Mount Pernon Gazette



Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

January 10, 2013



Guests leave the newly opened Islamic Circle of North America-VA(ICNA-VA) mosque after opening ceremonies last Saturday afternoon. The Mount Vernon mosque, a million-dollar-project, features five Islamic arches.

Muslims Inaugurate New Mosque

The Rev. Dr. Dennis Perry is honored for Aldersgate's Christian hospitality.

By Ed Simmons, Jr.
The Gazette

eclaring peace and spiritual brotherhood between Muslims and Christians, a host of Muslim-American religious dignitaries inaugurated the new Mount Vernon-area mosque at a ceremony attended by many Christians Saturday afternoon, Jan. 5.

"Let us work together for a peaceful, wonderful world in spite of those who'd want to pull us apart," the mosque's new spiritual leader, Imam Abdul Rahman Kahn, told the gathering. They numbered



ICNA vice president Naeem Baig speaks with the Rev. Dr. Dennis Perry of Aldersgate United Methodist Church.

about a hundred and were seated on white folding chairs arranged in rows on a plush prayer rug of arabesque design, about 35-foot square.

The speakers included Rameez Abid, president of the Islamic Circle of North America-Virginia Chapter; Naeem Baig, ICNA vice president; Kevin Creyts (Abdul Rahman) who worked with area Christian pastors; Ramez Abdelgader of the ICNA Young Women; and Sheikh Shaker El-Sayyed, Imam of the Dar Al-Hijrah Mosque in Falls Church. When refering to the Creator, they used the names "God" and "Allah" interchangeably.

The mosque, a two-story structure with five tall Islamic arches that each come to point, is located on Woodlawn Trail in Hybla Valley, just off Route 1 close to Firestone.

Attending were representatives of three area Chris

SEE MUSLIMS, PAGE 5



Del. Scott Surovell, right, who praised the mosque as "a great addition to our community," presents a proclamation to Rameez Abid, president of ICNA- Virginia Chapter.

Toxic Politics

Northern Virginia could play key role in uranium debate.

By Michael Lee Pope The Gazette

orthern Virginia may be hundreds of miles away from the Southside community where a family business is seeking to overturn a longstanding ban on uranium mining in Virginia. But the toxic politics of uranium is red-hot throughout the state as members of the General Assembly arrive in Richmond this week.

Days before the opening session, the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission voted in favor of moving forward with mining for the metallic chemical element, a process that produces a radioactive byproduct known as tailings. Critics say they are concerned about what might happen in the long

term, 100 years from now when the tailings are still radioactive but the underground storage facility might leak into the groundwater.

"What about 10,000 years from now? I'm not going to be here," said state Sen. Dick Saslaw, a Fairfax County Democrat who serves as minority leader in the Senate. "I can't ban something because of something that might happen 500 or a 1,000 years from now."

The Northern Virginia delegation is split, with Saslaw playing an important role as the party's senior leader in the region. Meanwhile, many other members remain undecided swing votes. Although Republican Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling has announced his opposition to uranium mining, Repub

SEE URANIUM, PAGE 6

Seeking To Fund More Mental Health Staff

Krupicka leads effort to expand training for Mental Health First Aid.

By Michael Lee Pope The Gazette

n her role as a caseworker for Adult Protective Services, Wilma Roberts has seen it all. One of her clients said a stranger entered through a window and stole a left shoe. Another claimed that someone was lurking in the mirror. Roberts, who has been trained in a concept known as mental health first aid, knows how to respond.

"The first thing you do is listen

patiently. You don't argue. You don't make it seem like they are a liar," said Roberts. "This person may need more help than you are able to offer."

Now that training may expand dramatically in the wake of a school shooting in Connecticut, where a gunman blasted his way into an elementary school and killed 20 students and six adults. Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45) has introduced legislation that would

SEE RED FLAGS, PAGE 6



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Beautiful brick front garage townhome in wonderful location ience! bus stop at front of community & shopping center across the street! lovely home eatures gleaming hardwood loors, large country kitchen, & delightful sun rm adjoining the deck. Spacious living rm and formal dining rm. Master bedrn suite w/ vaulted ceiling, dress-

Becky Berning 703-930-3400



4061/2 Clifford Avenue

opportunity in wilmar park* 2 br, 2
ba, 2 level house with 1160 square feet* eat in kitchen*large great room w/vaulted ceiling, wood burning fo and mantel* m bedroom w/ full bath*large master bedroom on ul w/ skylight* tons of closet space* pull down attic for addl storage* sgd leading to patio area and storage shed* walk to "the avenue" in del ray* close to braddock metro* mins to dc* Meg Olympia 703-475-1552



Alexandria

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great location and private patio backing to trees. freshly painted. great location and private paid octating to trees. Healing painteed.

Replaced windows, new electrical panels. Hardwood floors. This unit could be put back as two- 1 bedroom units, great investment opportunity, walk to shirlington. Close to D.C. Open house on sun. 12-2, 1-4. Rita Tassa 703-629-8624



\$439,950

6805 Stoneybrooke Lane Large center hall colonial "jamestowne model" located at close in stoneybrooke...original hardwood floors on main and upper level (including stair-case)..remodeled kitchen and baths,granite and ceramic tiles in kitchen, replacement windows, french door to deek off formal dining room...main level includes formal livng room and separate dining room, family room w/frpl, also a separate office/den..

Steve Frishmuth 703-346-6854



\$270,000

111 Queen Victoria Street This beautiful home was used as the model. Never been lived in! hardwood floors, huge kitchen with morning room. Surround sound through house spacious bedrooms! master with luxury bathand huge walk-in closet. Finished basement, landscaped yard with sprinkler system. A must see!. Allison Gillette 703-307-5698



Alexandria

6461 Silver Ridge Circle

Large th located w/in walking distance to springfield metro! updated kitchen with silestone counters, updated baths, newer w/d and ac, newer windows & gutters, wood & parquet floors, walkout basement with fenced yard. Lots of visitor parking, min-



\$325,000

1212 Ware Street Well maintained home by original owner in desirable vienna woods! 4br 2.5ba , two lvl home on .23 acres* in ground heated pool* covered porch area w/ceiling fan*eik*formal dr &lr w/ neutral carpet* mbr & two addl br's on ml* addl lrge bedroom on ll, rec room w/wood burning fp* lrge laundry area w/utility sink* tons of space & storage* open house 11/4 1-3 a must see!!!.

Meg Olympia 703-475-1552



\$349,990 12743 Stone

Lined Circle $10/21\ \text{open}\ 1\text{--}4$ large end th extended on 3 levels. Many side windows & light filled. Beautiful floor plan with many options for furniture placement. You'll enjoy the morning room gas fireplace & french doors to the deck. Lr full bay window, curved staircase to br level crown moldings,kitchen island, master suite with sitting rm, vaulted ceiling, walk in closet, lux ury bath. Beautifully maintained.

Jeannie Hicks 703-403-5446



3718 Merrimac Trail

Large 3 lvl. colonial in lafayette village. brick front, front porch, lrg. screened porch with spa, beautifully maintained and updated by original owners. Large master w/sitting room, mn. lvl. fr. w/ fp., updated kit. w/granite ctrs. Wood flrs., pantry w/ pull-out shelves, mn. lvl. library, mn. lvl. laundry, spacious sec ondary brs., freshly painted and new carpet, prime lot surrounded by trees.... Allan Price 703-861-2424



"A well maintained home with kitchen upgrades including granite counters and newer appliances...three finished levels, 2 wood burning fireplaces, separate dining room, large master suite, lll family room with walk-out and additional fireplace, walkout to fenced rear yard with shed and rear gate... gas heat & hot water...nev windows, siding, fence,driveway,and landscaping..friendly old dog "snickers...

Steve Frishmuth 703-346-6854



Ft. ceilings. master suite features luxury bath w/ two person tub. Lower level has au pair/in-law suite, as well as full kitchen, den and second washer/dryer. Professionally landscaped yard w/ beautiful views & irrigation system. Moments from ffx co. pkwy. and rt. 123.

9764 Viewcrest Drive

Lenny Marsh 703-282-6511



Beautiful home in popular mount vernon neighborhood incredible creened porch (26x14) facing secluded backyard setting of trees and flowers. Extensive renovations including large in-law suite, kitchen and baths, cherry floors, crown molding, and built-in bookcases. walking distance to swim/tennis/boat club. priced to sell!.

Eric Holland 703-919-1702



11171 Lake Chapel Lane

End unit townhome backing to lake audubon!!gourn w/granite, upgraded cabinetry*ceramic tile*formal lr & dr* 3 gas fp* lrge master br w/dressing area* master bath w/sep soaking tub* 2 addl bedrooms on ul w/full bath*ll rec room views of the lake* full bath on ll* lrge deck* a must see!

Meg Olympia 7403-475-1552



12608 Harbor Drive

Big price reduction \$25,000. It is a regular sale. Beautiful single family home has five bedrooms, three full baths, and one half baths. There are two kitchens one in main level and one in the basement. The house has hardwood floor and ceramic throughout with t many updates. Tthe roof and deck are two months

Fawzia Noori 571-276-1336



4067 S. Four Mile Run Drive #203

Sunny and bright 2 br, 2 ba, condo w/ sunroom and extra storage. Fully loaded kitchen w/ stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, 42 in cabinets, hard-wood floors. Community amenities. Please considerate of very nice tenants who will be leaving by may 15. Subject to 3rd party approval. property sold in "as is" condition open house sun june 24, 1-4.

Rita Tassa 703-629-8624



\$410,000

2785 Sikes Court Like new, new roof, new vinal windows, totally nev granite ctrs., new appli-ances, new ceramic tile flooring, new neutral car pet throughout, crown molding, 6 panel doors, new full spectrum storm door, new sgd lower level, updated baths, new hvac. It's a beauty and a great

> Allan Price 703-861-2424



Alexandria

\$249,900 4862 Eeisenhower Avenue #464

Beautiful split br model with upgrades feat's granite counters, ss appl's, lam. wood floors throughout, generous br's w/great closet space. Full sz w/d, upgraded bath vanities & fixtures. excellent building location near elevator, easy access to 2 garage spaces. Great neighborhood amenities & location, near van dorn metro. short sale, being prof. negotiated.

Von Morris 703-501-2191



Alexandria

3432 Kings Cross Road

Great family home at end of cul-de-sac in quiet neighborhood. freshly painted inside and out, deck recently power washed, great for outdoor entertaining. two storage sheds. Nice built in's, including new stove. Nice lot, 2 car garag large master bedroom with separate bath. Lots of potential in basement. Very good condition, offering great opportunity to move right in !!!

Terry Rader 703-887-3735



Leesburg, VA

18680 Riverlook Court

Stunning custom home on 8+ wooded acres in lansdowne! cul de sac lot* 6 car garage*2br guest house above detached garage*over 11,000 finished sq $\rm ft*$ a chefs dream kitchen* travertine & hdwd floors on ml*3fp*mbr w/sitting room, wet bar,screened in veranda*luxury master bath w/jacuzzi tub*spa shower* w/o ll rec room with stone bar *wired media room*gym area*br w/full bath*patio* upgrades throughout!.

Meg Olympia 703-475-1552



13832 Tarleton Court 3-story colonial home located in a cul-de-sac, 4 bedrms, 2.5 baths, dual fover, large eat-in kitchen next to family rm w/fireplace & ceiling fan, separate den/office, dining, living rooms, 2-car garage, mbr w/tray ceiling & luxury bath, alarm system, 2-zone hvac. Flat screen pad already set up. Move-in ready.

Michael Flowers 301-938-2590



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Parents Plead for Delay in Training Center Closing

Timeframe for closure puts disabled adults at risk, advocates say.

By Victoria Ross The Gazette

hen it was Kenneth Gans' turn to speak to the panel of Virginia state legislators, the 78-year-old father of a severely-disabled son kept his remarks brief.

"This is absolute madness, a bloody disaster," Gans said, shaking his head. "You're going to fix a problem by destroying a perfectly good place," Gans told lawmakers, referring to the closing of the Northern Virginia Training Center, where his son Jeffrey, 53, has lived for more than 40 years.

He was among nearly 25 parents, caregivers and stakeholders to plead with legislators to reconsider the timeline for closing the center, a state-run facility on Braddock Road which houses nearly 200 residents. The center is scheduled to close in 2015.

"We consider NVTC a miracle, a blessing," Gans said. "My son Jeffrey is 53, but he will remain an infant the rest of his life. My greatest fear is that he will not survive for long in a group home," Gans said.

The annual public hearing, held Saturday at the Fairfax County Government Center, gives any constituent the opportunity—in three minutes or less—to lobby Fairfax County's delegation to the General Assembly.

During Saturday's public hearing, 77 residents addressed the panel for nearly four hours on an array of topics. Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, who opened the public hearing, stressed the county's need for additional funding for education and transportation.

"As you know, K-12 and transportation continue to be key funding issues for Fairfax County," she said, reiterating that Gov. Robert McDonnell's proposed \$48 million is transportation funding is "nowhere near enough to solve the commonwealth's transportation problems."

"In Fairfax County alone, we have identified \$300 million in transportation needs annually for the next 10 years," she said.

John Horesji, coordinator for Social Action Linking Together (SALT), asked law-makers to support a number of social policy reforms to help the state's most vulnerable residents. He said SALT's priorities include the expansion of Medicaid and banning the practice, through legislation, of shackling pregnant women in Virginia prisons.

Helen Kelly, a representative for the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, pressed lawmakers to consider no-excuse absentee voting and online voter registration.

"Our vote is our voice. Let's make sure Virginia's voices are heard," Kelly said.

But a recurrent topic for nearly half the speakers concerned the closing of the NVTC. They want legislators to slow down the timeline for shuttering the center, and to in-



State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) and delegates Tom Rust (R-86), Ken Plum (D-36) and Scott Surovell (D-44) listen as Northern Virginia residents share their concerns, ideas and personal stories for what the Virginia General Assembly should take up in the next session.

"You're going to fix a problem

by destroying a perfectly good

madness, a bloody disaster."

- Kenneth Gans, a McLean resident whose

son, Jeffrey, has been an NVTC resident for

place. This is absolute

crease funding for Medicaid disability waivers. The waivers help families pay for medical services and equipment for those with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

The closing of NVTC is not a surprise.

LAST JANUARY, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the U.S. Department of Justice reached a settlement to close all but one of the state's training centers for the developmentally and intellectually disabled. At the time, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and Chairman Bulova released

a statement saying the county supports "community-based care," but that it was "critical in this regard that sufficient funding is provided in order to make the transition successful."

The question

now, according to parents and stakeholders, is whether the state has sufficient funding to provide that quality community-based care.

"The waivers provide funding for services, but the state does not fund the waivers at a high enough rate to meet costs in the Northern Virginia market . . . " said Cook, whose district includes the NVTC facility. "We believe that the state needs to increase the level of funding for the waivers."

Rikki Epstein, executive director of the ARC of Northern Virginia, echoed Cook's sentiments. She told legislators that while Virginia's settlement agreement with the DOJ "provided us with a historic opportunity to reform the entire disability support structure in Virginia," funding for disability waivers also needed reform.

Epstein urged the delegation to vote for waiver rate reforms that reflect "real and regional costs of providing services, so families can hire attendants who are able to stay on the job and to allow providers to support individuals with the most complex needs." She said more than 10,000 Virginians will be stuck on waiting lists for the

next decade unless the state provides "more waivers than the DOJ settlement requires."

Kymberly DeLoatche, a Falls Church resident, told lawmakers about her family's struggles with Medicaid waivers while standing with her 9-year-old son, Charlie, who has Down syndrome. She said the current Medicaid waiver program does not provide consistent, adequate care for her son. She told legislators that in the seven years her family has qualified for Medicaid waivers, Charlie has received just three weeks of the 24-hour daily care he needs.

"It sounds crazy, and it is. My job and my sanity depend on your actions," she told legislators.

Vienna resident Jack
Bruggeman told
legislators his
family is "reluctantly facing a

new reality" regarding moving his sister Cathy, an NVTC resident for 30 years, to a new community home.

more than 40 years.

He gave legislators copies of a December letter from Mark Sites, chair of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB), which provides services for 88 individuals living at NVTC, that raises questions about the state's timeline for closing the NVTC.

"I am holding in my hand two letters," he told the delegation. "One I received just last Friday from Heidi Dix [the state's assistant commissioner of developmental services]. In her three-page letter, Ms. Dix outlines an elaborate placement process for the transition of current residents of NVTC to community placements. This will be done starting July 1 of this year and continue into 2015 . . . "

"I also have another letter," Bruggeman continued "addressed to Governor McDonnell in which [CSB Chair Mark Sites] says there is not enough funding or enough time to develop adequate capacity and services for the transitioned resident of NVTC. So which of these two letters do I trust?"



Virginia Senator Richard Saslaw (D-35) served as chairman for a public hearing of the Fairfax delegation of elected officials to the Virginia General Assembly on Saturday. Each year the delegation hosts a public hearing to hear from constituents.

He has a point, said Del. David Bulova (D-37).

"There is a lot of concern and discomfort among legislators about plans to close NVTC, especially on a very tight deadline," Bulova said after Saturday's session. "While I strongly support increasing community-based services, we also do everyone a great disservice if we close NVTC without the proper support and oversight to make sure that the level of care is equal, if not greater, than what is received at NVTC."

Bulova said that he has been working on a resolution with state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) and Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) that would provide more General Assembly oversight over the transition process, including establishing some benchmarks for what would make families comfortable with moving forward.

"If those benchmarks aren't being met, and adequate funding hasn't been dedicated, we really have an obligation to also re-examine the timeline for closure. . . . No artificial deadline is important enough to put any NVTC resident at risk. The purpose behind the DOJ settlement was for Virginia to make much needed investments in our community-based services, not to take away choices."

ANOTHER CRITICAL ISSUE, according to Cook, is that the community group homes for NVTC residents simply do not exist.

"The state has not developed a plan for creating them," Cook said. "It takes \$1 to \$1.5 million to convert a regular house to a group home that is fully accessible and has all the necessary equipment to serve this population."

"Our system ought to be designed to provide a continuum of care that is appropriate to each individual. That definitely means change," Bulova said. "I believe that there is room for common ground—and that is what I am aiming for during the General Assembly session."

The General Assembly's 2013 session begins Wednesday in Richmond.

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7812 Friars. Spacious 2 level, 4 bedroom, 3 bath home on quiet cul-de-sac with room for everyone! Sunny living room & formal dining room with access to deck & large fenced yard. Beautifully updated kitchen with granite breakfast bar & counters. Lower level family room with wood burning fireplace, gleaming wood floors on main level, replacement windows & attached garage

Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria \$775,000

913 Bernard Street. Bigger than it looks! Fab 3-Ivl TH w/slate private back patiorare gem. Only 2 lights to D.C. Elegant liv & din rm have decorator columns & chair rail & triple crown moldings. Enjoy open plankit/family rm space w/gas FP & TV. Patio HIGH ceilings. 2-car gar! MBR has dramatic vaulted ceiling, 2 closets & luxury BA w/decadent tub. 2 more BR, one w/sitting rm. Near Braddock Metro.

Julie Hall 703-786-3634



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Old Town \$549,000 305 South Payne Street, Unit 301.

Old Town Village Gem! 3 bedroom/2.5 bath condo provides easy living in a perfect location. Custom Burmese Teak floors. Marble & granite in the kitchen. New HVAC. Upgraded baths & lighting. 3 sided gas fireplace & luxury master bath. Everything that makes you say Wow!

Erika Carroll 703-568-7376 Julie Hall 703-786-3634



Potomac Yard Townhouse/Condo \$599,900

737 Bluemont. Stunning end unit! New Construction without the wait! Gorgeous 3 BHZ/5 Bh home with attached 1-car garage. 1,800 sq ft of living space! Light-filled home features open floor plan with many upgrades including kitchen counter tops, cabinets and hardware, SS appliances, wide plank wood flooring on rithout compromising on space. Walking istance to Old Town, Del Ray, Shopping

703-927-2213 Gretchen Wilkinson





11 W Glendale Avenue. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick home located just a few blocks from Metro, Old Town and Del Ray. Living room with picture window & fireplace, dining room and large

kitchen with granite counters & oak cabinets. Huge lower level with recreation room, office, full bath and den/guest room. Updated baths & kitchen, loads of storage space and a great yard with patio

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\$729,000 **Belle Haven**

2210 Fordham Drive. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with a versatile floor plan situated on a lovely landscaped lot. Spacious living room with fireplace and formal dining room. Main level family room and large home office/Den. 3 main level bedrooms including 1 with bath en suite. Private upper level Owner's Suite with sitting room and

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Alexandria 417 Lee Street South. 2 Blocks Away from the Waterfront and Lee Street Park! Enjoy all that Old Town offers. Beautiful Victorian on sought-after Lee Street Block, Original Hardwood Floors, Numerous Built-ins, 2 Fireplaces, Side and Rear Gardens, Southern exposure provides plenty of light! One Year HMS Warranty.

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\$739,000

112 Alexandria Avenue East. Sunny Farmhouse w/front porch & white picket fence! Large corner lot blks off "The Ave." . Spacious foyer, Large bay window in the living rm, formal DR & mn lvl 1/2 bath. Kit. w/ample counter & cab. space opens to back porch & yd. Finished LL w/ FR & full bath w/side entry, 3 upper Ivl BRs w/full bath. Exposed brick, original wd flrs.

Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Old Town \$775.000

311 Second Street. Beautiful town house in Old Town Alexandria. Hardwood floors, new carpet, custom stained transom in the kitchen, Plantation shutters (kitchen & lower level) loft with a studio that could be a master suite, deck off the kitchen, En suite master bath with double vanity and Jacuzzi. Unbelievable space and parking. Walk to shops and Metro.

> Beverly Tatum 703-585-9673



Alexandria

\$629,000

8312 Lilac Lane. Must see expanded kitchen and dining areas. Enclosed Sunroom on main level and family room on lower level. Lovely patio and garage parking add to this expansive home with double pane windows and many updates. Back yard is large with a separate hothouse and shed for your gardening desires.

Tillie Cassidy 703-606-2437





News



Associate Pastor of St. Luke's Episcopal Church Rev. Ketlen Solak receives a plaque of thanks from ICNA member Kevin Creyts and State Del. Scott Surovell. St. Luke's prepared and invited the congregation of the ICNA-VA to share a Thanksgiving dinner at the church this



The new Iman of ICNA Northern Virginia, Iman Abdul Rahman Khan, talks about his experiences growing up and experienc-

Muslims Inaugurate New Mosque

"We are all agencies

— Sheikh El-Sayyed

that serve God

the community."

by serving

From Page 1

tian churches - Aldersgate United Methodist, Good Shepherd Catholic and St. Luke's Episcopal which together offered the Muslims space to meet for Friday prayers while their mosque was being built. Attending also were representatives of Mount Vernon-area nonprofits that the Muslims currently assist in helping the poor - New Hope Housing, United Community Ministries and Progreso.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to the Rev. Dr. Dennis Perry and the Rev. Jason Micheli of Aldersgate, Father Tom Ferguson of Good Shepherd and the Rev. Tuck Bowerfind of St. Luke's. Del. Scott Surovell presented a General Assembly proclamation to ICNA and the mosque.

The delegate applauded the mosque as "a great addition to our community" and spoke of his Jew-

ish background and his sensitivity to welcoming religious minorities.º

The Muslims praised the courage and Christianity of Perry who with the aid of Micheli weathered a storm of criticism after a Fox News segment inflamed some Aldersgate members against offering space for the Muslims to pray. Bowerfind was thanked not only for his Christian hospitality but also for encouraging the Muslims to become involved in community betterment projects organized by Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE) and Ventures in Community (VIC).º

Associate St. Luke's rector the Rev. Ketlen Solak said there was no opposition to welcoming the Muslims at her church. Ferguson said the reaction of Good Shepherd Catholics to the visiting Muslims was "over-

Attending also were Pam Mitchell, executive di-

rector of New Hope Housing; Shirley Marshall, executive director of UCM and the Rev. Kate Walker of Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. As a courtesy to their Muslim hosts, they wore headscarves in the sanctuary. Headscarves, however, were not required and some Christian women did not wear them. Quakers from the Woodlawn Society of Friends were also in attendance.

Sherry Edelcamp, manager of the Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach Program at Rising

> Hope United Methodist Mission Church, said she is particularly thankful for Muslim volunteers who staffed overnight positions Christmas Eve and Christmas Day so her Christian volunteers could be home with their families.

> Naeem Baig, ICNA vice president, said that the \$1 million mosque building project was financed totally by local donations and that no foreign governments

or organizations contributed.

Ramez Abdelgader of the ICNA Young Women said that her family, like many other Muslim-American families, came to this country to escape war-torn homelands in the hope of a better home and education opportunities while still maintaining their Muslim faith.

"We are all agencies that serve God by serving the community," said Sheikh El-Sayyed, imam of the Falls Church mosque. "We are all members of one family." He pointed out Mohammed's honoring of Jesus and John the Baptist in the Koran, the importance of loving God and neighbors, the duty of providing for widows and the poor, and the commonality of Christian-Muslim angels.

'God knows we need their help to get things done here," said Surovell, welcoming the Muslims and their mosque to Mount Vernon.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements Deadline is the Thursday at noon.

TUESDAY/JAN. 15

Mount Vernon Genealogical **Society Meeting.** 1 p.m. in room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center. The meeting, featuring the

presentation "Stump the Panel," is point genealogists hit a "brick wall." All of a sudden an ancestor seems to disappear leaving no trace in census, death, land or church records. The panel, consisting of Chuck Mason, Sharon Hodges, Phyllis Kelley, and Paul Phelps, will give suggestions on where else to look for information.

Email questions to be presented to publicity@mvgeneal Hollin Hall Senior Center is located at 1500 Shenandoah Road, Visit www.MVGenealogy.org. Questions about the program should be directed to Phyllis Kelley at 703-660-6969 or publicity@mvgenealogy.org.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7



Rex Reiley RE/MAX Allegiance 703-768-7730 rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com



Alex./Hollin Hall \$489,000 7926 New Market Road

Absolutely lovely home w/over \$130k in recent improvements in great location! Stunning front porch and Family Room addition in 2009 by custom builder. Slate floor on front porch and

back patio. Replacement windows. New 2012 & '09: large shed, cedar fence, driveway, roof, dishwasher, hot water, stove, humidifier. Beautful backyard. It's a gem! Waynewood Elementary, close to GW Parkway, Potomac River and minutes to Old Town.



Alex./Yacht Haven \$589,900 4612 Tarpon Lane

Lovely, updated 4BR, 4BA Split in sought-after Waterfront Community of Yacht Haven. Stunning sun rm addition w/vaulted ceilings, sky lites, hdwd flrs and wall of windows overlooking a manicured backyard. Newer HVAC, updated baths, and replacement windows. Just

down the street from prestigious Mt. Vernon Yacht Club w/all its amenities. 5 mins to Belvoir, 18 mins to Ntl Airport. This is prime property at a GREAT PRICE!



Alex./Mt. Zephyr 8533 Mount Zephyr Drive

Lovely 4BR, 3BA Brick Split on a large .43 acre lot backing to woods. Freshly painted interior, replacement double pane windows thru-out main level. Large comfortable family room w/wood stove insert to the fireplace. Great

location - mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town and Huntington 25 mins to Ntl Airport, 30-35 mins to Pentagon/D.C



Alex./Woodley Hills \$459,900 4025 Laurel Road

Charm abounds in this lovely brick New England Cape Cod - 6BR, 2.5 BA, screened porch, fireplace w/free standing wood stove, freshly painted interior, and newly refinished hardwood floors. Large finished basement w/in-law suite, full bath, 2nd

kitchen and walk-out to beautiful back yard backing to woods on a .53 acre lot 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Huntington Metro/Old Town. This is a great house!



Alex./Belle View 6612 Boulevard VW #A2

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News

Aiming To Close Gun Show Loophole

Legislators hope to register all private firearm transactions.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

egislators will be dueling over guns this year at the Capitol, with gun-rights advocates set to oppose efforts to close Virginia's gun-show loophole. Alexandria state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) and Arlington Del. Patrick Hope (D-47) have introduced legislation that would require a background check for every gun purchase. That includes the 40 percent of current gun sales that take place in a private transaction, which do not

require any kind of background check to be conducted on the individual purchasing the weapon.

"The current laws are like Swiss cheese," said Hope, who sits on the Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee. "We can't have nearly half of all gun sales in Virginia subject to background check and the other half absent any regulation."

Gun advocates fear that background checks are a slippery slope. Organizations such as the Virginia Citizens Defense League argue that increased registration could lead to confiscation, a threat that motivates advocates for gun rights to oppose efforts to increase background checks. In a perfect world, argues League president Phillip Van Cleave, all background checks would be eliminated — regardless of whether the sale is private or not.

"The truth is it's easy to get around a back-

ground check. You simply send in somebody with a clean record to do a straw purchase," said Cleave. "I certainly don't want to see more background checks, and I'd be just as happy with fewer."

THE POLITICS of gun regulation have become much more pitched in recent weeks, after a gunman blasted his way into a Connecticut elementary school and killed 20 children and six adults. Both sides of the gun debate responded by doubling down on its previous position. Those who support gun rights argue that schools should have armed security guards. Those who support increased gun regulation have been arguing for increased screening and background checks. Historically, Virginia has been hostile to efforts to increase gun regulations.

"There's an urban-rural disconnect about gun rights, and that split defines politics in Virginia," said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "I just don't see a lot of potential traction for gun control legislation, especially given the makeup of the House of Delegates, which is so overwhelmingly Republican."

That means Northern Virginia Democrats who support increased gun control have a seemingly intractable goal — persuading conservative members of the General Assembly to change their minds on one of the most emotional issues of the day. Even if they are not successful in session, though, Northern Virginia Democrats can campaign on the issue later this year, when every member of the House of Delegates will be up for reelection.

"I think the tragedy in Newtown will change the politics of all gun bills," said

SEE LOOPHOLE, PAGE 19

Red Flags on Mental Health Care's Front Lines

From Page 1

add new full-time staff positions at every community services board in Virginia, which would be responsible for training individuals in mental-health first aid. That's about 40 new mental-health professionals across the commonwealth. A budget amendment would provide grant funding for local school districts to fund training sessions for students and school officials.

"People need to be aware of the complexity of mental-health issues, and they need to know how to identify them and be sensitive to the challenges that go along with them," said Krupicka. "Having a mental-health first aid training program in place can really help people identify issues and help people get the support and services they need so that we can prevent someone

from going undiagnosed or unidentified."

THE CONNECTICUT school shooting has already prompted a high-profile debate about gun control, with some advocating increased regulation while others are arguing for more armed guards. Reforms to mental health services have not received as much attention, although Krupicka says addressing the problem of gun violence requires a more proactive approach to identifying people suffering from mental illness. The question for lawmakers is whether or not members of the General Assembly are ready to take action.

"I doubt it," said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "I just don't see Sandy Hook having a lot of practical legislative impact in Virginia, whether it's through gun control or even mental health issues."

Mental health first aid is a relatively new phenomenon, first created in 2001. The idea is an extension of the concept of first aid into identifying signs of mental illness and being able to know how to respond appropriately. The most important part of the training encourages participants to remain calm and not escalate the situation.

"Being on the front lines, you don't always know if someone has a mental illness or if they are just having a bad day," said Evelyn Quiles, an administrative analyst who works in the Alexandria JobLink office on Beauregard Street on the West End. "This training taught us to not pass judgment so quickly, which could lead to the wrong conclusions."

THE COST would be anywhere from \$3

million to \$5 million, depending on how many people receive the training. Krupicka says he's not yet ready to explain how he will come up with the funding for the program, but he says he has some ideas he will be able to unveil when the budget amendment is considered. The cost of adding staff to every community services board would be about \$3 million. The grant funding could be as much as \$2 million, depending on the scale of the effort.

"Generally speaking, there are lots of moving parts in the budget and there are opportunities to move things around so you can make something like this work," said Krupicka. "If we are committed to mental health safety and we are committed to improving our mental-health services in Virginia, then we've got to be willing to put the resources into them."

Northern Virginia Could Play Key Role in Uranium Debate

From Page 1

lican Gov. Bob McDonnell has yet to take a position because he's waiting for a socio-economic report his task force requested. Business-friendly Democrats such as state Sen. George Barker (D-39) say they are still reading the reports and digesting information.

"Clearly, some of the concerns have been addressed with the proposal to put it all underground," said Barker. "Whether that's adequate to resolve it, I don't have an opinion on that yet."

MOST OF THE DELEGATION from Northern Virginia is strongly opposed to overturning the ban, which has been in place since 1982. Earlier this week, a group of 50 municipalities and groups across Virginia announced the formation of CommonwealthHealthVA.org, which in-

cludes the cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach as well as the Southern Environmental Law Center and other groups that have previously stated their opposition to uranium mining.

"There's a big division within the business community about whether this is a good thing or a bad thing," said Sen. Barbara Favola (D-32). "Those that are involved in tourist-type activities do not believe that removing the ban is a good thing."

Supporters of uranium mining say burying the waste in Pittsylvania County is a reasonable compromise to allay concerns about contaminated groundwater. But opponents fear that the technology is still emerging, and they don't want legislators gambling with the health of millions of people. If the groundwater in Pittsylvania is contaminated, opponents fear, people downstream in the Hampton Roads area might suffer.

"Whether stored underground or above the ground, it's still going to be Virginia's taxpayers' responsibility for literally thousands of years," said Olga Kolotushkna, a Fairfax County woman who serves as an advisor to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. "That waste remains toxic for thousands of years."

THE ISSUE pits economics against environmentalism because lifting the ban would add jobs and economic development to a struggling part of the state. A recent study from the George Mason Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University concluded that overturning the longstanding ban would bring more than \$1 million to Pittsylvania County, adding about 2 percent to the county's revenue base. The study concluded that the net fiscal benefit would be equivalent to a reduction of 4 cents on the tax rate.

"There are only 300 jobs generated," said Favola. "And I have to believe over time that many of those jobs would be automated."

The ban was enacted in 1982, and supporters of allowing uranium mining say technology has progressed enough to allow for the safe storage of the radioactive byproduct. Legislators on both sides of the issue say they have already been heavily lobbied on the issue, and billions of dollars are at stake for the Coles family, which has owned the farmlands for generations. In the past year, the business venture formed by Chatham-based Walter Coles has invested \$147,000 in the George Mason study and pumped more than \$52,000 into campaign coffers of General Assembly members throughout the state.

"They still have to go through five years of a permitting process if we do lift the ban before they can turn the first shovel," said Saslaw. "So I think that there are more than enough safeguards."

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 5

Mount Vernon Lions Club

Meeting. At Pema's Restaurant. Gloria Wilson will talk about Diabetes Awareness. Call Andrea Corsillo 703-960-4973

Nutts 4 Mutts 4-H Dog Club Meet and Greet. 7-8 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Boys and girls age 9-19 can learn everything about dogs. No ownership of dogs is necessary to participate. Enjoy activities, field trips, service projects and more. Email parshleys@earthlink.net with questions.

THURSDAY/JAN. 17

Meeting. Mt. Vernon AAUW presents a program on "Senior Scams" at 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. Get advice on ways to avoids scams, as well as detecting the signs of fraud and identity theft. 703-718-9902.

THROUGH JAN. 18

January Fruit Sale. The Mount

Vernon Lions club will have a January fruit sale of naval oranges, grapefruit and honeybells. Prepaid orders made by Jan. 18 with a delivery date of Jan. 26. Contact Andrea Corsillo 703-960-4973 or Tom Wilson 703-585-6327.

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West Potomac Science Fair. 8 a.m. 1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at the

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 10

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OPINION

More Fodder for Comedy?

2013 Session of the Virginia General Assembly will tackle serious issues.

he 2013 30-day session of the Virginia General Assembly begins on Wednesday, Jan. 9. We can only hope that the various legislative proposals do not provide as much fodder for comedy as last session. The Virginia House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will offer live streaming video of the 2013 Legislative Sessions, and it is well worth tuning in once or twice.

The General Assembly typically considers between 2,000 and 3,000 bills during a session. It's like drinking from a firehose. There will be proposals about revenue and lack thereof, transportation and education funding, bills proposing to allow concealed weapons in schools, bills to allow civil penalties against gun owners who fail to secure their guns, bills that would limit access to insurance coverage for contraception, bills to further limit abortion, bills about undocumented immigrants, and other bills beyond imagination.

Every resident of Virginia is represented by one delegate and one state senator. You can find out who your representatives are, and look up what they actively propose and how they vote on the General Assembly website at http://virginiageneralassembly.gov

Here is a sample of bills local legislators have prefiled as chief patron.

Del. Dave Albo (R-42), Seventh and eighth grade end-of-course mathematics Standards of Learning assessments; calculator use prohibited. Prohibits students in the seventh and eighth grades from using any calculator on any mathematics Standards of Learning assessment. The bill also provides that no eighth grade student who fails to receive a passing grade on the end-of-course mathematics assessment shall be placed in an Algebra I course, or a more advanced

Del. Tim Hugo (R-40): Admission of students domiciled in Virginia at

mathematics course, in the ninth grade.

public institutions of higher education. Provides that the board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education, except for Virginia Military Institute, Norfolk State University, and Virginia State University, must establish rules and regulations requiring that by the start of the 2018-2019 academic year, at least 75 percent of students admitted and enrolled at the institution are domiciled in Virginia.

Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45): **Customer access to restrooms; civil penalty.** Requires a retail establishment that has a toilet facility for its employees to allow a customer who suffers from

Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or other medical condition that requires immediate access to a toilet facility, to use that facility during normal business hours if certain conditions are met. The measure does not apply to certain filling stations or service stations or to banks or savings institutions. The operator of a retail establishment that violates this requirement is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$100. A violation does not subject the retail establishment to further liability to the customer.

Sen. George Barker (D-39): Possession of open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle; penalty. Provides that no person shall possess an alcoholic beverage in the passenger area of a motor vehicle upon a public highway of the Commonwealth in other than the manufacturer's unopened, original container. The bill punishes violators with a civil penalty of \$25. (Barker also proposes license plates for Washington Nationals fans.)

Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30): **Nondiscrimination in state employment.** Prohibits discrimination in state employment based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or status as a special disabled veteran or other veteran covered by the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended. The bill defines "sexual orientation" as a person's actual or perceived heterosexuality, bisexuality, homosexuality, or gender identity or expression. The bill expressly provides that "sexual orientation" shall not include any person's attraction toward persons with whom sexual conduct would be illegal due to the age of the parties.

Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) Eligibility for TANF;

SEE EDITORIAL, PAGE 22

Budget Cuts, Road Shortfalls, and Uranium

Legislative Preview Part II

By Scott A. Surovell Delegate (D-44)

ast week, I wrote about a few of the bills and budget amendments I'm go0 ing to be carrying this session. This week, I am going to write about some of the broader issues in play this session.

First, the State Budget has dominated legislative sessions since I was elected in 2009 and that is not likely to change. Although revenues are up over the last year by \$340 million, due to the constitution and laws on the books, most of that money is already committed to the "Rainy Day Fund," transportation, water quality improvement, and repaying the state retirement that was not funded in the 2010-2011 budget biennium. The remaining amount is \$40 million of inactive decrease in the state of the state retirement that the state reti

To make more room for adjustment and new spending, the Governor has proposed yet another round of cuts which is never easy. Additionally, most bills that have any kind of revenue impact will be dead on arrival unless they are supported by the Governor.

Additionally, the specter of Sequestration is still hanging over us. The House Appropriations Committee has advised us that independent studies have predicted that if federal budget cuts hit, Virginia is poised to lose 160,000 jobs and about \$300 million in tax revenue —

mostly lost income taxes. The next Fiscal Cliff battle hits right in the middle of our session.

There have been many articles in the news lately about transportation. Our current funding picture is dire. Fairfax County has received no money for secondary road improvements in two years. Thirty percent of pavement is now deficient. VDOT told me last week that the lower section of Fort Hunt Road will not be repaved until 2014, if then, at the earliest. The state runs out of money for all construction in about four years.

Several plans have been floated. Most take money from secondary education, health care

and public safety and only fund the state's maintenance shortfall which is now about \$750 million per year. I do not support paving roads with textbooks. The total shortfall includ-

ing construction is close to \$5 billion per year, \$625 per Virginian per year, or the equivalent of \$1 in new gas taxes which obviously isn't happening. It is so large because of 25 years of inaction and grows larger each year we do not do anything. I am pessimistic that the House of Delegates will support any new revenue.

The largest uranium deposit in the United States is located in Southside Virginia. Investors want the state to lift our moratorium on uranium mining adopted in 1983 after Three Mile Island. Uranium prices are going up now that we have run out of Russian nuclear warhead uranium. Every legislator from Southside opposes this legislation. I will as well.

Virginia allows Dominion Resources to charge consumers and businesses an extra \$38

million per year to purchase renewable energy. When the legislation was adopted in 2007, the idea was that it would create new jobs in Virginia. Unfortunately, Dominion used their authority to purchase renewable energy off a pre-World War II dam in Maryland. We are rewriting the renewable law this year to require Dominion to purchase any renewable energy paid for by Virginians in Virginia and hopefully using new technology so that we can create jobs in our state.

Federal healthcare reform requires the state to set up a state healthcare exchange or defer to the federal government. Governor McDonnell has refused to set up a state exchange. I think this is a mistake. There are unique aspects of our healthcare system given our proximity to the District and Maryland. His position likely will not change this session.

Also, federal healthcare reform allows us to expand Medicaid with the Federal Government picking up 100 percent of the bill for two years and 90 percent about 10 years out. Analyses show this would create 30,000 jobs in Virginia. The 44th District has the largest Medicaid population in Fairfax County including 9,000 children. Governor McDonnell has refused to support a Virginia Medicaid expansion. This is indefensible.

The session starts on Wednesday, Jan. 8. Please come down and visit. We are happy to set up appointments with constituents and arrange a tour of your historic State Capitol designed by Thomas Jefferson. Send me an email at scottsurovell@gmail.com if you have questions and thank you for allowing me to serve as your state delegate.

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Bulletin Board

From Page 7

school. There will be 100 projects on display, showcasing what the students have learned in their honors classes. The top 20 projects will be invited to the regional fair at Robinson High School.

THURSDAY/JAN. 24

Meeting. Colonial Republican Women will meet from 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Administration Center at Old Virginia Hills School, 6520 Diana Lane. Refreshments will be served. E-mail colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com or call Debbie at 703-768-1934.

SATURDAY/JAN. 26

Gala. The George Washington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will host a formal gala event at the Belle Haven Country Club. They will present the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal to U.S. Army retired General Frederick J. Kroesen, Jr.

SATURDAY/FEB. 9

Boater Education Course. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 8592 Richmond Highway. Contact Rich Miller at eaglesailor75@ cox.net or 703-780-3765 to get an enrollment form.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Meeting. Colonial Republican Women will meet from 6:30-9 p.m. at

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 19



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efferson Park Area 301 Charles Alexander Court, Alexandria, VA 22301 Sorgeous 5BR/4.5BA brick center-hall colonial perfect for for entertaining & comfortable family living. Fine moldings, 4fps, hdwd fls, fully finished LL + 2 car gargae Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156





Mt Vernon Terrace 5305 Remington Drive, Alexandria, VA 22309

tring well maintained brick home just steps to the Potomac 3BR/2BA/1CG & in ground gunite pool, Neighborhood se of waterfront lot for boat launch. Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



Alexandria \$749,000 932 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

ning Soon! End unit 4BR/2.5BA w/ large windows, es & winter water views! 2 parking spaces, professionally ndscaped garden, on private street next to park Heather Corey 703.989.1183







dward Pagett 703-518-6161





Mason Hill 2005 Mason Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22307 Beautiful Updated Colonial in Mason Hill, 4BR/2.5BA, Remodled Kitchen with Granite, SS Apps, Refreshed Baths, Hardwood loors, Walkout Lower Level, Great Floorplan. Greg Doherty 703-408-5068





Greenhouse 5300 Holmes Run Parkway 105, Alexandria, VA 22304 Updated, move in condition condo w/ Gar prking, 2BR/2BA, 11 ceilings, large rms,first fir location w/ large patio, pet friendly



anneys Lane Area 2933 Bryan Street, Alexandria, VA 22302 sreat for entertaining, expanded & renovated, big kit opens to amily rm, fabulous decks & views! Low maint yard, garage, 3FP,







New 5BR Luxury Home in the Waynewood Sch. district. High end finishes, trim work, state-of-the-art design and a "Smart Rachel Carter 703-851-4207



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Alexandria | 703.518.8300

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9109 Chickawane Ct \$580,000 Westgate Colonial-Custom Pool! Classic 4BR Colonial in porgeous setting on large lot fronting quiet cut

de-sac in prime

Nestgate location. Fabulous features include bright open kitchen, economical gas heat and hot water and oversize 2 car garage. Custom pool and much privacy located on what is widely considered to be one of Mt. Vernon's prettiest streets. OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM, GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Westgate; L-Chickawane.



7720 Schelhorn Rd \$449,000 One Level Living!

Nothing like it on market for under \$500,000! Fab large Rambler just completely updated on spectacular large level lot n prime close-in location.

Fabulous features include brand new gourmet kitchen with granite, SS appliances & huge paritry. New baths, open floor plan, 4BRs, hdwd firs. Distinctive front entry porch, garage and huge exterior deck. Unique opportunity! OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM. GW Pky S; R-Morningside Ln, becomes Sherwood Hall; R-Schelhorn.



4712 Neptune Dr \$1,150,000 Waterfront Value! Make seller's sudden iob

change work to your advantage! Home is totally redecorated and shows beautifully! Large nome (app 2300 sq ft)

with exceptionally bright open floor plan. All major rooms oriented to capitalize on fabulous water views. Special features include large kitchen with brand new stainless appli, 3 main level BRs including master suite with private balcony. Improved water frontage with stationary and floating dock. Best waterfront value on market today!



8704 Greystone PI \$455,000 Great Value!

Spacious home on quie cul-de-sac in prime Mt. Vernon location. Fabulous features include bright, open floor plan. Enhanced by high ceilings

and glass gable in major rooms, stunning sunroom, multi-tiered exterior deck, private yard, garage, gas heat and hot water. Finished lower level family room with fireplace. Hardwood under carpet on main level. Garage parking plus expanded driveway. Excellent Pricel



9226 Craig Ave \$619,500 Extensive Updates!

Spacious home loaded with custom updates Special features include 4 fin. levels, 5 BRs, 3.5 baths, fabulous updated kitchen with granite, SS

appli and custom cabs. Hardwood floors, walkout lower level, 2 car garage, gas heat and hot water. Outside deck and patio overlook beautiful grounds. Property offers size, updated amenities and location for remarkable price! OPEN SUN 1/13, 1-4PM. GW Pky S, past Estate: L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Robertson: L-Craig.



8313 Mount Vernon Hwy \$789,000

Brand New Custom Home Area's best new home value just became even better! Now offering free finished LL with full bath (\$35,000 VALUE!) for any offer accepted by 1/31/13.

One time opportunity-contact us today! Special features include: high ceilings, open floor plan, gourmet eat-in kit with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite counters, family room with FP, luxury baths stunning master suite with private bath and huge walk in closet. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. Two car garage.



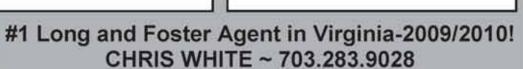
9410 Ludgate Dr \$1,995,000 Custom Home with Semi-Private Dock! Fabulous new home with

overlooking Potomac River with access to semi-private dock, to be shared by only 2 properties. Luxurious home with all the amenities that Keswick is noted for. Home was designed to capitalize on river views! Lot also available! Call for details.



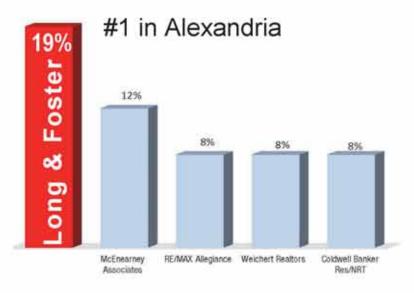
7907 Bayberry Dr Rare Opportunity! Rare opportunity to buy a single family home in close in area for under \$400,000! Lovely 3 level split with 3BR, 2BA and garage parking. Large

rear deck and fenced yard. Lower level rec room with brick wall wood burning fireplace. Hardwood floors on 1st and 2nd floors. Prime location just minutes to Fort Belvoir and Old Town. Priced to move quickly!



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3BR/1BA well-maintained/updated with 1st floor family room plus hardwoods under carpet. 5 acres

separate shower), walk-in closet, atrium with wood i

burning stove, brick flooring, high ceilings and large glass

skylights, paneled walls - renovated kitchen - family room

- deck - off-street parking for 3 cars - on 1/2 acre lot -

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

adjacent to small Fairfax County park - A Must See!

\$ 700,000 "RENOVATED & READY" 3BR/3 full BA, hardwood floors, garage.

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!

\$829,000

Hollin Hills

7800 DAVENPORT ST

Special one-of-a-kind

dramatic 2-story addition

large studio/enter-tainment

room/workroom - large

master suite, bath (tub and

beautiful rock fireplace. 6.2 acres



\$ 950,000 "ORIGINAL HOUSE"

3BR/1BA and well taken care of thru-out the years 22.39 acres

Each home livable on its own with separate septic/drain fields. All 3 parcels adjoin but best sold as one parcel. Near Rtes 66/50/29 and 2 county parks



\$ 549,000 Hollin Hills "WOODLAND COMMUNITY'

Louise Devers

703.795.9944

this unique

Expanded one-level contemporary - with 3BR. 2 full baths, fireplace, deck and a carport! Located on a quiet cul-de-sac - sliding

doors from dining room to private deck - large walk-in closet and master bath addition - wood floors, light-filled rooms, skylights and serene setting! Community pool and tennis. Call for more information

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840



\$ 392,500 Alexandria MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE"

Don't miss this 2 leve spacious brick home located close in Mt Vernon. 3/4BR, 2FBA, fireplace in LR, hardwood floors, new

kitchen and more. Deck off the back overlooking fenced in yard. Newer windows, CAC and gas heat for efficiency. Close to library, shopping, county park facility and ez commuter route. Quick Occupancy

Louise Devers 703,795,9944



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 389,900 6103 TALAVERA CT

Shows well: incredible space and location for the price

EZ to Metro and major roadways 2,100+sf of living space

3 finished levels Walk-out basement with FP Formal LR/DR

Updated eat-in

kitchen with SSA, granite

Martine Irmer & Alexander Imer



\$ 385,000

Alexandria

"A GREAT START"

lowing floorplan, updated

SS appliances, fresh neutral

paint, thermopane windows,

room-size bay window.

OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4!

\$ 459,000

Arlington /

Fairlington Green

3259 S Stafford St

JUST LISTED! Renovated

kitchen with gorgeous

cabinets, granite, SSA and

ceramic tile. Both baths

Woodbridge 12214 SEAFORD CT River Ridge-2BR/2BA garage patio home in super convenient location close to

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!

\$ 275,000

VRE, I-95 and Potomac Mills shopping. Hardwoods throughout, low maintenance living in Active Adult 55+ community

Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913 Susan Haughton



adjoining bath plus 2 UL bedrooms. Covered deck overlooks backyard. Just off GW Pkwy and walking distance

o eateries, shops & rec center, 3BR/2.5BA Val Klotz 703.303.9744





OPEN SAT / SUN 1 - 4! \$ 879,000 Hollin Hall Knolls 8013 and 8115 YORKTOWN

ONLY TWO left of these luxury 5BR /4.5BA homes with all the upgrades and options - gourmet kitchen

\$ 529,000

Alexandria South

"IDEALLY LOCATED '

Lovely 2 level brick home

with garage-formal rooms,

separate dining room, eat-in

kitchen, hardwood floors.

nicely situated in cul-de-sac

generous-sized bedrooms

with all SS, center island, granite and breakfast area. Built by Long Homes of VA located in heart of Mt. Vernon. Easy access to GW Parkway, shopping, bike

large walkout family room with raised brick hearth -

built-in cabinets - 5BR/3BA. Call for more information...

great for entertaining with double bar, mirrored wall and

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

Randy Bender 703.906.1749



have been updated. Crown molding. dry-walled basement, high efficiency windows, finished wood floors, heat pump and a lovely backyard patio.







\$ 650,000 Alexandria South 2914 POPKINS LN

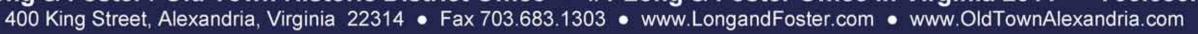
JUST REDUCED! 2013 is your year to have lots of room for all your family and riends. Custom-built in 2006, this 3,444 sq ft

foyer and family room with massive stone fireplace, spacious kitchen with granite and maple, MBR with sitting room and so much more.

Call for more information: Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264



Long & Foster / Old Town Historic District Office ● #1 Long & Foster Office in Virginia 2011 ● 703.683.0400









12 * Mount Vernon Gazette * January 10-16, 2013

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Mount Vernon Gazette & January 10-16, 2013 & 13

2012 Top Sales in Mount Vernon





6238 Radcliff Road, Mount Vernon — \$1,865,000

9405 Ludgate Drive, Mount Vernon — \$1,600,000

Address BR	FR	н	R	Postal City	Sold Price	 Time	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
9524 MOUNT VERNON LNDG										
4511 CARLBY LN										
4503 CARLBY LN #6										
6238 RADCLIFF RD 7										
8724 PLYMOUTH RD 4						Detached			PLYMOUTH HAVEN	, . ,
9405 LUDGATE DR 4									WASHINGTON WOODS POTOMAC	
2204 FORESTHILL RD5						Detached			BELLE HAVEN	
9323 OLD MANSION RD									RIVERWOOD	
9403 LUDGATE DR 5						Detached			WASHINGTON WOODS POTOMAC	
4740 NEPTUNE DR 3						Detached			YACHT HAVEN EST	
8736 PLYMOUTH RD						Detached			PLYMOUTH HAVEN	
6026 EDGEWOOD TER 4						Detached			BELLE HAVEN	
9370 MOUNT VERNON CIR 5										
4724 NEPTUNE DR	5	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,260,000	 Detached	0.52	22309	YACHT HAVEN EST	02/09/12
825 ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC 3	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	 Detached	1.25	22308	ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC	07/02/12
6407 11TH ST 4									NEW ALEXANDRIA	
8711 EAGLEBROOK CT 4									WAYNEWOOD	07/31/12
1900 SHERWOOD HALL LN 3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,100,000	 Detached	4.12	22306	HOLLINDALE	03/30/12
1804 HUNTING COVE PL 4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,075,000	 Detached	0.22			04/10/12
7017 JUBE CT	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,051,782	 Detached	0.40	22307	RANDALL	01/15/12
6102 EDGEWOOD TER 4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,050,000	 Detached	0.19	22307	BELLE HAVEN	08/30/12
7729 LEE AVE 4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,040,000	 Detached	0.69	22308	WELLINGTON	02/21/12
1139 CAMERON RD 5	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,025,000	 Detached	0.52	22308	WELLINGTON	02/23/12
2104 WILKINSON PL 5	3	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,000,000	 Detached	0.46	22306	KIRKSIDE	07/11/12
1200 COLLINGWOOD RD5									BOULEVARD ACRES	
1216 OLDE TOWNE RD 4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$965,000	 Detached	0.34	22307	NEW ALEXANDRIA	05/03/12
8215 MACK ST 5									COLLINGWOOD	
1912 PRICES LN 4	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	 Detached	0.27	22308	SULGRAVE VILLAGE	08/31/12
4749 NEPTUNE DR 5	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$950,000	 Detached	0.76		YACHT HAVEN EST	
7307 PARK TERRACE DR 4				ALEXANDRIA		Detached			VILLAMAY	05/02/12
4712 NEPTUNE DR	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$937,500	 Detached	0.51		YACHT HAVEN EST	
6305 POTOMAC AVE 5	4	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$925,000	 Detached	0.24		NEW ALEXANDRIA	05/01/12
8636 PLYMOUTH RD 5				ALEXANDRIA		Detached				
2200 LAKESHIRE DR 4				ALEXANDRIA		Detached				
7305 ADMIRAL DR 4						Detached		22307	VILLAMAY	11/01/12
7407 REBECCA DR 5						Detached		22307	HOLLIN HILLS	10/04/12
2004 WINDSOR RD 4				ALEXANDRIA		 Detached			BELLE HAVEN	
7859 SOUTHDOWN RD 4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA		Detached			WELLINGTON	
1615 SHERWOOD HALL LN									HOLLINDALE	
4200 KIMBRELEE CT 5						Detached				
8103 YORKTOWN DR 4						Detached			HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE	
7122 MARINE DR 4				ALEXANDRIA		Detached			MARLAN FOREST	
9387 MOUNT VERNON CIR 4				ALEXANDRIA		Detached			MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC	
2105 WHITEOAKS DR 5						Detached			HOLLINDALE	
1200 GATEWOOD DR 4				ALEXANDRIA		Detached			VILLAMAY	
1204 VILLAMAY BLVD6	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	 Detached	0.55	22307	VILLAMAY	05/30/12

Copyright 2012 RealEstate Business Intelligence. Source: MRIS as of December 14, 2012.

8724 Plymouth Road, Mount Vernon — \$1,650,000



4740 Neptune Drive, Mount Vernon — \$1,325,000



9403 Ludgate Drive, Mount Vernon — \$1,450,000



2204 Foresthill Road, Mount Vernon — \$1,600,000

Home LifeStyle

All in the Family

By John Byrd For The Gazette With solid planning and skillful remodeling, seniors convert personal residence into a multi-generational household.

hallenging times demand creative thinking — so you don't have to look far to find homeowners executing remodeling projects with far-reaching objectives.

Take, for instance, the case of Mary and Harry Warren of Mount Vernon, both in their mid-70s.

Scrolling back a few years, the Warrens where weighing various retirement options when they learned that their daughter and three grandchildren would be moving back to Virginia from the midwest and might be amenable to participating in a three-generation household.

"There was really a lot for us to consider," said Mary Warren. "Harry and I thought that if we expanded the house to incorporate the extended family, we could eventually pass it on to the next generation. We could also make some changes that would help us to move around as we get older."

On the other hand: the more the Warrens scrutinized the existing property, the more they wondered if their vision was even feasible.

FOR STARTERS, at 1,500 sq. ft., the three-bedroom split-level the couple had occupied since 1994 was neatly centered on a small lot in a neighborhood with strictly observed set-back requirements.

To provide all three generations with the necessary space and privacy, the Warrens figured they would have to increase usable living space by 40 percent or more.

A carefully planned addition along the property's western side offered promising possibilities. But even if you could find the needed lot space, the floorplan configuration that would satisfy everyone's privacy requirements remained elusive.

It was at this juncture that the Warrens turned to Craig Durosko, founder and principal of Sun Design Remodeling.

"The program was certainly tricky," Durosko said. "The Warrens wanted a functionally independent suite that would include a luxury bath, lots of custom built-



The multi-generational solution introduced by Sun Design Remodeling includes a one level seniors wing supplemented by a sitting area that exits through French doors to the newly formed courtyard. Hallways and doors in the new section are wheelchair friendly.

Photos by Bryan Burris Photography



Initially, the Warrens were not sure if the existing three-bedroom split level could be converted to a larger home accommodating their new plans.

ins and interior design improvements. Our thought was: if we could satisfy this requirement from the ground up, Meg and the grandchildren could take over half of the existing house as their own wing."

"We particularly liked the consideration to everyone's privacy needs," Mary Warren

said. "Their plan allows for independence where you want it."

Thus, stripped to its essentials, Durosko's solution called for converting the three-bedroom split-level into a five bedroom two-level structure that provides the Warrens with private quarters, yet also incorporates

More

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors workshops on specific remodeling topics as well as tours of recently remodeled homes. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently opened a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit .www.SunDesignInc.com.

transitional zones suitable for easy everyday interaction.

TO ACCOMMODATE the elder Warrens, Durosko and team designed a 650 sq. ft. wing adjacent to a newly formed rear court-yard. The perfectly-integrated one-level addition features two large bedrooms, a master bath and large reach-in closets. A former family room now serves as the couple's sitting room.

By extension, Meg and the grandchildren inherit sleeping quarters in the existing bedroom wing — a configuration of rooms that affords everyone with the sufficient convenience and living space. Both families share the newly upgraded kitchen.

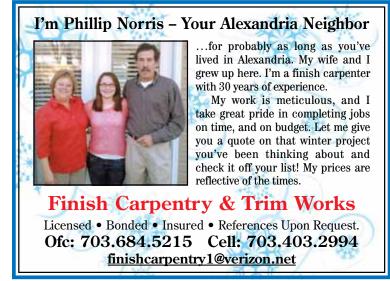
The makeover also allowed the Warrens to introduce a number of Universal Design features. Hallway widths in the new wing have been expanded to 44"; doors are 34" wide — compliant with American Disabilities Act requirements. The rear entrance has, likewise, been designed to accommodate a ramp, should a wheelchair be required in the future.

"We're just thinking ahead," Mary Warren said.

More recently, Mindy Mitchell — Sun Design's certified Aging-In-Place Specialist — followed Universal Design principals in renovating the original circa 1960s kitchen. Revisions included removing unneeded walls, widening doors and hallways and introducing roll-out cabinets with drawer pulls. There's also task lighting, easily maneuvered faucets and a multi-level island suitable for standing or sitting.

"The new kitchen feels significantly expanded, yet it's very efficiently designed — a great solution for a family like ours," said Mary Warren. "The changes have made life easier for everyone."







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PEOPLE



Vennells Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Charles (Ben) and Gloria (Ann) Vennell were married on Jan. 1, 1953 in Harrisburg, Pa. Ben Vennell created, owned and operated the Hollin Hall Variety Store and also The Treasure Chest and The Needle and Thread Shop in the Alexandria area.

Ben and Ann Vennell owned the Variety Store for over 50 years and although they retired, the store is still a fixture in the community.

The Vennell's have two daughters, whose families, along with their grand-children also live in the area.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Thomas Massie is among the 114 Marymount University undergraduate students who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders and are included in the 2013 edition of "Who's Who among Students in Ameri-

can Universities and Colleges." Massie is majoring in business administration.

Mark Mattis has been named to the 2012 fall semester dean's list at West Virginia Wesleyan.

Jodi Bailey was recently named to the president's list at Hudson Valley Community College.



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Entertainment

E-mail announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Homeschool Studio Class.

Beginning in February at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Register at www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Life in Civil War Alexandria

Exhibition. Daily exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. Through September 2013 at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington St. Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Mondays through the end of April 2013. Designed for walkers through 36 months and their caregivers. Tavern Toddlers features a weekly open playtime in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal St. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 10

Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Color Mixing as Science and Art - Explore liquid watercolor for mixing colors and experimenting with application to a variety of paintable materials. Classes are \$25 each or \$200 for the 10 class series. A school or group of teachers can share the registration for the full series. At 2804 Sherwood Hall Ln. Call 703-201-1250.

Music. Tommy Emmanuel will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. at
Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art
Center, 105 N. Union St.
"Between the Lines:
Contemporary Drawing Now"
is an all-media exhibition
focusing on current trends in
drawing today. Free. Visit
www.torpedofactory.org/
target.

Art Night: Wintry Mix. 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Browse open studios, interact with artists, make a craft and more. Gloves or mittens accepted at a collection box. Free. Visit

www.torpedofactory.org. **Opening Reception.** Features a premiere piece of work by each of the Art League's nine 2013 solo artists. 6:30-8 p.m. in the gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Library Speed Dating. 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Book lovers can share their love of books and find a literary better half. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served. Call 703-746-1751 to reserve a spot.

Latin American Book Discussion Group. 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Call for title.

703-746-1702.

English as a Second

Language Class. 10 a.m. at
Charles Beatley Library, 5005

Free. 703-746-1702. **Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley
Library, 5005 Duke St.
Children ages 3-5 years. Free.

Duke St. All levels welcome.

Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. One-year-olds can sing, enjoy fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, play time and a craft. Free. 703-746-1705.

Movie Matinee. 4 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch "The Odd Life of Timothy Green." Free. 703-746-1704.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Pajamas optional, but children ages 3-6 can enjoy stories, songs, games and crafts. Free. 703-746-1704.

Story Time. 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and more, including a weekly craft or short film. Free. 703-746-1703.

JAN.10 THROUGH JAN. 24

Solo Preview Exhibit. Features a premiere piece of work by each of the Art League's nine 2013 solo artists.
Gallery is located in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

JAN. 10 THROUGH FEB. 10

Call for Applicants. Apply for the Visiting Artist Program for residency at the Torpedo Factory. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for details on how to apply.

FRIDAY/JAN. 11

Opening Reception. 5-8 p.m. See work by local artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. There will be dance and poetry by Tori Lane. Free. Visit



Jon Carroll

Music at the Athenaeum

Two-time Grammy-winning, singer-songwriter Jon Carroll will appear solo in an intimate performance at the Athenaeum. Carroll has been a main-stay of the national music scene since the mid-1970s, when he received national attention with Starland Vocal Band and their #1 Billboard pop classic, Afternoon Delight. In 1982, Jon's original song, Get Closer, was a top-30 hit for Linda Ronstadt, as well as the title track for her Grammy winning album of the same name.

In 2010 he released Love Returns with a rockin' album release show at The Barns at Wolf Trap, during which he recorded his next album Live Returns. Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. \$15. The Athaneum is located at 201 Prince St. Call 703-548-0035 or visit www.nvfaa.org or JonCarroll.org.

www.Convergenceccf.net.

Growing Healthy Indoor Plants. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$10. Learn how soil, location and plant selection can fill a house with easy-care plants. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 183 3301.

Full Monty Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. Reception and silent auction followed by the musical "The Full Monty." Proceeds benefit Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry. Visit novam.org.

Tech Zoo Fridays. Noon at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn about ereading devices or bring one already owned. Free. 703-746-1704.

One-Act Play Festival. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams Blackbox Theatre, 3330 King St. See student directed plays featuring student actors. \$5/adult; \$3/student. Seating is limited.

JAN. 11 THROUGH FEB. 24

Art Exhibit. See work by local artists
Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at
The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N.
Quaker Lane. Free. Visit
www.Convergenceccf.net.

SATURDAY/JAN. 12

Garden Design: Session One. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Two instructors will present lectures on "What Kind of Garden Do You Want?" and "Garden Bones." \$35. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 182 3101.

Garden Sprouts: Gifts from the Gardens. 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 with adult can learn how seeds, fruit and other natural materials can be made into ornaments. \$5. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-

5173. Code: 290 185 9501. **Family Fun: Snow Globe**

Workshop. 2-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Make a snow globe in a jar with miniature figures and glittering snowflakes. \$6/person. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 182 3501.

Pine Wood Derby
Workshop. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Ace Hardware, 809
S. Washington St. Cub Scouts can bring their cars, with the design traced onto the car, and have them be rough cut. Sanders, sandpaper and tools will be available for additional work to be done on the cars. \$1 voluntary donation per car accepted. 703-879-0475.
Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. at

Saturday Stories. 11 a.m. a Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-746-1702.

New Docent Training. Volunteer at the Stabler-

Volunteer at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum or Gadsby's Tavern Museum. To make a reservation in the training class, submit an application through the museum of your choice at www.apothecarymuseum.ors

www.apothecarymuseum.org or www.gadsbystavern.org. Training at Apothecary Museum from 9 a.m.-noon and Gadsby's 1-4 p.m. Call 703-746-4242.

One-Act Play Festival. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams Blackbox Theatre, 3330 King St. See student



Eliza Malakoff, Samuel Hanoura and Kevin Rosado in "Shuffling" written by Ken Preuss.

TC Presents One-Act Play Festival

The T.C. Williams Drama Department's 2013 Winter One-Act Play Festival will be held on Friday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 12, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. in the Blackbox Theatre at the main campus, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Come early, seating is limited. Led by Student Directors Sarah Paez, Tess Wagner, Matt Shadle, Ben Ribler, Rebecca Frank and Avi Littky, the one-acts will showcase student directing talents along with the skills of the student casts. The shows will compete for a spot in the upcoming 2013 Patriot District One-Act Play Festival. The one-act plays, produced by Hope E. Bachman and Leslie A. Jones, include "Closeted," written and directed by Sarah Paez; "The Ugly Duckling," written by A.A. Milne and directed by Tess Wagner; "Shuffling," written by Ken Preuss and directed by Matt Shadle and Ben Ribler; "It Hardly Matters Now," written by Roger Cornish and directed by Rebecca Frank; and "No Exit," written by Jean Paul Satre and directed by Avi Littky.

directed plays featuring student actors. \$5/adult; \$3/student. Seating is limited..

SUNDAY/JAN. 13

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. Francis Seeger will display "People" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Free. Features a number of the artist's larger figural paintings. Visit www.nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Opening Reception. Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N. Union St., #312, showcases Clifford Wheeler's portfolio "Axes - Bold as Love, the Luthier's Art," at 2 p.m. 703-63-2205. Grapes into Wine. 1:30-3 p.m. at

Grapes into Wine. 1:30-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$10. Learn about the history of wine production and go through the wine-making process. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173. Code: 290 183 2901.

Tea, Glorious Tea! Tea Program. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$28. Learn all the different ways used tea bags or leftover brews can be used. Register online at www.greenspring.org or 703-642-

Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Browse a gigantic selection, divided by category. \$10/ early admission from 8:30-9 a.m. Free admission after 9 a.m.

Free admission after 9 a.m.

Pine Wood Derby Workshop. 10
a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Ace
Hardware, 809 S. Washington St.
See Jan. 12 event for details. 703879-0475.

679-0475.

Civil War Sunday. 1-5 p.m. at
Alexandria Archaeology Museum,
105 N. Union St., #327. See an
original May 26, 1861, edition of
"The New-York Tribune" detailing
Colonel Elmer Ellsworth's death in
Alexandria, a Peeps diorama
illustrating Ellsworth's death, a
cocked and loaded Wickham musket
discarded in a privy during the 1860s
and more. Free. Visit
www.alexandriaarchaeology.org or

call 703-746-4399.

MONDAYS/JAN. 14, JAN. 21

Two-part Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artist Betsy Mead will show how using two shades of white can lead to shades of black, brown, grey or blue. \$65/DRA member; \$75/non-member. Register at www.TheDelRayArtisands.org/fusedglass.

MONDAY/JAN. 14

Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Browse a gigantic selection, divided by category. \$10/ early admission from 8:30-9 a.m. Free admission after 9 a.m.

Little One-Ders. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children 12-23 months with adult. Free. Pre-registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Clutter Control. 7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Learn easy strategies to clear clutter from your home. Free. 703-746-1705.

Spanish Story Time. 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories and songs in Spanish. Free. 703-746-1705.

Baby Time. 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to 11 months can enjoy songs, fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

Visit from the Animal Shelter. 3:30 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. A shelter employee talks about animals' habits, care and training. Frequently animals come along on the visit. For children in grades K-5. Free. 703-746-1705.

Let's Talk Books. 7 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Discuss "Brooklyn" by Colm Toibin. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1714.

See Calendar, Page 18

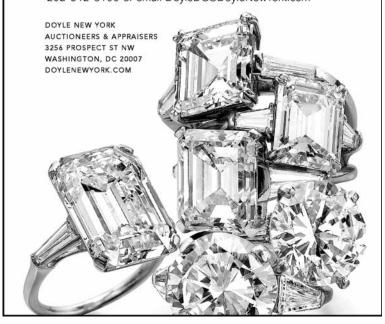


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ENTERTAINMENT

From Page 18

Read, Sing, Play, Baby. 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy songs, games and playtime with toys. Free. 703-746-1703.

TUESDAY/JAN. 15

Genealogical Society meeting. 1 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center 1500 Shenandoah Road. Features a presentation "Stump the Panel," about what to do when an ancestor disappears, leaving no paper trail. Free. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org.

Chorus Rehearsals. The NOVA
Community Chorus will begin
rehearsals at 7:30 p.m. Join by
registering for the one-credit class at
Northern Virginia Community
College, Alexandria campus, 3001 N.
Beauregard. 703-845-6097.

English as a Second Language Class. 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels welcome. Free. 703-746-1702.

Tech Zoo Tuesdays. 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Learn about the latest e-reading devices or get help with one currently owned. Free. 703-746-1702.

Free. 703-746-1702. **Time for 2s.** 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For children ages 24-36 months. Free.

Registration required, 703-746-1702

ext. 5. **Baby Rhyme Time.** 11:30 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months with adult. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12. Games change monthly. Free. 703-746-1702.

Songs and Stories. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy songs, fingerplays and stories. Free. 703-746-1705.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories, songs, games and making crafts. Free. 703-746-1704.

Craft Night. 7 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Any skill set is welcome to bring some yarn, thread and fabric, and get help on projects or start a new one. Free. Registration required, 70-746-1714.

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy songs, games and interactive fun. Free. 703-746-1703.

Stories to Grow On. Children ages 2 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and interactive fun at 11 a.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Free. 703-746-1703.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 16

Music. "A Gathering of 5-String Masters" features Bela Fleck, Tony Trischka and more at 7:30 p.m. at Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500. All Oct. 30 tickets will be honored. Refunds are available until

Jan. 15 at place of purchase. **Graphic Novel Discussion.** 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Discuss a mix of fiction, nonfiction and superhero graphics. Beginners welcome. Free. Call 703-746-1746.

Time for 2s. 11 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For children ages 24-36 months. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr? 4 p.m. at Charle Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 6-12 can learn about the life of the great man who is celebrated. Free. Registration required. 703-746-1702

2nd Thursday at The Torpedo Factory

Browse three floors of open studios and galleries, converse with artists, and enjoy a candy buffet at The Torpedo Factory's first Art Night of the new year. Thursday, Jan. 10, 6-9 p.m.

Visit Target Gallery from 6-8 p.m. for the reception for Between the Lines: Contemporary Drawing Now. Stay for the gallery talk at 7 p.m. by juror Linn Meyers.

Enjoy the reception from 6:30-8 p.m. in The Art League Gallery for the All-Media Membership Exhibit and the 2nd annual Solo Preview, featuring work by artists selected to have solo exhibitions in The Art League Gallery in 2013. Catch the awards ceremony at 7:30 p.m.

View winter-inspired work by Torpedo Factory Associate Artists in Joys of

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Discuss "On Clipped Wings" by Jameela Alter.

NASA Program. 3:30 p.m. at James

Commonwealth Ave. Students in grades K-6 can learn why people

need to wear protective suits to survive when high above earth and in

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at Kate

Barrett Library, 717 Queen St.

Children ages 12-24 months can

and up can enjoy stories, songs,

a.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717

Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah

Road. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon

Madory Walter who will discuss "The

History of Christening Gowns." See

some dating back to the 1700s. Free.

Creative Writing Session. 1 p.m. at

Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500

Shenandoah Road. Get the creative

juices flowing with the help of Camilla Clocker and Julie Ellis. Free,

open to the public. 703-765-4573.

Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke

Blockbuster Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at

Oueen St. Free. 703-746-1703

Antiques Club features Regina

703-360-4979

THURSDAY/JAN. 17

Talk, 9:30 -11 a.m. at Hollin Hall

enjoy songs, games and interactive

movement and interactive fun at 11

space. Free. 703-746-1705.

fun. Free. 703-746-1703. **Stories to Grow On.** Children ages 2

Free. 703-746-1705.

Duncan Library, 2501

ext. 5.



Barren Ice #2 by E. E. McCollum in Joys of the Season

the Season in Site 2 Gallery, and donate to a mitten and glove drive benefiting the Child and Family Network Centers in Alexandria.

stories, songs, games and crafts. Free.

Story Time. 4 p.m. at Kate Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories, songs, movement and more, including a weekly craft or short film. Free. 703-

FRIDAY/JAN. 18

Slam Alexandria. 7 p.m. The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society announces spoken word poetry events at the Athenaeum in Old Town. Admission is free for all, but attendees interested in competing in the poetry slam can pay an entry fee of \$10 for a chance to win a \$100 cash prize. 201 Prince St.

Music and Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Enjoy dancing to the music of the Mount Vernon Swing Band. \$4/public. 703-765-4573

Tech Zoo Fridays. Noon at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn about ereading devices or bring one already owned. Free. 703-746-1704.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Aldersgate Church Community Theater, see Disney's "Little Mermaid, Jr." Visit acctonline.org or 703-660-2611 for tickets and information.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. See Bottle Rockets perform with Marshall Crenshaw. \$27.50/person. Visit birchmere.com for more. Wee Ones Story Time. 10:30-11 a.m.

Wee Ones Story Time. 10:30-11 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children up to age 2 can explore the world with stories and songs. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702. **English as a Second Language Class.** 10 a.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All levels

welcome. Free. 703-746-1702. **Great Books Discussion.** 7 p.m. at
Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke
St. Call for title. Free. 703-746-1702.

Story Time. 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 years. Free. Registration required. 703-746-1702

Paws to Read. 5:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Sign up to read to a dog. For children in grades 1 to 6. Registration required. 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Mother Goose Time. 10 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. One-year-olds can sing, enjoy fingerplays and bounces. Free. 703-746-1705.

Story Time. 11 a.m. at James Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, play time and a craft. Free. 703-746 1705.

Classic Film Series. 5 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch a "Farewell to Arms." Free. 703-746-1704.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Pajamas optional, but children ages 3-6 can enjoy

JAN. 18 THROUGH JAN. 21

George Washington Presidential Scavenger Hunt. Children can explore Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, for clues that will lead to a special prize. The 44th visitor through the gate will also receive a special gift. \$17/adult; \$8/child 6-11; children under 5 free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

JAN. 18 THROUGH JAN. 27 Alexandria Restaurant Week:

Inaugural Edition. Alexandria celebrates the inauguration with a special edition of Restaurant Week. Kicking off inaugural weekend and lasting 10 days, Alexandria's presidential hotspots and more than 50 eateries are offering \$35 three-course dinners or \$35 dinners for two. Find menus and more presidential connections at www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

OBITUARY

Allan Scott Wiley

Allan Scott Wiley, 54, of Alexandria, died on Dec. 21, 2012, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Allan was born in Geneva, N.Y. on April 15, 1958. He graduated from Beacon High School and continued on to receive a bachelor of arts from State University of New York College of Arts and Science at Plattsburgh. He also received a master of science from the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University and completed the Postgraduate Intelligence Program from Defense Intelligence College.

Allan worked as an information specialist for the Army Corps of Engineers, Army Geospatial Center for 24 years. He enjoyed spending time with his children and was very proud of their academic, athletic and musical achievements. Allan volunteered for many events to support his children's activities such as chaperoning field trips, working field day, timing at swim meets, coaching the soccer team, assistant coach to the baseball team, keeping score or running the clock at basketball games and working the concession stand at the football games. He shuttled his children to their various activities and cheered (sometimes



too loudly) for them from the sidelines. Allan also enjoyed outdoor activities such as biking, hiking, camping, attending concerts and socializing with friends. He enjoyed travel-

ing and took many wonderful trips with his family. During his lifetime he developed an appreciation for beers and ales from around the world. Allan was a co-leader for a local Cub Scout Pack and treasurer of the Stratford Landing Section IV Homeowners Association.

Allan is survived by his wife of 19 years, Barbara (Norman), daughter Rachel and son Eric, siblings Caroline Mathieson (Richard), Barbara Fuge (William) and Jason (Jean), nieces and nephews, and other family and friends.

Allan was preceded in death by his parents Lydia McCurdy Wiley and Robert Moore Wiley.

A Celebration of Life was held on Dec. 27, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Dr. Dennis Perry officiated the service. An online guestbook and obituary are available at http://obits.dignitymemorial.com.

In lieu of flowers, if desired, donations may be made to Stand Up To Cancer, the Sierra Club or an organization of one's

Targeting Gun Show Loophole

From Page 6

Ebbin. "Whether or not particular ones will pass is hard to determine, but I think we will see a serious consideration of many more gun bills this year."

VIRGINIA HAS STRONG LAWS protecting the right to carry and use guns, a tradition that dates back to English common-law instituted when the commonwealth was a British colony. The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence gives Virginia a score of 11 out of 100, describing the commonwealth as having "weak gun laws that help feed the illegal gun market, allow the sale of guns without background checks and put children at risk." But many Republicans say no change to the law could have prevented the mass shootings that happened.

"Just because you pass a law doesn't mean you're going to stop it. I mean, there's millions and millions and millions of guns in America," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42). "So when somebody wants to pass a law that says no one can have a gun, does any rational person think that would work?"

One issue that comes up again and again each year is the so-called "castle doctrine," sometimes known as "stand-your-ground" legislation, that would protect individuals from being sued if they fatally shoot an intruder. That hasn't passed, but other measures increasing the availability of guns have been successful. One overturned a longstanding ban against individuals purchasing more than one handgun a month. Another successful bill allows local government employees to bring concealed weapons onto government property. A few days after the Connecticut shooting, Republican Gov. Bob McDonald suggested that policymakers should consider allowing armed guards in schools across Virginia.

"What an absurd idea," responded Arlington state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) in a written statement. "We must seize this opportunity to craft reasonable gun violence prevention measures and to help those with mental illnesses. This is the only way to honor the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary tragedy."

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 10

Virginia Hills Administration Center at Old Virginia Hills School, 6520 Diana Lane. Refreshments will be served. colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com

or call Debbie at 703-768-1934.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Fairfax County needs a Meals

on Wheels coordinator for the Mount Vernon area. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-

324-5406, TTY 703-449-VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit Volunteer Solutions at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/ olderadultservices and click

on volunteers. AARP Tax-Aide, a national volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service for low to moderate income and

elderly citizens, needs volunteers to electronically complete and file federal and state income tax forms for the 2013 tax season. The program offers free five-day training using IRS computers and software. Volunteers become IRS Certified Tax Counselors after completing and passing the IRS examination. Training sessions will be held in Annandale, Centerville and Alexandria in Jan. 2013. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements



RICHMOND - Alvin Foster Auringer, Jr., 87, formerly of Our Lady of Mercy Country Home in Liberty, Mo., and Richmond, Va., went to be with the Lord on January 4, 2013 at New Mark Care Center in Kansas City, Mo.

Alvin was born June 16, 1925 in Richmond, Va., the son of Alvin Foster and Mattie Gay (Allen) Auringer. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Alvin worked as a rate analyst for CSX Railways in Richmond prior to retirement. He was a member of Westhampton Baptist Church in Richmond, Va. Along with his parents, Alvin was preceded in death by his dear wife, Martha Ann (Carson) Auringer, and sister, Dorothy

Survivors include his daughter, Debbie Jones (husband Mike) of Liberty, Mo.; son, Alvin Foster Auringer III (wife Gail) of Alexandria, Va.; grandchildren, Katie Allenbaugh, Michael Jones, Samuel Auringer and Nathan Auringer; nine great grandchildren; sister, Mary Weassel; numerous nieces, nephews and other family members.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 10, 2013 from 12 noon until 12:45 p.m., followed by a service celebrat-ing Alvin's life at 1:00 p.m. in the chapel of Hogg Funeral Home, Gloucester Point, Va. Interment with military honors will follow in the Gloucester Point Cemetery. In our father's memocontributions may be made to NorthCare Hospice, 2900 ay Edwards Dr., North Kansas City, MO 64116, or to a charity of choice. Arrangements by Hogg Funeral Home and Crematory, Gloucester Point. Va.

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304

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> Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller

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SPORTS

MV Beats Edison in Battle of National District Powers

Majors claim sole possession of first place in the district.

> By Jon Roetman THE GAZETTE

dison girls' basketball coach Dianne Lewis said the Eagles' focused on making sharpshooting Mount Vernon work for its 3point attempts during Friday's matchup of National District title contenders.

Mount Vernon's six first-half 3-pointers produced a four-point halftime lead, but it was Taylor Dunham's work inside the arc that helped the Majors pull away in the sec-

Dunham scored 12 of her 14 points in the third quarter as the Majors built a 19-point second-half lead and held on for a 53-45 victory on Jan. 4 at Mount Vernon High School. Dunham attacked the basket, made jump shots and knocked down a pair of free throws in the third quarter en route to a 14-point night.

Dunham, who went scoreless in the first half, said she didn't get discouraged.

"[In] the first half, my shot was off, but I didn't let it really get to me," said Dunham, a senior point guard. "When I was younger, I would have let it get to me. I probably wouldn't have shot the ball. But I just kept my head up and they started falling so I just kept shooting."

Both teams entered the game ranked in the top 10 of the Washington Post's top 20. Mount Vernon, ranked No. 7, suffered its first loss of the season on Dec. 21, a two-

point, double-overtime loss to Maury (Norfolk), and hadn't played since Dec. 22. Edison, ranked No. 9, was undefeated and recently won the Lady Crusaders Holiday Tournament at Riverdale Baptist.

Neither team started well offensively as Mount Vernon led 21-17 at halftime. The Majors outscored the Eagles 18-8 in the third quarter and led by as many as 19 points in the fourth, when a basket by Tiffany Webster gave Mount Vernon a 49-30 lead with 3:25 remaining. Edison closed the game on a 15-4 run to close

Mount Vernon head coach Courtney Coffer was pleased to win, but wasn't happy with the way the Majors performed.

"We felt that we were prepared," Coffer said. "My disappointment with the kids is we gave them scouting reports and told them exactly what every single [Edison] kid wants to do and they failed to defend them the way that we practiced. I don't know if that's because we haven't had a game in a long time.

"Me, personally, I feel that now that we're starting to get some credibility, now that

people have started believing we're a good team and a good program, [the Majors] don't realize that now the target is on our back and we're no longer hunting, people are hunting us."



Mount Vernon senior Taylor Dunham scored 12 of her 14 points against Edison in the third quarter on Jan 4.

Dunham said the Majors might have been 1 in the district. resting on their laurels.

"We need to be more hungry," she said. "I feel like we might have lost our hunger a little bit since we've been getting so much same day. praise. It's kind of an eyeopener tonight. I think it's kind of a good thing that we had this game now rather than February. It will make us better at the end of the day."

Kelly Loftus also scored 14 points for Mount Vernon. Chanel Shannon made a trio of 3-pointers and finished with nine points.

"If we can keep Chanel Shannon playing at the level she's playing at," Coffer said, "this team is going to be scary."

Freshman Jada Graves and junior Caitlyn Riley each had 13 points for Edison. Six-foot senior Sheila Sherrill finished with 10 points and five rebounds while battling foul trouble and 5-foot-9 freshman Raven Moses grabbed 16 rebounds.

The two teams will meet again on Jan. 30 at Edison.

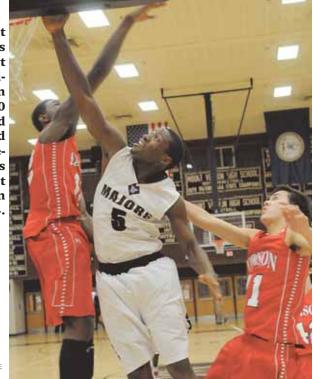
"That stage was a little intimidating for some of our freshmen," Lewis said. "That was probably one of the bigger crowds that we've had."

Mount Vernon defeated Yorktown, 87-29, on Jan. 8 to improve to 9-1, including 5-0 in the district. Edison beat Hayfield, 52-25, on Jan. 8 to improve to 10-1 overall and 4-

Mount Vernon will travel to face Stuart at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11. Edison will host Washington-Lee at 7:45 p.m. on the

Mount Vernon Boys' Basketball Destroys Edison

Mount Vernon's Robert Decardi-Nelson scored 10 points and grabbed 15 rebounds against **Edison on** Jan. 4.



Рното ву Louise KRAFFT THE GAZETTE

Majors open 2013 with a 34-point win against the Eagles. By Jon Roetman nior center Robert Decardi-Nelson scored 10 points The Gazette

fter Friday's home game against Edison, Mount Vernon forward Anton Lucas said the Majors had something to prove after losing in the championship game of their holiday tournament on Dec. 29.

They wasted little time in doing so.

Mount Vernon jumped out to a 17-2 lead against Edison and cruised to an 84-50 victory on Jan. 4 at Mount Vernon High School. The Majors led by 20 at halftime and by 30 at the end of the third quarter. It was a dominant effort against an Edison program that reached the state tournament last season.

"By far the most complete game [we've played]," Mount Vernon assistant coach Lou Golden said. "This whole year, I don't think we've started the game well, so by far this is the best start we've had this year just a complete game, all and all. Normally, there's some quarter where we just fall off, but we just didn't have that quarter [tonight]."

Mount Vernon was relentless on offense. The Majors attacked the basket and pounded the glass. Seand grabbed 15 rebounds, including five offensive

Junior forward Shawny Lovitt led the Majors with 21 points. Lucas and Bryce Washington each scored

"I think this shows what type of team we could become," Lucas said. "If we keep this going, no one can stop us."

Each team scored once before Mount Vernon ripped off 15 straight points. Washington's 3-pointer with 3:45 remaining in the period gave the Majors a 17-2 advantage. After Edison scored, Mount Vernon extended its lead to 23-4 with two buckets by Lucas and one by Decardi-Nelson.

"We came out hyped," Lovitt said. "We got hyped in the locker room. We were defending our house."

Mount Vernon led 43-23 at halftime and 69-39 at the end of three. The Majors led by as many as 35 points in the fourth quarter.

Mount Vernon defeated Yorktown, 49-44, on Jan. 8 to improve its record to 6-6, including 2-3 in the National District. The Majors will host Stuart at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11.

Mount Vernon Gazette & January 10-16, 2013 & 21

LETTER

Why Celebrate Washington's Birthday?

To the Editor:

A great nation — a great democracy needs heroes to set us an example - a paradigm for conduct, a coalescence of our own definition. Currently we live in an anti-heroic age. Egalitarianism presides. The great American Revolution was about Liberty not egalitarianism. That was part and parcel to the French and Soviet Revolutions. We sought Liberty as God given — Liberty under God; the French and the Soviets sought freedom from God. Their legacy is that of a hecatomb of death and violence. To be subordinate to God suggests inequality. Despots have always understood this. Despots have always sought to banish God from the social equation. If there is no personal God, then we can all be ideologically equivalent and if we are all the same then the concept of the heroic ... or the inexplicable appearance of great men and women in history is an inconsistent chink in the armor of the Brave New World — the hydra head of collectivism. It would be an admittance that some men are simply unlike others; that some men are different. Yet both Scripture and common sense tells us that we are each distinct, different, and unique.

Yet many of our current national elites remain obsessed and possessed with an egalitarian temperament ... and that combined with the reductionist methodology of their social sciences seek to reduce the course of human affairs to material and subrational forces. Fundamentally this is Marxist egalitarian leveling — it is also adverse

to our shared Judeo-Christian traditions and ethics based on a personal God who has given us each free will. While they believe in the myth of the common man, we understand that the so-called common man is most uncommon because we each have God-given free will.

The United States is founded on the liberty of opportunity to excel — to be famous or infamous. As such our Republic has been exceedingly blessed with great men and women — men and women who have exemplified America — what we are about. and who we are.

Over these past three centuries of independence it becomes obvious that our own lasting revolution was and is grounded on continual change within the constancy of custom and tradition. America arose out of our collective colonial experiences under English precepts of constitutional democracy wherein our societal principles arose not first out of an unyielding ideology, but rather, requisite on experience tempered by our religion. This combination determined our evolved philosophy. This is the genius of America.

This recognition of the sinful vicissitudes of human nature directed our perspective. Mankind is tainted by original sin and for our foreseeable future will always be so. Unlike the French and Soviet revolutions based on the utopian vision of the perfectibility of man here and now (... if we can only gloriously remove certain impediments we will have utopia now ...) — our revolutionary principles are predicated on the imperceptibility of man.

There are men and women who have represented our inner soul of definition. George Washington is lucidly sans peur et sans reproche our finest American exemplar — one who set our tenor and tone for our people - a tenor and tone that conflated our British origins, that was tempered by our colonial frontier experience, and nourished by the liberty and freedom of opportunity presented. He arose out of the 18th century to become our pater patriae; he represents moral virtue, practical wisdom, chivalry and public spiritedness. Absent Washington, we would have had no recognizable American republic.

In our democratic value system, IQ in and of itself is not enough. Intelligence is necessary, but there must also be a balance of moral virtue and judgment with public spirit — a balance of duty, honor, and service. A great man or woman is not made. He or she is not merely trained for this. They are born. Greatness cannot be acquired by study or experience — although those qualities are certainly beneficial. It is also not dependent on social rank. Greatness is based on character. Difficult to define ... but we all can recognize it.

The first truly quintessential American embodying all of these traits was Washington. Courage in combat, and moral courage in the face of adversarial circumstances, a sense of duty and service to community, a sense of honor, his firm word, all under a guiding Providence. These pragmatic traits provided us with what we were, are, and wish to be. And this is why we must study and learn from this greatest of all Ameri-Richard B. Abell, Alexandria

EDITORIAL

From Page 8

drug-related felonies. Provides that a person who is otherwise eligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families assistance shall not be denied assistance solely because he has been convicted of a felony offense of possession of a controlled substance, provided that he complies with all obligations imposed by the court and the Department of Social Services, is actively engaged in or has completed substance abuse treatment, and participates in drug screenings.

Sen. David Marsden (D-37): Use of firearm in commission of crime; civil liability. Provides that a person may be held civilly liable for injury to the person or property of another or for wrongful death resulting from the use of a firearm in the commission of a crime if it can be shown by clear and convincing evidence that the firearm came into the possession of the person who committed the crime because of the failure of the civil defendant to adequately secure the firearm from theft or unauthorized possession.

Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36): Tax credit for hiring military veterans. Establishes beginning Jan. 1, 2013, but before Jan. 1, 2018, an individual and corporate income tax credit for taxpayers hiring returning or disabled military veterans into new jobs paying an annual salary of at least \$50,000. (with other

— Mary Kimm, MKMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERSCOM



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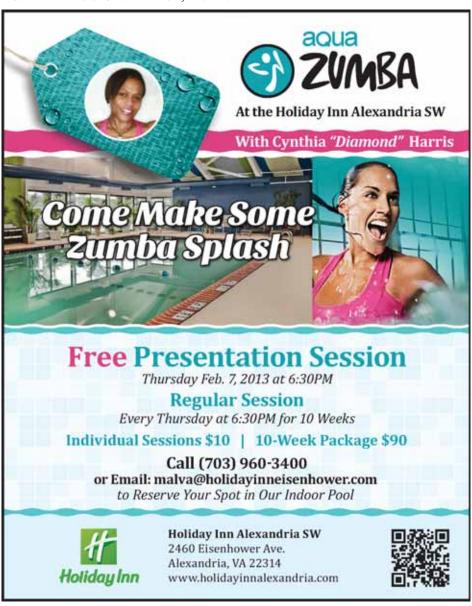
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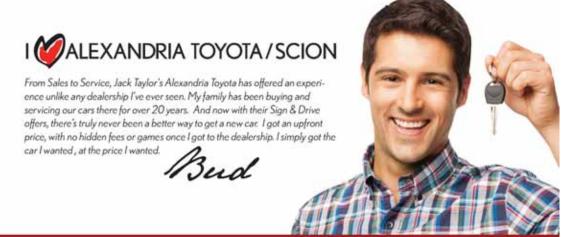
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