

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

FEBRUARY 28, 2013



PET GAZETTE

Otis Sterling. More Pet Gazette photos on pages 10-11.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

\$7 Billion Budget Proposal Unveiled

Typical county household would see real estate tax bill increase by \$260 annually.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE GAZETTE

A slow economic recovery marked by the unknown impact of federal sequestration cuts were dominant factors in the restrained first draft of Fairfax County's \$7 billion budget for fiscal year 2014.

Fairfax County Executive Edward L. Long Jr. unveiled his \$7 billion budget proposal Tuesday, Feb. 26, calling for a two-cent increase in the real estate tax rate, which would raise taxes by \$260 for the typical household. Each one-cent increase in the real estate tax rate equals \$20.65 million in county revenue.

For Fairfax County Public Schools — which receive nearly 75 percent of its

funding from the county — Long recommended a total transfer, which includes school debt service, of \$1.89 billion, an increase of \$33.7 million or 2 percent over this year.

THE PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET also includes \$67.9 million in additional support to

FCPS for services including Head Start, school resource officers, crossing guards and recreational programs, among others.

"We have heard from residents that we should continue with current service levels and program delivery, which we maintained through the last few years of the recession by downsizing effectively and re-

"We are also forced to recognize the significant yet unknown impact that is expected from federal sequestration and the continuing challenges of a slowly recovering economy."

—Fairfax County Executive
Edward L. Long, Jr.

sponsibly," Long said during a
SEE \$7 BILLION, PAGE 7

Budget Public Hearings

Public hearings on the proposed FY 2014 budget are scheduled:

- ❖ Tuesday, April 9, at 6 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesday, April 10, at 3 p.m.
- ❖ Thursday, April 11, at 3 p.m.

Those wishing to speak at a public hearing can sign up online to place their name on the speakers list, or contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903.

The public hearings will be held in the

Board Auditorium, Fairfax County Government Center and will be televised live on Fairfax County Government Channel 16.

The Board of Supervisors will adopt the county's FY 2014 budget on April 30. For the schedule of the Board of Supervisors town hall meetings on the budget, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2014/advised/fy2014-town-hall-meetings.

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Alexandria \$799,900



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Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
thegoodhartgroup.com



Alexandria \$1,249,000



Wonderful Expanded Cape Cod

Expanded and updated, five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath Cape Cod with a two-car garage has wonderful details around every corner - hardwood floors, crown molding, two fireplaces, and more! Chef's kitchen opens onto an inviting family room and a wonderful deck.

Mason Montague Bavin
703.338.6007
MasonBavin.com



Alexandria \$949,000



Spacious and Sparkling

This five-bedroom, four-bath home in Monticello Park offers three fireplaces, a sunny kitchen with granite counters adjoining a family room with vaulted ceilings and skylights. The luxurious master suite offers his and hers walk-in closets, a large master bath with jacuzzi and separate shower. The lower level features a rec room and separate nanny suite.

Babs Beckwith
703.836.1297
BabsBeckwith.com
MLS# AX8015410



Alexandria \$735,000



Beverly Hills

This wonderfully maintained, four-bedroom, three-bath, garage home is just a short walk to the Pit. Beautiful hardwood floors. Pella replacement windows throughout. Fabulous new screened-in porch and deck are wonderful for relaxing and entertaining. Large, stunningly landscaped yard is beautiful all year and is truly amazing in the spring. Plentiful storage!

Chris Hayes
703.944.7737
homesbyhayes.com
MLS# AX8015290



Alexandria/Seminary Ridge \$975,000



Just Listed & Ready to Go

Cul-de-sac location just a short walk to SSSAs, Inova Alexandria Hospital. Four-five bedrooms, three and a half baths, updated kitchen opens to family room with custom cabinetry, casual dining area and screened porch, two-car garage, and laundry - this has all the space you are seeking! The lower level offers a walk out recreation room and a private guest/nanny suite.

Julie Robben Lineberry
703.489.2823
McEneaney.com
MLS# AX8017519



Old Town Alexandria \$650,000



Walk to Everything!

Delightful Yates Gardens brick townhouse with three finished levels. Enjoy many windows in END townhouse with brick walkway connecting front and back brick patios. Two fireplaces, bookcases, hardwood floors, slate roof and attic storage. Two bedrooms, two full baths and updated kitchen featuring white cabinets and granite countertops. 509 Franklin St.

Susan Craft
703.216.4501
SusanCraft.com
MLS# AX8017034



Alexandria \$575,000



Be George Washington's Neighbor

Located on more than one acre of beautifully landscaped property, this updated home features four bedrooms, two and a half baths. Hardwoods gleam, walls are freshly painted, kitchen and baths are updated. Lower level includes fully finished rec room, laundry/storage area. Two-car garage.

Vicki Binkley
703.994.0778
VickiBinkley.com
MLS# FX8016110



Alexandria/Rosemont \$887,000



It's All Done

...and done to PERFECTION! Offering three bedrooms, two full and two half baths, you can truly move right into this all-brick circa 1925 home. Walk to the Metro and shops and restaurants of Old Town and Del Ray. Period moldings, gorgeous windows, high ceilings. Custom renovation from top to bottom including all electrical, HVAC, baths, kitchen, fireplace.

Betty Mallon
703.989.8548
BettyMallon.com



Alexandria \$365,000



Kingsgate

This bright, sunny, two-level, upper corner condo has been well maintained. A new furnace, new carpeting and a fresh paint job highlight recent updates. A three-sided fireplace adorns the living and dining rooms. Spacious, open kitchen. The living room opens to deck. Two master suites; one has a jetted tub, separate shower and two sinks. Half bath on main level.

Chris Hayes
703.944.7737
homesbyhayes.com
MLS# AX8016095



Alexandria \$869,000



Braddock Heights Classic

Spacious and sunny Cape Cod! Custom eat-in kitchen and beautiful patio surrounded by fresh landscaping. There are charming details like built-ins and exposed brick throughout. The master suite has stunning windows, an organized walk-in closet and luxurious bath with soaking tub. Rec room and large bedrooms provide room to roam and there's even a garage!

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
LizLuke.com
MLS# AX8012962



City of Alexandria \$299,000



Ready for Easy Living?

Spacious, 1243-square-foot, two-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath condo - ALL on one level! Separate formal dining room and eating space in kitchen, elevators, garage parking, and a stunning view. The Plaza Condominium offers a clubhouse, exercise room, pool, and tennis.

Julie Robben Lineberry
703.489.2823
McEneaney.com
MLS# AX7915223



Arlington \$735,000



Forest Hills Elevator Townhouse

Fresh paint, new carpet and refinished hardwood floors await you! Two master suites, wood-burning fireplaces and a beautiful brick patio. Kitchen and baths are ready for your creative updates! One-car garage. Walk to Army Navy Country Club and Pentagon/Metro.

Susan Leavitt
703.855.2267
SusanLeavitt.com
MLS# AR7998603



703.549.9292

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Black History Abounds



Gum Springs Museum

The Gum Springs Museum provides a home to preserve and share pieces of history with the community. The community was created as a place for former slaves to prevail. Through a collaborative effort, land was purchased, homes were built and a school and church were constructed.



The museum houses a group of chairs original to Bethlehem Baptist Church. The chairs were salvaged and put on display.



The Laurel Grove School is located at 6840 Beulah St. in Alexandria. Visits to the school for can be arranged by teachers and parents who homeschool. It will be open to the public on March 16.



The parents of the Laurel Grove students had to provide desks for their children. The desks were a mismatched assortment of furniture. Six former students visited the restored school house and provided information about the original desks used.



Laurel Grove School

Phyllis Walker Ford is the president of the Laurel Grove School Association. The land for the school came from her family. Several family members attended the Laurel Grove School, including three of her aunts and an uncle who all went on to become teachers.



Ronald Chase serves as president of the Gum Springs Historical Society. He grew up in the neighborhood and attended the Gum Spring School.

He grew up in the neighborhood and attended the Gum Spring School.



The Drew Smith Elementary School, built in 1955. The school was segregated and was established to serve the Gum Springs community.

and was established to serve the Gum Springs community.



An image of West Ford, the freedman who was founder of the Gum Springs Community. He is buried at Mount Vernon, near George Washington.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL

- 1 The Laurel Grove School
- 2 Gum Springs Historical Society and Museum
- 3 George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens
- 4 George Mason's Gunston Hall

Map Courtesy of Visit Fairfax (www.fva.com)



A photo of Nancy Burgess, one of the Laurel Grove teachers, is displayed in the school. The parents hired the teachers for the one-room school-house. They also provided books and school supplies.

They also provided books and school supplies.

The Laurel Grove School was built on land deeded from



William and Georgiana Jasper. William Jasper was a former slave who contributed the land so that his children and others like them could receive an education. The families worked together to build the school for their children to attend.



Mount Vernon Estate

The estate at Mount Vernon honors Black History Month each February. A special tour takes visitors around the estate, to

learn about the life of the slaves who lived there. Washington left instructions to free any slave that he owned, after Martha Washington died.



An idea of what the beds in the slave quarters might have looked like. Not much is known for certain.

But, Washington once wrote of berths and this information was used as the basis for constructing these bunks.



The rings around the Slavery Memorial contain the words "Faith" "Hope" and "Love."



Historical Interpreter Cathy Bonnefil leads the Daily Life of a Slave at Mount Vernon Tour. These tours are held annually, during Black History Month. Part of the tour includes a wreath-laying ceremony.



Gunston Hall

Gunston Hall, the estate of George Mason who authored the Virginia Declaration of Rights. The home was once surrounded by a 5,500 tobacco and wheat plantation. Most of the people living on the property were enslaved.



The well-used hearth in the kitchen building on the plantation.



At one time, the plantation would have been filled with crops and people hard at work.



This sign marks the site where slave quarters are believed to have stood. Under the sign, traces of the foundation can be seen.

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210 N. Lee Street,
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www.DecorDecorum.com

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

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

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

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.

THURSDAY/MARCH 7

Economic Outlook. 8 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Presentation will highlight trends in government and housing in a post-fiscal cliff economy. Reservations can be made at www.mtvernon-leechamber.org or 703-360-6925.

Economic Outlook Forum 2013. 8-9 a.m. networking and exhibits, 9 a.m.-noon presentation and Q&A at

Belle Haven Country Club, 6677 Richmond Highway. The forum will discuss the post-sequestration economy and how it may affect businesses. Visit sfdc.org or 703-360-5008 to register.

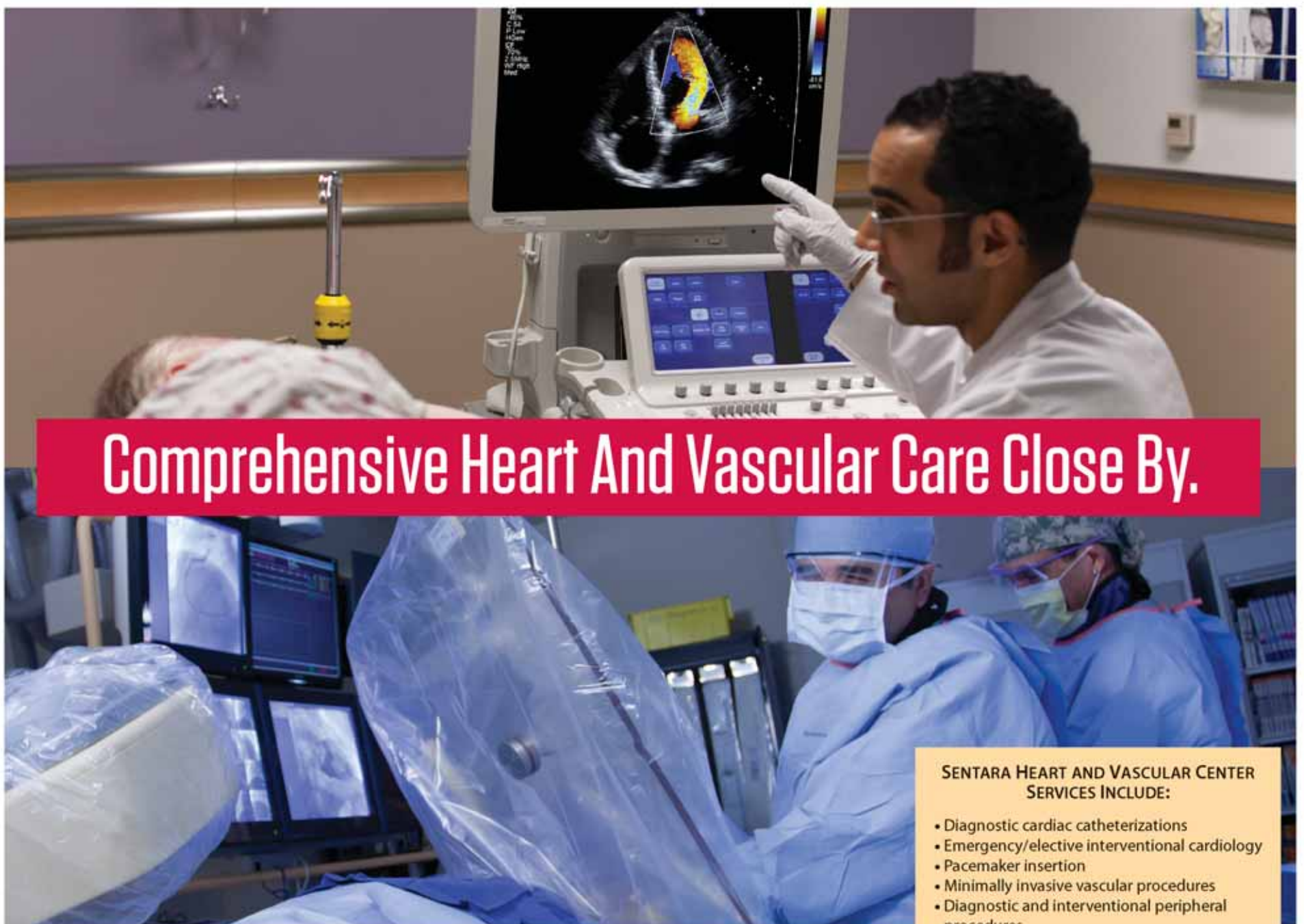
SATURDAY/MARCH 9

Blood Drive. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Free. Visit redcrossblood.org for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

Boater Education Course. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall,

SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 6



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SCHOOLS



Kristen Langsten, CSMS Science Olympiad sponsor; Richard Yoder; Sarah Crossen; Nora Fenton; Tyler Hawley; Peter Chau; Will Shute; Benjamin Weisel; Isaiah Smith; Stephen Campbell; Andrew Yoder; Danielle Murphy. Front: Suferah Khan, Parker Pineda, Warren Herrington, Emma Cuddy, Jamie Ager and Vanya Bourjailly.

CSMS Science Olympiad Team Triumphs

The Carl Sandburg Middle School Science Olympiad Team has been notified that they have qualified for the Virginia State Science Olympiad Tournament to be held April 27 on the Virginia Tech Campus in Blacksburg.

The team competed at the Virginia Science Olympiad Regional Tournament in Charlottesville, on Saturday, Feb. 16. Overall results placed Carl Sandburg Middle School as the 4th ranked school at the Science Olympiad competition that weekend.

Thirty CSMS 7th and 8th grade students competed in multiple, high-level science subject tests at the tournament — including forensics, heredity, architecture, engineering, meteorology, astronomy, environmental, water, and food sciences, forestry, anatomy, diseases, math, and geology.

The following CSMS students placed at the Regional Science Olympiad Tournament in Charlottesville:

- ❖ Warren Herrington (7): 2nd Place- Shock Value; 4th Place-Mystery Architecture; 7th Place-Boomilever
- ❖ Peter Chau (7): 2nd Place-Shock Value; 8th Place-Boomilever; 8th Place-Rocks & Minerals
- ❖ Nora Fenton (8): 3rd Place- Crime Busters; 3rd Place-Food Science; 6th Place-Road Scholar



Rachel Hardison, Sofia Kruszka, Sarah Crossen, Madelin Finn, Ella Moore, Nora Fenton and Theresa Willmott-McMahon.

❖ Will Shute (8): 3rd Place-Mission Possible; 4th Place-Disease Detectives; 9th Place-Rotor Egg Drop; 10th Place-Food Science

❖ Theresa McMahon (8): 3rd Place-Crime Busters; 6th Place-Road Scholar; 7th Place Mission Possible

SEE SCIENCE TEAM. PAGE 7



Back: Zelda Shute, team sponsor; Benjamin Weisel; Jordan Hilko; Isaiah Smith; Rachel Hardison; Theresa Willmott-McMahon; Nora Fenton; Will Shute; Andrew Wolverton; Sean Franklin and Andy O'Hara. Front: Tyler Hawley, Brian Trigg, and Parker Pineda.



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Alex./Yacht Haven \$729,900
4429 Neptune Drive

Spectacular 3BR, 3BA home in waterfront community has been beautifully remodeled inside and out with exceptional attention to detail. No expense has been spared in the total renovation of this stunning 2-level 3200 sq.ft. rambler. Over \$100k spent on landscaping alone, creating a beautiful backyard oasis, perfect for entertaining or simply relaxing. This magnificent property offers a quietly luxurious lifestyle at an incredible value. Too many features to list. To see this house is to love it!



Alex./Riverside Est. \$499,000
8404 Bound Brook Lane

Lovely 4BR, 2.5BA Colonial (3,000 SF under roof), in Mount Vernon. Large spacious bedrooms, (2 MBRs), beautiful refinished hardwood floors on main and upper levels. Family room off the kitchen, freshly painted interior, 2FPLs, large unfinished basement for storage or finishing. Walk to Elementary and High Schools. 7 minutes to Ft. Belvoir (South) and 25 mins to Ntl Airport (North) – Great Value!!



Alex./Mt. Vernon Manor \$479,850
8719 Falkstone Lane

Stunning 4BR, 3BA Split on a beautiful, professionally landscaped yard. Totally updated – kitchen, baths, triple pane replacement windows, HVAC, roof, freshly painted and new deck overlooking large beautiful fenced back yard. Hardwood floors under carpet on main & upper levels. 10 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 30 mins to Ntl Airport. Great buy, won't last long!



Alex./Riverside Estates \$470,000
3123 McGeorge Terrace

Beautiful & meticulously maintained 4 BR/3 BA Split in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Freshly painted, beautiful hwd 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, hwd 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!



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

Absolutely lovely home w/over \$130k in recent improvements in great location! Stunning front porch and Family Room addition in 2009 by custom builder. Slate floor on front porch and back patio. Replacement windows. New 2012 & '09: large shed, cedar fence, driveway, roof, dishwasher, hot water, stove, humidifier. Beautiful backyard. It's a gem! Waynewood Elementary, close to GW Parkway, Potomac River and minutes to Old Town.



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 hwd 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.

For more information:
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PEOPLE



Each troop represented a different country.



Girls Scouts gather for World Thinking Day activities at Wesley United Methodist Church on Feb. 22.

Local Girl Scout Troops Celebrate World Thinking Day

Each year on Feb. 22, World Thinking Day, U.S. Girl Scouts honor their sister Girl Guides and Girl Scouts by taking time to give thanks for their international friendships and remember that Girl Scouts of the USA is part of a global community — one of nearly 150 countries that are members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

The Girl Scout troops of Mount Vernon celebrated Thinking Day this year at Wesley United Methodist Church. Each troop represented a country of their choosing and shared what they learned with their fellow scouts.

In the months prior to this day, each troop picked a country of interest to them, learned basic facts about their country, and then worked on a presentation of a dance or song to share that represented their country. In order for all of the scouts to fully experience the different countries, the troops



Emma Summers and Emily Abney.

prepare and share country specific food, pictures, stamp “passports” and make special SWAPS (pins) for their fellow scouts to remember the country.

Local troops represented 12 countries including Japan, Netherlands, India, Brazil, and Mexico. Graduating MVHS senior and 13-

year Girl Scout Heather Campbell was this year's Thinking Day organizer and worked with her troop to create a new way of looking at the country they chose, Djibouti.

“It has been exciting to learn about and experience all the different countries through the unique eyes of the troops that par-



Catherine Stankewick, Carsen Svlich and Heather Campbell.

ticipate at thinking day throughout the years,” she said.

This year's World Thinking Day theme, girls' worldwide say “together we can save children's lives,” gives girls a chance to take action on issues affecting children's lives in other countries. This theme is based on the United

Nation's Millennium Development Goal 4, which is focused on reducing child mortality rates around the globe.

To find out more about Girl Scouts in the area, check out the council webpage <http://www.gscnc.org/> or call the local GS Office at 571-642-0253.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

8592 Richmond Highway. The course meets the boating education requirements of all states. Contact Rich Miller at eaglesailor75@cox.net or 703-780-3765.

Silent Auction. 6:30-11 p.m. at Collingwood Library and Museum, 8301 E. Boulevard Drive. Browse items from Sugar House, Wintergreen Resort and more. \$35/person. Visit www.tauxemont.org/auction for information.

Amazing Egg Hunt. Children ages 1-12 can participate in the Plymouth Haven Baptist Church from 10 a.m.-noon. Free, but reservations requested. Enjoy face painting, crafts and more. 703-360-4370.

Touch-A-Truck. 3-6 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School, 6560 Braddock Road. Explore fire trucks, police cars and other vehicles. This is a hands-on event, so horns will be

sounded and more. \$5/person, children under 2 are free. Proceeds benefit Fort Hunt Preschool. Visit www.forthuntpreschool.com/events for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 18

Workshop. U.S. Rep. Jim Moran will host a workshop entitled “Making College Affordable: Financing Your Education” from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mt. Vernon Road. High school seniors and parents can get help on how to navigate opportunities to pay for higher education. Free.

TUESDAY/MARCH 19

Genealogical Society Meeting. 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Mount Vernon Genealogical Society will discuss “Land Records Research,”

which may be a valuable resource for determining an ancestor's location. Free. Visit www.MVGenealogy.org for more.

Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club Meeting.

7 p.m. at Pema's restaurant. Julie Bratton will talk about services provided by FCPS for visually impaired students. Call Andrea Corsillo at 703-960-4973 for more information.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 27

Workshop. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. Enjoy a workshop on “Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living.” Topics include home modifications, avoid frauds and scams and more. Light refreshments will be served. Free, but seating is limited so registration required. Register online at <http://aarp.cvent.com/>

MakingSmartChoicesforEasyLivingVA or 1-877-926-8300.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14

CROP Walk. Registration begins at 1 p.m. and the walk begins at 1:30 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. Enjoy a 1.6 mile walk through the community, sponsored by area churches. Proceeds benefit local hunger-fighting initiatives. Visit www.cropwalkonline.org for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

Application Deadline. Students can apply for the 2013 Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Education Partnership scholarship. Scholarships are awarded to high school seniors in the Mount Vernon and Lee districts pursuing education in a business related field. Visit www.mtvernon-lee.org

leechamber.org or 703-360-6925 or high school career centers for applications.

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 or if you would like to find out more about hosting a student, call local coordinator Louise at 540-286-1561.

\$7 Billion Budget Proposal Unveiled

FROM PAGE 1
news conference Tuesday.

"Moving forward, we must put in place a longer-term focus on investment in the county's future, which requires constrained spending and strategic funding priorities. We are also forced to recognize the significant yet unknown impact that is expected from federal sequestration and the continuing challenges of a slowly recovering economy," Long added.

Long noted that the residential equalization — or change in assessments of existing residential property — increased 3.5 percent from last year. Residential real estate revenue accounts for approximately 74.4 percent of the county's tax base. Non-residential values remained flat, increasing

only 0.14 percent in FY 2013.

"Despite growth in residential real estate revenue, funding decisions made last year make it critical for us to be constrained in our spending," Long said.

Long's budget also included proposed county agency reductions of \$20.52 million, including the elimination of 91 merit positions, as well as no increases in employee compensation for FY 2014. Funding for major human services and public safety would remain steady.

Long said his plan includes targeted "surge" reductions rather than radical cuts that would eliminate programs and close facilities.

"We spent a lot of time going through each and every agency," he said Tuesday. "If you

look at the 500 positions we've eliminated over the past five years, I think the heavy lifting on cuts has been done."

"We are not yet out of the woods as we recover more slowly than we would like from the great recession," Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large) said in a statement. "County revenue projections are essentially flat and contributing to our challenge is the effect that sequestration will have on our economy. Already our commercial tax base is negatively affected by inaction on the part of Congress."

THE PROPOSED BUDGET includes a \$2.4 million balance for the board's consideration to address "high priority" requirements in FY 2014 or to be held in reserve for FY 2015.

The county executive's budget also includes a multi-year budget framework for FY 2015, which currently has a projected budget shortfall of \$39.7 million. The multi-year budget approach, according to Long, allows the county to address challenges on a longer-term basis, even though the Board of Supervisors is still required to make budget and appropriation decisions on an annual basis.

"There's some optimism out there, we just need a little more clarity from federal government," Long said.

Science Team

FROM PAGE 5

❖ Richard Yoder (8): 3rd Place- Mission Possible; 4th Place-Metric Mastery; 8th Place-Hereditry

❖ Nathan Alam (8): 3rd Place- Mission Possible; 6th Place-Dynamic Planet; 9th Place-Anatomy

❖ Sarah Crossen (8): 3rd Place-Food Science; 8th Place-Reach for the Stars; 10th Water Quality

❖ Sean Franklin (8): 3rd Place-Disease Detectives; 8th Place-Mousetrap Vehicle

❖ Isaiah Smith (8): 3rd Place-Rotor Egg Drop; 10th Place-Mystery Architecture

❖ Rachel Hardison (8): 3rd Place-Rotor Egg Drop; 10th Place-Mystery Architecture

❖ Andy O'Hara (8): 4th Place-Metric Mastery; 8th Place- Mousetrap Vehicle

❖ Andrew Wolverson (8): 4th Place-Mystery Architecture; 9th Place-Anatomy; 10th Place-Meteorology

❖ Brian Trigg (7): 6th Place-Roller Coaster; 7th Place-Mission Possible

❖ Andrew Yoder (8): 6th Place-Water Quality; 7th Place-Road Scholar; 9th Place-Keep the Heat

❖ Benjamin Weisel (7): 6th Place-Roller Coaster; 8th Place-Experimental Design

❖ Danielle Murphy (8): 6th Place-Crime Busters

❖ Emma Cuddy (8): 6th Place-Forestry; 8th Place-Hereditry; 10th Place-Meteorology

❖ Jamie Ager (7): 6th Place-Dynamic Planet; 8th Place-Rocks & Minerals

❖ Parker Pineda (7): 6th Place-Crime Busters; 10th Place-Food Science

❖ Stephen Campbell (8): 6th Place-Water Quality; 7th Place-Road Scholar; 9th Place-Keep the Heat

❖ Tyler Hawley (8): 6th Place-Forestry; 9th Place-Rotor Egg Drop.

Police Officer Seriously Injured

An Alexandria police officer is in critical condition after being shot during a traffic stop on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

At 11:44 a.m., a look out was issued for a yellow cab regarding a minor offense. Almost immediately, a Motor Unit officer spotted the suspect vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. Shortly after, the Department of Emergency Communications began receiving 911 calls for an officer down. The officer was flown to Medstar Washington Hospital Center with life-threatening injuries.

A look out was issued for a yellow cab minivan.

A patrol officer spotted the vehicle heading southbound on Washington Street and attempted to initiate a traffic stop. A pursuit ensued into Fairfax County where the Fairfax County Police Department took over. The suspect vehicle ultimately crashed at Fort Hunt Road and Bellevue Boulevard. The driver was taken into custody. Fairfax County Police are handling the accident scene.

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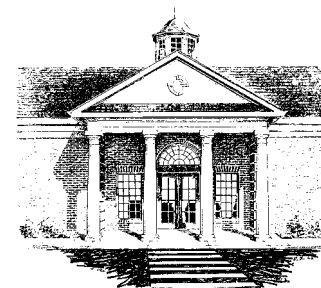
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OPINION

U.S. 1 Funding Secured, Transportation Deal

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
DELEGATE (D-44)

This week, the General Assembly ended with a budget and two major policy changes — a historic transportation bill and a Medicaid expansion process that I will discuss next week.

The budget reported and now on the Governor's desk contained a \$2 million line item to pay for a Tier I Study of U.S. 1 pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act that I've been fighting to secure for four years. This is the next legally required step towards laying the groundwork for actual major improvements to U.S. 1 between Woodlawn and I-495.

The transportation bill (HB2313) has statewide and local components. The statewide component repeals the \$0.175 gas tax at the pump and replaces it with a 3.5 percent unleaded tax and 6.0 percent diesel tax on wholesalers equal to about a \$0.10-0.12/gallon tax at the pump.

To make up the lost \$0.05/gallon, the legislation raises the tax on car sales from 3 percent to 4.3 percent, raises the sales tax by 0.3 percent for the General Fund netting \$900 million over five years and then diverts \$700 million from education, public safety, health care and the safety net to the Transportation Trust Fund. The bill also enacted a new \$100 fee on Virginia's 91,000 hybrid vehicles on top of existing annual registration and clean fuel license plate fees.

The bill also enacts three more taxes only for Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads — a 0.7 percent sales tax, a 3 percent hotel tax, and a "regional congestion relief fee" of \$0.25 per \$100 (\$1,250 when you sell a \$500,000 house). The first \$300 million of these monies must go to the Silver Line and all monies raised in the Northern Virginia District must be spent on transportation improvements in Northern Virginia.

I voted no. While there is no question we desperately need road funding, I saw this legislation as an overly grotesquely complicated gimmick designed to obscure bad and prohibited policies.

Our General Fund is starved. Virginia is spending less on education today than it budgeted in the 2007 biennium. We have cut Virginia's general government services to the bone. This legislation diverts over \$1.5 billion from education, healthcare, public safety and the safety net over a decade.

Balkanizing Virginia into regions of have's and have not's is dangerous policy, illegal under the Constitution of Virginia, and antithetical to the concept of a commonwealth which is premised upon addressing statewide problems collectively and not regionally. We help with downstate schools and the rest of the state helps with our roads.

But under this plan, even more General Fund monies are used to fund more statewide needs (rural roads), plus we are now being asked to tax ourselves to exclusively pay our own road needs instead of others around the state pitch-

ing in. On top of that, future regional tax decisions are now in the hands of 70 legislators outside of Northern Virginia who can to leverage our region yet again. This is a step backwards and the exact reason this type of scheme was prohibited in the Constitution of Virginia.

The \$100 hybrid tax punishes virtuous behavior, bears zero relationship to reduced road taxes paid, and disincentivizes energy independence. Senator Ebbin and I have started a campaign to encourage Governor McDonnell to veto this at www.nohybridtax.com.

Moreover, none of this reforms the way that statewide transportation revenue is disbursed. Northern Virginia is still only worth one-third of a person on the Commonwealth Transportation Board, and during the floor debate, rural legislators bragged of paying less for our roads under this plan than they do now.

While I respect the opinion of those who worked on and voted for this legislation, I could not justify taxing consumer goods, appliances, and clothing to pay for roads and transit, destroying Virginia's 100-year nexus between road use and revenue, and voting for legislation that I see as unconstitutional. These problems could all be solved without robbing our schools, healthcare and public safety by a simple gas tax increase and reform of transportation spending. The Governor is likely to sign the bill and in year five, it is estimated to generate about \$1.4 billion per year — about 30 percent of what we need — if it survives court challenges. The revenue is needed, but there are better means to that end.

Transportation Agreement, Medicaid Expansion

BY LINDA T. "TODDY" PULLER
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

The Virginia State Senate passed a transportation plan after Gov. Robert McDonnell agreed to sign off on a Medicaid expansion conference committee to come up "with a concept to ensure that significant reforms are attained prior to any potential expansion of Medicaid." The committee will be made up of five members of the House of Delegates who serve on the House Appropriations Committee and five members

of the Senate Finance Committee as well as the Secretaries of Finance and Health and Human Resources. At least three members of the House and three of the Senate members on the Committee must vote to approve the recommendations. The two secretaries will be ex-officio, non-voting members. Medicaid expansion would provide for more than 400,000 Virginians to have health care and provide some 30,000 jobs.

Additional statewide funding for transportation will include:

- ❖ Converting cents per gallon at the pump

on gasoline and diesel (doing away with the present gas tax)

- ❖ Adding 3.5 percent on the wholesale price of gasoline (will add about 10 cents a gallon to the price of gas)

- ❖ Adding 6 percent on the wholesale price of diesel

- ❖ Increasing alternative fuel vehicle registration fee to \$100

- ❖ Maintaining 1 percent exemption on motor vehicle sales, phasing into 4.3 percent over next 5 years

- ❖ Increasing general sales tax 0.3 percent.

A number of senators approved the transportation plan only after Governor McDonnell agreed to the conference committee on Medicaid. Although I had hoped we could do better on the transportation funding plan, this is a step in the right direction and likely as much as we could pass at this time. I am pleased that the Route One Transit Study I introduced is being funded. Director of Rail and Public Transportation Thelma Drake and her department will be proceeding with this study immediately.

One of the bills I introduced this session, SB829, provides for the Department of Veterans Services to develop programs to reduce unemployment among veterans. This passed both houses of the General Assembly and will assist businesses to attract, hire, train and retain veterans. It is called V3, Virginia Values Veterans Plan. The Governor has indicated that he will sign it. This was a busy Session of the General Assembly. We will return for a brief "veto session" in early April.

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Civil Rights Complaints Filed against Police

To the Editor:

Recently the Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, Inc. (CCPA) sought to determine if the Alexandria City, Arlington and Fairfax County police departments were the subject of citizens claiming their civil rights had been violated.

The CCPA wrote letters under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to the chiefs of police of the three departments for data regarding civil rights complaints on file from citizens at their departments. All three chiefs responded as required by law, but denied the CCPA's request for the data being sought.

As a result, the CCPA wrote a letter under the Freedom of Information Act to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of

Justice for data in its files reflecting citizen civil rights complaints against the three Northern Virginia police departments. The Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice responded promptly with its report reflecting the following: Alexandria City, 27; Arlington County, 19, and Fairfax County, 61. It is interesting to note the 61 complaints on file against the Fairfax County Police Department exceeds the combined numbers for Alexandria City and Arlington County.

Have your civil rights been violated? Email the CCPA at virginiaccpa@aol.com.

Nicholas R. Beltrante
Executive Director, CCPA

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Karen Leonard 703.328.7041



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We volunteer for Greyhound Pets of America, Northern Virginia, a non-profit that supports greyhound adoption from the racetracks. For years we have held a monthly educational meet and greet with our dogs, first at Olsson's Books and Records on Union Street and after they closed at Books-a-Million up King Street. Now the bookstores are gone and we couldn't find a host in Old Town, Alexandria. We now meet for walkabouts up and down the waterfront. So if you see a flash mob of greyhounds you are invited to stop, chat and pet. Pictured are Cathy Hanratty and Jackson of Old Town, Dave Keninitz and Jagr from Springfield, Virginia Brown from Springfield and Virginia Powers, Zip and Phoebe from Alexandria standing outside the Torpedo Factory shops.

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Ryan (12), Owen (6), Maggie (10) and Mannix (4) Thompson. We adopted Mannix from A Forever Home Rescue when he was 13 months old. He has been an important member of our family since and so was included in our attempts to capture a 2012 Christmas card picture. This picture was snapped as the photo shoot deteriorated into rolling on the floor, giggles and licks.

— KATHLEEN THOMPSON

Two girls. One mission. Fit dogs having fun. In search of more exciting days for their stay-at-home dogs, Linda Benson and Erin Dawson researched the area but could not find options that offered lots of exercise in fresh air. So they recently started Fun Dog Fitness that will pick up, drop off and provide different daily exercise adventures in small groups for your dog. The business presently serves Old Town and the Mount Vernon areas. Contact: linda@fundogfitness.com; 703-650-5115; www.fundogfitness.com.



Picking A Pet

BY KAREN BARAGONA
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF
ALEXANDRIA VOLUNTEER

If we're honest, we can all admit we have a "type" as far as what we find attractive — in people and in dogs. Some of us go for big and brawny, others melt over dainty and petite. Maybe we prefer blondes, or curls are a deal-breaker. Whatever your leanings, chances are, you have a perfect "look" in mind. But like Mama always said, don't judge a book by its cover. And that goes for dates and dogs.

When you decide to adopt a dog, try to keep an open mind. You can window shop online to your heart's content, mooning and swooning over every gorgeous furry face that pops up in your Petfinder search. But when it comes to finding the dog of your dreams, it's personality that matters most.

Me? I have husky lust. Those prick ears and pointed muzzle and lush pelt ... that wolfish aura ... and if the eyes happen to be blue, I'm smit

SEE PICKING, PAGE 23



This photo was taken on Christmas Eve after Mass at Good Shepherd, pictured are Harrison, Lally, Winnie, and Avalon Mikulski with our newest addition Anna.

— Tim Mikulski



Grandson Cole Klappmuss (at 8 months) is pictured on the lawn with Buster, a 5-year old rescue dog from a D.C. shelter. DNA analysis identified Buster as an English Coonhound-Belgium Tervuren-Shetland Sheep dog-Collie mix. Buster is loving, friendly, does tricks for treats, gently taking snacks from young Cole's hand and is the best behaved dog imaginable.

— Ronald and Eva Malerich



Hobie, the brown toy poodle's mom is Erin Dawson, who lives in Old Town, and Teddy and Tessa's mom is Linda Benson, founder of Fun Dog Fitness, and lives in Hollin Hills.



Clover Parker, 1 year old.

— Alyson Parker

Saving Buddy

This is the story of the stray cat that found us — Joseph and Cathy Gilfillan.

He first appeared on our patio several years ago, a large gray and white cat, bedraggled and hungry, sitting on a chair, waiting for a handout. Against friendly advice, we raided our cat's Meow Mix and poured him a generous portion. From then on, he became ours; and as my husband Joe said every morning. "There's my buddy!" — and Buddy he was for the next four years.

From our neighbors, we learned that Buddy belonged to a family on our street who moved away and abandoned him. Joe wrote them, inquiring about the cat's history, but we never received a reply.

The first few weeks were difficult. He was definitely an outdoor cat, and we could not invite him inside for fear that he might harm our little, shy female, Daisy, who had been declawed by her original owners. Buddy was adjusting to his new environment, but trusted no one. He bit Joe one day, and hissed at anyone who approached him. We were able to get him to our vet one time, who pronounced him healthy and about 7-8 years old.

Winter came with a vengeance with several big storms. Joe fixed up a bed in the large carrier with several blankets/quilts; a large tarp to cover that portion exposed to the weather; and overturned patio table as a windbreak. I still

SEE SAVING BUDDY, PAGE 19



Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay, Crystal McKay, Leeann, and Aidan with family dog, Vera.



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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
2. not appreciated or understood.
3. no longer owned or known



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Huge House-Little Price!
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NEW PRICE **OPEN SUN**

4721 Tarpon Ln \$919,000
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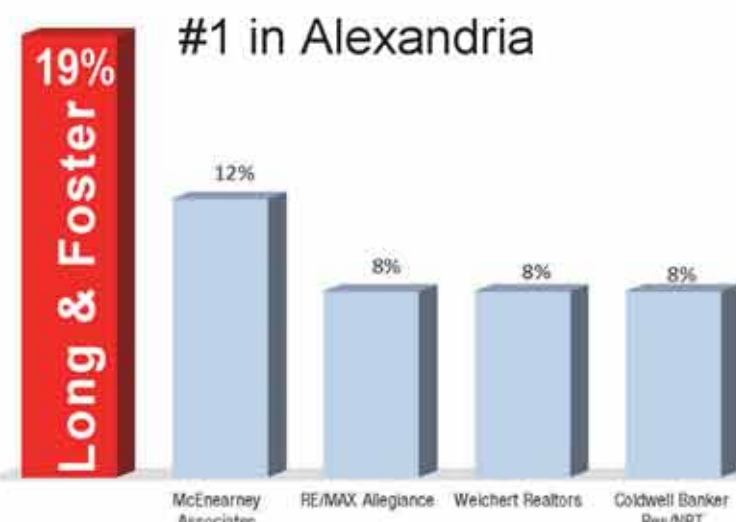
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Mary Bourke 703.906.5825

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Katherine Ward 703.627.8728
Steve Kindrick 703.683.0400

\$618,000
Stafford
"ESTATE HOME"

A spacious home with room to spread out including large kitchen and family room just made for entertaining sited on a private cul-de-sac wooded lot. Sumptuous master suite with his/her closets, sitting room with fireplace and huge spa bath. LL has family room, guest room and full bath.

www.novapropertyshop.com
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545
susanells@longandfoster.com

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"10+"

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- 2.5 + 5 baths
- 3 finished levels
- Gorgeous Sunroom addition
- 2-car garage

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Paula Powers & Sheryl Powers Vermont 703.472.6925

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\$599,990
Longwood Knolls
9412 ONION PATCH DR

4 large BRs/2.5BAs Colonial with 2-car garage and swimming pool. Updated kitchen with SSA, granite counters, tile backsplash and upscale cabinets. Deck overlooks the rear yard oasis. Lower level features rec room with wet bar, large utility room storage area, glass doors lead to pool area. Close to shopping, restaurants and commuter routes.

www.brianandjerry.com
Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764

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\$609,000
Waynewood
8504 DOYLE ST

NEW PRICE! 3 levels, 3BR/2.5BA. Treed lot with fenced backyard. Freshly painted and renovated throughout. Oak flooring in bedrooms. Formal living room with custom bookcases. New addition includes: 2-car garage, Family room with vaulted ceilings, skylights and raised hearth stone fireplace with custom screen.

www.thebendergroup.net
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OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$255,000
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RENTALS

6429 Richmond Hwy #201 \$950
Huntington Walk Condo / Garden 1BR/1BA
Lauren.Leggitt@longandfoster.com 703.582.7354

5340 Holmes Run Pkwy #218 \$1,425
Pavilion on the Park Condo / Hi-Rise 1BR/1BA
Catherine.Foltz@longandfoster.com 703.626.6914

12001 Market St #468 \$1,850
Market Street Town Center Condo / Garden 1BR/1BA
Martha.Deal@longandfoster.com 703.622.6797

110 Roberts Ln #401 \$2,100
Ft Ellsworth Condo / Garden 3BR/2BA
Deborah.Alea@longandfoster.com 703.447.1315

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OldTownAlexandria.com



The Perfect Crime

**“Dial ‘M’ for Murder”
at LTA.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

A key. A pair of shoes. The fibers of a carpet. The devil is in the details as the perfect crime unravels in the suspenseful classic “Dial ‘M’ for Murder,” now playing at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

Written by Frederick Knott, the play premiered in 1952 on BBC television before being performed on stage that same year in London’s West End in June and New York’s Broadway in October. But it was the 1954 film directed by Alfred Hitchcock and starring Ray Milland, Grace Kelly and Robert Cummings that turned the thriller into one of the most riveting movies of all time.

Set in the singular location of the London flat of Margot and Tony Wendice, “Dial ‘M’ for Murder” finds ex-tennis pro Tony blackmailing Captain Lesgate, an old college acquaintance, into murdering his wealthy wife Margot. Never in love with her to begin with, Tony methodically orchestrates the plan after discovering Margot’s brief affair with American crime-fiction

writer Max Halliday.

When Tony’s original plan goes awry and Lesgate ends up murdered, he ingeniously devises Plan B and watches with glee as his wife becomes the target of the investigation.

Directed by Carla Scopeletis, the ensemble cast is led by Richard Isaacs, who perfectly inhabits the wretchedness of snake-in-the-grass Tony. Jenni Patton is the intended victim accused of murder, convicted and ultimately sentenced to death.

As Hubbard, the chief inspector on the crime scene, John Henderson is a model of British reserve and careful deliberation as the drama reaches a steady boil and the layers of truth are peeled away. James Myers as Max Halliday and Jerry Hoffman as Captain Lesgate round out the talented ensemble cast.

Resentment, jealousy and greed. The devil is in the details of “Dial ‘M’ for Murder,” a spellbinding evening of suspense for all ages.

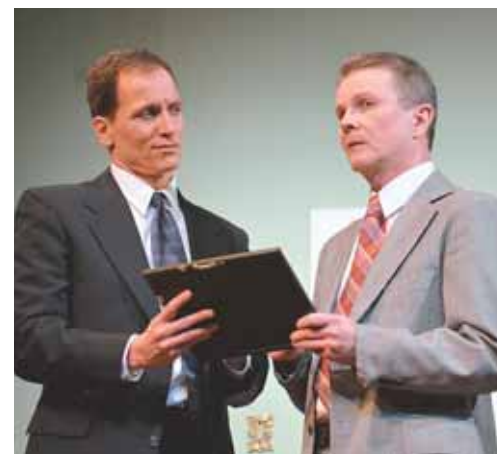
“Dial ‘M’ for Murder” is playing now through March 16 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria. For tickets or more information, call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.



Richard Isaacs (Tony Wendice) in Little Theatre of Alexandria’s “Dial ‘M’ for Murder.”



Jenni Patton, playing Margot Wendice.



PHOTOS BY HEATHER NORCROSS

Richard Isaacs (Tony Wendice) and Jerry Hoffman (Captain Lesgate) in “Dial ‘M’ for Murder,” playing through March 16 at Little Theatre of Alexandria. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com.



John Henderson (Inspector Hubbard) and James Myers (Max Halliday).

Port City’s ‘Drawer Boy’ Opens

**Canadian classic
debuts at Port City
Playhouse.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

It was 40 years ago when a Toronto theater company crafted the basis of a play by sending a group of actors to live and work on the farms of Ontario. The experiment became a landmark in Canadian theater and was the inspiration for Michael Healey’s “The Drawer Boy,” now playing at Port City Playhouse.

Set in 1972, the play opens with Miles, a young thespian and aspiring playwright who turns up on the doorstep of Morgan and Angus, two World War II veterans who share a rural farm near Clinton, Ontario.

In the course of his research for a theater piece on farming, Miles discovers a rare



Morgan is played by Elliott Bales, Miles by Daniel Westbrook and Angus by Paul Tamney in Port City Playhouse’s “The Drawer Boy.”

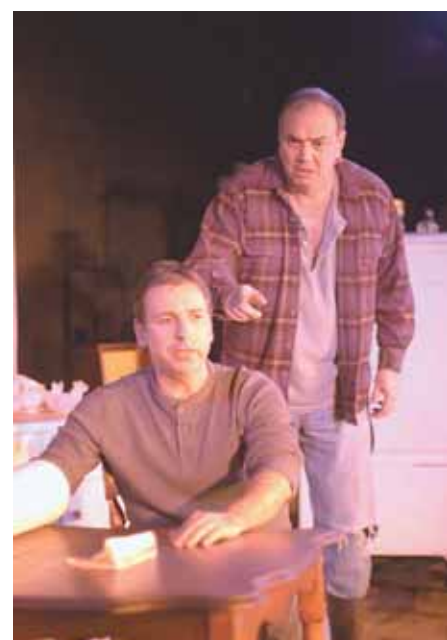
bond of friendship between the world-weary Morgan and the cheerful and child-like Angus.

Directed by Jennifer Lyman, the talented cast delivers compelling performances from Elliott Bales as Morgan, Paul Tamney as Angus and Daniel Westbrook as Miles.

Morgan runs the farm and acts as caretaker for his lifelong friend Angus, who suffered brain damage in a bombing in London during the war. With little memory beyond the tasks of daily life on the farm,

Angus is the “drawer” boy, a once-promising architect whose talents were erased by the war.

When the hapless Miles enters the picture, he uncovers the true story behind the rural existence of the two friends: That the wartime buddies were stationed together in Britain in the 1940s, where they met their future brides before returning home to Canada. What happened to the two women proves a mystery that slowly unfolds between fiction and reality.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DEBLOIS

Angus is played by Paul Tamney and Morgan by Elliott Bales in Port City Playhouse’s “The Drawer Boy.”

The Friday, March 1, performance of “The Drawer Boy” will be followed by a special “talkback” with the director, cast and technical crew. Audience members will be able to ask questions and gain perspectives on the creative process and how a play goes from being a playwright’s script to a live performance on stage.

“The Drawer Boy” is playing now through March 9 at Port City Playhouse at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. For tickets visit www.portcityplayhouse.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Spring Classes. 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. 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 alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-noon, 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. 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 Michelle Jannazo at 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 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. Black History Month activities are included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$17; children ages 6-11, \$8; and children under 5 admitted free.

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 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.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 16



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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 15

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

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.

Wee Ones Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and under can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Visit hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Basic Gardening. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to incorporate native plants to the garden. Visit greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

Performance. 6:30-8 p.m. Alexandria City Community Theatre presents Apollo Live in the Kauffman Auditorium at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., featuring music through the years. Free. Contact kendall.hermesdorf@alexandria.gov or call 703-746-5575 or 703-746-5411.

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.

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



Josh Movius (Tinman), Adhana Reid (Dorothy), Jewell Dupree (Scarecrow), Alexander Collins (The Wiz), and TreVaughn Allison (Lion), in rehearsal for St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School's upcoming production of "The Wiz."

Off to See 'The Wiz'

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School will present the musical "The Wiz" for two week-ends, March 1-2 and March 8-9. "The Wiz," by William Brown and Charlie Smalls, is based on L. Frank Baum's classic *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. It is a fresh, modern look at the famous story of Dorothy's arrival in the Land of Oz and her eventual return home to Kansas. Join the Cappies award-winning Stage One Players of SSSAS Upper School for the journey down the yellow brick road. Shows are March 1, 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.; March 2 at 2 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road. Tickets are \$5, visit www.sssas.org/arts or call 703-212-2950.

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, 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.

Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Downtown Baptist Church, 212 S.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

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 information about the day’s events.

Wee Ones Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and under can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Visit hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Read Across America Story Time. 11 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 6 and under can enjoy stories and more. Free.

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

Indoor and Outdoor Plants. 9:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rod. Discover plants that work best in both indoor and outdoor gardens. Visit www.green-spring.org or 703-642-5173.

Exhibit. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Explore the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum for free. Located at 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Contact apothecary.museum@alexandria.gov or call 703-746-3852.

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.historic-christchurch.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” 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.

Party with a Purpose. 6-8 p.m. at Grevey’s Restaurant, 8130 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation invites you to come learn about volunteer opportunities for their 10 weekly adoption events, fostering, transport or taking care of cats and kittens in their adoption centers. Door prizes and munchies, free. Prospective volunteers welcome. Email lisamarieresue@hotmail.com or lostdogbarb@gmail.com.

Winter Lecture. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Elissa Steeves will discuss her gardening experience and how her garden reflects her personality. Visit greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.



Counted Thread – Cross Stitch by Marlene Lewis



Marion Smith’s Canvaswork – Multi, won one of two Director’s Choice awards.



Works by Ragne Svevar hang on a door in one of the upstairs bedrooms.

50th Annual Needlework Exhibition

The 50th annual Needlework Exhibition will be open to the public starting Friday, March 1 at the Woodlawn Plantation.

Woodlawn was the home of Eleanor Custis Lewis, one of America’s foremost needleworkers. The exhibition honors her legacy by maintaining the tradition of the needle arts and by raising funds to preserve her estate.

Nelly’s Needlers is a volunteer auxiliary working year-round to raise funds for this historic site. Since its inception in 1962, the Needlers have donated more than \$750,000 to Woodlawn.

Lunch will be served daily Wed-Mon. The lunch-

room will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 31. Lunch reservations are required for large parties. To make lunch reservations for groups of 15 or more, contact Alice Deaschner at 703-323-1781.

Technique/judging tours may be scheduled in advance for groups of 8 or more. Contact Maggie Bunch at woodlawn50years@gmail.com.

The entrance to Woodlawn is changing to a new gate off Woodlawn Road. Traveling south on Rt. 1, Woodlawn Road is at the next traffic light at the south end of the estate. Take a right at the traffic light and head west, the gate is to the right across from the Woodlawn Quaker Meeting House.

Exhibit. 1-5 p.m. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria with Civil War Sundays at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N Union St. Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4399.

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..

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 leecamp.org or RSVP 703-217-7871.

Spanish Story Time. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories in Spanish. Free. 703-46-1705.

Little One-Ders. 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Baby Time. 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to 11 months can hear stories and more. Sign up half-hour before it begins. Free. 703-746-1705.

Teen Movie. 4 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Teens in grades 6-12 can watch a movie with their friends. Free. 703-46-1705.

Read, Sing & Play Baby. 4 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Children up to 11 months can

enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-746-1703.

Garden Sprouts. 11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn the history of maple syrup and its importance. Then sample some treats while visiting trees that are tapped for syrup. Visit greenspring.org or 703-642-5173.

TUESDAY/MARCH 5

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 1-4 can enjoy stories and more. Sign up half-hour before. Free. 703-746-1705.

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.

Baby Rhyme Time. 11:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children up to 11 months can enjoy rhymes and more. Free. Registration required, 703-746-1702 ext. 5.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 8-12 can play with their friends. Free. 703-746-1702.

“Lincoln and Booth: One Mad Act and Its Expiation.” 6-8 p.m. at the Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred St. In relating the story of President Abraham Lincoln’s assassination and John Wilkes Booth’s escape, flight and death, Dr. Terry Alford will introduce fresh details and insights about the most consequential murder of the 19th century. Free. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com or call 703-838-8000.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 6

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.

Film Noir Film Series. 6:45 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Call for title. Discussion follows at St. Elmo’s Coffee Pub. Free 703-746-1705.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth

Ave. All ages can come dressed in their favorite outfit/pajamas and listen to stories. Free. 703-746-1705.

Special Presentation. 1 p.m. in the ballroom at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum. Illustrated lecture by Marc Meltonville on “The Kitchens of George III.” RSVP at gadsbys.tavern@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

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.

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. 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.

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.

Pope-Leighey Lecture Series. 7 p.m. Lecture featuring Frank Lloyd Wright homeowners and qualified experts in the fields of restoration, conservation, preservation and management of Wright sites. Located at The

Lyceum; 201 S. Washington St. \$15; \$10 for members. Contact woodlawn @nthp.org or call 703-780-4000.

Children’s Concert. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. The NOVA Alexandria Band, John Adams Elementary School Orff Ensemble and more will perform to celebrate Music in our Schools month. Free, but parking is \$6.

MARCH 7 THROUGH APRIL 1

Art Exhibit. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. “State of Emergency,” Sabyna Sterrett’s exhibition of woven repurposed plastic bags and products, will be featured in The Art League Gallery, at 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

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 birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

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.alexandriaanimals.org/ MardiGrowl for 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.

Book Reading. 7 p.m. Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., will host author Pat Britz for a special reading and activity program with children. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or call 703-548-4092.



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Notice of Public Hearing

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mental illness,
intellectual disability
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problem, and on the proposed
Plan of Services
(Performance
Contract),
available at
alexandriava.gov/dchs.
The hearing will be
Thursday, March 7 at
7 p.m. at 720 North
Saint Asaph Street,
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e-mail Donielle
Marshall. Comments
can also be faxed to
703.838.5070.

21 Announcements

OBITUARY
RUTH E. GREIFER passed away February 22, 2013 at her
home in Rockville, MD. Ruth, daughter of Isidore and Sophia
Dahl was born in Geilenkirchen, Germany May 30, 1922. A
Holocaust survivor, she moved to the United States after
WWII. She met and married her soul mate Bernard Greifer z"l
and settled in Alexandria, VA. A loving wife and mother, Ruth
was a life member of Hadassah and active in her synagogue.
She worked in the Alexandria school system, raised a family
and earned a college degree from Northern Virginia Communi-
ty College.

Ruth was the beloved wife of 61 years of the late Bernard Grei-
fer (2013), loving mother of Carla Paris Teich, Helen Grimm,
Amy Godin, grandmother to Andrew Paris, Rebecca and Jacob
Grimm and Sophia and Shira Godin. A true lady in every way,
she will be missed by family and friends.

A funeral service was held at Agudas Achim Congregation,
2908 Valley Drive, Alexandria, VA on Monday February 25 .
Shiva was observed at the home of Amy and Ed Godin starting
Monday at 7:30 pm. Contributions may be made to the U.S.
Holocaust Memorial Museum in her memory.

21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Bernard M. Fagelson (Age 100)

On Wednesday, February 20, 2013 of Alexandria, VA. Beloved
husband of Helen C. Fagelson. Loving father of John Fagel-
son. Brother of the late Robert Fagelson. Grandfather of Sam
Fagelson and Max Fagelson. He grew up on a dairy farm in
Northern Virginia and graduated from George Washington Uni-
versity Law School during the Depression. After law school he
worked for a New Deal agency in Richmond and became a na-
val officer when the country entered World War II. He served
on the USS Quincy at the invasions of Normandy, Southern
France, and Okinawa. After the war he returned to Alexandria
and began a law practice that continued for fifty years, special-
izing in zoning and land use law. He was a consummate gen-
tleman and always known for his integrity, fairness, generosity
and an appropriate quote for all occasions. He was active in
Democratic politics and was a long time member of the Burke
& Herbert Bank board of directors, retiring as a Director Emeri-
tus.

Funeral service will be held 10:30am Monday at Agudas Achim
Congregation, 2908 Valley Dr. Alexandria, VA 22302. Inter-
ment Agudas Achim Cemetery.

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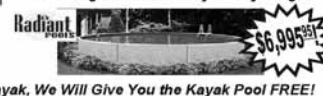


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PET GAZETTE

Saving Buddy

FROM PAGE 11

remember Joe crawling underneath the tarp on frigid mornings, feeding Buddy, brushing him, and giving him his favorite cat treats. We were concerned about Buddy being warm enough, and after boning up on heating pad technology (almost impossible to find one without an automatic cut-off), we found one only online. This is the only \$35 heating pad we ever had! Fortunately, it worked!

Buddy was warm for the next four winters, and we slept more soundly as well. After we enclosed the patio, he had a much improved dwelling. In a few months, he responded to our ways and became affectionate — always purring and happy to see us. He especially enjoyed being brushed and petted. He would occasionally wander off, but return to eat and sleep.

Although he became part of our family, he was definitely Joe's Buddy. We often remarked that he seemed to have a quizzical expression on his face, as if he was wondering why we were talking to him and lavishing so much attention on him. Maybe he had low expectations as far as humans were concerned.

During his fourth summer with us, Buddy disappeared. There had been a violent storm one June night, and many branches fell into our yard. Maybe he just became overly afraid. We searched the neighborhood physically and on-line, constantly concerned for his welfare, and enlisting the help of our neighbors — to no avail.

On the 22nd day, he wandered back into the yard, and we were thrilled. The prodigal cat had returned, but it was not the same Buddy. He was much thinner, poorly groomed, walking very deliberately, occasionally stumbling.

For two days he slept often and ate voraciously, but there were ominous signs. After he stumbled off a step and fell over, Joe was convinced that he had a neurological disorder, or vision problems. Picking him up and putting him in his carrier, we proceeded to a vet.

There, she confirmed our worst thoughts — Buddy had no visual capability, possibly from a stroke. We then had to make a gut-wrenching decision, but there was only one option — we had to let him go. Good-byes are never easy, and we drove home that night shedding a few tears. We told each other that Buddy would never be in pain again.

And so in the end, we could not save Buddy. Back when I was a child and we had lost a beloved pet, my mother told me that God had a special place in heaven for our pets, where they would always be happy. Fanciful thinking, of course. But in case she was on to something, I'd like to think of Buddy up there (with 20/20 vision) chasing mice and fireflies. And having a great old time.

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PEOPLE



Mount Vernon High School Key Club and advisors.



West Potomac High School Key Club.

Kiwanis Conducts Service Leadership Programs Night

The Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club hosted a Service Leadership Programs Night at the Mount Vernon Country Club on Feb 20, which featured presentations from young men, women and students involved in community service and leadership activities at schools in the area.

Attending the event were local school

administrators, educators, principals, and advisors such as Deborah Tyler, Fairfax Country Public Schools Cluster IV assistant superintendent; Principal Nardos King, Mount Vernon High School; Principal Cliff Hardison, West Potomac High School; Principal Maura Caulfield, Stratford Landing Elementary School; Assistant Principal Kaaren Lowder, South County High

School; and Kim Taylor-Wilson, acting coordinator of Student Services at Northern Virginia Community College. Students in attendance were youth leaders in their Kiwanis family of clubs including Circle K International, Key Clubs, Builders Club, and K-Kids.

Kiwanis is a global organization of members of every age who are dedicated to

changing the world, one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis strives to build strong character, teach leadership, generosity, and caring through numerous school, community, and global work projects and charities. To learn more about Kiwanis membership and youth programs, visit the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club website at <http://www.mtvernonvakiwanis.org>.



Stratford Landing Elementary School K-Kids.



Northern Virginia Community College Circle K International.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

The following students graduated from James Madison University during the Dec. 15 commencement:

Belinda Gorman graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting. **Gregory Wahler** graduated with a bachelor of science degree in communication studies. **Katherine Ward** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in English. **Paul Disselkoen** graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in English. **Kirsty Clark** graduated with a bachelor of science degree in kinesiology. **James Dressing** graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in management. **Richard Hagstrom** graduated with a bachelor of fine arts degree in studio art.

Amanda Cain was named to the dean's list at Wake Forest University.

The following James Madison Univer-

sity students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2012 semester:

Marian Ansley is a senior whose major is art history.

Morgan Carter is a junior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

Nicholas Cheek is a senior whose major is English.

Danielle Comer is a sophomore whose major is theatre and dance.

Megan Gibbs is a senior whose major is social work.

Karl Grabbi is a sophomore whose major is finance.

Matthew Harper is a sophomore whose major is music.

Michael Higgins is a sophomore whose major is accounting.

Bryan Jacobs is a senior whose major is history.

Erika Jones is a senior whose major is health sciences.

Rebecca Keegan is a senior whose major is psychology.

John Knetemann is a senior whose major is philosophy and religion.

Eldar Loncarevic is a senior whose major is history.

Christine Macey is a freshman whose major is nursing.

Julia Pei is a senior whose major is sociology.

Emily Rapavi is a senior whose major is communication sciences and disorders.

Dorothy Shufflebarger is a senior whose major is interdisciplinary liberal studies.

Savannah Smith is a sophomore whose major is intelligence analysis.

Katherine Ward is a senior whose major is English.

Emma Laurie Wendt of Fort Belvoir was named to the dean's list at Seattle Pacific University.

Lauren Kirkland class of 2015 has been named to the dean's list at Elmira College. Lauren is majoring in Psychology.

The following area students were named to the dean's list at University of Mary Washington: **Zachary Feinstein**, a senior; **David Heller**, a junior; **Rachel Martin**, a senior; **Scott**

McPeck, a sophomore; **Natalie Motley**, a sophomore; and **Jonathan Polson**, a sophomore

Paul Fiesel, a University of Dallas student recently returned from spending the 2012 fall semester studying abroad at the University of Dallas' 12-acre Eugene Constantine Campus just outside Rome, Italy.

Twenty-six residents of Alexandria have been named to the fall semester dean's list at Radford University. They are **Kestra Noel Aardema**, freshman art major; **Kennise J. Baker**, freshman social work major; **Emily Sohyoung Besse**, senior media studies and marketing major; **Meghan Elizabeth Bevenour**, freshman interior design major; **Victor Alexander Brew**, freshman pre-business major; **Alexander Gabriel Bring**, sophomore management major; **Matthew Glen Collins**, sophomore music major; **Julie Gosline**, junior interdisciplinary studies major; **Deirdre Elizabeth Hyde**, senior history major; **Aleze Sinclair**

Johnson-Knight, freshman premajor; **Kristin Ashley Kayes**, senior political science major; **Sophie Claire Knudsen**, sophomore chemistry major; and **Johathan Lee Krashevski**, junior management major. Also **Kelsay Jean Lawhead**, junior interdisciplinary studies major; **Samuel Robert Ludovici**, freshman political science major; **Jacqueline Manu**, junior sociology and psychology major; **Linnea Christine Markson**, junior interdisciplinary studies major **Joshua Bradley Mazon**, senior psychology major; **Tenbit Melesse**, junior interdisciplinary studies major; **Daniel Robert O'Keefe**, sophomore media studies major; **Jamal U. Roberson**, freshman psychology major; **Habtamu Bainesagn Sahilu**, senior computer science and technology major; **Evan Kwon-Lee Scott**, junior exercise, sport and health education major; **Emerson Gabriel Souza**, senior psychology major; **Bridgette D. Wanzer-McCoy**, senior interdisciplinary studies major; and **Anne Marie Warren**, junior interdisciplinary studies major.

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Mount Vernon freshman Bill Adusei, seen during regionals, won the 126-pound state title.



West Potomac's William Rupp, left, seen during regionals, completed an undefeated senior season with a 220-pound state title.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

West Potomac's Rupp, MV's Adusei Win State 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 won the 220-pound championship, completing an undefeated season. He beat Landstown's Eldon Valery via 5-

3 decision. Adusei won the 126-pound title via 7-3 decision against Kellam's Hayden Felch.



West Potomac senior point guard Brandon Pressley was named to the All-Northern Region first team.

West Potomac's Pressley Named All-Region

West Potomac senior point guard Brandon Pressley was named to the All-Northern Region first team for his performance during the 2012-13 season.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Pressley led West Potomac in scoring (16.4 points per game), 3-point field goals made (35), free throws made (110) and free throws attempted (123). He scored a season-high 40 points against Annandale on Jan. 30.

The Wolverines finished the season with a 13-9 record and earned the No. 2 seed in the Patriot District tournament with a 10-4 mark. West Potomac was the only Patriot District team to defeat top-seed Woodson during the regular season.

Herndon's Will Ferguson was named region player

of the year. Khory Moore (Wakefield), Zack Burnett (Fairfax), Eric Bowles (Woodson), Robert Bacon (Oakton), Chief Amoah (Edison) and Dorian Johnson (Herndon) were also named to the first team.

Mount Vernon's Loftus, Dunham Earn All-Region Honors

Mount Vernon seniors Kelly Loftus and Taylor Dunham were named to the All-Northern Region first team. They played key roles for a Majors team that won its third consecutive National District championship and lost three games by a combined four



Mount Vernon's Kelly Loftus was named first-team all-region.

points.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Loftus averaged 18.3 points per contest and made 62 3-pointers. Dunham averaged 10.9 points per game.

Lake Braddock's Natalie Butler was named player of the year. Tatianna Torres (W-L), Kylie Murphy (Fairfax), Amy Berglund (West Springfield), Megan LeDuc (Madison), Jenna Green (Centreville), Lisa Murphy (McLean) and Elizabeth Manner (Oakton) were also named to the all-region first team.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

OPINION

A Tough Transportation Vote

BY ADAM EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

The 46-day legislative session drew to a close on Saturday, Feb. 23.

As you know, transportation dominated the debate this session. The House and Senate passed separate transportation funding bills that were eventually combined into HB2313. I voted for the original Senate plan, which would have raised the gas tax by 5 cents per gallon and indexed it to increase with the cost of road construction materials, keeping the link between driving and road funding intact. On the other hand, the House proposal would have eliminated the gas tax, increased the sales tax by .8 percent to 5.8 percent, and diverted \$283 million from the General Fund. Both plans similarly raised vehicle registration fees.

In my view the Senate plan was much better than the House version. The final conference committee report bill lowered the state gas tax by more than a third, weakening the link between driving and road funding. Just last week, the Republican-controlled Wyoming legislature teamed up with their Republican governor to raise their gas tax by 10 cents. To me, there is no reason that Virginia parents should pay a higher sales tax to clothe their children than drivers pay at the gas pump.

The new plan will have out-of-state drivers contribute less for their use of our roads than previously. It also increases the tax on wholesale diesel fuel to 6 percent; this was done to capture more revenue from trucks, which cause more wear and tear on our roads

than standard vehicles. A rebate will be available for lighter diesel vehicles, including clean diesel vehicles. The plan does include a local .7 percent sales tax for Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. The money raised in NoVA will stay here for local and regional projects.

A provision in Governor McDonnell's original bill charging a \$100 annual fee for all hybrid vehicles resurfaced in the conference committee report, even though that tax was excluded from the versions passed by both the House and Senate. This is a punitive tax. The typical hybrid driver won't save more than \$35 a year in state gas taxes, but the annual fee would have them pay an extra \$65 to "make up" for them. There are many regular gasoline-powered vehicles that get better MPG than hybrids that wouldn't pay this new tax. Hybrids are more expensive, costing the owners higher titling tax revenues for the state and higher personal property taxes for localities.

While the final bill would raise significant needed funds for transportation, it was too bitter a pill for me to swallow. I oppose lowering the gas tax and increasing the sales tax and also find the new hybrid tax bizarre. For those reasons, and others, I voted no.

The bill passed both houses and is now with Governor McDonnell for review. He may decide to offer amendments. Delegate Surovell of Mount Vernon and I have started an on-line petition asking the Governor to remove the hybrid tax from the bill.

If you'd like to sign, please visit www.NoHybridTax.com.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Snapshot

Feb. 25: Woodlawn Plantation



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Picking a Pet ... Like Picking a Date or a Mate

FROM PAGE 10

ten. But when we went to pick out our latest dog a year ago, I knew in my heart that I what I really needed was a dog that loved my rowdy kids and their rambunctious friends, wouldn't stalk and hunt my other five pets, could romp — not rumble — with my neighbors' dogs, would greet guests with zest — not angst — and would love a good nap on the couch as much as a hard workout.

Yes, I wanted a cute dog. But no matter how adorable, a dog who didn't fit that bill wouldn't fit into our lives. The floppy-eared, crew-cut goofball hound mix who rode home smiling in our back seat that day was a far cry from the "look" that normally turns my head. But it turns out it was a match made in heaven.



Kory, a 14-week-old female Border Collie mix, is currently available for adoption from the AWLA shelter.

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria has an expert team of match-makers ready to help you make that love connection and meet The One. Be ready with a list of qualities that are important to you — personality traits that will help your new dog thrive in your family and your home. And get ready to fall in love with a dog with a heart of gold, not just a pretty face

All of the League's adoptable dogs, cats, and small animals can be found online at www.AlexandriaAnimals.org, but to truly get to know your potential pet, take the family to the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter. The shelter is open to the public every day except Wednesday, and adoption hours can be found online.



Saham and Mei Lee Strom finish up a ride in December. Saham is a 13-year-old thoroughbred gelding that Strom has owned for about 8 years. "He is a very talented event horse and is also super affectionate — a great combo!"

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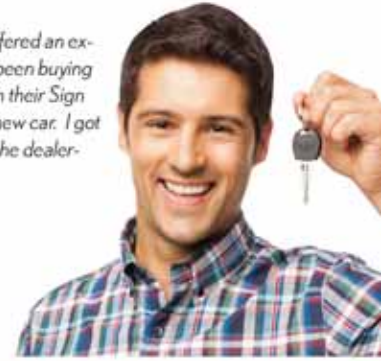
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