Mount Pernon Gazette

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

November 21,



Veda Barton made pillows and small gift ideas for the fair.



TJ, a participant in the art classes at Community Services Inc., shows one of the paintings he created for the holiday sale.



Owner/ manager of Jade **Basket Creations Juanita** Patterson offers custommade gift baskets for all occasions. Patterson may be reached at jadebasket creations@yahoo.com

Auxiliary Hosts Holiday Bazaar

ables laden with holiday gifts filled the hallways of the atrium at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital on Friday, Nov. 15, for a holiday bazaar. Artwork, handmade dolls and pottery, jewelry, watches, bookmarks, ornaments and toys, knitted fashions and home décor along with gift baskets and holiday treats were some of the items available for purchase.



Community Systems Inc. program manager and life skills coach Heather Auville is joined by program participant Alphonso Lewis.



Bridget Shay of Sugilite Jewelry shows some of the many necklaces that she has for sale at the mini-bazaar. For more information visit www.jewelrybysugilite.com Bee's Fashions.



Belinda Smith drove trucks for a moving company for 17 years before setting up her own small business,



Linda Harris has sewing in her genes. Her mother taught her to sew and she creates hand-sewn earrings and other decorative pieces



Jacky Long with a few dozen of her hand-made earrings.



Carrie Smith paints a winter wonderland scene at the market.

In Tribute To Hardison

West Potomac honors former principal who died at 60.

BY STEVE HIBBARD The Gazette

bout 100 family members, friends and former colleagues gathered Tuesday, Nov. 19 at West Potomac High School to pay tribute to former principal Cliff Hardison who died July 23 at the age of 60 from lung cancer.

The event, which included former principals, School Board members, teachers and administrators, was emceed by the Daryl Mackey, a former student and current CTE teacher at West Potomac. One by one they took the microphone and gave words of praise for Hardison, with one common thread: He dedicated his life to the students and to education.

"Cliff was the most loyal friend I ever had," said Bill Clendaniel, former Langley High principal



Cliff Hardison

worked with Hardison at three schools since 1975: Godwin Middle, Edison High, and West Potomac. "When you were Cliff's friend, you were Cliff's friend for

SEE FAMILY, PAGE 6

Groveton ES's Press Named Counselor of Year

Colleagues cite her collaborative efforts.

BY STEVE HIBBARD THE GAZETTE

roveton Elementary School counselor Hillary Press, 42, was named the Virginia Counselors Association 2013 Counselor of the Year. Press was recognized at the VCA awards reception on Friday, Nov. 8, at the Homestead in Hot Springs. The VCA is composed of the entire counseling community,



Hillary Press is school counselor at Groveton Elementary.

including school counselors, educators and clinical counselors.

SEE PRESS NAMED, PAGE 9

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PEOPLE

50 Years Later, Cikins Looks Back on JFK Assassination

Former Mount Vernon District supervisor recalls the lessons of that era.

By Gerald A. Fill The Gazette

n that fateful day, Nov. 22, 1963, Warren Cikins was having lunch with an Arkansas VIP at the Sheraton Carlton hotel, two blocks from the White House when the news was announced: President Kennedy was shot and killed by an assassin in Dallas, Texas.

"Kennedy's assassination caused me enormous emotional grief. How could a life so promising and so important to world Peace be suddenly and inexplicably wiped out? It made absolutely no sense to me," Cikins said. "The shock of the assassination was palpable, like nothing I had ever experienced. It was such an emotionally draining experience for me. I sought my Rabbinical training and Orthodox Jewish faith to help me deal with the unimaginable, and tried to move on. But, the shock and tragedy never left me."

Cikins was on the White House staff at the time, working just steps away from the President. For this interview he described the aftermath of the feelings of horror that he and his colleagues experienced right after the news and reality set in.

Cikins was serving in the White House as an assistant to former U.S. Rep. Brooks Hays, who was a political casualty of the Little Rock, Arkansas segregation fights in the '50s but a hero to those who supported public school integration. When Kennedy was elected President he immediately offered Hays a position in his Administration. That translated into an influential staff position for Cikins in the Kennedy White House.

"President Kennedy said to Congressman Hays that if he ever wrote a sequel to "Profiles in Courage," Kennedy's best selling book, that he would feature Congressman Hays in it for his principled support of public school integration," Cikins said. "So here



Warren Cikins with his wife Sylvia



Sylvia and Warren Cikins (front row). Son Dean and spouse Andrea (rear right) and their daughter Maya, age 9 (front row center); son Neil and spouse Traci (rear left) and twin daughters ages 12—Emme (front left) and Tori (front right). Dean and Andrea reside in Huntersville, NC; Neil and Traci reside in Pittsburgh, PA.

I was working for Congressman Hays, a Southern Baptist, who lost his seat in Congress because he supported school integration. Congressman Hays' support for integrating Little Rock public schools over the objections of Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus was widely admired. I was at Congressman Hays' side during the Little Rock crisis." Kennedy was later elected and he brought Hays into his Administration; first at the State Department, then to the White House. Cikins joined him in both assignments

"I was very excited to be at the center of the civil rights debates of the '50s and '60s and working in the Kennedy Administration with Congressman Hays. So, logically I was devastated by Kennedy's death," Cikins said. "The assassination was a singularly important teaching moment for me; how fragile life is. The assassination became for me a constant reminder of what may appear to many as a simple truism but in reality a very important idea; make the most of what you have with the short time you have on earth.

"From the very beginning, President Kennedy's leadership was special. In his inaugural speech he challenged all of us to reach for high ideals: he said famously 'ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.' These words continue to resonate and inspire succeeding generations and never have they been more important on this, the 50th anniversary of his assassination.

"We are all a witness to the current climate of polarized political parties, extremism, and lack of respect and civility for other peoples' views. Kennedy's death reminds us all of the importance to make the most of our opportunities. I have tried to live my

life that way. The title of my personal memoir, 'In Search of Middle Ground,' was my mantra throughout my professional career and personal life. I worked quietly behind

the scenes to achieve a middle ground and assure that progress was made on this or that policy.

"Similarly, in my personal life I modified my dedication to Orthodox Judaism to Reform Judaism, when my wife Sylvia, Lutheran, agreed to convert to Reform Judaism. Adherence to the principle of accepting middle ground on matters of importance to all sides is sorely needed

now. Kennedy's assassination served as a reality check for me and many others about life. It is so important to work toward accomplishing as much as we can in the time

we have. Achieving middle ground on issues which divide us is important if what one wants to do is get things done and be able to move forward compatibly with our fellow citizens."

As Cikins likes to reminisce, he was privileged to work closely with Hays, a southern Baptist, and later through his

Brookings Institution employment, with Chief Justice Warren Burger, a conservative. He discussed how he worked behind the scenes with both Hays and Burger to achieve significant progress on civil rights, prison reform, judicial improvements and other progressive policies.

"Congressman Hays and Chief Justice Burger were very special Americans and exemplified, along with the inspiring presence and leadership of President Kennedy, the best of America," Cikins said.

Cikins' life has not always been good times filled with success. His illnesses and other disappointments tested his faith, spirit, and outlook on life. For example he suffered and continues to suffer from Spondylitis, a crippling disease which has left him severely handicapped. He acquired Spondylitis many years ago, he claims, because of a contaminated Swine Flu shot. This illness restricted what he could do. But

Details

Warren Ira Cikins' personal memoir, "In Search of Middle Ground: Memoirs of a Washington Incider"

Published in 2005 by Devora Publishing Company **Email:** wicikins@gmail.com

Family: Married to Sylvia Acitelli; father of two sons, Neil and Dean.

Education: Bachelor's Degree, Harvard College; Master's Degree in political science, Harvard College's Littauer Center (later renamed Kennedy School of Government)

as he tells it, the physical problems never restricted his spirit or drive. He retired in 1993 after serving for 15 years as a senior administrator for the Brookings Institution. Along the way, from his time before and after his stint in the Kennedy Administration, he was a congressional aide to three members of Congress, worked in the Agency for International Development (AID), the State Department, Civil Rights Commission, and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In between he found time to teach political science at American University, George Washington University, and Inova Southeastern University.

As if that were not enough for two careers, he was also elected to serve on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as Mount Vernon District supervisor for one year of an unexpired term of Herb Harris' who was elected to the U.S. Congress, and then reelected to a full four-year term.

In response to a question about what he believes was his most significant career accomplishment, he said there were many ac-

complishments but at the Federal level his Brookings Institution consulting work with Burger ranks at the top. In that capacity he worked directly with the Chief Justice to develop the agenda and select the participants for an annual conference on improvements in the admin-



Warren Cikins

istration of justice. It was through these conferences that reforms/improvements were formulated, and the three branches of government participated in the debate on proposed changes. Locally, among other accomplishments, he is very pleased with his central role on the Board of Supervisors in the creation of the Mount Vernon Recreation Center

Cikins frequently refers to the advice, support, and love he has received from his wife of 49 years, Sylvia, who served as a professional staff member on the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee for many years, the joy and pride of raising his two sons, Neil and Dean, and the love and bond of their wives and children.

When asked how he would like to be remembered Cikins answered: "That I loved America and that I did everything possible to make life in America a better place to live for all Americans."

News

New Hope's Michell Receives Nonprofit Leadership Award

amela L. Michell, New Hope Housing's executive director, was given Leadership Fairfax's Nonprofit Leadership Award at their awards luncheon Nov. 7.

Michell has served as executive director of New Hope Housing for 23 years, and during that time has expanded its programs and services, and served as a leader in implementing innovative services and building community awareness and support to address homelessness in the northern Virginia community.

Presenting the award on behalf of Leadership Fairfax, Christopher Fey, executive director of Homestretch, commented on Michell's compassion for the homeless families and individuals she works with, her drive to find more effective strategies for ending homelessness, and her willingness to speak out and push for change. He noted that as a result, she has great influence among her colleagues and has helped to shape policies and services in the community.

In accepting the award, Michell spoke about why she loves her job. The first is her passion for the mission of New Hope Housing. She

also said that she could not do the job without the dedicated staff of New Hope Housing, who are also so passionate about their work to end homelessness one person at a time, and without the collaboration and support of her nonprofit executive director colleagues.

Michell spoke of her admiration for the families and individuals New Hope Housing serves. "I love the residents of New Hope Housing. I am amazed and awed by their strength, how they continue to

struggle against so many challenges. And yes, sometimes they frustrate me, and stretch me, and make me question my personal choices. But it is such a joy to see individuals overcome their challenges and start anew. No one asks to be homeless; no one deserves to be homeless. And that's why we all need to work together to end homelessness, and make our community a better place for all of us."

New Hope Housing provides shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing, outreach and support services for homeless families and single adults in Fairfax County, City of Alexandria, Arlington County, and City of Falls Church. For more information, visit www.newhopehousing.org.



Pamela L. Michell



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Groundbreaking

Mount Vernon Unitarian Church broke ground Sunday, Nov. 17, for a major expansion of the Commons area in its Meeting House in Mason Hill. Douglas MacCleery, chair of the building committee, turned the first shovel, with encouragement from Board Chair Kristine Erickson (left in hard hat), Evelyn Hewitt (right in hard hat), and others. Construction is expected to be completed by spring.



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PEOPLE

Overcoming Personal Tragedy

Marcella Pratt supervises church's Sunday school.

By Ed Simmons, Jr.
The Gazette

Rising Hope member for over 12 years, Marcella Pratt has always believed in working hard, independent living, raising her children to be upright citizens and giving back to the community and her church. Rising Hope is a United Methodist mission church located off of Route 1 between Woodlawn and Hybla Valley.

She remembers first coming to the mission and encountering a welcoming smile from staffer Venisa McCormick. "She was so kind, I wanted to come back. I like that the church includes everyone. I like the fact it is a recovery church."

Life had dealt her some terrible blows. Her father deserted her mother and their four children when she was young. She became a foster child. Later she

lived with her grandmother who taught her hard work, indepen-

FACES AT RISING HOPE

dence and honoring God. She started work-

ing when she was 14. But when she was 18, she became pregnant and had to drop out of high school. She found work, often holding down two jobs, married and went on to have a family of five.

Years later came the shattering blows.

Three of her grandchildren were left in a closed car on a hot day. The air conditioner was on, but the toddler fiddled with the knobs. The heater turned on. One died. Two went to intensive care.

Two years later and now a widow handling the stress of raising her children while holding down two jobs to support her fam-

ily and pay \$1,200 a month in rent, her eldest son Kenneth Jr. rushed into a burning house to save her granddaughter. Both perished.

"It became too much for me," she said. A breakdown followed; she could no longer work and lost the apartment after eight years paying rent. But she had a little money saved. For months she and her children stayed at Route 1 motels where she found housekeeping work and answered phones, always



A Rising Hope member for 12 years, Marcella Pratt attends Sunday's service with her daughter Miya, her son Antwan and her grandson Isaiah.

keeping a roof over their heads.

Then she found a place at New Hope Housing's Monloch House where she volunteered to help the homeless, rounding up people for church at Rising Hope, and landed a cooking job at Kennedy Shelter.

She endured.

Today, Marcella Pratt works and again has an apartment. She's proud her two oldest children have found good jobs, proud too of her daughter Miya and son Antwan who were the first teenagers confirmed at Rising Hope. Sundays she sings in the choir. She's a Sunday school teacher and superintendent of Sunday school. She volunteers with the Methodist Women cooking meals for the congregation and

at yard sales. She also volunteers at the Friday night Christian movie gatherings and wherever else she's needed.

She also writes songs and poems. Some lines from her poem "What Do You Do?" sum it up: "So many burdens and troubles upon my shoulders / as I venture through life getting grayer and older. / But what do you do when you've done all you can? / Turn it over to Jehovah, he holds the Master Plan."



"Turn it over to Jehovah, he holds the Master Plan." Marcella Pratt with Pastor Keary Kincannon.

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During the last week of each year, the Mount Vernon Gazette devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students. The results are always remarkable, and the editions have won many awards. It is a keepsake edition for many families

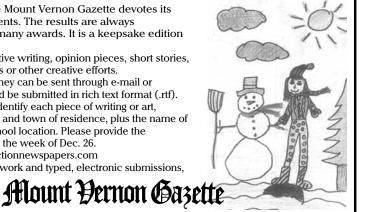
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News



West Potomac DSA Aaron Helmick presents a plaque to Patty Lotane, the



The West Potomac High School Choir

Family, Friends, Colleagues Recall Former Principal

From Page 1

life." He added that Hardison would often call to ask about his son Scott, a U.S. Marine stationed in Iraq.

"He was one of the kindest, most generous, and most thoughtful person I've ever known," said Betsy Galeota, a 25-year colleague who worked at two schools with him. "He always remembered my birthday with

Head librarian Adriana Meeks said Cliff's favorite saying was "Forever, Onward." She added: "He loved the students; his door was always opened; and he always had a very positive view."

Mary Ann Bosley, former assistant principal at Thomas Jefferson High, who knew Hardison since 1990, added: "To remember him is to love him He was a true friend. He always had a kind word for stu-

Inez Bryant, principal at Freedom High, reminisced about her days as a track coach alongside Hardison in the 1980s. "I was on the track circuit with Cliff ... I could always rely on Cliff no matter what."

As more people reminisced of Hardison, a scholarship fund was established in his



Del. Scott A. Surovell

Emcee Daryl Mackey

School Board member Dan Storck

name while catered hors'd oeuvres and punch were served in the cafeteria.

"His policy of no 'F's' made national news," said emcee Mackey, "He represents the essence of 'Team Esteem," a word that Mackey says he authored.

Parent volunteer Brenda Richards, who knew Hardison for three years, added: "He was really a kind man. He wanted the best for the students."

Del. Scott A. Surovell (D-44), who met Hardison in 2009, said being principal was Hardison's dream job. "He would always be the first one in [the building] and the last one to leave," he said. He spoke of his "dedication and student empowerment," adding: "This is a guy who saw value in everyone."

Dan Storck, the Mount Vernon representative to the School Board, said he got a personal tutorial on the school system when he served as PTA president at West Potomac in 1992. "I learned a great deal because of Cliff. He became my mentor in the school system." He said Hardison was the right principal for West Potomac after his stint at Hayfield Secondary. "He knew each kid by name and by need," he added.

Tammy Kaufax, the Lee District School Board representative, told a story of Hardison's dry-cleaning lady who was not

aware of Hardison's passing last summer. And how he helped the woman's son get into TJ.

Kaufax believed, that in his spirit state, Hardison made their "by chance meeting" happen. "He was a caretaker," said Kaufax of arranging the TJ connection. "He reached out in unassuming ways."

School Board Chairman Ilryong Moon said he was always very grateful that Hardison took a personal interest in his son's life while an assistant principal at TJ. "Mr. Hardison was student-centered in everything he did," he added.

Dr. Deborah Tyler, assistant superintendent of Cluster IV, read from the poem, "The Measure of a Man" and reminisced on how Hardison would escort her to her car after work and give her hugs. She added: "He has been the wind beneath so many people's wings."

West Potomac SGA President Mary Hill finished the tributes with the story of how Hardison handed her a bagel and walked her to class as a new freshman.

"He believed in me and always encouraged me to do well," said the formerly shy student.



The West Potomac Color Guard



The family of Cliff Hardison, including his mother Patty Lotane (front row with plaque).

News



New Club at WPHS

Photo Contributed

The Black Student Union, a new club at West Potomac High School, seeks to increase awareness and appreciation for African American issues, history, and culture among the student body. On Nov. 9, students from the club attended The Road to Success Luncheon that focuses on the college process and scholarships. The event was sponsored by the Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In the front row (from left) are Sebrine Abdulkadir, Kenya Lewis, Frey Assefa, Martha Bervell and Nancy Oppong. In the back rown (from left) are Sarah Mansaray, Ayann Mayers-Walker, Stephanie McCrimmon, Hebron Belhue, Destiny Webb, Sento Bangura, Sinnah Bangura, Mychelle Gyamfi, Rhoda Takyi and Beatrice Asomani.

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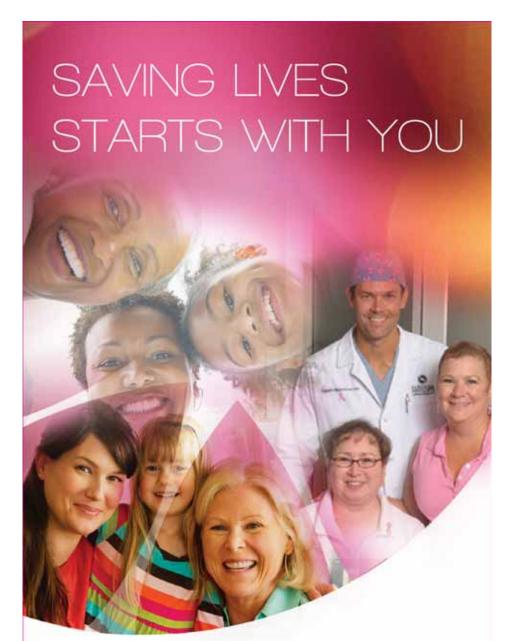
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Sales Tax Dip Decline in sales tax threatens ability of local governments to balance books.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

ales tax revenues are down across Northern Virginia, leading to con cerns that balancing the books for the coming fiscal year could be even more of a challenge for budget officials and elected officials in the coming months. The decline ranges from 5.3 percent in Alexandria to 8.5 percent in Arlington for the month of October, when local governments collect taxes from transactions that happened in August. Regional analysts say the numbers reflect the influence of the sequester, which means that next month's financial report will show the damage of the partial government shutdown.

"The federal government has a bigger impact on Virginia than any of the 50 states," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government Leadership. "And that means people here are making decisions about what they are going to buy without knowing when or if they are going to get paid."

For local governments trying to put together budgets for fiscal year 2015, the numbers pose a serious challenge. Should they revise their revenue estimates for the future, which would indicate a belief of similar uncertainty in the future? Or should they revise the revenue estimates in the current fiscal year because sales tax revenues are expected to take another dip when the December collections of August revenues take a dive related to the shutdown.

"The expectation was that September would be positive but sales were negative," said Steve Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "The explanation was the threat of the shutdown and the concerns among consumers about the debt ceiling battle. Consumer confidence dropped in September and again in October."

IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, sales tax revenues were down 6.6 percent in October, which reflected collections that took place in August. County officials received \$13.3 million, which was significantly smaller than October 2012. It's the third consecutive month that sales taxes were down, although not as dramatically. August numbers showed a 0.7 percent decline compared to 2012, and the September economic reports

logged a 0.5 percent decline compared to last year. Overall, sales tax receipts are down 2.6 percent for the first three months of fiscal year 2014.

"We are definitely looking at the budget implications," said Albena Assenova, budget analyst with the Fairfax County government. "But we have not revised our estimates yet."

Fairfax County officials, who oversee the largest budget in Virginia, expected the summer months to be bad because of furloughs related to the sequester. By the end of the year, budget officials will have a better idea of how much the shutdown hurt the sales tax revenue. In the meantime, they have already started reviewing what kind of revenue estimates they want to make next year for fiscal year 2015.

"We are definitely monitoring our receipts," said Assenova. "And we might need to revise our estimates downward."

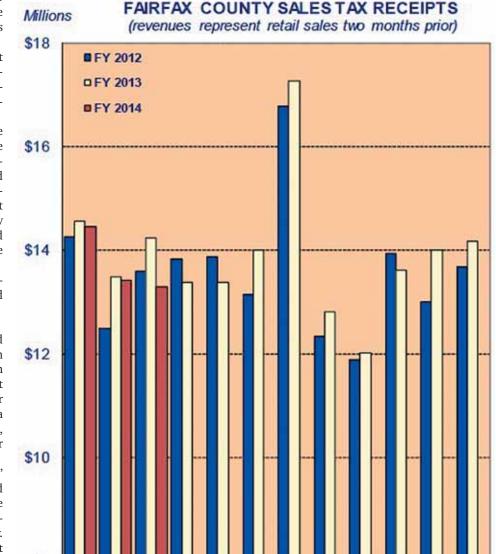
ARLINGTON COUNTY has experienced sales tax revenues decline 8.5 percent in October, which reflects collections from August. Arlington officials collected about \$3 million, which was significantly lower than October 2012. Budget officials say a number of factors could be behind the dip, including a particularly strong October 2012 that would be difficult to top.

"What we are seeing is more variability," said Arlington Budget Director Richard Stephenson. "In the past, we might have had 10 months of positive month-overmonth growth from the prior fiscal year. Now we're seeing more variation, where it might be six months up and six months down."

Stephenson said Arlington budget officials are in the process of examining the expected revenues for sales taxes as part of the proposed fiscal year 2015 budget, which will be released in the next few months. As far as the current fiscal year, budget officials are not sure they are going to hit the expected revenue for the fiscal year. That number may be revised when budget officials issue a mid-year analysis in the spring.

"It's a contributing factor to the gap between revenue and expenses that we are forecasting for fiscal year 2015," said Stephenson. "Commercial real estate and BRAC are affecting the region as well."

ALEXANDRIA SALES TAX revenues are down 5.3 percent compared to last year. The



FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL

most recent monthly financial report shows this is the lowest drop in sales tax collections in three years. Compared to the national average of sales tax collections, which is up about 5 percent, Alexandria and other Northern Virginia jurisdictions are taking a hit

"It's something that we are monitoring very closely," said Laura Triggs, director of finance for the city of Alexandria. "We think one of the contributing factors might be grocery store closings."

Statewide, sales tax revenue is down 5.4 percent compared to October of last year. On a year-to-date basis, total revenue col-

lections rose 0.6 percent through October. Adjusting for the accelerated sales tax program and the 0.125 percent sales tax transfer required by the transportation agreement, total revenues grew 1.6 percent through October, trailing the adjusted forecast of 2.7 percent growth.

"The federal government continues to fail at the most basic of functions, including most recently failing at just the simple act of remaining open," said Gov. Robert McDonnell in a written statement. "This is having a direct impact on the finances of Virginia's residents and our state government."

CRIME The following incidents were reported by the Mount Vernon District Police Station.

ROBBERY, 3100 block of Lockheed Boulevard, Nov. 19, 1 a.m. A man entered a convenience store and displayed a knife to an employee. The suspect took cash and fled. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as black, 20s, about 5 feet 7 inches tall with a thin build.

ROBBERY, Holland Road/Holland Court, Nov. 18, 6:35 p.m. A man was walking when he was approached by two suspects. Both suspects displayed knives and took property from the victim. There were no injuries. The suspects were described as black and in their 20s.

ROBBERY, 2300 block of Huntington Avenue, Nov. 14, 3:46 a.m. A man entered a convenience

store and displayed a knife to an employee. The suspect took cash and fled. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as black, 20s, about 5 feet 5 inches tall with a thin build.

ASSAULT ON POLICE, Lockheed Boulevard/Fordson Road, Nov. 16, 5:25 p.m. A police officer responded for a report of a drunken person and took the suspect into custody.

During the arrest the suspect assaulted the officer and damaged the inside of a police crusier. A 31-year-old man from Alexandria was charged with assault on police, destruction of property and drunk in public.

BURGLARY, 6600 block of The Parkway, Nov. 17. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

BURGLARY, 5000 block of Cameron Run Terrace, Nov. 13. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

BURGLARY, 5000 block of Shadwell Court, Nov. 13. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

UNLAWFUL ENTRY, 4000 block of Colony Court, Nov. 13, 3:30 p.m. A resident reported two unknown men attempted to enter the home through a door. The men left immediately when

they saw someone in the home. Nothing was taken.

LARCENIES:

2000 block of Huntington Avenue, jewelry from residence

2100 block of Woodmont Road, ring and cash from residence

7700 block of Blue Jay Court, cell phone from residence

 $3800\ block$ of Great Neck Court, laptop computer from vehicle

8200 block of Jake Place, wallet from vehicle 6200 block of North Kings Highway, cell phone and wallet from vehicle

News

Press Named Counselor of the Year

From Page 1

"It was a very humbling experience to stand in front of all of my peers and colleagues to receive this award," said Press.

Last August, Press was named Fairfax County Public Schools 2012-13 Outstanding Elementary Counselor and was recognized for her service, leadership, and dedication to the West Potomac Pyramid and Title 1 community.

"I think Hillary is a fantastic counselor for our school," said Principal Richard Pollio. "Her biggest strength is her ability to collaborate with teachers here at our school and with outside agencies."

Jim Swoger, assistant principal of Groveton, said Press is very good at what she does, and it was a well-deserved reward. "She works closely with so many of our kids to help them access the things that they need to be successful at school," he said.

Press says she also enjoys working with families in the community. "My favorite part of my job is working with students and families; I love working with parents." She helps parents by working through what's going on in their lives and helping them to make their students do well academically, and giving them building blocks to be successful.

As the Pyramid Leader for West Potomac Elementary schools, Press meets monthly to talk about what's best to help students. She is also a member of the Vertical Leadership Team for elementary schools and helps plan how counselors will work together in the pyramid as a whole. She also helped lead the pyramid-wide goal of mandatory attendance by creating a video on its importance.

Press also spearheaded transitional programming for Groveton sixth grade students through collaboration among Groveton, Sandburg Middle School, and West Potomac High School staff members and parents. Groveton is on Harrison Lane in Alexandria.

She plans monthly parent coffees and evening activities that are topical for grade level — teaching things like math strategies during "Math Night," testing, language arts and SOLs. \dots "basically whatever we feel is a need for families."

"Hillary has a huge heart, and cares deeply about the kids' families in our school community," said Kristine Griswold, a school counselor at Groveton, calling Press a 'dynamo.' "She always seems to know when things are happening with our students, and always seems to know what resources are available to help."

Press grew up in Annandale and attended Flint Hill School. She majored in social work at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and did graduate studies in social work as well. She has a master's of education in counseling and development from George Mason University, specialization in school counseling.

She worked for seven years in Child Protective Services in King William County, then Loudoun, and Alexandria. She took a break to do technology work. Then started counseling work at Union Mill Elementary in Clifton in 2008, followed by Park Lawn Elementary in 2009 and Groveton in 2010.

She is married to husband Mike, and the couple has three children: Elissa, 8, Tabitha, 5, and Rory, 2. They reside in Springfield.



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Mount Vernon Gazette

DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

ROUTE 1 IMPROVEMENTS AT FORT BELVOIR

Design Hearing: Section A - Pohick Road to East of Cook Inlet Drive. Location/Design Hearing: Section E - Belvoir Road to Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy. FAIRFAX COUNTY

Meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2013; 7-9 PM; Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22315.

Purpose: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with Fairfax County, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, is holding the second of two public hearings to present information concerning the widening of a 3.5-mile stretch of Route 1 through Fort Belvoir. The first hearing (September 11, 2013) presented improvements from east of Cook Inlet Drive to Belvoir Road (Sections B,C,D). This second hearing addresses improvements east of Pohick Road to 750 east of Cook Inlet Drive (Section A), and from Belvoir Road to Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy (Section E). In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed for this project and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was approved in November 2012.

The public hearing will be conducted in an Open Forum format. Project information displayed for public review will include the project plans, property impacts, relocation assistance information, and tentative construction schedules. Informational displays and handouts will be available at the meeting and project staff will be on hand to answer questions. Project materials will be available for review starting November 15, 2013, at: Sherwood Regional Library, South County Center, and the offices of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation and FHWA (at address noted below). The EA is also posted on FHWA's website,

www.efl.fhwa.dot.gov/projects/environment.aspx, and additional project information can be found on the project website, www.rte1ftbelvoir.com.

Comments: Comments may be submitted at the hearing or sent to Mr. Robert Morris, Senior Project Manager, Federal Highway Administration, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, 21400 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling, VA 20166, by 5:00 p.m. on January 2, 2014. Comments may also be submitted via email to: robert.morris@dot.gov.

Special Assistance: FHWA ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Rick Richardson, Corman-Wagman Joint Venture, at 710-339-0808.

State Project: 0001-029-938, P101 UPC: 103073



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

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Saturday Evening 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)

Sunday 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word);

10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm

Mornings: 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by **Eucharistic Adoration**) Thursday & First Friday of the Month:

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OPINION

Shop Locally, Shop in Mount Vernon

Small business Saturday isn't enough; don't wait, and don't stop after that.

An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year that is Nov. 30. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is known as a dedicated day of national zeal for shopping. Presumably the next day shoppers can focus on

local shopping.

Editorial

It sounds like an obligation, and it is. But there is a joy to shopping in local stores at the

holidays, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeting by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not massproduced.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

The economy continues to improve slowly without inspiring. Local families will shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of places.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of

Holiday Fun

A small sample of local holiday events — for more, see the holiday or entertainment calendar. Email holiday event information to mvcore@connectionnews papers.com at least one week before the event. Include date and time; venue and address where it will take place; a brief description; cost, if any; and contact phone, email and/or website. Events must be free or minimal expense and open to the public.

FRIDAY-MONDAY/NOV. 29-JAN. 6

Christmas at Mount Vernon. Daily from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy themed decorations, chocolate-making decorations, tour the third floor of the mansion and meet Aladdin the camel. \$17/adult; \$8/child; 5 and under free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 30-DEC. 22

Mount Vernon by Candlelight. Saturdays and Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Take candlelight tours, enjoy fireside caroling and festive treats. Tickets are \$22/adult; \$15/child. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000

your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambiance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 5-7

Ballet Performance. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for showtimes and tickets.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Gardeners' Holiday Open House. Noon-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This festive day is for gardeners of all ages, individuals and families. Admission is free. There will be a Holiday Puppet Show by Bob Brown (tickets for the 2 p.m. show are \$3/person and can be purchased in advance using Code: 290 489 4301), festive greens and tree ornaments for sale, a vintage train display, seasonal breads for sale, and complimentary refreshments. There will be a whimsical gingerbread house contest. Get your Gingerbread House contest entry form at www.greenspring.org on the Special Events page. Call 703-642-5173 for more information.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will do some shopping online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the local businesses and holiday spirit there.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good Work

To the Editor:

Cub Scout Pack 1504 is commended for collecting food again this year to be available to the less livered over one ton of food to United Community Ministries (UCM) to help fill their food pan-

fortunate neighbors during the holiday seasons and winter months. Their effort last year delivered over one ton of food to United Community Ministries

try. I am sure that this year will be equally successful because of the Cub Scout Pack 1504's effort and the generosity of community neighbors who make it possible by their donations.



Thanksgiving Cheer

The girls of Brownie Troop 5206, meeting at Montessori School of Alexandria, made a colorful Thanksgiving banner to accompany a food basket they donated to Mondloch House, a homeless shelter and transitional housing organization serving the Route 1 Corridor. Girl Scout Service Unit 53-7 has a long tradition of service to New Hope Housing, which sponsors Mondloch House.

Again, thanks to Cub Scout Pack 1504 for their dedication and charitable work to help their less fortunate neighbors. And, thank all those wonderful neighbors who participated in the annual charitable event. Keep up the good work, the rewards are great.

Frank Medico Mount Vernon

Celebrating Thanksgiving

To the Editor:

We Virginians can rightly claim our forebears first celebrated and established the custom of celebrating Thanksgiving on these shores. Let's remember and teach our children about the 1619 Thanksgiving celebration at Berkeley Hundred, Va. It was the first Thanksgiving celebrated by the English colonists in our country, despite the many textbooks that give the Pilgrims' 1621 celebration at Plymouth, Mass. that honor. Also,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24

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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

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

Jon Roetman

Sports Editor, 703-224-3015 jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com @jonroetman

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 @connection newspapers.com

Publisher

Jerry Vernon jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm 703-778-9433 mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MarvKimm

Editor in Chief Steven Mauren

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Jean Card

Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426 Circulation Manager:

Ann Oliver circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper







ARLINGTON \$3,995,000 | ttrsir,com/id/AR8207559 Offering dramatic views of DC and the Potomac, this 30th floor Waterview Residences penthouse provides elegant spaces suited for both entertaining and private relaxation.

ROB CARNEY +1 703 927 4290



ARLINGTON \$2,825,000 | ttrsir.com/id/AR8191145 This Colonial in Lyon Village has 6 BRs, 5.5 BAs, approx. 6,400 sf, gourmet kitchen, full-house entertainment system, outdoor kitchen, walk to metro, shops and restaurants.

JOHN ERIC +1 703 798 0097



ALEXANDRIA \$1,998,000 | ttrsir.com/id/AX8202960 This stunning end-unit townhome in Old Town waterfront community offers 3 BRs, library, chef's kitchen, and a family room that leads to a brick patio. 2-car garage

VICTORIA KILCULLEN +1 703 915 8845



ALEXANDRIA \$975,000

This Charles Goodman designed home in Hollin Hills has been expanded and renovated, featuring 5 BRs, 3 BAs, floor-to-ceiling windows throughout, flooding each room with natural light.

RUSSELL FIRESTONE +1 202 271 1701



ALEXANDRIA \$3,700,000 | ttrsir.com/id/AX7731151 George Washington spent his last 4th of July in 1798 in this residence when it was once a tavern. The half-acre lot features a 2-car garage, swimming pool, and carriage house.

ROY MELLONI +1 703 863 0077 ROXANE NUNES +1 703 470 9903



ARLINGTON \$2,289,000 | ttrsir.com/id/AR8121613 This 29th-floor residence overlooks the Potomac with a floor plan perfect for entertaining or enjoying the views. The home features hardwoods and a gourmet kitchen.

DEBBIE SHAPIRO +1 703 407 1600 STEPHANIE WHITE +1 703 489 5045



ALEXANDRIA \$1,495,000

This renovated historic home offers an amazing blend of modern and traditional design, 3BR, 3BA, top-of-the-line kitchen, dramatic master suite, spacious LL family room, rear yard and off-street parking,

HEATHER COREY +1 703 989 1183 MAXWELL RABIN +1 202 669 7406



ALEXANDRIA \$939,500

This meticulously maintained 3BR, 2.5 BA home in Old Town offers off-street parking, exposed brick walls, custom built-ins, new HVAC and roof, Pella windows, and updated kitchen and baths.

HEATHER COREY +1 703 989 1183



ALEXANDRIA \$2,900,000 | ttrsir.com/id/21064841 Exemplifying the heritage of beautiful Virginia architecture, yet embracing today's design elements, this home offers 5 bedrooms, pool and cabana on 1.3 acres, and is only minutes from Old Town.

KAREN BARKER +1 703 928 8384 WETHERLY BARKER +1 703 965 9613



ALEXANDRIA \$1,999,999 | ttrsir.com/id/AX8173147 This 5 BR, 3.5 BA 4,200 sf stone house circa 1945 has been renovated with a new addition to offer this architecturally designed, contemporary unique house with European panache.

FLEUR HOWGILL +1 202 425 9403



ALEXANDRIA \$1,425,000 | ttrsir.com/id/AX8203644 This Federal-style home, on the most charming block of Prince Street, offers refinished original hardwood floors, beautifully landscaped back garden, and a spacious dining room and library.

DAVID DeSANTIS +1 202 438 1542



ALEXANDRIA \$915,000

This fabulous townhouse half a block from Founders Park and the Potomac features living room with 12' ceilings, fireplace, brick patio, eat-in kitchen, one-car garage, LL, and attic

CYNTHIA BYRNES-GOLUBIN +1 202 437 3861

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News

Judicial Review

Long-awaited report rejects consolidation of circuits, lays out need for judges.

By Michael Lee Pope GAZETTE PACKET

irginia needs more judges, according to a long-awaited report released last week by the National Center for State Courts. Alexandria needs an additional Circuit Court judge, and the Arlington Circuit Court currently has the right amount, even if it's currently authorized for more judges than the court currently has. Fairfax is right on target, although the report calls for more judges in several other jurisdictions —omost notably in Rockingham County, Fredericksburg and Bland County.

"This was not at all what I expected the report would say," said Del. Dave Albo (R-42), chairman of the House Courts of Justice. "But it's science, so what are you gonna

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the report is what was missing from it. Many people, including Albo, were expecting that the report might have some kind of recommendation about consolidating some of the commonweatlh's jurisdictions. One of the reasons the report was commissioned in the first place was the perception among some in Richmond that some jurisdictions are overworked while others knock off early to go play golf. The report belies that percep-

"This will be our guide and our blueprint going forward for every jurisdiction," said Del. Patrick Hope (D-47). "So we won't have

to argue or try to prove a need or try to to develop a "weighted caseload system" to find money at the last minutes to fill these measure how much work judges were dojudgeships.

THE REPORT, titled "Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report," is a major victory for judges in Arlington and Alexandria. These were the two jurisdictions that were the target of an effort to consolidate smaller court systems, with many in Richmond believing that judges in here did not handle the

kind of caseloads routinely managed in other larger jurisdictions. Some believed the report might even recommend consolidation of some of the smaller courts. But that did not happen.

"It may be suggested that efficiencies can be gained by consolidating circuits and districts with fractional need, or where excess capacity in one circuit or district would cancel out a need for additional judges in another circuit or district," according to the report. "Examining the weighted caseload output across all three court levels, however, reveals that redrawing existing judicial boundaries carries little potential for such savings in practice."

Two years ago, the General Assembly asked the National Center for State Courts

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wealth. Be-

cause each

court system

has a different

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across

"Additional judges are needed to enable Virginia's trial court judiciary to manage and resolve court business effectively and without delay."

- Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report

> how much work was going on. When rulings are made, some courts close out the case while others keep them open. That means if future action happens, which is often the case, some courts would show a higher caseload. That's why it was important to determine a scientific way of determining caseload.

> "Additional judges are needed to enable Virginia's trial court judiciary to manage and resolve court business effectively and without delay," the report concludes. "NCSC strongly recommends that the General Assembly begin to fill judicial vacancies, and in some instances create new authorized judicial positions."

> THE STUDY finds that circuit courts across the commonwealth need 171 judges. The

weighted caseload model shows a need to fill nearly all current vacancies as well as create 13 judgeships to add to the current total of 158 authorized judgeships. The study also concluded that general district courts need to fill at least six vacancies and family courts need 17 more judges.

"With the conclusion of the study, there will be consideration given to the recommendations," said state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30). "But one of the biggest issues will be funding the judgeships, and what the leaders on the courts and finance committees recommend."

Albo says that any jurisdiction that requests new judges will have to find money to finance them, an indication that report is not the final say in the long-running battle over the courts. For years, state legislators have clashed over filling judicial vacancies. In the past, they have been controversial because of the feeling that some courts are not as busy as others. Now that the study has created a scientific way to measure caseload, some judges may feel more inclined to step down. One is Circuit Court Judge William Newman, who is married to Shelia Johnson, co-founder of Black Entertainment Television and part owner of the Washington Capitals, the Washington Wizards and the Washington Mystics.

"If Judge Newman decides he wants to retire, we would have no problem appointing his successor without some sort of ability to prove that we needed a third judge," said Hope.



Alma Sampson Gibson

Alma Sampson Gibson, 99, died peacefully on Nov. 16, 2013, in Alexandria. Alma was the beloved wife of the late Wallace E. Gibson and loving mother to two sons, Scott Emmet Gibson and Steven Phillip Gibson, both of whom survive her. Alma served in the Armed Forces during World War II as a Registered Nurse and achieved the rank of First Lieutenant. She was one of the army's oldest surviving nurses at the time of her death. Alma was known for her generosity and caring



spirit. She was an optimist who always managed to find the best in people. She will be sorely missed.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at the Demaine Funeral Home, 5308 Backlick Road, Springfield, 703-941-9428 on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 5-7 p.m. Inurnment will be private. See www.demainefunerals.com.



Photo by Gale Curcio

Leaders in the Law

Ben Dimuro, Nina Ginsberg, Marni Byrum, Martha McQuade, Tom Curcio and Pia Trigiani enjoy the reception for Leaders in the Law at the Science Museum of Virginia in Richmond. DiMuroGinsberg sponsored the reception. Attorneys Ginsberg, Byrum, and Curcio were honored as 2013 Leaders in the Law. Trigiani, who was selected as the 2012 Leader of the Year, presented this year's Leader of the Year award to John B. McCammon.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Michael Higgins was one of 35 students recently inducted into the James Madison University chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma. Higgins, class of 2015, is majoring in accounting.

The following Virginia Tech students are members of the Marching Virginians:

Corinne Mayer, a senior from Alexandria, majoring in biological sciences in the College of Science, is a member of the flag corps and holds a leadership position as a

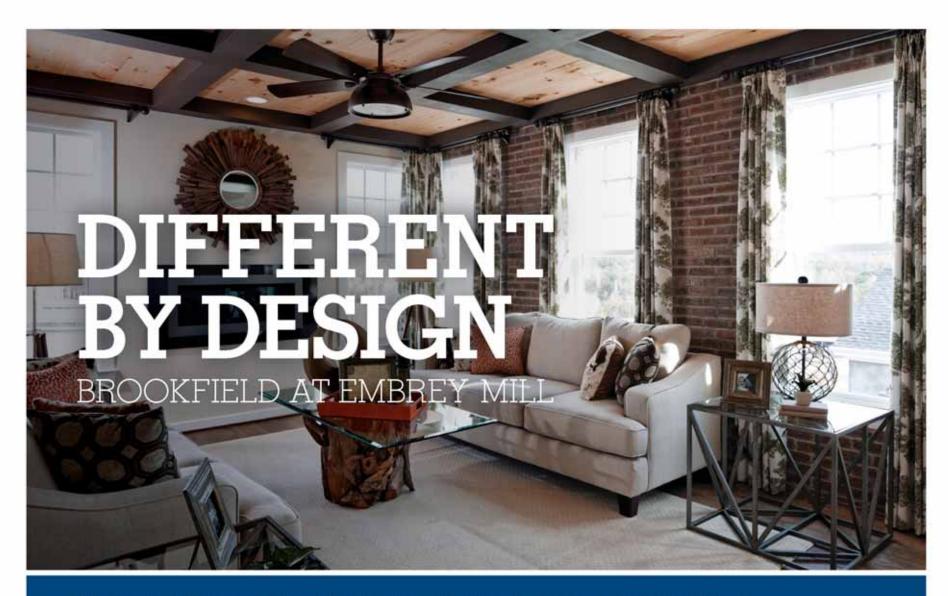
Tracy Laux, a junior from Alexandria,

double majoring in business information technology in the Pamplin

College of Business and Spanish in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. plays the trumpet and holds a leadership position as a rank captain.

Kyle Parker, a junior from Alexandria, majoring in computer science in the College of Engineering, plays the baritone and holds a leadership position as a rank captain.

Matusala Tewolde, a first-year student from Alexandria, majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech, was selected to be a member of the Marching Virginians as a trumpet musician.



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4300 Sheridans Point Ct \$830,000 Elegant Georgian Colonial Abundant custom

enhancements make this property a true showplace 3 fin levels, open floor plan,

updated kitchen & baths, sunroom, magnificent custom trim detail, luxury master bath, recently finished lower level. Huge deck and 2 car garage. Hard to find home with this size and luxurious appointments under \$1,000,000. Open Sun 11/24, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; R-Peartree Landing; R-Sheridans Point.



8428 Old Mount Vernon Rd \$879 000 Large Home-**Totally Updated!** One of a kind compound consisting of a luxurious

5645 sq ft home and a totally

remodeled and updated 2BR

ottage. Ideal situation for home office or extended family. New home has everything including 6BR, 7BA, custom kitchen open to family room, large living and dining rooms, main level study, stunning master suite, finished lower level and 3 car garage. Most



8520 Highland Lane \$479,000 New Home at

Unprecedented Price! Must see to believe! Priced \$220+K below the next lowest priced new SFH in FFX Co. Brand new home by leading custom builder

ntended for family member but circumstances changed. Resultunique opportunity to acquire top quality new SFH for less than ownhouse or used home. Dramatic open interior, luxury kitchen and baths, screen porch, two car garage, stone and stucco exterior. Unique opportunity!



8412 Washington Ave \$449,000 True One Story -No Stairs!

Expanded Rambler on level lot in prime Mt. Vernon location. All major rooms including bedrooms on one level

Extensive major updates include: thermal windows, kitchen, baths, furnace, electric panel, siding, gutters-in short almost everything! Large back covered deck. One level living in "move-in" condition at



prime location on prestigious Captains Row at exceptionally competitive price! Large 5BR, 3BA home

9322 Old Mansion Rd

\$1,650,000

Breathtaking River Views!

Large classic Colonial in

prime location on cul-de-sac

near Mt. Vernon Estate.

Magnificent setting on high

9009 Captains Row

\$665,000

Stately columned residence

Great Opportunity!

with many significant updated items. Special features: updated kitchen with stainless appliances, granite counters, custom trim detail, stained hardwood floors, master with updated bath, 2 fireplaces, gas heat & hot water. Oversize 2 car garage and custom 2 level deck. Priced to sell! Open Sun 11/24, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-Stratford: L-Captains Row



oluff overlooking river provides the most amazing waterviews in area. Prestigious home features 3 finished levels, large room sizes, Colonial trim detail, walk -out lower level with three sets of glass doors overlooking grounds and river views. Massive exterior deck and screen porch capitalize



9127 Continental Dr \$598,500 Major Updates! Nothing like it for under \$600,000! Spacious home with numerous recent updates.

Fabulous features include: large room sizes, bright open floor plan, brand new custom kitchen, updated baths, 4 bedrooms, gleaming hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, family room, and garage parking. Prime location on large lot-walk to neighborhood school!



"The Giving Tree"

The Long & Foster "Giving Tree" program began 23 years ago by the Agents of the Alexandria Old Town office. This program is our way of giving back to the Alexandria Community. Each year the Alexandria Public Schools are requested to identify a number of families in their system that are in great need and a Holiday Wish List is provided for each child. Contributions consist of toys, games, books, clothes, and monetary donations to provide food certificates for the family. WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN GIVE THESE

CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES A GREAT HOLIDAY.

Your donations to this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated.

Please make your checks payable to "The L&F Giving Tree"

Please stop by our office OR contact/email: Janice Allen, 703/509-0906 or Bill Jourdan, 703/683-0400 400 King Street ~ Alexandria, VA 22314

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Viking SSA, custom back splash and granite counters.

Plantation shutters, hard wood flooring, custom molding,

pool, sundeck, EZ access to shops and open space.

For details: Ann.Kavaljian@longandfoster.com Ann Kavaljian 703.626.9171

Klanci Vanderhyde 703,919,4460

custom bookcases, wet bar and balcony.

\$ 840,000

Alex. / Liberty Row

"NEW PRICE"

This 2BR/2BA top floor

condo has style and

comfort. Elegant entry, light

filled living room, separate

dining room opening to

gourmet kitchen with island

\$ 539,900

Alex. / Old Town

"NEW LISTING"

Bright and spacious describes this

2BR/2BA condo on upper floor. Great

views of the US Capitol and the

Potomac River. Garage parking

conveys. Loads of closets and large

walk-in closet. Updated marble BAs

and kitchen with light

wood floors. Some

amenities include: rooftop



LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 1,049,000 Nycliffe on the Potomac 3704 WASHINGTON WOODS DRIVE

Bordering on the Mt. Verno Estate, this all brick colonial is located in a sought after subdivision. There are 4 BR/

.5BA. 9 foot ceilings, 2-story entry foyer, hardwood floors and 3 fireplaces. Enjoy entertaining in the private landscaped rear yard with 2-level slate patio. Finished LL with rec room and 2 additional finished rooms.

Mary Lou Sage 703,851,5441



Triangle, VA "GOOD LOCATION"

Beautifully appointed 4BR/3.5BA, 2-car garage home on 36 acre lo Hardwood floors, high-end custom paint, updated

nuch more ... Eat-in kitchen open to family room with fireplace, library, deck, walk-out basement, fenced-in wooded back yard, plenty of storage. Close to Quantico, I-95, VRE, shopping and state parks.

Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804



replace formal living room and dining

room, LL rec room with fireplace, walk-out

202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633

D'Antonio Realty Group

Elke, Liz and Anita

5BR/2 full and 2 half baths, on 3 levels with large walk-

out media / game room. Granite, stainless steel

appliances. More pictures online. Google address:

move in! 5BR/3BA, large lower level with

202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633

D'Antonio Realty Group

Elke, Liz and Anita

onus room and family room.

Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144

8601 Falkstone Lane

backyard. Great entertaining floor plan!

\$ 425,000 Alexandria BRICK TOWNHOUSE

interior TH with 3BR/3.5BA plus the option of a 4th bedroom on the LL (with full bath). Tall ceilings. Open plan. Granite kitchen has

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4!

\$ 759,000

Alexandria

1100 PRISCILLA LN

Move-in condition, large

Colonial style home in

Naynewood 5/6BR/3BA,

garage, large French

OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!

\$ 599,000

Alexandria

8601 FALKSTONE LN

Best Price for beautifully

renovated center hall

Colonial with a contempo-

rary flair on quiet half acre

enced lot. 2,800 sq ft

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\$ 599,000

Alexandria

8407 FORT HUNT RD

Popular Waynewood

neighborhood, walk to

schools, park, pool, well-

maintained 2 level home

with large carport ready for

kitchen with

breakfast room. Hardwoods thru-out the home including the finished basement. Walk out basement to fenced yard with garden beds. 200 sq ft deck off main level bump out with view. 1-car garage parking. Quiet alcove of newer homes with plenty of extra parking.

Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527



\$ 220,000 Alexandria "INCREDIBLE VALUE"

Sophisticated and spacious 1BR/1BA first floor condo in highly desirable Exchange at Van Dorn. Walk o shuttle to Metro and enjoy exercise and party rooms

pool and more! Large gourmet kitchen with breakfast bar and pantry, updated full bath, laundry room with full size W/D and patio overlooking private courtyard. New HWH, HVAC, carpet and tons of storage! Hurry to this

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739



Alex. / Del Ray "PRICED TO SELL"

Charming and meticulously maintained, this 3BR/3.5BA ownhouse includes 9 foot ceilings, decorator crown molding, hardwood floors, new carpet and appliances

n 2012, granite counters, fireplace, garage parking, large deck and landscaped patio. Walk to shops and restaurants from your front door. Minutes to Braddock

Joy Khalil 703.862.8016



OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4! \$ 569,900 Alexandria 8405 FORT HUNT RD

Beautiful renovated split level with large addition. Open concept interior, 3BR/2BA 2 fireplaces inished basement with re-

oom and storage, fenced backyard, large deck with pergola opens from kitchen.

> D'Antonio Realty Group Elke, Liz and Anita 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633



RENTALS

6870 Richmond Highway \$1,460 Beacon of Groveton Apartment 1BR / 1BA 1 Garage Pkg Katherine Ward 703.627.8782

> 2473 Windbreak Dr \$1,950 Mt Vernon Sq Townhouse 3BR / 2.5BA Martha Deal 703.622.6797

2817 School St \$2,200 Penn Daw Village Rambler 3BR / 2BA 2 Fireplaces Steve Kindrick 703.683.0400

7720 Wiley Creek Way \$2,900 Island Creek Townhouse 3BR / 3.5BA 2 Fireplaces 1 Garage Pkg Walid Ashoor 703 585 6624

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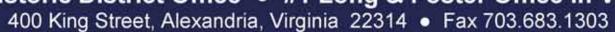








Long & Foster / Old Town Historic District Office ● #1 Long & Foster Office in Virginia 2011 ● 703.683.0400









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HOLIDAY FUN

ONGOING

Theater Performance. Through Sunday, Dec. 22, see "A Broadway Christmas Carol" at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.; Thursday-Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. This show is a cross between the classic Dickens' tale and song parodies of more than 30 Broadway show tune favorites. \$50/adult; \$25/ student or child. Visit www.metrostage.org for tickets.

Theater Performance. See The Little Theatre of Alexandria's "A Christmas Carol" from Dec. 5-22 at the theatre, 600 Wolfe St. Performances are Thursdays-Fridays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays-Sundays at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$15. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or 703-683-0496.

Tickets Now on Sale. Buy tickets for the Alexandria Candlelight Tour with special early-bird pricing. \$15/adult; \$12/senior if purchased before Dec. 1. Tour Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee-Fendall House and Lloyd House by candlelight and enjoy decorations. entertainment and more on Saturday. Dec. 14 from 6-9 p.m. or Sunday, Dec. 15 from 3-6 p.m. Tickets purchased after Dec. 1 are \$20/adult; \$15/senior and \$5/child, Tickets can be purchased at shop.alexandria.gov or 703-746-4242. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St., will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-9 p.m., jewelry from 6-9 p.m. and an open house and party from 6-9 p.m. Free. Visit

www.theartleague.org for more. Holiday Book Signing. 2-4 p.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Laura Blake Murphy of Fairfax Station, will be signing copies of her book "My Little Messenger." Free.

Preview Party. 7-9 p.m. at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. Features more than 60 vendors specialising in arts, clothing and more. There will also be a bake sale, Christmas cafe, games, prizes, book sale and more. \$30/ advance; \$35/door. Visit www.facebook.com/ StMarysSchoolChristmasBazaar for

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Christmas Bazaar. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. Features more than 60 vendors specialising in arts, clothing and more. There will also be a bake sale, Christmas cafe, games, prizes, book sale and more. Free. Visit www.facebook.com/ StMarysSchoolChristmasBazaar for

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St., will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-6 p.m., jewelry from noon-6 p.m. Free. Visit

www.theartleague.org for more. Gooey Gobblers. 1-2:30 p.m. at Sugar Cube, 1218 King St. Children age 4 snack cakes and candies. Take home what they create, \$35/child. Registration required. Visit http:// www.sugarcubesweets.com/ for

SUNDAY/NOV. 24



Alexandria Tree Lighting

The City of Alexandria's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. in Market Square, 301 King St. At this official cickoff to the holiday season, Mayor Euille and Santa Claus will light the City tree in Market Square. Entertainment features a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, performances by the Alexandria Harmonizers and the Alexandria Choral Society, caroling and a community sing-along. Admission is free, and the event will occur rain or shine. Call the City's Special Events Hotline at 703-746-5592 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

Artfête. The Art League, 305 Madison St. will have ceramics and jewelry for sale made by The Art League students and associates. There will also be exhibits, demonstrations and more. Ceramics will be on sale from noon-6 p.m. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Shop Local. More than 50 independent boutiques will open early with shopping deals. Participating stores will offer discounts starting at 6 a.m. Also enjoy free parking during the day and restaurants opening early with discounts and more. Visit www.blackfridayalexandria.com for a list of participating businesses. **Tree Lighting Ceremony.** 6 p.m. at

Market Square in front of City Hall, 301 King St. The Mayor and Santa Claus will light the city tree. Enjoy music, caroling and more. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 29-DEC. 22

Pictures with Santa and Mrs.

Claus. Children can take pictures at Rashmi Pappu Photography Studio, 210 N. Lee St., on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., except for Dec. 7 when hours are 1-5 p.m. and Sundays from noon-5 p.m. \$15/5x7 photo print. Visit www.oldtownsanta.com or 571-331-0702.

FRIDAY-MONDAY/NOV. 29-JAN. 6

Christmas at Mount Vernon. Daily

from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy themed decorations, chocolatemaking decorations, tour the third floor of the mansion and meet Aladdin the camel. \$17/adult; \$8/ child: 5 and under free, Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 30-DEC. 22 Mount Vernon by Candlelight.

Saturdays and Sundays from 5-8 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Take candlelight tours, enjoy fireside caroling and festive treats. Tickets are \$22/adult; \$15/child. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-

SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 1-25 **Holiday Advent Calendar Art**

Celebration. Each day at sundown the store will reveal "advent art" featuring holiday creations by local artists and organizations. These canvases will be available for auction, visitors can place bids inside the store. Proceeds will benefit The Reading Connection, Visit www.christmasattic.com or 703-548-2829.

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

Theater Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults, Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for

THURSDAY/DEC. 5

Theater Performance. 10:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition. \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for

tickets.

Ballet Performance, 5:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/ adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

A Peter White Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Features Mindi Abair & Rick Braun. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Theater Performance. 10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for

tickets.

Holiday on the Avenue. 6-9 p.m. at the Del Ray Farmer's Market at Mount Vernon Avenue and E. Oxford Ave. Watch as the Del Ray Christmas tree is lit up, enjoy a visit from Santa Claus and a stroll down Mount Vernon Avenue which is illuminated by thousands of candles. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com or 703-683-2570 for more.

Ballet Performance. 6:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/ adult: \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Half-price tickets for all Boy and Girl Scouts, Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

Holiday Open House. 6:30-9 p.m. at

the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy food, refreshments and music while browsing items for purchase. Door prizes will be given. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 6-7 Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend.

Celebrate Alexandria's Scottish heritage with the 43rd Annual Campagna Center Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. Start the weekend with the Christmas Marketplace and Heather and Greens sale from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Deck the Hall with Santa from 1-3 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. The Taste of Scotland is from 8-11 p.m. on Dec. 6 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. On Dec. 7, enjoy the Scottish Christmas Walk at 11 a.m. and the Tour of Homes from 11 a.m. 4 p.m. Visit www.scottishchristmaswalk.com for tickets and more information

FRIDAY/DEC. 6, 13, 20

Holiday Market. 6-9 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more

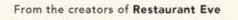
SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Father Christmas Photos. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Gadsby's Arcade, 320 King St. Children and dogs can take photos with Father Christmas. \$10 for polaroid-like photos and \$5 donation for your own photos. Proceeds benefit Gadsby's Tavern. 703-746-

Kwanzaa Family Fun Workshop. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Alexandria

SEE HOLIDAY FUN, PAGE 19 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Happy Thanksgiving Make your holiday dining a pleasure







THANKSGIVING TO-GO BAG

Stuffed Turkey Breast for Two • Creamy Mashed Potatoes Green Bean Casserole • Cranberry Sauce • Gravy Roasted Brussels Sprouts with Bacon

Reserve your bag today at store.societyfair.net! \$85, feeds two

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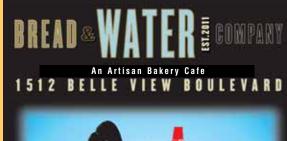
DAILY

LUNCH

SPECIAL

\$9.95

Next Opera Night is Nov. 24





THE BREAD & WATER COMPANY **WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR** THANKS AND GRATITUDE FOR ALL THE **GRACIOUS WARMTH AND UPLIFTING EXCITEMENT THE COMMUNITY HAS** SHOWN US. AS WE PREPARE TO OPEN OUR DOORS, WE HOPE THAT OUR BREAD WILL KEEP YOUR SPIRITS UP AND YOUR TABLES WARM THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

TO ALL OF YOU FROM ALL OF US, WE WISH YOU A MOST MEANINGFUL AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING INDEED!



Alexandria

1510-A Belle View Blvd. 703-660-6085 • www.dishesofindia.com **Belle View Shopping Center**

Order Party Platters to Go

Holiday Gift Certificates Available

Now Serving Luncheon Buffet Every Day 🕨 À La Carte Dinner Every Night •

Menu is Available Online •

We wish all our guests a very happy Thanksgiving! **Closed Thanksgiving Day.**

Innovative Indian Cuisine



OPEN THANKSGIVING

from 11 am-2 am

Enjoy a traditional meal with all the trimmings and NFL games. \$14.95

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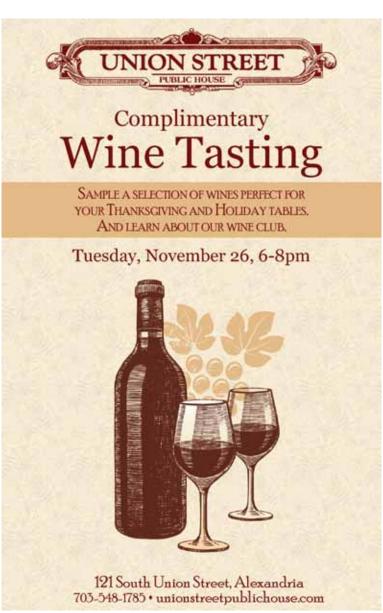
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HOLIDAY FUN



Russell Sunday, Peter Boyer and Tracey Stephens

'A Broadway Christmas Carol'

Holiday tradition returns to MetroStage.

By Carolyn Griffin MetroStage, Producing Artistic Director

olidays mean tradition. Families see the same shows at the theatre and on television, read the same stories and have the same dinner menus. There is a comfort zone attached to all this familiar territory, and it can define the holidays well into adulthood. For the past four holi-

day seasons MetroStage has broken the mold and created a new holiday tradition. Our production of "A

Broadway

Christmas Carol" is a riotous theatrical holiday experience which has been attracting theatre patrons and their families, friends, office colleagues, and others. Whether you recognize all 31 Broadway show tunes or not, there is fun to be had, and the holiday spirit rules.

Notes from

THE PRODUCER

Imagine a piano accompanist who at times is the Phantom

(from the Opera of course) or is horrified when Mrs. Fezziwig sings off key. The Crachits are present in good form and Tiny Tim is not quite as "tiny" as one might expect. And when have you ever seen Scrooge as a "song and dance" man? Or Marley as Mae West or Scrooge's sister Fan as Shirley Temple? And to keep it current Want and Ignorance are puppets from Avenue O.

Music is by Stephen Sondheim, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Rodgers and Hammerstein and others. Songs are from Oklahoma, Carousel, Sweeney Todd, Pajama Game, Cats, Music Man, Godspell, Secret Garden and dozens more. There is even a cheat sheet in the box office to check on any you don't recognize after the show.

It is grand fun and promises to usher in the holiday season in the most festive, musical way possible.

Bring your friends and family. It also makes a perfect holiday gift to an office colleague — one that is so unique and memorable that they will never forget it's zaniness and will return next year and bring their friends and family. Happy holidays and look forward to seeing you at the theatre.

Photo by Christopher Banks

Details

"A Broadway Christmas Carol" runs Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m., Nov. 21-Dec. 22 with all tickets \$50. No performance on Thanksgiving and a special added performance on Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m., \$35. Thursday Nov. 21 is "pay what you can." Call 800-494-8497 or visit www.metrostage.org for tickets. MetroStage is located at 1201 North Royal Street. There is a free parking lot and fine dining nearby. The theatre is handicap accessible.

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HOLIDAY FUN

From Page 20

Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Learn about Kwanzaa through games, songs and more. \$5/person. Visit oha.alexandriava.gov/bhrc/ or 703-746-4356.

Christmas at Carlyle House. Noon-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Tour a holiday-decorated house, talk to soldiers from the 1st Virginia Regiment during 1761, enjoy demonstrations, samples and more. \$5/person. 703-549-2997.

Winter Wreath Workshop. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create a beautiful winter wreath to take home for your front door after Green Spring staff demonstrate the dazzling possibilities. Greens, forms, ribbons and cones included with additional \$20 supply fee. Code: 290 484 6901, \$35/person. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

Ornament Decorating Workshop.

1-4 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Families can decorate an artifactshaped dough ornament. Free. 703-746-4399.

Home for the Holidays Pops

Concert. 2 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. at Alexandria Singers, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The Alexandria Singers will perform. \$25/reserved seats; \$20/general; \$15/group, senior or military; \$5/child age 6 and under. Visit http://

www.alexandriasingers.com/ or 703-941-7464.

Ballet Performance. 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Alexandria Community Dance and West Potomac Academy present "The Nutcracker" at West Potomac High School theater, 6500 Quander Road. More than 100 students from local schools and performers ranging from age 4 to adult will perform. \$12/adult; \$10/student in advance or \$15/adult; \$12/student at the door. Military members can get tickets for \$10 with proper ID for the 6:30 p.m. show. Visit www.alexandriadance.com for tickets.

Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

Festivities start at 3 p.m. with the parade at 5:30 p.m. at the waterfront at Cameron Street. More than 50 boats will illuminate the Potomac. Special appearance by Santa. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com or 703-746-3301.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7, 14, 21

Holiday Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Breakfast with Santa. 10:30 a.m. or 1 p.m. at the Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. Metropolitan School of the Arts will host the breakfast. Tickets range in price from \$35-\$45/person. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for tickets.

Theater Performance. 11 a.m. at W-3 Theatre at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Arts on the Horizon presents "Drumming with Dishes: The Holiday Edition." \$8/child and adults. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets.

Gardeners' Holiday Open House.
Noon-4 p.m. at Green Spring
Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road.
This festive day is for gardeners of all
ages, individuals and families.
Admission is free. There will be a
Holiday Puppet Show by Bob Brown



Advent at Christmas Attic

The Christmas Attic has teamed up once again with area schools, churches, businesses and community groups to produce a temporary exhibition featuring illuminated canvases of art to be revealed on their building for its 3rd Annual Holiday Advent Calendar Art Celebration.

From Dec. 1-25 the store will reveal "advent art" featuring a variety of holiday creations by local organizations and artists. All art will be placed on the exterior of the building facing Union Street. There will be holiday entertainment, family activities, crafts for children and a visit from Santa for all shoppers and families to enjoy.

During the month of December, the canvases of advent art will be available for auction. Bids can be made inside the store. Proceeds from the auction will go to local non-profit The Reading Connection, dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk children and families by helping them create and sustain literacy-rich environments and motivation for reading.

A new work of art will be revealed each day at sundown, Dec. 1-25. Each Saturday in December at sundown, there will be holiday entertainment, activities, kid crafts and a visit from Santa for all shoppers and families to enjoy.

The Christmas Attic is located at 125 S. Union Street. Call 703-548-2829 or visit www.christmasattic.com.

(tickets for the 2 p.m. show are \$3/person and can be purchased in advance using Code: 290 489 4301), festive greens and tree ornaments for sale, a vintage train display, seasonal breads for sale, and complimentary refreshments. There will be a whimsical gingerbread house contest. Get your Gingerbread House contest entry form at www.greenspring.org on the Special Events page. Call 703-642-5173 for more information.

"Christmas in Cape Breton." 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Natalie MacMaster is an award-winning fiddler. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8, 15, 22

Holiday Market. Noon-4 p.m. in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. The Del Ray Artisans will offer handmade work from local artists, handmade ornaments and bake sale items to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 9

Garden Sprouts: Welcome Winter.

11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschool children ages 3-5 with accompanying adult. Tour the garden to see the changes that winter brings. Learn why some animals stay and others migrate or hibernate. Make a winter landscape to take home and a pinecone feeder for the birds that remain. Code: 290 481 4401, \$6/child. Register on-line at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

THURSDAY/DEC. 12

2nd Thursday Art Night: Decadent

December. 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Do some holiday shopping while tasting chocolate and wine. There will be handcrafted ornaments, a DIY craft station and a musical performance by chamber choir Pro Coro Alexandria. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 12-15

Living Christmas Tree. First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., presents the Living Christmas Tree. Showtimes are Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$7/person. No children under 4. Childcare is available upon request. Visit www.fbcalexandria.org/LCT for tickets.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13

A Christmas Medley. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Readings of holiday poems, stories and remembrances by Frederick Douglass, Frank O'Connor, William Shakespeare and others. \$10. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for more.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

Garden Sprouts: Welcome Winter. 11 a.m.-noon at Green Spring

Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschool children ages 3-5 with accompanying adult. Tour the garden to see the changes that winter brings. Learn why some animals stay and others migrate or hibernate. Make a winter landscape to take home and a pinecone feeder for the birds that remain. Code: 290 481 4402, \$6/child. Register on-line at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

Civil War Christmas in Camp.

Noon-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Meet a patriotic Civil War Santa Claus, visit an officer's hut decorated for the season, talk with soldiers and tour the museum. \$2/person. Will also feature stories, activities and more. Visit www.fortward.org or 703-746-4848.

Family Fun: Winter Solstice
Workshop. 2-3:30 p.m. at Green
Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring
Road. Learn how people in the past
celebrated the winter solstice. Then
create an evergreen centerpiece,
complete with beeswax candle, to
warm and welcome friends and
family to your table. Family-friendly
programs for ages 5 and up; children
must be accompanied by registered
adult. Code: 290 481 5001, \$10/
person. Register on-line at
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/
greenspring or call Green Spring
Gardens 703-642-5173.

SUNDAY/DEC. 15

Holiday Music. 2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Mount Vernon Flutes will perform holiday classics. Free. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com for mo

www.visitalexandriava.com for more. **Handbell Performance**. 2 p.m. at Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Brown Academy chorus will perform. Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or 703-746-1702.

Colonial Handbell Ringers. 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Listen to and sing along with the Colonial Handbell Ringers as they perform holiday classics. Free, but reservations required. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or 703-746-4994.

TUESDAY/DEC. 17

Holiday Music Performance. See Big Bad Voodoo Daddy at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 7:30 p.m. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

A John Waters Christmas. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Hear a compilation of Christmas music selected by director John Waters. \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.

MONDAY/DEC. 23

Breakfast With Santa. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying breakfast. \$13.50/child; \$22/adult. Must purchase time slot in advance at https://usph.webconnex.com/santa.

TUESDAY/DEC. 24

Breakfast With Santa. 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying breakfast. \$13.50/child; \$22/adult. Must purchase time slot in advance at https://usph.webconnex.com/santa.

TUESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Afternoon activities from 1-5 p.m.,

performances from 7 p.m.-midnight and fireworks at midnight from the Potomac River at the foot of King Street. There will be more than 100 performances at 22 indoor venues, dancing, children's games and more. \$15/before Dec. 15; \$20/after; children under 12 and active military are free. Visit

www.firstnightalexandria.org for a full list of activities, performances and locations.



Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting Old Town before leaving for the big night. Join them for breakfast Monday, Dec. 23 and Tuesday, Dec. 24. Breakfast is table-service and the menu will include some all-time favorites like eggs Benedict and Belgian malted waffles. Six seatings starting at 8:30 a.m. and every half-hour through 11 a.m. \$13.50 per child (age 3-12) and \$22 per adult. Cost includes breakfast, milk, soda, coffee, tea, tax, gratuity, and a visit with Santa and the Missus. Purchase tickets at https://usph.webconnex.com/santa.



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Scottish Walk Parade A Taste of Scotland Heather & Greens Sales

Holiday Designer Tour of Homes Deck the Halls with Santa A Christmas Marketplace

Parade: Saturday, Dec. 7th at 11:00 a.m.

FOR TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.SCOTTISHCHRISTMASWALK.COM









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Entertainment

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

ONGOING

Encore Chorale. Mondays 10:30 a.m.-noon at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Dr. Register now for Encore Chorale's fall season. The group of singers, ages 55 and up, practice classical and holiday songs to prepare for December performances. \$150 tuition. Visit encorecreativity orgon call 301-261-5747.

encorecreativity.org or call 301-261-5747.

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 5775 Barclay Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theatre, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from \$130-150. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Art Exhibit. "Sacred Earth, Healing Water" by Anne Bouie at Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Runs through Nov. 11. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. Visit www.nvcc.edu/ schlesingercenter/ for more.

Art Exhibit. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents "Colors of Autumn" in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit runs Oct. 22-Nov. 17. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com or 703-548-

Art Exhibit. See never-before-seen hats from Dr. Seuss's private collection along with prints and sculpture from the art of Dr. Seuss Collection. Runs Nov. 2-17 at P&C Art Gallery, 212 King St. Visit www.pcart.com for more.

Theater Performance. See "Shiloh Rules" by
Doris Baizley, the second part of "A Salute to the
American Voice." Performances are FridaySaturday, Nov. 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and Tuesday,
Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.; Saturday matinees Nov. 16,
23 at 2 p.m. All performances are at Port City
Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. \$18/adult;
\$16/senior, military and student; \$14/groups of
10 or more. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org/
for more.

Theater Performance. See "High School Musical" by Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. \$12/person or \$11 for groups of 10 or more. Visit mvcct.org for more. Features over 40 members from local schools.

Art Exhibit. See "Concrete, Glass and Color," mosaic art by Jane Pettit at Crossroads Gallery at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church. Free. The exhibit runs Oct. 16 through Nov. 24. 703-578-7201.

Art Exhibit. See "Pursuit of Beauty" at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Juried by Tom Beck, the exhibit showcases fine art photography and will run through Nov. 24. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

www.torpedofactory.org for more. **Art Exhibit.** Through November, see Jenna Fournel's work at Huntley Meadows Park. Hours are Monday, Wednesday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday from noon-5 p.m. Visit www.jenna4nel.com for more. **Art Exhibit.** See "Del Ray Dozen Invitational

Photography Show" at Del Ray Artisans, 2704
Mount Vernon Ave. Subject matter ranges from
landscapes to portraits and a little bit of
everything in between and the select
photographers approach their craft in different
ways—as traditional film shooters, digital
image-makers, darkroom junkies, print makers,
and experimentalists. Exhibit runs Nov. 1
through Dec. 1. For more information, visit
www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Art Exhibit. Photographer Everitt Clark presents "Cities in the Air" from Nov. 7 through Dec. 2 in the Art League at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibit will reveal how Richmond, Va., past and present intertwine. Free. Hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursdays from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sundays from noon-6 p.m. Visit www.theart league.org or 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. See "Portent" in the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., from Oct. 24 through Dec. 8. The works attempt to visually come to terms with, reflect or represent the magnitude of natural events. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more

Art Exhibit. See "Fotographers at the Factory"
Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 at Torpedo Factory, 105
N. Union St. The exhibit celebrates
FotoWeekDC. Hours are Thursdays 10 a.m.-9
p.m.; all other days from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Photographs will line the hall walls and in
multiple studios. Free. Visit
www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents "Holiday Sizzle" in Studio 18 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit starts on Nov. 19, additional items will be added Dec. 9 and the exhibit closes Jan. 5. Free. Some items will be for sale. Visit www.potomacfiber artsgallery.com or 703-548-0935.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 101, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys of transgender individuals. It will be on display through January. Gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

African American Activists Exhibition.

Through Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014, Living Legends of Alexandria is an ongoing photo-documentary project created in 2006 by artist-photographer Nina Tisara to identify, honor and chronicle people making current history in Alexandria. This free exhibit is at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 601 Wythe St. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.

CLASSES

Introduction to Machine Sewing for

Children. 4:15-6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Learn how to operate a sewing machine and beginning sewing skills while turning a t-shirt into a tote bag. For children ages 8 and up. \$35/child. Visit www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

Introduction to Quilting: Parent/Child

Class. 9 a.m.-noon on Saturday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Dec. 7. Parents and children ages 7 and up can learn how to use a sewing machine and then learn how to quilt. Bring a yard of cotton fabric and smaller pieces of cotton fabric (at least 6-inch squares) to create patches. \$120. With registration, if you have a sewing machine, say so. Visit www.artatthecenter.org or 703-201-1250.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Joe Ely and Paul Thorn perform. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Story Telling. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellouise Schoettler will tell the story of "Finding Gus." \$10/person. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Illustrated Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. "Volusia: Civilian, Slave and Soldier Experiences in the Civil War" presented by Amy Bertsch, former Office of Historic Alexandria public information office. The presentation involves research into a rare photograph of enslaved people taken in Alexandria, and reveals how the Civil War impacted three groups of people on a large Duke Street property, then known as Volusia, and today known as Foxchase in Alexandria's West End. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org or 703-746-4554.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Watch the seventh-graders put on "The Princess Bride." \$5/adult; \$1/child.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road. Watch the seventh-graders put on "The Princess Bride." \$5/adult; \$1/child.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton Garwood Whaley Auditorium, 201 Cambridge Road. See William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$10/adult; \$8/ senior, student. Tickets sold at the door. Visit www.bishopireton.org or 703-751-7606.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Ireton Garwood Whaley Auditorium, 201 Cambridge Road. See William Shakespeare's "A

Entertainment

Midsummer Night's Dream." \$10/adult; \$8/senior, student. Tickets sold at the door. Visit www.bishopireton.org or 703-751-7606.

Anniversary. Why Not? at 200 King St. will celebrate its 50th year. The first 50 customers will receive a gift bag and everyone will be entered in a raffle. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The toy drive will also kick off at this event, so bring an unwrapped, new toy for donation. Visit https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Why-Not-Shop/159764110715051.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. The Sunrise String Quartet will perform music from Mozart, Turina and Shostakovich. \$20/adult: \$15/senior; \$10/student and teachers. 703-765-

Special Presentation. 2 p.m. at the Potomack Company, 1120 N. Fairfax St. John Burns, National Park Service, will discuss Charles M. Goodman's life and work and his impact on the Washington, D.C. area, including Reagan National Airport. There will be a presentation at 3:30 p.m. at the same location about Charles Goodman's furniture collection. Free. Visit www.potomackcompany.com or 703-684-4550.

Farewell Performance. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Watch the final dance of the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Company. Free.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24

Story Telling Workshop. 1 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Ellouise Schoettler will show how to combine genealogy and storytelling to create family stories everyone will want to listen to, \$10/person, Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 29-30

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall,3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Seldom Scene & Dry Branch Fire Squad will perform. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

Author Book Signing. 2-4 pm. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Alexandria resident Kathie Truitt will discuss and sign copies of her book "The Hillbilly Debutante

TUESDAY/DEC. 3

Library Tour. 1:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Tour the new Fred W. Smith National Library for the study of George Washington. Led by Mount Vernon tour guides and Library staff members, this new tour will offer access to the main floor of the center for scholarship about George Washington, Colonial America, and the Revolutionary Era. Tours are included in admission to the Estate, but are limited in capacity and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit www.MountVernon.org or 703-780-

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 4

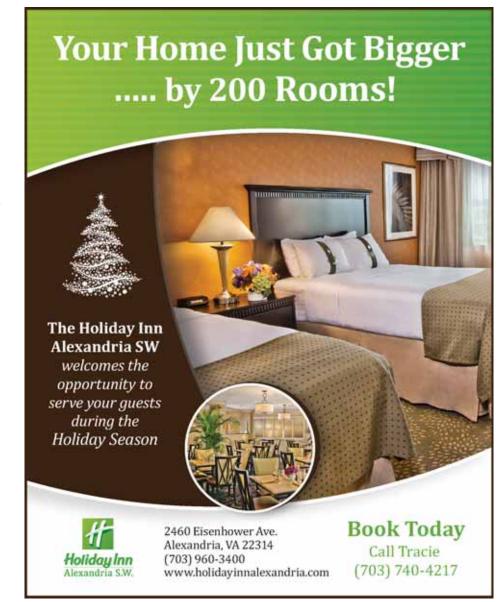
Magic Show. 7 p.m. at Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road. See a performance by International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 50. Bring a canned food item or toy that will be donated to the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army. Visit www.ibmring50.blogspot.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 6

Music Performance. At Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Bo Bice will perform as a special guest vocalist with Blood Sweat & Tears. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Honky Tonk Holiday Show. Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun performs at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500.





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Lunch and Dinner Carving Stations and Buffet 11:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Hand-Carved Hot Roast Turkey with Sage Dressing Savory Gravy ~ Baked Virginia Ham with Raisin Sauce ~ Fresh Homemade Mashed Potatoes **Broccoli and Hollandaise Sauce** Sautéed Whole Green Beans Apple Pie ~ Pumpkin Pie ~ Pecan Pie ~ Mince Pie Everything on Our Menu is Homemade and Fresh!

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HOLIDAY GUIDE

Teaching Children To Make Holiday Gifts

Local art experts offer crafty gift ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL THE GAZETTE

ifting your child's teacher, grandparents or other family members with holiday cheer doesn't have to add another line item to your budget. Homemade gifts from children are among the most cherished, say experts, and creating them can be as memorable for the child as the recipient.

"I think that making gifts is a very important thing to teach children because they've created it themselves rather than just buying it," said Alexandria resident Chris Tucker Haggerty, a professor of fine and applied arts at Marymount University in Arlington. "They're giving you part of themselves and saying 'this is the best that I can give you because I made it myself."

Alexandria resident Maria Cuzzocrea Burke, an art teacher at Oakridge Elementary School in Arlington said that although "holiday crafts are not done in the art classroom anymore, as they don't meet to the standards of learning in Virginia and out of respect to [the] multicultural [and] multidenominational community that we



Photo courtesy of Art at the Center

Glass jars can be recycled into candleholders with a stained glass effect.

live in, there is nothing better than [giving] a homemade gift during the holiday season and spending quality time with your child."

Kathryn Horn Coneway, of Art at the Center in Mount Vernon, notes that a variety of holiday traditions focus on light during the months of November and December.

"For school-aged children, glass jars can be recycled into beautiful candle holders with a stained glass effect," said Coneway. "Soak glass jars to remove labels. Cut or tear tissue paper into one to two pieces. Mix white school glue with equal parts water until it will flow and paint easily with a brush. Brush watered down glue on the glass and place tissue paper over the glue.

Cover with another coat to seal. Colors will overlap and mix. When dry, place a tea light inside the glass jar and enjoy the colorful

Framing a painting or drawing by your child can make a sentimental gift for a loved one. You can also "encourage your children to make homemade cards and thank you notes for relatives who live far away; a great way to use art and writing skills," said Coneway.

For younger children, Coneway said, "This is a great opportunity to work big on large paper. Purchase blank white or brown wrapping paper and let kids paint, draw or stamp on the large surface. They can work on a tabletop, wall or hard-surface floor. Big, colorful designs are fun to create and make great wrapping paper. Very young toddlers can even get in on the action by ... making hand and footprints. Washable paints make clean up easy."

Burke says that while making artistic gifts with your child can be an enjoyable experience, there are certain safety precautions to take. "[Ensure] the art materials you are using are nontoxic and safe for children's use," said Burke. "For example, when sewing, make sure the needle has a blunt nose so that they won't hurt themselves. Choose scissors that are appropriate for their age levels. Stay away from toxic glues. Please read the labels.'

VIEWPOINTS

"What is the best gift you ever received?"



The Alexander Family. Dad's answer: "I'm from a crew of boys. I'd have to say my girls are my gift."



Malcolm Kenton: "My parents saved and paid for my college education. Part of the gift was not being in debt after graduating."



James Jones: "The best gift? I'd have to say my family."



Elder Hart: "My first football. I was 10 years old."

Dancing into the Sunset

After 35 years, Kathy Harty Gray and her dance company are taking a bow.

> BY AMBER HEALY THE GAZETTE

athy Harty Gray's career may have started as a student at Julliard, but she and her students will celebrate her legacy in Alexandria.

After 35 years as a teacher and choreographer of modern dance in the tradition of Martha Graham, Jose Limon and Doris Humphrey, Gray has decided it's time to explore other adventures.

"I'd like to sing in a choir, maybe teach Spanish," Gray said of her post-dance projects. She's certainly earned some time off if she chooses — since 1995 she's taught class two nights a week, from 7-10 p.m. Even before, she was a tenured professor at Mary Washington University and a graduate adjunct at the University of Virginia.

Her whole life has been dance, and choreography in particular has been a special passion in her life, she said. "It brings a different aspect to classes you teach," allowing a teacher to tell a story or, as in the case of the women's history performance she and her company toured around Virginia for students, highlight the struggles of brave pio-



After 35 years, the Kathy Harty **Gray Dance Theater will give its** final performance this Saturday, Nov. 23, in the Tyler Building **Auditorium at Northern Virginia** Community College's Alexandria Campus.

neers whose actions made life better for

"She even made lessons plans for the schools we visited," said Iantha Parker, a dancer with Gray since 1987, who was part of the special presentation, "Stories to Remember about Women in Virginia," which was seen by 9,000 people between 2006 and 2008.

GRAY COUNTS MORE THAN 200 per-

formances in her company's past, including one in 2011 that was inspired by her three brothers, New York City firefighters. After the attacks in New York City. Pennsylvania and the Pentagon, one of her brothers called her and suggested she create a performance in honor of those who died. For the 10th anniversary of the attacks, the company performed the piece, "Grant Us Courage ... Grant Us Peace," which helped to raise \$20,000 for the Pentagon Memorial Fund, Gray said. The music for that piece was written by Tim Janis of Alexan-

Her students appreciate her dedication as

"She does beautiful work," said Carrie Wilcox of Centreville, who has danced in the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theater for 20 years. "She's kept all of us on our toes. She uses beautiful music and creates beautiful dance. I really have enjoyed performing her choreography."

"I've always enjoyed her style and her choreography," Parker said.

Their enjoyment of working with Gray is apparent, spending two nights per week dancing with her after putting in full days

Gray appreciates their dedication and lists it as one of the things she'll miss most.

"Modern dance is usually a gypsy's life," moving from place to place and working with numerous fellow dancers, Gray said. Having a company with so many long-term members, some of whom will be coming back for the farewell performance this weekend, is a treat and a rarity.

Dancers that stay with a company "isn't around now," she said. "I have so many dancers that worked very hard for me. They have a passion."

The company is like a family, Wilcox said. It'll be difficult to see Gray off into retirement. "We all owe her so much," she said.

Sports

West Potomac Harrier Genuario Earns All-State

Senior places 11th in 6A girls' race at VHSL state meet.

By Jon Roetman The Gazette

atie Genuario wasn't sure when she crossed the finish line. It wasn't until her mother told Genuario that the West Potomac senior knew she had accomplished her goal. Genuario earned all-state honors at the

Genuario earned all-state honors at the VHSL state cross country meet, placing 11th in the 6A girls' race with a time of 18 minutes, 24 seconds on Nov. 15 at Great Meadow.

Last season, Genuario placed 23rd at the state meet with a time of 19:04. The top 15 finishers are recognized as all-state.

"I think it's always been my goal to somehow make it (in the) top 15 and it feels awesome that I finally accomplished that," she said. "Our region is really tough and to only finish a few places behind last week (at regionals) is amazing."

The fifth-place finisher, Washington-Lee



PHOTO BY ED LUL

West Potomac senior Katie Genuario (1499) earned all-state honors at the VHSL state cross country meet, placing 11th in the 6A girls' race on Nov. 15 at Great Meadow.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Railroad Club Meeting. 10 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. "The History of the Jersey Central Railroad" and personal experiences by Bill Iber will be presented with a short film. Free. 703-765-4573

presented with a short film. Free. 703-765-4573.

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood
Library. Adults can converse with other adults
learning English. Free.

Independent Living Project. 1 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Fairfax County's Independent Living Project is a free six-week series of educational seminars of interest to older adults, exercise or yoga classes for strength and balance, and home safety visits for 60+ adults and adults with physical disabilities. Additional follow up services after the project ends may be available in some cases. Participation in the full project is advised. Preregistration is required and space is limited.

English Conversation. 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

English Conversation. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library or Sherwood Hall Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

EBook Workshop. 1 p.m. at John Marshall
Library. Adults can bring their eBook reader and
library card and get questions answered. Free.

Chapbook Exchange. 1 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Join for a Chapbook Exchange and Discussion. Free.

Emerging Minority Leaders Conference. 8:30-11 a.m. at Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road. Learn about resources and tips to help better engage parents in diverse communities throughout Fairfax County.

Register at www.fccpta.org or 703-508-16610.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24

Eagle Scout Project. Sam Markle will remove invasive plant species and then plant native species at Gil Mccutcheon Park from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers are welcome to help remove the species or plant new ones.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 27

English Conversation. 10:15 a.m. at Kingstowne Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

Blood Drive. 11 a.m. at Martha Washington Library. Red Cross is holding a blood drive from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. ID required. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment.

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Blood Drive. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Elms at Kingstowne, 6008 Rock Cliff Lane. The American Red Cross Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services is holding blood drives throughout the region. Donors are encouraged to call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 30

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library. Adults can converse with other adults learning English. Free.

HOLIDAY NEEDS

Toy Drive. Weichert, Realtors are holding a toy drive through Dec. 13. Drop off a new, unwrapped toy to any of the offices. They will be delivered throughout the holidays in conjunction with local charities that assist financially and physically disadvantaged children. To make a donation, visit any Weichert, Realtors sales office or to find a local office, visit www.weichert.com/offices/.

Toy Drive. Sheehy Auto Stores will hold a toy drive to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program. Runs Nov. 15 through Dec. 15. Donate a new, unwrapped toy to Sheehy Honda of Alexandria, 2434 Richmond Highway.

TUESDAY/JAN. 14

Pet Loss Support Group. 1:30-230 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Talk with others who are dealing with the death of a beloved pet. Free, register by calling 703-333-6963.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

information.

Fairfax County needs **Somali-speaking volunteers** to provide rides to an older adult in the Lorton area. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail at VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov for information.

Fairfax County's Adult Day Health Care Centers need **outreach volunteers** for 4 hours/week. Requires travel around the county. Marketing experience preferred. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov for

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Program needs a volunteer to greet people and answer phones one day per week from 10:30 a.m.-noon to start as soon as possible. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-

Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324 5406, TTY 703-449-1186, VolunteerSolutions@ fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices

and click on volunteers.

airfax County's Meals on Wheels needs
drivers and a coordinator. Contact Fairfax
County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406.

TTY 703-449-1186, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices and click on volunteers.

AARP Tax-Aide, a national volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service for low to moderate income and elderly citizens, needs volunteers to electronically complete and file federal and state income tax forms for the 2013 tax season. The program offers free five-day training using IRS computers and software. Volunteers become IRS Certified Tax Counselors after completing and passing the IRS examination. Visit www.aarp.org/money/taxes/info-2006/volunteer_aarp_tax_aide.html.

senior Sarah Angell, and the 15th-place finisher, Osbourn Park junior Jillian Everly, finished within 12 seconds of one another.

"I actually didn't know (if I had finished in the top 15)," Genuario said. "I didn't think there were that many people in front of me."

West Springfield senior Caroline Alcorta won the individual championship with a meet-record time of 17:13. Lake Braddock's Hannah Christen (17:52) finished runner-up, followed by Lake Braddock's Katy Kunc (17:59) and Oakton's Allie Klimkiewicz (18:01).

Oakton won the team championship with a score of 55. Washington-Lee finished runner-up with a score of 100, followed by Lake Braddock (112), Ocean Lakes (115), West Springfield (144) and Battlefield (150).

"Each mile gets harder, so (my plan was to) kind of just stay in control and then just give the last mile whatever I had," Genuario said. "It didn't really happen because it went out fast and stayed fast, but I held on. The last stretch is really a killer. I thought I had some left at the beginning, but as you get through it, it gets longer and slightly uphill, so it was pretty tough. I just gave it everything I had. I don't think I had anything left."

–Sports Brief – – – – –

Mount Vernon Football Falls In Playoffs

The Mount Vernon football team, seeded No. 13 in the 5A North region, lost in the opening round of the playoffs to No. 4 Tuscarora, 35-27, on Nov. 15.

The Majors finished the season with a 3-8 record, dropping their final six games.

ONGOING

The Groveton High School class of 1964 is

looking for contact information for as many classmates as possible. The planning for the 50th reunion is underway, however only a small number of people have been contacted. If you are a Groveton graduate of '64 and interested in attending next September's reunion please email contact information to GHS64@verizon.net.

The New Gum Springs Civic Association will start a new **Cub Scout Pack** for boys ages 6-10 and adult leaders. For more information call 888-740-6009 or visit

www.gumspringscivicassociation.com.
School Board Member, **Dan Storck**, Mount
Vernon District representative, hosts community
office hours the second Saturday of each month:
Sherwood Hall Library: 1-3 p.m. No
appointment necessary. Contact Dan Storck at
Dan.Storck@fcps.edu or his assistant, Barb

Larsen at Barbara.Larsen@fcps.edu.

Band musicians are invited to join the **Mount**Vernon Community Band. Rehearsals are
Tuesday 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Mount Vernon
High School band room, 8515 Old Mount
Vernon Road. There are no auditions. The
Mount Vernon Community Band is a nonprofit
community service organization that has
performed in the Mount Vernon area since 1978.
703-768-4172 or www.mvbands.com.



Opinion



Hollin Meadows in Pink

The staff of Hollin Meadows Elementary supported Ann Biczo, a teacher at Hollin Meadows Elementary, in wearing pink in honor of breast cancer awareness month. Biczo was hosting a fundraiser dinner at Chevy's to raise money for her Avon walk for Breast Cancer. She has currently done four walks and is fundraising for her 5th walk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Page 10

Alexandria's own George Washington was the first President to set aside a special day for the nation to offer Thanksgiving to God.

On Dec. 4, 1619, when the Margaret, sailing from Bristol, England, reached her destination 20 miles upstream from Jamestown at Berkeley Hundred, now Berkeley Plantation, Captain John Woodliffe opened the sealed orders given him in London. They directed that the first act of those 38 settlers and eight crewmen aboard should be to have a religious service of thanksgiving to God for their safe arrival, and the settlers and crew did so. Indians, curious about the newcomers and familiar with the settlers and religious services at Jamestown, probably watched. Furthermore, Woodliffe's orders provided that the day of the ship's arrival was to be "yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God."

In 1622 in a surprise attack, Indians massacred almost everyone at the Berkeley settlement. Thus the custom of thanksgiving was observed there for only a few years. After that tragedy the area was abandoned, and the Jamestown settlers did not feel like celebrating. After many years colonists returned to the site, and

the Harrison family built a beautiful home there, Berkeley Plantation. Benjamin Harrison IV signed the Declaration of Independence. His grandson, William Henry Harrison, was elected President; two generations later Benjamin Harrison, his grandson, also was elected President. Both wrote their Inaugural Addresses at Berkeley. Today Berkeley is open to the public, there is a marker at the site on the James River shore where the 1619 Thanksgiving was held, and there is an annual historical reenactment of the first thanksgiving at the original site.

For those who might have forgotten, the Pilgrims did not land on the rocky coast up north until December 1620. They had intended to come to Virginia, but were blown off course by heavy winds. They starved for the first year, so they were most grateful for their bountiful harvest in 1621. According to the Pilgrim Hall website, "In ... 1621, the 53 surviving Pilgrims celebrated their successful harvest, as was the English custom (It was a social occasion, a festival of food.) The Pilgrims did not call this harvest festival a "Thanksgiving," although they did give thanks to God. To them, a Day of Thanksgiving was purely religious. Their first recorded religious Day of

Thanksgiving was held in 1623 in response to a providential rainfall."

Virginians have another tie to our modern Thanksgiving celebration. Alexandria's famous son George Washington issued his first Presidential proclamation on Oct. 3, 1789, by calling for day of public thanksgiving, fasting (not feasting) and prayer on Thursday, Nov. 2, for the many blessings God had bestowed on our country, asking pardon for our national transgressions, and seeking His aid in our future endeavors. Later governors and presidents continued this tradition of setting aside a day for thanksgiving.

It is appropriate for us to celebrate today, like our predecessors, with attendance at a thanksgiving service to God as well as feasting and fun with family and friends.

We Virginians are proud to tell our story and claim our heritage as the first English-speaking people to celebrate a public thanksgiving for our personal blessings as well as those to our community and nation.

> Ellen Latane Tabb Alexandria Richard Bender Abell Mount Vernon





703-917-6400

ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE: Tuesday Noon

26 Antiques

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Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to

http://alexandriava.gov/police/ and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

AMR Wines Plus, LLC trading as AMR Wines Plus, 5401 Port Royal Rd, Springfield, VA 22151 and 6461 Autumn Glen Ct, Alexandria, VA 22312. the above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPART-MENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEV-ERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wholesale wine and wine importer-in-state license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Anna Ryjik,

Manager/member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC LICENSE
Brown Bag Vino, LLC trading
as Altura Wines, 108 N. Patrick St, Alexandria, VA 22314.
The above establishment is
applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Edgar Salinas/Partner NOTE: Objections to the issu-

ance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

OBITUARY Richard "Rick" William Moore, 66

Father of Michael, Kevin, Erin and Kristen Moore; son of Sally Moore and the late Norman R. Moore. Also survived by one brother Dennis Moore (Linda) and one niece Val Moore. He was an Alexandria Police Officer, (Ret.) and an active member of Moose Lodge #2165. Dale City. VA.

Burial will be at Quantico National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alexandria Police Foundation, 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Suite 118, Alexandria, VA 22304 http://alexandriapolicefoundation.org/. A guest register may be found at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot from Oct. 29 to Nov. 26, 2012 to elect the President Elect, four seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 2, 2014. Information about proxy ballots is available at www.asco.org. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting held on Dec. 3, 2013, 8:30-9:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email ASCOelection@asco.org or call 571-483-1316.

26 Antiques

26 Antiques



21 Announcements

21 Announcements



Kay W. Duda, 73 of Ocean passed away Thursday

November 7 at Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Neptune with her family by her side. She was born in Washington D.C. and raised in Arlington, VA. Kay and her husband of 52 years, Peter "Eddie" raised a beautiful family in Virginia before moving to New Jersey in 2005 to be near their daughters. Kay was very active in the school system, her church and community. She worked for American Home Funding, Annandale, VA and then for Alliance Business Center in Washington, D.C. Kay was a vibrant and caring person. She would visit and care for the sick in her community and worked at the food bank. In keeping with Kay's caring spirit it was her decision to donate her eyes to the Sharing Network so others may have a better quality of life. Kay thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She was a wonderful woman who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Kay is survived by her husband Peter "Eddie" Duda of Ocean; three daughters and two sons-in-law. Aleece and Ernie Marino of Wall, Melanie Jablonski of Wall and Nicol and John Sheehan of Brick; six grandchildren, Andrew and Katie Jo Marino, Gavin and Jillian Jablonski and Declan and Vivian Sheehan. She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law Patsy and Paul Fair of Eatontown; many nieces and nephews in New Jersey. Kay was predeceased by her parents Mary and Don Wo-

Arrangements were entrusted to Orender Family Home for Funerals, Manasquan. Services were private. Memorial donations may be made to the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean 3300 State Hwy 66 Neptune, NJ 07753. To send condolences to the family please visit www.orenderfamilyhome.com

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements



Betty Jo Rosenberg October 27, 1923 -September 27, 2013 Resident of Alexandria, VA

Betty Jo Rosenberg passed away peacefully ear her home in Alexandria, VA on September 27 2013 at the age of 89. She will be greatly missed by her friends and surviving 4 children, William Rosenberg of Gainesville, GA, Carolyn Cipriani of Woodbridge, VA, James Rosenberg of Santa Cruz CA, and Stephen Rosenberg of Alexandria, VA. Her beloved husband, LTC Kermit H. Rosenberg pre ceded Betty Jo in death.

Betty Jo Tate was born Oct. 27, 1923 in Mineola. Missouri to a Banker, Joseph Burton Tate and his wife Judith Walker Covington. Betty Jo was the youngest of 5 children, and grew up in the small Missouri town. Her older sister Ruby just turned 100 in April, and they have always remained very close throughout the years. After graduation from HS, Betty Jo moved to St. Louis where she met Kermit. They were married in 1947, and celebrated their 60th Anniversary with the entire family. Kermit passed away on Christmas Day, 2008.

As a military family, Betty Jo was able to make homes in Germany, Hawaii, Utah, Virginia, & New Jersey. She enjoyed travel, entertaining, music shopping for and collecting antiques and spending time in Ocean City, MD. She received her Real Estate license when she was in her 50's and worked for several RE Companies in the Alexandria area over the course of her 30+ year career. She loved real estate and property management and was still working a year before she died. She also served as Treasurer of the Vantage Point Homeowners Association in Ocean City, MD for over 30 years. She was a Daughter of the American Revolution, Montgomery City, Missouri Chapter. She and Kermit were members of Messiah Lutheran Church for over 50 years. Betty Jo is proud of her 10 grandchildre and 5 great grandchildren.

Friends and family are invited to attend her Memorial Service at Messiah Lutheran Church, 6510 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA. The Service will begin at 10:30am on Tuesday, November 26th followed by a Reception and Lunch from 11:30am-1:30pm. After the service, Betty Jo will be laid to rest beside Kermit in Arlington National Cemetery at 3:00pm.

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Fairfax Water

NOTICE OF WATER RATE **PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, 2013, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue,

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2014, include the following:

- 1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950†.
- 2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,500 to \$9,750.
- 3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,050 to \$1,090†.
- 4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$35 to \$36.
- 5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$9.20 to \$9.80†.
- 6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.29 to \$2.42 per 1,000 gallons of water.
- 7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.45 to \$3.55 per 1,000 gallons of water.
- 8. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
- 9. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$44
- 10. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$17 to \$20.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water **Public Hearing Comments** 8570 Executive Park Avenue Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

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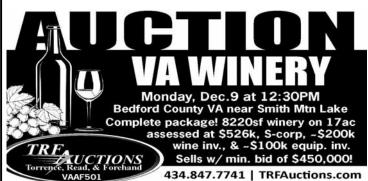
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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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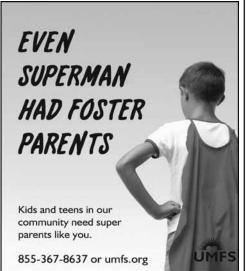
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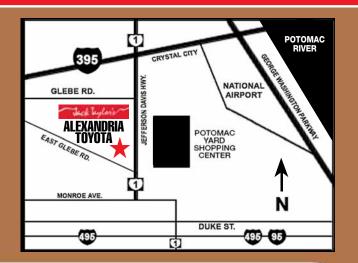
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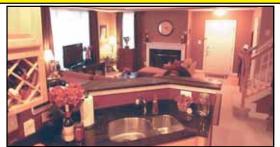
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7127 Mason Grove Court. Fantastic 3 BR, 2.5 BA with garage. Better than new! Lots of upgrades. End unit with lots of light and overlooking trees. Granite, stainless, decadent soaking tub - YES, you can Julie Hall 703-786-3634



Alexandria

\$990,000

8271 Media Street. Must See! Stunning, new construction in Sunny View area of Alexandria. 6 Bedrooms, 5.5 Baths, 5,200 sq feet of living space. Huge 3rd level bonus room with Media suite built in. 2 master bdrms; gourmet kitchen, all state-of-the-art with granite and KitchenAid. Lovely neighborhood. Short distance to Mount Vernon High School and G.W. Pkwy. Leslie Atkinson 703-967-1471



Alexandria

5331 Echols Avenue. You won't find more house for the money anywhere in the City of Alexandria! 5 BRs, 3.5 BAs, center hall Colonial on 1/3 acre with numerous upgrades! Three finished levels plus two-car side-load garage, screened porch, deck and shed. Mary Hurlbut 703-980-9595



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Braddock Heights

1311 Quincy Street. Enjoy 1-Level Living in this beautifully updated 3 bedroom, 1 bath stone home. Living room with fireplace and dining room with picture window. Beautiful newly renovated kitchen and bath, new roof, double pane vinyl windows and wood floor throughout the part of the property of the part of the property of the part of the p floors throughout. Large professionally landscaped yard with irrigation, patio, Koi pond and outdoor stone fireplace.

Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria

\$379,000

2716 Farmington Drive. Wonderful 3-level Brick Townhome just steps from Metro! Hardwood Floors, Kit. w/New Stainless Applcs. & Fabulous Lower Level Fam Rm w/New Carpet, Recessed Lights, a Full Bath & Sep. Laundry Rm! Patio, Large Fenced-In Yard & Great Front Porch. 0.4 Miles to Metro & mins to Old Town, D.C., I-495 & Ft. Belvoir!

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