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HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 9

The Arlington Connection



Loki Mulholland, son of Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, wears his “My mom’s an ex-con” T-shirt at the Cherrydale 125 Celebration on June 9. He is the producer of the “An Ordinary Hero,” a documentary about one Southern white woman’s courage to follow her convictions.

Cherrydale Celebrates Its History

NEWS, PAGE 3

Neighbors Question Hospital’s Expansion Plans

NEWS, PAGE 3

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PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

JUNE 13-19, 2018



St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School

CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2018



We are proud of our 115 graduates and their accomplishments. Some highlights include:

- ◆ Accepted by more than 200 colleges and universities.
- ◆ Half of the class was offered college scholarships or merit aid.
- ◆ Two National Merit finalists and five commended scholars.
- ◆ Won the Maureen O'Donnell and the Carter Stubbs Drake Goad National Latin Exam Awards and the Randolph College Book Prize for Classics.
- ◆ Won the Motivate Award at the Virginia qualifying robotics tournament and the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award at the Virginia state robotics tournament.
- ◆ Received two Cappies nominations for "Tartuffe;" performed in all of our drama and musical productions, Evening of the Arts, Multicultural Night, and the Pit Orchestra; and wrote and directed the plays for the 2018 One-Act Play Festival.
- ◆ Performed in the Virginia District X Music Festivals and participated in the Choral Evensong at the Washington National Cathedral.
- ◆ Prepared thousands of sandwiches for Martha's Table; supported military families and veterans; and led supply drives for local agencies and our partner school in Haiti. Volunteered thousands of hours with local nonprofits. Built relationships with children in Romania and Haiti. Awarded Alexandria Rotary Club's Jefferson Cup for Community Service.
- ◆ Won one Gold Key, two Silver Keys, and five Honorable Mentions in the regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards; 3rd place at the Best of the Independent Schools Art Competition; and Best of 2D at the All City Alexandria Art Exhibition.
- ◆ Thirty three student-athletes to play collegiate athletics next year, representing 11 sports.
- ◆ Won individual and relay state championships in indoor and outdoor track and field and led field hockey to an ISL championship. Participated in league finals or state tournaments in boys basketball, boys soccer, cross country, field hockey, ice hockey, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, swimming and diving, boys tennis, indoor and outdoor track and field, softball, and wrestling.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED BY THE CLASS OF 2018

Alvernia College ◆ American University of Paris/George Washington University ◆ American University ◆ Amherst College ◆ Boston College ◆ Brown University ◆ Bucknell University ◆ Catholic University of America (2) ◆ Charleston Southern University ◆ Christopher Newport University (4) ◆ College of William & Mary (6) ◆ Dartmouth College ◆ Denison University (3) ◆ DePaul University ◆ Drexel University ◆ Duke University ◆ Elon University (2) ◆ Emerson College ◆ Fordham University ◆ George Mason University ◆ Georgetown University ◆ Gettysburg College (2) ◆ Hampden-Sydney College ◆ Hampton University ◆ High Point University (2) ◆ Hobart University ◆ Indiana University ◆ James Madison University (2) ◆ Loyola University (MD) ◆ Mercer University ◆ Miami University (Ohio) ◆ New York University (2) ◆ North Carolina A&T State University ◆ North Carolina School of the Arts ◆ Pitzer College ◆ Providence College ◆ Purdue University ◆ Randolph College ◆ Reed College ◆ Rhodes College ◆ Rochester Institute of Technology (2) ◆ Sewanee: University of the South (3) ◆ Southern Methodist University ◆ St. Andrew's (Scotland) ◆ St. John's University (NY) ◆ Stevenson University ◆ Susquehanna University ◆ Swarthmore College ◆ Syracuse University (2) ◆ Temple University ◆ Texas Christian University (2) ◆ Trinity College (CT) ◆ Tulane University (3) ◆ United States Naval Academy (2) ◆ University ◆ University of Alabama (3) ◆ University of California - Davis ◆ University of California - Santa Barbara ◆ University of Chicago (2) ◆ University of Colorado at Boulder ◆ University of Delaware (2) ◆ University of Denver ◆ University of Maryland - College Park ◆ University of Miami (FL) ◆ University of Michigan (3) ◆ University of Mississippi (2) ◆ University of Pennsylvania ◆ University of Tennessee ◆ University of Texas at Austin ◆ University of Utah ◆ University of Virginia (9) ◆ Virginia Commonwealth University (3) ◆ Virginia Tech (3)



Jim Derrig, a local resident, is concerned at the lack of County Board members in attendance.



Design map of the expanded Virginia Hospital Center.



Avis Chatman, a resident, is concerned about the garage entrances along 19th Street.

Containment

Neighbors concerned about growth at Virginia Hospital Center.

BY VERNON MILES
THE CONNECTION

It wasn't much of a Q&A. The June 11 open house with the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) was billed as a question and answer session for neighbors about the hospital's expansion plans. There were a lot of questions and little by way of answers from Arlington County or the hospital. For over an hour, dozens of neighbors asked questions and raised concerns about the scope of the expansion, but were met with silence.

The VHC first proposed expansion plans in 2015, growing into the adjacent 5.6 acre Edison site owned by the county. Since then, the surrounding community and civic associations have been involved in the process trying to pressure VHC into a design more amenable to its neighbors. But as VHC's reached the halfway point of the review process before it goes to the County Board in September, neighbors say they've seen very little compromise from the hospital.

"We started the task force three years ago with the three civic associations in the area to ensure the work didn't adversely affect the neighborhoods," said Tracey Greiner, representing the John M. Langston Civic Association. "From the get-go, our main concerns were traffic, pedestrian safety, and massing."

Greiner said he's concerned about how little of the site uses underground parking and that portions of the Edison site are being maintained as a future build pad for more development. At previous meetings, hospital representatives stated that larger scale undergrounding of parking and facilities would be prohibitively expensive. Adrian Stanton, vice president of business development and community relations for the hospital, said at a Committee of 100 meeting earlier this year that cost for a park-



"If it's more expensive, it's expensive because you're doing the right thing," said Jim O'Shea.

ing garage triples as it starts to go underground. Greiner acknowledged this, but noted that there was substantial undergrounding on the Ballston corridor.

Greiner said there are simple solutions to help appease neighbors. The garage is divided currently, with an entrance and section for patients and visitors only and another section for hospital staff. Greiner said eliminating that distinction will help relieve the burden on 19th Street, where the staff parking entrance is located.

James Perkins, who lives across from one of the parking entrances, nodded to his toddler and said the increased traffic concerned him about the safety of his child.

"They haven't changed the plans at all or listened to our concerns," said Perkins. "They didn't really get the feedback."

Perkins said he hoped for a traffic light at 19th Street and N. George Mason Drive, but while residents said it was necessary already, Arlington staff has said the traffic on the street doesn't currently or under the new designs merit a traffic light.

The main goal for many residents was to



"Those brown boxes aren't just boxes; we live there," said Mario Woldarsky. "Every day I see the ambulances from Prince William County come in here. They are not from this community. They are not taking the beating our community is. You are changing the rules. That's not fair to me, to my neighbors."

move traffic off the smaller streets.

"We want the entrance on 19th Street closed," said Avis Chatman. "All this traffic is 24 hours a day and that street is narrow. It cannot handle that amount of cars."

19th Street is currently a narrow yield street. The hospital plans include expansion of the street, widening it six feet to improve traffic circulation and creating parking on both sides of the street. The VHC plans have included several transportation improvements to the surrounding area. In addition to the widening, there are several pedestrian improvements on the nearby sidewalks. While 19th Street is unlikely to get its traffic light, there is a new traffic light and pedestrian intersection at George Mason Drive and the Outpatient Pavillion Driveway. There is also some north/south vehicle and pedestrian connection through the site. But residents say the improvements do little to address the underlying issues.

"It's discouraging," said Sharon Dorsey. "We approached the hospital for years to ensure our concerns would be taken into account [in the designs]. But virtually nothing was taken into consideration. They submitted one design and have essentially just tweaked it."

Outside of the parking, residents also remain concerned about the scale of the building. One particular sticking point was the solid brick exterior along 19th Street residents have called the wall.

"I live on 19th Street," said Debra Parker. "I don't want to open my door and look at a wall."

Several speakers at the meeting drew comparisons between the wall design and the kinds of walls that segregated the historic nearby African American communities from the rest of Arlington. There was more

SEE NEIGHBORS, PAGE 14



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News



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

Greg Embree, member of Cherrydale 125 Committee, is joined by Ethelene Crockett Jones, Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, and Dion Diamond, all three participants in the June 9 1960 lunch counter sit-in in Cherrydale. On the right behind Embree are state Sen. Barbara Favola and Del. Patrick Hope.

Celebrating Its History

**In Cherrydale:
From lunch counter
sit-in to 9/11.**

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Joan Trumpauer Mulholland looks around the crowd of over 100 observers and political officials gathered for the unveiling of the plaque commemorating the Cherrydale lunch counter sit-in on June 9, 1960. "This is a bigger crowd than we had when we left the sit in."

Ethelene Crockett Jones, another participant of the 1960s sit-in adds, "and much friendlier and without a police escort."

Festivities for the Cherrydale 125th anniversary began on June 9 in the parking lot at 3815 Lee Highway, the site of the sit-in that rippled through other local establishments. It led to integration of lunch counters in Arlington and Alexandria.

Greg Embree, member of Cherrydale's 125 Committee, pointed out it was remarkable that these demonstrations that spread around the country rarely had even a dozen protesters. "There were six individuals at Cherrydale." He added that when JFK met with Martin Luther King, he told him the sit-ins had sensitized him to the civil rights struggle.

"I want to play a song that is appropriate for the occasion and I hope you will sing along."

"We Shall Overcome" blasts out of the speaker and a couple of voices join in and the music spreads through the crowd.

SEE CHERRYDALE, PAGE 15



Greg Embree unveils the plaque commemorating the 1960s lunch sit-in in Cherrydale. It will be affixed to the building at 3815 Lee Highway where the sit-in occurred.



Joan Trumpauer Mulholland joins hands as the crowd sings out the verse from "We Shall Overcome."

COUNTY NOTEBOOK

Saving DARPA

Losing the National Science Foundation was a blow to Arlington. At the June 16 County Board meeting, the board will consider a bonus density expansion to the headquarters of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to prevent another agency vacancy. Ashton Park Associates LLC plans to add 1,200 additional square feet to the South Office Building to enhance site security with a secure screening and visitor check-in facility.

The expansion comes to a building already constructed from bonus density awarded as the county worked to retain federal agencies fleeing under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Report. DARPA currently employs 220 people in Arlington County.

Elderly Tax Relief

The County Board will be considering an expansion of real estate tax relief for elderly residents and people with permanent disabilities. Currently, elderly residents whose annual income is at or below \$99,472 or whose household assets are below \$340,000 can qualify for a full, half, or quarter percent real estate tax exemption. The expansion involves a number of small amendments to the structure of the program that open it up to more residents, like increasing the threshold of household assets to \$400,000. The changes would create a \$153,898 decrease in county revenue.

— VERNON MILES

BULLETIN BOARD

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Veterans Hiring Event. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Association of the United States Army, 2425 Wilson Blvd. The Association of the United States Army is holding a hiring event for Veterans, transitioning Soldiers and family members. There are 46 prospective employers, military-friendly and

ready to hire, participating. There is no cost for job seekers, pre-registration required. Visit www.ausea.org/jobfair.

Coffee with a Cop: North Outreach Team. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Northside Social, 3211 Wilson Blvd. Visit newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/public-invited-to-coffee-with-a-cop-2 for more.



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OPINION

Next Generation Takes the Stage

19th Annual 2018 Cappies Award Gala honors area high school talent.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

While the current crop of Broadway luminaries were receiving their Tony awards in New York on Sunday, June 10, the next generation of theatrical stars were being equally feted — and showcasing their many talents — at the 19th Annual Cappies Awards Gala in the Concert Hall at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

“Lead Players” Erich DeCinzo, Phil Reid, and Diane Poirier, together with hosts — and Cappies Governing Board members — Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss kept things moving along with abundant witty repartee throughout the three-hour event. With musical numbers and dramatic scenes performed by cast members from some of the Cappies-nominated shows, audience enthusiasm never waned, from the opening number “Come On, Get Cappies,” (sung to the tune of “Get Happy,” written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler, and adopted by Judy Garland as one of her signature songs) to the show-stopping finale, featuring a number composed by long-time Cappies musical director, Chris Johnston, who teaches musical composition at the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts, when not conducting the Annandale Northern Virginia Community College Symphony

Orchestra.

Awards were presented in 39 categories, ranging from actors/actresses in lead and supporting roles in plays and musicals, vocalists, costumes, choreography, orchestra, technical arts such as Lighting, Sets and Sounds and more.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District took home the prizes for Best Play (“The Rimers of Eldritch”) and for Best Actor and Actress in that production, but there were plenty of students and performances from Northern Virginia, from Alexandria to Leesburg, that won the votes of the 436 student critics who had reviewed five or more shows to become eligible Cappies Awards voters.

Kyle Dalsimer from Annandale High School was named best in the Lead Actor in a Musical category for his performance in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.” The Oakton High School “Titanic Band” was tops in Orchestra. Olympia Hatzilambrou received Female Vocalist honors in Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology’s “Mary Poppins,” while John Henry Stamper from Westfield High School in Chantilly took the top Male Vocalist honors as the “Phantom of the Opera.” And the award for Musical of the Year went to Robinson Secondary School for their production of “Monty Python’s Spamalot.” The audience was treated to the song “Knights of the Round Table” early



The award for Props went to Lily Shirley, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program for “The Odd Couple.”

in the program.

The complete list of winners, as well as the list of the nominees, can be found on the Cappies website www.cappies.com/nca.

The Cappies were established in the wake of the Columbine High School massacre in 1997. The vision of the late William Strauss, co-founder of the Capitol Steps political satire review, and brought to life with his partnership with Judy Bowns, the Cappies began as an effort to “bring positive attention to teenagers engaged in creative pursuits.” Their mission has expanded to include opportunities for constructive critical feedback



The winner for Comic Actor in a Musical, Wakefield High School’s Xavier Molina, performed in “The Drowsy Chaperone.”

for the theatrical activities of those youth, to honor the advisors, mentors, and teachers, as well as the students, and to provide a collaborative learning experience for high school theatre students.

The nonprofit organization has also expanded outside of the immediate area in those 19 years, adding nine chapters around the country, and an additional three in Canada.

The telecast of the 2018 Cappies Gala can be viewed online beginning on Saturday, June 16 at www.fcps.edu/tv.

Foundation Presents \$233,700 in Scholarships

The 2018 Wakefield Scholars are: Malate Alemu, GMU; Dennis Alvarenga, VA Tech; Holden Anderson, University of Southern California; Meghan Anderson, UVA; Mohamed Bahr, Post NOVA, VA Tech; Hans Caballero-Garcia, NOVA; Truman Deree, JMU; Nathan Dudani, NOVA; Joshua Dungo, Marymount; Jacob F Filon, W&M; Bay Gates, Post NOVA, UVA; Yared Gizaw, VCU; Jonathan H Hernandez, UVA; Marisabel Jimenez, VCU; Md Kaesh, GMU; Yeab Lakew, NOVA; Acsa Lemus-Gonzalez, NOVA; Juan Martinez Luna, Juniata College; Ruth Mengesha, JMU; “Zamy” Zamilan Munkhjargal, GMU; Mansour Najah, VA Tech; Ethan Novak, UVA; Jose Orellana-Alfaro, NOVA; Matthew Parker, VA Tech; John Petrich, Dartmouth; Anna Rogers, UNC, Chapel Hill; Jorge Sanchez, NOVA; Bezawit Shimeles, GW; Aidan Unudelger, VA Tech; Olivin Velasquez Canelas, NOVA; Cristian Ventura, NOVA; and Brittany Weaver, NOVA.

Donations may be sent to: Wakefield High School Education Foundation, PO Box 41675, Arlington, VA 22204 or email information@wakefieldalumni.org.



The Wakefield High School Education Foundation awarded 32 scholarships for 2018 — totaling \$233,700. That brings the total scholarships granted over the history of the Foundation to 433. As of this cycle, \$2,489,999 has been given in scholarships and teacher grants. Scholarships included \$4,000 to students attending NOVA, \$4,000 to two Post-NOVA students, \$10,000 to students attending four-year schools, \$1,000 one-time grants to students who had received significant funding but met the standards of a Wakefield Scholar and \$1,700 to a student for a Career and Technical Training scholarship.

The
Arlington
Connection

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Honoring Women of Vision

The Arlington County Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will honor three women for the 2018 Arlington County Women of Vision for their commitment and leadership in the Arlington community. The women will be honored during a ceremony on Tuesday, June 26. Tickets are not required, but a \$25 donation per person is requested and sponsorship packages are available to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women. RSVP to asowho@arlingtonva.us.

The honorees are:

❖ Government: Lauren Stienstra, senior

manager for Research and Policy for the Arlington County Department of Public Safety, Communications and Emergency Management, is the founder and program manager for HERRicane Arlington, a summer camp and continuing education program designed to give high school-aged girls the knowledge, skills, and abilities to survive disasters and consider careers in emergency management and allied fields.

❖ Business: Sushmita Mazumdar is an Arlington-based artist, writer, educator, and founder of Studio Pause, a space where ev

SEE VISION, PAGE 10

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

“Girlfriend.” Extended through June 17 in Signature Theatre’s ARK Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. The D.C. area premiere of Todd Almond’s coming-of-age musical, inspired by Matthew Sweet’s 1991 alternative-rock album “Girlfriend.” Visit SigTheatre.org.

“The Scottsboro Boys.” Through July 1 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Signature’s tradition of celebrating Kander & Ebb continues with its final musical collaboration. In the vein of “Chicago” and “Cabaret,” the Tony Award-winning masterminds deliver a musical critique of a stunning true story of racism and injustice in the American South. On March 25, 1931, nine African-American teenagers were ripped off a train, falsely accused of a crime, hastily tried and sentenced to death in an outrageous disregard of due process. Visit www.sigtheatre.org.

Art Exhibit: ‘Out of My Mind.’

Through July 8, gallery hours at Fred Schnider Gallery, 888 N. Quincy St. David Carlson: Paintings and Drawings from Fields and Transformation series. Call 703-841-9404 or email gallery@fredschnider.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 13

Coffee and Conversation. 10-11 a.m. at Langston Brown Community Center, 2121 North Culpeper St. Open to all – bring your own coffee, learn about aging in place with Arlington Neighborhood Village, and hear one of the speakers listed below. No RSVP needed. Free parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Center. Visit arlnvil.org for more.

Meet Author Kate Messner. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., #101, Arlington. Author of the Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z. and The Exact Location of Home. Call 703-300-9746. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Pollinator Patrol. 3-4 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. For Ages 6-10. The gardens, fields and forest of the nature center are teeming with pollinators and other insects. Use nets and bug boxes to capture and view our native pollinators at work. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

Jam Out in Shirlington. 6:30 p.m. at

the Village of Shirlington at Signature Theater/Library Plaza. A variety of live music, samples from participating vendors, and \$5 wine tastings to support Arlington THRIVE and Homeward Trails Animal Rescue. Visit villageatshirlington.com for more.

Immigration Talk. 7 p.m. at Reinsch Library Auditorium, Marymount University, Arlington. “Immigration and its Impact on World War I and Arlington.” Visit arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

Deep Dive: Pollinators. 8-9 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. Adults. Take a Deep Dive into natural history that scratches more than just the surface. Pollination is a process that must occur for seed production. Wind and water can pollinate many plants, but animals do the heavy lifting. Explore the evolutionary history of these symbiotic relationships between plants and animals with local and exotic examples. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

FRIDAY/JUNE 15

Meet Author Jenny Milchman. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., #101, Arlington. Jenny Milchman shares from her latest thriller Wicked River. Call 703-300-9746. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Ladama. 7 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, 200 N. Columbus St., Arlington. Group weaves acoustic and electric instruments to produce sound rooted in Afro-Latinx styles from Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela and the U.S. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us to register.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

Prostate Cancer Run/Walk. 8:15-10 a.m. at Pentagon Row Courtyard, 1101 S. Joyce St. The 2018 ZERO Prostate Cancer Run/Walk invites you to a 5K run/walk, 1 mile walk, Kids’ Superhero Dash for Dad, and virtual Snooze for Dudes program. 5K (All Ages): \$35 1 Mile (All Ages): \$20 Kids Superhero Dash for Dad (Kids ages 0-9): \$15 Snooze for Dudes (Participate virtually and sleep in to fight prostate cancer): \$15 5K (ZERO’s Heroes Patient/Survivor): \$25 Race Day Volunteer: Free. Call 202-334-9058 or visit zeroprostatecancer.org/dc.

Heron Hunt. 9:30-11 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. Ages 8-12. Search for these amazing birds and

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

homelessness and housing, domestic violence and sexual assault, and health. There are also topics specifically for teens and youth — such as scholarship opportunities and school clubs — as well as ones targeted at seniors and older adults, such as SAGE. Visit topics.arlingtonva.us/lgbtq-resources.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Veterans Hiring Event. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Association of the United States Army, 2425 Wilson Blvd. The Association of the United States Army is holding a hiring event for Veterans, transitioning Soldiers and family members. There are 46 prospective employers, military-friendly and ready to hire, participating. There is no cost for job seekers, pre-registration required. Visit www.ausa.org/jobfair.



Almost Home, painting

other denizens of the Potomac’s floodplain; discover secret ponds, racoon tracks, skies full of dragonflies and more. Dress to get muddy; we’ve planned lots of off-trail hiking and exploring. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

Columbia Pike Blues Festival. 1-8 p.m. at South Walter Reed Drive and Columbia Pike, Arlington. Fat Possum recording artist Don Bryant is the headliner. The Festival features a full line up of blues, R&B and funk performers of national and regional note, including: Nikki Hill, King Soul Band, Caz Gardiner, and Three Man Soul Machine. Admission is free. Visit columbia-pike.org/bluesfest/.

Cool Creek Critters. 3-4:30 p.m. Meet at Barcroft Park parking lot, 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up. Dress to get wet and spend some time exploring waterfalls, trying to catch water striders, and taking a closer look at some creek critters. Must wear closed-toe shoes in water. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

Netherlands Carillon Concerts: Edward M. Nassor. 6-8 p.m. at Netherlands Carillon, Arlington. The

50 bells of the Netherlands Carillon hang in an open steel tower, a symbol of Dutch regard for American aid during and after World War II. Enjoy views of Washington, D.C., while guest artists play patriotic music, jazz, and pop. Bring a blanket or folding chairs. Sunshades and free-standing tents are allowed, but stakes are not. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/netherlandscarillon.htm for more.

Summer Exhibitions Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Meet the artists participating in Open World and Within/Between and visit resident artists in their studios. Open World features eight contemporary artists and artist teams who engage in world-building through installation, video, digital media, sculpture, and collage. Features work by Rachel Frank, Jodie Mim Goodnough, Rachel Guardiola, Azikiwe Mohammed, Nicholas O’Brien, Plakooke, Alissa D. Polan, and Stephanie J. Williams. In Within/Between, AAC Resident Artists Olivia Tripp Morrow and Jen Noone explore materiality and form. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org/events/2018/06/summer-exhibitions-opening-reception/.

Skittering Skinks Campfire. 7-8 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center,



Bryan Jernigan, artist

Arlington Artist Solo Show: Peregrination

Arlington-based fine artist Bryan Jernigan’s solo show – “Peregrination” – will run June 16-July 28, with a meet-the-artist reception on Saturday, June 23, 2-4 p.m. Peregrination, also known as a long, meandering journey, encapsulates the artist’s abstract take on real and envisioned landscapes. Gallery hours at The Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Gallery on the second floor of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Center on the Alexandria campus of the Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive (off Beauregard Street), Alexandria. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. This engaging program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and S’mores. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

JUNE 16-JULY 28

Art Exhibit: “Peregrination.” Gallery hours at The Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Gallery on the second floor of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Center on the Alexandria campus of the Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive (off Beauregard Street), Alexandria. Arlington-based fine artist Bryan Jernigan’s solo show – “Peregrination” – will run June 16-July 28, with a meet-the-artist reception on Saturday, June 23, 2-4 p.m. Peregrination, also known as a long, meandering journey, encapsulates the artist’s abstract take on real and envisioned landscapes. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

JUNE 16-SEPT. 29

Art Exhibit: “Open World” and “Within/Between.” Gallery hours at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Open World

Sips and Civility.” Visit www.lwv-arlingtonva.org for more.

JULY

Summer Safety Patrol Camp. 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Carlin Springs Elementary School, 5995 5th Road S. The Arlington County Police Department’s School Resource Officer Unit is currently accepting applications to the Summer Safety Patrol Camp. This weeklong camp is offered to incoming 4th and 5th grade students who want to participate in safety patrols during the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year. Four week-long sessions of the Summer Safety Patrol Camp will be held. \$95 per student. Visit police.arlingtonva.us/safety-patrol-camp/.

ENTERTAINMENT

features eight contemporary artists and artist teams who engage in world-building through installation, video, digital media, sculpture, and collage. Features work by Rachel Frank, Jodie Mim Goodnough, Rachel Guardiola, Azikiwe Mohammed, Nicholas O'Brien, Plakooke, Alissa D. Polan, and Stephanie J. Williams. In Within/Between, AAC Resident Artists Olivia Tripp Morrow and Jen Noone explore materiality and form. Visit arlingtonartscenter.org for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 17

Adaptive Family Hike. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families. All are welcome to join us on a leisurely paced hike through a park. The forested trails will be accessible, smooth and shaded for a fun hike to explore and examine whatever we discover. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

R.I.P.-Remove Invasive Plants at Long Branch. 2-4 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Adults, teens, and families ages 8 and up. Restore habitat and increase native species diversity right here in Arlington. Work parties are held every month and are making a real difference with the return of ferns, wildflowers, and the animals that depend on them to areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. Call 703-228-6535.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Summer Junior Jam. For ages 11-16. Make new friends and enjoy summer field trips, special events, sports, swimming, music, arts, cooking, group games and tournaments. Each session will be different, so register for as many as fit your schedule. Summer Junior Jam program is available at Walter Reed, Langston-Brown and Drew Community Centers. For program information, call Margo Watters at 703-228-0945.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Water Storytime. 10:30-11 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Ages 2-10. Swim on over for stories about animals from the deep blue sea. Free. Register children only. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

Mosquitoes and Ticks:

Identification and Control. 7-8:30 p.m. at Westover Branch Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, Arlington. Learn the lifecycle and

science of how best to control mosquitoes and ticks, keeping them away from you and your family. Extension Master Gardeners will teach you how to identify the mosquitoes and ticks that are common in this area. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

National Hike with a Geek Day.

9:30-11 a.m. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road, Arlington. Wear your best nature or science T-shirt with pride and learn scientific names while searching for "flora and fauna." Discover apps to use to list the species seen along the way. Register online for \$5. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us. Call 703-228-3403.

Coffee and Conversation.

10-11 a.m. at Langston Brown Community Center, 2121 North Culpeper St. Open to all – bring your own coffee, learn about aging in place with Arlington Neighborhood Village, and hear one of the speakers listed below. No RSVP needed. Free parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the Center. Visit arlnvil.org for more.

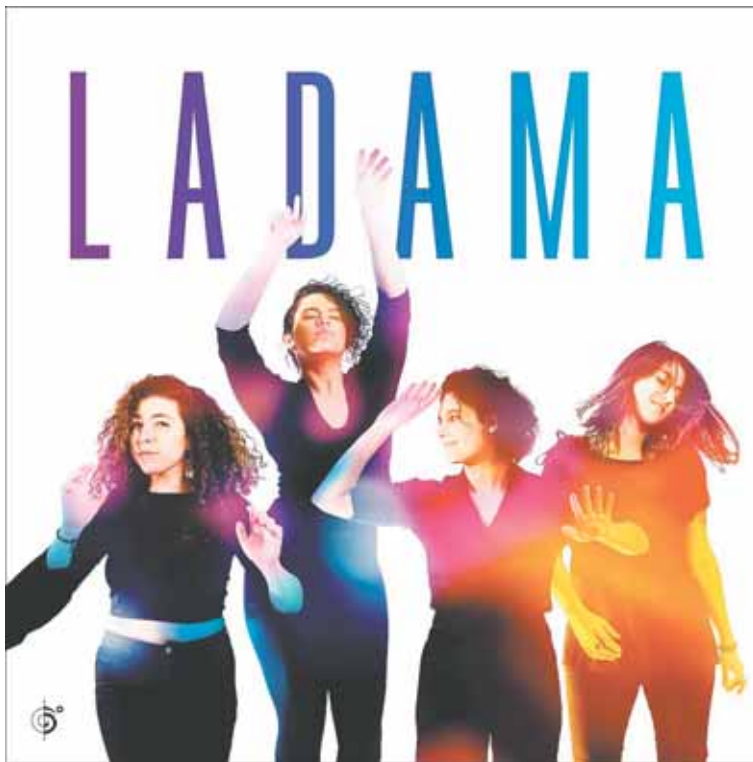
THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Wakefield Golf Tournament. 7:30 a.m. at Reston National Golf Course, 11875 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. The Wakefield HS Golf Team & the Wakefield HS Education Foundation present their 10th Golf Tournament to benefit Wakefield's students and scholarships on. This is a 9 a.m. shot-gun start. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m., driving range and practice area open at 8 a.m. The day includes golf, prizes and a fun-filled awards luncheon. Visit www.planmygolfevent.com/31783-CopyofWakefieldHSGolfTeamEducation for more.

Summer Scavenger Hunt. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families ages 6 and up. Have fun searching for signs of summer on the longest day of the year. The evidence is all around if you know where to look. Free. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-228-4747 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us to register.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Solstice Hike and Campfire. 7:30-9 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up, enjoy the extra daylight with an evening hike and campfire. Hike the



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Ladama

Weaving acoustic and electric instruments to produce sound rooted in Afro-Latinx styles from Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela and the U.S. Friday, June 15, 7 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, 200 N. Columbus St., Arlington. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us for more.

hills and dales of the park as we keep an eye out for late night residents. Then head back to the campfire to sing songs and roast marshmallows. Register for just \$7. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us.

Beauregard Street), Alexandria. Arlington-based fine artist Bryan Jernigan's solo show – "Peregrination" – will run June 16-July 28. Peregrination, also known as a long, meandering journey, encapsulates the artist's abstract take on real and envisioned landscapes. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

Netherlands Carillon Concerts:

Jesse Ratcliffe. 6-8 p.m. at Netherlands Carillon, Arlington. The 50 bells of the Netherlands Carillon hang in an open steel tower, a symbol of Dutch regard for American aid during and after World War II. Enjoy views of Washington, D.C., while guest artists play patriotic music, jazz, and pop. Bring a blanket or folding chairs. Sunshades and free-standing tents are allowed, but stakes are not. Free. Call 703-235-1530 or visit www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/netherlandscarillon.htm for more.

Meet Authors Jessica Spotswood

and Tiffany Schmidt. 7 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., #101, Arlington.

Authors of The Last Summer of the Garrett Girls and Bookish Boyfriends: A Date With Darcy. Call 703-300-9746. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

Meet Authors Greer Macallister and Jenni L. Walsh. 3 p.m. at One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland St., #101, Arlington. Authors of Girls in Disguise and Side by Side. Call 703-300-9746. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Stories of Scottsboro Today. 5 p.m. at Busboys and Poets-Shirlington, 4251 Campbell Ave., Arlington. The Scottsboro trials inspired a generation of Civil Rights activists, and the injustices these nine young men faced still resonate in the era of Black Lives Matter and the fight for a fair and effective criminal justice system. Join in a panel discussion about the impact of the Scottsboro trials and the state of the American criminal justice system today. Visit www.busboysandpoets.com.

Pops for Pets Concert. 6 p.m. at Lubber Run Amphitheater, 200 N. Columbus St., Arlington. Free. Presented by the Arlington Philharmonic and the Animal Welfare League of Arlington. Visit www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org or email info@arlingtonphilharmonic.org.

10th Annual Firefly Festival. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith, 2411 24th St., N., Arlington. Celebrate summer's natural night lights and learn all about these bioluminescent beetles. Activities include bug hunts, games, crafts, walks and talks about fireflies. Bring a picnic blanket and dinner and wait for sunset and the natural lights to come out. Cancelled if raining. \$7 per person. Visit www.parks.arlingtonva.us.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

Summer Arts Camps. At Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. For ages 4-18. Thematic and technique-focused camps return for children and teens. Line, color, shape, texture, space, and form will all be emphasized through creative projects based on campers' observations and imaginations. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Washington-Lee HS Golf

Tournament. Shot-gun start at 10 a.m. at Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. Prizes, auction and raffle items available. 100 percent of the proceeds goes directly to W-L HS Athletic Dept. Registration includes breakfast and lunch. For more information, contact: evan.rodger@apsva.us. Register at www.planmygolfevent.com/31815-W-LHS_Golf_Tourney/. Performance for families, home

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Connecting through Compassion

Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA) joined forces with the Academy of United States Veterans (AUSV) on June 1, to host an iftar, the dinner that marks the end of the fast each day during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan.

The Community Unity Equality (CUE) dinner, which took place on the rooftop of a building overlooking D.C., provided an opportunity for both nonprofit and advocacy organizations to show appreciation to veterans and their families for the sacrifices they made in helping keep America a beacon of freedom.

Sharif Aly, chief executive officer of Islamic Relief USA, said the holy month of Ramadan provides an opportunity to reflect and ponder all the blessings that God has bestowed. Ultimately, it is a month where people grow, develop and become closer to one another.

He thanked the veterans for their service.

Assal Ravandi, founder and CEO of AUSV, said the event shows that different groups can come together, have respect for one another, and feel a sense of



Imam Talib M. Shareef, a retired Air Force veteran and vice commander of the Muslim American Veterans Association.

inclusivity.

"In today's climate, it's important to take a step forward," she added.

The veterans reciprocated the kindness.

"We're so grateful to be with you all," said Imam Talib Shareef, a retired Air Force veteran and vice commander of the Muslim American Veterans Association. He presently serves as the presiding imam at the nation's oldest mosque.

The imam joked that while he may be out of the service, he is "not served out." He said during Ramadan, it's important see ourselves as connected with every individual in the world, through love, compassion and mercy.

"It's human first," he said.

Sherman Gillums, a Marine veteran, said Ramadan is a time to heal, a time to focus on equality and inclusion.

He praised IRUSA and AUSV as

Islamic Relief USA partners with veterans' organization to host iftar.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Assal Ravandi, founder of Academy of United States Veterans.

organizations that work "in making those who're broken stronger."

Ravandi, a military veteran herself, said that both IRUSA and AUSV have been on the frontlines in their advocacy for civil rights and human rights, providing assistance of various forms to people of all walks of life.

Gillums said that even though he has four paralyzed limbs, acknowledging that, at times, "life breaks

all of us," he still has something that remains strong: his soul.

"What mattered was my soul," he said. "Our soul is what binds us together, more than any other characteristic."

Aly said it's that spirit of togetherness that's so essential to achieving major goals.

"We can't do it alone. Only way to accomplish change is through partnerships."



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Vision

FROM PAGE 7

everyday people are invited to make time for creativity and celebrate community. For the past 10 years, her work has encouraged children, families, and seniors to share their stories of home, heritage, and migration through the fun and exciting book arts.

❖ Nonprofit: Adrienne Griffen, MPP, is the founder and executive director of Postpartum Support Virginia. Griffen started PSVa to fill a gap in services. When she experienced postpartum depression and anxiety in 2002, it took almost six months to find the help she needed. Since then, she has been providing information, outreach, and support to new mothers and the healthcare providers who serve them.

The celebration of these women will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 26, at Arlington Economic Development's offices, located at 1100 North Glebe Road, Suite 1500.

The event will also feature two keynote speakers: Del. Kathy Tran and Barbara Amaya, an advocate, author and survivor leader in the movement to end human trafficking and violence against women.

Battle over Dawn Redwood

Neighbors' petition seeks to save tree.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Another development-preservation battle is gearing up in Arlington, this one focused on the fate of a dawn redwood on Ohio Street. This tree has been identified by a number of forestry organizations as the largest of its species in Virginia. When last measured by Arlington's urban forester, it was found to be 114 feet high with a crown of 60 feet and a circumference of 185 inches.

Reports are that Richmond Custom Homes, the developer and permit holder, plans to demolish the current home, subdivide the lot into two parcels, remove the tree and build two new homes on the property. The developer has not answered requests by the Connection for information on the re-development plans.

A petition was recently initiated by Todd Murdock who lives several houses away from the tree. In a day the petition had 500 signatures and by June 10 the number of signatures had grown to more than 700. Murdock says they are currently working on a letter reflecting the petition to be signed by the neighbors and submitted to the highest level county decision makers.

The petition states: "The existing single family residential property was sold to a developer on April 2018 and the nearly 40,000-square-foot lot is being subdivided into two lots to build two new homes. The proposed building permits move the footprint of the two new houses forward on the lot requiring the Dawn Redwood to be cut down ... the new lots are large enough to keep the tree and still build the new houses, the developer simply needs to set the homes farther back on the lot. The builder has every right to build these homes; the removal of the tree appears to be aesthetic convenience or simply lack of concern about its removal."

John Seymour, who lives in the Williamsburg Civic Association where the tree is located, worked on the 2017 Neighborhood Conservation Plan. He says, "We identified the loss of mature trees through development as one of the biggest concerns of residents. Among the key goals of our Urban Forestry section was to promote efforts to stem the decline in the tree canopy occasioned by residential development and tear downs."



Largest dawn redwood in the Commonwealth of Virginia is threatened with being cut down.



Ohio Street neighbors gather to discuss action to prevent removal of dawn redwood. From left are Angela Dickey, Kit Norland, John Wingard, Mary Glass, and Todd Murdock.

Seymour adds that the tree appears to be located within the 100-foot buffer zone that is part of the Little Pimmit Run Branch Resource Protected Area (RPA). The RPAs were designed to protect our local streams and the Chesapeake Bay from pollution due to land use and development. He says the reviewer's notes attached to the permit database indicated the RPA had been rejected "because of failure in the grading plan, the water quality impact assessment, the erosion and sediment control plan and the tree preservation and protection plan."

Kit Norland who lives a block and a half away from the dawn redwood says it is the six-million dollar question what legal impact this RFP review may have on the redevelopment and what the next steps may be. Murdock speculates that since a number of the requirements in the RFP have been rejected that it will add another layer of red tape and slow down the process but there is no readily available information on next steps or timing.

Norland is one of the core mem

SEE DAWN REDWOOD.
PAGE 15

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
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PET Connection

Publishes: July 25, 2018 • Ads close: July 19, 2018

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Preparing Home for Summer

From finding spaces for wet swimsuits and school papers to adding new throw pillows, small touches can add a warm-weather feel.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When school ends and summer begins, a home's functionality can change. From backpacks overflowing with a school year's worth of school papers and art projects that need a home to bedrooms that call for a warm weather refresh, local designers suggest small tweaks to interior spaces that can yield a big impact.

From breezy white sheets to beach-themed accessories, summer calls for a lightening up of home decor, advises interior designer Anne Madden of Mount Vernon. "I always encourage clients to refresh their home decor during warmer months," she said. "Remove heavy bed linens that were meant to keep you cozy and replace them with light and airy linens in neutral or cool colors. This is also a good time to swap out throw pillows made from heavy fabrics like wool and incorporate pillows made from lighter fabrics like linen into your home's design."

In addition to changing bedroom accessories, summer is also good time to breathe new life into bathroom decor. "Take an inventory of your linen closet and replace towels that are worn and frayed with thick, fluffy ones," said Madden. "Make sure your shower curtain and liner are fresh and free of mildew. If they aren't, replace those too."

Corralling pool necessities into a designated space is a key to maintaining an organized home during the summer, advises professional organizer Susan Unger of Clutter SOS. "When preparing to head to the pool with your children, it's a real time saver to have an area in the laundry room, entry or garage where all the necessary items are kept and they don't need to be gathered up each time," she said. "Keep a beach bag loaded with sunscreen, towels, snacks, toys and clothes. Perhaps each child could even have their own beach bag. Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

Create a space that is dedicated to summer crafts in a way that doesn't overtake a home's aesthetic, suggests Unger. "Having a

"Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

— Susan Unger, Clutter SOS



Adding throw pillows in light, airy colors like the one in the room by Annie Elliott Interiors, can make a space appear ready for summer.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNIE ELLIOTT INTERIORS.



Adding new towels and shower curtain in light and airy colors, like those in the bathroom by Annie Elliott Interiors, can add a touch of summer to a bathroom.

separate crafts table for children is great or if space is an issue covering the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth will work also," she said. "It also helpful to have a separate cart with plastic drawers or a small shelving unit with plastic bins to house craft items. I like plastic because it is washable."

Each drawer or bin can house items like paint, marker, crayons, coloring books or construction paper, continued Unger. "Put a printed label on each drawer or bin," she said. "I like to add a picture of the item as well which encourages younger children to start developing reading skills. They are then also able to match the item to the container when it comes to putting away the supplies. It is never too early to encourage cleaning after themselves."

The beginning of summer is a great time to sort through school papers and art projects collected thought out the year, says Unger. "As the parent, it will make it easier for your child if you do a presort and get rid of all the schedules, notices and worksheets before involving your child in the process," she said. "Then you both can decide on the special items to keep. I like to use a plastic file bin for each child and put each year's items in a hanging file with the grade on the file tab. This also creates a limited amount of space for the selected items to keep."

If you haven't already done so, schedule a maintenance service appointment for your HVAC system, suggests Maden. "It's better to spend the money now to make sure it's in good working order than to wait until breaks down during a heatwave and be at the mercy of overbooked repair companies," she said.

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NEWS

Neighbors Question Hospital Plans

FROM PAGE 3

than one reference to the fact that several of the speakers remembered a time when VHC would not allow black residents of Arlington to be born in the hospital.

"We've yelled about height and setbacks, that we want them to put one more level underground in the garage," said Dorsey. "They're concerned about what kind of trees we want planted when neighbors are worried about an eight-story building. It's discouraging."

The dozens of residents in attendance were unanimously opposed to the current VHC designs, though some on N. George Mason Drive resented the insistence of the other neighbors of pushing the massing towards their four-lane street. One resident from George Mason noted that while it's a larger road, it's still heavily residential. Alexandra Bocian, president of the High View Park Association, said whatever street residents are on: they are all part of the same community.

"We want things that are not out of possibility," said Bocian. "It might cost money, but you've also wanted the land. We're willing to work with you. Three civic associations have worked inclusively together to try to spell out what we want and how we want it. What we're asking for in these Q&A's are not resulting in anything. Want to make sure this happens in a way that everyone is respected."

While the hospital representatives said little during the Q&A, only answering a question about a crisis unit at the hospital, Stanton said afterwards that the concerns of the community had



View of the hospital from N George Mason Drive and 19th Street, called "the wall" by local residents.



Saundra Green, a resident of Edison Street, said the VHC's dismissal of community concerns felt like a slap in the face.

been heard.

"There are a number of things we're working with county staff on [related to] what was said tonight about massing, setbacks, and access points to the campus," said Stanton. "We're meeting with the county on a weekly basis and we hope for a resolution to that before we go to the County Board in Sep-

tember."

Nancy Iacomini, a member of the Planning Commission who helped to moderate the event, said there's still work to be done on the designs before the County Board review in September.

"The community has been very consistent with its concerns," said Iacomini. "There's support for the

hospital, but concerns about the shape is it taking... We hope to see the hospital continue to work with staff and see movement as we move towards September. The neighborhood can't get 100 percent of what they want, there's give and take, but things like massing towards the middle of the facility and more of a campus style can be achieved through design. This doesn't have to be a horrible design, but we can't do it alone: the hospital has to



James Perkins, a local resident, with his child



Tia Alfred, a local resident



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

M.J. (Mike) O'Brien studies the display of Cherrydale history at the branch library. He says he met Joan Trumpauer Mulholland through her children after he moved to Arlington in 1977. He has written the book "We Shall Not Be Moved" about her. "I think I helped draw attention to what she did. There wasn't much about her role at the time."

Cherrydale

FROM PAGE 4

Mulholland reaches down with both hands and grabs one hand on each side as the next verse begins, "we'll walk hand in hand."

The crowd gathers closer, vying for a view as Embree pulls the black cover revealing the plaque etched with names of the participants in the sit-in with the date and occasion. The plaque will be affixed to the building that now serves as a small strip mall on Lee Highway. "One thing we are celebrating today and decades from now is our own struggle to expand freedom, equality and justice in this country. In that spirit we unveil this plaque."

The celebration continues at the Cherrydale Branch Library festooned in balloons where Boy Scout Troop 149 hands out programs for the official ceremony. Volunteer firefighters roam through the crowd along with some attendees wearing costumes reminiscent of a previous era. A photo exhibit of Cherrydale history has been prepared by Greg and Suzanne Embree based on research they began in 2015. It focuses on the desegregation of Stratford Junior High, the lunch counter sit-in and the role of the Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Department at the Pentagon on 9/11.

Dawn Redwood

FROM PAGE 11

bers of the Arlington Tree Action Group. She says, "This tree is located is one of the really leafy open blocks left in Arlington. The tree is the hub in the middle of the block." She continues, "I just don't see how we can think of ourselves as a progressive county when the county is missing on both counts. It will reflect badly on our image."

She says, "We are smack in the middle of an RFP and we also have a national treasure in the award winning dawn redwood. "I stumbled into the chief botanist of the Smithsonian by chance and he agreed this is not just a county tree — it could be one of the oldest dawn redwoods in the whole country. There are no precedents for this."

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Trying to Mind My Weekly Business



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Usually I'm able to write my column because something is on my mind, or at least percolating in there somewhere. At the moment, nothing is on my mind or even remotely percolating. The reason for this lack of percolation is that as of Saturday, eight days after my last chemotherapy infusion, I still haven't been able to think clearly in my mind — or out of it, because I've spent the past week wallowing in it.

The post-chemotherapy experience to which I vaguely refer is the primary side effect of the drug with which I am infused. For the week or so following my treatment, I am not quite myself (nor am I anybody else for that matter). I am dull and void.

I am not interested in most tasks and less inclined to concern myself with trivialities and/or any responsibilities related or not. I am simply biding time, usually lying on the bed, fully dressed but minimally engaged. Sights and sounds don't bother me but neither do they motivate me in the slightest.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self, but the chemotherapy has definitely hollowed out a place for itself. Eating and drinking is very challenging. Consequently, I have difficulty swallowing the 60-odd pills that I take every day. If I'm not careful I will become less medicated and more constipated. As a direct result, I will sleep throughout the day — and night. Furthermore, I risk becoming dehydrated and vitamin and nutrient deficient.

Let me be clear: this column is not about me dying, or the feelings that I have during this post-chemotherapy "weak" thinking that I am. Hardly. It's more an attempt to explain — and perhaps justify, the minimal creative thinking I've engaged in this past week preparing to write this column. It reminds me of a particular Seinfeld episode when George explained to Jerry why he was unable to lie his way out of dinner with J. Peterman: "I dug down and there was nothing there."

All of the previous paragraphs being written, compared to myriad complications I could be experiencing — and am not, as well as the premature death "prognosed" by my oncologist: "13 months to two years" back in late February 2009, I am quite the opposite of a victim of my circumstances. I am a survivor. Nine-plus years. Though still an active patient and one never characterized as a N.E.D. ("no evidence of disease"), I continue to look forward not backward. My life is ahead of me, not behind. To invoke an old reference: "It beats Bermuda off-season."

When "Team Lourie" asked my oncologist back in early '09 if I could possibly live beyond my prognosis, he was not particularly encouraging. I remember him saying: "Could you be the one? Sure." ("One" being the operative word.)

And in the context of all that he was explaining/outlining, hardly was it offered up with any enthusiasm. It was more a verbal life preserver (no pun intended). Something for us to grasp as we continued to discuss and then ultimately decided to begin chemotherapy infusions six days later on the following Wednesday.

And here I still am, June 9, 2018, "Chronic Ken," as I've previously "monikered" myself.

I'm living proof of one of the recent goals of lung cancer research: to change a previously terminal diagnosis from a death sentence into a life sentence. And I can live with that, hopefully for many years. I have no doubt that research/clinical studies will make it all a reality.

New drugs/treatment protocols are being approved almost daily it seems, by the F.D.A. In fact, as many drugs have been approved in the past few years as had been approved in the previous decade. I have treatment choices now that I've never had before, immunotherapy is but one example.

As far as the subject matter for this week's column, this is all I could muster. I hope you don't mind.

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

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