



The Arlington Connection

Melissa Malpass from Great Falls attended the rally with daughters Maeve and Remy to see Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg.



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PHOTO BY TOM MANNING FOR THE CONNECTION

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Buttigieg Rallies in Arlington

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School Transportation Problems, Especially for Disabled Students

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Edison Park to Get \$900K Makeover

The Arlington County Board approved a contract with Crown Construction Service, Inc. to upgrade heavily-used Edison Park with new playgrounds and other amenities.

“Arlington’s parks and open spaces are vital to the health of our community,” Arlington County Board Chair Libby Garvey said.

The renovations of the 0.9-acre park were approved as a Neighborhood Conservation project for the Arlington Forest neighborhood. The project includes replacing the existing play area with two new play areas, one for children aged two to five, and the other for children aged five to 12.

New furniture and fencing will be installed along with ramps, railings, and walls, to improve accessibility from the street and to the park trail. Native plants will be added, and stormwater management improved.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the approximately \$904,000 contract. To read the staff report, visit the County website. Scroll to Item No. 12 on the agenda for the Saturday, February 22, 2020, Regular County Board Meeting. Staff worked with the community to design the improvements to complement the park’s existing amenities. Funding for the project will come from voter-approved Neighborhood Conservation bonds, and the contract was awarded through a competitive bidding process. Construction is expected to begin this spring and be completed by the end of the year.



Edison Park renovations rendering.

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Arlington Parents Cite Transportation Issues

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

Maria Nightingale came to the meeting about the search for a new superintendent of schools with her two children, Lauren and Connor on Jan. 25. She told the consultant who was collecting information about what people wanted in a new superintendent that she thought a good manager who could manage transportation issues quickly was important.

“My second daughter’s in a wheelchair; I had to push her up the hill to Shriver School for a month because the school didn’t have a handicapped access bus. It was difficult to take her to Shriver due to the steep hills and lack of crosswalks before making it to school. She was overwhelmed sensory wise due to the traffic, wind and noise.” Nightingale is a disabled Marine Corps veteran who was also recovering from surgery at the time.

Nightingale said her two children who accompanied her are working on their Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge through Scouts BSA (part of Boy Scouts of America.) Lauren is on track to be a trail-blazer as a female Eagle Scout. They were paying close attention to the issues discussed in the meeting.

“Their inspiration is our middle child, Valentine,” said Nightingale. “Although Val has severe cerebral palsy and needs a wheelchair, Lauren and Connor call her the ‘heart of the family’ and they are inspired to be involved in the community to advocate for her and other disabled children. They also know that the skills they earn through community involvement and Scouts will help them take care of Valentine in the future.”

The issue is bigger than just one family’s struggle to get their daughter to school according to Nightingale.

“There were two other students that could not attend school for the first month at Shriver. The previous principal tried weekly to make sure her students received transportation but it was not possible. When I spoke to a bus driver he said that drivers don’t want to drive a special needs bus even though it pays more. So, we are guessing that also finding drivers was an issue,” said Nightingale.

APS Spokesman Frank Bellavia commented in response to a question about this that “special needs drivers are paid more. We are always in need of more bus drivers.”

In addition to the bus problem, Nightingale had to maneuver the wheelchair on the street because of a ramp blockage. (See photo above.)

As of February 2020, problems with accessing the ramp for wheelchairs were still unresolved. “Pedestrians with strollers or individuals that need wheelchair accessibility have to get on the road, with oncoming traffic, in order to access the area,” she said. Shriver is a school that was designed for special needs students.



Maria Nightingale with two of her three children, Lauren, and Connor. She brought her children to the meeting of parents who wanted to hear about the search for a new school superintendent in Arlington. Her daughter Valentine, was unable to attend the meeting.



Valentine on her first day of school. She has cerebral palsy. Her mother is a disabled veteran and “pushing Valentine to school was a strain on my body even for a previous sergeant in the Marines.”

Nightingale also noted there are some after school activities. Parents currently need to provide transportation. For Valentine, if the family chooses to walk home, they can’t get the wheelchair around the blockages.

Despite numerous phone calls, letters, and emails by the Nightingales through the month of September, the APS Department of Transportation did not respond directly other than with a form letter to parents on Sept. 17 noting the difficulties the school system faced with transportation and promising to get solutions quickly. Asked for a comment on the bus problem, as well as the ramp blockage, the transportation department did not respond, and Director of Design and Construction, Jeffrey Chambers, referred the questions to APS Spokesman Frank Bellavia, who said:

“Due to student privacy concerns, we can’t comment directly on this. However, Transportation has responded to and met the needs of the student. APS provides 6 buses to the Shriver Program on a daily basis. Shriver staff greets each bus in the morning to assist students in getting off the bus and in entering the building. While The Heights Building is new and we continue to make improvements to address needs as they arise, students can access the building through any door. ... There is currently a light pole in the middle of the sidewalk that is an obstacle to some pedestrians accessing the building. This light pole was required by the Use Permit. Arlington County recently gave us permission to remove the pole and we are currently working with the contractor to do the work. This will provide easier access to that part of The Heights.” Why did it take so long for the school to come up with an interim solution



“We had to go into the street because the pedestrian path was blocked by a light post, gate and parking meter. This was why we had to get on the road with traffic. There was no access for the wheelchair.”

like a van for handicapped wheelchair access so that the two or three students in wheelchairs could have gone to school? Bellavia could not comment on a specific case for privacy reasons but he noted “each special education bus has different equipment to meet the needs of individual students. Typically, routes are set before school starts and there are always adjustments made after school starts. In this case, we had to reroute buses to accommodate students with similar needs after the school year started.”

Other parents have raised the issue of getting to the new HB Woodlawn school in Rosslyn. “There’s no way to get there,” said one mother in the meeting with the consultants. “The rich kids can afford parking but the poor kids cannot.” Asked about this,

Bellavia said: “We don’t provide student parking at the Heights. As an option program, APS provides a bus to *all* students who attend H-B Woodlawn or the Shriver program. In addition, APS has a pilot program where students who have an iRide card are provided \$1 Art Bus rides. <https://www.arlingtontransit.com/about/programs/iride-for-arlington-students/> The pilot also works on Metro.”

Lauren and Connor Nightingale will have a lot to write about when they complete their merit badge. So far, Connor said, “I was surprised how many citizens had different issues to discuss and possible ways to fix them.” Lauren said, “I learned about being a good citizen in the community and how young people can help.” They will be watching to see what it takes to solve this issue.

Animal Welfare League of Arlington

Since 1944 the Animal Welfare League of Arlington has worked to improve the lives of animals; creating a world where all companion animals find compassionate and permanent homes.

2650 S. Arlington Mill Dr.,
Arlington, VA 22206
703-931-9241
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri - Noon - 7 pm
Tuesday, Closed
Sat-Sun, Noon - 4 pm

DragQueenwithKittens

EVENT, Drag Queen Bingo with Tiny Kittens. March 17, 2020

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with AWLA, dancing queens, and...tiny kittens! With Arlington's own Ella Fitzgerald as host, we promise an evening of sparkle, cuteness, laughs, and sass. Kittens will be waiting in the lobby to greet you and we recommend getting your snuggles in before their bedtime at 7:30pm. \$30 Tickets include event



entry and one bingo card. Additional bingo cards will be available for purchase for \$5 each during the event (cash is preferred). Get your tickets now and get ready for a fantabulous show: <https://acdh.arlingtondrafthouse.com/event.cfm?cart&id=540562>

This event has been generously sponsored by Clarendon Animal Care!

Must be 21 years or older unless with a parent. Please note: Content is not appropriate for under 13.



Bronson may be ridiculously chonky (and we are not immune to his chonk-charms), but he's on a mission to find someone to join him on his weight-loss journey, and help him become the svelte, healthy kitty he was meant to be! Want to become Bronson's workout partner?



Girl Scout Troop 6880 supporting AWLA! They worked so hard to raise money and much-needed items for the animals at AWLA.



Lucy is single and ready to mingle...with someone as socially awkward as she is, and even then she might not really want to mingle. This tortie girl may be the cutest cat you've ever seen, but underneath that squishy, cartoon-eyed exterior lies a heart full of hot sauce and heavy metal.

Lucy likes: food, wand toys, sitting on your chair as soon as you get up, food, lying on her back like she wants a belly rub (it's a trap), pets on the chin, cheeks, and forehead ONLY, food, and smacking you when you don't follow her rules.

Lucy dislikes: dogs, vacuums, belly rubs, and people who don't let her live her best life.

Want to let Lucy live her best life with you? Come and visit her at the shelter - you'll find her chilling in an office like the Queen she is. Just ask a member of [her] staff to meet her!

Don't tell Moe he's too big to be a lapdog...he won't believe you and it certainly won't stop him from attempting to squish himself into your lap! Moe's favorite things in life consist of: meatballs, new friends, walks in the sunshine, more snacks, and snuggles.



These two cutie-pies, Dolly and Lucy, are hoping to find their new family. Dolly and Lucy are true BFF's, and so must be adopted together. We hope you'll stop by and meet these two adorable ladies!



FLOURISHING AFTER 55

Flourishing After 55 from Arlington's Office of 55+

55+ Centers: Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy.; Langston-Brown Senior Center, 2121 N. Culpeper St.; Walter Reed, 2909 S. 16th St.; Arlington Mill, 909 S. Dinwiddie St.; Aurora Hills, 735 S. 18th St.

55+ Center Adult Transportation, pre-arranged taxicabs to and from Centers, \$5 round trip. Details, 703-892-8747.

55+ Travel: Maryland's African American History and Culture Museum, Baltimore, Thursday, Feb. 27, \$16
Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, The Kennedy Center, D.C., Friday, Feb.

28, \$30. Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.

Philadelphia Flower Show, PA, Monday, Mar. 2, \$49;
National Theatre, D.C., "Bandstand," matinee, Saturday, Mar. 7, \$120.
P.J. Skiddos, Fairfax, Sunday, Mar. 8, \$8 (trans. only);
Renwick Gallery, D.C., Tuesday, Mar. 10, \$6;
Riverside Center, Fredericksburg, "Grease," matinee, Wednesday, Mar. 11, \$69 (incl. lunch);
Amazon Fulfillment Center tour, Baltimore, Friday, Mar. 13, \$8.
Call Arlington County 55+ Travel, 703-228-4748. Registration required.
Majestic National Parks, visual tour,

Thursday, Feb. 27, 2 p.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-6300.

Free legal services for eligible seniors, provided by Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Thursday, Feb. 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Langston-Brown. Call for pre-screening and appt., 703-778-6800.

Create unique picture box, materials provided, Thursday, Feb. 27, 1 p.m., Walter Reed. Bring 4-12 pictures. Register, 703-228-0955.

DHS rep to conduct Q&A about County services, Thursday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

Arlington Mill Trekkers, Thursday, Feb. 27, 9 a.m., Details, 703-228-7369.

Black History Month Luncheon, musical entertainment, traditional Southern foods, Friday, Feb. 28, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$8, Langston-Brown. Register, 703-228-6300.

Learn how to ride a bike, Friday, Feb. 28, 8-11 a.m., bikes and helmets provided, Arlington Mill. Register early, 703-228-7369.

Volunteering in retirement, learn how and where, Friday, Feb. 28, 1-2 p.m., Aurora Hills. Details, 703-228-5722.

Ballroom Dance, Friday, Feb. 28, 1-3 p.m., Arlington Mill. Details, 703-228-7369.

Lee Walkers to walk along C&O Canal, D.C., Friday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m., \$4. SEE FLOURISHING, PAGE 11

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FEEL THE HERITAGE FESTIVAL

28th Annual Celebration of Arlington's African American History and Culture



Sat., Feb. 29, 1-6 p.m.
Charles Drew Community Center
3500 23rd Street South, Arlington
Free!

Live Entertainment: Live music, spoken word, dance and more!

Free Kids' Activities: Make & Take Crafts, Balloon Art, Face Painting, and more.

The Hall of History: Photos and artifacts from Arlington's Historically African-American Churches and Organizations.

Dozens of Vendors: Jewelry, bath & body products, handmade dolls, bags, clothing and lots more!

Plus, Our 3rd Annual Soul Food Cook-Off!

Details online at:
parks.arlingtonva.us/feel-the-heritage-festival/



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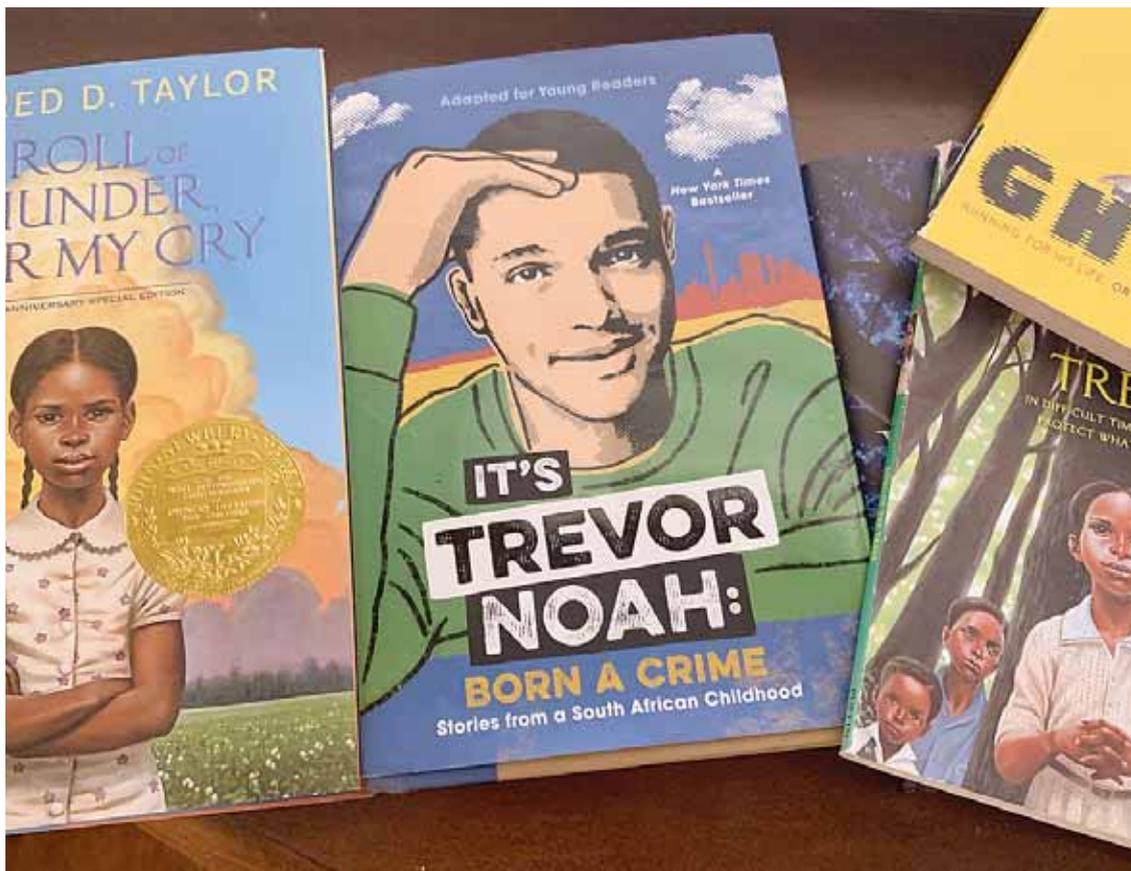


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

While February is designed to raise awareness of the societal contributions of African Americans, in some schools, it's taught all year long.

Black History for a New Generation

Lessons on the contributions of African Americans not limited to February.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Black History Month was created to devote one period during the year to highlight the contributions of African Americans. It represents an opportunity for all, not just African Americans to learn about and appreciate the numerous contributions of Black Americans. That conversation, however, is changing at some local schools.

"It's part of Madeira's curriculum ... not specifically for Black History Month," said Karen Joostema, Director of Communications at Madeira. "[Students] taking Modernism will be researching a Harlem Renaissance poet of their choice, analyzing their lives and work. Juniors have also read Frederick Douglass' Narrative and Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon to interrogate the promise, failures, and continuing work in the U.S. on race and civil rights."

The school's curriculum, says Joostema incorporates studies of the contributions of all cultures including those of African Americans, seamlessly throughout the year. "AP (Advanced Placement) seniors will be finishing up Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man, working to understand how Ellison viewed the struggles of race and class in the middle of the twentieth century and how he viewed himself as part of

the American literary tradition, as voiced in his response to Irving Howe, "The World and the Jug," she said. "Sophomores have just finished reading a short story from the Kenyan writer Ngig) wa Thiong'o along with a play from the white South African playwright Athol Fugard.

Ninth graders read Maya Angelou's I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings to explore how identity, one's sense of self, are shaped by race, class, gender, and geography.

At The Heights School, African American history is part of year round study, said Linda F. Maher. "We study seminal figures in American History, many of whom are African American, so it's just a given that it's just a part of studying history throughout the year," she said. "Studying the Civil Rights movement, for example, is integral to our study of Civics.

"We study seminal figures in American History, many of whom are African American, so it's just a given that we're studying it throughout the year."

—Linda F. Maher, The Heights School

Still, February offers an opportunity to focus on African Americans history outside of tragic events. KiKi Davis, Director of Institutional Equity and Diversity at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, says that African Americans have contributed to every aspect of American culture, her school's celebrations include recognition for those influences. "[We're] celebrating the contributions of African Americans to the arts literature, music, theater," she said. "Students will learn about the contributions and the effects of Americans of African descent in other segments of society including, academia, medicine and science."

"There will be several lunch forums held for our students to discuss issues directly relating to the African American experience," said Davis. "Many teachers will incorporate historical facts and references in their curriculum."

\$200K Donation For Child Care

Arlington County Board today accepted a \$200,000 donation to fund high-quality child care for low-income Arlington families, the first such donation to the Arlington Community Foundation's Shared Prosperity initiative from a private corporation.

The grant, donated to the ACF by Nestlé, whose U.S. headquarters are in Rosslyn, will fund child care for up to seven low-income Arlington children at a time for up to two years.

"Child care is more expensive in Arlington than anywhere else in our region," Arlington County Board Chair Libby Garvey said. "We thank the Arlington Community Foundation for pulling together government, businesses, and nonprofits to help bring down those costs for hard-working low-income families."

The Board voted unanimously to accept the grant. To read the staff report, visit the County website. Scroll to Item No. 16 on the agenda for the Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020, Regular County Board Meeting.

The County's Shared Prosperity Child Care Scholarship Program grew out of the Arlington Community Foundation's Shared Prosperity initiative, which brings together government, businesses, and nonprofits to prevent the displacement of Arlington's lowest-income households. The initiative has identified the lack of affordable housing; prohibitively expensive child care with limited availability; limited pathways to quality jobs that pay a living wage; and the lack of health insurance as the primary factors driving Arlington's lowest-income residents from our community.

The initiative set a goal of providing access to quality child care programs for an additional 1,000 children from low-income families and called for 200 child care scholarships to be philanthropically funded with an investment of \$2.7 million annually, at an annual cost of \$13,700 per scholarship.

"The burden of child care cost and limited supply leaves too many families in Arlington unable to gain and keep employment," said Arlington Community Foundation CEO Jennifer Owens. "This partnership with Nestle and Arlington County allows us to kick-start our

Shared Prosperity Initiative's goal to provide safe, affordable child care to our lowest-income neighbors."

How the scholarships will be awarded

The County's Department of Human Services will distribute the funds to families referred by Human Services staff or community-based nonprofit organizations. To be eligible, families must have a gross income at or below 30 percent of the Area Median Income; must be ineligible for child care assistance through the Virginia Department of Social Services Child Care Subsidy Program; be working or searching for employment, or attending school or training, and must contribute five percent of their gross income toward the cost of care.

The County's Shared Prosperity Child Care Scholarship Program will complement existing County programs that support low-income families – including the state Child Care Subsidy, Emergency Financial Assistance, Eviction Prevention, and Housing Subsidy programs, and Medical Assistance.

About the Arlington Community Foundation

The Arlington Community Foundation <https://www.arlcf.org/> is an independent charitable organization that promotes, protects and improves the quality of life for those who live or work in Arlington. It raises capital for grants and scholarships to address community needs.

Background

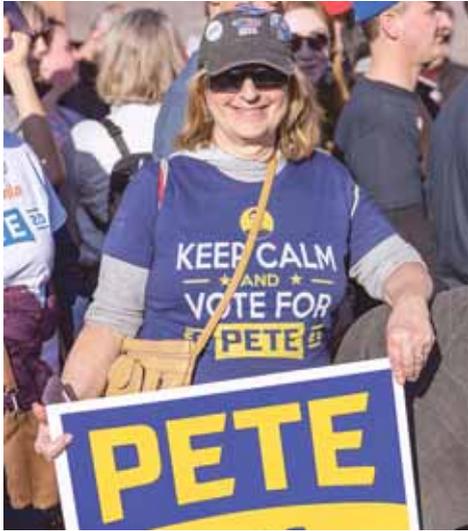
Child care costs for two children in Arlington can cost up to 38 percent of the County's median income of \$117,000. In 2019, nearly 2,600 children lived in families in Arlington whose income was \$35,000 or less. Nearly 200 children from low-income families are currently receiving a government subsidy through Arlington. The average subsidy is \$13,700 annually.

Arlington's Child Care initiative <https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/child-care-initiative/> is growing the supply of high-quality childcare through changes to the Zoning Ordinance, local Code and other measures meant to make child care more accessible for all. Child Care Initiative Fall 2019 Progress Report.

PRIMARY

Buttigieg Rallies in Arlington

Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg held a town hall at Washington-Liberty High School in Arlington on Sunday, Feb. 23. Thousands drove in and waited for hours to hear the Mayor of South Bend, Indiana speak ahead of Virginia's March 3 presidential primary.



Former Virginia resident Ronni Cook drove two hours from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania to show her support for Pete Buttigieg.



Students for Pete supporters listen to opening remarks by local representatives prior to Pete Buttigieg's arrival.



The crowd listens intently as Pete Buttigieg delivers his speech.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION



Arlington residents (from left) Terri Schwartzbeck and Helen Boucher at the town hall.



Members of the grassroots organization Virginia for Pete show their support.



Melissa Malpass from Great Falls attended the rally with daughters Maeve and Remy.



Ally Voshell from Fredericksburg waited in line for four hours in order to secure a good spot.



At the conclusion of the town hall, Pete Buttigieg shakes hands and poses for selfies.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Virginia Hospital Center Fitness Classes. Begins March 9. Virginia Hospital Center conducts fitness classes for all ages and abilities — so take the first step to improve your strength, flexibility or balance. Visit www.virginiahospitalcenter.com/healthy to view the full schedule and register online. If you need guidance, call the Health Promotion Department at 703-558-6740.

Registration Open for AAC's Summer Camps. At Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd, Arlington. Thematic and technique-focused camps return this summer for children and teens, ages 5-18. Campers explore the fundamentals of the visual arts through creative projects in various two- and three-dimensional media. Line, color, shape, texture, space, and form will all be emphasized through creative projects based on campers' observations and imaginations. AAC's camps meet weekly, Monday-Friday, from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. Families have the option to participate in one or both sessions of camps that meet during the week. For families interested in the full day option, add the morning and afternoon camp sessions to your shopping cart. Extended day options are detailed below. Call 703-248-6800 or email information@arlingtonartscenter.org or visit the website: www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Easy Women Smoking Loose Cigarettes. Now thru March 29. At Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. The latest Heidi Thomas Writers' Initiative is a surprising comedy about opening your home, occasionally your wallet, and always your heart. Marian, the matriarch of a far-flung Jewish family, had happily settled into retirement life with her new husband Richard. However, when a pregnant niece, the troubled boy next door and a distressed daughter with a secret show up at her door, Marian's empty nest ends up a little fuller than she imagined. This firecracker play by DC area playwright Dani Stoller takes the dysfunction, puts it back in the family, then gives it a hilarious-and subversive-stir.

Contains sexual content and herbal smoking. Visit the website: <https://www.sigtheatre.org/events/201920/easy-women-smoking-loose-cigarettes/>

Forty+ Dance Project. Now thru March 10. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Forty+ celebrates the collective creativity of people past the age of 40. Each project features a different choreographer and results in a unique tapestry of collaboration. Forty+ is frequently seen in concerts presented by Jane Franklin Dance and for organizations serving older adults. This project culminates with a performance at Theatre on the Run on April 25, 2020. The project is open to people of all physical facilities. No previous performance experience is necessary. Cost is \$160. Visit the website: <https://www.janefranklin.com/adult-dance/forty-plus>

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 26

Coffee & Conversation. 10-11 a.m. At Langston Brown Community Center, 2121 North Culpeper Street, Arlington. Certified Financial

Planners Nick Harris and Mike Carey will discuss required minimum distributions (RMDs) and qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from IRAs. For more information or to learn more about the benefits of becoming a member of Arlington Neighborhood Village, call the ANV office at 703-509-8057 or visit www.arlnvil.org.

Author Sara Fitzgerald. 7-8 p.m. At One More Page Books, 2200 N. Westmoreland Street, Arlington. Sara Fitzgerald will share her new novel, *The Poet's Girl*, at One More Page Books. It tells the story of a woman whose own story will never be fully known: the woman behind one of Eliot's most treasured poems and a woman whose greatest act of love was to bury her side of their story. Call 703-300-9746.

THURSDAY/FEB. 27

Racial Equity and Inclusion Meeting. 7-8 p.m. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. This meeting will be a screening of "The Bail Trap: American Ransom" presented by Brave New Films. This is a series of short films exploring the injustices of cash bail and America's mass incarceration system. These meetings are open to adults. Visit <https://www.oaronline.org/news-events/oar-tours-upcoming-events>

NOW THRU FEB. 28

Lions Club Citrus Fundraiser. At Overlee Pool, 6030 Lee Hwy, Arlington, Lower entrance off John Marshall Drive. The Lions Club is selling honeybells, temples, honey tangerines, valencias, pecans and maple syrup. Proceeds benefit the NWAR Lions charities. Hours of operation: Wednesday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 703-528-1130.

FRIDAY/FEB. 28

Spring Senses Campfire. 6 - 7 p.m. At Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. Families ages 3 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Spring is right around the corner — time to give our senses a tune-up. Learn about our five senses, how animals use their senses, and then use your sense of taste to enjoy some S'mores! Call 703-228-3403. Cost is \$5.

SATURDAY/FEB. 29

Wake up, Wood Frogs. 10 - 11 a.m. At Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Get ready to learn all about our earliest amphibians. After the first warm rain of spring, you'll hear them "quacking" as we explore and search for them around our pond! For information: 703-228-3403. Cost is \$5.

Spring Lawn Care. 10-11:30 a.m. At Lee Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington. Learn what you can do now to improve and manage your lawn to make it a more environmentally friendly, less resource intensive part of your home garden. We will discuss the best types of grasses for our area, specific springtime turf management practices, nutrient management and soil testing, and basic pest and disease management. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Call 703-228-



The Junior League of Northern Virginia hosts Monte Carlo Night on Friday, March 6.

Monte Carlo Night 6

Friday/March, 8-11 p.m. At Army Navy Country Club of Arlington, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. Dress to the nines, put on your poker face and get your tickets! Try your hand at gaming favorites, enjoy beer, wine, signature cocktails, light hors d'oeuvres, and plenty of dancing. Feeling lucky? Enter our raffle to win great prizes and visit our exclusive silent auction. Proceeds from the event support the JLN's ongoing efforts to improve the Northern Virginia community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers and educational programming. Come on out and party for a good cause. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.jlnv.org/montecarlonight/>

6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.
Feel the Heritage Festival. 1-6 p.m. At Drew Community Center, 3500 23rd Street, S, Arlington. The Feel the Heritage Festival welcomes residents to enjoy live music and dance, dozens of vendors, free activities for kids, delicious food, cook-off competition, Hall of History with photos and artifacts for Arlington's historically African American neighborhoods and organizations and more. Arlington Historical Society will have a booth at the festival. Author Jessica Kaplan will share information about her paper and presentation, "The Bottom: An African America Enclave Rediscovered."

Soul Food Cookoff. 1 p.m. At Charles Drew Community Center, 3500 23rd Street South, Arlington. Cooks from across Arlington County are invited to test their skills at the 3rd Annual Soul Food Cookoff at the Feel the Heritage Festival. Though "soul food" is a phrase so deeply entrenched in our vocabulary, the term only became common in the 1960s and around the civil rights movement. The word "soul" became so broadly applied to black culture at that time—"soul music," "soul brother," "soul sister," etc.—that "soul food" naturally became a way to encapsulate the essence of the foods that African Americans have been making for centuries.

Move Me Festival. 2-5 p.m. At Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Bowen McCauley Dance Company presents the annual Move Me Festival production. Expect 17 local artists and performance groups that will offer classes, educational activities, and performances. Festival participants include students, parents and community residents that participate in workshops, demonstrations and performances across two stages. Expect face painting, prizes, classes, concerts and a special performance by the

Kenmore M.S. student dancers, the professional Company along with an opportunity to join them on stage. Free. Visit the website <http://www.bmdc.org/events>

SUNDAY/MARCH 1

Hooray for Love. 3 p.m. At Sanctuary of Rock Spring UCC Church, 5010 Little Falls Road, Arlington. Elizabeth Kluegel Niblock and Lewis Freeman return with pianist Edward Roberts to bring you a program of American Songbook selections, featuring songs by George and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and a special feature of music by Jerry Herman. Contact Elizabeth Kluegel Niblock at 703-538-4886.

MONDAY/MARCH 2

Are Green Certified Buildings Truly Green? 7-9 p.m. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N Quincy Street, Arlington. Oberlin College professor John Scofield, a national expert on U.S. green building certification, will speak about his research on energy savings and greenhouse gas emissions from LEED buildings that demonstrate such building certifications do not significantly reduce emissions. Discussion follows on Arlington County's own green building program, and the forthcoming 2020 Community Energy Plan in Arlington that proposes to make Arlington carbon neutral. Attendance is free. Information: email Info@greensofarlington.org

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 4

Northern Virginia Bird Club Walk. 8:30 - 11 a.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Join members of the Northern Virginia Bird Club for informal walks through Glencarlyn Park in search of resident and migratory birds. Experienced and

beginning birders welcomed. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them. Call 703-228-6535.
Coffee and Conversation. 10-11 a.m. At Westover Market & Beer Garden, 5863 Washington Blvd., Arlington. Former Washington Post columnist Bob Levey will discuss "The Golden Era at The Washington Post" and also his new novel, *Larry Felder, Candidate*. Everyone is invited to join the conversation. Bring your own coffee, learn interesting things about our community and hear from the speakers listed below.

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Grow What You Eat. 7 - 8:30 p.m. At Arlington Mill Community Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie Street, Arlington. Learn easy to implement practices for selecting a site, evaluating and improving your soil. We will discuss which plants grow best locally, which are best planted as seeds and which are typically transplanted as seedlings. Discover how to attract pollinators and other beneficial insects while identifying and managing pests, weeds and diseases. Get free seeds and a vegetable garden calendar customized for our region. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

Monte Carlo Night. 8-11 p.m. At Army Navy Country Club of Arlington, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. Dress to the nines, put on your poker face and get your tickets! Try your hand at gaming favorites, enjoy beer, wine, signature cocktails, light hors d'oeuvres, and plenty of dancing. Feeling lucky? Enter our raffle to win great prizes and visit our exclusive silent auction. Proceeds from the event support the JLN's ongoing efforts to improve the Northern Virginia community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers and educational programming. Come on out and party for a good cause. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.jlnv.org/montecarlonight/>

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Fort C.F. Smith Park Walking Tour. 9 - 10 a.m. At Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site, 2411 N. 24th Street, Arlington. Families ages 7 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Fort C.F. Smith was one of the last Union forts built to protect Washington during the Civil War. We'll learn about the park's history, the role of the fort and the soldiers stationed there in the Civil War. Dress for the weather. Terrain will be uneven and possibly muddy. For information: 703-228-4775.

Service Project/Outreach Leader Training. 10 a.m. - noon. At Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S Stafford St., Arlington. Are you interested in getting more involved with EcoAction Arlington? Would you like to learn how to lead outdoor service projects from start to finish or be an EcoAction Arlington ambassador for outreach events? Then take the Outreach Leader Training.

Spring Garden Kick Off. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. At Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington. Plot Against Hunger 6th Annual Spring Garden Kick-Off. Learn how you can support our partner, the Arlington Food Assistance Center, SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 8

with fresh produce donations from your garden or community plot. There will be growing tips for new and experienced gardeners. Hear from community garden coordinators about lessons learned. Join a team that harvests bamboo for garden structures. So much more at <https://afac.org/afac-events/plot-against-hunger-spring-garden-kick-off-2020/>.

Animal Art: Deer. 10-11 a.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Ages 6 to 12. Learn the distinguishing features of male and female White-tailed deer and draw them in their late winter habitats. Drawing supplies will be provided, but participants are welcome to bring their own. Call 703-228-6535. Cost is \$5.

Civil War Discoveries: Infantry Drills. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. At Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site, 2411 N. 24th Street, Arlington. Ages 7 to 11. We'll drill like Union soldiers by practicing our marches and turns, as well as how to "load in nine times" with replica wood rifles. Call 703-228-4775. Meet at Fort C.F. Smith Park. Cost is \$.

Civil War Discoveries: Artillery Drills. 1-2 p.m. At Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site, 2411 N. 24th Street, Arlington. Ages 7 to 11. Work as a team practicing the steps to load and aim a replica Civil War cannon. We'll talk about different types of artillery and put our skills to the test. For information: 703-228-4775. Cost is \$5.

Vanishing Vernal Pools. 2 - 3 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families age 6 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. For wood frogs, spring peepers and spotted salamanders, spring comes early! They lay eggs in pools that dry out by summer, so they need to start the next generation before the last

frost. We'll meet these animals up close, then look for them and their eggs in our vernal pool. Cost is \$5. Call 703-228-6535.

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

Drawing in Nature. 3 - 4 p.m. At Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. Families ages 5 and up. Register children and adults; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Join us for lessons in nature drawing and art. We'll construct our own nature art journals, hone our drawing skills and talk about the season while connecting with nature on a hike. For information: 703-228-6535.

SATURDAY/APRIL 18

32nd Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hosted by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, 2001 Bryan Point Rd, Accokeek. The Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup has become a catalyst for progress that ignites people's interest and passion for the environment and community action. The largest regional event of its kind, the Cleanup provides a transforming experience that engages residents and community leaders and generates momentum for change. The Potomac River Watershed Cleanup has grown from a small shoreline cleanup at Piscataway National Park to a watershed wide network. What started as a few cleanup events along the Potomac River is now a regional event spanning Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. If you can't make this date or location check out PotomacCleanup.org to find another cleanup near you.

MORE ONGOING

Arlington Historical Museum. Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.;

Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m. Arlington Historical Museum, owned and operated by the Arlington Historical Society, is located at 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. The two-story brick structure was built in 1891 as the Hume School, named for Frank Hume who gave some of the property for the school. It is the oldest school building in Arlington County. Now a museum, it houses permanent and temporary local history exhibits ranging from pre-1607 to Sept. 11, 2001. Visit arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

Civil War Artifact Display. Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fort C.F. Smith Park Visitor Center, 2411 24th St. N. The New Fort C.F. Smith Park Visitor Center features displays about Union soldiers and the Defenses of Washington between 1861 and 1865. Artifacts from archaeological studies from Forts Ethan Allen and C.F. Smith are on display. Kids can try on replica Civil War uniforms and learn about camp life. Visit parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/fort-cf-smith-park/.

Arlington Farmers Market. Every Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon at the corner of N. 14th Street and N. Courthouse Road. A weekly celebration of local food including fresh produce, meats, dairy, cheese, baked goods, free range eggs, specialty items, cut flowers, plants and herbs. Email csingiser@cfwdc.org or call 917-733-6402.

FRESHFARM Market. 3-7 p.m. on Tuesdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Shop from local farmers and producers with seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh-cut flowers, container plants and herbs, farm-raised eggs, all-natural meats, artisan baked goods, and specialty foods. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.

Mobile Bike Repair. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thursdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Drop off your bike on Thursday morning and have it tuned up and

ready to ride before heading home. Email DC@velofix.com, or phone 855-VELO-FIX for more.

Food Truck Thursdays. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1900 Crystal Drive and 201 12th St. Actual truck schedules are subject to change so be sure to follow your favorites. Visit www.crystalcity.org for more.

Healthy Lifestyle Runs. Saturdays, 9 a.m. at Roosevelt Island, George Washington Memorial Parkway. American Cancer Society partners with parkrun USA to promote fitness in the fight against cancer. Free. Visit www.parkrun.us/rooseveltislanddc/ for more.

Friday Night Live. 8 p.m. Fridays at the Church at Clarendon, 1210 N. Highland St., Suite A. Local musicians perform. Free. Visit 1bc.org for more.

Arlington's Historical Museum Open on First Wednesdays. The Arlington Historical Museum is open to the public on the first Wednesday of every month from 12:30-3:30 p.m. The museum consists of exhibits chronicling Arlington County's history from Native American settlements up to the present day. The museum will continue to be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located in the former 1891 Hume School building at 1805 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Visit arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

Open Mic Comedy. Wednesdays 8-10 p.m. at Ri Ra Irish Pub, 2915 Wilson Blvd. Doors open at 7 p.m. Age 21 and up only. Free show, \$25 cash prize for best joke. Call 703-248-9888 or Visit www.RiRa.com/ Arlington for more.

Invasive Plants Removal. Work parties are held every month to keep the parks free of destructive invasive plants. Teens, adults and families welcome. Every second Sunday of the month 2-4:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road; call 703-228-3403. Every third

Sunday of the month 2-5 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road; call 703-228-6535 or visit registration.arlingtonva.us. Free, no registration required.

Karaoke. 8 p.m. on the first Sunday every month at Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

Pub Quiz. 8 p.m. every Sunday at Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd. Prizes for first place. Free. Visit www.whitlows.com or call 703-276-9693.

Storytime. Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:30-11 a.m. at Kinder Haus Toys, 1220 N. Fillmore St. Storytime with Ms. Laura. Call 703-527-5929.

Lego Club. Monthly on the first Wednesday. 4-5 p.m. Glencarlyn Branch Library, 300 S. Kensington St. The library provides tubs of legos and a special challenge and after the program the creations are displayed for everyone to see. No registration required. Call 703-228-6548 for more.

Crystal City Sparket. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Wednesdays at 1900 Crystal Drive. Sparket — A Creative Market is an extension of DC's Eastern Market with arts, crafts, and handmade goods. Free to attend. Visit www.crystalcity.org.

Art for Life. Third Thursday of each month.

The Hyatt Regency Crystal City's "Art for Life" Partnership with National Kidney Foundation brings a new artist each month to The Hyatt for a reception. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Brunch at Freddie's. Third Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Freddie's Beach Bar, 555 23rd St. The Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance gathers for an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet (\$9.99). All are welcome. No reservation is required. Visit www.facebook.com/events/700174390103305.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 27

School Board Meeting. 7 p.m. At Syphax Education Center, 2nd Floor, School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington. The Superintendent presents FY 2021 Proposed Budget followed immediately by School Board Budget Work Session.

Black History Literary Slam. 1-3 p.m. At Arlington Trades Center, 2700 S. Taylor St. #230A, Arlington. Sponsored by Arlington County's Black Employees Council

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

EcoAction Arlington Meeting. 6:30-9 p.m. At Washington-Liberty High School Cafeteria, 1301 N. Stafford St., Arlington. Speakers will provide an overview of the biophilic cities concept and a preview of Arlington's plan for integrating the natural world into our community as we develop, grow, and thrive. Featuring local and regional organizations, agencies, and companies whose work focuses on biophilia, nature education, and connecting people to the natural world. The reception will be followed by an overview of programming for 2020, the election of the board of directors, and the featured

presentations.

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

Getting Back on Track: Your Questions about Living in a Community Association Answered. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. At Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S Stafford St, Arlington. Call 703-746-4990, email Brandi D. Collins at brandi.collins@alexandriava.gov.

DONATIONS

The **Arlington Food Assistance Center** seeks local gardeners and farmers willing to grow and donate fresh produce to the AFAC food pantry for local families in need as part of the Plot Against Hunger program. Each week, approximately 2,400 client families visit AFAC to pick up supplemental groceries and fresh fruits and vegetables are in high demand. AFAC will provide free vegetable seeds to those who pledge to donate produce from community or personal gardens. Visit <https://afac.org/plot-against-hunger> or contact puwen.lee@afac.org or 703-845-8486. Seeds are available now at AFAC, 2708 S. Nelson St., during regular business hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Produce can also be donated at AFAC at the hours listed above or at:

- ❖ Arlington Courthouse Farmer's Market, Saturdays 8 a.m.-noon (look for the AFAC cooler near the Master Gardener information table).
- ❖ Rock Springs UCC Church, 5010 Little Falls Road, Sundays 9 a.m.-noon

only. (Look for the donation bin on the Rock Spring Drive side of the church).

Pet Food Bank. AWLA is establishing a Pet Food Bank to serve qualifying residents of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. In consideration of the effect financial obstacles have on a pet owner's ability to afford pet care, the AWLA Pet Food Bank program's goal is to keep family pets out of shelters. If you are an Arlington County or City of Falls Church resident and are in need of assistance in feeding your pet, follow this link and fill out a pre-registration form. Visit goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4tPw2.

GET MORE WITH SNAP

Arlington and Alexandria Farmers' Markets accept SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) cards for purchases. SNAP/EBT customers can purchase farm fresh produce at local area farmers' markets and get matching bonus tokens to add to their purchases. Virginia Cooperative will be on-site at several local farmers' markets of Alexandria and Arlington to provide more information on SNAP and offer food tastings, prizes and more at the Arlington Farmers' Market, N. 14th and Courthouse Road (second Saturday of the month) and Columbia Pike Farmers' Market, 2820 Columbia Pike (third Sunday of the month).

ONGOING

Online Salary Negotiation

Workshop. AAUW (American Association of University Women) Work Smart is free online for anyone looking to learn how to negotiate a salary increase or promotion. Why is negotiation so important? AAUW's research on the gender pay gap shows that, one year out of college, women are already paid significantly less than men. Visit salary.aauw.org.

Create a Wildlife Sanctuary. The Audubon at Home Wildlife Sanctuary certification program assists homeowners in restoring their home's natural habitat by providing information on sustainable gardening practices.

These practices include using native plants, removing invasive species, reducing use of pesticides and fertilizers, and creating space for native flora and fauna. Visit audubonva.org/audubon-at-home-1/ for more.

Naloxone (Narcan) can save the life of someone who is overdosing, if given in time. Anyone who assists a person in need is protected from liability by the Good Samaritan Law. Naloxone (Narcan) is available without a prescription for a fee at all pharmacies. Obtain it for free by attending a REVIVE! training. Contact Emily Siqveland at 703-228-0913 or esiqveland@arlingtonva.us or visit health.arlingtonva.us/opioid-awareness/ for available training sessions. The Chris Atwood Foundation also offers training to the public. Visit www.chrisatwoodfoundation.org/naloxone for details.

Monthly Memory Café. 1-3 p.m. at 7910 Andrus Road, Suite 6,

Alexandria. The Memory Café, a social gathering for individuals living with memory loss and their families, will be held on the first Friday of every month. Registration is free and highly recommended to reserve spots, which are open on a first come first served basis. To reserve a spot, please call 571-210-5551 or email bdesai@seniorhelpers.com. Visit

www.dementiacareconnections.com/memory-cafe or www.seniorhelpers.com/arlington-alexandria-va for more.

Walk-Fit. Ongoing Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Fashion Center at Pentagon City, Arlington. Participants walk at their own pace in a safe and friendly environment. Group stretch and cool down led by Virginia Hospital Center staff at 9:15 a.m. Meet on the first level by Nordstrom. Call 703-558-6859.

Arlington County, in partnership with the Human Rights Commission's Equality Task Force, has launched a web page with resources for the LGBTQ community. The new webpage compiles LGBTQ resources on a variety of topics, including 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.

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Quincy Hall LLC trading as Quincy Hall, 4001 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia 22203-1614. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 or more persons) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Peter Bayne, Member authorizing advertisement. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to replace an existing 17.3' metal street light pole with a new 20' metal street light pole and install a top-mounted antenna at 26' at 2597 Columbia Pk, Arlington, VA (20200117). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

For Rent

LUXURY CONDO - RESORT LIVING. 2BR, 2BA, 1305 sq ft. close to Old Town, 24/7 gated security, garage, shuttle to Metro, 37 wooded acres, pools, fitness center, café, market, beautician, bowling, dances, lectures, movies, \$2200, 703-226-9796, wfubg47@gmail.com

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.

-Werner Heisenberg

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to replace an existing 17.3' metal light pole with a new 20' metal light pole and install a top-mounted antenna at 26' at 256 North Glebe Road, Arlington, VA (20200091). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

Announcements

Announcements

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NEWS

Pentagon City Carjacking Leads to Pursuit

The Arlington County Police Department's Homicide/Robbery Unit is investigating two armed robberies that occurred in Pentagon City Garages on the evening of Feb. 21, 2020.

At approximately 10:25 p.m., an officer conducting proactive patrol inside a parking garage in the 1100 block of S. Hayes Street was flagged down for assistance by the victim. The victim stated he had been sitting inside his parked vehicle looking at his cell phone when he heard a knock at the window and observed an unknown male suspect brandishing a firearm. The victim exited the vehicle and was assaulted by the suspect. The victim screamed and the suspect fled the scene on foot. The victim was treated on scene by medics for minor injuries. A lookout was broadcast, and officers canvased the area for the suspect.

At approximately 10:50 p.m., while investigating the above-mentioned incident, police were dispatched to the report of a carjacking inside the garage in the 900 block of Army Navy Drive. Upon arrival, it was determined that at approximately 10:34 p.m., the victim entered the garage, parked his vehicle and observed the suspect acting suspiciously.

The victim left the area but immediately returned to check on his vehicle. Upon returning, the suspect confronted the victim, brandished a firearm and demanded the victim's keys. The suspect fled the scene in a black Honda Civic with Virginia license plate UND4813.

Responding officers observed the suspect driving eastbound on Army Navy Drive. At the intersection of Army Navy Drive and Fern Street, the suspect ran a red light and fled the scene at a high rate of speed into the northbound lanes of I-395 HOV. The officers activated their emergency equipment and pursued the vehicle but were unable to maintain contact due to the extreme speed of the suspect vehicle. The suspect vehicle was last seen entering Washing-

ton D.C.

The suspect is described as a black male in his mid 20s, approximately 6 feet tall, 165 – 175 pounds with short black hair and a light amount of facial hair. He was wearing a black jacket, dark jeans and dark sneakers at the time of the incident.

Police are investigating these incidents as a series with the earlier reported carjackings in the area. The series remains an active and ongoing criminal investigation with detectives continuing to follow-up on investigative leads. Anyone with information related to this investigation is asked to contact Detective S. King of the Homicide/Robbery Unit at 703-228-4243 or seking@arlingtonva.us. Information may also be provided anonymously through the Arlington County Crime Solvers hotline at ♦1-866-411-TIPS (8477).

The department continues to deploy increased police resources, to include both visible and non-visible assets, in the Pentagon City area. As part of our investigative efforts into these incidents, detectives are working collaboratively with regional law enforcement partners to identify crime trends and apprehend suspect(s).

The department's efforts to prevent crime in Arlington County are enhanced by the active involvement of the public. If you observe suspicious activity or are the victim of a crime, contact police immediately by calling the Emergency Communications Center at 703-558-2222 or 911 in an emergency.

Police are reminding the public to follow these safety tips:

- ♦ Exit your vehicle and continue to your destination promptly after parking
- ♦ Park in well-lit, high traffic areas.
- ♦ Be aware of your surroundings when entering and exiting your vehicle
- ♦ Limit your use of devices that may distract you, such as cell phones and headphones
- ♦ Don't leave items unattended or visible in your vehicle.

'Ball Cap Bandit' Sentenced for Stealing Nearly \$800,000 in Jewelry

An Arlington man was sentenced today to five years in prison for robbing two Falls Church pawn shops of nearly \$800,000 in jewelry and watches. According to court documents, in July 2014, Budder Khan, 30, entered Route 50 Gold and Jewelry Exchange, forced the store's employees to the ground using what appeared to be a real firearm, smashed the business's glass display cases, and took jewelry and watches worth over \$650,000.

Later, in April 2015, Khan entered Top Pawn, again used what appeared to be a real firearm to intimidate the store's employees into submission, smashed the business's glass display cases, and stole jewelry, watches, and cash worth over \$143,000.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), which is the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is an evidence-based program proven to be effective at reducing violent crime.

Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakehold-

ers work together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them.

As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

The case was investigated by the WFO Violent Crimes Task Force, which is composed of FBI Special Agents working in partnership with Detectives throughout Northern Virginia.

The task force is charged with identifying and investigating the most egregious violent crime actors in our region. G. Zachary Terwilliger, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Timothy M. Dunham, Special Agent in Charge, Criminal Division, FBI Washington Field Office; and Colonel Edwin C. Roessler Jr., Fairfax County Chief of Police, made the announcement after sentencing by Senior U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis, III. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alexander E. Blanchard prosecuted the case.

FLOURISHING AFTER 55

FROM PAGE 5

Register, 703-228-4771.

Fast paced walkers, Friday, Feb. 28, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Details, 703-228-5722.

Feel the Heritage Festival, Saturday, Feb. 29, 1-6 p.m., Drew Community Center, 3500 S. 23rd Street. Details at parks.arlingtonva.us/feel-the-heritage-festival.

NEW PROGRAMS: 3/1-7/20

Plant grafting demo, Sunday, Mar. 1, 1:30 p.m., Walter Reed. Register, 703-228-0955.

Photography interest group meets Sundays, 3-5 p.m., Arlington Mill. Details, 703-228-7369.

Iceland and Greenland, travelogues narrated by Lee Moyer, Monday, Mar. 2, 7:30 p.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-6300.

Current events discussion, Monday, Mar. 2, 10 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Folk music sing-along, Monday, Mar. 2, 1:30 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Bocce games, Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Ukelele strumming class, Tuesday, Mar. 3, 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Mar. 4, 11 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-0955.

Local history group to discuss Arlington Trolleys, Wednesday, Mar. 4, 12:30 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Intro to line dancing, Wednesday, Mar. 4, 11:30 a.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

Arlington Walking Club to walk along the C&O Canal, D.C., Wednesday, Mar. 4, 9:30 a.m., \$4. Register, 703-228-4771.

Beading bunch repurposes old costume jewelry, Thursday, Mar. 5, 1 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Mill Trekkers, Thursday, Mar. 5, 9 a.m., Details, 703-228-7369.

Basic drawing class, bring unlined 5.5x8.5 sketchbook, Friday, Mar. 6, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

Volunteer storytellers (Arlington Spellbinders), Friday, Mar. 6, 9:30 a.m., Langston-Brown. Newcomers welcome. Details, 703-228-6300.

Traveling through Japan withy Lowell Nelson, Friday, Mar. 6, 11 a.m., Aurora Hills. Details, 703-228-5722.

Ballroom Dance, Friday, March 6, 1-3 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Lee Walkers to walk in LBJ Park, Arl., Friday, Mar. 6, 10 a.m., \$4. Register, 703-228-4771.

Fast paced walkers, Friday, Mar. 6, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Details, 703-228-5722.

NEW PROGRAMS: 3/8-14/20

Mexican artists Kahlo and Rivera, Monday, Mar. 9, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., \$6, Aurora Hills. Register, 703-228-5722.

Stay Active and Independent for Life (S.A.I.L.), begin Monday, Mar. 9, 1 p.m., Arlington Mill. 24 sessions, free. Register, 703-228-7369.

Practice badminton, billiards, bocce, croquet and table tennis for Senior Olympics, Walter Reed. Free to 55+ members. Call for days and times, 703-228-0955.

Pickleball, absolute beginners, Mondays, 9-10 a.m., Arlington Mill; 9:45-10:30 a.m., Walter Reed. Details, 703-228-7369 (AM), 703-228-0955 (WR).

Healthy ways to eat potatoes, Tuesday, Mar. 10, 1:30 p.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

History roundtable topic, How U.S. State boundaries were Formed, Tuesday, Mar. 10, 11:15 a.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Origami class, Tuesday, Mar. 10, 10 a.m.-noon, Arlington Mill. Register, 703-228-7369.

Two Arlington women who worked to achieve school desegregation, Wednesday, Mar. 11, 11 a.m., Aurora Hills. Details 703-228-5722.

Springtime quilting workshop, Wednesday, Mar. 11, 1-2:30 p.m., \$18/1 session, Lee. Supplies provided. Register, 703-228-0555.

Arlington Walking Club to walk along the SW Waterfront, D.C., Wednesday, Mar. 11, 9:30 a.m., \$4. Register, 703-228-4771.

Women's Rights Monument, Belmont-Paul House, D.C., Thursday, Mar. 12, 11 a.m., Lee. Details, 703-228-0555.

Stroke prevention, Thursday, Mar. 12, 11 a.m., Langston-Brown. Presented by Dr. Edward Allcock, DO, Virginia Hospital Center's Inpatient Rehab Center. Register, 703-228-6300.

Overview of ride sharing apps, Uber and Lyft, Thursday, Mar. 12, 11 a.m., Arlington Mill. Details, 703-228-7369.

Arlington Mill Trekkers, Thursday, Mar. 12, 9 a.m., Details, 703-228-7369.

New travel discussion group, share experiences, tips, Friday, Mar. 13, 10 a.m., Langston-Brown. Details, 703-228-6300.

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Useless Is As Useless Doesn't Have To Do



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It began years ago when technology enabled many public bathrooms to change to hands-free. Other than the obvious hands-on responsibilities, many of the other elements no longer required any touching. Be it the paper-towel dispenser, the hand dryer, the hot and cold/on and off functions in the sinks, and of course, the urinal and toilet flushing functions. All providing a convenience never before possible. Other than an automatic entry/exit function for the bathroom door, and one as well on the inside for the stalls themselves, using many public bathrooms has become much less involved, shall we say, than ever before. And it has not stopped there. It has gone public in a very big way.

Driving, specifically through tolls, that is. Thanks to EZ-Pass, tolls or rather interacting with them by having to hand money over to a "toll collector," (or even to stop and toss money into a basket) has nearly been eliminated. Due to a device (transponder) attached to my licence plate, as me and my car approach the toll booth, I simply go about my normal driving business with nary a worry in the world. I steer into the dedicated EZ-Pass lane at a bit less than the posted speed, and ding!, as I drive through the toll booth, the toll is paid. No fuss, no muss, no window roll-down and no scrambling for change or digging for dollars. What's done is done so long as the yellow light illuminates and "paid" appears. (Although if what's done isn't done, you'll soon receive a paper bill in the mail at the address on file.)

Metro, our local public conveyer, also provides a hands-free or very nearly hands-free experience. If you have a plastic "Metro card" linked into their system, all you need do as you enter the turnstyle is tap your card and go. No more standing in line at the "Fare"/"Add Fare" kiosks to load your card with money to start or end your journey. As with your EZ-Pass, once you sign up and link your Metro card to a credit/debit card, you are "In Like Flint," as some of us from a certain generation might say. Henceforth, your card is automatically updated to always provide sufficient dollars for this trip and any subsequent trips to make sense.

Now imagine if I had a "smart phone." How many more functions/people-free interactions might I enjoy with a tap, a scan or a wave? Unfortunately, I have what my wife, Dina calls a "stupid phone." That's a flip phone with no internet access. As such, I am cut off from an evolving world. A world in which I'll likely not have to interact with anybody or reach into my pocket for anything resembling money. All I'll have to reach for is my "smart phone." I've seen its functionality at the airport in lieu of a paper ticket, on Amtrak, at concert venues and of course sports venues. It seems to help speed up the entry process.

I don't really don't want to be the last flip-phone-holding man standing. But neither do I want to get into a life-accident while negotiating the learning curve. At the moment, the road ahead seems full of twists and turns with more curves than I can possibly imagine. How do I negotiate something I can't see? Moreover, how do I negotiate the road less traveled, by me? Where will I draw the experience necessary to acclimate to these ever-changing signposts? I mean, the words may be familiar, but some of the context may be off putting and counterintuitive, to me.

I'm not a complete Bozo. I have partially integrated into this new world. I have had insurance and car payments automatically debited from my bank account for years. I have some over-the-counter medicines, supplements and a variety of cat-related care and feeding products automatically delivered to my home. However, sometimes I feel like a pinball (and I'm no wizard) without the bells and whistles banging around trying to stay on top of what product is debit/paid and when. Now that's a service I could use: an automated weekly reminder of what's happening when. And the beauty of it, I wouldn't need any new devices. I use what I always use: my home computer. Turn it on, click the email, open, read and then close. Even Bozo the clown could do that.

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

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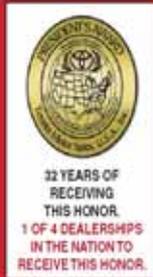
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