was transported to the hospital and initially kept in a medically induced coma. Eventually, the student made a full recovery and is now back on campus.



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

'Something Extra'

Yale's a cappella group, "Something Extra," came to Yorktown High School on Jan. 10, sponsored by the Yorktown Madrigals. The all-women undergraduate singing group sang a selection of current love songs by, among others, Beyonce, Sara Bareilles, and Norah Jones, arranged by the students. As they came to a close, there were several shouts from the audience reminding the group of their tradition: to invite any former "SE girls" up to sing. Two Arlingtonians who sang with the group popped up and joined in the traditional "New Jerusalem" which has been sung by SE women since the group was first formed. The performance included a "teaching" segment for the Madrigals and the audience.

"Scantsy"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It's becoming increasingly difficult to characterize the feelings I regularly experience during the final few weeks leading up to my every-three-month CT Scan, and even more so the feelings I experience waiting the following week or so to see my oncologist to discuss the results. "Scanxiety," "scanxious," "ascance," "scanticipation," "scancer," "scantastic," "scanning the horizon," are all descriptions I've made up to try and "humorize" an incredibly difficult set of circumstances. How else should I react to news on which my life depends? If the scan shows growth and/or movement – which it hasn't for 18 months or so – it will be, as they say in Boston, "Katie bar the door," which means: look out, trouble ahead. However, if my luck continues and the scan shows "stable" (a new favorite word), or even better, "shrinkage," then I can semi-relax for the next three months until we scan again.

This is the cyclical axis on which my life churns. And though I've become accustomed to this life cycle, to say it has become easier as well is a bit of an oversimplification. Familiar? Certainly. Regularly scheduled? Of course. Expected? Naturally. Used to? Sort of. Stressful? Need I say? Just because I know the drill doesn't mean I don't fear the bit. Some things are out of one's control. Cancer might be at the top of that list. After all, I was originally given a "terminal" diagnosis: stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, with a rather discouraging "13-month to two-year" prognosis to boot. And though I've survived nearly six years from that fateful day when Team Lourie first met with my oncologist, I don't feel particularly confident about my future. I know where I've been; still, I don't know where I'm going (figuratively speaking; if only there were a GPS for such problems). At this point, I'm glad to be going anywhere, figuratively or literally. The guarantees have long since left the building.

Wednesday, I'll be driving to Gaithersburg, Maryland for my next CT Scan. And given the excellent results I've been amazingly fortunate to receive these last few years, I am happy return to this same location and hopefully be tended to by the same technicians. They're my good luck charms, and every appointment/scan, I tell them so, and thank them for my above-average results and encourage them as well to keep up the good work.

At the end of the day; heck, at the beginning of the day too, who knows what matters in this fight against cancer? And though I'm sure I've left a few stones unturned, I have turned over a few rocks. I've made some changes, as you regular readers know, and I suppose I'm living proof that all is not as lost as sometimes it might initially appear to be. My life has gone on much longer than I was led to believe, and a great deal more favorably than I had a right to expect.

Every scan reminds me of who I am, what I have and the statistical anomaly which I have become. As much as I'd like to minimize the significance of this quarterly CT Scan, I can't. When one's life might be hanging in the balance, it's difficult to maintain your equilibrium.

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

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Discrimination

FROM PAGE 6

sion allowing same-sex marriage in Virginia, there are 65 sections in our code that need to be changed in order to accommodate married gay and lesbian couples. On Feb. 3, my bill (SB1211) passed the full Senate with bipartisan support.

This legislation clarifies that all lawfully married spouses are included under Virginia law. This is important when dealing with legal issues involving child custody, inheritance, power of attorney, and taxes because lawyers and accountants must be able to properly advise and serve their clients.

My bill prohibiting discrimination against LGBT public employees (SB1181) was combined with legislation sponsored by Sen. Don McEachin (D-Henrico) and passed the Senate on Feb. 3.

A recent study by the UCLA Williams Institute found that 21 percent of LGBT respondents reported unfair treatment by an employer in hiring, pay or promotions. When transgender people were asked the same question separately, an astounding 80 percent of workers reported having experienced harassment or other mistreatment at work.

Nondiscrimination also makes economic sense. Currently 21 state governments have nondiscrimination policies including neighboring D.C. and Maryland. Without nondiscrimination protections, Virginia's state and local agencies as well as our colleges and universities are at a competitive disadvantage to effectively recruit and retain top talent.

Governor McAuliffe has called for Virginia to be open and welcoming to all businesses and workers, a sentiment shared by overwhelming majorities of Virginia citizens and businesses. According to recent polling, 87 percent of Virginians support public nondiscrimination protections. In the private sector, 88 percent of Fortune 500 Companies already have nondiscrimination policies in place. Adopting such a policy for public employees would put the state in line with America's leading companies.

For decades Virginia's Governors have issued executive orders forbidding discrimination for state employees. However, only Governors Warner, Kaine and McAuliffe have included sexual orientation and gender identity in those orders. We need to codify this policy into law once and for all so that it will not be at the whim of each future Governor whether state employees are afforded these protections.

Discrimination is wrong regardless of what form it takes. It is a fundamental American value that individuals should be judged on their talents, not on their gender or who they love.

I will be holding two Town Hall Meetings this Saturday, Feb. 14. The first will be from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Mount Vernon Government Center with Sen. Toddy Puller and Del. Scott Surovell; the second will be from 2:30-4 p.m. at the Charles Houston Recreation Center in Old Town Alexandria with Del. Rob Krupicka.

Please take my online survey at www.AdamEbbin.com/Survey.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

Melanie St. Clair trading as Smitten Boutique Salon, 2209 N. Pershing Dr, Unit B, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Day Spa license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Melanie St. Clair/owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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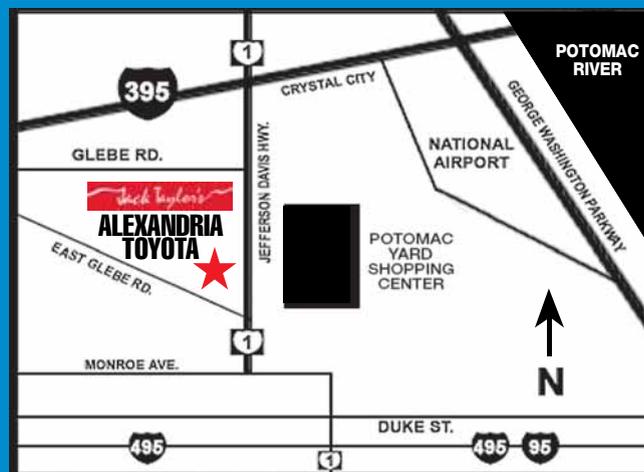
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Add Dealer Processing Fee of \$599. \$1,250 Cash Back from Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc. available on new 2015 Prius. Customers can receive cash back from Toyota or can apply to down payment. Excludes plug-in models. See dealer for details. ToyotaCare covers normal factory scheduled service. Plan is 2 years or 25k miles, whichever comes first. The new vehicle cannot be part of a rental or commercial fleet, or a livery/taxi vehicle. See participating Toyota dealer for plan details. Valid only in the continental U.S. and Alaska. Roadside assistance does not include parts and fluids. Prius plug-in hybrid comes with an extra year of roadside assistance, for a total of three (3) years from date of purchase. Lease, APR and Cash Back offers may not be combined. See dealer for details. Offers expire 2/16/2015.

Add Dealer Processing Fee of \$599. 0.9% APR financing up to 60 months available to qualified buyers thru Toyota Financial Services. Total financed cannot exceed MSRP plus options, tax and license fees. 60 monthly payments of \$17.05 for each \$1,000 borrowed. Not all buyers will qualify. ToyotaCare covers normal factory scheduled service. Plan is 2 years or 25k miles, whichever comes first. The new vehicle cannot be part of a rental or commercial fleet, or a livery/taxi vehicle. See participating Toyota dealer for plan details. Valid only in the continental U.S. and Alaska. Roadside assistance does not include parts and fluids. Prius plug-in hybrid comes with an extra year of roadside assistance, for a total of three (3) years from date of purchase. Lease, APR and Cash Back offers may not be combined. See dealer for details. Offers expire 2/16/2015.



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