



**Bruce Shuttleworth and Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille participated in a forum on April 12 at Mount Vernon High School. Euille was the only candidate who said he is open to the Keystone XL pipeline.**



**Satish Korpe and Laverne Chatman are among the 10 candidates running to replace U.S. Rep. Jim Moran. The candidates talked about district issues, the influence of money in politics, foreign policy and more at the forum.**

## Democrats Clash in First Debate

**Candidates for Congress claim territory from liberal to moderate.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
AND MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**V**oters in the 8th congressional district have a variety of choices in the June 10 Democratic primary, featuring an unprecedented 10 candidates. During their first debate at Mount Vernon High School last weekend, candidates clashed over financial issues as well as the kind of tone they want to strike in Washington. Voters will be able to choose between liberal and moderate, a range of options that includes those with decades of experience in elected office as well as a handful of first-time candidates.

"In a field like this, it's a great advantage to have been an elected official already so people are familiar with your name," said Kyle Kondik, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "So that would help a candidate like Don

Beyer, who is the only candidate to have held statewide office before. That said, it was a decade and a half ago."

Beyer was the only candidate to take fire from another candidate at the forum last weekend, an indication that he has a target on his back. Radio personality Mark Levine, who describes himself as "the aggressive progressive" attacked Beyer for supporting a plan that would create a national sales tax. During a question about income inequality, Levine launched into the first attack of the primary season, which is expected to get more intense as the June election day approaches.

"One of the candidates on this stage until just last month opposed the progressive income tax," said Levine. "He supported Tom DeLay's plan to get rid of the estate tax, get rid of the income tax and make everything a national sales tax. That's not very progressive at all."

**THE ATTACK** is based on a 2005 article in the industry publication Automotive News, which quotes Beyer as saying DeLay's plan "makes eminent sense as public policy," adding that it would improve capital formation because wealthy individuals and businesses would have more money

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 3



**State Del. Patrick Hope, Del. Adam Ebbin and Derek Hyra are among the 10 candidates running to replace U.S. Rep. Jim Moran.**



**Derek Hyra and Mark Levine are running in the 8th Congressional District Democratic primary.**

## 'Invest in Fairfax'

**Coalition of schools, government employees, parks, libraries and human services gather at budget hearings.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**"I**nvest in Us, Invest in Fairfax." That was the rallying cry last week at the Fairfax County Government Center as advocates for schools, libraries, parks, government employees and other human services gathered in support of more funding in these areas.

The rally occurred during the second day of the budget hearing, in which concerned citizens were able to speak in front of the Board of Supervisors, voicing their opinions on the FY 2015 budget.

For members of the newly formed "Invest in Fairfax" coalition, the message is clear: More funding is needed to keep Fairfax County a high-quality community.

The group is a new coalition of teachers, county employees, human service employees, firefighters and more working to



**Kimberly Adams, president of the Fairfax Education Association, spoke at the "Invest in Fairfax" rally on April 9 and advocated for support of schools and other human services.**

ensure Fairfax County remains a world-class place to live.

"We feel that we're at a tipping point, not just at the schools, but

SEE INVESTING, PAGE 23

## Taxes Target Low-income Workers

**Average tax burden for low-income workers is highest in Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**F**amilies that are struggling to make ends meet in Northern Virginia are the target of local governments in Northern Virginia, which has the highest tax burden in the region for low-income workers. Wealthy

people face the highest tax burden in Prince George's County and Montgomery County. But here in Virginia, poor people face the biggest tax burden in Arlington, according to a new study by the Office of Revenue Analysis in the District of Columbia. Alexandria ranked second, and Fairfax County

SEE TAXES, PAGE 6

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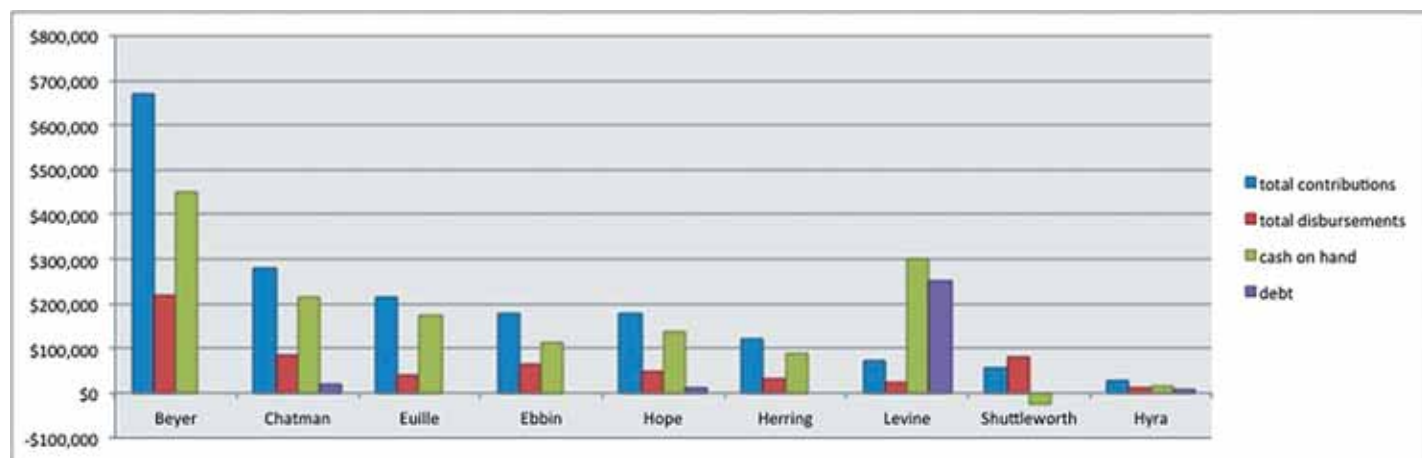
# Beyer Rakes in Campaign Cash in Democratic Primary

Fundraising numbers reveal former lieutenant governor has significant edge.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

Campaign finance documents released this week show Don Beyer well ahead of his competitors in the race for cash, giving the former lieutenant governor a significant edge over the nine other Democrats in the race to replace U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8). Beyer raised almost \$770,000, more than twice as much as any other candidate in the race. Documents show Beyer, who owns several car dealerships in Virginia, donated \$5,200 to his campaign.

"The conventional wisdom is that Beyer is leading, and certainly the fundraising numbers contribute to that conventional wisdom," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "But whether that's actually



Note: at press time, campaign documents from candidate Satish Korpe were unavailable.

going to be the case at the end of the day, who knows?"

Lavern Chatman, who is a former president of the Urban League of Northern Virginia, came in second place in the race for campaign cash. Earlier this month, Chatman held a fundraising event at the Crystal Gateway Marriot with Oprah Winfrey.

Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille raised the third highest total of campaign cash, building on his experience raising significant amounts of money to fund campaigns for

mayor even when he faced little or no opposition.

"The other two people who have raised significant amounts of money or who have significant amounts of money seem to have them from a single source, either they've loaned it to themselves or they've had an Oprah Winfrey level high-profile fundraiser," said Quentin Kidd, professor at Christopher Newport University. "But I bet his [Beyer's] donor base is larger than anybody else, and that really speaks to the level

of support that people are giving you."

Aside from Beyer, the candidate with the most cash on hand heading into the June 10 primary is radio personality Mark Levine. Campaign finance records show that Levine loaned his campaign \$250,000, leaving him with almost \$300,000 heading into the second quarter. That give him a significant war chest that most of the other candidates don't have. "He's putting his neck on the line," said Kondick. "It's possible that if he loans his campaign, that he may never get it back."

## Candidates Claim Territory from Liberal to Moderate

FROM PAGE 1

to invest in new ventures. Beyer did not respond during the debate, but a spokeswoman for Beyer later said he never supported replacing the progressive tax with a national sales tax, and he never will.

"Don believes that the middle class and working families already bear too much of the burden," said Ann O'Hanlon. "He supported Obama's rollback of Bush tax cuts for the wealthy and in Congress would work to eliminate loopholes that allow the wealthy to pay a lower effective tax rate than many middle class families."

That wasn't the only business issue to divide candidates.

When asked about the controversial Keystone XL pipeline, a 1,700-mile pipeline that would move diluted bitumen from the Canadian oil sands to the Gulf Coast, almost all of the candidates said they opposed the proposal. Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille was the only candidate who said he would support it, although he qualified his support by saying he would want it to meet certain conditions.

"As long as the health and safety and environmental issues are addressed, yes," said Euille. "It's a job creator."

**MOST OF THE TIME**, candidates agreed on standard issues of the Democratic Party, supporting gay marriage and decriminalizing marijuana. In direct contrast to Gov. Terry McAuliffe and Virginia senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, all 10 candidates voiced their opposition to offshore drilling. They also agreed on raising the minimum wage and restoring voting rights to nonvio-



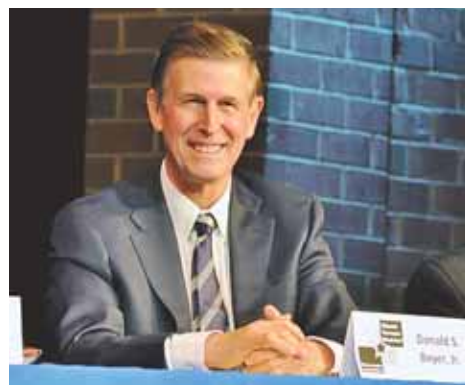
**State Del. Charniele Herring speaks as George Burke moderates a forum for the 10 candidates running for Congress in the 8th district at Mount Vernon High School on April 12.**

PHOTOS BY  
VERONICA BRUNO  
THE GAZETTE

lent felons. All the candidates said they strongly supported a woman's right to make reproductive choices, a fight that brought national media attention to one candidate when Republicans in the General Assembly tried to force women seeking abortions to get a transvaginal ultrasound.

"A lot of times, things take planning," said Del. Charniele Herring (D-46). "And our fight was carefully planned."

For most of the debate, candidates focused on demonstrating how their background would make them a successful representative for the 8th district. Candidates gave various explanations for how they differ from Moran, but several said they are opposed to Moran's recent assertion that members of Congress should be paid more.



**Former lieutenant governor Don Beyer participated in a forum with the nine other candidates running to replace U.S. Rep. Jim Moran on April 12 at Mount Vernon High School.**

Levine said he disagreed with Moran's vote on the bankruptcy bill in June 2013. Satish Korpe, director of the Democratic Business Council of Northern Virginia, said he wouldn't take Moran's direct approach and would be more tactical. Del. Patrick Hope (D-47), a health care attorney, former Capitol Hill staffer and founder of the Virginia Progressive Caucus, said he wished Moran would have been more involved in health care.

Decreasing the influence of money in politics led to some different answers among the candidates. Beyer said that super PACS should be banned and that the amount of money an individual can give to a candidate should be capped. Derek Hyra, a Virginia Tech professor, disagreed that

super PACS should be eliminated, although he said they need to be limited.

**PART OF THE FORUM** focused on transportation issues along the Route 1 corridor, with several of the candidates supporting the extension of the yellow line from Huntington.

"I think we should declare it a national emergency that Route 1 looks the way it does," said Lavern Chatman, former president of the Northern Virginia Urban League and a graduate of Mount Vernon High School.

State Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) said that it is important to note the development and density needed to support commercial taxes for a metro extension.

"The feasibility study shows that below Hybla Valley, that's not available," Ebbin said.

On environmental issues, all the candidates agreed that more needs to be done to protect the economy. Beyer, for example, has proposed a carbon tax. Former Navy pilot Bruce Shuttleworth said fighting climate change would be a fight in which he would be personally invested.

"Both of my parents died of lung cancer," said Shuttleworth. "And I think pollution killed them."

The winner of the June 10 primary could very well be the next representative for the heavily Democratic 8th district. The forum was hosted by the Mount Vernon District Democratic Committee and moderated by George Burke, chairman of the Virginia Democratic Party's 11th Congressional District.





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## News

Melinda Bloomquist, the poetry expo coordinator and English teacher at Mount Vernon High School, performs at the school's poetry expo on April 11. This year's expo was dedicated to Gerard Gomez, a Mount Vernon High School student who died in 2013.



PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

# Dealing with Grief through Poetry

## MVHS hosts Sixth Annual Poetry Expo.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

Before the poetry readings began, Mount Vernon High School teacher and poetry expo organizer Melinda Bloomquist spoke about Gerard Gomez, a student who died in September 2013.

"I know that even though he's not in the audience or up on the stage this year, he's still here with us," Bloomquist said.

The poetry expo, now in its sixth year, was dedicated to Gomez, who was one of Bloomquist's students.

"He was in my eighth period English class last year, and he was entertaining and challenging," Bloomquist said.

Gomez was a gifted poet, Bloomquist said, and was great at analyzing poetry in class.

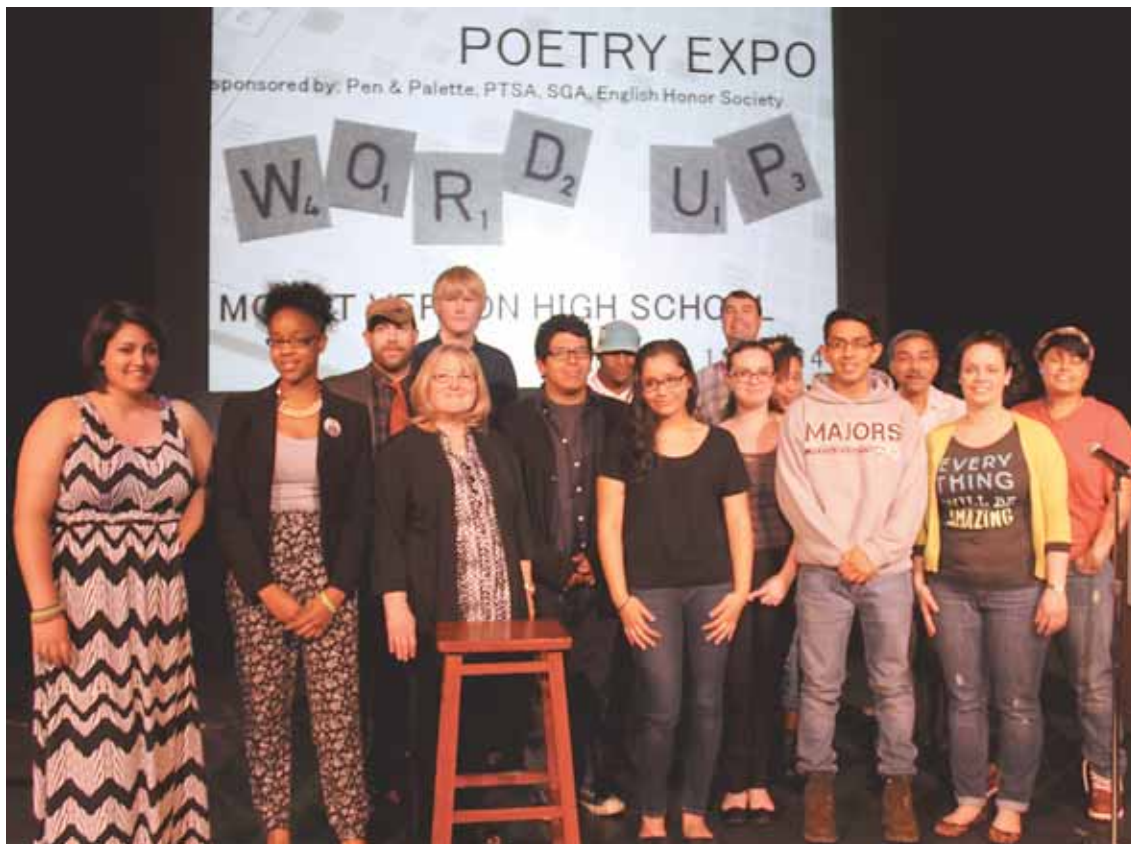


**Junior Lanaya Butler, Mount Vernon's SGA president, tears up as she recites her poem about the loss of her classmate Gerard Gomez at the school's poetry expo on April 11.**

"No matter what poem I put in front of him, he could really figure it out," Bloomquist said.

Lanaya Butler, president of Mount Vernon's Student Government Association, dedicated her poem to Gomez.

SEE MVHS, PAGE 15



The group of student, faculty and guest poets gather together at the sixth annual Mount Vernon Poetry Expo on April 11.

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## News

### Taxes Target Low-income Workers

FROM PAGE 1  
ranked third.

"People of color and low-income people are being pushed farther and farther out," said Jon Liss, founder of Tenants and Workers United. "The whole anti-immigrant backlash from 2006 to the present in Prince William was against the influx of people of color, particularly immigrants, being priced out and taxed out of this area and moving down there."

The study included the average tax burdens for five different income levels, starting at a family that earns \$25,000 a year and ending with a family that earns \$150,000 a year. The families at each income level are assumed to own a single family home, although those in the \$25,000 are assumed to live in rental housing and own a vehicle. The combination of income tax, sales tax and automobile tax hit people at the bottom end of the scale hardest.

"There is no deliberate policy to impose a disproportionate tax burden on the lowest income residents," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center of State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "Rather, it's a lack of state-delegated authority to use other kinds of taxes, which would provide greater options to create a more responsive tax policy in each of these two booming jurisdictions."

**ARLINGTON RANKS** the highest for fami-

lies that earn \$25,000 — a very low income for families who live inside the Beltway. The median household income in Arlington is about \$103,000, which means the study was looking at families who are struggling to make ends meet in a county where most families pull down salaries that are about four times larger. County officials say the tax burden tells only part of the story. Arlington leaders say the county offers a number of significant services to low-income residents, including public education and housing support.

"I believe we are the only Northern Virginia locality still providing housing grants to lower income families and seniors," said Jay Fisette, chairman of the Arlington County Board. "We provide four to five times the level of support to help make housing affordable as do our closest Northern Virginia neighbors."

As people earn more money, the tax burden decreased on Arlington residents. The same is true of people who live in Alexandria, which ranks second overall for people who are at the bottom end of the earnings scale.

Alexandria also has the third highest tax burden among families with a \$50,000 and \$75,000 income level, and the fourth highest tax burden among families with a \$100,000 or \$150,000 income level. Residents in the District of Columbia have the

SEE TAX BURDEN, PAGE 8

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# BULLETIN

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

## TUESDAY/APRIL 18

**Genealogical Society Meeting.** 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, room 112, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Mount Vernon Genealogical Society meeting will feature a presentation entitled "Experiences of a Young Waist Gunner in WW II" by Ray Bailey. What was it like for an 18-year-old high school graduate from a small Ohio town to go off to war, fight the Germans and survive his plane "going down?" Visit [www.MVGenealogy.org](http://www.MVGenealogy.org). Questions about the program should be directed to Karen Jenkins at 703-866-2478 or [publicity@mvgenealogy.org](mailto:publicity@mvgenealogy.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 19

**Boater Education Course.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 8592 Richmond Highway. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a course that meets the boating education requirements of all states. Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia require completion of an approved course to legally operate a motor boat. Contact Rich Miller at [eaglesailor75@cox.net](mailto:eaglesailor75@cox.net) or 703-780-3765.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 22

**Community Information Session.** 10:30 a.m. at the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Overview of Mount Vernon, including membership and volunteer opportunities. RSVP to 703-303-4060 or [info@mountvernonathome.org](mailto:info@mountvernonathome.org).

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23

**Chamber of Commerce Anniversary.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Belle  
SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 14

## OBITUARY

### David Allan Buffmire

David Allan Buffmire, 59, of Kents Store, Va. died April 6, 2014 at Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville of complications from pneumonia and cancer. David grew up in Hollin Hills and graduated from Groveton High School in Mount Vernon. He went on to become well known as a builder, cabinet-maker and accomplished musician before relocating to Fluvanna County, Va. in February 2002. There he continued cabinet making, building and flying model airplane gliders, playing in a band and raising his dogs.

David is survived by his wife of 30 years, Vicki; stepson Michael Crowe and grandchildren, Maya, Michael and Payton Crowe.

A memorial service will be held at Hill and Wood Funeral Home in Charlottesville, May 3, 2014 at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in David Buffmire's name to the Fender Music Foundation ([www.fendermusicfoundation.org](http://www.fendermusicfoundation.org)) or the American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)).

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## Easter at Bethany Lutheran

**Sunday, April 20**

7:00 a.m.... Sunrise Worship at Mt. Comfort Cemetery (6600 S. Kings Highway)  
Our 60th year!  
Guest Preacher:  
The Rev. Karl K. Schmidt

8:24 and 10:54 a.m. ... Music of the Resurrection  
8:30 and 11:00 a.m. ... Festival Worship

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**703-765-8255 • [www.bethany-lcms.org](http://www.bethany-lcms.org)**



## Good Shepherd Catholic Church

**Mass Schedule**

**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

**Weekday & Saturday Mornings:** 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)

**Thursday & First Friday of the Month:**  
7:30 pm Mass en Español

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309  
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 [www.gs-cc.org](http://www.gs-cc.org)

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**The Lutheran Churches of the Mount Vernon Area invite you to our Holy Week and Easter Worship Services**

**HOLY WEEK**  
Maundy Thursday, April 17 – 7:30 p.m. at Epiphany Lutheran Church  
Good Friday, April 18 – 7:30 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church

**EASTER SUNDAY • April 20**  
Sunrise Service – 6 a.m. at Epiphany Lutheran Church  
Easter Service (Traditional) – 10 a.m. at Nativity Lutheran Church  
Easter Service (Family) – 10 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church

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6510 Fort Hunt Rd  
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[www.nativitylutheran.org](http://www.nativitylutheran.org)

Epiphany Lutheran Church  
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# Tax Burden Targets Low-Income in Northern Virginia

FROM PAGE 6

lowest tax burden in all five of the income brackets.

"Talk to people in D.C., and they wish they had better services — EMS service, for instance, better police response times, more recreation centers," said Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille. "So it's what you invest in and reinvest in in terms of providing outreach and services to your taxpayers."

**VIRGINIA HAS** a reputation as a low-tax state, so the relatively high tax burden on low-income people is counter-intuitive. For example, the Washington-based Tax Foundation ranks Virginia as the 25th lowest among states levying an individual income tax. When the organization looked at state and local income tax collections, though, it ranked Virginia as the 11th highest nationally.

"We reside in a low-tax state," said Shafroth. "So there is both a greater burden on local governments to raise taxes than in Maryland, but limited state authority on what kinds of taxes may be levied."

Among the Northern Virginia jurisdictions that were part of the D.C. government study on tax burdens, Fairfax County had the lowest tax burden in all income brackets.

That means that Arlington and Alexandria impose a greater tax burden on their residents than in Fairfax County. But as families earn more money, the tax burden decreases in Fairfax County.

"Saying that Fairfax has a lower tax burden than Arlington is like saying that Mount McKinley is not as high as Mount Everest," said Arthur Purves, president of the Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance. "Fairfax County's tax burden and spending is still way too high."

MAJOR STATE AND LOCAL TAX BURDENS FOR A FAMILY OF THREE RESIDING IN SELECTED WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA JURISDICTIONS  
CALENDAR YEAR 2012

TAX	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY	ALEXANDRIA	ARLINGTON COUNTY	FAIRFAX COUNTY
<b>\$25,000 INCOME LEVEL</b>						
Income	(319) 1/	(172) 1/	(172) 1/	144	144	144
Real Estate	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095	2,095
Sales and Use	721	554	558	661	657	592
Automobile	213	394	456	428	503	212
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>2,871</b>	<b>2,937</b>	<b>3,328</b>	<b>3,399</b>	<b>3,043</b>
<b>RANK</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>\$50,000 INCOME LEVEL</b>						
Income	1,179	1,349	1,301	1,123	1,130	1,103
Real Estate	1,197	1,739	2,229	2,079	1,969	2,239
Sales and Use	945	731	743	801	797	710
Automobile	257	502	584	554	697	264
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,579</b>	<b>4,321</b>	<b>4,857</b>	<b>4,557</b>	<b>4,593</b>	<b>4,316</b>
<b>RANK</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>\$75,000 INCOME LEVEL</b>						
Income	2,410	2,540	2,807	2,200	2,210	2,181
Real Estate	2,082	2,609	3,343	3,118	2,953	3,359
Sales and Use	1,434	1,138	1,159	1,244	1,236	1,095
Automobile	458	931	1,096	1,035	1,320	810
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,384</b>	<b>7,219</b>	<b>8,406</b>	<b>7,597</b>	<b>7,719</b>	<b>7,445</b>
<b>RANK</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>\$100,000 INCOME LEVEL</b>						
Income	4,157	4,518	4,426	3,393	3,389	3,352
Real Estate	2,968	3,479	4,458	4,158	3,937	4,479
Sales and Use	1,589	1,255	1,277	1,351	1,343	1,184
Automobile	551	1,012	1,178	1,087	1,377	825
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,265</b>	<b>10,263</b>	<b>11,339</b>	<b>9,989</b>	<b>10,046</b>	<b>9,840</b>
<b>RANK</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>\$150,000 INCOME LEVEL</b>						
Income	7,534	8,027	7,888	5,624	5,595	5,553
Real Estate	4,738	5,218	6,687	6,237	5,906	6,718
Sales and Use	2,340	1,889	1,925	1,968	1,949	1,719
Automobile	543	1,405	1,702	1,692	2,517	1,433
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,155</b>	<b>16,539</b>	<b>18,201</b>	<b>15,521</b>	<b>15,967</b>	<b>15,423</b>
<b>RANK</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

1/ Negative numbers result from a refundable Earned Income Tax Credit.

## 50th Reunion

Mount Vernon  
High School  
Class of 1965

[www.mountvernonhigh1965.com](http://www.mountvernonhigh1965.com)

## PHOTO GALLERY!

### "Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Mount Vernon Gazette will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to: [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

Or to mail photo prints, send to:  
The Mount Vernon Gazette,  
"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"  
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

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**Old Town** \$1,095,000  
610 Queen Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Circa 1810, this lovely 4BR/2.5BA free-standing home offers easy 2-level living in the heart of Old Town. Original floors, fireplace, 26 windows & a fabulous walled courtyard.  
Donnán C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



**Collingwood Springs** \$955,000  
8212 Collingwood Court, Alexandria, VA 22308  
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac, this beautiful 4BR/3.5BA colonial offers 3,700 sq. ft. of luxury living. Fabulous 1st FL FR w/FP, fully finished lower level + 2 car garage.  
Donnán C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



NEW LISTING



**Old Town** \$895,000  
1106 North Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Lovely four level 4BR/4BA brick townhome overlooking tranquil courtyard. Many special features including 2 fps, updated kitchen + garage!  
Donnán C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



NEW LISTING



**Manors at Mt Vernon** \$899,000  
2408 Lakeshire Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308  
Just Listed! Pristine center hall colonial w/4BR/3.5BA, finished basement, 2 car garage, gourmet kitchen, new carpet, Pella windows and more. At the end of the cul de sac!  
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



NEW LISTING



**Old Town** \$749,000  
956 Washington Street N, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Bright, light townhome in the heart of Old Town with 3BR/3.5BA, 3 levels and 2 parking spaces. Everything you could want to live the Old Town Life!  
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



NEW LISTING



**Rosemont Park** \$659,000  
108 East Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Adorable 2BR/2BA cape with screened in porch, large flat back yard and driveway. Walk to Braddock Road metro, OT, Del Ray  
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



NEW LISTING



**George Washington Park** \$850,000  
703 Braxton Place, Alexandria, VA 22301  
Gracious colonial with large addition offers 4-5BR/4BA, 3 fireplaces, in-law suite, mature fully fenced garden, off street parking and walk to Metro rail. Great space.  
Betsy Bradford 703-967-9979



**Old Town** \$849,900  
206 N. Pitt Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Pristine end brick Circa 1800 rowhouse. Steeped in history, offering 2BR+Library/GuestBR, 2.5 updated Baths & updated KIT w/Breakfast Bar & separate DR.  
Jolee Rubin 703-548-0697



NEW LISTING



**Waynewood** \$654,900  
8510 Cyrus Place, Alexandria, VA 22308  
4BR/2.5BA. 4 finished levels. Large backyard with multi-level deck and 2 sheds. Walking distance to the pool, elementary and middle schools.  
Tracy Vitali 703-682-5448



NEW LISTING



**Carlyle Towers** \$415,000  
2151 Jamieson Avenue 1411, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Terrific 1BR/1.5BA w/ galley kit, granite, eat in breakfast area w/ access to enclosed balcony. New w/d. Main level gar space. Go to www.CarlyleTowers1411.com for photos.  
Marie Louise Meyer 703-929-1002



NEW LISTING



**Carlyle Towers** \$385,000  
2151 Jamieson Avenue 803, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Nice sized one bedroom w/ glass enclosed balcony! ESIC with window. Large fan-shaped LR, dining area and large BA. Gar space & Storage. Go to www.CarlyleTowers803.com for photos!  
Marie Louise Meyer 703-929-1002



NEW LISTING



**Bucknell Heights** \$399,500  
2437 Temple Court, Alexandria, VA 22307  
Pristine Bucknell Heights beauty w/ large Master Suite addition. Fully renovated rare large 4BR home with basement rec room or mother-in-law suite, gleaming hardwoods.  
Ellis Duncan 703-307-4295

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# OPINION

## Celebrate Earth Day

Get outside with your family, participate in group activities, or just walk in your favorite park.

**E**arth Day is April 22, observed April 19-27 and beyond. Fairfax County offers many useful and educational ways to enjoy the day. Don't miss the chance to get outside, observe the developing spring weather, flora and fauna. Here are some of the opportunities:

**Environmental Film Festival**, Sunday, April 20 through Thursday, April 24, Cinema Arts Theatres: 9650-14 Main Street, Fairfax. Each day, networking will begin at 3:30 p.m. and films begin at 4 p.m. The public is welcome to join in discussion on film topics and how they relate to Fairfax County. Students throughout the County have been encouraged to submit 2-5 minute films which will be shown throughout the Festival in between feature films and will be rebroadcast on Cox Communications local Channel 74 following the Festival. Environmental nonprofit organizations like the Audubon Society, Lands and Waters, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District will be at Cinema Arts for the daily networking sessions at 3:30 p.m.

[http://www.fcrpp3.org/wp-content/uploads/green\\_inspirations.pdf](http://www.fcrpp3.org/wp-content/uploads/green_inspirations.pdf)

**Cub Run RECenter for Earth Day**, Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m.-noon, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly: "Nike Reuse-a-Shoe Program," bring old, worn-out athletic shoes to Earth Day. Nike Reuse-a-Shoe will grind them down to create a new material called Nike Grind which is used to make sports courts, turf fields, tracks and more. Activities include: planting, weeding, mulching, watershed clean-up, crafts for kids and bring questions for Master Gardeners. What to bring: water bottle, sunscreen, hat, garden gloves and bug repellent. Age: 5 - adult (ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

**Springfest**, April 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton:

pony rides, plant sales, climbing wall, bounce house, petting zoo, face painting, two shows by Billy B, Reptiles Alive!, Under The Sea. 9-11 a.m. Stream Cleanup and Tree Planting with Occoquan Regional Park. Donate toothpaste, toothbrushes, cereal and rice to Lorton Community Action.

**Invasive Management Area** Volunteer Program is a community-based project designed to reduce invasive plants on our parklands. This volunteer-led program gives residents an opportunity to protect plants and wildlife of Fairfax County's forests while spending time outdoors, meeting new people and restoring natural habitats. Key components of this program are habitat restoration and a long-term commitment to the park. Many workdays planned during Earth Week, April 19-26, including in Vienna, McLean, Springfield and Burke. Virginia's Annual Invasive Plant Removal Day is May 3. To sign up, contact IMA Coordinator Erin Stocksclaeder at 703-324-8681

**Fairfax County Biological Stream Monitoring:** Aquatic forms of insects (called "benthic macroinvertebrates") live on the bottom of rocks and debris lying in the streambed. These small organisms play a big role in helping Fairfax County staff monitor the health of a stream.

Data collected by volunteers is incorporated into a number of different water quality reports, including the Stream Protection Strategy Baseline Study. Join the hundreds of existing volunteers in collecting this important information and make a difference in the health of Fairfax County's streams! If you are interested in becoming a monitor, email the coordinator or call 703-324-1422, TTY 711.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**, April 26, Reston South Park & Ride Lot, 2531 Reston Parkway, Reston. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/>

### EDITORIALS

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Many Changes In Compromise

To the Editor:

The April 10 article ["Commission Approves EnviroSolutions Application," Mount Vernon Gazette] on the Planning Commission's vote to recommend approval of the EnviroSolutions proposal to continue construction debris landfill operations and create a green energy park offers a confusing inconsistency. The president of the South County Federation states that ESI was inflexible and not interested in any compromise during recent meetings of a compromise group. Yet, the facts show that ESI significantly changed their proposal after the meetings with SCF to shorten the extension period by six years (27 percent) and reduce the currently approved height to reduce the visual impact of the landfill. The only point on which ESI was "inflexible" was on their commitment to install the green energy park and to close their reclamation facility thus keeping heavy trucks from the neighborhood roads.

Even Commissioner Flanagan, as quoted in your article, noted that the testimony of the community had resulted in "changes to the application."

SCF's offer to extend the operations of the landfill for only four years would have killed the green energy park, put trucks on South County neighborhood roads and cost the community over \$13M in funding for ball parks, recreational uses and other community needs. When it comes to who is being "flexible" in this process, I think the actions of ESI speak louder than SCF's words.

Further, I wish to note that the 50 speakers referenced by Commissioner Flanagan included many residents who spoke in favor of the application.

**Jon Taylor**  
Lorton

## Restripping Sherwood Hall Lane

To the Editor:

[disphhw.htm](http://disphhw.htm)

**Electric Sunday**, April 27 and May 18, I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax 22030: Fairfax County residents can recycle televisions, computers and peripheral devices — including keyboards, speakers, printers, external drives and other such materials — and unbroken fluorescent light bulbs and tubes on Electric Sundays. There is no charge for Fairfax County residents to participate in Electric Sunday; however, you may be required to show proof of residency.

**Help Create A Bee-Friendly Landscape, seedling sale:** The trees and shrubs in this year's seedling sale will help provide habitat for bees and add beauty to your landscape. The 2014 Shrub and Small Tree Package includes 10 seedlings for \$16.95. The Tree Package includes six seedlings sold for \$11.95. A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by Monday, April 28. Orders may be picked up on Friday, May 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., or Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-noon. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>

## Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11, 2014, and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children.

Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.) You can upload photos and information directly to our website at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/) or email to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

I would like to remind the people who live on Sherwood Hall Lane that this road is our road not just theirs. By our, I mean the hundreds of people from Beacon Hill south to almost Mount Vernon. Sherwood Hall Lane is the only way for all of the people who live east of Route 1 to get to Route 1.

Many of us have purchased homes that are on cul-de-sacs and are neighborhood roads. The county does a great job of making sure there is a vote by everybody using the neighborhood roads if a change is suggested. This was just done for Mason Hill Road. If you bought a home on this busy street this was your choice.

You do not have the right to change this road for your own desires. This is like people who purchase homes under an airport landing zone then complain about the jet noise.

I would suggest that the 350 tickets issued to residents for passing on the right in three months is strong data that shows left turn lanes are needed. Every day three of us citizens are

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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

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**WELLINGTON** \$3,295,000 | [ttrsir.com/id/FX8250809](http://ttrsir.com/id/FX8250809)  
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**WELLINGTON** \$2,950,000 | [7715Northdown.com](http://7715Northdown.com)  
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**BELLE HAVEN** \$1,595,000 | [ttrsir.com/id/FX8318533](http://ttrsir.com/id/FX8318533)  
Renovated 7BR, 5.5BA colonial with formal rooms, chef's kitchen, nanny suite, spacious rec room with wet bar and FP, Wine cellar, garage, patio overlooking wooded vista.  
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**BELLE HAVEN** \$1,549,000 | [2202woodmont.com](http://2202woodmont.com)  
This handsome 5 BR 4.5 BA exudes prestige. Ideally sited on a cul-de-sac, this Belle Haven home offers a 2-car garage, 4 fireplaces, hardwood floors, full walk-out lower level, and a bright open floor plan.  
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**JEFFERSON PARK** \$995,000 | [609Malcolm.com](http://609Malcolm.com)  
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**WAYNEWOOD** \$969,000 | [8810Fircrest.com](http://8810Fircrest.com)  
This stunning home in sought after Waynewood offers 5 BR, 4 BA, upgraded chef's kitchen and bathrooms, gorgeous sunroom, spacious backyard with patio and a fully remodeled lower level complete with wet bar.  
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**OLD TOWN** \$859,900 | [ttrsir.com/id/AX7891472](http://ttrsir.com/id/AX7891472)  
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**RIVERSIDE GARDENS** \$659,000  
[ttrsir.com/id/FX8308291](http://ttrsir.com/id/FX8308291)  
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Unique Opportunity!  
4200 Ferry Landing Rd  
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This gorgeous 4BR Colonial is in impeccable condition, located on large lot & is loaded with upgrades. Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Fabulous features: main level study & family room, large updated kitchen, breakfast



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\* Soaring cathedral ceilings \* Main level master suite \* Glass walls capture nautical views \* Bulkhead, private dock with power lift  
\* Set sail for Potomac, Chesapeake Bay & beyond from your dock \* 4000 Sq ft Contemporary home \* Extensive exterior decking  
\* Spacious contemporary home with private pier for price of waterfront lot alone



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Absolutely nothing comparable for under \$1 Million. Just completed luxury home designed on the "Great

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**4413 Ferry Landing Rd**  
**\$549,000**  
**Yacht Haven Gem!**

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**9309 Reef Ct**  
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Exceptionally attractive property on magnificent half acre grounds fronting quiet cul-de-sac in one of area's premier neighborhoods. Special features include: 3 level, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, family room with fireplace off kitchen, gorgeous stained hardwood floors, economical gas heat and hot water, and oversize 2 car garage. Major upgrades include thermal windows and glass doors. Unique opportunity!



**4505 Tarpon Ln**  
**\$575,000**  
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Assistant Manager  
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[dianna.campagna@LNF.com](mailto:dianna.campagna@LNF.com)

**Steve Kindrick**  
Instructor  
703-683-0400 (office)  
[steve.kindrick@LNF.com](mailto:steve.kindrick@LNF.com)

\*\*\*Classes begin on Saturday, April 19th and end on Saturday, May 17th. They will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm - 10:00pm and on Saturdays, 9:00am - 5:00pm during the day.

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**Julia Martin 703.850.5543**



**\$ 850,000**  
**Alexandria / Porto Vecchio**  
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The view is absolutely breathtaking from this 2BR/Den residence with a private location on the 7th floor. Walls of window, wonderful light, and generous sized rooms makes the transition from single family to one level living a breeze. A must see property! Only three like it in the building!



**Pat Tierney 703.850.5630**  
**Mary Taylor 703.785.5619**



**\$ 419,300**  
**Alexandria South**  
**"MT VERNON / WOODLAWN"**

This sun-filled townhouse has everything you could want... quiet location, light and bright floor plan, wood floors on main level, upgraded carpet, plantation shutters, chef's kitchen with granite counters and island, family / breakfast room with 3-sided fireplace off kitchen, deck for outdoor entertaining, 2-person soaking tub and dual sinks in master bath plus more! Located 1 mile to Ft. Belvoir.



**Mike Lekas 703.927.9895**



**\$ 739,900**  
**Alex. / Waynewood**  
**"JUST LISTED"**

Location! Large, renovated and move-in ready home across from the park, walk to school, GW Parkway hike/bike path and The Potomac River. 5 level "Mayfield" model with sunroom, open main level, huge kitchen/dining room combo with island, new granite counters and appliances. 4 spacious bedrooms, finished basement family room + large storage room/workshop/gym. New windows and more! 4BR/2.5BA



**D'Antonio Realty Group**  
[www.homesfromanita.com](http://www.homesfromanita.com)  
**Anita Vida D'Antonio 202.460.1809**



**\$ 419,900**  
**Alexandria South**  
**"NEW LISTING"**

Tranquil wooded setting on non-thru street. Large "COLUMBINE" end unit with wooded views from 2 sides. Many quality updates done by owners. Over 2,300 sq ft with 3 levels, 3-4BR/3.5BA. Deck and patio backs to woods. Eat-in kitchen with large walk-in pantry, separate dining room. 2 assigned parking spaces. Easy commute via bus, Metro rail or drive. Near Old Town Alexandria.



**Louise Devers 703.795.9944**



**\$ 619,000**  
**Alexandria / Mt Vernon**  
**"OPPORTUNITY"**

Classic Colonial in sought after Westgate. Formal living room, separate dining room, family room, eat-in kitchen and screened porch all on main level. Hardwood. 3 fireplaces. 2-car garage. Finished walk-up basement. Cul-de-sac. Affordable price to anticipate your updates.



**Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343**



**\$ 249,000**  
**Alex. / Belle View**  
**"MOVE-IN READY"**

Sunlit, top-floor 2BR/1BA unit with a stunning and fully remodeled bathroom with marble floors. Kitchen has granite counters and SSA. Unique office nook/closet. Laundry and storage in building. Enjoy outdoor pool, basketball & tennis courts, and tot/lots. Short walk to shopping center, hike/bike path and the Potomac River. Minutes to Metro, Old Town, Airport, DC and 495.



**Christine Vanderhyde 703.309.2829**



**\$ 519,900**  
**Alexandria South**  
**"NEW ON THE MARKET"**

Longtime owner has lovingly cared for and updated this 2 - level Holin Hall rambler. Hardwood. 2 updated baths. Granite. 2 fireplaces. Deck. Thermal pane windows. Garage. Cul-de-sac. Waynewood Elementary School.



**Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343**



**\$ 419,000**  
**Alexandria**  
**"WALK TO METRO"**

Just minutes to Old Town, GW Pkwy, and 495. This townhome is move-in ready with 3 finished levels, new master and LL baths. Freshly painted and brand new carpet. Wood floors in dining room and kitchen. Bright LL walks out to deck/fenced yard. Cul-de-sac and reserved parking right out front. Private neighborhood with no thru traffic. Park and playground across the street.



**Val Klotz 703.303.9744**



**\$ 450,000**  
**Alex. / Montebello**  
**"INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY"**

A very special, well-appointed spacious 3BR/2BA condo. With no detail overlooked, from hardwoods, upgraded berber carpet, ceramic tile, granite counters to maple cabinets, lighting fixtures, new doors, wood blinds and new hardware. Long term tenants - lease expires May 2016.



[www.novapropertyshop.com](http://www.novapropertyshop.com)  
**Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913**  
**Susan Houghton 703.470.4545**



**\$ 637,500**  
**Alex. / Waynewood**  
**New Listing in Waynewood!**

An addition and many improvements make this a terrific buy! With a redone kitchen and baths, replaced systems, 4BR and a wonderful sunroom, this home offers space, convenience and is a short distance from Waynewood ES.



**Leah Chapla 703.929.4875**  
**Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343**



**\$ 519,000**  
**Alexandria South**  
**"LARGER THAN IT LOOKS"**

This large 4BR / 2.5BA Collingwood home with a solarium addition will delight nature lovers! The lush garden provides views of nature and greenery from every window. Skylight, bay windows, warm hardwoods, separate DR. Freshly painted, replacement windows. Lower level family room with fireplace. Rec room addition. Fenced yard with patio and storage shed. New roof. Meticulously maintained.



**Martha Deal 703.622.6797**

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**This notification is to inform  
the general public that  
**Dawson Dry Cleaners**  
located at  
**6410 Richmond Highway,  
Alexandria, VA will be closing  
at the end of April 2014.****

**If you have any items left at the store,  
please pick them up within the next 30  
days. We will not be liable for any  
items left longer than 30 days.**

## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10  
ticketed because of the lack of a  
left turn lane on Sherwood Hall  
Lane. To save some parking spaces  
it may be possible to have several  
left turn lanes versus one continu-  
ous left turn lane.

I ride my bike on Sherwood Hall  
Lane at least three times a week  
from Ft. Hunt to Route 1 and have  
never felt like the traffic or parked  
cars were an issue. This is a wide  
road that can accommodate all of  
us. There are two places, one in  
front of the firehouse where the  
lanes are narrow so I ride on the  
sidewalk there but almost never  
encounter anybody walking on the  
sidewalk.

Phil Boughton  
Mount Vernon



PHOTO BY H. JAY SPIEGEL

## Watching

On April 15, an egg was laid in our osprey nest. Gesta-  
tion period is a little over a month. I look forward to  
more eggs being laid in the coming days. Enjoy the  
show at [www.littlehuntingcreek.org/ospreycam.html](http://www.littlehuntingcreek.org/ospreycam.html).  
The accompanying night photo was made possible by  
our camera's infrared capability. — H. Jay Spiegel

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt  
Road. The Mount Vernon-Lee  
Chamber will recognize 60 years of  
contributions to the community, with  
speaker Supervisor Jeff McKay. \$40.  
Visit [www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org](http://www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org) or call 703-360-  
6925.

### THURSDAY/APRIL 24

**Candidate Forum.** 7-9 p.m. at  
Antioch Church of Christ, 1120  
Queen St. Candidate forum for 8th  
Congressional District sponsored by  
Alexandria NAACP. Visit  
[www.fairfaxnaacp.org](http://www.fairfaxnaacp.org).

### SATURDAY/APRIL 26

**Garden Art Presentation.** 2 p.m. at  
the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501  
Sherwood Hall Lane. The Fairfax  
County Master Gardeners Association  
will present about garden art,  
ornaments and kitsch. Call 703-765-  
3645.

**JACKI SORENSEN'S FITNESS CLASSES**

**JACKI SORENSEN'S FITNESS CLASSES**

Jacki Sorensen's Aerobic Dance  
Spring Session starts:  
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For information,  
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*Dancing in the Rain at Jacki's*

**SPRINGfest**  
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Saturday, April 26  
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## News

**Junior Amy Santiago reads her poem at sixth annual Mount Vernon Poetry Expo on April 11.**



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

# MVHS Hosts Annual Poetry Expo

FROM PAGE 5

"He was a really good friend of mine," Butler said.

Butler said writing poetry has helped her deal with her loss, even though she is still struggling to accept that her close friend is gone. She said for a while, she just tried to pretend he was on vacation.

"The first time I recited it today, I cried," Butler said.

Butler's poem talked about how she felt on Sept. 15, 2013 when she found out Gomez died. She's been working on the poem for months.

The students are still feeling the loss, Bloomquist said, but many are able to use

poetry as an expression of their grief.

Faculty members also shared poems at the expo.

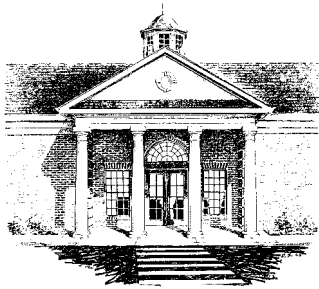
Bloomquist wrote a poem about what brought her to Mount Vernon, called "She Knew."

"I'm obsessed with school and I'm obsessed with Mount Vernon. I love this place," she said.

Guest poets included Simone Owens, Rei Berroa, Michael Gaut, Beth Huddleston, Jasmine Rodriguez, Mount Vernon High School graduate Destin Hockaday, and Charles Sabatier, the former science department chair at Mount Vernon.

"I just love spoken word," said Jasmine Rodriguez, one of the guest poets.

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**Mount Vernon Gazette**



## Traumatic brain injury.

## Not the opponent Connor was expecting.

Two years ago a simple game of catch ended with a trip to the emergency room. A baseball had struck Connor above the eyebrow and blood was pooling dangerously between his brain and skull. Watch how our experts responded at [JustRightForChildren.com/Connor](http://JustRightForChildren.com/Connor).

**“You gotta be prepared for any kind of shot hit your way.”**

Connor McCormick  
Future tennis phenom





# Challenging a Child's Mind Through Reading

Experts say reading is critical to cognitive and emotional development.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE GAZETTE

**A**rlington mother Holly Karapetkova reserves time for reading in the schedules of her two young children. It has become such an important part of their daily routine that it is a treasured family activity. It is also vital to her children's development says Karapetkova.

"Reading is an extremely complex mental activity that engages a child's — or adult's — brain much more intensively than television or video games," said Karapetkova, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Literature at Marymount University in Arlington. "When you read, you employ higher-order cognitive skills. You learn to imagine things that you have not yourself experienced."

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT** and literature experts say that reading helps children develop imagination skills and an ability to learn and think in new ways. It also boosts emotional development.

"You learn to empathize with others, and so you are able to grow emotionally as well," said Karapetkova. "Critical thinking, imagination, and empathy are all qualities that are essential to our nature as human beings, and essential to our success in the world."

Fred Bemak, Ed.D., Professor and Academic Program Coordinator, College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University, says that even a few minutes each day can have a significant influence. "Reading to a child 20 minutes a day will increase their ability to read and think above grade level," he said. "That is just a matter of sitting with a child and reading with them, but it has a such profound influence."

A lack of reading time also

makes an impact on children. "When a child doesn't have access to books or when a parent doesn't have knowledge about reading to a child, that is where we see an achievement gap," said Bemak.

Mary Catherine Coleman, Lower School Librarian and JK-12 Library Department Chair at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, said reading offers children a broad view of the world. "I think, and research shows, reading helps to develop children's thinking because it helps to develop a background knowledge about the world," she said. "Reading also helps children to see the world from a different perspective, helping children develop an understanding, empathy and compassion for others and the world. It challenges children to look at events, people and things in a different way."

"When it comes to imagination, books challenge children to create a movie in their minds," said Coleman. "They need to imagine a world, characters and experiences that they are not familiar with."

"Reading challenges children to move beyond what they see in front of them," said

**"Reading to a child 20 minutes a day will increase their ability to read and think above grade level. That is just a matter of sitting with a child and reading with them, but it has a such profound influence."**

— Fred Bemak, Ed.D., George Mason University



PHOTO BY KATIE PEEBLES

**Marymount University professor Holly Karapetkova reads with her 4-year-old daughter. Experts say that reading is a complex mental activity that engages a child's brain more intensively than watching television or playing video games.**

Coleman. "It also teaches children how to be storytellers, how to share experiences and fosters creativity."

Karapetkova said that reading is more open-ended than other media and challenges a child's cognitive abilities. "When you read, even when they are pictures, your brain has to do a great deal of work to process information and piece the story together," she says. "In a movie or video game, everything is predetermined and spelled out for you, and there's a lot less room left to the imagination to make leaps and discover things on its own."

Karapetkova has experienced this in her own life. "I have found with my older child that one book often leads to another," she said. "We might read something that piques his interest and sends him back to the li-

## Book Suggestions

### THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE:

"Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library"  
by Chris Grabenstein  
"Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy"  
by Karen Foxlee  
"Capture the Flag"  
by Kate Messner

### FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE:

"Doll Bones"  
by Holly Black  
"Under the Egg"  
by Laura Marx Fitzgerald  
"Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin"  
by Liesl Shurtliff

brary for more information, and the information he can find in the library is seemingly endless."

The same is not true with television or video games. "When he watches a film or plays a video game, he never says to me, 'I want to find out more about organisms deep under the sea because that's where Spongebob lives,'" said Karapetkova. "But when he reads a book, he asks questions and his curiosity and imagination open up."

Michael Moynihan, Upper School Head, The Heights School in Potomac, Md., believes in eschewing some electronic media and promoting "a renewed culture of reading...[and] conversation".

**SO WHICH BOOKS** do experts recommend? "Really, anything you and your children enjoy reading together will do the trick," said Karapetkova. "My children are several years apart. My daughter is 4 and my son is 9, and I have been amazed by how much each enjoys the books I pick out together for the other. I'll sit down with my daughter to read 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' or another picture book and my son will stop whatever he is doing to join us."

"And my daughter also enjoys listening to what my son and I are reading aloud together," said Karapetkova. "We've been reading a variety of books this year, including things like Harry Potter and C.S. Lewis, and she listens and grasps part of what is happening. So their interest in each other's books reminds me that children can be drawn to and learn from a great range of books."

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Booster Club Officers.** Sports parents from Mount Vernon High School are needed to become officers after May turnover. The booster club has numerous activities and projects that directly help sports programs. Current projects need volunteers as well. Contact Bob Maxey at 703-619-3141 or [rdmaxey@fcps.edu](mailto:rdmaxey@fcps.edu).

The following students were recognized as members of the dean's list for the fall semester at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg: **Heather Evans**, a junior, for her music; and **Erin Rheinheimer**, a junior, for art.

James Madison University student **Richard Baier** recently participated in LeadershipU, a one-day conference that helps to equip student leaders with skills to prepare them to better lead their organizations. Baier, a junior engineering major, participated in the conference held Feb. 1.

Davis & Elkins College student **Carly Sable** directed "A Pretty Trap" in the Division of Fine and Performing Arts Winter One-Acts production. Sable is the daughter of Carolyn Sable of Alexandria.

**Mount Vernon High School** is one of seven schools nationwide to be named a winner of a Grammy 2014 Signature School Enterprise Award, worth

\$5,500, designed to support students in economically underserved schools. Mount Vernon High was recognized for its efforts to combine the needs of general education students with special education students. Music therapy teacher Irv Kalugdan, who applied for the grant with music teacher Judi Belzer and two music therapy interns, said he incorporates community-based music therapy models that address the needs of his students as well as the needs of the community. The choir and music therapy programs have collaborated in the past on projects and individual cases that had the potential to benefit from both a performance- or product-oriented approach as well as a therapeutic or process-oriented approach.

Working in tandem, Kalugdan and

Belzer hope to launch Mount Vernon's music label project that would bring the performing arts programs into an accessible digital platform. Students, staff members, and members of the community could be recorded, produced, and promoted by the label in hopes of developing a sustainable entertainment resource combining FCPS fine and performing arts programs with the needs of the community. The schoolwide community would have access to the music label project's activities either as a live or online audience and could use the label as a resource to podcast or archive their guest speakers. The label could also help provide video lesson plans for students who are homebound or hospitalized. Kalugdan hopes that students and staff members can be trained to use

the software designated for the project, potentially leading to the implementation of telepresence devices for students on extended medical absences. He adds that collaboration with students in business, marketing, work awareness and transition, art therapy, photography, and computer graphics is a possibility in the future.

Sandburg Middle student **Falak Rafi** has been named the first place winner of the Reagan Washington National Airport energy conservation poster contest. The seventh grade student's winning poster will be displayed at the airport. The contest is held annually to encourage employees to save energy whenever possible.

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 20



# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

**Art Exhibit.** See “REVOLUTION: Art and Technology” art exhibit through April 27 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists explore their relationship with technology in computer-created art, digitally manipulated art, art made from electronic parts, mixed-media pieces expressing feelings about technology, and more. Hours are Thursdays noon-6 p.m.; Friday & Saturday noon-9 p.m.; Sunday noon-6 p.m. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for more.

**Sculpture Exhibit.** Through Sunday, April 27 at Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, located in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. See Edmond Nassa’s “Innermost Evocations.” His website <http://edmondnassa.com/> showcases some of his work. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during performances. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html).

**Art Exhibit.** May 2-June 8 at the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Meditations on the Boundless, an exhibit of acrylic paintings on yupo paper by Arlington artist Kimberly DiNatale. Opening reception Saturday, May 3, 4-6 p.m. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Visit [www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html).

**Art Exhibit.** See “LOULOU DI Flower/To Flower” at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The exhibit explores the natural process of flowering and its metaphorical context through object making and installation. Free. The exhibit runs through May 4. Call 703-548-0035 or visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Art Exhibit.** “Words and Letters” May 8-June 22 in the Athenaeum gallery, 201 Prince St. This multimedia show from regional artists uses text as a component of visual art. Opening reception Sunday, May 11, 4-6 p.m. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org).

**Art Exhibit.** “Sound of Butterfly,” a solo exhibition of new work by Soomin Ham, a photographer and multimedia artist. Through May 11 at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Studio 312, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. except Thursdays, 1-9 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

**Photography Exhibit.** “Threesomes,” photography by Maureen Minehan in sets of three standalone images. On display in the Multiple Exposures Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria, May 13-June 22. Open daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m. except Thursday, 2-8 p.m. Opening reception Sunday, June 1, 2-4 p.m.

**Art Exhibit.** See “Spirit of Place: Dyke Marsh,” an exhibition of photography by Anthony Peritore and sculptural works by Megan Peritore through May 18 in the Crossroads Gallery, located in Goodwin House Bailey’s Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St., Falls Church. Free.

**Theatre One-Man Shows.** Through May 25, two shows will be performed in repertory at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. The Thousandth Night by Carol Wolf and starring Marcus Kyd, and Underneath the Lintel by Glen Berger starring Paul Morella will be performed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 or 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets \$50 (students \$25) at 800-494-8497 or

[www.boxofficetickets.com](http://www.boxofficetickets.com). Visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org) for more.

**Children’s Theater.** Arts on the Horizon presents “Sunny and Licorice” at The Lab at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Show is 30 minutes and best for ages 2-5. Performances are 10:30 a.m. May 30, June 4-6 and June 11-13; and 10 and 11:30 a.m. May 31, June 7 and June 14. \$8 tickets, purchase online or at the door. At each show the group will collect non-perishable food and canned good for Community Lodgings. Visit [www.artsonthehorizon.org/sunny-and-licorice](http://www.artsonthehorizon.org/sunny-and-licorice) or call 703-967-0437.

**Attics and Alleys Tour.** Tickets are now on sale for the Attics and Alleys tour, a three-hour walking tour featuring rarely seen spaces of four sites — the Lee-Fendall House, Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and Carlyle House. Tours will be offered Saturdays in May, 9 a.m.-noon. \$35/peron. Reservations required. Visit [shop.alexandriava.gov](http://shop.alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-4242.

**Spy Program at Mount Vernon.** 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through June 1. Learn about spying during the Revolutionary War, including concealment codes, invisible ink and double agents. Self-guided programs with map provided. Free with admission. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/spy](http://www.mountvernon.org/spy).

**Art Exhibit.** “Women Legends of Alexandria: 2007-2013” art exhibit will be on display at Prudential PenFed Realty, 300 N. Washington St., suite 100. The exhibit will showcase portraits from the Living Legends of Alexandria project with selected works from the Del Ray Artisans. Show runs through June 27. Hours are Mondays-Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org) for more.

**Historical Exhibit.** Through August at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. “Sit Down and Take a Stand” commemorates the 1939 library sit-in of five African American men and its mastermind, Samuel Tucker. One of the earliest occasions of individuals using the sit-in as an act of civil disobedience in the modern civil rights movement. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 703-746-4356.

**Doggy Happy Hours.** 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Thursdays during the summer. Free, drinks sold separately. Treats and water for dogs, with pet boutique and service vendors. Portions of proceeds benefit People. Animals. Love. Visit [www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html](http://www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/doggy-happy-hour.html).

**New Exhibit.** Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington’s design for the grounds of his estate, through a new exhibition, “Gardens & Groves: George Washington’s Landscape” at Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington’s landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools, landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Alexandria Cars & Coffee** invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina’s, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every



## ‘Jane Eyre’ Comes to Life in Alexandria

Alexandria City’s George Washington Middle School will present two weekends of theater beginning Friday, April 26. Charlotte Bronte’s magnificent gothic story comes to life on the GW Stage. This adaptation captures the mystery, romanticism, and brooding atmosphere of the novel set in the burnt out remains of Thornfield Hall. Jane Eyre eventually unravels the secrets of this haunted mansion and finds her own sense of peace with her past through honesty, courage, and sacrifice. This is a moving story for all times and all ages.

Graduates from Lyles Crouch, Mount Vernon Community School, Maury Elementary, George Mason and more fill the stage and promise an evening of theater sure to enchant.

Jane Eyre will be performed April 25-26 and May 2-3, Fridays at 7 p.m., Saturdays at 1 and 7 p.m. Seating begins 30 minutes before curtain rises. Tickets \$5, cash and check, no credit cards. Concessions are available.

George Washington Middle School is located at 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Call 703-706-4500.



month. 8:30-11 a.m.

**Songwriter’s Showcase.** Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Features a different Songwriter’s Association of Washington artist each week. Visit [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) for tickets.

**George Washington’s Mount Vernon** has joined Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello and James Madison’s Montpelier to expand the “Presidents Passport,” Virginia’s premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year’s program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria’s “Key to the City” pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Learn more at [PresPassport.Monticello.org](http://PresPassport.Monticello.org).

**Art Exhibit.** See “Sit Down and Take a Stand: Samuel W. Tucker and the

1939 Alexandria Library Sit-In” at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The exhibit focuses on the life of famed civil rights attorney Samuel Wilber Tucker, and highlights the role of Robert Strange, who was a runner between the library and Tucker’s office, keeping Tucker abreast of developments. The exhibit runs through August. Free. 703-746-4356.

## CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Art at the Center** spring classes are now open for registration. The spring session runs April 21-May 30. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) or call 703-201-1250.

**Pre-School Studio.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. June 9-19, Mondays-Thursdays children ages 4-6 attend for explorations of clay, collage, drawing and painting as well as creativity, problem solving, collaboration and fun. Call 703-201-

1250 or visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org).

**Youth Summer Classes.** Beginning Monday, July 7, Metropolitan School of the Arts offers pre-professional summer dance, music theater and acting camps, as well as a wide variety of youth summer camps where students can explore and learn many facets of the performing and visual arts. Visit, [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**Martial Arts Camps.** Potomac Kempo teaches Shaolin Kempo, a blend of Japanese Karate and Chinese Kung Fu. Potomac Kempo’s locations will host a camp “virtual tour” of China July 14-18 at the new Huntington location, 5914 N. Kings Hwy.; and Japan, July 21-25 at the Foxchase location, 4617 Duke St. For children age 5-12. Campers will learn about art, cuisine, history and language. Morning and afternoon sessions or all-day option. Visit [www.potomackempo.com/summer-camp](http://www.potomackempo.com/summer-camp) or call 703-206-8064.



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## ENTERTAINMENT

### Metro Club After-School Program.

Through June, 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](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

**Life Drawing.** Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for a schedule.

**Photography Workshop.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers and enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

**Theater Camp.** Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre will hold sessions starting June 30 to Aug. 22. There are two-week sessions with morning, afternoon or all day sessions, and one-week sessions that go all day. To register, visit [www.mvcct.org](http://www.mvcct.org).

### THURSDAY/APRIL 17

**Model Railroad Club.** 10 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The club presents "Island Railroad Operations in Hawaii, Bermuda and Ireland" with film clips and light refreshments. Free.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Lily Costner opens for Kevin Costner & Modern West. \$39.50. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or 703-549-7500 for tickets. Visit [www.kevincostner.com](http://www.kevincostner.com).

**Band Concert.** 8 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The U.S. Air Force Band plays A Quartet Celebration; Clarinet Quartet vs. Tuba Quartet. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

### FRIDAY/APRIL 18

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 3:30 p.m. at The Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Children 12 or younger are eligible to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt. Older children and adults are welcome to enjoy all other activities.



## Native Plant Sale

Native Plant Sale in Parkfairfax, Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Largest native plant sale in DC Metro Area hosts a record 16 vendors from four states selling native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade in historic Parkfairfax. 3601 Valley Drive, Alexandria. Call 571-232-0375 or visit [www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org](http://www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org).

\$12 for children aged 0-12, \$5 for others. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org).

**Community Dance.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Third Friday with the Mount Vernon Swing Band. Refreshments provided. \$4. Visit [www.hollinhallseniorcenter.org/eventsprograms](http://www.hollinhallseniorcenter.org/eventsprograms).

### SATURDAY/APRIL 19

**Civil War Sesquicentennial Event.** 8 a.m. in the Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road. Grant Takes Command of the Union Army, Battles Lee at The Wilderness, Spotsylvania. Contact [dhakenson@cox.net](mailto:dhakenson@cox.net) or call 703-971-4984.

**Boundary Stone Bike Tour.** 9:15 a.m. at entrance to East Falls Church Metro on Sycamore Street. Leisurely 35-mile tour with many stops. See 12 historic D.C. boundary stones in Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax County along the Mount Vernon, Four Mile Run, Washington and Old Dominion Railroad Bike Trails and area streets with a few long uphill climbs. Canceled if 55 percent or more chance of rain. Bring lunch, water, and any type of bike. \$2, no reservations necessary. Sponsored by Center Hiking Club, visit [www.centerhikingclub.org](http://www.centerhikingclub.org).

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. at The Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco Street. All children of elementary school age or younger (children aged 0-12) are eligible to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt.

Older children and adults are welcome to enjoy all our other activities. Tickets are \$12 for children aged 0-12, and \$5 for all others. Visit [www.leefendallhouse.org](http://www.leefendallhouse.org).

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 11 a.m. at The Fountains at Washington House, 5100 Fillmore Ave. Refreshments at 11 and egg hunt at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome with advanced reservations, 703-845-5000.

**Country-Western Dance.** 6:30-10 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association hosts lessons 6:30-7:30 p.m., dancing 7:30-10 p.m. with DJ. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) or call 703-860-4941.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Liz Longley will open for Johnnyswim. Visit [www.lizlongley.com](http://www.lizlongley.com) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com).

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Cleve Francis and his large band perform country, folk, blues, light rock and jazz. \$42. Tickets at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or 800-745-3000. Visit [www.clevefrancis.com](http://www.clevefrancis.com) for more.

**Swing Concert.** 8 p.m. at Old Town Theatre, 815 1/2 King St. The Natty Beaux. Visit [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) or call

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MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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# ENTERTAINMENT

703-549-1025.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 24

**Spring Book Sale.** 4-8:30 p.m. at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Members only preview, membership at door \$10. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or call 703-746-1702.

**Film Screening.** 6:30 p.m. at Old Town Theatre, 815 1/2 King St. Screening of "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World," with cocktail reception, exhibition of clothing worn on the film set and a pre-screening film discussion. Tickets \$45+, benefiting American Wounded Warriors and British Help for Heroes. To purchase tickets, visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov> or [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com), or call 703-746-4242 or 703-549-1025.

**String Quartet Concert.** 8 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The U.S. Air Force Band chamber players present an evening of music for string quartet, featuring music by Olivier Messiaen. Free. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

## FRIDAY/APRIL 25

**Spring Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Open to general public. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or call 703-746-1702.

**Middle School Play.** 7 p.m. at the George Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. Tickets \$5, cash and check only. Concessions available. Call 703-706-4500.

**Magic Show.** 7:30 p.m., Bishop Ireton High School theater, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Visit <http://magi-whirl.org>.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 26

**Herb and Craft Sale.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Celebrate spring with the Friends of Carlyle House's Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale. Free. Admission for the House tour is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5-12 years old, free for children 4 and under or free with your Alexandria Garden Day ticket. Visit [www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle\\_house\\_historic\\_park](http://www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park) for more.

**Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-noon at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Hollin Hall Senior Center Advisory Council Flea Market, proceeds to benefit programs at the center.

**Bike Collection.** 9 a.m.-noon at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road. Donated, gently used bikes go to people in developing countries through Bikes for the World. \$10 cash donation requested to help defray shipping costs. Visit <http://b4w.org>.

**Parkfairfax Native Plant Sale.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 3601 Valley Drive. Largest native plant sale in area with 16 vendors from four states selling native perennials, shrubs and trees. Call 571-232-0375 or visit [www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org](http://www.ParkfairfaxNativePlantSale.org).

**Raptor Rapture.** 10 a.m.-noon at Belle Haven Park off the George Washington Memorial Parkway, south of Old Town Alexandria. See raptors up close, birds of prey that have been rehabilitated but cannot survive on their own. Call 703-765-5233.

**Spring Book Sale.** 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids

books for less. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or call 703-746-1702.

**Alexandria Earth Day.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. Theme is "Are you an Eco-Citizen?" Event includes an upcycling showcase, featuring Alexandria City Public School students' upcycling fashion creations. Also includes Earth Day tree sale, live animal exhibits, tree planting and live music. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Earthday](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Earthday).

**Alexandria Historic Homes & Garden Tour.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Old Town Alexandria. Celebrating the 81st anniversary of Historic Garden Week. \$35 in advance; \$40 day of; \$20 for single sites. Visit [www.VAGardenWeek.org](http://www.VAGardenWeek.org) or come to the visitors center at 221 King St.

**Interactive Children's Performance.** 11 a.m. at Old Town Theatre, 815 1/2 King St. In "Now This! For Kids," children shout out ideas and the cast turns them into songs, comic sketches and musical fairy tales. Visit [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) or call 703-549-1025.

**Middle School Play.** 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the George Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. Tickets \$5, cash and check only. Concessions available. Call 703-706-4500.

**Firefighting History Walking Tours.** 1-2:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Explore Alexandria's firefighting history through a tour. Learn about three major fires, the five volunteer fire companies and more. For people age 10 and older. \$6/adults; \$4/age 10-17. Reservations required, [www.alexandriava.gov/FriendshipFirehouse](http://www.alexandriava.gov/FriendshipFirehouse) or 703-746-4994.

**Poetry Salon.** 2 p.m. Picture my Words: Poets will share their poetry along with corresponding visual images. Free. Contact [admin@nvfaa.org](mailto:admin@nvfaa.org).

**Awards Gala.** 6-9 p.m. at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club, 8450 Beulah St. Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations will recognize and honor the Mount Vernon Magisterial District Citizen, Organization and Student of the Year. \$55. Visit [www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org).

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. QuinTango, piano and strings; Latin dance meets chamber music. Tickets \$20, \$15 for seniors, \$10 students and teachers. Call 703-765-4342.

**Magic Show.** 10 p.m., Bishop Ireton High School theater, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Visit <http://magi-whirl.org>.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 27

**Cook Off.** Noon-3 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Carpenter's Shelter is bringing together new and old restaurants. Contributions from other organizations help Carpenter's serve more than 1,000 homeless and formerly homeless individuals and families, provide shelter for more than 300 individuals, and open the Homeless Services Assessment Center to serve and place homeless individuals in shelter faster. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$15 for children under 12. Visit [www.carpenterscookoff.com](http://www.carpenterscookoff.com) or [www.carpentersshelter.org](http://www.carpentersshelter.org).

**Cleanup Registration.** 12:30-4 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park. Friends of Fort Hunt Park will hold a cleanup day in conjunction with National Parks week. Contact [owenhammett@cox.net](mailto:owenhammett@cox.net) or 703-339-6539.

**Poetry Salon.** 1-2 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Picture

my Words: Poets will share their poetry along with corresponding visual images. Free. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

**Spring Book Sale.** 1-4:30 p.m., at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Call 703-746-1702 or visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

**Jazz Concert.** 4 p.m. at Meade Church, 322 North Alfred St., Alexandria. Jazz at Meade features the Sandra Y. Johnson Quintet. Light refreshments. \$15 donation requested. Call 703-549-1334 or visit [www.Meadechurch.org](http://www.Meadechurch.org).

## MONDAY/APRIL 28

**Biography Book Club.** 7-8 p.m., at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid by Bill Bryson. Visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us), [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us) or call 703-746-1751.

**The Art of Ballroom Dance.** 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Learn the Fox Trot, Waltz, Tango, Swing, Salsa, Meringue, Rumba, Cha-Cha, and Samba. Come with or without a partner. Beginner (7-7:45 lesson) and advanced (7:45-8:30 lesson) dancers welcome. Practice 8:30-9 p.m. \$15 per lesson. Visit [www.nvfaa.org](http://www.nvfaa.org) or call 703-548-0035.

## THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MAY 1-2

**Theatre Performance.** 5 p.m. at West Potomac High School's Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. A Lot of Medieval Merry Making Set for the West Potomac Theatre with Monty Python's "Spamalot." \$10/ students and \$12/adults. Visit [wphs-spamalot.brownpapertickets.com](http://wphs-spamalot.brownpapertickets.com).

## FRIDAY/MAY 2

**Middle School Play.** 7 p.m. at the George Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's "Jane Eyre." Tickets \$5, cash and check only. Concessions available. Call 703-706-4500.

## SATURDAY/MAY 3

**Free Comic Book Day.** The goal of Free Comic Book Day is to promote the comic book medium to new customers young and old and celebrate independent comic book retailers and their stores. Visit [www.freecomicbookday.com](http://www.freecomicbookday.com) or <http://bit.ly/FCBDStoreLocator>.

**Morning Market.** 8 a.m.-noon at Epiphany Weekday School, 5513 Old Mill Road. Crafters & home business owners welcome. Enjoy crafts, yard sale finds, and other items. Baked goods & refreshments. Contact [ewsmorningmarket@gmail.com](mailto:ewsmorningmarket@gmail.com).

**Children's Music.** 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Theatre, 815 1/2 King St. "Uno, Dos, Tres con Andrés," interactive, bilingual movement-and-music show with Andrés Salguero, full band and guests. Opening act The Uncle Devin Show. Visit [www.theoldtowntheater.com](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) or call 703-549-1025.

**Middle School Play.** 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the George Washington Middle School Auditorium, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Adaptation of Charlotte Bronte's "Jane Eyre." Tickets \$5, cash and check only. Concessions available. Call 703-706-4500.

**Food History Symposium.** 1:30-5 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Four presentations by local food historians and business people, a post-symposium book signing, and tasting of Shuman's famous Jelly Cake. \$50, advance registration encouraged. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx> or call 703-746-4994.

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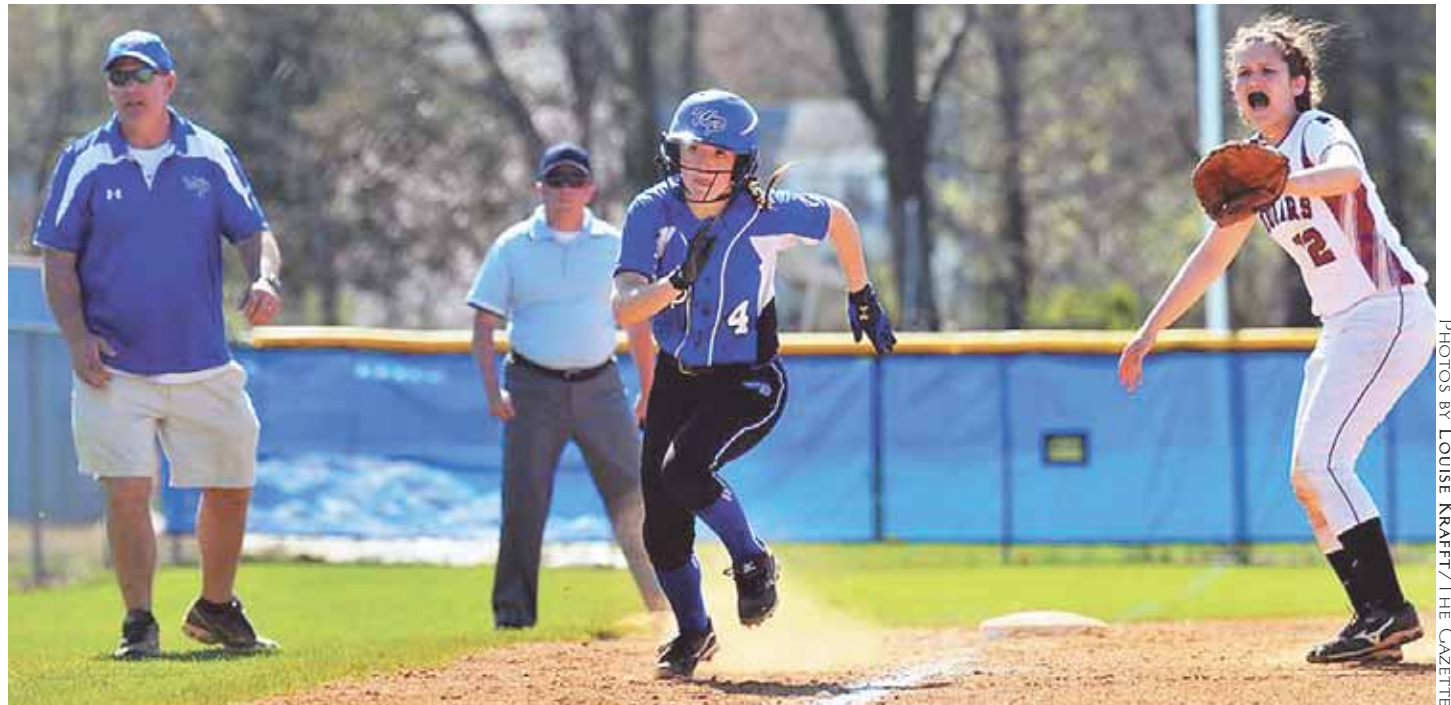
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West Potomac junior Jayne Orleans is the Wolverines' primary pitcher.



West Potomac junior Nikki Minnis heads toward the plate during a game against Oakton on April 12.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

# WP Softball Ends Spring Break Tourney 9-2

**Wolverines coach credits defense for strong start.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

West Potomac softball coach Craig Maniglia said he considers his team a "dark horse." If the Wolverines keep winning, however, they won't be sneaking up on anyone.

West Potomac went 4-1 during a recent spring break tournament, improving its overall record to 9-2. The Wolverines have shut out seven of their opponents, including a 10-0, five-inning victory against Robinson on April 12 at West Potomac High School.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're kind of like a dark horse," Maniglia said. "People are starting to wonder, 'Why isn't anyone scoring on them?' I just think it's good defense. ... For the first time in a while up here, we feel pretty good about the defense. We don't have many holes."

That solid defense was on display against Robinson, as West Potomac played five innings of error-free ball. Junior right-hander Jayne Orleans started in the pitcher's circle and earned the win, allowing four hits over

four shutout innings. Sophomore right-hander Christina Dillard pitched an inning of scoreless relief.

Maniglia has rotated Orleans and Dillard throughout the season, maximizing their talents to keep opponents off balance.

"It's a good chemistry," he said. "Those two feed off each other."

The Wolverines also hit the ball well, scoring six runs in the third inning. West Potomac pounded six consecutive hits in the frame, and junior left fielder Olivia Manous followed with an RBI groundout. Maddie Miller, Annabelle Miller, Raven Williams and Megan Jackson each had a double in the inning, and Orleans and Torie Bolger each had a single.

Annabelle Miller, a sophomore third baseman, went 3-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Orleans went 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Williams, a sophomore first baseman/third baseman, finished 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI, and Miller, a junior right fielder, went 2-for-4 with a double. Jack-

son, a junior center fielder, was 1-for-2 with a two-run double.

Junior shortstop Nikki Minnis, junior catcher Bolger, junior Katie Hinkell, and Manous each had one hit.

The Wolverines lost to Oakton, 12-4, earlier in the day.

West Potomac finished tournament play with a doubleheader on April 14, beating Annandale

22-0 and Osbourn 10-2 at West Potomac High School.

Bolger, Miller and Minnis are captains on a team with only one se-

nior, utility player Eliza Treadway. Freshman center fielder Grace Moery has also been a standout for the Wolverines.

In recent seasons, West Potomac has battled with South County and Lake Braddock for Patriot District supremacy. West Potomac reached the district final in 2011, but lost to South County 2-0 in 12 innings. Now in Conference 7, it appears the Wolverines will once again have to get past the Stallions and Bruins if they want a championship. South County and Lake

**"As far as I'm concerned, we're kind of like a dark horse. People are starting to wonder, 'Why isn't anyone scoring on them?' I just think it's good defense."**

— West Potomac softball coach Craig Maniglia



Sophomore right-hander Christina Dillard is part of West Potomac's 1-2 punch in the pitcher's circle.

Braddock were each undefeated entering Wednesday's action.

West Potomac lost to Lake Braddock 4-0 on April 4. The Wolverines have yet to face South County this season.

West Potomac will return to action at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 21 at home against Annandale.

## Majors Find Success at Spring Break Tournament

The 11-2 Mount Vernon softball team finished 4-1 in a field of 12 teams at the Edison spring break tournament. The Majors' only loss came at the hands of undefeated Lake Braddock by a score of 8-0 on April 14. The Majors defeated Westfield, Annandale, Lee and Edison.

The Majors' tournament success comes midway through a season in which the team has already gone undefeated (7-0) against their former National Dis-

trict foes to secure 2014 National District championship honors.

This is a realignment year the VHSL as there was a reshuffling of teams in the AAA Northern Region. As a result of those changes, the Majors played the first half of their season against their former National District foes, and will take on teams in their new Conference 13 (also known as the Capital Conference) in the second half of their season.

## SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 16

**Emma Hastings**, 17, who attends Thomas Jefferson High School of Science and Technology, was named a national Portfolio Gold medalist in the 2014 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. After multiple rounds of judging, first on the regional level and finally by a panel of expert jurors her original writing was rewarded with a \$10,000 cash scholar-

ship.

The following students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2013 semester at Washington University in St. Louis: **Daniel Arthur Wasserman** is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences and **Reese Paul Frerichs** is enrolled in the university's School of Engineering and Applied Science.



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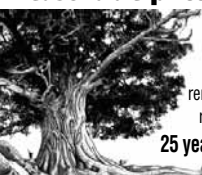
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VDEQ VRP Case 609  
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City of Alexandria, Virginia

Participant  
WP East Development Enterprises, L.L.C.  
11 North Washington Street, Suite 320  
Rockville, MD 20850

The subject property is participating in the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The property was the former location of the Central Operations Area of the Potomac Yard rail yard, which operated from 1906 to 1990 and was used for locomotive repair, maintenance and fueling. Environmental investigations found petroleum and metals contamination of soil and groundwater. The petroleum constituents are associated with diesel and heavy oils, and the metals are associated with cinder ballast ash fill material. Remedial actions to mitigate potential risks to human health and the environment from the contaminants have been proposed by WP East Development Enterprises, L.L.C. and accepted by DEQ. The remedial actions consist of: an environmental health and safety plan; dust and odor control; soil excavation and disposal; utility clean corridor preparation; construction dewatering; clean fill/surface cap; vapor mitigation; Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) screening of groundwater; and a groundwater use restriction. A Certification of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation has been requested of the VDEQ VRP for the site. Questions or comments regarding this notice will be accepted for 30 days from the date of publication and should be addressed to the contact below:

John Diehl  
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**Mt Comfort Cemetery.**  
Mt Eagle Section, lot 110, Sites 1,2,3,4,5, value \$21k, asking \$11,500. 703-780-4114

## 21 Announcements

## 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

### LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:  
Title: RFP No. 00000433, Engineering Design Services for Windmill Hill Bulkhead Improvements  
RFP Closing Date and Time: May 15, 2014, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time  
For general inquiries contact Darryl Jackson, Contract Specialist at 703.746.4298.  
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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**■ I feel like another person with no more frustrations!** It is phenomenal! It's unbelievable. I'd like to thank Bell. I will get other Bell products. Thank you again! Richard Dorvilus, 55, Elmont, NY.

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**Women:** Ask for Bell Bladder Control Tea #4b, a special herbal tea to help with urinary flow and control. Provides support for the bladder and urinary tract.\*

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# Investing In Fairfax

FROM PAGE 1

in the county," said Kimberly Adams, president of the Fairfax Education Association. "We think that if we don't continue to fund services at an adequate or high enough level, we're going to start to lose."

"INVEST IN FAIRFAX" is worried that the decline of the school system will keep businesses and families from moving to Fairfax. It's the high-quality schools, libraries and other public services, they believe, that attract families and businesses to Fairfax in the first place.

"When we lose that world class school system, we're really in trouble," Adams said.

Adams says that teachers are leaving the school system in search of better opportunities elsewhere. Their workload has increased while their pay has remained stagnant. County services as a whole, the coalition argues, are not adequately funded.

"This is the first time we've seen them advertise a tax rate of two cents. We want them to take it to the limit," Adams said.

Yvonne Wallace, vice president of the Fairfax County Employees Union, wants the Board of Supervisors to recognize the value in government employees. She says government employees are behind other jurisdictions in terms of pay, and that many employees have moved to these neighboring areas for the better pay.

Wallace is hoping for a pay raise, and payment plan for all S-Scale government employees. The lack of funding, she says, is frustrating. "I think it says that they don't really value the employees that we have here. Hopefully they won't leave us out of the budget," Wallace said.

**IN HER TESTIMONY** to the Board of Supervisors on April 8, Adams stressed that all citizens benefit from a strong public school system.

"I've heard the refrain that citizens on a fixed income cannot afford any more taxes. Well, ladies and gentleman, my income has been fixed for the past five years," Adams said, citing increases in health care and retirement service costs.

Steven Greenberg, president of the Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, donned a Darth Vader mask and cape while playing "Imperial March" during his testimony.

"All of the debate over this budget is hurting all of our morale. It brings out the dark side in all of us. Especially our teachers," Greenberg said. Greenberg, while advocating for full funding of the school system, also voiced his support for Fairfax County government employees, parks, libraries and other human services, demonstrating the interconnectedness of the new "Invest in Fairfax" coalition.

"We are all employees of this county," Greenberg said. "I'm here to advocate for the schools, yes, but I'm here to advocate much more for children."

The Board of Supervisors will formally adopt the budget on April 29.

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**A Message from Fairfax Kids:**

# Thanks Gerry!

## Supervisor Gerry Hyland Supports Strong Kids & Schools



When Fairfax students and teachers needed a leader, Supervisor Gerald "Gerry" Hyland was there for them. Hyland has taken the lead in supporting our schools with the funding they need. That means:

- ✎ Smaller class sizes
- ✎ Support for teachers
- ✎ Personal attention for students

Supervisor Hyland values education and knows that to keep Fairfax County strong, we must have the best schools, effective public safety and strong property values.

**Contact Gerry and thank him for looking out for our kids and teachers:**

**703-780-7518**

**[mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov)**

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