



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

More than 600 Brownies and Girl Scouts from Alexandria, Mount Vernon and Arlington registered and marched in the annual George Washington Birthday parade on Monday afternoon, Feb. 18.

A Parade for George



Waynewood Elementary scouts from Pack 1504.



George and Martha Washington (Don DeHaven and Lari La Belle) are treated to candy favors by the passing Scout troops.



The St. Mary's School Scouts raise their hands and caps to offer a cheer for General Washington on his birthday.



Mount Vernon District School Board representative Dan Storck appears as President Abraham Lincoln.

Uncommon Valor

Survivors reunite for 68th anniversary of Iwo Jima.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

The morning of Feb. 19, 1945, dawned eerily quiet as Private First Class Carl Norton made his way toward the shores of the remote Japanese island of Iwo Jima. But in an instant, 20-millimeter dual purpose guns buried in the side of Mount Suribachi exploded, erupting into one of the bloodiest battles in U.S. history.

"I was one of the first to make it onto the island without getting shot," said Norton, who knew his odds of survival that day were slim. "It was a terrible, terrible battle, with two sides who hated each other willing to fight until the bitter end."

Norton was badly wounded in the ensuing skirmish and later

awarded a Purple Heart for his heroics. Now 93 years old, he joined 20 other Iwo Jima survivors at the Sheraton Hotel in Arlington over the weekend to mark the 68th anniversary of the battle.

"Dad never spoke of Iwo Jima when we were growing up," said Norton's daughter Becky Dunlop, who lives with her husband George in Arlington. "But he came to the dedication of the World War II Memorial in 2004 as part of an Honor Flight and it was then that we saw him lighting up and beginning to share his service stories."

Other survivors attending the reunion included Mount Vernon area resident Harry Hink, a B-29 pilot who landed four times on Iwo Jima.

"The most dreaded part of the

SEE SURVIVORS, PAGE 3

"To this day, whenever I see a Marine, I say 'thank you.'"

— Mount Vernon area resident and Iwo Jima veteran Harry Hink

Don't Text This

Bill outlawing vehicular composition heads to governor.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Drivers may be texting apologies later this year if Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell approves legislation that would toughen penalties for composing emails or messages while driving. This week, the Virginia state Senate voted 28 to 12 in favor of a House bill increasing the fine for a first offense from \$20 to \$250. The fine for a second or subsequent offense would go up from \$50 to \$500.

"It doesn't go far enough in my

opinion," said Del. Scott Surovell (D-44), who introduced a version of the bill earlier this year. "Ideally, I think Virginia should be a hands-free state — meaning if you use a phone while driving you have to use a speakerphone or a Bluetooth device or something like that."

Surovell began crafting the bill last year, when he was representing the family of Kyle Rowley, a Herndon teenager who was killed when a texting motorist slammed into his car. The 19-year-old college student was on his way home

SEE DON'T TEXT THIS, PAGE 7

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Survivors Reunite for 68th Anniversary of Iwo Jima

FROM PAGE 1

campaign over Japan was the kamikaze pilots," said Hink, who flew 28 combat missions in WWII and another 68 in Korea. "It was an unimaginable battle that would never have been won without the courage of the Marines on the island."

George Alden Sr. of Fort Worth, Texas, was just 17 years old when he enlisted in the Marines.

"I was wounded during that first day of battle," recalled Alden, who was caught in a Japanese crossfire and shot five times as his 5th Marine Division landed on Red Beach-2. "I lost track of time after that but remember a few days later seeing the flag being raised atop Mount Suribachi."

The raising of the American flag by five Marines and one Navy Corpsman took place on Feb. 23, 1945, and was immortalized in a Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

"I went in the day the flag went up," said Lou Smith of Bellevue, Ky. "I never heard so much noise and cheering as when I looked up and saw that flag flying. But the next morning I was hit with a hand grenade."

Smith was one of 19,000 troops wounded in the 35-day battle that claimed more than 21,000 Japanese lives. Additionally, approximately one-third of all Marines killed in action during World War II were killed on Iwo Jima, where more than 100,000 Americans fought and 6,821 died — 5,931 of them Marines.

"No one knows exactly how many Iwo



Mount Vernon resident Harry Hink, standing second from right, was an Air Force B-29 pilot during WWII and landed four times on the island of Iwo Jima.



Harry Hink as a young B-29 pilot during WWII.



Mount Vernon's Harry Hink talks about the Battle of Iwo Jima at a survivors reunion Feb. 16 in Arlington. His B-29 plane is depicted in the famous John Shaw image "Iwo Jima - A Hard-won Haven."

survivors are still alive," said Fairfax High School history teacher Shayne Jarosz, executive director of the Iwo Jima Association of America and organizer of the four-day reunion. "Just last week I got word that five more had passed away. It's sad to realize that we are at the precipice of the end of an era."

More than 250 people joined the veterans for the reunion, which included a symposium, dinner gala with music donated by Radio King Orchestra and a visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico.

"A docent was answering questions from a group of school children when he spotted Dad," said Norton's daughter Rachel. "Everyone's jaw just dropped as the children realized they were hearing about the Battle of Iwo Jima from someone who was there. Afterwards, they all lined up to shake Dad's hand."

While some have questioned if the battle fought for the island of Iwo Jima was worth the loss of thousands of American lives, Hink, a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with six clusters, believes it was.

"Many American lives were saved because of that hard-fought victory," said Hink, who retired from the Air Force in 1970 and went on to work for the Federal Aviation Administration until 1987. "To this day, whenever I see a Marine, I say 'Thank you.'"

For more information on the Iwo Jima Association of America, visit www.iwojimaassociation.org.



Iwo Jima veterans gather at the Marine Corps Memorial to mark the 68th anniversary of the historic battle.



Iwo Jima survivor Lou Smith with his wife Mary.



Members of American Legion Post 24 in Old Town visit with WWII veterans during a reunion of Iwo Jima survivors in Arlington Feb. 15. Shown are Henry Dorton, Commander Bill Aramony, Bob Rigger, Jim Glassman and Ira Rigger.



Gen. Larry Snowden (ret.), recounts his time during the Battle of Iwo Jima at the Feb. 16 symposium.

PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMAN/ THE GAZETTE

PEOPLE

Hearing the Cry of the Poor “Provide!” prays Sarah Heckman.

By ED SIMMONS, JR.
THE GAZETTE

One of these chilly mornings you might spot her cycling furiously on the George Washington bike path, flying along like a comet. If you wave, she'll dazzle you with a smile and wave back.

If she doesn't see you, though, you may hear her cry out, “Provide! Provide!”

Working off the panicky stress of managing Rising Hope's ever-busier food pantry for the poor, Sarah Heckman, 20-something, is calling out to God to help put food on the shelves.

Located on Russell Road, just off Route 1 between Woodlawn and Hybla Valley, Rising Hope is a Methodist mission church where the Rev. Keary Kincannon is pastor, first starting the mission 16 years ago out of the back of his station wagon offering food to the homeless. Heckman has been his “Bread & Honey” Food Pantry manager since last summer. Formerly she and her husband Craig were missionaries.

“The holiday was very successful in filling our shelves,” she said. “But now that the holiday season is over we still need to keep receiving food. The giving needs to keep coming.”



Sarah Heckman, second from left, takes a break with her pantry volunteers Karen Johnson, Bill Walters, Mena and Nichola Carter.

Supplies in the Rising Hope pantry have been running “Very low,” she said, and that worries her.

“The emotion is my motivation to advocate for them, to let people know that the

community needs their support.”

The worst part comes when supplies run out. “It kills me when a mother comes in for baby food; it kills me that we don't have any to give her.”

Meanwhile the numbers in need continue to rise rapidly.

“Just in the first two weeks of February we've already had 48 new families. In the cold months people need to choose if they have heat or food.” The pantry is currently helping about 350 families weekly.

“I almost feel frustrated that God would allow so many people to suffer, but I definitely see God's provision and know that he will provide,” Heckman said.

Assuring herself, she expresses a high opinion of the charitable givers in the Mount Vernon area. “Seeing the way the community supported us during the holiday, I've been feeling very hopeful for 2013.”

But then donations seriously dwindled and crisis set in. “I'm really hoping people will be giving on a consistent basis,” she said.

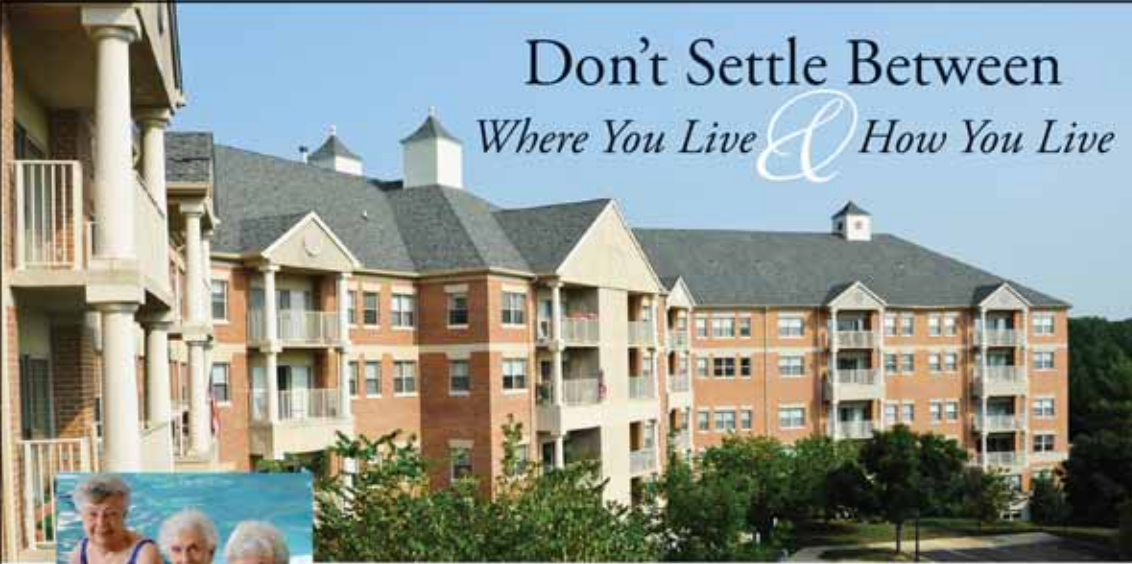
Donations can be brought to Rising Hope Tuesday through Fridays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Marked by a large white cross, the mission is located at 8220 Russell Road; the zip is 22309.




As she copes with increasing numbers and diminished supplies, “I constantly have to remind myself that I'm not the one in charge here; these are God's people and I'm here to serve them and love them to the best of my ability.”

PHOTO BY ED SIMMONS JR./THE GAZETTE

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Legislature Enters Final Week

BY SEN. TODDY PULLER
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

Working for and with my constituents in Richmond is always exciting, and this year is no different. As we enter the final week of the session, conference committees are meeting to iron out the differences in House and Senate versions of several key bills.

I am eager to see the conferees working on the transportation bill come to a common-sense solution. We need a solid transportation plan for the Commonwealth and for my district. The roads and public transportation in Northern Virginia must be able to keep up with, and expand with, our vibrant and growing communities.

Another bill I know everyone is watching is the budget. Currently, the Senate version includes Medicaid expansion, while the House version does not. This is one of the top three issues I have heard about from my constituents, and the message is overwhelmingly pro-expansion. Medicaid expansion should be allowed to go through and be in the final budget this year. With 400,000 Virginians covered by Med-



COMMENTARY

icaid, all of us will benefit in lower health care costs because these people will have access to proper medical care and will not be forced to use the emergency room as their doctor's office. Expansion will also bring 30,000 jobs to the Commonwealth.

Several of my budget amendments are currently being considered by the conference committee on the budget. These budget amendments, from providing funds for more judges to funding critical health care services, were included in the Senate Budget and will help provide real solutions to several issues in the 36th district.

My amendments now part of the Senate budget are:

- ❖ \$250,000 to eliminate waiting lists for personal assistance services to individuals with disabilities.
- ❖ \$100,000 restored funding for participation in the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.

SEE FINAL WEEK, PAGE 6

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Alex./Hollin Hall \$489,000
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OPINION

Listening to Residents

Del. Scott Surovell and state Senators Adam Ebbin and Toddy Puller discuss the General Assembly session at their town hall meeting on Saturday, Feb 16 at the Mt. Vernon Government Center. Fifty local residents attended the discussion that included a question-and-answer period focused on Medicaid expansion, transportation, gun control and voter ID issues. The legislators also announced progress with the Route 1 Transit Study which had funding approved last week and will look at several different ways to improve transit on the corridor.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Seeing Progress on U.S. 1

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
DELEGATE (D-44)

As we move to the end of the General Assembly session, we are engaged in intense negotiations on the major issues. Also, we have had significant progress on U.S. 1.

Earlier this session, Senator Puller and I culminated four years of work to build support for a U.S. 1 study when the McDonnell Administration confirmed that it is holding \$2 million to fund the next U.S. 1 improvement study. Last week, I met with over a dozen state, local and regional stakeholders here in Richmond to discuss the next steps on planning U.S. 1 improvements.

The study will have several elements. It will likely focus on the stretch of U.S. 1 from the Occoquan River to Alexandria's southern boundary. Second, there is a consensus that we must consider all modes of transit — Metrorail, light rail and bus rapid transit. Third, it will be based on the regional population, employment and household forecasts maintained by the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG). Some of these estimates may be larger than those in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. In addition, the study may include the impact that increased density has on transit ridership, if funding permits. We should know more specifics and timeframes in the next two weeks. We will issue a joint announcement and set up an informational website.

Planning for a new U.S. 1 will be an academic exercise without money. The numerous potholes in our roads confirm that the state has none. Legislators are negotiating transportation legislation as I write this column and I have serious concerns. One proposal would divert funds now devoted to education, public safety and healthcare to transportation. Virginia has budgeted to spend less per student on secondary education today than we spent in the 2007-2008 biennium. We can't pave roads with textbooks.

Another concern is how well Northern Virginia's interests are represented. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) decides which projects get funded. NOVA, Hampton Roads and Richmond have 65 percent of Virginia's population and 33 percent of the votes on the CTB. My legislation to rebalance the CTB's votes based on actual population was killed by the House by two votes after rural legislators erupted. Northern Virginia needs to be more fairly represented on the CTB so that we get our fair share of transportation money.

I am also concerned about establishing a local transportation tax unless language is included which



COMMENTARY

prohibits the CTB from reducing our state funding because we devote local funds to transportation. Without protections in law, we will not get our fair share.

Lastly, the numbers being considered are entirely too meager. The state needs \$4-5 billion per year in new funding. The most optimistic high-end projections of any plan are \$1.4 billion per year or about 20 percent of our long-

term need. At that rate, U.S. 1 road and transit improvements will be funded by about 2050. I want a long-term fix, not more short-term measures designed for election protection.

When this is printed, a compromise plan will probably have been announced. I am still undecided. Please email me your views.

Secondary education reform is also on the calendar. I was one of three House Democrats to vote for Governor McDonnell's proposal to give schools letter grades (A-F) modeled on a Jeb Bush proposal. Our current school rating labels are indecipherable techno-speak that take a graduate school education to understand. Simplifying this system will provide everyone clearer information on the quality of our schools and foster improvement.

Governor McDonnell has proposed creating a new Richmond control board to take over non-performing schools modeled on a Louisiana program. I strongly oppose this concept. Once a school is removed from local control, local taxpayers would still have to bear the costs, but have no say in school operations or policies. Parents would have no school board member to call. While some school boards in Virginia are dysfunctional, a central-government takeover is not the way to fix local school problems.

We have several critical votes coming up this week. Please stay posted and let me know if you have feedback. It is an honor to serve you in Richmond.

Final Week

FROM PAGE 5

❖ \$300,000 to fund the "Virginia Values Veterans" program, which encourages employers to hire veterans.

❖ Funding to unfreeze two circuit court judgeships in the 19th Judicial Circuit in Fairfax County.

❖ Funding for one general district judgeship in the 19th Judicial Circuit in Fairfax County.

Don't Text This

FROM PAGE 1

from work on a Sunday night in 2011 when the accident happened, killing him instantly and turning his family's life upside down. In the wake of the teenager's death, the family was shocked to learn that nothing could be done to prosecute the driver.

"Since he wasn't speeding and he had no alcohol, there was no basis to charge him even though it was obvious that he wasn't paying attention because it was a straightaway, it was well lit, and he never put his brakes on," said Carl Rowley, father of the slain teenager. "But the law just doesn't have the ability to do that."

NOT UNTIL NOW. The bill now on its way to the governor says anyone convicted of reckless driving faces a mandatory minimum \$500 fine if the driver was texting at the time of the offense. The bill also changes texting while driving to a primary offense, allowing police to stop and ticket offenders. Currently it's a secondary offense, which means drivers can only be cited if they're stopped for another violation such as speeding.

"The Rowleys are happy that something positive came from their son's death because that's what created the momentum for the law to change," said Surovell, who represented the family in a civil case.

Late last year, Surovell and Del. Ben Cline (R-24) appeared together at a press conference in advance of a Virginia State Crime Commission meeting to announce the legislation. They were joined by members of DRIVE SMART Virginia, a coalition of groups advo-

cating stronger legislation against texting while driving. Together, the bipartisan coalition hopes to pass legislation in the upcoming General Assembly session.

"This bill will strengthen the law on texting while driving and send the message that this is not safe or tolerable driving behavior," said Cline. "I am pleased to have the support of DRIVE SMART Virginia, and look forward to working with Delegate Surovell to pass this important legislation."

THE ORIGINAL BILL made using a handheld communications device for something other than verbal communications punishable with a \$2,500 fine and a year in jail. The version that finally made it through the legislative sausage factory has a maximum fine of \$500.

Supporters of the effort say any change is a positive step forward, one that can be built on in future years. For the Rowley family, the fact that people are talking about the issue is a victory in its own right.

"We can't bring Kyle back," said Meryl Rowley, the teenager's mother. "But we can send a harsher message that texting while driving is becoming a national problem."

Surovell said one of the biggest problems of the bill now on its way to the Governor's Mansion is how limited it is.

"It only prohibits either texting or emailing," said Surovell. "It does not prohibit a lot of the other things you can do with a phone today that can be equally distracting, like browsing the Internet or selecting music or playing Angry Birds."



Gold Award Project

Hannah O'Neil completed her Girl Scout Gold Award Project "Fitness Fun to Last a Lifetime." Hannah worked with students at the Creekside Community Center and Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School to teach them the importance of a healthy lifestyle. There were games, crafts and discussions about eating well and learning how to be more active. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting.



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OPINION

Lots of Moving Parts Remain

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)



Thanks to all of you who attended one of the town meetings in Mount Vernon or Old Town on Saturday. It's always good to hear what's on your mind, and your input helps me represent you better.

As the General Assembly approaches the scheduled adjournment of our 46-day legislative session, there are still lots of moving parts: amendments, conference committee reports, and remaining bills are all being rapidly considered; committees just completed their work on Monday; the Senate and House budgets are in conference committee to be worked out with Medicaid expansion being my top priority; and a transportation plan may yet emerge to address our enormous funding needs.

The Senate recently passed a bipartisan transportation proposal that represents a clear improvement over the House version as well as Governor McDonnell's original plan. Under the Senate plan, the gasoline tax would be in-

creased by 5 cents per gallon and indexed to rise automatically with the cost of road construction materials. Also, a wholesale tax would be imposed on fuel and 1 percent regional sales taxes would be instituted in Northern Virginia, Central Virginia and Hampton Roads. The House plan, meanwhile, falls woefully short of the necessary funding because it eliminates the gas tax. I am hesitant to get into too many details, as the final plan will likely be a compromise between the Senate and House plans. In the meantime, I'll keep working with Sen. Janet Howell, who serves on this important conference committee, to promote the best aspects of the Senate plan. I remain hopeful that House Republicans will work with us and recognize Northern Virginia's needs and garner adequate funding for roads and transit.

Another key issue remaining to be settled is Governor McDonnell's initiative to provide for state takeover of low-performing schools. I applaud his interest in helping struggling

schools, but I do not believe a mandatory takeover mechanism is the best way to do it. While state support for those schools is welcome, his bill takes a hard-line approach that does not allow for continued involvement from the local school board and citizens. It employs a low standard for takeover without setting a timeline for a school to be returned to community control, and there could soon be over 100 schools in jeopardy of takeover. The legislation also does not consider existing transformation policies that are successfully taking hold. Though a constitutional amendment to provide authority for takeover legislation was effectively withdrawn, the legislation itself is still under consideration.

To read more about what I'm up to, visit www.adamebbin.com. Call my office at 571-384-8957 or email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov to share your opinion or if we can be of assistance. In addition to legislative work, we are still responding to the more than 2,500 constituent emails received this session.

It's an honor to represent the people of the 30th Senate District and I look forward to seeing you back home soon.

ing a Citizens' Action Plan for Litter Prevention, developed by its Environment and Recreation Committee (which I chair). The plan calls for six actions that could be taken by Fairfax County on its own, and four that would require action by our legislature. The action plan can be found at <http://mvcca.org/env-rec.html>. Whether the county and state choose to pursue the actions advocated by MVCCA or adopt other strategies for reducing litter, something serious needs to be done to address this problem.

As a small but immediate first step, I hope that Fairfax County will participate in Litter Enforcement Month this April, and beef up training and enforcement of existing litter laws.

Litter poisons our streets and streams and parks and yards. We need to take steps now to stop it.

Betsy Martin
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Litter Poisons Environment

To the Editor:

Michael Pope's recent article ["Carts Clog Creek," Feb. 14] brings needed attention to the problem of the shopping carts that end up in Little Hunting Creek. Del. Scott Surovell introduced a bill that would have given Fairfax County the authority to require owners of abandoned property (such as Walmart, owner of most of the shopping carts found in the creek) to remove their property within 7 days or face a fine. This would have been an important step toward giving Fairfax County the tools to address its litter and dumping problems, but unfortunately the bill was tabled. I hope Delaware Surovell's bill will succeed next year.

But abandoned shopping carts are just one part of a serious litter problem that affects every district in Fairfax County. Litter tossed from cars or by pedestrians ends up trashing our parks and roadways and is carried by storm drains into streams, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay. Items such as tires, car bumpers, old cars, broken appliances, and obsolete computer equipment are dumped in out-of-the-way places like parks and easements to avoid dumping fees. They contain toxics that leak into nearby streams and groundwater, affecting water quality and public safety, and they form breeding sites for mosquitoes and rats.

Litter and trash are offensive, create safety and health hazards, and affect property values and quality of life. According to the National Association of Home Builders' pricing model, an otherwise similar house is valued 7 percent less when it's located in a littered neighborhood. A study by Keep America Beautiful found that 36 percent of economic development officials say litter affects decisions to

locate in a community. Litter and trash do not facilitate the hoped-for revitalization of the Richmond Highway corridor. Otherwise beautiful tourist locations along the Potomac River are despoiled by litter.

Virginia's approach to litterers is to clean up after them. Business establishments which might be a source of littered material are only held slightly responsible. They pay a modest annual litter tax (\$25 for a 7-11) which goes to a state fund used to support volunteer cleanups. Littering is illegal, but a person must be caught in the act to be prosecuted, so prosecutions are rare. Surveys show that self-admitted litterers (correctly) believe they will not be caught.

After a decade of organizing yearly cleanups by the Friends of Little Hunting Creek to remove trash and litter from the creek, I've concluded that Virginia's approach is ineffective. There are no incentives for litterers to stop littering, so the behavior does not change and the litter just keeps on coming. There are no incentives for producers of littered materials to ensure that their products do not end up as litter. The burden is shifted to cleanup volunteers, who do the dirty, hazardous, backbreaking, and endless work of picking up the trash, and to government, which collects and disposes of it. Keep America Beautiful estimates that the annual costs of litter cleanups in the U.S. are \$11.5 billion.

Why should people who don't litter pick up after people who do? Why not create incentives to get people to pick up after themselves? Instead of relying on volunteers to pick up litter after the fact, it would be more efficient and effective to develop policies and laws to prevent littering, and to reduce the use and/or increase recycling of materials that end up as litter.

In 2011, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations passed a resolution support-

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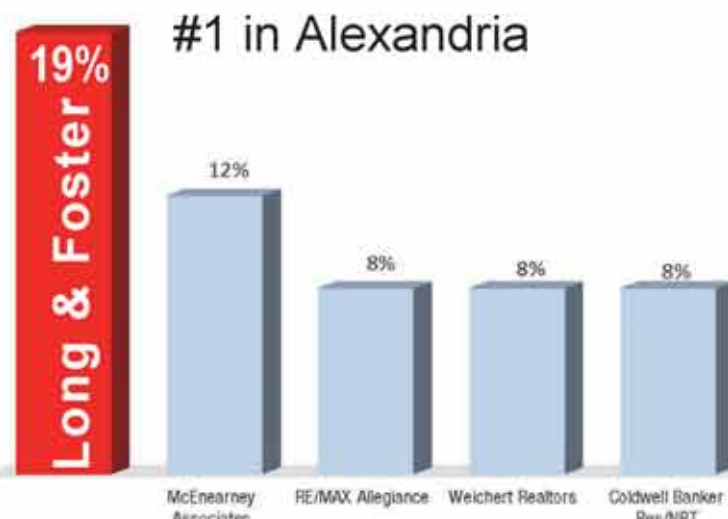
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Choosing a Summer Camp

Region offers programs to tempt children with interests ranging from sports to drama to science.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

While most of Washington is braving the winter weather, April Toman has been planning for summer. At the top of her list: choosing a camp for her two children, Claire, who is in fifth grade, and Will, who is a second grader.

"I start thinking about it in January," said Toman, who lives in Alexandria. "I talk to my kids about what they are interested in taking. There are so many options and the popular camps fill up quickly."

Education experts say summer camp is an important part of a childhood experience, and parents should start considering options well before the end of the school year.

"I think summer camps are wonderful for kids," said Tammy Davis, a doctor of education and a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Sometimes kids lose ground over the summer, especially with regard to their mental activity. Summer camp can continue brain development, especially with regard to creativity, mental activity, physical activity and social activity."

Davis, who is a former camp counselor, elementary school teacher and school counselor, said children who are not exposed to



Students show projects that they made during a physics camp at SummerTimes Camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School last summer.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

new social activities could become isolated during the summer months. "If your kids are only playing video games or going to the pool every day, they run the risk of cocooning themselves," she said. "Choose a camp that expands your child's horizons,

that will be stimulating and engaging and where they will develop new friendships without the pressure of an academic environment."

Toman, whose children will attend summer camp at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, says that from traditional day camps to specialty camps, the options for children are plentiful. "My children have done junior veterinarian camp in the past, and this year we might try an eco-adventures camp."

FROM SPORTS TO SCIENCE, the Washington region is filled with camps that will suit almost every child. For example, Annie Moyer, director of the Sun & Moon Yoga Studio in Arlington and Fairfax, says yoga camps are options even for children who have never practiced yoga. "No yoga experience is necessary," she said. "We do yoga games and poses, breathing, artistic expression and, weather permitting, outdoor playground time."

For youngsters with a passion for all things artistic, Jeanne Loveland, education director for the Greater Reston Arts Center, suggests art camp. "Our camps are based on the GRACE mission, which is contemporary art" she said. "There are some discussions and there are art projects. There is one camp of messy art projects that your mom would never let you do at home. The camps are educational, but also fun. We will bring in local artists."

Loveland added that during one session, students will learn about public art, and "will create a public art work that will be displayed publicly after the camp."

Jim Supple, director of summer programs

at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, encourages parents to consider specialty camps as well as traditional day camps. "Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons, and to challenge yourself," he said. "Children are naturally curious and specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their interests. If a child is not the most athletic and would rather learn about fashion or photography, acting or magic, specialty camps provide that outlet. They allow children to find things that they are good at and lets them be proud in that activity."

While the thought of academic camps might cause some children to cringe, Mollianne Logerwell, Ph.D., director of science education at George Mason University's Virginia Initiative for Science Teaching and Achievement, says that does not have to be the case. George Mason hosts science camps, and "students frequently tell us that camp was not only fun, but also increased their interest in science," she said. "Additionally, classroom teachers have told us that students who attended a VISTA camp ask higher-level questions and are more engaged in science lessons than students who did not attend camp."

Logerwell said VISTA camps are geared toward low-income students. "It's also a great way to expose families with limited knowledge to the possibility of attending and affording college."

WITH SO MANY OPTIONS for summer camps, choosing the best camp for your child can be overwhelming. "When parents are looking for a camp, they should try to find a camp where they're comfortable with the facility, the programming, and counselors and staff," said Kevin Rechen, camp director for the Norwood School in Bethesda, Md.

Gabrielle Summers, who is planning to send her children to summer camp at the Norwood School, says that she considers safety first. "Sec-

ond, [I consider] the qualifications of counselors and leadership and their love of the children. [Then] I look at cost, early bird discounts, payment due dates and cancellation policies."

For those who may not be able to afford the cost of summer camp, Rechen suggests that parents do a little research. "Many summer camps offer financial aid," he said. "There are also foundations that give grants for camps."

No matter which camp a child attends, however, Davis has one caution: "Be careful about over-scheduling camps, doing back-to-back camps and not giving children down time," she said. "Some people use camp as day care and that is not always a good thing."

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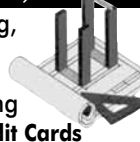
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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: To whom it may concern, take notice that the Annual Report of the BLACKBURN FOUNDATION, INC. FYE 10/31/12 is available for inspection at 201 North Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, during regular business hours by request within 180 days after publication of this notice. Request to inspect said Annual Report should be made to J.W. Blackburn, Prin. Mgr. 703/519-3703.

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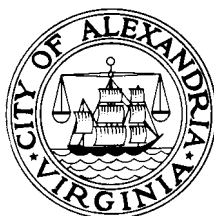
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21 Announcements 21 Announcements



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NOTICE FOR TEMPORARY POLLING PLACE MOVE FROM CHINQUAPIN RECREATION CENTER TO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALEXANDRIA

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
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-Thomas A. Edison

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Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet The Mount Vernon Gazette	Zone 6: The Arlington Connection The Vienna/Oakton Connection The McLean Connection The Great Falls Connection

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

All stand as the Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Pipe Band passes the reviewing stand during Alexandria's 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade.



The Fairfax County Police Motor Squad performance marks the end of the 2012 St. Pat's Parade in Alexandria.



Ballyshaners Chairman Pat Troy introduces the 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals Tom and Melinda Mooney.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Alexandria's 32nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 2, at 12:30 p.m. in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. Hosted by the Ballyshaners, the parade will start at the corner of King and Alfred streets, and proceed east down King St. to the corner of King and Lee streets.

This year's parade will be led by Grand Marshal Bryan "Bugsy" Watson, owner of Bugsy's PizzaRestaurant and Sports Bar. After 17 seasons as a defenseman in the National Hockey League — three of them with the Washington Capitals — Watson and his wife Lindy chose to settle in Alexandria and open their restaurant in Old Town.

As always, the parade will feature more than 100 units, including groups celebrating their Irish heritage, marchers from the military services, Irish dancing schools, bagpipe bands and other Alexandria community groups.

In addition to the parade, festivities will include a Classic Car Show, held on Pitt Street between King and Cameron streets beginning at 10 a.m., and the Fun Dog Show held in Market Square, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The Fun Dog Show, an annual favorite, will benefit Lucky Dog Animal Rescue. Lucky Dog Animal Rescue is a non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of homeless animals and educating the community on responsible pet ownership.

All events are free to the public. Parade-goers are encouraged to take Metro to the King Street/Old Town stop, then walk 10 minutes east on King Street to the parade route. All events are sponsored by the Ballyshaners — Gaelic for "Old Towners". A not-for-profit group, the Ballyshaners seek to promote and preserve Irish heritage through sponsorship of the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Alexandria Irish Festival, held every summer. Visit www.ballyshaners.org.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to 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 or 703-201-1250.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 South Washington Street. Open daily through September, this exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. See how Robert E. Lee's hometown was transformed literally overnight from a prosperous commercial port into a supply, hospital, and transportation center for the Union Army, and find out why Alexandria became a destination for African Americans seeking freedom. Explore the experiences of Alexandrians and others who lived here during this tumultuous time, through their own words, as well as in period photographs and collections items. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

703-746-4994.

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 or 703-548-0035.

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 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. 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/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 Cocker 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

Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun And Wayne 'The Train' Hancock. 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

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 or 202-767-

Process: Photography

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Society presents Process: Photography, running Feb. 28-April 7. This show brings together established and emerging regional talent to demonstrate the capabilities and characteristics of a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large format with a 20" by 24" negative to electron microscopy to a scanner-as-camera. Over fifteen different types of equipment are represented. An free opening reception is scheduled for Sunday, March 3, 4-6 p.m. Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m., many of the artists will participate in an Artists' Show & Tell where they will bring the camera used to shoot the image in the show and talk about their processes.

Featured Artists: John Brown, Robert Creamer, Jim Darling, Frank Hallam Day, Roger Foster, Reed A. George, Andrew Z. Glickman, Maxwell MacKenzie, Phil Nesmith, Christos J. Palios, Hal Rummel, Jim Steele, Craig Sterling, The Howard Hughes Medical Institute scientists, Andrew Zimmermann and Everitt Clark. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Visit www.nvfaa.org.



"Iris Throne," by Robert Creamer, 40 x 40", Epson print on Somerset Velvet, captured using an Epson 10000XL scanner as a camera, 2011.

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/

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 16

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 15

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 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.

Book Signing and Recipe Swap. 7 p.m. at Hooray For Books!, 1555 King Street. Mary Ellen Taylor will sign copies of her book “The Union Street Bakery,” which is set in Old Town Alexandria. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or call 703-548-4092.

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/. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

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.Convergenceccf.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 or RSVP to Allison Manning at 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 or at the door.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Annual Jury Information Session. 2-3 p.m. in Studio 31 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visual artists who are interested in joining the Torpedo Factory Artists’

Association can get more information. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Film Day. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch “The Color Purple” in honor of African-American History Month. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

African Drumming Workshop. 2-3:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Susan Berning leads the interactive rhythms. Bring own drum, bell or shaker, or ask to borrow one. \$5/person or \$15/family. Contact Susan Berning at 443-761-0165 or sberning@worldportico.com.

THROUGH FEB. 24

Exhibit. “Dot and Dash” art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery from Feb. 1-24. Getting back to the basics: dot and dash. Artists deconstruct their individualized art-making processes to interpret the theme in their unique styles, showcasing two- and three-dimensional work that is painterly, graphic, realistic, and abstract. Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

MONDAY/FEB. 25

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 or at the door.

FEB. 26 THROUGH APRIL 28

Exhibit. “Artistic Duo IV” will be on exhibit at Green Spring Horticultural Center Gallery, 4603 Green Spring Road. Works by watercolor artist Carolyn Grossé and photographer Stephen Gawarecki are featured in a joint show. Paintings range from realistic to abstract; photographs include his window series and moody landscapes. Free. Visit www.greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Black History Month Event. 7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Features Kathy Harty Gray Dancers, poetry readings by students and faculty, music by the NOVA Jazz Band and more. Free, but donations requested. Parking is \$6. 703-845-6097.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band. 7:30 p.m. \$45. Visit www.nittygritty.com. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Author Series. 7-8:30 p.m. at Charles Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. In honor of Black History Month, Bob O’Connor will speak about his book “The U.S. Colored Troops at Andersonville Prison.” Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

Networking Fun. 6-9 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. Hosted by New Hope Housing’s Young Professionals Board and IMPACT Marketing & Events. Features cocktails, music and more. \$20 online or \$25 at the door. E-mail mjannazo@newhopehousing.org or 703-799-2292 ext. 11.

Information Talk. 6-7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Hall Library. Students and parents can gain insight into the importance of promoting financial



Joyce Garrett



Lisa Edwards Burrs

Celebrate Black History

Black History Month Concert of dance, music, and poetry Wednesday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, at 3001 N. Beauregard. The event will feature the Kathy Harty Gray Dancers, poetry readings by students and faculty of the Northern Virginia Community College, and music performed by the NOVA Jazz Band and the NOVA Community Chorus. There will also be special guests — Joyce Garrett and the renowned Choir of Alfred Street Baptist Church, and soprano Lisa Edwards Burrs, an internationally recognized soprano, who will also present a Voice Master class on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m. No tick-

literacy at an early age. Daryl Mackey, author of “Teamesteem is the Key to a Teen’s Financial Dreams” will lead the forum. Copies of his book will be given out to the first 25 teens to arrive. 703-980-3510 for questions.

Gala Benefit. 7-10 p.m. at Virtue Feed and Grain, 106 S. Union St. The fourth annual CAC Gala benefits the Center for Alexandria’s Children. Features a silent auction, mini raffle, buffet and more. Tickets start at \$150 and available at <http://2013cacgala.eventbrite.com> or by contacting the Center at 703-746-6008. For more information about the Center, go to www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org.

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 or at the door.

THROUGH FEB. 28

Highlights at Mount Vernon Estate. In observance of Black History Month, Mount Vernon highlights the lives and contributions of the slaves who built and operated the plantation home of George and Martha Washington. Throughout the month, a daily Slave Life at Mount Vernon tour explores the lives and contributions of the slaves who lived at Mount Vernon. Black History Month activities are included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$17; children ages 6-11, \$8; and children under 5 are admitted free.

“Dance Your Heart Out” Campaign. Metropolitan Fine Arts Center of Alexandria and Fairfax Station is offering unlimited adult dance and mind/body classes throughout February for a special price of \$110. And MFAC will donate 10 percent of all “Dance Your Heart Out class fees to the American Heart Association. Schedules can be viewed at www.metrofinearts.com. 703-339-0444.

Art Exhibit. See “Shades of Gray” at Printmakers Inc., in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

FEB. 28 THROUGH APRIL 7

Art Exhibit. See “Process: Photography” at The Athenaeum, 201



Alfred Street Baptist Church

Prince St. Features established and emerging talent displaying a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large print to electron microscopy. Over 15 types of equipment are represented. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

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 or at the door.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAR. 1-3

The Bacon Brothers. 7:30 p.m. At the Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$39.50. Visit <http://baconbros.com>. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 6

Artwork Due. Target Gallery’s March Fundraiser exhibition will accept artwork at the gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 31

Needlework Exhibit. Exhibit is at Historic Woodlawn Museum, 9000 Richmond Highway. There is a fee. Visit <http://woodlawn1805.org>.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Celebrate Alexandria: 25 Years with Music and the Maestro. 6 p.m. at Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square. Kim Allen Kluge, musical director of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will be honored. There will be a reception, silent and live auction, dinner, dancing and more. Individual tickets are \$200. For reservations and information, contact Margherita Woods at 703-960-7994, marg.woods@cox.net, or Jane Ring at 703-548-745,

ets are required, donations are requested. Parking is \$6. For more information email mwhitmire@nvcc.edu or call 703-845-6097. The concert is presented by the Division of Liberal Arts of Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus.

jring10@comcast.net.

Virginia Grand Military Band. 7:30 p.m. Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, NVCC, Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear works by Sousa, Grainger, Gilbert & Sullivan. Adults \$15; band directors and students free. Parking \$6.-cash only, vehicles displaying handicapped tags park free. Visit www.vgmb.com or 703 426-4777.

Music. Focus Music presents Slaid Cleaves with special guest Ruut at 7 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church. \$20/general; \$18/advance at www.focusmusic.org.

Theater Production. 2 p.m. or 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 or at the door.

St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Starts at 12:30 p.m. at the corner of King Street and Alfred St. Grand Marshal is Bryan “Bugsy” Watson, owner of Bugsy’s Pizza Restaurant and Sports Bar. There will also be a Classic Car Show at 10 a.m. at Pitt Street. Visit www.ballyshaners.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

Choral Evensong. 5 p.m. at Christ Church Episcopal, 118 N. Washington St. Listen to a service of evening prayer with choral music. All are welcome. Visit www.historicchristchurch.org or 703-549-1450.

Film Day. 2 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Watch “Remember the Titans,” about T.C. Williams High School and its newly desegregated football team, in honor of African-American History Month. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meet some of the creators of the “Process: Photography.” Features established and emerging talent displaying a wide variety of picture taking devices ranging from large print to electron microscopy. Over 15 types of equipment are represented. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Closing Reception. 2-4 p.m. meet the creators of “Student/Faculty Exhibit”

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

at The Art League in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Browse through paintings, drawings, ceramics, jewelry, and more. Visit www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

Friends of Dyke Marsh. 2 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn about snakes, skinks, salamanders, geckos, frogs, alligators and more. Free. Visit www.fodm.org or 703-768-2525.

THROUGH MARCH 3

Art Exhibit. See "Fabricated: An Exhibition of Wearable Art" at Target Galley in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more on the exhibit.

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 or 703-683-1780.

MONDAY/MARCH 4

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 or at the door.

Dinner Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 24 Hall, 400 Cameron St. \$25/person. William Connery will discuss his book "Civil War Northern Virginia 1861." Visit www.leecamp.org or RSVP 703-217-7871.

TUESDAY/MARCH 5

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.

THURSDAY/MARCH 7

Art Focus Group. 7:30-9 p.m.

Weaving and textile arts — we will look at ways to bring textile arts into the classroom or home studio with a specific focus on recycled fibers. 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.

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 or at the door.

FRIDAY/MARCH 8

Performance. Megan Mullally and Stephanie Hunt perform "Nancy & Beth" at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Mardi Growl Gala. 7-10 p.m. at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. Enjoy music by a N'awlins jazz band, silent auction, raffle, beverages and more. \$85/single; \$150/pair of tickets. All proceeds benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Visit www.alexandrianimals.org/ MardiGrowl for more.

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 or at the door.

Classical Potpourri. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear works by Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin and more. \$15/advance or \$20/door. Buy online at InstantSeats.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 9

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the woodwind quintet. Free. Visit www.usafband.af.mil.

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 or at the door.

Power Art. 3 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features nationally touring art quilts. Power Suits curator Cyndi Souder will speak and display additional pieces from the collection. Call 703-838-4827 or visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

MARCH 9 THROUGH MARCH 17

Art Exhibit. March Fundraiser exhibit at Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

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Seahawks End Majors' Season with Buzzer-Beater

Mount Vernon girls' basketball loses in regional quarterfinals.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Long after the Tuesday's Northern Region quarterfinal contest against South Lakes had ended, Mount Vernon senior Kelly Loftus sat on the Majors' bench and cried.

Head coach Courtney Coffey helped Loftus up and hugged the standout guard, whose 20 points weren't enough against the Seahawks. As Loftus headed to the locker room, Coffey sat on the bench, dropped his head in his hands and released his own emotions.

"I told [the Majors] to keep their heads up high. We're still the best team in this region, everybody knows it. One game doesn't determine that."

— Mount Vernon girls' basketball coach Courtney Coffey

It wasn't supposed to end like this, at least not for the Majors, who returned so many key players from last year's team that finished 25-2, lost only to eventual state champion Oakton and missed qualifying for the state tournament by one game. Yet here was Mount Vernon, suffering through the agony of a gut-wrenching, season-ending defeat courtesy of South Lakes guard Caitlin Jensen's buzzer-beater.

Jensen's jumper as time expired



Mount Vernon senior Kelly Loftus scored 20 points in a regional quarterfinal loss to South Lakes on Tuesday.



South Lakes sophomore Princess Aghayere battles for the ball against Mount Vernon's Samantha Porter, left, and Taylor Dunham on Tuesday.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

lifted the Seahawks to a 46-45 victory over the Majors in the girls' basketball regional quarterfinals at Mount Vernon High School. The Majors, who won their third consecutive National District championship on Friday, had a one-point lead and possession with less than 30 seconds remaining against South Lakes, but ended up falling short amidst a cloud of missed opportunities and controversy.

Leading 45-44, Mount Vernon went to the free-throw line with 22.8 seconds remaining, but missed the front end of a one-and-one. The Majors were able to grab the of-

fensive rebound and again ended up at the foul line, only to miss another front end of a one-and-one. South Lakes grabbed the rebound this time, but eventually turned the ball over with 7.3 seconds to play.

The final seconds would be controversial.

South Lakes stole Mount Vernon's ensuing inbound pass in the backcourt. Needing to travel the length of the floor, the Seahawks started toward a potential game-winning bucket when head coach Christy Winters-Scott said something near the South Lakes bench. One official blew his whistle, thinking Winters-Scott called timeout. She would later say that was not the case.

"I said, 'Screen on the ball' and he thought I called timeout, which I did not, at all," Winters-Scott said after the game. "After that it's a blur, to be honest with you."

Winters-Scott appeared furious over the stoppage in play, showing anger through an animated display that left Mount Vernon fans and head coach Courtney Coffey questioning after the game why Winters-Scott didn't receive a technical foul.

"If I had done that [stuff] that she did to those referees, I would have gotten kicked out of the game," an emotional Coffey said in the locker room. "It's personal, man."

The result of the play was South Lakes inbound the ball from near midcourt with 5.6 seconds remaining. Jensen ended up with an open mid-range look and ended the Majors' season.

"To be honest with you, I thought it was a little off," said Jensen, who finished with five points. "I worked on [jumpers] with my trainer over the weekend, so it worked out perfectly. I couldn't find my rhythm for a long time, so I guess I found it over the weekend."

Sophomore forward Princess Aghayere led South Lakes with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Sasha Sprei scored nine points and Gabrielle Schultz and Mary Severin each had eight.

Mount Vernon's Loftus led all scorers with 20 points, including a trio of 3-pointers. Samantha Porter had 11 points and nine rebounds, Taylor Dunham scored 10 points and Tiffany Webster had four.

South Lakes, the No. 2 seed from the Liberty District, will face Oakton (C2) in the regional semifinals on Thursday at Robinson Secondary School.

"I told [the Majors] to keep their heads up high," Coffey said. "We're still the best team in this region, everybody knows it. One game doesn't determine that."

West Potomac's Rupp, Mount Vernon's Adusei Win State Wrestling Titles

West Potomac senior William Rupp and Mount Vernon freshman Bill Adusei won state championships at the VHSL state wrestling meet on Feb. 16 at Oscar Smith

High School in Chesapeake.

Rupp completed his undefeated season by winning the 220-pound title via 5-3 decision against Landstown's Eldon Valery.

Adusei won the 126-pound championship with a 7-3 decision against Kellam's Hayden Felch.

Robinson won the team title with a score of 142.5. Westfield finished runner-up with 101 points. Mount Vernon finished 10th (47) and West Potomac tied for 16th (28).

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