



Fifth and sixth graders prepare the dragon for the Chinese New Year parade.

## So Many Cultures Under One Roof

**S**tudents, parents, neighbors and staff of the Hollin Meadows Elementary School participated in the annual multicultural fair at the school on Saturday, Feb. 9. The fair opened with a Chinese New Year parade led by the fifth and six graders through the school. Later the Hollin Meadows Drum Circle performed.

The sixth graders showcased eastern Mediterranean dances, the fifth graders presented Filipino folk dances, Butch Adams and the square dancers performed American Square dances, the kindergarten danced Danish traditional dances, and Jahnavi Cindepalli entertained with an Indian dance "Kuchipudi."

Later the first graders sang Ecuadorian folk songs followed by the second graders singing African folk songs and the third graders with Chinese folk songs. The Carl Sandburg Middle School Step Team also performed along with the American Tukong with a martial arts demonstration.

But regular participants of the creek cleanups say one kind of cart dominates the landscape of garbage. "Ninety percent is Walmart's grocery carts," says Robert O'Hanlon, a regular volunteer. "And then everything else is like 1 percent."



While Butch Adams calls out dance steps to the American Square Dancers, young Rachel Collins joins the dancing in the aisle.



Third grade students dress for a folk dance performance.

## Carts Clog Creek

**Neighbors press Walmart to install wheel locks on shopping carts to keep them out of Little Hunting Creek.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**B**etty Scutt pushes her shopping cart through a ragged parking lot of the Walmart on Richmond Highway in Hybla Valley.

"Sometimes they are good, and sometimes they are bad, you know," says Scutt. "You get a bad wheel or something. But what are you going to do? That's the way it goes."

Volunteers that have organized county cleanups say many of the carts from the Hybla Valley Walmart end up in Little Hunting Creek, which some have dubbed "the Trashiest Creek in Fairfax County." Several years ago, Fairfax County paid \$65,000 to clean it up, although it didn't take long for it to become clogged with garbage again. Assorted trash includes beer cans, syringes, Frisbees, bowling balls and carts from other nearby big-box stores.

But regular participants of the creek cleanups say one kind of cart dominates the landscape of garbage.

"Ninety percent is Walmart's grocery carts," says Robert O'Hanlon, a regular volunteer. "And then everything else is like 1 percent."

**THIS YEAR** in Richmond, Del. Scott Surovell (D-45) introduced a bill he hoped would force Walmart to take action. The effort, House Bill 2011, would have given Fairfax County authority to go after owners of "dilapidated furni-

ture, appliance, machinery, equipment, shopping cart, building material" that is "rusty, wrecked, junked, dismantled or inoperative." Virginia Beach has had this kind of authority since 2004. Owners of the abandoned property would have had seven days to remove it.

"This creek has become a dumping ground," Surovell told members of the General Assembly earlier this month. "What they are doing is shifting their trash problem onto the Fairfax County taxpayer."

The bill was considered in the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns, which referred

the bill to a subcommittee. Del. Bob Marshall (R-13) suggested a 21-day period rather than a seven-day period. He also had a suggestion that notices of violation should come from the county government rather than a private individual. A majority of the panel members voted to reject the bill.

"In essence, this is creating a criminal statute for any person to place anything that is not in 100 percent operating condition on any property," said Del. Rick Morris (R-64).

**THE IDEA** of Walmart installing wheel locks on its carts is popular in the parking lot of the Hybla Valley location. The newer Walmart at Kings Crossing already has the system in place. When asked about the wheel locks one recent morning, several customers said they

SEE GROCERY CARTS, PAGE 4

**"This creek has become a dumping ground."**

— Del. Scott Surovell (D-44)

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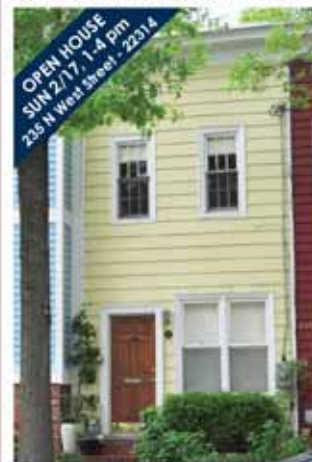
Nothing compares to coming home to a year-round panoramic view of the Potomac River from nearly every room of this spacious and updated four-bedroom, three-bathroom, Gene May classic home in highly sought-after Villamay. Features hardwood floors, two-car garage and large fenced back yard. Only two miles south of Old Town Alexandria!

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# Indoor Fun Fly at West Potomac High School

**W**est Potomac High Technology and Engineering students organized and hosted an indoor Fun Fly in the school gym for model airplane enthusiasts on Saturday morning, Feb. 9. Dozens of model airplane aficionados arrived early and flew autogyros, planes and helicopters. The gym was sectioned off for motorized with radio controls and for those with rubber band momentum.



Ross Baker's eFlight takes to the air on Saturday morning.



Paul Stamison helps Colin Quinn mount the propellers on a model autogyro that Stamison built.

PHOTOS BY  
LOUISE KRAFFT  
THE GAZETTE



Brett Sanborn helps West Potomac student Munni Khattak with the winding of the long rubberband that will power her small aircraft.

## St. Louis School Students Enliven Wax Museum

**T**he fifth graders at St. Louis Catholic School transformed their reading of biographies into an interactive "Wax Museum." On Jan. 29, each student had a press-me button that would bring their character in history alive. An annual event at the school, the students take time to read about a character in history, prepare a costume and take on the role of the character when called to action. The event was held in the McClunn Hall of the school.



Katie Hoben



Chris Kaplan



Samantha Lebeck

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

### BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is the Thursday at noon.

#### THURSDAY/FEB. 14

**Information Session.** 9:20-9:50 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School. Get information on the three elements of the International Baccalaureate Program. Free. If interested in the details of the new IBCC, contact Berkeley McHugh at [BFMcHugh@fcps.edu](mailto:BFMcHugh@fcps.edu) or 703-619-3100. If interested in the details of the IBMYP certificates, contact Karen Hertel at [KJHertel@fcps.edu](mailto:KJHertel@fcps.edu) or 703-619-3261.

**Mini Parent-Teacher Conferences.** 7:15-9:15 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School. Parents can meet with their child's teachers in a five-minute conference. Interpretation services provided as needed. School will start

three hours late for students.

#### FEB. 15-17

**UCM Coat Drive.** Get free admission for two people by donating a clean, gently used coat or jacket (children or adults, all sizes) at the International Gem & Jewelry Show at Dulles Expo Center.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 16

**Archaeology Symposium.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall. "Small Things Considered: Historic Artifacts of Everyday Life" includes lunch, afternoon snacks and a guided tour of the mansion. \$40/person until Feb. 8; \$50/person after; \$40/FOFA member and Friends of Gunston Hall. Register online at [www.gunstonhall.org](http://www.gunstonhall.org) or 703-550-9220.

**Indoor Guard and Percussion Competition.** 2-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School gymnasium, 6500 Quander Road. Over 35 Virginia schools will compete in the Atlantic Indoor Association of Percussion and Indoor Guard. \$12/adults; \$10/students and seniors. Visit [www.wolverineband.com](http://www.wolverineband.com) for more information.

**Town Hall.** 9:30 a.m. at Mt. Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. State Senators Puller and Ebbin will discuss everything from gun control to Medicaid Expansion to uranium mining.

#### THROUGH FEB. 18

**Application Deadline.** Applications are due for the inaugural Citizens Fire & Rescue Academy. Learn what firefighters and paramedics do every day. Must be at least 18 and apply

online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/cfa). Classes start March 28.

#### TUESDAY/FEB. 19

**Genealogical Society Meeting.** 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Hear a presentation on "Our Ancestors Did Not Live Alone," which talks about exploring the family of neighbors and other acquaintances to learn more about the ancestors. Visit [www.mvgenalogy.org](http://www.mvgenalogy.org) or 703-866-2478.

**Dinner Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Pema's restaurant. The Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club will give information on the Lions Hearing Aid Bank Foundation. Contact Andrea Corsillo 703-960-4973.

#### THURSDAY/FEB. 21

**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](mailto:colonialrepublicanwomen@gmail.com) or call Debbie at 703-768-1934.

**Mount Vernon Branch AAUW Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parker's Lane. June Malina will discuss "How to Enrich Your Travels While Saving Money." Free. 703-395-9626 for more.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 23

**MVHs Combined Parent Council.** Planning, coordinating and scheduling for the upcoming mulch sale will start. Contact MVHS CPC at 703-781-0461.

**Blood Drive.** 7:30 a.m.-noon at Mount Vernon Athletic Club, 7950 Audubon Ave. To register call 703-360-7300.

photo: Enoch Chan



# Jump for Joy.

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## NEWS

# Grocery Carts Clog Creek

FROM PAGE 1

would like to see the big-box retailer install the technology on the carts here so they don't end up in Little Hunting Creek.

"That way, they won't be all over the place or in people's yards or in the creek," said Judy Shaffier, who lives nearby in Hybla Valley.

A spokeswoman for Walmart said the retailer recently hosted an associate volunteer cleanup day at the park to pick up litter and abandoned shopping carts. She said the big-box chain is looking at installing wheel locks on its carts, but she could not say when the technology would be installed.

"As part of our continued efforts to do our part to keep to help keep this park clean for everyone to enjoy, we plan to be reaching out to some of the local businesses to help participate in future cleanup efforts," said Walmart spokeswoman Kayla Whaling.

"We are aware that our shopping carts have been found off of our property and, as a result, we have taken steps to help alleviate the issue for our customers and members of the community, which include increasing the frequency of picking up carts on a weekly basis."

## Annual Meeting's Details

Full reports and handouts from Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland's Feb. 2 town meeting can be found at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/2013\\_town\\_meeting.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/2013_town_meeting.htm)

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer to **host an exchange student** for the school year 2013-14. These foreign teens (15-18 years old) want to attend high school here in Northern Virginia, and experience life as an American teen. They are looking forward to becoming an active member of their new host family. Academic Year in America (AYA) is a non-profit organization, and the Department of State does not allow us to pay our host families. If interested in welcoming a new family member into your heart and your home, visit

[www.academicyear.org](http://www.academicyear.org) or if you would like to find out more about hosting students, call local coordinator Louise at 540-286-1561.

Fairfax County needs a **Meals on Wheels coordinator** for the Mount Vernon area. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186, [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov), or visit Volunteer Solutions at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and click on volunteers.

# THANK YOU, SENATOR PULLER...

*for standing up for Virginia tourism jobs!*

Virginia's tourism industry brings billions of dollars into our Commonwealth each year, and supports tens of thousands of jobs—including more than 34,000 jobs in Fairfax County and Prince William County.

On January 25, the Virginia Senate voted on SB 767, a bill that would have imposed new taxes on tourism. The targets? Travel agents, online travel agencies, tour operators, and others who bring business and leisure visitors to Virginia.

Senator Puller, the men and women who work hard every day to promote Virginia travel appreciate your vote against SB 767.

Thank you for doing the right thing and voting to protect Virginia tourism jobs.

Paid for by Travel Tech: The Travel Technology Association, Washington, DC



# News



**Sportsmen's President Steve Kramer presents a \$5,000 donation check to West Potomac Booster Rick Genuario.**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**Rick Genuario presents a gift basket to a luck raffle winner.**

## Supporting WPHS

**M**ore than 180 guests attended the Fort Hunt Sportsmen's Association and Wolverine's Athletic Boosters Club Valentine's Day dinner dance at Mount Vernon Country Club on Feb. 9. The event benefited the West Potomac High School Turf Fields initiative and the Sportsmen provided a check for \$5,000 to the West Potomac Boosters towards that goal.

The Sportsmen also celebrated their 50th year of supporting local youth athletics in the Fort Hunt area — a photo retrospective of the Sportsmen's club history was shown in a presentation by Joe Gililland.

Guests enjoyed live music by Black Moon Tonic and participated in silent auctions and raffle drawings as part of the fundraising effort.

## A Holiday Just for Washington?

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) re-introduced legislation on Feb. 13 calling for George Washington's birthday to be celebrated on his actual birthday, Feb. 22. Presently, Washington's birthday is celebrated on the third Monday of February and is commonly called President's Day.

Wolf has advocated for moving the date of this holiday for years, introducing similar legislation in 2011 and testifying on the topic at a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing in 2012. Wolf said he is concerned that the celebration of President Washington's unparalleled role in American history has been lost. His legislation aims to make Washington's legacy the singular focus of an existing federal holiday.

Wolf's legislation is supported by George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate. Wolf said the timing of his bill is important given the projected September opening of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon, which was paid for by funds raised by the Mount Vernon Estate, not taxpayer dollars.

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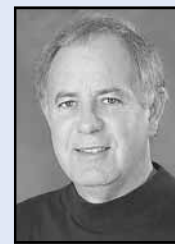
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Beautiful & meticulously maintained 4 BR/3 BA Split in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Freshly painted, beautiful hdwd flrs on main lvl. Large, lovely screened porch overlooks professionally landscaped/fenced back yd. Fully fin lower lvl offers 4th BR, cozy family rm & den w/wood FPL & access to garage. Walk to schools, 5 mins to Fort Belvoir, 30/35 mins to Pentagon/D.C. Great Price on this wonderful property.



**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 Ft. Belvoir, 18 mins to Ntl Airport. This is prime property at a GREAT PRICE!



**Arlington**  
**Dominion Hills \$669,000**  
**904 North Lebanon Street**  
Beautiful 3BR, 2BA Colonial in the family friendly Dominion Hills neighborhood of North Arlington. Fully finished basement, screened in porch opening to a large deck and lovely fenced backyard. Granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances, built-in china cabinets, refinished hardwood floors, wood burning fireplace and just blocks from the Tots Lot playground and Upton Hill Regional Park!



**Alex./Riverside Estates \$2,850**  
**8332 Wagon Wheel Road**  
Gorgeous 5 BR/3.5 BA Colonial with 1-car garage in prestigious Mount Vernon Community of Riverside Estates. Freshly painted interior, beautifully refinished hdwd floors on main & upper levels. Updated baths, large bedrooms, 2 Fpls (1 gas & 1 wood), 3 finished levels w/5th bedroom, 3rd full bath & Rec room & storage rm in finished walk-up basement. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 20 to Ntl Airport & 30/35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alex./Riverside Estates \$2,800**  
**8358 Orange Court**  
Enjoy living on the water! Lovely 4 BR, 3 BA Split, WATERFRONT, with spectacular water views across Little Hunting Creek in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Freshly painted, new carpeting plus hardwood floors. 10 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 20 mins to Old Town, 35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alex./Wessynton \$590,000**  
**8802 Four Seasons**  
Large, stunning, contemporary Colonial in popular Mount Vernon Community of Wessynton. This lovely home is highly updated: kitchen remodeled in '07, HVAC & hot water heater replaced '07, energy-efficient replacement windows, freshly painted interior - family room w/vaulted ceiling off kitchen - large beautiful picture windows throughout overlook a large, private, landscaped lot on a quiet cul-de-sac - In-law bedroom & bath on main level - 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir - This is a Keeper!



**Alex./Belle View \$248,000**  
**6612 Boulevard VW #A2**  
Newly remodeled PORCH unit, shows beautifully. Lovely kitchen: granite counters, ceramic tile floor. Gorgeous bathroom with beautiful tile, everything brand new. Replacement windows. New flooring throughout, freshly painted. New screen door for porch. Convenient & ample parking next to bldg. FANTASTIC location: Steps to G.W. Pkwy, Potomac River, Bike Trail, 5 mins to Old Town. Bus to Metro.

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# OPINION

## On Transportation Compromise, in the works, should include indexing the gas tax to inflation.

**V**irginia needs more options, not fewer, in developing revenue to pay for roads and transportation. Compromise on a plan to increase transportation revenue should not include making Virginia the only state in the nation without a gas tax. The current, ridiculously low gas tax should be indexed to inflation. The last thing the Commonwealth needs is to do away with an existing, major source of money for roads.

Sen. Dick Saslaw proposed raising the tax, now 17.5 cents a gallon, by five cents each of the next two years and then indexing it to inflation.

At the least, the tax should be indexed to rise with inflation from its current level.

Possible proposals to cut the tax in half along with increases in the sales tax miss the point, but are still far preferable to eliminating it.

The gas tax is a user fee. It raises money for roads from people and businesses who are using the roads, including drivers pass through Virginia from out of state.

We agree with Del. Scott Surovell, who says:

“Funding roads exclusively with sales taxes disproportionately burdens the elderly who drive less than others and people who do not own cars.”

### Medicaid Expansion Progresses

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce said it well when it issued a statement in favor of the Commonwealth embracing \$10 billion in Federal money to expand the number of people eligible for health insurance under Medicaid:

“Northern Virginia businesses and taxpayers are already paying for health reform through new taxes levied by the Affordable Care Act. If we do not take advantage of Medicaid reform [and expansion], roughly \$10 billion in Virginia taxpayer dollars will go to the federal government to fund coverage extension in other states.

If the General Assembly approves the reform and extension plan, nearly all those taxpayer dollars will remain in-state where they can be put to good use for the benefit of the Commonwealth, its businesses and its citizens.”

monwealth, its businesses and its citizens.”

### Call for Photos for Pet Gazette

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish at the end of February, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Feb. 21.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. Please identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo and of your pet, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name). We also welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, and drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults. Email submissions to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

To see our last pet edition, visit <http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/2012/072512/Mt%20Vernon.pdf>

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Huntington Appreciates Levee Bond

To the Editor:

As a member of the Huntington Community Association (HCA), I wanted to set the record straight after reading the recent story “Huntington Residents Remain Unprotected in the Face of Flooding.” While there certainly are frustrations with the current conditions, the article presents solely negative perspectives regarding progress toward flood protection.

In a recent community meeting, I found no one who had been interviewed for this article, and therefore ask that you publish the statement that has been posted on our website, [huntingtononline.org](http://huntingtononline.org), since the November 2012 election and the approval of a bond to fund a levee for our community:

#### ‘Stormwater Control Bond Passes’

#### Thank You Fairfax County Voters

Huntington can now look forward to future relief from flooding and evacuations. Thank you, Fairfax County voters, for your strong and broad support of the

Storm Drainage Improvements Bond. Our community has struggled through increasingly severe floods for the past decade, and we are very happy to have taken the first step towards permanent protection. We offer heartfelt thanks to Supervisor Gerry Hyland and Chairman Sharon Bulova, who came to our community each time it flooded, extended a helping hand, and championed a solution. Thanks to the Board of Supervisors for taking the time to hear our case, and thanks to those members who supported us by voting to put this bond on the ballot.

Thanks to Rep. Jim Moran, who joined the County in funding the initial U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study, and to other elected officials who also came to our homes in 2003, 2006 and 2011. Thank you to everyone in Huntington who helped to obtain signatures for the petition and to spread the word, both individuals and businesses. Thanks to our neighboring communities, who did so much to broaden our support and encourage us. Thanks to the Mt. Vernon Council of Citizens’ Associations for taking an early position advocating protection. Thanks to the media for covering the issue, especially our local Patch and the Fairfax Times for a strong endorsement. Thanks especially to the core team who put so much thought and effort into this campaign and who helped guide our strategy and publicize our position. Many individual contribu-

tions together created effective civic action. And everyone in Huntington says thank you to the volunteers, charitable organizations, first responders, and County employees who have come here and given their best, over and over again, to help us recover.

We are focused on implementing the solution approved by voters as quickly as possible and look forward to working with our elected leaders and County staff towards that end.

**Alan Ruof**

Floodwall Coordinator  
Huntington Community Association

### Pledge Fair Redistricting

To the Editor:

Politicians gerrymander legislative districts for only two reasons: (1) to ensure their individual longevity in office; and (2) to try to perpetuate or achieve majority rule of a political party in a legislative body. The effectiveness of gerrymandering in the Commonwealth of Virginia is demonstrated by the Virginia Senate. Only 40 percent of voters voted for a Democratic candidate in the 2011 election yet the 40 member Senate is evenly split between Republicans and Democrats 20-20. Based upon the vote totals, the split should be 24-16 in favor of the

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### Supporting Center

Community members gathered at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria for a fundraising event on Saturday, Feb. 9, to support Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center.

### Mount Vernon Gazette

[www.MountVernonGazette.com](http://www.MountVernonGazette.com)

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**Steven Mauren**  
Editor, 703-778-9415  
[smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Reporter, 703-615-0960  
[mpope@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mpope@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MichaelLeePope](https://twitter.com/MichaelLeePope)

**Jeanne Theismann**  
703-778-9436  
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**Jon Roetman**  
Sports Editor, 703-224-3015  
[jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@jonroetman](https://twitter.com/jonroetman)

**Louise Krafft**  
Photographer  
[lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com)

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**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Publisher**  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly  
**Production Manager:**  
Jean Card  
Geovani Flores

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

A Connection Newspaper



# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

Republicans. How are citizens served by politicians who thwart their will through gerrymandering? They aren't. To the contrary, the only ones served by gerrymandering are the politicians themselves and their agendas.

This Saturday, state Senators Linda "Toddy" Puller and Adam Ebbin, and state Del. Scott Surovell are holding a joint town meeting. If they are politicians who act to serve their constituents rather than serving themselves, they ought to agree to take immediate steps to eliminate gerrymandered legislative districts and reconstitute those districts so that they encompass constituents bearing some geographical relationship with one another. It is nothing short of unconscionable that Senator Puller's district extends from the Beltway to Fredericksburg. The same goes for Senator Ebbin's district which is barely a mile wide for a considerable distance. Each senator represents about 200,000 constituents. Fairfax County with about 1,000,000 residents, in the absence of gerrymandering, should be divided into five complete districts. Instead, fully nine districts

partially include Fairfax County. This is outrageous.

I call upon these politicians to make a public pledge, during their town meeting, that they will put aside politics, ignore the tendency toward political party and personal self-preservation and agree to take all necessary steps to reconstitute Senate and House of Delegates districts, solely with adherence to the principles that such districts should encompass geographically adjacent citizens and should be redrawn without reference to historical precinct by precinct voting patterns. The citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia deserve no less from their representatives in the Virginia legislature and should demand that they take these democratic steps.

Should these politicians refuse to or refrain from making this pledge, they will be confirming for all to know, that they are more concerned with political self-preservation than with serving their constituents. I'll remain optimistic that they will act in the best interests of their constituents and make the pledge.

**H. Jay Spiegel**  
Mount Vernon



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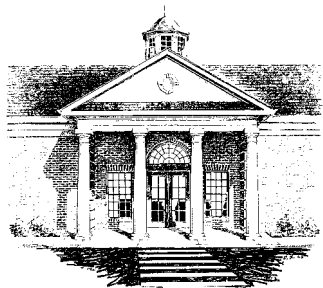
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## OPINION

# New Virginia Currency, Crossover and the State Budget

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL  
DELEGATE (D-44)

Last week in the General Assembly we hit “Crossover” on Tuesday – the day that each body must complete all work on their own bills. On Monday, I was in the capitol building from 7:30 a.m. until our session ended around 9 p.m.

That day, the House of Delegates passed legislation dedicating \$17,440 of taxpayer funds to study the creation of a Virginia currency in case the Federal Reserve System fails. It passed on a mostly party-line vote.

Minutes later, we also passed legislation condemning the United Nations’ Agenda 21 which the U.N. adopted in 1992. The bill describes Agenda 21 as a “radical plan of purported ‘sustainable development’ [that] envisions the American way of life of private property ownership, single-family homes, and individual freedoms as destructive to the environment.”

The same night, the House also passed

legislation asserting Virginia’s sovereignty under the 10th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to counter “the loss of rights and prosperity” occasioned by the Federal Government, according to proponents.

I voted no on these three bills. I hope the legislature will devote attention to more pressing problems, like our transportation, education, expanding healthcare, and preventing gun violence.

The transportation debate continues to percolate. On Tuesday, we passed Governor McDonnell’s plan with some amendments. The legislation repeals the gas tax and replaces it with a 5.8 percent sales tax on all purchases. A \$100 annual hybrid vehicle fee was removed. A major source of revenue in the bill relies on Congress requiring all states to collect sales taxes for internet sales. That legislation has been pending in Congress for 10 years without agreement. The McDonnell legislation barely generates any new revenue and it only passed the House by three votes. The Senate has failed to pass any transportation bills, but senators are engaged in discussions.

I still oppose the Governor’s plan. Decoupling revenue from road use is a radical concept and not justified. Making users pay is fair, in my view. Funding roads exclusively with sales taxes disproportionately burdens the elderly who drive less than others and people who do not own cars. Most importantly, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the state’s long-term revenue shortfall is over \$100 billion over 20 years or about \$5 billion per year. None of the solutions under discussion come anywhere close to meeting that need. Given that we seem to be addressing this problem on something longer than the cicada cycle, I strongly believe that if we are going to address this, we need to fix it for the next 20 years and not the next five. If we take 27 years to come back to this, I will be 68 years old and my grandchildren will be at Waynewood by the time we are back at the table. I strongly believe that if we are going to address the state’s transportation deficits, the solution should be for the next 20 years, not the next five.

My legislation to reform the composition of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) died in the House by two votes after a block from Hampton Roads defected due to problems with the Governor’s overall transportation plan. The CTB decides which projects get funded. Northern Virginia has one seat out of 10 even though the Northern Virginia Transportation District has over 20 percent of the state’s population. When Hampton Roads and Richmond are included the urban-suburban crescent has 65 percent of the population and 33 percent of the votes. I have serious reservations about entrusting the CTB with more money until it is reformed. On Thursday, we passed House amendments to the state budget. While I was pleased that three of my budget amendments were included, the budget still diverts education, public safety and health care funds to transportation. That is unprecedented in Virginia history. It also has funding for several new programs I oppose, including the Governor’s plan to create a centrally-controlled, unaccountable school district for non-performing schools.

## Good News in Richmond on Medicaid and Redistricting

BY ADAM EBBIN  
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

While I unfortunately usually alert you about troubling developments, I am happy to share some good news from the last week. Two promising developments—redistricting and the Medicaid expansion—give me optimism about the prospects for the remainder of the legislative session.

On the redistricting front, House Speaker Bill Howell ruled the Senate Republicans’ plan to significantly alter all 40 districts was not germane to the bill that they sneakily attached it to! This is a big win for fairness in the legislative process.

Last week the Senate budget proposal was finalized and it included a provision to accept the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia.

This makes good sense whether considered from a preventive care, economic, or moral perspective. Among the 420,000 lower-income Virginians who could receive access to health care are people with disabilities, seniors in nursing homes, pregnant women, and children. The Medicaid expansion would also create about 30,000 good health care jobs.

Currently, Virginia Medicaid covers working adults who earn only up to 30 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), which is just \$5,727 for a family of three. Newly created health care exchanges (insurance pools) will be available to those who earn above 100 percent of the FPL without coverage from their jobs. The Medicaid expansion is vital because it would help those who earn too much to currently qualify for Medicaid but earn too little to afford health in-

surance through the exchanges.

The federal government will pay 100 percent of Medicaid expansion costs for the first three years and 90 percent thereafter. If Virginia doesn’t expand Medicaid, our federal tax dollars will go to other states that do. The expansion will increase access to preventive care and allow illnesses to be treated before they reach critical stages and require costly emergency room visits. Those high costs are currently being passed on to everyone with private insurance, so the expansion would not only benefit newly eligible Medicaid recipients but in fact all Virginia private insurance recipients through smaller premium increases.

Before the Medicaid expansion becomes a reality, it must pass through negotiations in a House-Senate Conference Committee

and be acted on favorably by the Governor.

By the time you read this, all 21 of my bills will have been considered in the Senate and in House Committees or Subcommittees. But there’s more to go. We need to adopt an adjusted fiscal year 2013 budget and complete work on 970 legislative items. That may seem like a lot, but we started with a whopping 2,332 pieces of legislation!

I will be holding two town meetings on Saturday, Feb. 16. At 9:30 a.m., I will be with Del. Scott Surovell and Sen. Toddy Puller at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center (2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306). Then I will be zipping over to Old Town to join Del. Rob Krupicka at the Charles Houston Recreation Center (905 Wythe Street, Alexandria, 22314) at 11 am. I hope to see you on Saturday!

## Fighting Sex Trafficking Here in Northern Virginia

BY TIMOTHY D. HUGO  
DELEGATE (R-40)

A couple of years ago, I became aware that sex trafficking of children was not solely an international issue, but one that was happening in our own backyard. Unfortunately, the truth is that it is one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world, in the United States and, yes, here in Virginia. In 2011, I began working with Shared Hope International. This organization strives to prevent sex slavery, restore victims of sex trafficking, bring justice to vulnerable women and children, and strengthen Virginia’s laws.

Since that time, the fight against human trafficking has become a top priority of mine. I am committed to fight against those

who would do harm to our young people by enacting harsher penalties to those convicted of these horrendous crimes and by increasing public awareness.

According to the Polaris Project, a leading organization in the global fight against human trafficking, over 100,000 children alone are victims of the sex trade in the United States each year. It ranks Virginia 7th in the nation in the percentage of calls received reporting human trafficking. This is not a Top Ten category that any state seeks. Northern Virginia itself is seeing increasing numbers of reported cases of sexual trafficking occurring in massage parlors, online escort services, and gang-related activities among other avenues. Just last year, members of a Fairfax-based gang were arrested for soliciting Fairfax County high

school girls for sex trafficking.

Virginia lawmakers have responded and enacted several pieces of legislation including my HB 1898, which raised the penalty for abducting any individual for the purposes of prostitution or abducting a minor for child pornography. In addition, the General Assembly currently has before it my HB 1606, which would stiffen the penalty for soliciting a minor for prostitution. I will continue to look for ways to make Virginia one of the least desirable states for those who seek to harm our young people.

I am not alone in combating this evil. I will continue to work closely with Governor McDonnell, Attorney General Cuccinelli, my colleagues in the General Assembly, Shared Hope International, the Polaris Project, the Richmond Justice Ini-

tiative, law enforcement agencies and others to increase awareness of this issue and to institute harsher punishments for those who seek to harm young people for financial gain.

Corporations are also participating in efforts to battle human trafficking. Just last year, AT&T granted the Richmond Justice Initiative \$25,000 to develop educational programs to help prevent human trafficking in the Richmond area.

I believe there is no worse crime than one committed against a child. I am dedicated to ensuring child sex traffickers remain behind bars longer for such horrific behavior, so that no child falls prey to those who seek them harm. One child taken from his/her home, one young person falling prey to this evil, is one too many.



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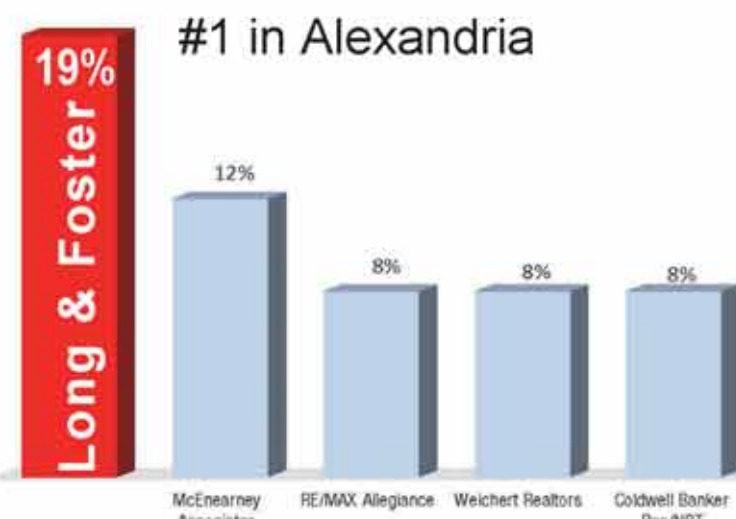
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# ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Alexandria Town Crier Benjamin Fiore-Walker, seen in last year's parade, will lead the 2013 George Washington Birthday Parade in Old Town Alexandria on Monday, Feb. 18. See more celebration events in the calendar.

## Birthday Bash at Mount Vernon Estate

**George Washington's 281st Birthday Weekend Celebration.** Feb. 16 and 17, Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. George Washington's favorite breakfast was "hoecakes swimming in butter and honey." Join "General Washington" for a sample of this meal (while supplies last) from 9 a.m. to noon. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., guests are invited to interact with costumed characters from George Washington's world. Visitors are encouraged to leave a note with their thoughts about Washington. At 2 p.m., a select number of notes from visitors will be read aloud to "General Washington" during a festive ceremony. A special wreath laying will take place at 3 p.m. This event is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$17; children ages 6-11, \$8; and children under 5 are admitted free.

**George Washington's 281st Birthday Celebration.** Free admission, Monday, Feb. 18, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Celebrate the national observance of George Washington's birthday by visiting his home and burial site FREE-of-charge on this day. At 10 a.m., a Military District of Washington representative places a wreath from the President of the United States at

Washington's tomb, followed by patriotic music and military performances on the Bowling Green.

From 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., guests are invited to interact with costumed characters from Washington's world. Visitors are encouraged to leave a note with their thoughts about Washington. A musical tribute to Washington from the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry's Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps takes place at 1 p.m. At 2 p.m., a select number of notes from our visitors will be read aloud to "General Washington" during a festive ceremony.

### View George Washington's Acts of Congress

George Washington's personal copy of the Constitution, complete with his own handwritten notes, will be on display through Monday, Feb. 18. This rare and fascinating volume contains a draft of the Bill of Rights and other records of the First Congress on view in the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center. The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association captured worldwide media attention after acquiring the book at auction earlier this year. It will be permanently housed at the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington, which opens in fall 2013.

## Old Town Alexandria Celebrates with a Parade

### MONDAY/FEB. 18

#### George Washington Birthday Parade

1-3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. Free. The nation's largest George Washington birthday parade marches a one-mile route through the streets of Old Town Alexandria. With nearly 3,500 participants including historical groups, youth from scouting groups, horses and canines, this is still a local, community parade in honor of one of the City's favorite

sons. The parade starts at 1 p.m. at the intersection of Gibbon and S. Fairfax streets. The reviewing stand is located near City Hall's Market Square, at the intersection of King and Royal streets, and ends at Wilkes and S. Royal streets. See [www.washingtonbirthday.net](http://www.washingtonbirthday.net) for maps and additional information.

Free admission to historic sites:

**George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens.** 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., 703-780-2000  
**Old Presbyterian Meeting House.**

323 S. Fairfax Street 703-549-6670  
**The Lyceum: Alexandria's History Museum.** 201 S. Washington St., 703-746-4994

**Gadsby's Tavern Museum.** 134 N. Royal St., 703-746-4242

**Friendship Firehouse Museum.** 107 S. Alfred St., 703-746-3891

**Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.** 105-107 S. Fairfax St., 703-746-3852

**Carlyle House.** 121 N. Fairfax St., 703-549-2997

**Christ Church.** 118 N. Washington St., 703-549-1450

E-mail announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

### ONGOING

**Winter Classes.** Beginning in Feb. 20 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-10 can participate. Register at [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) or 703-201-1250.

**Art Exhibit.** Alexandria artist Francis Seeger will display "People" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. through Feb. 24. Free. Features a number of the artist's larger figural paintings. Often appearing to be waiting for time to pass or expressing a touch of boredom, Seeger's subjects are captured with vibrant palette. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or 703-548-0035.

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 13

**Mother Goose Time.** 10:15 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy games, rhymes and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

**Time For 2s.** 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children age 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

**Stories to Grow On.** 11 a.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children age 2 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

**Spanish Story Time.** 1 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All abilities and all levels can join in for stories. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Celebrate the Presidents.** 4 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 6-12 can hear stories about the presidents and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Lego Family Night.** 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Families can enjoy building together and more. Free. 703-746-1702.

**Pajama Party.** 7 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 3-7 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Music Performance.** See Fusebox at Evening Star Cafe, 2000 Mount Vernon Ave., from 8-10 p.m. Free. Visit [eveningstarcafe.net](http://eveningstarcafe.net) or 703-549-5051.

### THURSDAY/FEB. 14

**Reception and Juror Talk.** 6-8 p.m. hear Rachel Timmins give a talk relating to "Fabricated: An Exhibition of Wearable Art" at Target Galley in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org/target](http://www.torpedofactory.org/target) for more on the exhibit.

**Thursday Art Night: Made with Love.** 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Browse open studios, interact with artists and more. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-4565.

**Valentine's Day Tea Party.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union St. Enjoy a selection of gourmet teas and take your cup home. Free. Visit [www.christmasattic.com](http://www.christmasattic.com) for more.

**Mother Goose Time.** 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 12-24 months can enjoy stories, activities and more. Limited to 25 children. Free. 703-746-1705.

**Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories, activities and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

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

**Classic Film Series.** 6:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Watch "Pride and Prejudice" and celebrate Valentine's Day. Free. 703-746-1704.

**Story Time.** 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3 and up can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

**Paws to Read.** 5:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children in grades 1-6 can read to friendly dogs. Registration required, 703-746-1702 x5.

**Pajama Party.** 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6 can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1704.

**Library Speed Dating.** 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Book lovers can find a literary better half at this event. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served. 703-746-1751 to reserve a spot.

**Valentine's Day Concert.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Married singers Christal and Peter Prout will present a concert for lovers. \$10/person. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) for tickets.

**Love Letters.** 1-3 p.m. at Historic Green Spring, 4603 Green Spring Road. Enjoy a selection of love letters from the past. Heartfelt missives penned by novelists, kings, queens, and world leaders are witty, bittersweet and often intriguing. \$28 per person and includes a full English tea. For information and reservations, call 703-941-7987.

**That Magic Something: YA Author Panel.** 6:30 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Brittany Geragotelis, author of "Life's a Witch" and Michelle Hodkin, author of "Mara Dyer" will discuss their books. Free. RSVP [info@hooray4books.com](mailto:info@hooray4books.com).

### FRIDAY/FEB. 15

**Teen Production.** 7:30 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. See "The Pink Panther Strikes Again." \$10 available only at the door.

**Wee Ones Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children under age 2 can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com).

### SATURDAY/FEB. 16

**George Washington's Birthday Celebration.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy a taste of his favorite meal while supplies last, mingle with costumed characters and more. \$17/adult; \$8/children age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Birthingnight Banquet and Ball.** 5:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Includes an 18th-century banquet, English country dancing, dessert collation and more. Period costume optional, after-five attire encouraged. \$100/advance reservation; \$125 to sit in the main dining room with the Washingtons or \$200 to dine at the same table with the Washingtons. 703-746-4242.

**Music Performance.** 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the viola. Free. Visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil) or 202-767-5658.

**Music Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The Patagonia Winds will perform music by Piazzolla, D'Rivera and more. \$10/adult; \$5/student, senior, military. Reception to follow.

**Teen Production.** 7:30 p.m. at



# CALENDAR

Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. See "The Pink Panther Strikes Again." \$10 available only at the door.

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

**Wee Ones Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children under age 2 can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com).

**Free Workshop.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum. Families with children ages 6-12 can choose a "legend" in their family, write a story and then make it into a handmade storybook. Reservations requested, 703-746-4356.

## FEB. 16-18

**George Washington's Birthday Parade and Weekend Festivities.** Largest parade in the country celebrating the 281st anniversary of the birth of the nation's first president takes place on Washington's Birthday holiday, Monday, Feb. 18, 1-3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. Part of a weekend of events that includes the Birthnight Banquet & Ball and a Madeira wine tasting at Gadsby's Tavern, a 10-K race, a 1-mile race just before the parade, plus free open houses at historic attractions on parade day. Visit [AlexandriaVA.com](http://AlexandriaVA.com), [WashingtonBirthday.net](http://WashingtonBirthday.net), 703-746-3301 for information on the events.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 17

**George Washington's Birthday Celebration.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy a taste of his favorite meal while supplies last, mingle with costumed characters and more. \$17/adult; \$8/children age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Madeira Tasting.** 3 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Taste a variety of George Washington's favorite drink from Rare Wine, Inc. \$45/person includes food paired with it. Reservations required. 703-746-4242.

**Film Day.** 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch "The Pursuit of Happiness" in honor of African-American History Month. Free. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or 703-746-1702.

**Opening Reception.** 2-5 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., will showcase work by three new artists: Tim Hyde, Soomin Ham and Fred Zafran. Each artist will showcase the world around us. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

**Barbershop Harmony Concert.** 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Hear the Harmony Heritage Singers do favorite songs including "Barbara Ann," "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and more. Free, offering taken for United Community Ministries. 703-765-4779.

**Teen Production.** 3 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. See "The Pink Panther Strikes Again." \$10 available only at the door.

**Revolutionary Battle Re-Enactment.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum a Historic Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. See military drills, cannon firings, music and more. Part of George Washington's birthday celebration weekend. Free. Visit [www.washingtonbirthday.net/](http://www.washingtonbirthday.net/) or 703-829-6640.

**Music Performance.** 7 p.m. at Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. Hear acoustic blues singer/historian Scott Ainslie with

special guest Rick Franklin. \$18/general; \$15/advance at [www.focusmusic.org](http://www.focusmusic.org) or 703-501-6061.

**VETStravaganza Concert.** 3 p.m. at George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Hear the West Point Cadet Glee Club, country singer Mark Wills and more. Tickets are free but required. Visit [www.lisner.org](http://www.lisner.org), 202-994-6851 or 202-994-9599 for tickets.

## MONDAY/FEB. 18

**Free admission.** In honor of George Washington's birthday, enjoy free admission to Mount Vernon Estate. There will be a wreath-laying ceremony, music and military performances. The estate is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Parade Day Open House.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Enjoy the tour for free. Donations welcome.

**Author Event.** 7 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Shawn Stout, author of "Penelope Crumb" series will discuss her second book. For children ages 6 and up. Free. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com).

## TUESDAY/FEB. 19

**Film Screening.** 7 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Chisholm 72: Unbought & Unbossed," based on Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman elected to Congress and her 1972 presidential bid. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/humanrights](http://www.alexandriava.gov/humanrights) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 20

**Author Series.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Tom Young will discuss his latest military thriller "The Renegades." Free. [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or 703-746-1702.

**Antiques Club.** 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon Antiques Club will feature Gale Curcio who will be highlighting vintage tablecloths. Free.

## FEB. 20 THROUGH MARCH 3

**Student/Faculty Exhibit.** The Art League in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., presents paintings, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, and more. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-1780.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 21

**Art Focus Group.** 7:30-9 p.m. Collage - build on children's natural instinct for collecting by creating something new out of scraps and bits and pieces. We will also explore extending collage into paper architecture. 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 Lane. Call 703-201-1250.

**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.

**Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Hear the 6th graders perform "Burgundy on Broadway: Dreams and Magic," a musical revue that includes music from "Harry Potter" to "Oklahoma!" There will be a puppet show, spoken narration, clarinet performance and more. \$5/

door; \$1/child.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 22

**Music Performance.** 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the clarinet. Free. Visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil) or 202-767-5658.

**Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Hear the 6th graders perform "Burgundy on Broadway: Dreams and Magic," a musical revue that includes music from "Harry Potter" to "Oklahoma!" There will be a puppet show, spoken narration, clarinet performance and more. \$5/door; \$1/child.

**Theater Production.** 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

**Performance.** 10:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at [www.artsonthehorizon.org](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org) or at the door.

**Birthday Symposium.** 1-4 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear three talks on "George Washington and Religion: Private Man and Public Issues." Free. 703-683-2007.

**Birthday Concert and Gala.** 6 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Celebrate George Washington's birthday with music and more. \$100/person, reservations must be made by Feb. 18. <http://gwmemorial.org/birthday-celebration-2013.php> to buy a ticket.

## FEB. 22 THROUGH MARCH 9

**Theater Production.** Port City Playhouse's third production of the 2012-13 season "The Drawer Boy" by Michael Healey, directed by Jennifer Lyman opens on Friday, Feb. 22. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, Feb. 22-23; March 1-2 and 8-9; and Tuesday, March 5 at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, March 2 and 9 at 2 p.m. Port City Playhouse performs at 1819 N. Quaker Lane.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 23

**Harmony Sweepstakes 2013 'Mid Atlantic Regional.'** 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. Visit [www.harmony-sweepstakes.com/](http://www.harmony-sweepstakes.com/). The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

**Closing Reception.** 3-5 p.m. See work by local artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Free. Visit [www.Convergencecccf.net](http://www.Convergencecccf.net).

**Free Wedding Open House.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Kimpton's Monaco Alexandria. Couples can browse the ballroom, courtyard, guest rooms and suites. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served. There will be wedding vendors present, raffles and more. Visit [www.monaco-alexandria.com](http://www.monaco-alexandria.com) or RSVP to Allison Manning at [Allison.Manning@kimptonhotels.com](mailto:Allison.Manning@kimptonhotels.com).

**Author Signing Event.** 1-4 p.m. at Books A Million, 6230-I N. Kings Highway. S.E. Simpson will sign copies of her book "Ginger and the Bully." Free.

**Theater Production.** 8 p.m. at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. See "The Drawer Boy." \$18/adult; \$16/student, senior; \$14/groups of 10 or more.

**Performance.** 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S. Washington St. See "The Young Spectaculars and the Front Yard Adventure." \$8/person and can be purchased at [www.artsonthehorizon.org](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org) or at the door.

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This position is Building Engineer for a 23-story high rise condominium. The individual must have exp. working in a high-rise condo, commercial environment and/or property portfolio engineer exp. (with a 4-year degree); 8 to 10 yrs engineering exp if no degree. Oversees & coordinates the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of all necessary building systems including HVAC, Thermal Hot Water Storage System, sump pumps, fans, and emergency generators. Supervises and coordinates activities of maintenance staff as appropriate to the needs of the building, including in-unit repairs. Must be able to work from a ladder, and have ability to lift and move up to 50 lbs. Reports to the General Manager.

Bachelors Degree or equivalent of education and work exp req. Certified Facility Manager (CFM), Leadership in Engineering and Environmental Design (LEED), and/or other engineering, technical training or industry recommended certs required. Must pass both drug test and background check. Valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle required. On-call duty will be shared with other staff. Emergency call requires 30-minute response time. Uniforms will be provided. Neat and professional appearance required while on duty.

Must be able to communicate both orally and in writing with management and homeowners.

There will be a 1-year probationary period. Individual will be required to live on-site in a 2-bedroom apartment rent free, in addition to the per annum salary, which is negotiable. Medical and life insurance will be provided, as well as vacation and sick leave.

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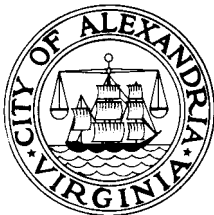
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-William Van Horne

21 Announcements

Legal Notices

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21 Announcements



TAKE NOTICE

NOTICE FOR TEMPORARY POLLING PLACE MOVE FROM  
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On February 23, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., the Alexandria City Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 301 King Street, to consider an ordinance to establish First Baptist Church of Alexandria (2932 King Street) as a temporary replacement for the Chinguapin Recreation Center (3210 King Street) as a polling place for the June 11 and November 5, 2013 Elections.

The proposed ordinance would temporarily change the polling location for the Chinguapin Precinct while the Chinguapin Recreation Center is under renovation.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is on file in the City Clerk and Clerk of Council's office, Suite 2300, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The notice is advertised pursuant to the Virginia Code Sec. 24-2-306.

For information, please call (703) 746-4550.

Jacqueline M. Henderson  
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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Public Notice  
ISSUANCE OF A STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
REVIEW FOR A PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE  
VIRGINIA CLEAN WATER REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Public Notice No.: VCWRLF-NRO-Woodbridge- EA13-01

First Publication Date: February 7, 2013

The Department of Environmental Quality has issued a Statement of Environmental Review for a wastewater project proposed to be funded through the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund (VCWRLF). The applicant is the Alexandria Renew Enterprises (formerly known as Alexandria Sanitation Authority).

The proposed Package C includes construction of a Nutrient Management Facility (NMF) and an athletic field, which will be built on an adjacent parcel located due west of Hooffs Run and 1500 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria's Main Wastewater Treatment Plant site. The NMF would consist of concrete rectangular holding tanks, a pump station, an odor control system and electrical facilities to power the new equipment. The NMF tanks will have 18 million gallons capacity and would be part of a partially buried large concrete structure. An athletic field and related amenities would be constructed on top of the tanks. There will be a generator for emergency use.

A review of the Environmental Assessment conducted on this project indicates that either significant environmental impacts would not result from the proposed project or significant environmental impacts have been eliminated by making changes in the project. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

Persons may comment in writing to the Department on the proposed decision within 30 days from the first publication date. Comments, including electronically transmitted comments (i.e. e-mail), shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer and shall contain a complete, concise statement of the factual basis for the comments. Only those comments received within this period will be considered by the Department.

All pertinent information, including the Statement of Environmental Review, the Environmental Assessment and the support documentation is on file and may be inspected and arrangements made for copying at the DEQ Northern Regional Office at 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA, 22193, (703) 583-3903.

Following the comment period, the Department will make its final determination.  
All comments should be addressed to:  
Mr. Walter A. Gills  
Program Manager  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Clean Water Financing and Assistance Program  
629 East Main Street  
P. O. Box 1105  
Richmond, VA 23218  
Email: [walter.gills@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:walter.gills@deq.virginia.gov)

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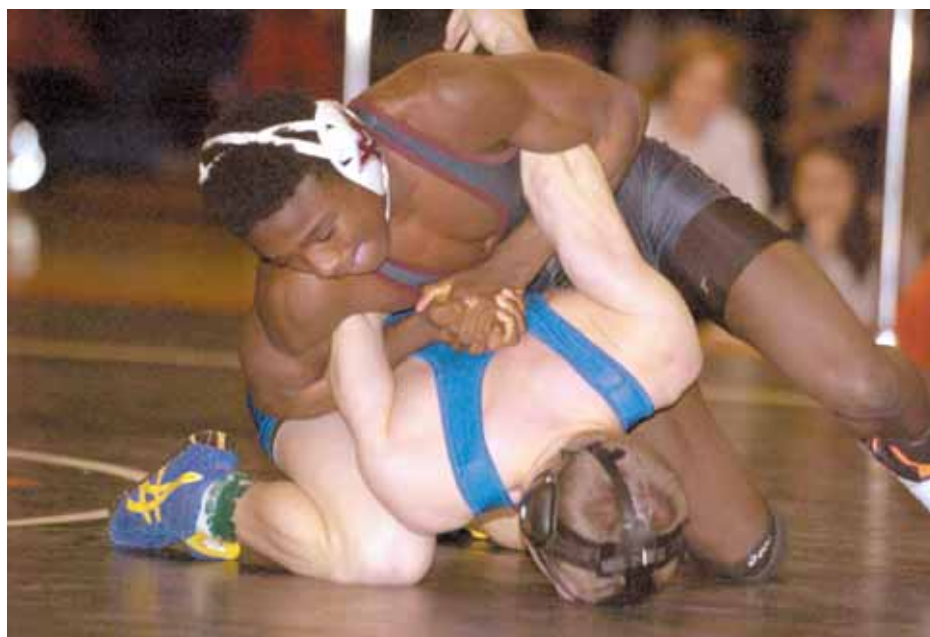
# Mount Vernon Wrestling Places Third at Regionals

**Freshman Adusei wins 126-pound title.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**W**ith the clock ticking down and the match seemingly in hand, Mount Vernon freshman Bill Adusei added style points, slamming Robinson's Austin Riggs to the mat for a takedown. Mount Vernon head coach Anthony McDuffie started high-fiving those around him as victory neared.

Adusei defeated Riggs via 12-5 decision to capture the 126-pound championship at the Northern Region wrestling meet on Feb. 9 at Hayfield Secondary School. Adusei was one of three Majors to reach the finals, but the only one who came away with a title. Mount Vernon finished third in the team standings with a score of 155.5. Robinson won the region title with a score of 232 and Westfield finished runner-up (224).



**Mount Vernon's Bill Adusei, top, defeated Robinson's Austin Riggs via 12-5 decision to win the 126-pound title at the Northern Region wrestling meet on Feb. 9 at Hayfield Secondary School.**

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

"He tried to throw me and I got a little bear hug and I just landed on top of him," said Adusei, who improved to 29-2 during his freshman campaign. "... I feel amazing right now."

Mount Vernon's Tasi Mathias reached the 195-pound final, but suffered his first loss of the season — a 4-2 overtime decision against Thomas Jefferson's Patrick O'Connor. Vika Mathias reached the 285-pound final, but lost a 4-2 decision to Robinson's Jake Pinkston.

Mount Vernon's Nate Haro placed third in the 220-pound bracket, John Victoria (106) and Eriq Dahlum (132) each finished fourth in their respective weight classes, and Chris Johnson (120) and Joe Garza (138) each finished fifth.

Victoria, Johnson, Adusei, Dahlum, Tasi Mathias, Haro and Vika Mathias were each National District champions in their respective weight classes.

The VHSL state wrestling championships will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15 and 16 at Oscar Smith High School in Chesapeake.

# West Potomac's Rupp Captures 220-Pound Regional Title

**Senior remains undefeated.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**A**s West Potomac senior William Rupp has maintained an undefeated record this season, the Wolverine grappler enters each match battling nerves.

Heading into the 220-pound final at the Northern Region wrestling meet, Rupp's butterflies were so bad he thought he was going to be sick.

"Every single match I go out real nervous," Rupp would later say. "For that one, I thought I was going to throw up before the match, I was so scared."

When the match was over, Rupp again rendered his post-competition nerves unnecessary.

Rupp defeated Langley's Tate Dulany via 14-6 major decision to capture the 220-pound region championship on Feb. 9 at Hayfield Secondary School. Rupp improved his season record to 42-0. Prior to this sea-

son, his best finish was placing second at the Patriot District meet as a junior. Rupp attributed his improvement to lifting weights and wrestling with grapplers from Hayfield and Mount Vernon.

"I feel like, especially coming into this season, no one really knew who I was," Rupp said, "and I really had to throw myself out there ..."

Rupp's finish helped West Potomac place seventh as a team. The Wolverines finished with 74 points, third-best among Patriot District teams. Robinson won the championship with a score of 232, followed by Westfield (224), Mount Vernon (155.5), Lake Braddock (146), Centerville (86) and Annandale (77).

West Potomac's Zachary Prinzbach placed third in the 195-pound division and John Perez placed sixth in the 126-pound bracket.

The VHSL state wrestling championships will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15 and 16 at Oscar Smith High School in Chesapeake.



**West Potomac senior William Rupp, top, defeated Langley's Tate Dulany via 14-6 major decision to capture the 220-pound title at the Northern Region wrestling meet on Feb. 9 at Hayfield Secondary School.**

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

## SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

**Andrew James Duke**, from Fort Belvoir, was named to the dean's list at Baylor University. He is part of the School of Engineering and Science.

**Aisha Ford** and **Madeline Ogden** have been named to the fall 2012 honors list at Mary Baldwin College.

**Emily Jayne** was named to the dean's list at the University of Wis-

consin-Madison. She is part of the school of education.

**John Thomas Tenorio**, a freshman, was among the 305 students from Thiel College who were named to the fall 2012 dean's list. Tenorio has been on the Thiel dean's list one time.

The following students were recognized as members of the dean's list for the fall semester at Eastern Mennonite University: **Heather Evans**, a sophomore music performance major. Evans is the daughter of David and Beth Evans. **Erin Rheinheimer**, a sophomore art major. Rheinheimer is the daughter of

Doug and Valerie Rheinheimer. **Stephanie Rheinheimer**, a senior social work major. Rheinheimer is the daughter of Doug and Valerie Rheinheimer.

**Tamaric Wilson** has made the dean's list at Sacred Heart University.

**Emily Hauptle** has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester at Marquette University. Hauptle is pursuing a bachelor of science in business administration.

**Genevieve Francis** was named to the dean's list at The University of

Scranton for the fall 2012 semester. Francis is a freshman occupational therapy major at Scranton.

**Susi Calles-Revelo**, a student at Mount Vernon High School, has been nominated to represent Virginia as a national youth correspondent for the 2013 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University.

The following Washington and Lee students have earned dean's list status for the recently ended Fall 2012 term: **Caroline Schmidt**, a member of the class of 2013, and **Russell Schmidt**, a member of the class of 2016.

The following James Madison University students have been named to the president's list for the fall 2012 semester:

**Devan Maddox** is a senior whose major is English. **Kristen Fannon** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies. **Caitrin Rhoads** is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies. **James Dressing** is a senior whose major is management. **Amanda Devoto** is a senior whose major is psychology. **Evan Grice** is a senior whose major is writing, rhetoric and technical communications.



## Home Life Style

**Designer Karen Luria created a warm and inviting living room with luxurious throw pillows and grass cloth wallpaper. The room also includes an Indonesian carved wood coffee table and silver embossed side tables from India.**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAREN LURIA

# International Infusion

**Alexandria designer creates inviting home for passionate world travelers.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE GAZETTE

**B**lending an eclectic mix of home accessories and furnishings to create a harmonious and tasteful interior can pose a decorating conundrum for many homeowners.

"There are definitely challenges to coming up with the right placement when you have a wide assortment of things," said Burke designer Courtney Thomas. "Interior design rules can intimidate people."

When accent pieces run the international gamut from tiles amassed in Morocco to paintings purchased in China the challenge can be even more perplexing.

"The placement of items from different cultures in a room in a way that makes that room look like a

refined melding of goods can be tricky," said Fairfax-based designer Christine Manning.

So when it came to decorating their Alexandria home, a globe-trotting couple deferred to interior designer Karen A. Luria of Karen Luria Interior Identity, Inc. They put their acquisitions — ranging from a collection of combs amassed during trips to Africa to paintings acquired during travels to China — in her hands.

"These clients had traveled all over the world and wanted to incorporate all of the art that they had accumulated into a holistic design that would reflect their travels," said Luria.

The designer's challenge was to purchase furniture that would complement the couple's acquisitions. "The client had the art and then I filled in the rest of the furniture and other pieces of art to create a cohesive design. Each room is different."

In the living room, Luria added a Persian rug and wicker sofa with shades of rose and green: "Green is the royal color and you don't often find Persian rugs

SEE DESIGN, PAGE 19



Karen Luria designed a home with collectibles ranging from a collection of combs amassed by her clients during trips to Africa to paintings acquired during travels to China.



In the dining room, Karen Luria chose a beaded chandelier and natural rosewood dining table.

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# Mount Vernon REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION



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2 9061 TOWER HOUSE PL	5	..	5	.	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.51	22308	RIVERVIEW AT MOUNT VERNON	12/19/12
3 9514 MOUNT VERNON LNDG	4	..	4	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.59	22309	MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC	12/17/12
4 6500 PRINCETON DR	4	..	3	.	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$885,000	Detached	0.20	22307	BELLE HAVEN TERRACE	12/17/12
5 1212 SHENANDOAH RD	4	..	3	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$882,000	Detached	0.50	22308	TAUXEMONT	12/05/12
6 8069 FAIRFAX RD	5	..	4	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$879,000	Detached	0.15	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE	12/31/12
7 1208 HUNTLY PL	4	..	3	.	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$850,000	Detached	0.43	22307	VILLAMAY	12/27/12
8 1106 EMERALD DR	5	..	3	.	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$835,000	Detached	0.33	22308	WAYNEWOOD	12/07/12
9 1908 WINDMILL LN	4	..	3	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$825,000	Detached	0.35	22307	MASON HILL	12/03/12
10 3618 OLD VERNON CT	5	..	4	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$815,000	Detached	0.48	22309	PETTITTS LANDING	12/10/12
11 9317 OLD MANSION RD	4	..	3	.	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$812,000	Detached	0.42	22309	RIVERWOOD	12/17/12

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# Home Remodeling Projects Continue to Rise

Updating kitchens and bathrooms are homeowners' priorities.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE GAZETTE

**H**ome remodeling projects continue to rebound, and kitchens and bathrooms are at the top of the project list, according to a new report for the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

"I was personally surprised the number of really high-end projects, like those over \$150,000," said Nikki Golden, NARI spokeswoman.

When the owners of a Fairfax Station home decided to turn their outdated master bathroom into a modern spa retreat, they added a black granite vanity, matching shower bench and custom glass shower doors. "This master bathroom has been completely transformed into an oasis," said Fairfax-based contractor Robert Kalmin of RJK Construction. "Immediately as you walk in, you are greeted by a large double vanity. The cabinetry door style is Centennial from Bertch Bath. Two mirrors with matching trim are hung above each sink and add continuity."

Kalmin, who is also a board member of the Washington-region's National Association of the Remodeling Industry chapter, said that a creative use of lighting helped set a relaxing, spa-like tone. "Three sconce lights add direct lighting and flare to this bathroom," he said. "The Key West soaking tub ... would make anyone jealous. A unique feature in this bathroom is the extra cabinet that is adjacent to the bathtub. It adds extra storage space and creates more countertop space for decorative items like candles."

**WHEN IT COMES TO** kitchens, NARI says homeowners are expressing a desire to expand. For example, when the owners of a Reston home decided to remodel their kitchen, they removed a wall that separated the kitchen from the living area and cre-

ated a open, free-flowing space that allowed for casual entertaining.

"Removing a partition wall allowed us to bring out a peninsula into the living area, expanding the kitchen and providing the opportunity for additional cabinetry, countertop space and a bar top," said Suzanne Kalmin of RJK Construction. "The [cabinetry] creates a contrast in the kitchen. The door style is a full overlay, called Pembroke and the finish is 'Raven' on cherry

wood." The homeowners wanted a durable counter surface so they chose quartz. In addition, "a section of butcher block next to the cook-top serves as a convenient prep space for cutting vegetables or bread," Suzanne Kalmin added. "This kitchen is packed with professional grade appliances, [including] a Viking professional cooktop and oven-micro-wave combination."

The homeowners chose stainless steel appliances to strike an earthy but luxurious tone, she continued. "[They] are complemented by the stainless steel backsplash ... behind the range and between the countertop and bar of the peninsula. A staggered glass natural stone combination tile is featured in the backsplash. The front of the bar is covered with a staggered natural stacked stone."

To complete the project, the wood flooring the adjacent living room was refinished to match the flooring in the remodeled kitchen to create a seamless finish.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RJK CONSTRUCTION

**The owners of this Fairfax Station master bathroom decided to turn their outdated space into a modern, spa retreat.**

## Design

FROM PAGE 17

that have the colors that this rug has," she said. "It was a very special rug."

The overall look of the living room that Luria aimed to create is warm and inviting. She covered the walls in grass cloth and added luxurious throw pillows. "Throw pillows always make any space or furniture look more inviting," she said. "They beckon you to come and sit."

Also in the living room is an Indonesian carved wood coffee table and silver embossed side tables from India. "It is a style of silver embossing that is unique to India," said Luria.

In the dining room, Luria chose a beaded chandelier. "It is from Syria and the beads make up the shade," she said. "On the outer portion there are five beaded shades with arms. Those arms surround a larger beaded shade in the center."

The dining room table is natural rosewood. "Most rosewood has been stained so it looks like it is all one color," said Luria. "This table shows the rosewood in its natural form and the wood has different shades."

Luria added, "Every continent in the world is represented in this home."

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