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# The Arlington Connection



## Examining Hospital Expansion

NEWS, PAGE 3

Adrian Stanton (left), Tracy Greiner (center), and Nancy Iacomini discuss Virginia Hospital Center's proposed expansion at the Committee of 100's March 14 meeting.



## Charting Through The Amazon

NEWS, PAGE 3

PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/THE CONNECTION ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 6 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY EDEN BROWN/THE CONNECTION

### Tree Stewards

**From left: Joan Dombroski, Marilyn Stone, Deborah Wood, and Hugh Robinson, with Juno, clean up Hayes Park at North 15<sup>th</sup> Street and North Lincoln Street, across from Arlington Science Focus Elementary School. The four are Tree Stewards, and donated their time pulling invasive ivy from trees, weeding out Bush Honeysuckle, cutting down volunteer Mulberry trees that were insinuating themselves into tennis court fences, and pruning trees that need a trim. Behind them is the pile of ivy and branches they were able to take out of the park in two hours on Thursday, March 15. Juno helped carry sticks. To join the Tree Stewards or volunteer to help trees, see [www.treestewards.org](http://www.treestewards.org).**

### Police Investigate Homicide

The Arlington County Police Department is investigating a homicide that occurred in the 4100 block of 11th Place N. on Friday, March 16.

At approximately 7:35 p.m. on March 16, police were dispatched to the report of a possible death. Upon arrival, it was determined that following a check on the welfare of an individual, the male victim was located deceased inside the residence. This remains an active investigation and cause of

death will be determined by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective R. Munizza at 703-228-4171 or [rmunizza@arlingtonva.us](mailto:rmunizza@arlingtonva.us). To report information anonymously, contact the Arlington County Crime Solvers at 866-411-TIPS (8477).

This is the first homicide in Arlington County this year.

### Suspect Arrested in Assault

The Arlington County Police Department has arrested a suspect for his involvement in an assault in the 1400 block of Lee Highway. A 46-year-old man of no fixed address was arrested and charged with use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and two counts of malicious wounding. He is being held in the Arlington County Detention Facility without bond. At approximately 6:43 p.m. on March 13, officers were dispatched to a hit and run collision in the 1400 block of Lee Highway. Upon arrival, it was determined that a male victim was traveling on foot when he was struck by an unknown vehicle. The male victim was transported to a local hospital. The striking vehicle did not

remain on scene.

During the course of the investigation, Homicide/Robbery Unit detectives developed a possible suspect description based on evidence located at the scene and witness interviews. Members of the Emergency Response Team took the suspect into custody without incident at a residence in the Fairlington neighborhood on the morning of March 17. This remains an active criminal investigation and anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Detective C. Riccio at 703-228-4180 or [criccio@arlingtonva.us](mailto:criccio@arlingtonva.us). To report information anonymously, contact the Arlington County Crime Solvers at 866-411-TIPS (8477).

**Enjoy the Carefree Lifestyle You Deserve**

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# Growth Treatment

## Committee of 100 examines hospital center expansion.

BY VERNON MILES  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n the morning of March 14, the Virginia Hospital Center needed 421 beds for those needing in-patient care. The hospital has 350. While the hospital has outgrown its current space, ongoing plans to expand the hospital into a neighboring county-owned lot has been met with some hostility from neighbors who say the new development will tower over the surrounding homes. At the monthly Committee of 100 meeting, advocates from the hospital, neighborhood, and the county offered their views on the divisive expansion plans. The Virginia Hospital Center is one of three independent hospitals in the state. The hospital has seen 37 percent growth since 2009, from 16,857 inpatients to over 23,000. It's the second busiest hospital in Virginia for births, and is expected to continue growing by 40 percent over the next few years. Adrian Stanton, vice president of business development and community relations for the hospital, said the hospital desperately needs more inpatient beds and needs to increase its mental health capacity. The state has given the center permission to expand its operations, but the room to do so will come from a proposed land swap with Arlington County. The hospital is planning on expanding into a neighboring five-acre parcel adjacent to the site. The site is currently owned by Arlington County but is mostly unused. The county will trade the land for a parcel of land on Carlin Springs Road.

The new site would provide outpatient services, allowing the hospital to be separated by inpatient and outpatient services. That would free up two floors of the existing hospital space. The hospital could add



Adrian Stanton (left), Tracy Greiner (center), and Nancy Iacomini.

DESIGNS FOR THE EXPANDED VIRGINIA HOSPITAL CENTER.

82 beds to the floor space, but is only approved by the state to add 44 beds to meet the immediate need. Stanton said the hospital will petition the state to increase the number of beds once the current project is completed.

But while no one disputes the hospital's needs, Tracy Greiner, chair of the Virginia Hospital Center Expansion Neighborhood Task Force, said many nearby residents are unsettled by the scale of the project. Griner said residents looked at what happened to Walter Reed, where hospital improvements came with new floodlights shining directly into nearby homes. The floodlights, in this case, is the proposed 10-story tall extension residents have taken to calling The Wall.

One of the proposals put forward by the neighbors was to take more of the height and shift it underground. But Stanton said that the cost for a parking garage triples per space when it moves underground,

which takes money away from patient care.

"I understand the hospital concerns about money into the ground instead of into people, but there's room for compromise here," said Planning Commissioner Nancy Iacomini. "The neighborhood should consider, though, that if there's bedrock that means blasting."

When some of the neighbors began to grumble about the prospects of explosions and rattling right outside their door, Iacomini pointed out that it would be a necessary hazard if the neighbors wanted to avoid a 10-story tall building outside their homes.

In addition to the scale of the building, the expansion is also expected to have a substantial impact on local traffic. Griner said the hospital has been working with local residents to implement changes that will help mitigate those impacts, but at least one resident's front view will be of a new traffic

light directly facing his living room. On the county side, Iacomini explained the upcoming Site Plan Review Process (SPRC) and examined the planning aspects of the development.

"It is unusual to have this large a proposal in a residential neighborhood," Iacomini said.

The SPRC is currently working through the site's issues with scale and traffic impact. Iacomini said the SPRC process doesn't end with a vote. Instead, the group attempts to come to a consensus and deliver a joint opinion to the Planning Commission in a public hearing. Then it will go to the County Board for another public hearing and a vote in June.

"It's unusual to have this large a proposal in a residential neighborhood," said Iacomini. "This isn't an easy site, but in Arlington, there are no easy sites. All [of the proposals] are infill."

# Charting Through the Amazon

## County Board weighs in on potential Amazon deal.

BY VERNON MILES  
THE CONNECTION

**W**here will Amazon go? Like many localities across the country, Arlington County has been positioning itself to try and become home to the second headquarters for the massive online retail brand. Plans are being put together to try and entice the corporate giant to take up residence in a county anxious to fill its vacant office space.

But at the March 17 County Board meeting, some expressed concerns that the county would go too far and undermine its value to entice Amazon. As a reminder that local politics can often look very different from the national spectrum, Spencer Chretien represented the Arlington GOP in

asking that the county use its tax money for public schools and infrastructure rather than to offer incentives to major corporations.

"The county needs to release more info about negotiations with Amazon," said Chretien. "The Arlington Way requires openness and transparency. Many other jurisdictions released detailed reports. In

**"If Arlington is selected, the terms of any agreement will be subject to a public hearing. That means public comment and public vote."**

— Katie Cristol, Chair, County Board

Maryland, there was a promised \$5 billion in tax incentives. Chicago offered to let Amazon employees pay income tax to Amazon, not to the city. If Arlington offering

billions in subsidies, incentives and credits to a megacorp, taxpayers deserve to know. We should focus on public schools and Metro ... not throwing tax dollars at public corporations."

Chretien's comments on behalf of the group follows a statement made by the Arlington GOP's Cair, Jim Presswood, on Feb. 28 on the Arlington GOP webpage: "While an Amazon headquarters would bring benefits to Arlington and the region, Arlington citizens deserve to know the cost before any deal is struck. Arlington is under great budgetary pressure from increasing school capacity needs and a broken Metro. The citizens are entitled to know if the county is offering subsidies that will ultimately result in a bill being handed to Arlington taxpayers. Creating an attractive environment for

businesses and residents is a far more fair and fiscally sound approach to bring jobs to Arlington than offering sweetheart deals to specific firms."

In response to the public comment, County Board Chair Katie Cristol expressed initial agreement with Chretien and Presswood.

"I think all of us agree with underlying sentiment," said Cristol. "Arlington's strong workforce, excellent public schools ... matter a lot more than incentives we could offer. Ultimately, we will release terms of any agreement. If Arlington is selected, the terms of any agreement will be subject to a public hearing. That means public comment and public vote. If not selected, we're committed to releasing details of what had been proposed so citizens can decide for themselves."

However, Cristol said the transparency of the process has to be mixed with the neces-

SEE CHARTING, PAGE 7

# Falling on a Shark Gets Students' Attention

**STEM program reaches out to Arlington students.**

BY EDEN BROWN  
THE CONNECTION

**H**e wasn't supposed to fall on a shark, but when you are trying to put a tracking device on a Great White shark in a small boat in the middle of the sea, you have to be prepared for things to go a little awry. Eric Berkenpas, National Geographic engineer, discussed National Geographic's unique imaging tools and equipment to help better understand the physical world—ranging from the mysteries of undersea life to volcanoes and caves, when he addressed high school students on March 9.

Berkenpas visited Wakefield High School as a guest lecturer, providing insights about his career and work as part USA Science & Engineering Festival's Nifty Fifty Program which sends more than 200 top scientists and engineers into schools around the country in advance of the festival to ignite students' passion for science and engineering.

Taking place April 7-8 in D.C., the Festival's Expo, sponsored by Founding and Presenting Host Lockheed Martin, is a free event that allows youths and adults to participate in more than 3,000 hands-on activities and see live performances by science celebrities and experts. The festival will kick off on April 5 with the X-STEM Extreme STEM Symposium — presented by PwC and NCR — a "TED-style" event for youth featuring interactive presentations and workshops by STEM visionaries.

At Wakefield, Berkenpas said he and his col-



**This attempt went awry when the shark tugged on the bait and the scientist fell into the water on top of the Great White.**

leagues created a critter cam which you could "tag" an animal with to see what he was up to. They used an industrial strength suction cup to put a tag on a whale, using a pole to attach it to the whale in a scene reminiscent of Ahab's adventures in "Moby Dick."

"You can do with sharks too; you tag their dorsal fin," Berkenpas said. "But you have to do it in the split second when it closes its eyes right before it eats. So you bait it, then follow it while it chases the bait, then get literally on top of it and tag." The problem was, this time, the shark grabbed the bait, which was tied to the boat, so hard that the boat jerked and the scientist who was perched on the edge of the boat lost his balance and tumbled ... onto ... the shark. Berkenpas told the audience they could google it because the whole thing was caught on camera; it's on YouTube, under "falling into a shark." Since the shark was about 2-3 times bigger than the boat, there were some heart stopping moments for the scientists.



**Eric Berkenpas enjoys making cameras that can get inside a forest fire, down to the deepest part of the ocean, and attached to deep sea creatures. He was given a Wakefield T-shirt by the students who heard him speak.**

"But," Berkenpas said, "Next time we asked for a bigger boat."

Berkenpas talked about trying to take pictures of animals in the deepest area of the ocean, like the Mariana Trench. He told students, "If you are just walking around, you already have 15 pounds of pressure on you just from the atmosphere. But when you are down that deep in the sea, you have tremendous pressure. Finding a camera that could descend that deep and withstand that pressure was not easy. But it was worth it because understanding the sea is crucial. Three billion people depend on the sea for food."

Does he ever lose a drop camera or break it? Sure, Berkenpas replied. "But a camera you drop into the ocean to record images only costs about \$20,000, whereas a robot costs millions. So better to use a camera that might get lost."

In response to a student's question, he said his job really isn't scary. Sometimes the scari-

SEE SCIENTIST, PAGE 7

## 'Something Extra' Performs at Yorktown

**Yorktown's Choir wins excellent and superior levels in District XII choral assessment.**

The Yorktown atrium was abuzz with parents and residents who had come to hear the Yale University a cappella group as well as the Yorktown Chamber a cappella group.

The Yale a cappella group, "Something Extra," and the YHS singers, performed at Yorktown High School on March 13.

The Yale group told the story of how they got started. When Yale's a cappella groups were only male, there were several all-men groups but no female singers. Every year, the male groups came together for a competition on campus, and that year, as the concert was ending, the master of ceremonies noticed a group of women in black tie preparing to come up to the stage. "Oh," he said, "it looks as though we have a little 'something extra' that wasn't on the program."



**Something Extra performs in the atrium of Yorktown High School, providing a Q and A session with Yorktown's Chamber Choir afterwards. Yorktown's long term substitute for the choir program, Kyra Klontz, is in the foreground.**

Yorktown's Chamber Choir also performed, and this was the debut performance for Yorktown's new smaller a cappella group, which practices after school.

The YHS Chamber Choir had a busy week: on March 17, they attended the regional District XII Choral Assessment held in Chantilly,

Va. They, and their interim director Kyra Klontz, who has worked with the group since January, received a score of excellent overall, and a superior in sight-reading. Judges noted the pieces they performed were of extreme difficulty, rhythmically complex, and vocally demanding.

— EDEN BROWN

The  
**Arlington**  
Connection

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# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Family Skate Night.** Saturdays through March, 6:30-9 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 2nd St S. Bring the whole family to Thomas Jefferson Community Center for Family Skate Night with a live DJ, moon bounces and snack bar, this is a crowd-pleaser for the entire family. Only \$2 to skate and \$3 to rent a pair of wheels (moon bounce and concessions are additional). Cash only. Visit [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/thomas-jefferson-community-center](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/thomas-jefferson-community-center).

**Open Bounce.** Saturdays, through March 24, 9:30-10:30 a.m. or 10:45-11:45 a.m. at Madison Community Center, 3829 N. Stafford St. Have an active child (3-9 years old) who loves to bounce? Enjoy Open Bounce Saturday mornings at Madison Community Center. \$3 per child. Purchase tickets online at [parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/madison-community-center-park/](http://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/madison-community-center-park/).

**“Lord of the Flies.”** Through March 25 at Synetic Theater, Crystal City, 1800 S. Bell St. Synetic Theater’s Teen Company presents William Golding’s ‘Lord of the Flies’ adapted for the stage by Nigel Williams. Tickets \$15-\$20. Call 866-811-4111 or visit [www.synetictheater.org](http://www.synetictheater.org).

**You, if No One Else.** Through March 31, Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center 3550 Wilson Blvd. Arlington Arts Center presents You, if no one else, featuring 10 contemporary artists and artist collaborations. You, if no one else, looks at the ways in which artists record, reflect, contribute to, rail against, and engage with politics and civic life, bringing dialogue, beauty, and nuance to their involvement in the public sphere. The title of the exhibition was inspired by poet Tino Villanueva, whose poem of the same name was included in his 1994 collection *Chronicle of My Worst Years*. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org) or call 703-248-6800.

**Michèle Colburn: The More Things Change.** Through March 31, Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Michèle Colburn’s work explores socio-political themes related to domestic terrorism, war, and the costs associated with both. A multidisciplinary artist, Colburn makes mixed-media objects with forays into endurance performance on the streets. Her two- and three-dimensional work incorporates gunpowder, spent bullet casings, and vintage surplus military tripwire. Visit [www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org) or call 703-248-6800.

**“Personal Worlds.”** Through April 2, gallery hours at The Barry Gallery in the Reinsch Library at Marymount, 2807 North Glebe Road. “Personal Worlds,” features oil paintings, drawings and prints by faculty member Mary Proenza. Admission is free. Visit [www.marymount.edu/barrygallery](http://www.marymount.edu/barrygallery).

**“HALO-HALO.”** Through April 7, open 24/7 at Metro Micro Gallery, 3409 Wilson Blvd., on the corner of Kansas Street and Wilson Boulevard. An exhibition of new works by Nico Fertakis. The exhibition’s title, “HALO-HALO,” refers to a popular dessert in the Philippines and means “mix-mix” or “mixed together” in the Filipino dialect, Tagalog. With an opening reception Sunday, March 25, 1-3 p.m. Visit [www.metromicrogallery.com](http://www.metromicrogallery.com).

**Art Exhibit: “That’s Why I’m**



FILE PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

## Hop over to Park Easter Egg Hunts

**Potomac Overlook Regional Park, 2845 Marcey Road, will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Tuesday, March 27, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Children, ages 2 to 11 years old, are invited to celebrate spring. Participants must pre-register at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/novaparks/Activity\\_Search/2137](https://apm.activecommunities.com/novaparks/Activity_Search/2137). Tickets are available online for \$10 per child plus a \$3 transaction fee. Tickets are non-refundable. Parents and grandparents are free. On Wednesday, March 28, Upton Hill Regional Park, 6060 Wilson Blvd., will host its Easter egg hunt. Tickets are available online at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/novaparks/Activity\\_Search/2243](https://apm.activecommunities.com/novaparks/Activity_Search/2243) for \$10 per child plus a \$3 transaction fee. Walk up tickets (if available) are \$15. Tickets are nonrefundable. Parents and grandparents are free.**

**Here.** Through May 5 at Cody Gallery, 1000 North Glebe Road, 2nd Floor. Marymount University’s Cody Gallery will host an opening reception for the exhibition “That’s Why I’m Here,” which features work by Kyle Bauer, Cynthia Connolly (Curator at Arlington Arts), Elizabeth Huey, Kim Llerena, and Jordan Rathus. Works in the exhibition are marked by experiences drawn from the environment, both real and imagined. Call 703-284-1500 or visit [www.marymount.edu](http://www.marymount.edu) and search “Cody Gallery.”

### MARCH 21-23

**Fundraising: Citrus Sale.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Overlee Community Pool-Bath House (Lower Level), 6030 Lee Highway, lower entrance off John Marshall Drive. Fresh citrus (with honeybells), pecans, and maple syrup for sale to support Northwest Arlington Lions Club/Charities. Call 703-528-1130.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 22

**Artist Talk: Jordan Rathus.** 1 p.m. at Cody Gallery, 1000 North Glebe Road, 2nd Floor. Marymount University’s Cody Gallery will host an

opening reception for the exhibition “That’s Why I’m Here,” which features work by Kyle Bauer, Cynthia Connolly (Curator at Arlington Arts), Elizabeth Huey, Kim Llerena, and Jordan Rathus. Works in the exhibition are marked by experiences drawn from the environment, both real and imagined. Call 703-284-1500 or visit [www.marymount.edu](http://www.marymount.edu) and search “Cody Gallery.”

**Opening Reception: “That’s Why I’m Here.”** 5-7 p.m. at Cody Gallery, 1000 North Glebe Road, 2nd Floor. Marymount University’s Cody Gallery will host an opening reception for the exhibition “That’s Why I’m Here,” which features work by Kyle Bauer, Cynthia Connolly (Curator at Arlington Arts), Elizabeth Huey, Kim Llerena, and Jordan Rathus. Works in the exhibition are marked by experiences drawn from the environment, both real and imagined. Artist talk with Jordan Rathus at 1 p.m. Call 703-284-1500 or visit [www.marymount.edu](http://www.marymount.edu) and search “Cody Gallery.”

**Author Event.** 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N Westmoreland St., #101. In honor of Women’s History Month, with Mary Hartnett (co-author with Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Wendy W. Williams of My Own

Words) and Debbie Levy (author of *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*). They’ll share little-known anecdotes, big-picture issues, and how their two bestselling books, one for adults and the other for children, came about. Call 703-300-9746 or visit [www.onemorepagebooks.com](http://www.onemorepagebooks.com).

**Up Ball: Darkly Ever After.** 7-11 p.m. at Clarendon Ballroom, 3185 Wilson Blvd. A fancy dress and literary-themed social event for adults, presented by the Friends of the Arlington Public Library, and featuring: prizes for the best fairy tale inspired attire (costumes are optional); live music; light appetizers and dessert; and drinks available for purchase with cash or credit. Tickets are \$40. Visit [arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/3711162](http://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/3711162).

### FRIDAY/MARCH 23

**Survival Skills: Purifying Water.** 4-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Learn hands-on traditional survival skills. Humans can go days without food, but drinkable water is a survival priority. Use different methods to collect and clean rain and creek water, then drink it. For information: 703-228-6535. \$5. #632928-A. To

register, call 703-228-4747 or visit [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us).

**Half Moon Hike.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road. The half-moon is the best time for viewing the moon with a telescope – come find out why during an early spring hike in the forest. Then enjoy hot chocolate indoors. Teens ages 16 and up are welcome, but must be accompanied by a registered adult. For information: 703-228-3403. Adults. \$5. #632848-E. To register, call 703-228-4747 or visit [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us).

**Live Comedy: David Alan Grier.** 7:30 and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. David Alan Grier from Comedy Central, The Wiz and In Living Color. \$25-\$30. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com).

### SATURDAY/MARCH 24

**Family Bird Walk.** 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families ages 7 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Bird watching in the early spring is a great time to start – fewer species and no leaves to hide them. Begin with birding basics: using binoculars and field guides, identifying, and finding birds, then practice new skills. Beginners and experts welcomed. Loaner binoculars are available. For information: 703-228-6535. Free. #632958-I. To register, call 703-228-4747 or visit [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us).

**Sisterhood Luncheon/Ebone Images Awards.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Army Navy Country Club, 1700 Army Navy Drive. National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Northern Virginia Chapter presents “Hatsolutely Stunning – A Hat and Glove Affair.” Featuring Daphne Maxwell Reid, and honoring distinguished women in the community. Wear gloves and a stunning hat. Shopping bazaar and beverage reception starts at 10 a.m. Tickets \$55 at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com), search “Hatsolutely” or email [nbcwv@gmail.com](mailto:nbcwv@gmail.com) with questions.

**Visit Our Animal Hospital.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Ages 6 to 9. Come visit rescued animals and see how to medically treat them, including reptiles and amphibians that need care. For information: 703-228-6535. \$5. #632928-E. To register, call 703-228-4747 or visit [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us).

**Live Comedy: David Alan Grier.** 7 and 9:30 p.m. at Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. David Alan Grier from Comedy Central, The Wiz and In Living Color. \$25-\$30. Visit [ArlingtonDrafthouse.com](http://ArlingtonDrafthouse.com).

**Chamber Music.** 7:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd. National Chamber Ensemble presents “Strings Fever.” Experience two of the greatest works of chamber music by two masters: Johannes Brahms and Felix Mendelssohn, featuring the lush sounds of the strings. Free parking. \$36 adult, \$18 student. Tickets at [www.NationalChamberEnsemble.org](http://www.NationalChamberEnsemble.org) or at box office one hour before performance.

### SUNDAY/MARCH 25

**Meet the Artist.** 1-3 p.m. at Metro Micro Gallery, 3409 Wilson Blvd., on the corner of Kansas Street and Wilson Boulevard. An exhibition of new works by Nico Fertakis. The exhibition’s title, “HALO-HALO,” refers to a popular dessert. The exhibit runs through April 7. Visit [www.metromicrogallery.com](http://www.metromicrogallery.com).

# Scientist Encourages Students

FROM PAGE 4

est is the drive to and from the site. “The fun thing about my job is that I can both test and deploy, design and test.

I can do it all. Most scientists or engineers can do one but not all three on the same project.”

How did he get interested in being an engineer? “When I was young I had an uncle who worked for National Cash Register,” he said, “and that was the precursor to IBM, so they had a lot of electronics and mechanical moving parts.

My uncle had a whole garage of the stuff, and when he moved out to California he gave it to me, and I would put it all together and call him and ask which part went with which, and he would tell me.

I got a master’s degree in acoustics, and then worked for a defense contractor, and then my boss got this request to develop the critter cam and I came along to National Geographic.”

Founded by serial entrepreneur Larry Bock and



**Shahraz Shahbaz, 16, a Wakefield student, is thinking about going into engineering.**

Lockheed Martin executives to address the shortage in science and technical talent, the USA Science & Engineering Festival is the Super Bowl of STEM, and was developed to increase public awareness of the importance of science and to encourage youth to pursue careers in science and engineering by celebrating science the way people celebrate Hollywood celebrities, professional athletes and pop stars.

To support this effort, the Nifty Fifty are science stars chosen for their differing fields, talents, divergent backgrounds and ages and include inventors, policy makers, actors, educators, researchers, explorers, video game developers, alien hunters, astronauts, doctors,

and more.

The Nifty Fifty events are taking place throughout the region through the festival. More than 350,000 people are expected to attend the festival, the largest of its kind in the U.S. For more information, see <https://usasciencefestival.org/>.

# Charting Through the Amazon

FROM PAGE 3

sary confidentiality of sensitive business negotiations.

“Consistent with our own practices, Arlington doesn’t release terms of potential economic agreement with businesses during site selection process,” said Cristol. “It just makes it impossible to engage in confidential negotiations required to reach agreement.”

Other County Board members expressed agreement with Cristol.

“I don’t know what Amazon is using as their criteria for consideration, but Arlington has reached the level we are because we have made incredible investments in public education and transit and open space,” said County Board member Christian Dorsey. “There is no way we would participate in a thing that would degrade those prior investments. It wouldn’t make any sense for us to diminish what we built and hope to build in the future. We want to give people the comfort of knowing that, while we can’t speak specifically, we would not engage in a process that would degrade Arlington in the pursuit of Amazon or anyone else.”

Dorsey noted, however, that the county would still

not be at liberty to disclose what the state has to offer Amazon, which is far larger than what the locality can.

County Board member John Vihstadt said the final tally on whether economic incentives are a good or bad thing is still to be determined.

“Economic incentives are controversial,” said Vihstadt. “Experts, economists, planners and so forth are divided. You can go on google and see as many opposed as in favor. It’s a tough call. The others surrounding us are offering such incentives ... but at the end of the day, it’s what we are as a community that’s going to serve as greatest incentive to either locate here or stay here and expand.”

County Board member Libby Garvey urged residents to be careful when considering promises made by other localities.

“There is a lot of swirl going on nationally about what is being offered,” said Garvey. “Maryland said something about a blank check and it got withdrawn. Don’t believe everything you read in the press or everything people tell you because there’s a lot of swirl going on and a lot of people talking about things they don’t know much about as far as this topic goes.”

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# Four Comstock Challengers Discuss Foreign Policy

George Washington University student moves crowd to tears.

BY EDEN BROWN  
THE CONNECTION

Suzie Egolf of Herndon was glad she had come to the Foreign Policy Candidate Forum on Sunday, March 4, at the Tysons Corner Hilton Doubletree Hotel.

"I came here because I really knew nothing about these candidates who are running for Rep. Barbara Comstock's seat in Congress," she said. The June 12 primary was coming up. She didn't think she really needed to know what their foreign policy positions were, but at least she would get a chance to see them in action so when she voted she could pick the right candidate. Then she realized, as she listened to positions on intervening in Syria, the Iran-Nuclear deal, and North Korea, that the role of every congressperson in deciding whether we go to war or not, seek peace or not, just got a lot more important.

State Sen. Jennifer Wexton (D-33), Lindsey Davis Stover, Daniel Helmer, and Alison Kiehl Friedman addressed a standing-room-only crowd of Congressional District 10 voters to address questions about foreign policy. Wexton acknowledged humorously that she hadn't been involved in a lot of foreign policy decisions during her tenure as a state senator, unless you count cross border issues with Kentucky and Tennessee.

Helmer, who was a Rhodes Scholar, noted his foreign policy is directly related to his time abroad as a soldier. Davis Stover and Friedman both held jobs in the Obama administration with direct policy engagement. Friedman led a team combating human trafficking at the Department of State, and Davis Stover served in the Department of Veterans Affairs, working on increasing access to care for veterans.

Egolf did not see a stand-out in the crowd of candidates — only four were present.



Tables featuring J Street, candidates, Foreign Policy for America, and eMgage displays among others.

**"Whichever of you comes out on top on June 12, I can assure you, on June 13 there will be hundreds of Arlingtonians knocking on doors to help get you elected."**

— Barbara Van Voorst, Arlington resident and J Street member

"They mostly talked about what they did — their experience in the State Department or in the war. But I got tired of hearing the same lines: "When I was in Iraq, I did this, or when I was in charge of this, I did that. I want to know what they really know about our district. I'm going to go back home and research each candidate, and what they really know about District 10, and how much experience they have here, as opposed to somewhere else, actually living here and understanding the district."

The audience asked each candidate to

offer a response to moderators' questions to see how they differ. They didn't differ much. On Syria, Wexton said the U.S. should take in more Syrian refugees. Helmer stressed we don't solve problems with the U.S. military in an undeclared war. Friedman suggested we need to be engaged so Russia doesn't move into a vacuum there. Stover said ISIS in Syria is a threat to the U.S. so a long-term strategy is needed: she added that when we use the military, we had better be prepared to fund the men and women who come home.

On Guantanamo, Helmer wanted to close it because it's contrary to our values, Wexton agreed, Friedman agreed, and Davis Stover added it is a recruitment tool for the terrorists — close it. Stover, citing her grandfather, a WWII vet, said she would be an advocate for veterans; she was chief of staff to the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee and a senior adviser in the Obama administration. She cited homeless vets and female vets as major preoccupations.

Barbara Van Voorst, of "J Street" and an Arlington resident, noted during her interaction with the candidates that "whichever of you comes out on top on June 12, I can assure you, on June 13 there will be hun-



Fawad Barak spoke to the crowd about his father's Jan. 20 death in Kabul and his determination to see justice done and live out his father's American dream.

dreds of Arlingtonians knocking on doors to help get you elected." She asked a question about the current situation in Israel and the Palestinian state, and heard from all candidates that a two-state solution is the answer.

Helmer received loud applause when he spoke about gun control and talked about carrying an AR-15 on the streets of Baghdad and how a weapon like that doesn't belong on the streets of the U.S. He was passionate about immigration, holding onto the Iran Deal, and healthcare, and he made it clear that war should be a last resort, not a step lightly taken. All the candidates decried "foreign policy by Twitter" and Friedman evoked the concern that we might engage in a first strike use of nuclear weapons because of a bad twitter day. Davis Stover endorsed more diplomatic action and enacting a law that would prevent the U.S. from having a first strike capability, "something it would be possible to do right now."

All the candidates decried the "border wall" — Davis Stover called it a symbol of hate which had no place in this country; Friedman called it a stupid idea; Wexton pointed out Mexico's role as a major trad

SEE FOREIGN, PAGE 11



## Date Night

More than 40 people attended Stroke Survivors date night on March 12. Virginia Hospital Center, the Ballston BID, and the Pinzimini restaurant worked together to provide a night out for stroke survivors, some who hadn't go out in as many as four years as a result of having a stroke. Occupational therapist Christine Crawford works with survivors and saw firsthand the stress the families go through, especially marriages. She organized the first date night at VHC last year.



## "FLOURISHING AFTER 55"

"Flourishing After 55" from Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs March 26-31.

**Senior centers:** Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16<sup>th</sup> St.; Arlington Mill, 909 S. Dinwiddie St.; Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18<sup>th</sup> St.

**Senior trips:** Tuscarora Mill brunch, Leesburg, Sunday, March 25, \$41; Turkey Hill Dairy, Columbia, Pa., Tuesday, March 27, \$60; Museum of the Bible, D.C., Friday, March 30, \$19; Arena Stage, D.C., "Hold These Truths," Saturday, March 31, \$79. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

### NEW PROGRAMS:

**Faberge Eggs**, slide illustrated program, Monday, March 26, 1 p.m., \$6. Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

**Garden Group and expert gardener Peter Jones**, Monday, March 26, 1 p.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

**Safety researcher discusses new automobile technologies**, Wednesday, March 28, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

**Zumba Gold demonstration**, Wednesday, March 28, 2:15 p.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

**Arlington Walking Club** to walk around Hains Point, D.C., Wednesday, March 28, 9:30 a.m., \$4. Register, 703-228-4403.

# Manners in the Tech Age

Etiquette classes aim to teach lost art of manners.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL

**O**n a sunny, autumn day a group of 10-year-old children sat around an a formal dining room table at a home in Arlington. The boys wore blazers, pressed khakis and shiny loafers, while the girls have donned festive dresses, nude stockings and wore grosgrain ribbons in their neatly combed hair. They had arrived at the home for a lesson in etiquette, but most of them would have rather been someplace else.

“I have to leave early for a soccer game,” said Jimmy, who didn’t bother hiding his glee over missing part of the class.

In an era when it’s commonplace to order pizza on a smartphone and coordinate play dates by text, old-fashioned etiquette can appear obsolete. A recent survey of teachers shows that 73 percent of instructors believe that students are less polite than when the teachers themselves were students. In the age high-tech conveniences, children can become over scheduled and under socialized, which has led to an uptick in the number of parents who are enrolling their children in etiquette classes, say protocol instructors.

“Parents have a tremendous interest in etiquette classes because so many parents realize that they don’t have that knowledge themselves, said Dorothea Johnson, who founded the Protocol School of Washington and is the author of the book “Modern Manners: Tools to Take You to the Top,” which she co-authored with her granddaughter actress Liv Tyler.

“I think most parents know that good manners and etiquette will be important to their [children’s] future,” added Henryette Neal who teaches etiquette classes for children through the Fairfax County Park Authority. “Young people will be educated, but without proper social skills they will not be able to present themselves properly.” Neal is also the owner of Steppin Out Charm and Imaging Studio.

The result of fast-paced lifestyles combined with overloaded schedules is a generation of children who place more value on social media savvy than on knowledge of social graces. Family dinners are replaced by fast food, says one parent. “Who needs good manners to gobble down a slice of pizza,” said Carole Mincey of Alexandria, whose 14-year old daughter and 11-year old son have taken etiquette and ballroom dance from Mrs. Simpson’s Classes, one of the area’s invitation-only etiquette schools. “Because everyone is so busy and technology is so advanced, reality television shows are setting standards of behavior and handwritten thank you notes have been replaced by emails and texts.”

Good manners are as important to a child’s future success as academics, says another parent. “I feel like if people know what to do in social situations it empowers them,” said Sarah Henry of Chevy Chase, mother of a 10-year old daughter and a 12-year old son. “If you’re unsure of what to do it can make you feel intimidated. So it’s all about empowering chil-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

**Henryette Neal teaches etiquette classes for children.**

dren with knowledge. And it’s good for them to be exposed to proper etiquette in case they’re not getting it at home. And if they are getting it at home, etiquette classes can reinforce it.”

Interactive class sessions help keep their children engaged in the etiquette lessons. “They key is to keep the children occupied,” said Johnson. “For example, when teaching proper introductions, I would call two children up to the front of the room and have them introduce themselves to each other.”

In addition to learning such common courtesies such as saying “Please,” “Thank you” and “You’re welcome,” children learn to write thank-you notes and introduce themselves to others by making direct eye contact and offering a firm handshake.

“Knowing how to give a proper handshake is important. When I took my seven-year-old granddaughter Liv to formal events, her little hand went out as she was being introduced to someone,” said Johnson. “I could take her anywhere because she had impeccable manners.”

Henry says that in a class that she coordinated for her daughter’s Girl Scout troop, part of the curriculum included having the children form a receiving line with parents where they practiced handshakes and eye contact.

“We also printed proper table setting samples online and give the girls n plastic forks spoons, knives, napkins and a copy of the place setting,” said Henry. “We talked about how to talked about the placement of the utensils, how to hold a knife and fork properly. One of my pet peeves is watching people hold a knife like it’s a stick.”

These are good life lessons, says Neal. “Etiquette classes are important because people still need to be respectful of others, and it starts with our children,” she said. “A simple please and thank you is important.”

**“Young people will be educated, but without good social skills they will not be able to present themselves properly.”**

**— Henryette Neal, etiquette instructor**

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## Baltimore Spring Classic Champions

After a chilly winter training season, Arlington Travel Soccer's 2003 Girls White Team kicked off their spring season in style. The girls participated and finished as champions of the U15 Gold bracket in the Baltimore Spring Classic in Howard County. They played teams from Maryland and Pennsylvania. Coached by Mike Woods, the girls demonstrated strong possession and passing patterns, defeating their opponents 2-0, 2-0 and 7-0. These shutouts were a full team effort with several girls scoring and the defense holding their opponents scoreless every game. Team members include: Margaret Benson, Ella Clark, Tatiana Clinton, Jaden Cordaro, Emily Dick, Lucy Driskill, Haylee Feist, Parker Friedli, Jill Hodges, Elayna Hurley, Mackenzie Kaczmarek, Mia Ludwig, Tess Monticello, Emma Nelsen, Margaret Neubauer, Nora Oconnor, Adelle Stoker, Alex Valentin, and Irene Williams.

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Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### THROUGH APRIL 17

**Tax Assistance.** Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide has helped low- to moderate-income individuals for more than 40 years in every state and the District of Columbia. AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in cooperation with the IRS. No need to be a member of AARP to receive help with completing taxes. Some appointments available. Call 703-829-6192 for more.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 22

**Creating a Culture of Sustainability.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Virginia Tech Research Center, 900 N Glebe Road. A group of panelists will explain what a culture of sustainability entails, the importance of cultivating one in an office setting, how an organization can make sustainability a key part of corporate culture, and best practices. Registration at [www.arlingtonenvironment.org](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org).

### FRIDAY/MARCH 23

**Poster Making Party.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 3313 Arlington Blvd. The Arlington County Democratic Committee (Arlington Democrats) is planning a Weekend of Action in support of the March for Our Lives on

March 24. Bring a dish for a potluck dinner, comradery, and poster making in preparation for the March for Our Lives. These events are still in development, so visit [arlingtondemocrats.org](http://arlingtondemocrats.org) for up-to-date news.

**Information Session.** 7:30-9 a.m. Location TBD. Leadership Center for Excellence is accepting applications and holding information sessions for the Leadership Arlington Class of 2019.

Interested parties may RSVP for information sessions and apply for the program on the website at [leadercenter.org](http://leadercenter.org).

**Scholarship Application Deadline.** Arlington Rotary Club's Foundation is accepting applications for college scholarships of \$8,000, spread over eight college semesters, to a high school senior selected based on a combination of need, merit and community service. Visit [www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org](http://www.arlingtonrotaryclub.org).

## Legals

### ABC LICENSE

Legends Music LLC trading as Observation Deck at CEB Tower, 1201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises & Combined MB Rest/MB Caterer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Daniel Smith, President. 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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### ABC LICENSE

Yume Restaurant Group LLC trading as Yume Sushi, 2121 N Westmoreland Street Suite A2 Arlington VA 22213-1055. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises, Mixed Beverage on Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jeffery King, member 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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# Foreign Policy

FROM PAGE 8

ing partner; and Helmer rejoined: build more schools instead.

On the Iran Nuclear Agreement, Helmer's statement that nuclear weapons are not the only component of the U.S. relationship with Iran, and that the U.S. needs to increase other areas of engagement with Iran, whether or not the agreement remains, followed a chorus of pro-agreement statements.

**CANDIDATES** appeared to agree the U.S. is ceding its leadership position and that it has a hollowed out State Department which as a result is missing opportunities.

The forum's highlight wasn't a candidate, he was a student at George Washington University: Fawad Barak, who was born to an Afghan refugee, Rahim Barak, who fled the Soviet invasion of his country in 1979, made his life in the U.S. and just recently returned to Kabul, to see his family. The 58-year-old was excited to head home to Afghanistan for the first time in 30 years. He checked into the Intercontinental hotel and, on Jan. 20, was eating with friends when Taliban insurgents shot him in the head, his son said. Fawad Barak sees the event as a catalyst for him to pursue the democratic process and "see justice done."

Barak talked about a father who worked four jobs a day, who never had a day off, and whose dream was to see his son graduate from university. Barak's remarks brought many to tears, and everyone to their feet, as he received a standing ovation.

Barak was at the meeting of District 10 candidates because he was invited to the meeting by eMgage, a family of civic and political institutions dedicated to strengthening the engagement of Muslim Americans in the civic and political process. They advocate voter engagement, issue advocacy, and political activity.

**THE FORUM** was sponsored by organizations who represent voters with an interest in foreign policy: J Street; NIAC Action (NIAC Action is a grassroots, civic action organization committed to advancing peace and championing the priorities of the Iranian-American community); the AAPI Victory Fund, (the first Super PAC of its kind, the fund is focused on mobilizing Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) eligible voters and moving them to the ballot box); Foreign Policy in America (FPIA), a grassroots non-partisan 501c4 organization, launched in 2017 to champion a strong, principled foreign policy; Emgage Foundation; and the Council for a Livable World, which for more than 50 years, has been advocating for a more principled approach to U.S. national security and foreign policy.

For more information about Emgage Foundation, see [www.emgageusa.org](http://www.emgageusa.org) or [www.emgageaction.org](http://www.emgageaction.org); for more about J Street, see [www.jstreet.org](http://www.jstreet.org); for more about NIAC Action see [www.NIACAction.org](http://www.NIACAction.org), for more about A Council for a Livable World, see [www.livableworld.org](http://www.livableworld.org), for more about a Foreign Policy for America, see [www.fp4america.org](http://www.fp4america.org); for more information about the candidates, see [www.alisonforvirginia.com](http://www.alisonforvirginia.com), [www.lindseyforcongress.com](http://www.lindseyforcongress.com), [www.helmerforcongress.com](http://www.helmerforcongress.com), or [www.jenniferwexton.com](http://www.jenniferwexton.com).

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# Almost Exactly Four Days ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... was the length of time during which we were powerless a few weeks back when the wind nearly brought down the house; yet it was no laughing matter. I might have written this column sooner but until Tuesday, March 6 – when the power finally came back on, we were semi-frozen to the bone. The old-fashioned thermostat in our living room indicated 42 degrees at its most frigid.

Aside from the obvious physical discomfort – made a bit more bearable while wearing hats, gloves, coats and scarfs – inside, the toll the cold took on my mental acuity was much less manageable. My brain still worked, but not overtime. It was, to invoke a "Star Trek" reference: "On impulse power," somewhere between barely functioning and imminent danger.

This power outage was the most significant we had experienced at "Belly Acres" in the 26 years since we took ownership in late May 1992. And though this four-day non-sojourn was difficult, it was for us not a return down power-outage lane. We have been lucky in our time here; very little has upset the apple cart. Considering the hundreds of trees that surround our house, and the many thuds they all made as they fell and hit the ground that extremely late Friday night/early Saturday morning, the miracle is that not one of them hit the house, or either of our two cars parked in the driveway.

I wouldn't say I woke up in the morning to find our house relatively unscathed because as of 3:30 a.m. when I felt the house shudder for the first time, I never was able to fall back asleep as I kept bracing myself for incoming trees and limbs. Given the potential damage and hassle a direct hit likely would have caused, a power outage seemed a minor inconvenience, all things considered.

As it happened, when the power came back on, I was not at home. I was en route to the Glenmont Metro station in Wheaton to pick up Dina. When I came to a stop at "Kiss and Ride," I looked at my cell phone and noticed a "missed call" from one of my neighbors. I immediately called back and soon heard my neighbor, Helene, singing "We're in heaven, ..." with the explanation – not in verse – that power had returned to New Birmingham Manor (the official name of our 10-home dead-end street). BG&E, our utility company, had finally come by to cut/trim the tree that had been uprooted in the storm and fallen across the power line which electrifies our neighborhood.

As difficult as it had been for some of us, it had not been nearly as difficult for the four neighbors who had generators and thus were prepared and able to keep the lights on and the heat circulating. One of whom was kind enough to call around the neighborhood and offer hot showers as well as refrigerator and freezer storage to anyone interested. Given that the previous week was a post-chemotherapy week for me when I'm not eating much and shopping at supermarkets even less, we had minimal food in the freezer - all of which ended up being a loss, and a bit less than usual in the refrigerator which, after putting the contents into two coolers filled with ice, ended up being a gain.

Oddly enough, I haven't re-inventoried the refrigerator/freezer as yet. I don't know if I'm being paranoid or just plain lazy, but I haven't felt inclined to stop and shop, not even at the Giant. I imagine the feeling will pass because after eating out every night; some fast, some slow, over the last week or so, I'm probably way over our imaginary budget and way under prepared for the next go around. But as is often heard on basketball courts on playgrounds all over America: "No harm. No foul."

The four days without power weren't particularly pleasant but we survived the ordeal nonetheless and may have even learned something in the process: our long underwear still fits.

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

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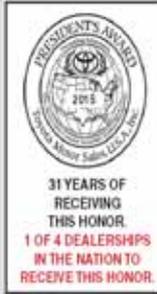
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