Hount Pernon Bazette HomeLifeStyle PAGE 15

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper







Sydney Maniglia, inspired by military elegance, worked with a palate of camouflage, khaki, orange and greens for her "Combat Corps" collection.

Preparing for 7th Annual Runway Ready

tudents in the West Potomac Academy fashion design program are making final preparations for the upcoming Run way Ready "Concept to Catwalk" fashion show on Friday, May 10.

Seven seniors will be showing their collections: Reanna Rousseau with the "Rousseau Collection," Rebecca Bansah with "Marilyn's Closet," "See the Sea" by Emily Blaszkiewicz, "Gossip Junkie" by Julie Swanson, "Belle Misere" by Jessica Moreno and Sydney Maniglia with her "Combat Corps" collection.

Guy Lambert of 95.5 WPGC and television host and winner of Cycle 8 of America's Next Top Model Jaslene Gonzalez will host the show in the Springbank Theater at 6500 Quander Road in Alexandria. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, May 10. Show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Advanced tickets may be purchased at 703-718-2656.



Julie Swanson loves the show "Gossip Girl" and her collection "Gossip Junkie" reflects the influence.



Details of a few of the fabric selections in the "Combat Corps" collection by Sydney Maniglia.



Jessica Moreno drew inspiration from Les Miserables for her collection "Belle Misere."

Hyland: Let People Vote on Meals Tax

Passage could yield \$80 to \$100 million.

> By Gerald A. Fill The Gazette

roubled by the Board of Supervisors' recent decision to increase the property tax rate and its over-reliance on that source to make up for shortfalls in the county's growing financial needs, Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland once again urged his board colleagues to support placing on the fall election ballot a referendum to approve a meals tax, which he calls more fair than the real estate tax.

In his formal request to the board, Hyland said: "A food and beverage tax would bring in between \$80 and \$100 million a year in new revenue. ... Almost all surrounding jurisdictions have implemented a food and beverage tax. ... In the FY 2014 budget, one penny on the tax rate equates to

SEE HYLAND WANTS, PAGE 7

Personality Conflict Does Route 1 corridor want to be exurban or urban?

By Michael Lee Pope The Gazette

his summer, residents in Mount Vernon will welcome a new Costco to the Richmond Highway corridor — a big-box retailer with a huge parking lot that will exemplify the kind of suburban and exurban development that has dominated far-flung reaches of the metropolitan region. Yet, at the same time, it will be celebrating a new mixed-use, transit-friendly development known as Beacon of Groveton about a mile away.

The two models of development — urban versus rural — are now fighting for dominance in Mount Vernon, where a transit study is about to determine which mode of transportation should prevail along the corridor. The options are bus-rapid transit, light rail or Metro — a menu that will have drastic consequences for the size and scale of development that happens in the coming decades.

"For a long time, people have thought that reality on the high-

way is we are going to build heavy rail like Metro down the corridor," said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay. "My hope is that this puts this to bed and says there are other ways to invest in transit on the highway that don't detonate a community and don't turn it into Tysons Corner."

The debate about Metro may seem like a distant dream, but it's actually a pressing concern now because developers want to know what kind of development is possible on the corridor. If high-density and mixed-use development is on the agenda because Metro is the goal, developers will be eager to come forward with large-scale projects to meet that demand. If, however, a smaller-scale corridor is on the horizon with bus-rapid transit, Richmond Highway will see more big-box stores and strip malls.

"I'm sure that decades ago in Tysons Corner they felt it was the same thing when it was all a bunch of farms," said Kahan Dhillon, businessman in Mount Vernon. See Exurban, Page 5

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May 9, 2013



2 🔹 Mount Vernon Gazette 🔹 May 9-15, 2013

Me & My Mom



Jennifer Howe Winters and her daughter Emma at Siesta Key Beach, Sarasota, Fla. in March. Jennifer and Emma live in Mechanicsville, Va., while Jennifer's father, Bob Howe, lives in Hollin Hills.



Debbie Fairbanks and Stanhope Fairbanks, age 10, of Mount Vernon, with Winnie the Pooh and Tigger at Disney World, Orlando, Fla.



McClain Brooks, 9, of Alexandria, with her mother Allison Priebe Brooks and grandmother Florence McClain Priebe of Springfield, at the Annual Lilly Pulitzer Mother Daughter Fashion Show and Tea at The Fairmont Washington, DC.



A Day at Mount Vernon: Amy Fazackerley and sons Andrew, Miles and Cade.



Ann Montgomery and her daughter Rebecca getting ready for Easter brunch.





Spending a spring afternoon with mom at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. Photo taken at the rotunda on the main floor. Photo submitted by: Kamalani, Mariah and Leilani Soriano.

Julie Denton with her daughters, Alyssa, Gracie and Willa, at a Washington Nationals game.



Baby Jack Vaughn Behrens and Mommy, Ashley McNeff Behrens. He is 9 weeks old. Happy, healthy and smiling lots!

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FRIDAY/MAY 10

- Dress selection. Any northern Virginia-area student can select a formal dress and accessories from 3:30-6 p.m. at T.C. Williams, 3330 King St. Students will be served on a first-come, first-served basis. Free. Email eleanor.muse@acps.k12.va.us
- for questions or to volunteer. Fundraiser. Support West Potomac High School's all night graduation party by browsing Mary Kay cosmetics and more from 7-10 p.m. at 7623 Admiral Drive. RSVP to Jean

Poole at 703-346-8860.

THROUGH FRIDAY/MAY 10

Donate. Mount Vernon High School Athletic Booster Club is holding its second annual Casino Night Fundraiser and is hoping to raise

\$10,000 to support all of the sports teams. Any items including silent auction items, door prizes or gift baskets are welcome. Contact Paula Weinberg at psakmom@cox.net or 703-298-1593.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Dress selection. Any northern Virginia-area student can select a formal dress and accessories from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at T.C. Williams, 3330 King St. Students will be served on a first-come, first-served basis. Free. Email eleanor.muse@acps.k12.va.us for questions or to volunteer.

MONDAY/MAY 13

Information Session. 11 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Learn about Mount Vernon at Home. Free. 703-303-4060.

TUESDAY/MAY 14

Health Presentation. 12:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500

Shenandoah Road. Dr. Carla Ribiero, podiatrist, will talk about common foot problems, diagnosis and treatment. Free. To RSVP 703-765-4573.

THROUGH MAY 18

Diaper Drive. Local volunteers, in conjunction with Northern Virginia Family Service, announced Diaper Drive 2013: Help Keep a Baby Dry intended to raise 10,000 diapers to assist local needy families. The drive will runs through May 18 and encourages people to drop off diapers at local elementary schools, churches and public locations in several Fort Hunt, Mount Vernon and Old Town

locations. Donated diapers can be loose from an open pack or part of a sealed pack. Financial donations are also accepted through the drive's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ DiaperDrive2013. Public Diaper Drop Locations include: **Occasionally** Cake - 207 King St. and 8859 Richmond Highway; Fort Hunt Safeway - 7900 Fort Hunt Road; St. Aidan's Episcopal Church - 8531 Riverside Road; and Heritage Presbyterian Church - 8503 Fort Hunt Road.

MONDAY/MAY 20

Free Conference. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE G



Immigration

System

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Rep. Jim Moran presents:

Building a Stronger Nation:

Reforming Our Broken

Immigration System

May 14th 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Kenmore Middle School 200 S Carlin Springs Road Arlington, VA For more information or to RSVP, please visit:

moran.house.gov

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News

Exurban or Urban for Route 1?

with what we have

had our druthers,

we would prefer to

have similar type

Beacon."

developments to the

- Mount Vernon District

Supervisor Gerry Hyland

at the Beacon. If we

From Page 1

"The corridor has one of the highest traffic counts of any road of its kind in the county, and there's no reason why a place like that should not be modernized and enhanced and revitalized." "It is not consistent

THE CLASH between urban versus suburban and exurban development will last for at least another generation, as drivers continue to dominate the landscape for much of Route 1 — a highway that stretches from Key West to Maine. Despite attempts to create an urban core to the Mount Vernon area, drivers are likely to flock to the new Costco when it opens. Developers know people in the region are heavily reliant on their automobiles. "Those folks still need to get in their cars and drive places," said Edythe Frankel Kelleher, ex-

ecutive director of the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation. "And when they get in their cars, they want to go to a Costco. They want to have that big, one-stop shopping." And yet that's a status quo that many find frustrating, especially those who would like to see a transformation of development styles to high-density and mixed-use styles. For these people the opening of the Costco represents a lost opportunity — one that will now create a sense of incongruity along the corridor. "It is not consistent with what we have at the Beacon," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland. "If we had our druthers, we would prefer to have similar type developments to the Beacon."

ONE VISION of the future includes an expanded Yellow Line, moving south beyond Huntington along Richmond Highway through Mount Vernon. That may seem like a distant dream to some right now, considering the money and politics caught up in building the Silver Line to Dulles International Airport. But Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) has been pushing the issue of expanding the Yellow Line for years. "It's not a pipe dream," said Surovell. "This is prime real estate, and if it had proper infrastructure serving it we would have the same kind of development

as Arlington and Alexandria and Tysons Corner."

Surovell says that the Richmond Highway corridor offers a perfect storm for Metro expansion. Commercial real estate in Cameron Run leases for \$5 more per square foot than in Tysons Corner, an indication that demand can support increased development. Whereas the Silver Line is 20 miles long, extending the Yellow Line to Fort Belvoir would only require about eight miles of track. And because of the recent expansion at the fort, more people work there than the Pentagon. There's even a collapsible wall at the Huntington station. "I don't think people understand

what it costs, and what the impacts of building heavy rail are," said McKay. "We need to stop tying up redevelopment projects and stop giving people, in my opinion, a false sense that we are going to have heavy rail on Route 1 in our lifetime."

THIS WEEK, officials with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation will select a vendor to conduct the \$2 million transit study — a longawaited venture along the corridor. Some see the study as a turning point, finally determining whether Richmond Highway will be a urban oasis or an exurban strip.

Although the road has been the focus of countless studies in the past, many are looking to the results of this study to make a final determination on what the character of the future will hold.

"It makes much more sense to extend a Metro line here than it does to extend it way out into the suburbs like the Silver Line did," said Surovell. "But we don't have the infrastructure, and that's why we need to extend it."

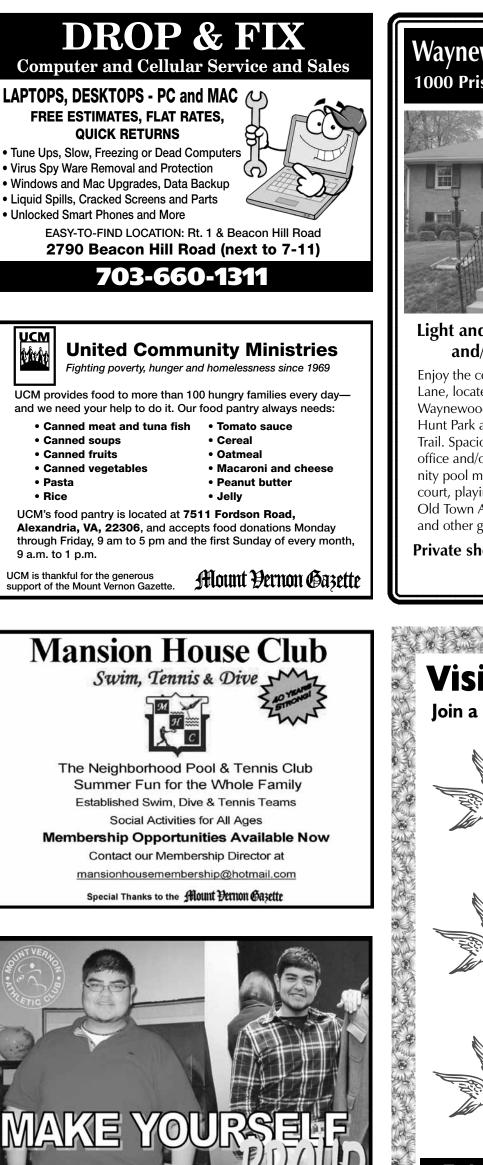


Supporting UCM Food Pantry

From left: Volunteer Pam Beggan and Mt. Vernon Kiwanis Club member Joanne Malkin arrive at the UCM Food Pantry with fresh produce and baked goods donated by the Sherwood Hall Farmers Market vendors. Helping to unload are UCM volunteer Godwin Amoah (center) with UCM's Food Pantry Manager Jose Fratti and Christine Lucas, director of development and communications.



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BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 4

- South County Building Conference Center, 8350 Richmond Highway. Bethlehem Baptist Church is sponsoring "Anticipating the Future 50+." Register by May 15 to 703-3604170.
- **Presentation for Seniors.** 11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carfit is holding a presentation on how to adapt a car to the needs of older adults. Bring your car for an assessment. Free, but reservations required. 703-765-4573.

TUESDAY/MAY 21

- Genealogical Society Meeting. 1 p.m. The Mount Vernon Genealogical Society will meet in room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The meeting will feature a presentation by Sharon Hodges titled "The File Burned, Now What? Finding Your WWII Relative. The United States entered World War II December 1941. More people than ever are attempting to find out exactly what their relatives did in WWII, but many are finding that the personnel file was burned. This session will explain what records are available and where to locate them. Free and open to the public. Visit www.MVGenealogy.org
- Colonial Republican Women Meeting. 6:30-9 p.m. at Virginia Hills Administration Center, 6520 Diana Lane. Program features Supervisor Pat Herrity who will speak on "How to Be an Effective Leader When You're in the Miniority." 703-624-3252.
- **Open House.** 4-7 p.m. at The Beacon of Groveton, 670 Richmond Highway. Take a tour of the development, see nearby restaurants and more. Free. Visit www.beaconofgroveton.com.



Mount Vernon Gazette & May 9-15, 2013

MTVAC.NET

News

Hyland Wants Vote on Meal Tax

FROM PAGE 1

\$20.65 million. The board could make a commitment (in the future) to lower our real estate tax rate by one or two cents and still have funding for critical projects."

His proposal was met with board opposition but much less so than in the past, he said. Hyland is optimistic that the board, which agreed to consult with the business community and other community leaders before voting up or down on his proposal, will agree when he brings it up again for a formal vote a month from now. He believes that he already has five votes on the board for a referendum and that once the results of the business and community outreach and consultation effort is completed and a strategic plan for its promotion adopted, he will pick up additional board support to place it on the November Ballot.

"It is time for the board to step up to the plate and support placing this commercial food and beverage tax on the ballot," Hyland said. "Lacking the authority for the county government to raise money from sources other than real estate, similar to the way cities can raise money, makes no sense. ... For most people it is a choice whether or not to go out to eat at a local restaurant; paying for the increase in the real estate tax is not a choice for residents."

He pointed out that the board adopted at its recent retreat a goal to make housing affordable for all residents and raising the real estate tax was not the way to fulfill that commitment.

He also said that during the budget deliberations

the business community testified against raising the real estate tax. He expressed confidence that businesses will eventually support a meals tax referendum.

As part of an overall strategy to promote the value of a meals tax, Hyland wants to list the programs on the referendum which would be funded if the meals tax was enacted so that voters would know specifically what their vote would go for. For example, Hyland suggested in his formal remarks before the board, "the board should pledge to our residents that if this motion passes, and if they approve a food and beverage tax referendum, the board will lower the real estate tax rate, help support our schools, build new artificial turf fields, expand Head Start, support our transit networks, or do any combination of tax relief, construction, renovation or programmatic support or expansion ... the Board supports." In addition, if the referendum passes, Hyland vowed to make an effort to lower the real estate tax rate in subsequent budgets by the amount of money raised by the meals tax.

If the past history of the meals tax referendum is any indication passage will not be easy. In a special April 1992 election, the meals tax referendum was defeated by a 57.6 to 42.4 percent margin. The turnout in the special election was only 24.6 percent of registered voters. Hyland observed that times have changed and that if properly explained, with a description of the list of programs which will be funded if the meals tax passes, the public will support passage.



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OPINION Some Limits, More Disclosure

Virginia does not benefit from elected officials being awash in cash donations and gifts.

t seems prescient now. Virginia's "corruption risk report card" in March 2012 ranked the state 47 out of 50, with an overall grade of "F." That's "F" for failing, mostly because Virginia is one of four states that place no limits on Editorial

political contributions at all. Virginia got a failing grade for vul-

nerability to corruption. Corruption in the Commonwealth is probably not any more rampant than voter fraud, as we said last year. But in terms of practices that could undermine trust, Virginia has vast room for improvement.

It turns out that unlimited contributions and gifts with some reporting loopholes is not good for government, not good for the public, especially not good for elected officials as recent news about state elected officials and gifts well demonstrate. It could be better for businesses to have some limits as well.

The National Conference of State Legislatures www.ncsl.org summarizes how states handle contributions: "States commonly place limits on contributions to candidates from various sources, and also on contributions to political action committees and political parties. Just four states - Missouri, Oregon, Utah and Virginia — place no limits on contributions at all. Another seven states — Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Texas - have minimal contribution limits. These states limit or prohibit contributions by corporations and unions to candidates, but leave contributions from all other sources unlimited.

In the remaining 39 states, contributions to candidates from individuals, political parties, PACs, corporations and unions are typically limited or, in the case of corporations and unions, prohibited outright."

In Maryland, individuals can give \$4,000 to any one candidate and \$10,000 total in a fouryear election cycle. You don't have corporations and CEOs giving \$100,000 and more in an election cycle.

From 2009-2013, Dominion has made \$2,838,506 in political contributions to

candidates and committees, 58 percent of it to Republicans, 39 percent to Democrats, according to the Virginia Public

Access Project www.vpap.org. In 2012, Pepco donated \$2,000 to Friends

of Martin O'Malley, Maryland's governor, \$10,000 to the state Democratic committee and \$5,000 to the state Republican committee.

In 2013, Pepco's total contributions currently reported are \$2,000.

In 2013, Dominion Resources' total contributions currently reported are \$450,000.

In 2010, Pepco donated \$4,000 each to Friends of O'Malley and Friends of Anthony Brown, his running mate. In 2008, Pepco donated \$10,000 to state Democratic committee and \$10,000 to the state Republican committee. (Pepco contributions are according to the Maryland Campaign Finance Reporting System.)

Dominion donated \$52,500 to McDonnell's campaign and another \$50,000 to his inaugural committee. Dominion also gave \$80,000 to the campaign of state Sen. Dick Saslaw (D), \$26,500 to Ken Plum (D) for delegate, \$25,000 to Mark Sickles (D) for delegate, \$18,500 to Toddy Puller (D) for Senate, \$17,000 to Mark Herring (D) for Senate, \$14,157 to Tim Hugo (R) for delegate, \$12,000 to Tom Rust (R) for delegate and \$11,000 to Janet Howell (D) for Senate, just to cover some of the larger, local contributions.

Does it matter? Given the history of power outages, it's unlikely anyone would want to trade service from Dominion for service from Pepco.

Gifts are another question. In Virginia, even if an official does violate the very limited rules on gifts, the code states that "Violations of this subdivision shall not be subject to criminal law penalties.'

Call us naive, but we would have bet that neither Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli nor Gov. Bob McDonnell would be susceptible to taking gifts under dubious circumstances, yet both are in the news for having failed to report gifts totaling tens of thousands of dollars. McDonnell says disclosure of gifts to his immediate family members are not required. Cuccinelli says he forgot about some gifts he received.

The State Integrity Investigation is "designed to expose practices that undermine trust in state capitols — and spotlight the states that are doing things right." See http:// www.stateintegrity.org/virginia

Virginia's access to information on campaign finance is overshadowed by "lax oversight rules, weak consumer representation protections, dwindling capitol press corps and coziness between political and economic elites. ... Meanwhile, the few ethics and disclosure requirements that do exist tend to be flawed, limited or fraught with exemptions and qualifications," according to the report.

— Mary Kimm, MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Letters to the Editor

Park Entrance Dangerous

To the Editor:

Fido's joyous romp in West Grove Park's new unleashed dog area might easily become a tragic auto accident. ["Barking Up The Right Tree," May 2.] A crucial stipulation of a Fairfax County police officer's park traffic hearing testimony could prevent that, however: Because Fort Hunt Road's immediate north and southbound approaches to the park are the center section of a blind S curve, the officer stipulated only entry and exit right turns be permitted. No left turns into or out of the park should be allowed.

Earlier this week we frightfully experienced the officer's prophesies: Southbound at speed limit we rounded the first blind curve. Suddenly a stopped car, waiting to turn left across the two-lane road's oncoming northbound traffic into 8 🛠 Mount Vernon Gazette 🛠 May 9-15, 2013

the park loomed. Slamming on brakes, we came very close to crashing into it. Following cars also struggled to stop, a multi-car accident barely avoided. The officer was ever-so-prescient. Early on, the traffic physics he predicted came to pass. Right Turn Only signs should be immediately posted on the park's north and southbound approaches. A No Left Turn sign for the southbound lane should also be placed across from the park entrance. Further, such are the curves' nature, topography, and central connection, even a facilitating entry left-hand turn lane would pose dangerous hazards both entering and exiting Fido's increasingly popular park.

Rocky and Julie Curtis

'Start Your Engines'

To the Editor:

When is something going to be

done about the George Washington race track, formerly known as the George Washington Parkway?

What speed limit 35-45?! More like 70-80 MPH during rush hour! Why people are trying to kill themselves to get to work is beyond me. How many accidents have you seen on the George Washington Parkway between Mount Vernon and Old Town? Massive damage, usually totaled vehicles. How does that happen at 45 MPH?! Answer is: It wouldn't.

I know traffic signals are not going to be put at the intersections takes away from the esthetics of the beautiful drive.

How about speed cameras? The Park Police would rake in the revenue on the speeders. You can disguise them as trees, foxes, and deer, whatever you want. Snap a picture, mail it to their house. Let a commercial company front the cost of the equipment and give them a percentage of the revenue. Don't want speed cameras?

Then just put plastic deer along the parkway. People will slow down to look, and to ensure that their high end leased vehicle won't get damaged. Speed bumps would be another option as well!

D.C. has the worst drivers in the nation, congrats! How would you like to be a visitor to Mount Vernon and have to take your life in your hands on the parkway? Great reflection on the area! The Park Police do not have the resources to run speed traps all the time.

Someone stop the insanity and slow the traffic down now.

Gino Shoults Alexandria

OLDA Proves Its Worth

To the Editor:

As a supporter of the Westgrove Park Off Leash Dog Area (OLDA),

See Letters, Page 9

Hlount Vernon Gazette

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NEWS DEPARTMENT: To discuss ideas and concerns, Call: 703-778-9410 e-mail:

gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Steven Mauren Editor, 703-778-9415 smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael Lee Pope Reporter, 703-615-0960 mpope@connectionnewspapers.com @MichaelLeePope

Jeanne Theismann 703-778-9436 jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com @TheismannMedia

Jon Roetman Sports Editor, 703-224-3015 jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com @ionroetman

Louise Krafft Photographer lkrafft@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING: For advertising information e-mail:

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Julie Ferrill Display Advertising, 703-778-9446 jferrill@connectionnewspapers.com

Helen Walutes Display Advertising, 703-224-3028 hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411 asmith@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk National Sales 703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Publisher Jerry Vernon

jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher Mary Kimm 703-778-9433 mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

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

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427 **Circulation Manager:** circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper



From Page 8

I attended the public meeting of the Park Authority (FCPA) on April 30, 2013 at which the proposed master plan for the park was explained and public comment was invited. The great majority of the approximately 100 attendees clearly favored the OLDA, but the same handful of opponents had obviously organized opposition talking points. Among the talking points were (1) that residents of River Towers are disturbed by barking dogs; (2) that the OLDA causes the park to be less attractive to wild animals; (3) that the OLDA adversely impacts the environment; (4) that no urine is collected from dogs using the OLDA; (5) that the OLDA is much larger than other county OLDAs; and (6) the OLDA was created as an interim use with a two-year time period imposed and FCPA should not include the OLDA in the permanent master plan until the twoyear period has been completed. Taking these issues seriatim, I note the following:

(1) It is not credible that dogs playing at the OLDA could meaningfully disturb residents of River Towers. Last Saturday, I visited the

See Letters, Page 10



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From Page 9

OLDA, bringing my decibel meter with me to measure sound. I stood in the corner of the OLDA closest to River Towers (see accompanying photo) and pointed the decibel meter in the direction of the OLDA. In 30 minutes of monitoring, with at least a dozen dogs present at all times, I was unable to capture any sounds greater than 65 decibels.

This is the equivalent of the noise generated by a normal conversation between two people standing three feet apart. The closest condos at River Towers are at least two football fields' distance away from the OLDA and as demonstrated by the photo, only 14 windows of one River Towers building are visible from the OLDA. Noise level dissipates proportional to the square of the distance traveled.

As such, 65 decibel noise within the OLDA could not possibly create a disturbance 200 yards away. Moreover, numerous dogs are often seen being walked within the River Towers property. Those dogs are most likely to create noise that can be heard from a River Towers condo.

(2) The loudest noises I heard when monitoring sounds at the OLDA were the sounds of chirping and singing birds in the adjacent trees. Others have commented that they often see wild animals within the park in general. The biggest despoilers of the environment are geese. The presence of dogs reduces the presence of geese, thereby cre-

ating a benefit.

(3) Dog parks are well established as best management practices in a park. It is well documented that dog owners are more likely to clean up after their pets in a public park than in their own yard. Thus, providing a space to exercise dogs in a public park provides an environmental enhancement.

(4) The OLDA subtends 7 percent of the area of Westgrove Park. Since no one is collecting the urine from the wild animals using the other 93 percent of the park, it is ludicrous to suggest that users of the OLDA collect urine from their dogs.

(5) The OLDA is much larger than other county OLDAs because it uses a turf surface as opposed to the stone dust in other parks. The larger area of the Westgrove Park OLDA spreads out turf wear over a larger area, thereby reducing overall wear.

(6) Opponents of the OLDA gave no legitimate reason why it should be maintained as an interim use for the next 18 months.

At the beginning of the meeting, FCPA spokesperson Judy Pedersen stated guidelines for speakers, specifically explaining that people claiming to speak for an organization should provide details concerning that organization. Despite that admonition, Mary Jo Detweiler claimed to be speaking on behalf of "Friends of Westgrove Park," but did not provide the details about the organization requested by Ms. Pedersen. As has been documented in my prior letters to the Gazette, Friends of Westgrove Park does

not exist as a Virginia corporation, does not hold public meetings, and is not considered by FCPA to be an official organization affiliated with Westgrove Park. It is in essence a secret society of a handful of OLDA opponents with a name and a letterhead.

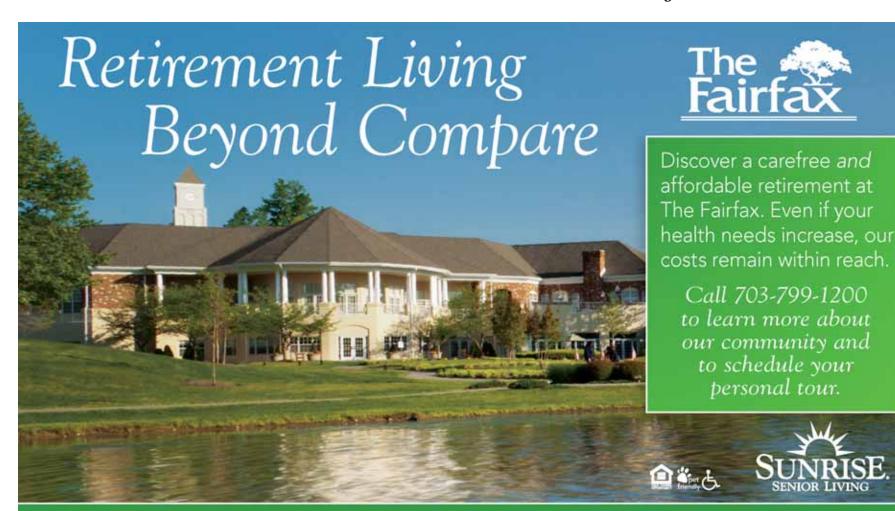
The Gazette did its credibility a disservice by including in his article a photograph of Detweiler that identified her affiliation with Friends of Westgrove Park. This "organization" should be accorded zero credibility, yet the Gazette published that photo on its front page. How about an investigation?

All in all, the handful of naysayers notwithstanding, the April 30 meeting successfully demonstrated the strong community support that the OLDA be included in the final master plan for Westgrove Park. I anticipate this will be the result.

> **H. Jay Spiegel** Mount Vernon



Westgrove Park and River Towers



The Fairfax is an extraordinary community managed by Sunrise Senior Living and developed for the Army Retirement Residence Foundation-Potomac. Ask us how you can live in our community without military affiliation. 9140 Belvoir Woods Parkway Fort Belvoir, VA 22060 TheFairfaxRetirement.com

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PREVIEWS





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4326 Adrienne Dr \$590,000 Fabulous Southwood -Your own Private Park! pacious four bedroom Colonial in unique 1.17 acre

park like wooded setting just off G.W. Parkway in premier Mt. Vernon location. Special features include 3 levels, updated kitchen, main level family room with fireplace, walkout lower level, magnificent rear deck overlooks gorgeous wooded grounds. Exceptional privacy with 1.17 acre lot backs to acres and acres of wooded parkland. OPEN SUN 5/12, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate;



14

9443 Mount Vernon Cir \$985,000 Williamsburg Classic! Custom home by master builder Gene Cullinhane captures the ambiance of Colonial Williamsburg and Old

Town Alex. Spacious __ sq ft home in prime location in area's premier water front community. Special features include: imposing entry, high ceilings, hardwood floors, elegant trim detail. 4BRs, 3.5Bas & oversize 2 car garage. Gorgeous grounds enhanced by distinctive courtyard entry. Rare opportunity to own a Cullinhane original.



4004 Belle Rive Terrace \$1,299,000 Master Piece-Near River! Must see-one of area's most spectacular properties! Top quality renovation resulting almost 8000 sq ft of

updated elegance. Features include grand room sizes, high ceilings, custom trim detail, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen and baths, 5BR, 4.5BA... Main level living room, dining room, family room and library. Walk out lower level rec room, media area & wine closet. Multi-tiered decks with hot tub capitalize on privacy of grounds. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac near river in premier Belle Rive.



Memorial Highway \$509,000 **Totally Updated** Gorgeous Setting! Nothing like it in price range! Fabulous updated home,

4505 Mount Vernon

everything is done. Move-in condition. Features include: bright open floor plan, updated kitchen with maple cabinets and granite countertops, luxury baths, two finished levels, upgraded trim detail, hardwood floors, thermal windows and covered parking. Fabulous screen porch overlooks magnificent grounds.



2305 Creek Dr \$735,000 Huge Colonial -Prime Stratford Location! Unique opportunity-huge Colonial overlooks creek in Stratford for remarkably easonable price! Features

include large room sizes, updated kitchen & baths, main level family room, five large bedrooms, master suite with sunroom, finished lower level with full walkout, hardwood floors, 2 car garage and many recent improvements. Large deck overlooks gorgeous grounds backing to small tidal creek. Super value! OPEN SUN 5/12, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Stratford; L-Camden; L-Creek Dr.



4605 Dolphin Ln \$698,500 Spacious Creekside Home! Dock your kayak or canoe in your own back yard! Exceptionally spacious four level home on gorgeous half acre grounds backing to tidal

creek leading to Potomac River. Special features include: bright open floor plan, hardwood floors, main level office, eat-in kitchen, family room with fireplace, 4 BRs, 3.5BAs, and oversize 2 car garage. New floating dock. Huge potential-3 nearby homes recently sold in the \$1.1mil range!



4721 Tarpon Ln \$879,000 Unbelievable Waterfront Price! Just in time for Summe Fun! *Your own waterfront with private dock-just mins from Old Town! *Recently dredged

canal provides easy access to open waters of Potomac-a privilege typically reserved for \$1,000,000+ homeowner! *3 Fin levels! *Exceptionally bright, open fir plan! *Stunning sunroom addition! *5 BRs including water view master suite! "Gourmet kitchen!



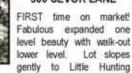
8313 Mount Vernon Hwy \$699,000 Brand New Home at Used Home Price! Be the first to call this property home. Special

gourmet eat-in kitchen with gas cooktop, custom cabinets and granite, family room with fireplace open to kitchen. Stunning master suite with huge walk-in closet and luxury bath. Thermal windows & upgraded insulation. 2 car garage. No detail has been overlooked



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carriage house. 6BR 4.5BA, gourmet kitchen, exquisite master suite with

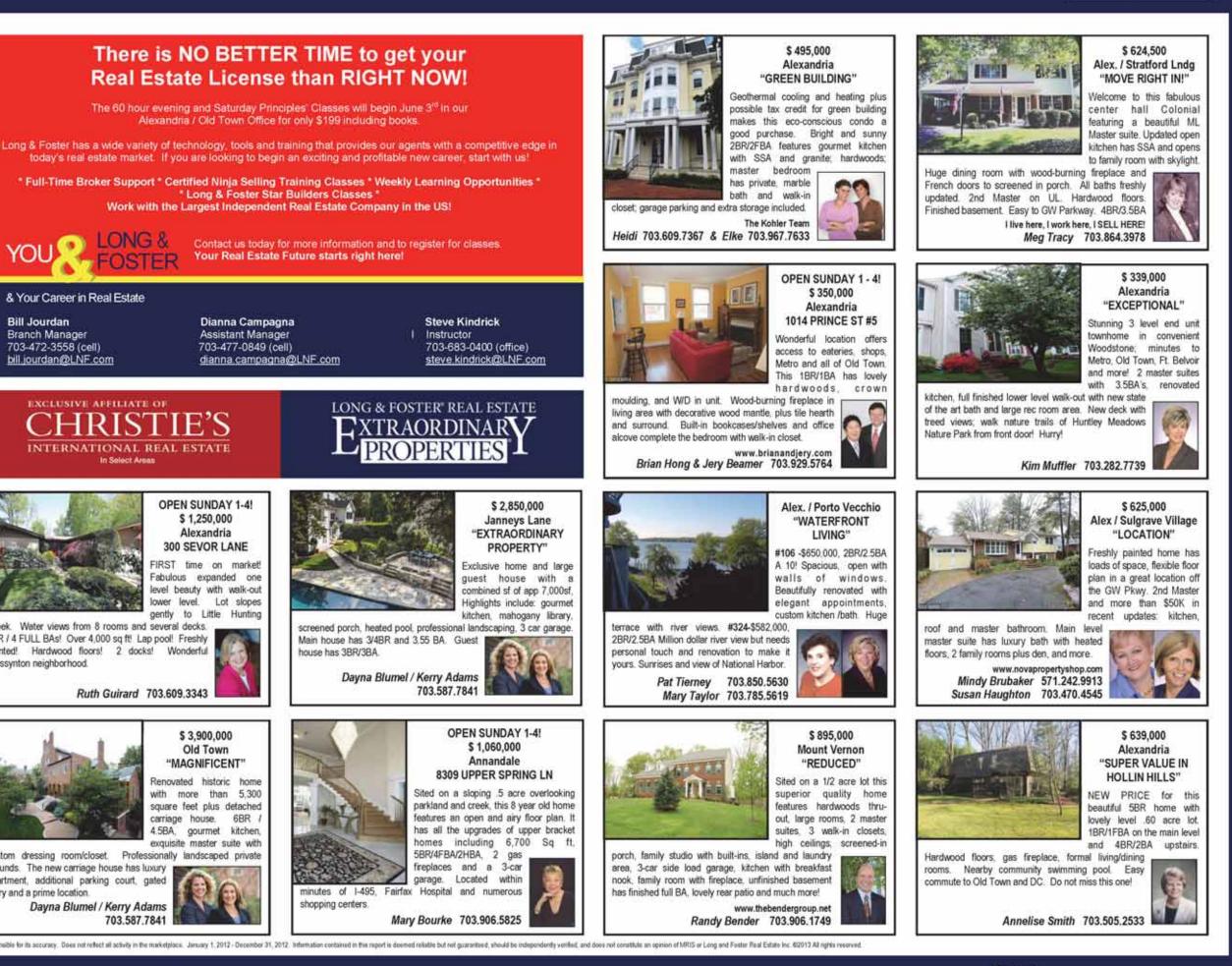
grounds. The new carriage house has luxury apartment, additional parking court, gated entry and a prime location Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.587.7841



house has 3BR/3BA.

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HomeLifeStyle

The Latest Trends in **Kitchen Decor**

Designers reveal noteworthy trends and new products for kitchens.

> By Marilyn Campbell The Gazette

rom textured backsplashes to a return of retro design and hands-free faucets, the National Kitchen & Bath Association just unveiled the latest in kitchen design.

Two local interior designers recently spent time scouting the trends at the association's 2013 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show in New Orleans. Megan Padilla and Tina Geiger Keppler, of Aidan Design in Bethesda, Md., got a first-hand look at cutting-edge trends ranging from the re-emergence of nostalgia-inducing Formica in bold patters to engineered stone counter tops that could pass for their natural counterparts.

Padilla and Keppler believe that many consumers will be interested in new cabinets with sliding doors. The appeal, they say, is that without traditional hinged doors, such cabinets will take up less space, something especially important in tiny kitchens.

When it comes to counter surfaces, engineered stones with finishes that bear a striking resemblance to their natural counterparts are in demand.

"Consumers are using engineered stone for easy maintenance," said Padilla. "They are as durable and

stain-resistant as granites without the required sealing. For the person [who] wants the look of stone without the maintenance, it's a great choice. We also use engineered stones when we want a solid color or more consistent look."

Keppler adds, "I have had many clients interested in the Caesarstone that looks like marble or limestone. They resemble these natural products while not having the staining problems associated with marble and limestone. They are also antimicrobial, which is very popular." From tiles to cabinetry, incor-

porating textured materials into kitchen design is a tastic concept for the kitchen when hands are so oftrend that's also on the rise. "We've seen a great deal ten dirty with things you don't want touching the of interest in textured laminates in more contempo- food you are preparing. Think raw meats." rary designs," said Padilla, who incorporated both textured laminate cabinets and a hand-carved tile backsplash into a recent remodel of a contemporary kitchen. "In more traditional designs, we're using textured tiles to bring greater depth to tone-on-tone color palettes."

Look for pops of bright colors like orange, yellow,

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Designers from Aidan Design, who created this Alexandria kitchen, spent time scouting the most current trends at the 2013 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show.

blue and green in kitchen décor. "One recent project we completed paired white cabinets and a 'leathered' black granite countertops with bright orange wall paint to showcase a retro pottery collection," said Padilla.

FINALLY, IMAGINE turning on your kitchen faucet without using your raw-chicken-contaminated hands. Hands-free technology is already available to private homeowners, but Padilla and Keppler offer a

caveat: "I do see this becoming a "Consumers are using engineered stone for easy maintenance. They are as durable and come old." stain-resistant as granites — without the required sealing.

- Megan Padilla, Aidan Design

popular product in the future, but not immediately," said Keppler. "Right now it feels like the kinks have not yet been worked out and it is still in the novelty stage. [M] any of the ... models that we saw ran on batteries. The issue with batteries will definitely be-

Padilla agrees that the concept has promise, but remains skeptical. "Varying sensitivities means that any touch can activate the flow of water. [For example,] switching from full flow to spray could turn off water in the middle of clean up," she said. "It's a fan-

The designers say they uncovered a few unexpected trends as well. "The biggest surprise at the show was Formica," said Padilla. "They did a great job of making their colorful, retro patterns relevant again. They are so fun that you immediately start thinking about projects you could use them in, like craft rooms, homework stations or kids rooms."

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Photo courtesy of Queen Bee Desig

Allison Priebe Brooks, of Queen Bee Designs in Alexandria, recommends color-coordinated, mother-daughter jewelry and clothing on Mother's Day.

Mother's Day Gift Ideas

Suggestions for honoring Mom on her day.

> **By Marilyn Campbell** The Gazette

other's Day is less than a week away. For some, choosing the perfect gift for Mom can be a nerve-wracking exercise. If you're still looking for the perfect present, local style gurus offer suggestions that they say will please even the most discerning of women.

For stylish mothers, Allison Priebe Brooks of Queen Bee Designs in Alexandra, recommends the sentimentality of matching parent-child jewelry: "It is fun to match or coordinate fashions with your child, especially on Mother's Day," she said. "You can do that with dresses or bold prints, but you can also do it with your jewelry. Little girls love to dress up and match their mothers, and jewelry is one thing that just about always fits and it can be passed down from generation to generation."

A SPA DAY AT HOME will give exhausted moms a chance to unwind, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke. "Treat Mom to a spa day at home [with] a new line bath line from The Charleston Soap Chef [which includes] lotion, hand and body wash, body butter and sugar scrub. We've been encouraging customers to put a few pieces together and pamper Mom without having to go to a spa."

Hand creams by Pre de Provence, rich in shea butter and available in crisp scents like lavender and verbena, are luxurious choices, said Angela Phelps, of Le Village Marche in Arlington. "Every woman can use a good hand crème in her purse," she said.

Ann O'Shields, of The Nest Egg in Fairfax, said, "Perfumes, lotions and candles from lines including Lollia, Tocca and Niven Morgan are a luxurious treat for moms.

MOMS WITH SOPHISTI-CATED palates might enjoy sipping from a hand-painted wine glass. "For moms who enjoy relaxing with a glass of wine, handpainted wine glasses are a great gift," said Thomas. "They are all hand-painted by a local artist and are available in a variety of colors and designs."

Epicureans with a penchant for entertaining would relish a cookbook line called "The Gathering of Friends," says Thomas. "It ... comes in five volumes, complete with table-setting ideas, shopping lists and beautiful photography. They are more than your typical cookbook."

Another idea for mothers who enjoy all things culinary: kitchen accessories. "If mom still has dishtowels from 40 years ago, why not swap them out for some new ones?" said Phelps of Le Village Marche. "I love ... vibrantly colored French towels from Jean Vier. Coming from the Basque region and made of 100 percent cotton jacquard, these oversized tea towels [32 inches by 23 inches] are beautifully and delicately woven. They can be machine-washed and dry wonderfully with no need for ironing.

For moms who enjoy photographing their offspring, O'Shields recommends the book "Photographing Your Children: A Handbook of Style and Instruction" by Jen Altman.



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Mount Vernon

Sports

Laurel Hill Golf Club To Host National Tournament

U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship coming to Lorton.

By Michael K. Bohn The Gazette

aurel Hill Golf Club in Lorton will host a national golf tournament this summer — the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship. The U.S. Golf Association will stage the tournament July 15–20. More than 3,000 players will attempt to qualify for the champion-



for the championship at 71 different locations throughout the country in June. USGA started the Public Links tournament in 1922 to provide an amateur national champion-

ship to male golfers who played on public courses. For years before and after 1922, any prospective entrant in the U.S. Amateur had to belong to a USGA-member club, almost all of which were private. The Women's Amateur Public Links began in 1977.

Sports Briefs West Potomac Baseball Beats SoCo

The West Potomac baseball team won a dramatic 1-0, nine-inning game over South County in a pivotal Patriot District contest on Friday, May 3.

In the bottom of the ninth inning, West Potomac junior Andrew Smith reached base on a four-pitch walk with one out. Smith advanced to second base on a wild pitch, which put him in position to score on sophomore Rocky Iboleon's game-winning single.

The victory improved the Wolverine's record to 11-7 overall and 7-5 in the Patriot District.

West Potomac starting pitcher Paul McClure, a senior, answered South County pitcher Devin Gould every inning. McClure went seven innings, allowing three hits and striking out 15 Stallion batters.

With the score deadlocked at 0-0 after seven innings, West Potomac junior Billy Lescher pitched the eighth inning and Lescher picked up right where McClure left off, not allowing a hit and striking out three in his two innings of work.

West Potomac is ranked No. 7 in this week's Northern Region coaches poll — the second highest ranking for a Patriot District team.

Madison retained the No. 1 ranking, followed by defending state and Patriot District champion Lake Braddock. Centreville is No. 3, followed by Oakton, Langley and www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



The U.S. Golf Association hosted Media Day at Lorton's Laurel Hill Golf Club on May 7. Speakers included, from left, Bill Fallon, Public Links tournament chairman, Bill McCarthy, USGA, Michael Trostel, USGA Communications, Peter Furey, Fairfax County director of golf, and Bill Bouie, chairman of the county Park Authority.

Laurel Hill is the flagship of Fairfax County's eight municipal golf courses. Created on the grounds of the former District of Columbia Lorton Reformatory, the course opened to rave reviews in 2005. Every tee time at Laurel Hill comes with a free "Get

Yorktown. McLean is No. 8, South County

The Patriot, Liberty and Concorde Dis-

tricts each have three teams in the top 10,

Yorktown is the lone representative from the

West Potomac will close the regular sea-

The Mount Vernon girls' lacrosse team lost

The West Potomac boys' and girls' lacrosse

teams ended their respective seasons with

losses in the district quarterfinals. The boys' team entered the Patriot District tourna-

ment as the No. 5 seed and lost to No. 4

South County, 17-8. The girls team entered

as the No. 6 seed and lost to No. 3 West

Earns Regional Berth

defeated Hayfield 6-5 in the quarterfinals

of the National District tournament on May

3, earning the Majors a berth in the North-

Mount Vernon lost to Yorktown 15-6 in

The Mount Vernon boys' lacrosse team

to Hayfield 14-4 in the National District

tournament quarterfinals on May 3, end-

son on the road against Lee at 6:30 p.m. on

Lax Seasons End

No. 9 and Westfield No. 10.

National District.

Thursday, May 9.

ing the Majors' season.

Springfield, 12-5.

MV Boys' Lax

ern Region tournament.

the district semifinals on May 7.

005. Every tee hole final round will receive an invitation tha free "Get to the 2014 Masters Tournament.

School Notes

out of Jail" card.

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

The tournament begins with two rounds

of stroke play, and the low 64 players ad-

vance to match play. The winner of the 36-

The Washington DC Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters recognized four West Potomac High School juniors for their accomplishments in the fine arts at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. **Eliza Lore** received an Award for Excellence in the Arts for Drama. **Eduardo Perez-Reyes**, drama; **Patrick Rhoads**, music; and **Emma Schmidt**, art, each received Certificates of Merit.



Remnants of the former Lorton prison frame portions of the

On May 7, USGA officials hosted Media Day at Laurel Hill to help publicize the upcoming championship, one known informally as the PubLinx.

Laurel Hill course.

For more information, visit www.usga.org and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/

The NSAL is a non-profit, volunteer organization of men and women who are professionally engaged in the fine arts. Its mission is to support development of talented young Americans in art, dance, drama, literature, music, and musical theater.

Army Cadet **John T. Rice** has received the George C. Marshall Award from the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va. The Vanderbilt University student is the son of Julia Rice of Alexandria, and William Thomas Rice of Annapolis. He graduated in 2009 from West Potomac High School.



Club Welcomes Washington Kastles Coach

French Open doubles champ Murphy Jensen (in team jacket) ran a clinic for Mount Vernon Athletic Club tennis members on April 26. Jensen is presently the coach of the Washington Kastles, a member of World Team Tennis. Jensen ran a clinic that infused the crowd with his enthusiasm for tennis. The Kastles season begins in July, and includes such internationally known team members as Andy Roddick and Venus Williams. The team has two undefeated seasons under its belt, and is striving to achieve a third this summer.

ENTERTAINMENT Troubadour Searching for 'Tomorrowland'

Before hitting the road with Bob Dylan and friends, Ryan Bingham takes his own show for a test drive.

By Amber Healy The Gazette

t the end of the night, Ryan Bingham's looking for a shot of Jameson and a slide for his guitar. Ten years into his career, the 32-year-old blues/Americana rocker is enjoying a busy spring, appearing recently on the Jimmy Kimmel show and playing at the star-maker South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas.

Bingham, who will play at the Birchmere in Alexandria on Friday night, has a distinctive rasp to his voice, earned from his early days playing in "dive bars and little clubs" while driving around in a "beat up old Suburban "

The audiences in those bars and clubs often weren't there for music, making him sing louder to try to be heard over the crowds, Bingham said.

He's been compared to Steve Earle and Tom Waits, men known for voices that sound like their vocal chords have been assaulted with gravel and who are old enough to be Bingham's father.

"I guess I blew my voice out every night," Bingham chuckled.

The raspy tone is easy to pick out on the series of "bootleg" videos he's posted on

CALENDAR

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.
- Art Exhibit. Through May 11. Local artist Nicholaus Aman attempts to express the compelling nature of the Pacific coast through his solo exhibition, "Pacific Pulse," at Alexandria's Artspace 109 Gallery, 109 N. Fairfax St. The gallery hours are: Tuesday through Friday noon-5 p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays noon-5 p.m.
- Art Exhibit. 7-10 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Thirteen T.C. Williams High School students selected as this year's National Art Honor Society inductees will show their work through Sunday, May 12.
- Fyhihit Hundertwasser" at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. See works from local artists inspired by paintings by Austrian painter Hundertwasser. Through Mav 19. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Youtube (youtube.com/ user/ryanbingham), including a recent addition, a cover of David Bowie's "Man Who Sold the World."

Of course, even if he's not quite a household name yet, Bingham's got some heavy metal in his collection: an Oscar, Grammy and Golden Globe for his song, "The Weary Kind," from the 2010 movie "Crazy Heart." And that's in addition to four albums since 2007.

"I can't complain at all," Bingham said. Right now, he's in the early

stages of a solo tour in support of his most recent album, "Tomorrowland," a tour which will feature a

show at the Jefferson Theater in Charlottesville the night after he comes to Alexandria, before joining up on the Americanarama Festival Music with Wilco, My Morning Jacket and Bob Dylan.

"I have no idea how that happened," Bingham laughed. "It's been in the works for a while. We just got the call one day and got invited to go."



Ryan Bingham brings his rock/country/Americana sounds to the Birchmere Friday night.

That tour will be making a stop in this area as well, with a show on July 23 at Merriweather Post Pavilion in Columbia, Md.

"I'm a big fan of Wilco and My Morning Jacket. I'm really looking forward to being on tour with them, not just playing, but standing on the side of the stage watching," he said.

And if any of the bands asked him to join in for a song or two?

"I'm always down to jam," he said.

The audience at a typical Ryan Bingham show is a cross-section of music fans, he said.

"There've been a few shows in my life where there's a group of cowboys, a group of hipster kids, some older folks, some families with kids," Bingham said. "I play songs for all kinds of people."

There's a little rock 'n roll, a little country, a little bluegrass, a little folk, and while Bingham doesn't have a favorite song to play, he does have a favorite way to end the evening.

He likes to pick up one of his guitars and grab a slide, typically a cylindri-

cal piece of glass or metal that's pressed against and, well, slid down the strings of a guitar to create a distinct sound. Slides have a lot of character, Bingham said.

"I like it because it's dirty," he laughed. "It's got a great dirty sound. Toward the end of the night, I like a shot of whiskey and turn the [darn] speakers up to 12 and grab a slide."

Art Exhibit. Helen Dilley Barsalou has a show of 39 watercolor and collage paintings at Goodwin House, 4800 Fillmore Ave. It is open from 9 a.m.-9

p.m. until May 21. Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 26, Thursday, Friday and Sunday noon-4 p.m.; Saturday 1-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. See works by Mary Margaret Pipkin. Free. Visit

ww.mmpipkin.com. Walking Tour. Saturdays in May, 9 a.m., take a three-hour walking tour of Lee-Fendall House, Gadsby's Tavern museum, Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and Carlyle House. Meets at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St., and ends at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. \$25/ person; \$20/volunteers and friends group members of the four sites.

- Tickets at www.historical alexandria.org or 703-746-4242 Ceramics Exhibition. Through Sunday, June 2 at Target Gallery Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Come to an exhibition of non-functional ceramic artwork. Free. For more information, go to www.torpedofactory.org/targ Theater Performance. MetroStage,
- 1201 N. Royal St., presents "Ghost-Writer." Performances are Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. through Sunday, June 2. Tickets are \$45-\$55: \$25/ student. Visit www.metrostage.org or

703-548-9044 for tickets. Student Design Competition. Come see Woodlawn transformed from a

historic house museum into a comfortable and stylish home for 21st century living. Through Sunday, June 16. \$20. Call 703-780-4000. Art Exhibit. Through Tuesday, June 25, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at River Farm Gardens, East Blvd. Come see

Elegance of Spring. Distillery Open. George Washington's Distillerv and Gristmill open through Oct. 1. \$17/adult, \$8/child, 5 and under are free.

THURSDAY/MAY 9

Garden Stroll and Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Tour some of the gardens with a master gardener docent who will tell stories of Green Spring past and present. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional English afternoon tea served in our 1784 historic house \$28. Call 703-914-7987 to register. Art Reception. 5-8 p.m. at the Lee

Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Come to the reception for the "Art Uniting People" exhibit. Free. For more visit www.healthieralexandria.org/ antistigma.

Reception. 6 -8 p.m. Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Come to a reception for the "Bevond Function" art exhibition and See Calendar, Page 21



Labov Fundraiser

The Old Dominion Boat Club, at 1 King St., will hold a fundraiser in honor of Alexandria Police Officer Peter Laboy, May 11 from 7:30-11:30 p.m. A limited number of tickets are available to the public at the Boat Club or Chadwick's Restaurant for \$60 per person and includes food and drinks. Music by the Joe Chiocca Band. Call 703-836-1900.

Entertainment

From Page 20

meet some of the featured artists. Free.

- Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target. **Tour.** 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Travel to Wilmington, Del. and tour Mt. Cuba's native plant gardens in the morning and spend the afternoon at Winterthur with a house tour and a tram tour of the grounds and gardens. \$120 per person. Register on-line at www.greenspring.org or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.
- **Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Come see Beth Hart perform. \$25.
- **Concert.** 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Second Thursday music concert with a Songwriters Association of Washington artist. \$10.
- **Music.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Hear music by Walmisley, Archer Ayleward and more. Donations of non-perishable foods will be accepted. 703-549-3312.
- **Memorial Service.** Noon-1 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 2932 King St. Sheriff Lawhorne and the Sheriff's Office will join the Alexandria Police Department and the Alexandria Retired Police, Fire and Sheriff Association at the annual Alexandria Police and Sheriff Memorial Service, as they honor the memory of their fallen comrades.
- Second Thursday Old Town. 6-9 p.m. at areas around Old Town, with headquarters at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Some locations have free admission, some might charge. Enjoy music, spot the dot contests, best "dot" costume prizes and more. Visit www.secondthursdayoldtown.com for more.

Second Thursday Old Town. 6-9

p.m. in Old Town. Pop art with a dash of surrealism is the inspiration for the evening, with interactive art activities, prizes, shopping and live music. Some locations are free. Visit secondtursdayoldtown.com.

FRIDAY/MAY 10

- Gardening Demonstration: Hostas. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Master Gardeners show you how to care for and make the most of this great plant in your garden. \$10 per person.Register on-line at www.greenspring.org or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.
- **Neighborhood Social.** 4-7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Neighbors are invited to stop by the Athenaeum, check out the exhibit and socialize. Free.
- Farm to Table Event. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy a four-course dinner featuring products cultivated and produced on estate grounds and tours of some of the grounds. \$175/person. Purchase
- tickets at mountvernon.org. **Concert.** The Wild Feathers and Ryan Bingham will perform at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-
- 7500 for tickets. **Music Performance.** The United States Air Force Band will perform a
- free concert at 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Visit www.usafband.af.mil or 202-767-5658. **Tour.** 11 a.m. starts at Hooray for
- Books, 1555 King St. Take a tour of Old Town Boutique District and receive insider's tips from the

owners. Visit www.ACVA.eventbrite.com for reservations.

Tour. Noon. Learn about the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., with a tour led by CEO Eric Wallner. Visit www.ACVA.eventbrite.com for reservations.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

- Music. Gary Taylor performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.
- Gardening Demonstration. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Horticulturalist Karen Rexrode shows you colorful shrubs and evergreens to anchor your mixed border for year round beauty. \$18 per person. Register on-line at www.greenspring.org or call Green
- Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Opening Reception. 3-5 p.m. see "The Death of Fear," an ink and pencil exhibit by Nelson Gutierrez at the Schlesinger Center, 3001 N.
- Beauregard St. Free. **Tour.** 1 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 109 S. Alfred St. Learn about three major fires, the techniques used to fight them and the five volunteer companies of the early city. \$6/adult; \$4/youth ages 10-17. Reservations required, 703-746-4994.
- **Benefit.** The 12th annual Child and Family Network Centers' benefit will take place at the home of Marnie and John Repetti. The event will feature a silent auction, food and drink from Susan Gage Catering, and will be a festive night in one of Alexandria's beautiful, newly renovated homes. For more information or to donate,

www.lostdogandcatrescue.org

National Chamber Players

The National Chamber Players will perform Tuesday, May 14, 7:30 p.m. at Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W Braddock Road. The program will include: Sergei Prokoviev, Peter and the Wolf, narrated by Gideon Pollach; Ennio Morricone, Gabriel's Oboe, with the EHS choirs; and Aaron Copland, Quiet City. For this performance the musicians are: Thomas Cupples, trumpet; Abigail Evans, viola; Joel Fuller, violin; Jauvon Gilliam, timpani; Aaron Goldman, flute; Erich Heckscher, bassoon; James Lee, cello; Teri Lee, violin; Eugene Mondie, clarinet; James Nickel, french horn; Charles Nilles, bass; and Nicholas Stovall, oboe. The National Chamber Players are members of the National Symphony Orchestra and other musicians from the metropolitan area and beyond. All are friends and colleagues who come together, under the leadership of artistic director James Lee, around a shared musical sensibility, and a desire to play together for the joy of it. Founded in 2004, the National Chamber Players have been in residence at Episcopal Hight School ever since, performing four concerts a year in Pendleton Hall.Their programming is innovative and eclectic, including a variety of chamber music, and has included dance and multimedia elements. The concert is free, no tickets are required. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org, email vdp@episcopalhighschool.org, or call 703-933-4135.

contact Joanna Zumhagen, Development Associate, at 703-836-0214 or izumhagen@cfnc.online.org

- 0214 or jzumhagen@cfnc-online.org. Book Sale. 10 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Center. Find items for all ages. 703-339-4610.
- Wag A Tale. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 5-12 can register to read aloud to Chester, a reading therapy dog. Registration required, 703-339-4610.
- Jazz Extravaganza. 6:30 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. Celebrate Mother's Day with jazz music by musicians from T.C. Williams High School and Francis C. Hammond Middle School. Free. 703-746-5552. Tour. 10:30 a.m. starts at the gazebo in

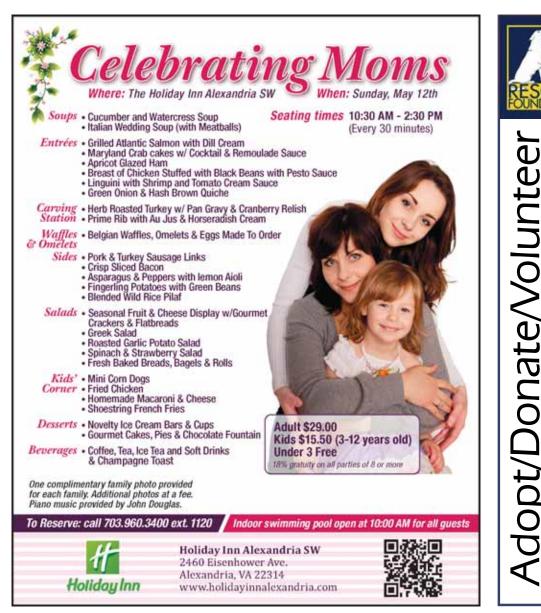
Heritage Park, corner of Holland Lane and Jamieson Avenue. Led by historian C.R. Gibbs. Visit www.ACVA.eventbrite.com for reservations.

Alexandria's African-American

SUNDAY/MAY 12

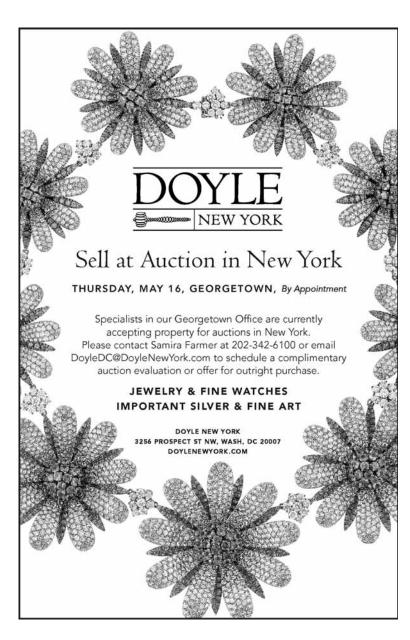
- Mother's Day with Mother's Finest. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit wurw birchmere com or 703 540
- www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets. **Tea Party.** 1 p.m.-3 p.m. At Green
- Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn about some of the

See Calendar, Page 22





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ENTERTAINMENT

From Page 21

- remarkable mothers who raised children in the historic house from the 1780s to the 1960s. \$28 adult/ \$18 children under 12. Call 703-941-7987 for reservations.
- Mother's Day Tea. Seatings at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax Street. Old Town Alexandria. While sipping a special blend of spring teas from Tea and Spice Exchange of Alexandria, guests will enjoy a menu of finger sandwiches, scones, and banana or lemon tea bread. There will also be a special Mother's Day dessert spread including petite fours, cheesecake with strawberries and powdered shortbread tea cookies. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 703-549-2997, or emailing carlyle@nvrpa.org. \$27 per person. Carlyle House will also be offering free tours on Mother's Day for all mothers and grandmothers, noon-4 p.m., cost is \$5 for other adults and \$3 for children (ages 5-12).
- Capital Wind Symphony Concert. 4 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. Hear music by composer John Williams including "Harry Potter" and "Superman." \$15/ adult advance or \$20 at the door; \$10/student, senior advance or \$15 at the door. Visit www.capitalwind symphony.org for more.
- Spring Open House. 1-4 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy mini cupcakes by Occasionally Cake while browsing artwork, hear live music and enjoy a craft. New cupcake flavors each hour. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

MONDAY/MAY 13

- Terrific 2s and 3s. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and songs. Free. 703-339-4610.
- 703-339-4610. **Is it Bedtime?** 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 1-5 can wear pajamas and enjoy stories and activities about bedtime. Free. Registration required, 703-768-6700.
- **Introduction to Creative Writing**. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Adults can enjoy a six-week writing workshop. Bring ideas, laptop or pen and paper. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.
- **Books and Ideas.** 7:30 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Discuss "Destiny of the Republic" by Candice Millard. Free. 703-765-3645.

TUESDAY/MAY 14

- **Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Rd. The National Chamber Players perform Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, Morricone's Gabriel's Oboe and Copland's Quiet City. Free. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org or call 703-933-4135.
- Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories, songs and fingerplays. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.
- Early Words. 10:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and songs. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.
- Fun for 2s and 3s. 10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 2-3 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010. Second Tuesday Book Group. 7
- p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Tender at the Bone" by Ruth Reichl. Free. Visit secondtuesdaybook

group.blogspot.com or 703-339-4610.

Evening Book Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Adults can discuss "The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan. Free. 703-768-6700.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

- Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Hear music by Asleep at the Wheel and Amelia White. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500 for tickets.
- Presentation. 7:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Larry Brindza will give a presentation on the life and migration of the monarch butterfly. Free. 703-768-2525. Visit www.fodm.org and www.foppr.org.
- **Square Dancing.** 7:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. All ages, all abilities, couples, singles and families welcome. Free. 703-573-8378.

THURSDAY/MAY 16

- Martha's Poetry Discussion. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss the poetry of Tomas Transtromer. Free. 703-768-6700.
- **Book Discussion.** 7:15 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Call for title. Free. 703-971-0010.

FRIDAY/MAY 17

- Wine Festival. 6-9 p.m. at Mount Vernon. Learn about the history of wine in Virginia and Mount Vernon, while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries among other activities. \$38. Visit www.mountvernon.org to purchase tickets.
- Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. see "Artworks for Good" at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Call 703-838-4827 or visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.
- Music Performance. 8-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Randy "Windtalker" Motz will perform, with proceeds from the performance benefiting Futures for Children. Visit stelmoscoffeepub.com for more.
- **Casino Night Fundraiser.** 6:30-10:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon HIgh School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Enjoy dancing, games and more. \$35/advance; \$40/door.

MAY 17 THROUGH JUNE 1 Art Exhibit. "Artworks for Good" at Del

Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Call 703-838-4827 or visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

- **Civil War 150th Concert.** 7 p.m. featuring the Federal City Brass Band. Honor Armed Forces Day at an evening performance of songs from the Civil War era in the Fort Ward Park amphitheatre. The Federal City Brass Band recreates the sound and appearance of a regular U.S. Army regimental brass band of the 1860s. Visit http://apps.alexandriava.gov/ Calendar.
- **Exhibition.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Spring Garden Day with a plant sale and more. Free. Call 703-642-5173 for more information.
- **Charity Day.** Old Town Boutique District is holding its 3rd annual Old Town Boutique District's Boutiques Give Back Charity Day during retail store hours. Visit www.oldtown boutiquedistrict.com for more.
- Book Signing. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Olio Tasting Room, 1223 King St. Chef Jenn Crovato will sign copies of her book "Olive Oil, Sea Salt & Pepper."

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall. The finale of the 2012-2013 ASO season. \$5/ youth; tickets start at \$10 for students and \$40 for adults. Visit www.alexsym.org for more.

THROUGH MAY 18

Diaper Drive. Local volunteers, in conjunction with Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS), announced Diaper Drive 2013: Help Keep a Baby Dry intended to raise 10,000 diapers to assist local needy families. The drive runs through May 18 and encourages people to drop off diapers at local elementary schools, churches and public locations in several Fort Hunt, Mount Vernon and Old Town locations. Donated diapers can be loose from an open pack or part of a sealed pack. Financial donations are also accepted through the drive's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ DiaperDrive2013. Diaper Drop Locations include Occasionally Cake, 207 King St. Drop off at Occasionally Cake and be entered in to win a Mommy and Me cupcake decorating class. Visit

www.occasionallycake.com for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 19

- Wine Festival. 6-9 p.m. at Mount Vernon. Learn about the history of wine in Virginia and Mount Vernon, while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries among other activities. \$38. Visit www.mountvernon.org to purchase tickets.
- **Opening Reception.** 2-4 p.m. see artwork by Sandy LeBrun-Evans and Danny Conant at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more. **Music.** 7 p.m. at Church of the
- Music. 7 p.m. at Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. Focus Music presents Don White. \$18/general; \$15/advance. Buy tickets at www.focusmusic.org or 703-380-3151.
- Family Festival and Walk for Pediatric Cancer. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at St. Stephen's upper campus, 1000 St. Stephen's Road. Activities for all ages such as arts and crafts, cooking demonstrations, magic show, raffles and a walk around the track to show support for the cause. Featuring performances by Alexandria teen bands including Fuse Box, Keira Moran and others. To benefit Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation. \$25 adults/\$10 children and teens (under 3 free). T-shirts and drawstring bags included. Information and to register: www.mattiemiracle.com.
- Stories and Music in the Garden. 4-6 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Enjoy folk stories and songs in the walled garden. Food will be sold. Families with children are encouraged to bring a blanket. Proceeds will benefit the church's natural playground project.

MONDAY/MAY 20

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Don Williams performs, with special guest Ashley Monroe. \$55. Visit http://ashleymonroe.com/.

TUESDAY/MAY 21

- **Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Peter Tork performs. Visit www.birchmere.com.
- School Lunch Bunch Concert. 12:15-1:15 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. St. Rita's, St. Francis of Assisi and Linton Hall bands will perform. Free. 703-746-5592.
- Swing Dancing. 9-10:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. King Teddy will perform music. \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com for more. www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



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