

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

APRIL 24, 2014



PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

At Sunrise Service

Scout Troop 993 from Wesley United Methodist Church volunteered to help with the Mount Vernon Estate's Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 20. They laid a wreath in Washington's Tomb and then served a pancake breakfast at their church.



After the Sunrise Service, Troop 993 went to Washington's Tomb for a private wreath-laying ceremony. Daniel Guzman and Joseph Thrapp placed the wreath, from the Easter Service, inside the tomb.

John Patrick Eckardt (left) and Wilson Nathan Garcia, along with other members of Troop 993, were on hand, volunteering at Wesley United Methodist Church's Pancake Breakfast.



Members of Scout Troop 993, including Joseph Thrapp (left), Colin Eckardt (center), and Alden Wohlleben, handed out programs, set up and took down chairs.



Insecticide Spraying Returns to Area

Some residents believe spraying of fall cankerworm is unnecessary.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

Later this month, the Fairfax County Forest Pest Management Branch is scheduled to spray 2,200 acres of the Mason, Lee and Mount Vernon districts with insecticide to rid these areas of fall cankerworms, commonly known as inchworms.

"It's kind of unusual for a native insect to be this bad," said Troy Shaw, an urban forester in the Forest Pest Management Branch.

Despite its name, fall cankerworms can be active in the spring, when large populations can lead to defoliation of tree species.

This year, the county has reported a dramatic rise in the numbers of fall cankerworms in residential and forest areas. The county says that the cankerworms can damage to hundreds of acres

of trees through defoliation.

"Does defoliation kill trees? Absolutely," Shaw said. "In a suburban environment, there are a lot of wildcards, so you can expect to see tree mortality."

So, to eliminate the cankerworm, the Forest Pest Management Branch will be spraying trees with *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). The cankerworm will die within a week of ingesting the insecticide.

Lorton resident Ashley Kennedy, however, isn't convinced that the spraying of this species is justified, saying that it is unnecessary and actively harmful to the environment.

At the public hearings on Fairfax County's proposed 2015 budget, Kennedy, an entomologist who is a researcher in the environmental science department at George Mason, told the Board of Supervisors that she's spent the last six

SEE SOME RESIDENTS, PAGE 14

Alone on the Road

Study raises concerns about amount of time Northern Virginia drivers spend in single-occupancy vehicles.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Despite the decades-long war against the single-occupancy vehicle, seven out of 10 workers in Northern Virginia drive to work alone every workday. And half of those drivers are alone in their cars for more than 30 minutes each day. These are some of the conclusions of the County Health Rankings, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the

University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

"It should be unacceptable to everybody," said Kitty Jerome, action center director at County Health Rankings. "This should be seen as too high a figure when we look at the rate of obesity in America, when we look at the air pollution in America, when we look at the lack of physical activity and we look at the outcome of social isolation and stress."

The good news for Northern Vir-
SEE STUDYING, PAGE 18

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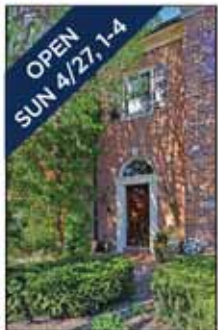
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TB Cases in Decline in County

Outreach efforts get people in for tuberculosis treatment before it spreads.

BY SYDNEY KASHIWAGI
THE GAZETTE

When Dr. Barbara Andrino came to the Fairfax County Health Department in 2011, there were 137 cases of tuberculosis in Northern Virginia.

Back then, the state of Virginia had more than 200 TB cases. But in 2013 Andrino saw the lowest number of TB cases both during her time at the county health department and over the past several years across the state and in Northern Virginia.

"Our goal is to try to reach people before they become ill," said Andrino, who works at the Fairfax clinic as a full-time TB primary care physician.

Since 2007 the number of TB cases across the state has decreased by over 42 percent, and in Northern Virginia by over 45 percent.

According to statistics from the World Health Organization, TB is second behind HIV/AIDS in deaths from an infectious agent worldwide. And although it is a curable disease, TB still kills three people every minute.

Compared to other jurisdictions in Virginia, Fairfax County has the highest number of people infected by TB, followed by Prince William, Arlington, Alexandria, and Loudoun.

TB EXPERTS like Andrino attribute high numbers of the infection in Northern Virginia, especially in Fairfax County, to the high number of foreign-born residents in the region.

"The majority of our patients were born in other countries or born in countries that have a high prevalence of tuberculosis," said Andrino.

According to a recent report from the University of Virginia, one in nine Virginians was foreign-born. And 70 percent of Virginia's foreign-born population lives in the Northern Virginia Metropolitan Area. The Virginia Department of Health's 2012 Annual Tuberculosis Surveillance Report revealed that over 70 percent of the state's TB cases came from foreign-born Virginia residents.

Andrino says that since TB is considered a taboo disease in many countries around the world, most people don't realize that TB is curable and is only infectious when airborne.



Fairfax County Health Department's primary care TB physician Dr. Barbara Andrino examines a patient's X-ray who is latent for tuberculosis.

"It's really not that easy to get in some ways," said Andrino.

TB SPREADS between people when the infection is in the air. Someone will only catch the infection if they inhale when those around them with TB in their lungs coughs, spits or sneezes.

The World Health Organization estimates that one-third of the over 9 million TB cases around the world have what is called latent TB, which is when the infection is not yet harming the person or contagious.

People can live with latent TB for years without knowing. Only once the person gets sick does the infection becomes active, and symptoms like the cough, fever, weight loss and night sweats over the course of months make it highly contagious.

"People don't think about TB as something they might have and they don't think to seek medical treatment," said Jane Moore the Virginia Department of Health's director of TB Control and Prevention. "They just think they have the flu or bronchitis."

Although most of the TB cases in Virginia and around the world are latent and inactive, many wait until it's too late because they are unaware that what appear to be common symptoms of the flu are actually deadly.

"People who have TB don't think that they have it and don't seek treatment," said Moore. "Once they get there, people don't think about TB as a condition and that way are not treated appropriately and they remain infectious and spread it longer."

BUT BECAUSE TB is still prevalent in Northern Virginia, experts at the state and local level agree that until the misconceptions that surround the disease are gone, the best they can do is educate people, especially those from multiethnic backgrounds in the community.

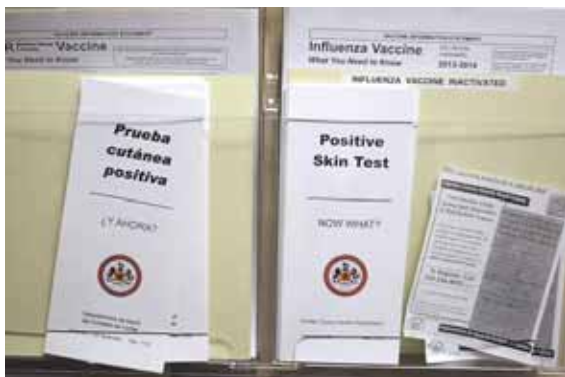
Data from the Virginia Department of Health showed that the top five countries of origin with the highest rates of TB cases came from India, South Korea, Mexico, Vietnam and the Philippines.

More recently, local health departments have increased their outreach and education efforts to reach out to people in communities at risk across the state.

Jessica Werder, Fairfax County Health Department's community outreach manager, says that through her direct work in educating communities with high rates of TB in Fairfax, she still sees that many people are afraid to seek care because of barriers in the community.

"People have fear of employer retaliation, fear of family retaliation, fear of being ostracized and isolated if people in their communities find out they're

SEE REGIONS SEKS, PAGE 14



A Spanish language informational tuberculosis brochure by the Fairfax County Health Department explains tuberculosis and its treatment options.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Maia Cali and Kit Vontz (with bunny ears on), both from Alexandria, took a moment afterwards to inspect their eggs as the weather warmed up.

Weather Doesn't Spoil Easter Egg Fun

The youngsters braved the winter chill at Great Waves Park at Cameron Run in Alexandria on Wednesday, April 16. Egg hunters came out in all kinds of winter coats, hats and gloves to protect themselves from the arctic chill as they hunted for colored eggs along the mini-golf course. Eggs were found along the hills, near golf holes

and all along the course path. The Easter bunny was on hand to greet the guests. Although the cold weather forced the cancellation of the rest of the activities, most youngsters went home with full baskets of eggs. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority had sponsored the event.

— VERONICA BRUNO



Maisy Alford, 5, from Vienna and Leah Manes, 2, displayed their egg hunt winnings.



Vivian Baker from Alexandria made quick work of the hunt with a full basket of eggs.



Carol Cahiri from Falls Church celebrated her find.

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Alexandria **\$325,000**
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ROSEMONT

Rosemont
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Del Ray **\$725,000**
303 E Windsor Avenue. Coming Soon! 2 BR/1.5 BA, Charming Detached Cape Cod Steps to Del Ray's Mount Vernon Avenue boasts Hardwood Floors, Kitchen with Granite Countertops, Formal Dining Room, Spacious Deck & Large Fully Fenced Back Yard. More Info: www.HomesofAlexandria.com
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Cindy Baggett & Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010



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Alexandria **\$460,000**
5904 Mount Eagle Drive, Unit 1118. Enjoy the single-family feel with convenience of condo living, with dramatic views of Potomac River, National Harbor fireworks & the changing seasons. 3 BR/2 BA, garage space & 1,695 SF + 2 enclosed balconies. Resort-like amenities & many social activities. Best of all: this financially stable condo community has never had a special assessment! Virtual Tour @ 5904mounteagledr1118.com
Cindy Baggett & Leslie Rodriguez 703-593-1418



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria **\$650,000**
5901 Mount Eagle Drive, Unit 715/711. Single-family feel with condo convenience & the many resort amenities of Montebello. Unique & spacious 2,350 SF interior space + 216 SF on 2 enclosed balconies w/2 MBR suites and private bonus area for home office, nanny, guest or in-law suite, playroom, hobby, media or recreation room...many uses! 3 BR, 3.5 BA w/2 storage spaces and reserved garage. TOUR/FLOOR PLAN @ 5901mounteagledr711and715.com
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Diann Hicks 703-628-2440



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4201 Ormond Ave. Stately custom built 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath brick colonial with approximately 6,000 sq. ft. of well-designed living space. Three finished levels with 3 fireplaces. New Gourmet kitchen, New Master bath and attached 2-car garage. Expansive fenced yard with manicured lawns, mature landscaping, patio, hot tub and large shed. Blocks to Alexandria Hospital and St. Stephens St. Agnes Upper School. *Christine Garner 703-587-4855*



Old Town
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525 Wilkes Street. One of Old Town's most significant 18th Century reproductions in the desirable Southeast Quadrant with 4/5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 4 finished levels and 4 fireplaces. Gracious room sizes with 9'+ ceilings, exquisite mouldings, antique wood floors and a finished lower level with private entry, living/dining area, bedroom, full bath and kitchenette.
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John Murray ran the live auction at the fundraiser. He wore several hats during the evening to entice the crowd to bid higher. The crowd laughed along while he encouraged bids for a 3-day, 2-night Disney Vacation stay at the Gaylord Palms in Kissimmee, Fla.



Nassar Akari and family celebrated their successful bid during the live auction portion of the evening.

PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE

Good Shepherd Celebrates 40 Years

Anniversary gala brings in \$272,000.

Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services celebrated 40 years of delivering continuous community service and promoting self-sufficiency to those in need in Fairfax County with a fundraising gala at the Westin Hotel in Alexandria on Saturday, April 12.

The fundraiser included a silent auction where patrons could bid on items donated from McCormick & Schmick, Capital Grille, Bodnar Chiropractic Center, Sugar House Day Spa, and others. GSH's Board Chair Sanjiv Mahan welcomed those in attendance

and presented two long-time organization leaders Beatrice Dobie and Shannon Steene with the Joseph T. Adinero Humanitarian Award for their leadership and longevity to the organization. The honor for Dobie was posthumously awarded for her contributions to the establishment since its inception 40 years ago. John Horn, the gala chair, performed the invocation for the evening.

A live auction performed by John Murray followed. He spurred the crowd to bid record amounts and

SEE GOOD SHEPHERD, PAGE 24

Celebrate! Mount Vernon At Home Annual Gala

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NEW LISTING



Alex./Yacht Haven \$859,900
4505 Dolphin Lane

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OPEN SUNDAY



Alex./Engleside \$370,000
8609 Woodlawn Court

This stunning 3 BR, 1 BA Brick Rambler is bursting w/charm & character. Wood-burning FPL, beautiful hwd floors & intricate stained trim blend wonderfully w/interior exposed brick. Sit on your front porch or sun rm addition & gaze out on your spectacular .5 acre lot. Your full basement offers endless potential. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 20 minutes to Old Town, Alex, VA. Great Home Under \$400K!

OPEN SUNDAY



Alex./Riverside Estates \$574,900
8426 Cherry Valley Lane

Stunning, upgraded 5 BR/3 BA Split – Riverside's largest split foyer model. Beautiful sunroom addition, remodeled kitchen and lower level bath, freshly painted interior and exterior, refinished hardwood floors on main level, new carpet/ceramic tile on lower level. Spacious 2-car garage and utility rm/work shop. This home has it all. 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir, 25 to Pentagon.

OPEN SUNDAY



Alex./Mt. Vernon Terrace \$595,000
5108 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy

Stunning 5 BR, 3 BA brick Cape, remodeled from top to bottom on an absolutely spectacular .53 acre lot. Updated kit & baths w/beautiful family rm addition across the back opening to a beautiful deck. Replacement windows, refinished hwd flrs, fully finished w/o basement to a huge patio overlooking expansive fenced back yard. An amazing setting – 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 20 mins to Old Town & 30 mins to Ntl Airport – Gorgeous, Gorgeous Home.

NEW PRICE



Alexandria City Cameron Station \$689,000
5242 Tancreti Lane

Cameron Station's finest offering! Beautiful 4 level brick townhome, end unit, with 2 car garage. Gorgeous upgrades throughout and meticulously maintained. Spacious, open floor-plan, gourmet kitchen with granite and SS, high ceilings, hardwood floors, beautiful bathrooms, Trex decking, dual zone HVAC, etc. It's a 10! Fabulous location inside the Beltway, close to Old Town, Pentagon, National Airport, and D.C. Community shuttle to nearby Metro.

OPEN SUNDAY



Alex./Wessynton \$664,900
3217 Wessynton Way

Absolutely Stunning 5 BR, 3 BA Contemporary in Prestigious Waterfront Community of Wessynton. Over \$150K in upgrades – Exquisitely renovated kitchen & baths, large picture windows throughout, FPL in living & family rooms. Beautifully landscaped .34 acre lot backing to the woods. Deck is perfect for entertaining. 5 miles to Ft. Belvoir. Best of the Best!

OPEN SUNDAY



Alex./Mt. Zephyr \$487,500
8529 Richmond Ave

Large, beautifully updated 4 BR, 2.5 BA Split w/large spacious 2-car garage. Updated kit w/cherry cabinets & Corian counters. 2.5 updated baths w/12" ceramic tile flrs & newer vanities & mirrors. Replacement double pane windows throughout plus lovely screened porch overlooking large landscaped bkyd w/beautiful privacy fence. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 mins to Ntl Airport. Short Sale – In great condition, Super Buy!

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A male Baltimore Oriole, the state bird of Maryland.



Indigo buntings are common breeders in both Maryland and Virginia. Look for the bright-blue males on tree tops, like cedars or snags, and utility wires throughout the area.



Male Rose-breasted Grosbeak is among the most colorful of the migrant birds in the Washington area. They breed just to the west of this area.

Spring Songbirds Arriving Now

Local bird groups and bird walks help beginning birders see colorful birds.

BY DONALD SWEIG

The birds are coming. The annual migration of often brightly colored songbirds from their winter homes in Central and South America, Mexico, the Caribbean Islands, and the southern U.S. is underway now. Millions and millions of avian migrants fly northward every night and the come down to rest or nest every morning. Some of the birds are enroute to nesting areas far to the north; some nest right here or nearby.



Note

Local native Donald Sweig, Ph.D., who retired in 2002 after nearly 30- years as the County Historian for Fairfax County, is an avid birder, nature photographer, and naturalist. His observations about locally observable birds and other fauna and flora, as well as local history, will appear occasionally in the Connection. He can often be found in Riverbend Park in Great Falls, Va., along the C&O Canal in Montgomery Co., Md., and in other local natural areas, parks, and wildlife refuges.

Organized Bird Walks

Here are some planned bird walks in the area, beginners and novices welcomed.

- 8 a.m. Sundays, Bird Walk at Great Falls National Park, meet at the visitor center, 9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean.
- 8 a.m. Sundays, Friends of Dyke Marsh lead a walk into Dyke Marsh all year long. www.fodm.org
- Wednesday, Apr 30, 2014, 8:30 a.m. Daniels Run, 3721 Tedrich Blvd, Fairfax, Va. www.nvabc.org
- Saturday, May 3, 2014, 7:30 a.m. Huntley Meadows Hike/Bike Trail, From I-495, take Route 1 south 3 mi. to Lockheed Blvd. Turn right on Lockheed Blvd. and go 0.5 mi. to Harrison Lane to park entrance on left. www.nvabc.org
- Sunday, May 4, and every Sunday 8 a.m. Dyke Marsh with Friends of Dyke Marsh www.fodm.org
- Wednesday, May 7, 2014 8:30 a.m. Long

- Branch, Arlington, Take Route 50 east from Fairfax or west from Rosslyn to Carlin Springs exit. South on Carlin Springs 0.5 mi. to Nature Center on left, just south of N. Va. Community Hospital on left. Meet at Nature Center parking lot. www.nvabc.org
- Saturday, May 10, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Wolf Trap Park, Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with a walk through the wetland and ridges of Wolf Trap. 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Meet in the north end of the park, in the parking lot on the east side of Trap Road <http://www.audubonva.org/>
- Wednesday May 14, 8:30 a.m. Fort C.F. Smith, 2411 N. 24th St, Arlington, www.nvabc.org
- Wednesday, May 14, 7:30pm Friends of Dyke Marsh Quarterly Meeting. Norma Hoffman Visitor Center, Huntley Meadows Park, www.fodm.org
- Wednesday, May 21, 8:30 a.m. Eakin Park 8515 Tobin Road, Annandale, www.nvabc.org
- Wednesday, May 28, 8:30 a.m. Huntley Meadows, www.nvabc.org

Local Birding Groups

As a novice or beginning birder, chances of seeing and identifying birds are greatly increased if one goes out with more experienced birders. Local organizations have regularly scheduled bird walks, and welcome newcomers, beginners and returning birders on most outings.

Montgomery Bird Club, <http://www.montgomerybirdclub.org/>

Northern Virginia <http://www.nvabc.org/>

Audubon of Virginia <http://www.audubonva.org/>

Audubon Naturalis Society <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org/>

Also look at: <http://birding.aba.org/> (American Birding Association), Click on Maryland or Virginia to see what is being seen and where.

Avian enthusiasts (birders/bird watchers) and general nature buffs have eagerly awaited the birds' arrival and are now out in force hoping to see some of their feathered friends.

The spring breeding birds (50 or more species) are often boldly patterned and brightly colored. They exhibit in various patterns of black, white, yellow, red, blue, orange and myriad shades of brown and grey.

And they sing. Each species has a distinct song and call. Spring songbirds can be seen in many places in the area, from a tree in any yard, to "migrant traps," natural areas that attract migrating birds and regular nesting sites.

The Baltimore Oriole, the state bird of Maryland, was named by the original settlers of Maryland in the 17th century, when they saw the orange and black bird, the same colors as the coat-of-arms of Cecil Calvert, 2nd Lord Baltimore, the founder of Maryland. They declared that the oriole was "Lord Baltimore's bird." Baltimore Orioles are easily found in late April and early May as they breed in Maryland and Virginia. Look for them along the C&O Canal, in the

Great Falls Parks on both sides of the Potomac.

It's a great opportunity to see Spring wild-flowers as well.

Any morning, especially with south or southwest winds, from mid-April until late May is likely to bring a new wave of birds.

The local nesters are especially vocal when the first arrive and are setting up breeding territories. Look for them on the top of trees, often singing loudly.

Go at sunrise, or shortly thereafter when the new migrants have just arrived; late afternoon (4 to 6 p.m.) is also often productive, though not as good as early morning. If you have binoculars, take them. Listen carefully and look toward any bird sound you hear.

Local bird clubs have lots of bird walks in the Spring and are usually delighted to have new folks come along, and one will see more birds if going with an experienced group.

It's a priceless opportunity to see a Baltimore or Orchard Oriole; a Scarlet or Summer Tanager; a Yellow-billed Cuckoo; a Rose-breasted or Blue Grosbeak; a bright-blue Indigo Bunting; a Prothonotary, Prais-

rie, Hooded, or others of the more than 30 species of Warbler. Go look at the birds and celebrate Spring.

Birding Hotspots in Virginia

FAIRFAX COUNTY

- Great Falls Park, <http://www.nps.gov/grfa/index.htm>
- Riverbend Park along the Potomac. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>
- Huntley Meadows Park, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/>

ARLINGTON COUNTY

- Long Branch and Carlin Springs parks: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/parksrecreation/scripts/parks/LongBranch.aspx>

ALEXANDRIA

- A well-known and popular "migrant trap" in Alexandria is Monticello Park, 320 Beverly Drive.
- Look in any local parks and in any wooded area, preferably at sunrise or soon after. Spring Birds are everywhere.



ALEXANDRIA \$2,900,000 | ttrsir.com/id/FX8175203
 Stunning 5BR residence on spectacular 1.3 acre grounds near the Potomac River and Mount Vernon Trail. The home offers a two story family room with floor to ceiling views and a beautiful master suite with dressing room. Minutes from D.C. and Old Town Alexandria.
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 This masterfully crafted 4BR, 4.55BA home offers over 7,900 square feet of space! Stunning main level features: gourmet kitchen, breakfast area, large dining room, and master bedroom retreat. Huge lower level provides multi-functional space and exit access to 3-car garage.
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OLD TOWN \$1,976,000
 Historic Captain's Row townhouse with 6 BR, 5.5 BA and 5,100 square feet. Classic Old Town lifestyle with high ceilings, all brick exterior, and 4 fireplaces. Rare walk-out basement with 2nd kitchen and guest area accesses large patio with fountain, and 2 car parking. Great location on Old Town's famous cobblestoned street.
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ALEXANDRIA \$1,075,000 | ttrsir.com/id/FX8324300
 4 BR, 3.5 BA colonial in cul-de-sac with 3-car garage and open floor plan. Renovated kitchen, family room, sunroom. Expansive deck and lush yard with park-like setting. Lower level with full bath, rec room and storage.
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WAYNEWOOD \$969,000 | 8810Fircrest.com
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MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE ♦ APRIL 24-30, 2014 ♦ 7

Meadowood Stables To Remain Open During Renovation

Moran, Hyland approve decision.

The barn at the Meadowood Special Recreation Area will remain open during renovation, according to the Bureau of Land Management on April 10.

In an environmental assessment released by the Bureau of Land Management, a majority of the comments received regarding the 2012 environmental assessment requested that the barn remain opened during renovation.

"The BLM will prioritize the work to be completed in phases to eliminate the need to close the barn during the renovation," the agency's release stated.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) praised the Bureau of Land Management's decision in an April 10 press release. The process has been ongoing since 2011.

"This was the only opportunity to repair Meadowood Stables, otherwise it would have been shuttered due to the cost. BLM deserves much praise for working toward a solution that was a win for all involved," said Moran. "Today's announcement ensures the stables will remain open for decades to come, providing the local community ready access to the barn and surrounding property."

In 2012, Moran, along with Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland and John Lyons, the director of the Bureau of Land Management Eastern States Office, held a



The barn at Meadowood Stables will remain open during renovation.

A map shows the project area for the Meadowood Stables Renovations.

meeting discussing stable renovations in a way that would keep horses on the property during renovation.

Moran had previously threatened to cut Bureau of Land Management funding if the stables did not remain open.

"BLM listened to the community and made the right decision," Hyland said. "Their willingness to come to the table and hear everyone's concerns proves they are an important partner with Fairfax County."

The topic was contentious because the barn's closure would have required individuals using the stable to find another place to board their horses. Meadowood Stables is also home to Simple Changes, a therapeutic riding program riding program.

According to the Bureau of Land Management's final Environmental Impact Statement, the barn is in need of renovation to meet structural, plumbing, electri-

Figure 1. Project Area for most resources.



cal, and Architectural Barriers Act standards. The roof and restroom are also in need of repair.

— JANELLE GERMANOS

PHOTOS BY BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Samaritan's Feet Comes to Rising Hope 300 pairs of shoes go to youth in need.

The halls at Rising Hope United Methodist Church were thronged Monday, April 14, as parents brought their children for an Easter footwashing in Christ's memory and to receive new shoes at no cost.

Tending to the children were 18 young missionaries from Calvary Church in North Carolina, all eighth graders on their spring break.

"This is their opportunity to share the

hope of the Gospel with the Rising Hope community," said their youth pastor, Justin Roper. He said the group was serving breakfast to the homeless in Washington, D.C. and visiting shut-ins. They also toured and prayed at the Capital and Lincoln Memorial.

Having fun too, the young missionaries visited the National Zoo.

— ED SIMMONS, JR.



In addition to the footwashing at Rising Hope, the missionaries are serving breakfast to the homeless and visiting shut-ins.

This is the third year young missionaries from North Carolina have come to serve at Rising Hope.



The 18 young missionaries were all eighth graders on their spring break.

PHOTOS BY
ED SIMMONS, JR.
THE GAZETTE

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 16

Antiques Event. 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Sharon Frazier and Linwood Smith will display and discuss their collection of miniature wooden buildings, including old Alexandria businesses. Call Ann Connell at 703-360-4979.

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.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

MVHS Mulch Sale. 7 a.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mt. Vernon Road. The MVHS Spring Mulch Sale takes place in the MVHS parking lot. Get a great deal on high quality mulch while supporting the Class of 2014 All Night Graduation Party. Volunteers and water donations are still greatly appreciated.

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.

Memorial Gathering. 2-5 p.m. at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Dr. Relatives and friends may gather to remember Hollin Meadows teacher Jeff Firman. Inurnment private. Visit www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Park Cleanup. 12:30 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. Removal of invasive species and cleanup of debris from the four historic artillery batteries. Adult volunteers will also be performing similar tasks, as well as registering volunteers and handling overall logistics. Registration will begin at 12:30 p.m.;

the cleanup will conclude at 4 p.m. with a closing ceremony. To volunteer, contact Owen Hammett at owenhammett@cox.net or 703-339-6539.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Application Deadline. High school students can apply to the "House Student App Challenge." The contest is open to all high school students who live in or are eligible to attend public schools located in the 8th Congressional District. Students must provide a YouTube or VIMEO video demo explaining their app and what they learned through the competition process by the competition deadline on April 30, 2014. More details on submitting a contest entry, the rules of the competition, and helpful programming resources can be found at Rep. Jim Moran's page at moran.house.gov/house-app-contest or through StudentAppChallenge.house.gov.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Application Deadline. Applications for the 2014 Education Partnership Scholarships are available at www.mtvernon-leechamber.org. Scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from local high schools pursuing further education in a business related field. 703-360-6925.

THURSDAY/MAY 8

Home Improvement Workshop. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living program on aging in place. Experts share tips to minimize financial costs of home modifications, avoid scams and use local resources. Light refreshments provided. Free, reservation requested. Visit http://aarp.cvent.com/VA_May8 or call 877-926-8300.

FRIDAY/MAY 9

Health and Resiliency Conference. 10 a.m.-

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 24

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OPINION

Past Time for Later Start Times

It's possible that, finally, high school will begin the day at a time healthier for teens.

Teenagers are sleep deprived, and sleep deprivation takes a significant toll on safety, health and learning. We've known this for decades.

But for decades, literally, Fairfax County Public Schools (and Montgomery County, Md.) have let a combination of reactionary blabber ("buck up and get moving;" "just tell them to go to bed earlier") and organizational resistance prevent implementing a solution to this very real problem.

Getting up at 5:30 or 6 a.m. to hop on a school bus at 5:45 a.m. or even as late at 6:30 a.m. to get to school by 7:20 a.m. is not healthy for teenagers. It is nearly impossible for teenagers to go to sleep before 11 p.m. or midnight.

Fairfax County high school students average six hours of sleep a night on weeknights. Research shows they need nine hours of sleep.

Research has also quantified the costs of sleep deprivation.

That level of sleep deprivation contributes to depression and suicidal thoughts.

Driving-while-teen is challenging by itself; driving with sleep deprivation is like driving under the influence, and contributes to car accidents both minor and major.

Sleep deprivation is also associated with lack of impulse control, another aspect of teenage life that needs no augmentation.

It's hard to learn when sleep deprived, and harder still to get excited about what one is learning.

Children's National Medical Center was contracted more than a year ago by Fairfax County Public Schools to develop proposals for starting high schools after 8 a.m. Specific proposals will be presented shortly, and those specific proposals are sure to bring out specific objections.

Yes, changing start times will cost money. Yes, changing start times will require changing a lot of other things that many will find inconvenient. It's going to require significant will on the part of supporters of teen health, supporters of later high school start times to push this proposal across the finish line. Kudos to

SLEEP in Fairfax advocates who have been pushing for so long.

How much would you spend, how much would you be willing to be inconvenienced, to prevent a single suicide? To prevent a single serious car crash? These are genuinely the things that are at stake.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 11 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/ or email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday, May 2.

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Heed Posted Speed Limit

To the Editor:

I'm writing in response to Phil

Boughton's letter to the editor in the April 17 edition of the Mount Vernon Gazette. I live in one of the neighborhoods along Sherwood Hall Lane and cross it on foot almost daily from one of the Fairfax

Connector bus stops.

In his letter, Mr. Boughton claims that "citizens are ticketed because of the lack of a left turn lane on Sherwood Hall Lane." I respectfully suggest instead that citizens

are ticketed for failing to observe the posted speed limit and the No Passing signs on Sherwood Hall Lane.

Heed the speed limit, stop passing on the right, and Sherwood Hall Lane will be safer for everyone. Thanks.

Bob McFadden
Alexandria

Expansion Needs More Data

To the Editor:

No one should ever be denied health care. But, we need to be careful that millions don't get worse or receive no care because of politics to hastily expand the Medicaid rolls. Politicians, like Delegate Surovell and Chairman Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, tend to use data that suits their beliefs and don't necessarily report any data that may counter them.

The data most often quoted are the number of jobs to be created if Medicaid is expanded, the reimbursement money from the Federal government at 100 percent for the first three years and our tax money is being used to fund other

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Month of the Military Child

Stratford Landing Elementary students celebrated the needs and contributions of the military child by wearing purple on Friday, April 11. Purple is the color chosen by Operation Military Kids to represent the combination of colors of the different military branches. As the school day began, a sea of purple clothing, boots and backpacks streamed down the sidewalk towards the school entry, where volunteers handed out pencils, bracelets and stickers in honor of military children.

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper



LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

state expansions. Well, for the latter, our taxes are used by the Federal government to fund programs and services that affect all or many states so that is nothing new. Also, the studies that are most often quoted have contingency language about the Virginia Medicaid expansion and caution decision makers to consider those uncertainties. For example, one report that is portrayed as being often quoted states on the front page "The un-

certainities increase after 2019 and that period was not part of the scope of the study." Under the Executive Summary it states "Given the overarching policy issues with the PPACA, the reader should weigh the assumptions and caveats closely with conclusions and findings."

Caveats are also included in the Virginia Senate Finance Committee Medicaid expansion study completed in 2012.

Also, given the many uncertain-

ties of the Obamacare Act, there is no assurance that the Feds will pay or continue to pay for Medicaid expansion.

If that's the case, what happens to medical care delivery to patients, taxes on Virginians and overall costs in the short and long term? These questions must be answered before any decision is made to expand or not to expand Medicaid.

Further, according to press reports, doctors are refusing to care

for more Medicaid patients. With more persons added to the Medicaid rolls and fewer doctors to care for them and uncertainty about reimbursement for their care and rising costs, we should be very careful about Medicaid expansion so health care delivery won't be adversely affected for all patients.

Medicaid expansion should be delayed at least until a thorough study is made to substantiate the data as realistic and dependable

before any short or long term decisions are made. For politicians it is hard to do, but this area is so important that politics must not be in play in any decision about whether to expand or not expand Medicaid.

All Virginians particularly the Medicaid enrollees deserve no less.

Call you state delegate and senator; you can make a difference.

Frank Medico
Mount Vernon

SCHOOL NOTES

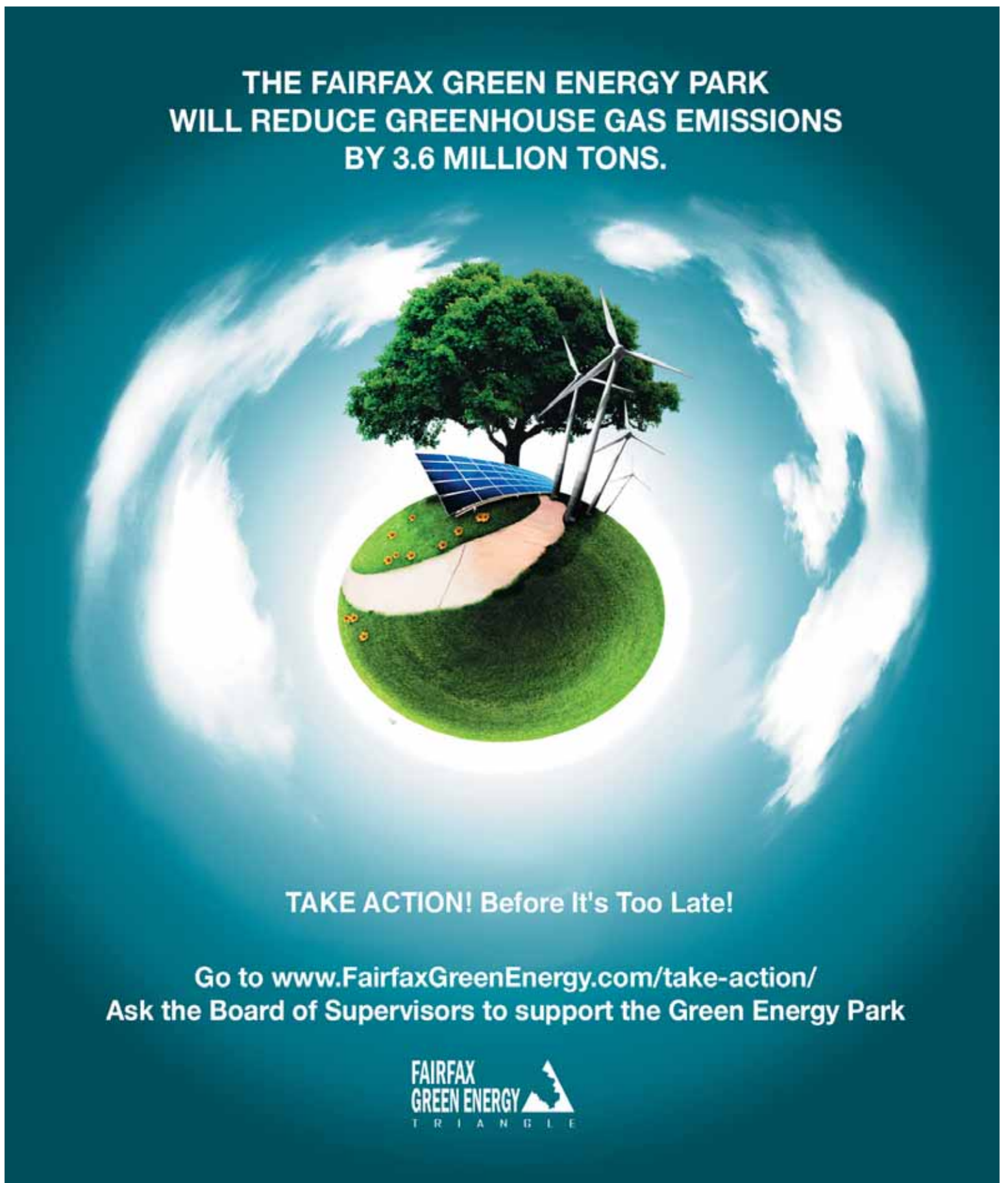
Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

The following **Virginia Tech** students were among those honored at the university's fall commencement ceremony held Dec. 20, 2013, in Cassell Coliseum: **Nola Savage**, received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from the College of Science; **Devin Amole**, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; **Matthew Blower**, received a Bachelor of Science degree in geosciences from the College of Science; **Sarah Curzon**, received a Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude in international studies from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences; **Laina Schneider**, received a Bachelor of Science degree magna cum laude in crop and soil environmental sciences from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; **Susan Sterne**, received a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from the College of Science; and **Ashraf Elmelik**, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in geography from the College of Natural Resources and Environment.

The following two James Madison University students embarked on spring break trips around the country and world: **Megan Knetemann**, a junior psychology major, traveled to Tahlequah, Oklahoma to work with Cherokee Nation Early Childcare and Head Start Program. The Head Start Program of the Cherokee Nation Early Childcare Unit focuses on promoting early childhood development. Students participating on this trip worked with kids between the ages of six weeks and three years in the classroom and assisted on various service projects developed by members of the Cherokee Nation. **Cheryl Welch**, a senior anthropology major, traveled to Paix Bouche, Dominica to work with Paix Bouche Community Councils. Led by Dr. Amy Paugh, students from James Madison University's Anthropology department studied the culture of Dominica.

Fifteen FCPS students won awards in the write-off competitions at the JEANSPA Conference, including these West Potomac High School students: **Lily Weisblatt** — Feature Writing, Honorable Mention; **Margaret O'Meara** — Review Writing, Honorable Mention; **Anna Jurkowski** — YB Copy-Caption: Academics, Excellent; **Kathryn Schwabacher** — YB Layout: Inside Pages, Excellent; **Jhoonyoung Kim** — Graphic Design: Logo, Honorable Mention; **Amy Crow** — Photo Story, Honorable Mention; **Josh Shelton** — On-Air Reporter, Honorable Mention; **Claude Atkins** — Short Documentary, Honorable Mention; and **McKenzie Beeby** — Short Documentary, Honorable Mention.

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Millie Rever received first place for her creative design entry in the Division II-Section A: Someone to watch over me -Class 1 - The Song is You.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE



The garden at River Farm was awake with spring color and blooms as the garden market and flower show got underway.

Spring Garden Market at River Farm

The American Horticulture Society hosted their annual spring garden market and a flower show earlier this month at its River Farm headquarters. Twenty-five vendors set up shop on and around the forecourt lawn. The annual spring market supports the AHS educational programs and the stew-

ardship of River Farm. Inside the mansion, the National Capital Area's District II Garden Club small standard flower show "Love is in the Air" entries were on display.

For more information about the American Horticulture Society visit www.ahs.org

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Residents Nominated for Service Awards

With the theme "Ordinary People, Extraordinary Impact," Volunteer Fairfax, along with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, will honor real-life superheroes at the Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. The gala celebration will be held Friday, April 25 at The Waterford in Springfield.

The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards recognizes citizens who are dedicated to making the local community better place to call home. Examples of the many duties these community heroes perform include tutoring and coaching youth, lobbying for improved human services, befriending the elderly, fundraising to support medical research, protecting the environment, rescuing animals, mentoring the unemployed, and more.

The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards will take place on Friday, April 25 at The Waterford Springfield at 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield, from 8-10 a.m. Doors will open at 7:15 am. To get tickets, click www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Jeanne Sanders, Executive Director of Volunteer Fairfax says, In Alexandria, the following residents have been nominated for a Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award:

❖ Bev Morse volunteers with Martha Washington Library and has been nominated for the Benchmark 250 Award.

❖ Janet Garber volunteers with Vinson Hall Retirement Community, and has been nominated for the RSVP Northern Virginia Award.

❖ Zoe Smith volunteers with Martha Washington Library, and has been nominated for the Youth Benchmark 100 Award.

❖ Victor Holman volunteers with Mount Vernon High School, and has been nominated for the Adult

Volunteer 250 Hours & Under Award.

❖ Samuel Rodriguez III volunteers with The Bucknell-West Potomac Mentoring Partnership, and has been nominated for the Youth Volunteer Award.

❖ Susan Helder volunteers with ACCA Child Development Center, and has been nominated for the Benchmark 500 Award.

❖ Alicia Haselton volunteers with Homestretch, and has been nominated for the Adult Volunteer 250 Hours & Under Award.

❖ Susan Crim volunteers with Insight Memory Care Center (formerly Alzheimer's Family Day Center) and Greenspring Continuing Care Community, and has been nominated for the Benchmark 250 and the Adult Volunteer 250 Hours & Over Award.

❖ Juan "Rick" Lopez volunteers with the Fairfax County Police Department Auxiliary Police Program, and has been nominated for the Integrate Award.

❖ Amy Baumgardner volunteers with Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc., and has been nominated for the Adult Volunteer 250 Hours & Under Award.

❖ Stephanie Rheinheimer volunteers with the Department of Family Services, AAA, VA, and has been nominated for the Benchmark 250 Award.

Special guests at this year's ceremony include the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the event honorary chairs, Jeff Goldberg, Virginia Bureau Chief for ABC7/WJLA-TV and News Channel 8 and other key members of local business, nonprofit and government offices. The event sponsors are Altamira, Dominion, Novac and AT&T.

For more information about this year's nominees, or to purchase tickets, visit www.volunteerfairfax.org.



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• Unique, Pristine Offering in Popular Villamay • Elevated Lot w/Terrific Curb Appeal • Bright, Open Formal Rooms w/Bamboo Floors • Spacious Kitchen w/Loads of Counters and Breakfast Bay • The Ultimate Family Room featuring Coffered Ceiling and Unique Raised-Hearth Corner Fireplace • Three Magnificently Remodeled Full Baths • Four Generous Bedrooms • Two Masonry Fireplaces • Extensive Exterior Hardscape w/Slate Patio • All in Mint, Move-in Condition!



7120 Park Terrace Dr. \$850,000

• Smashing, Remodeled Rambler in Villamay • Elegantly Appointed from top to bottom • Villamay's Largest Kitchen w/Island and Wet Bar • Luxury Master Suite w/Sunken Tub looking to River • Formal Living and Dining Rooms at Rear Elevation • All Baths Remodeled – Powder Room Added • Laundries on Both Main and Lower Level • Decking spans entire Rear Elevation overlooking River • Extensive List of added Amenities at Property



6910 Park Terrace Dr. \$719,000

• Unique Rambler in Popular Westgrove • Beautiful, Treed Lot looks to Potomac River • Generous Formal Rooms • Main Level Hardwood Floors • Freshly Painted, Eat-in Kitchen w/Breakfast Area • Unique Raised-Hearth Stone Fireplace in Family Room • Three Full Masonry Fireplaces • Three Magnificently Remodeled Full Baths • Whole House Generac Generator • Extensive Exterior Landscape/Plantings with Deck • Main Level Garage for One-Level Living!



7000 Clemson Drive \$750,000

• Lovely Raised Rambler on one of Largest Lots in Westgrove • Tremendous Privacy • Large Slate Patio looks to Rear Elevation • Remodeled Top to Bottom • Kitchen Stainless Appliances and Granite Counters • Updated Baths and Windows throughout • Bright Sunroom spans depth of the residence • Formal Living Room with Masonry Fireplace and Custom Built-in • Master Suite includes Dressing Room and Walk-in Closet • Large Lower Level Family Room and 2 Bedrooms share a Morning Bar • Hardwoods • Irrigation System

Directions: South G.W. Parkway from Old Town, right on Vernon View, left on Elkin – becomes Londonderry – follow Partners Signs.



8608 Bluedale Street \$589,000

• 3 Bedroom Colonial; Walk-in MBR Closet with Built-ins; 2.5 updated Baths • Totally New Kitchen with Granite Countertops and Stainless Appliances and Bay Window • Wood-Burning Fireplace in Living Room • New Main Level Hardwood Floors – Oak Hardwoods on Upper Level; New Carpet in Basement Family Room • Freshly Painted Throughout • Carport and Driveway Side Extension for Plenty of Off-Street Parking • Expansive Deck with Built-in Seating • Large Fenced Back Yard with Storage Shed • Pool and Tennis Available Through Association Membership • Great

Location • Easy commute to Ft. Belvoir, Pentagon, Bolling AFB, and Washington, D.C. • Near Shopping, Schools, GW Parkway, Mt. Vernon Estate and Bike Trails, Ft. Hunt Park, and the Potomac River



2509 Londonderry Rd. \$729,000

• Lush grounds • Classic Center Hall Colonial • Dreamy Island Kitchen with Beamed Ceiling, Quartz Counters, Stainless Top-of-the-line Appliances • Sunroom to die for with Beams/Skylights/Cathedral ceiling • Bright Formal Rooms with molding • Cozy Family Room with Raised Hearth Fireplace • Hardwoods • Smashing

MBA with soaking tub, separate shower, two vanities • Garage • Much More • GO!

Hillwood

• Great Location in sought-after Hillwood • 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Garage unit • Large Living Room w/2 Sided Wood-burning Fireplace • Private Balcony off Dining Room • Huge Master Bath w/soaking tub and separate shower • Just steps to Metro Bus and minutes to Van Dorn Metro



Bucknell Manor

• Updated throughout! • 3 Lvl, 4 BR, 3 Full BA • Full walk-out Basement • Energy-efficient windows • Granite Kitchen w/42" maple cabinets • Hardwoods throughout main and upper lvls. • Spacious LL FR w/recessed lights & Full BA • Bright and sunny LR w/chair & crown moldings • Fully fenced flat rear yard w/brick patio & Large Shed • Ideal location in sought-after 22307



Some Residents See Cankerworm Spraying as Unnecessary

FROM PAGE 1
weeks researching the cankerworms and working with entomologists from institutions across the country to determine the pros and cons of these spraying programs. The consensus, she says, is that there are no pros. By eliminating the spraying program, the county will save nearly half a million each year.

Although it may be too late to stop the spraying this year, Kennedy said at the hearings that it should be considered in years to come.

A fall cankerworm is called so because the adult moths are active in fall. The county is spraying now because the larvae, or caterpillars, are active in the spring.

During an Ask Fairfax! online chat session on the fall cankerworm, Joan Allen, an urban forester in the Urban Forest Management Division, said it is believed that only the caterpillars will be directly affected during the spraying.

"While Bt only directly harms caterpillars, there may be a shortage of food available to birds in the limited areas being treated," Allen said during the chat.

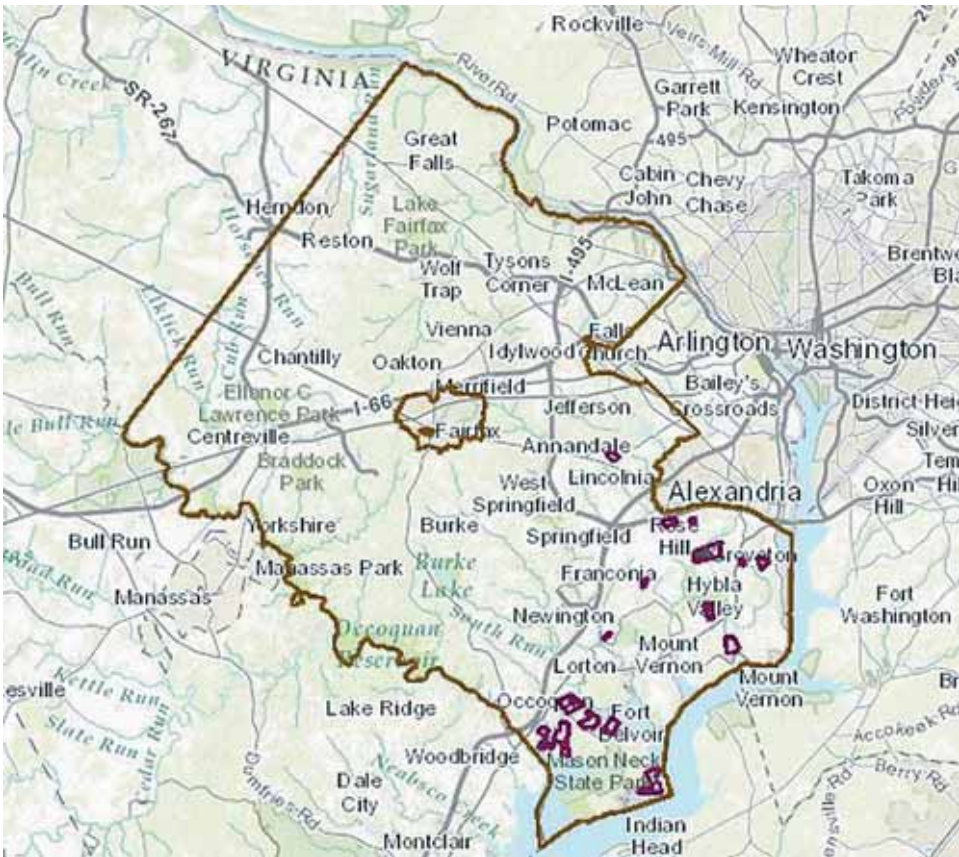
Kennedy discovered through her research that a pair of chickadees requires between 4,000 and 9,000 caterpillars to rear one clutch of chicks.

"Songbirds will undoubtedly suffer if the county proceeds with this Bt spraying plan," she said.

Fairfax County has consulted the Virginia Department Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage division and the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to ensure no endangered species are affected.

"There is a chance that we would be killing other species of caterpillars while we are spraying, but there is nothing out there that is available that is just specific for cankerworms," Shaw said.

But Kennedy says the program's targeting of one pest will cause collateral damage. Larvae of Virginia's state insect, the Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly, and Monarch butterflies could be affected.



The areas in purple demonstrate where spraying for fall cankerworms will occur later this month.

Kennedy points to the fact that the cankerworm does not bite or sting, and poses no threat to humans, pets or livestock.

"The fall cankerworm is not a pest of enough significance to warrant such a wide scale offensive," Kennedy said.

Shaw, however, says that the caterpillar is a nuisance for many homeowners.

"There's a lot of truth to be told that the caterpillars cause nuisance issues. It drives people crazy," he said.

Although the Urban Forest Management Division has said that the cankerworms can cause tree mortality through defoliation, Kennedy says they do not have evidence of this occurring in Fairfax County.

In the late winter, the county put up 450

barrier bands around trees that traps the cankerworms and allows for them to be counted.

"That's how we came up with the areas we proposed for treatment," Shaw said.

Due to the heavy winter experienced this year in Fairfax County, Kennedy thinks it is unlikely a cankerworm outbreak is occurring.

"Fall cankerworm population already suffered to natural forces," she said. "Cool wet spring weather, which we have experienced plenty of this year, has an adverse effect on its numbers."

Shaw, however, says that there isn't re-

Ashley Kennedy, an entomologist, believes Fairfax County's spraying of fall cankerworms, scheduled later this month, is unnecessary.



ally scientific evidence that the cold winter alone has caused a decrease in cankerworms.

The Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Friends of Dyke Marsh, Friends of Mason Neck, Northern Virginia Bird Club and Friends of Huntley Meadows have also voiced their opposition to the spraying.

After hearing Kennedy's testimony, Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey asked whether it was too late to stop the program from occurring this year.

Although the supervisors asked for Kennedy's testimony to be referred to the Urban Forest Management Division, spraying is still set to occur the week of April 29. If there is rain or colder weather, Shaw said, spraying may be delayed since it is leaf dependent.

The spraying of Bt, which has no impacts on humans or other mammals and will only last for a maximum of two weeks, will prevent homeowners from using other insecticides that kills all insects and could last all summer, Shaw said.

"If we don't do what we're doing, there's going to be an increase in homeowners' use of pesticides that will have the direct opposite effect of what we're trying to prevent," Shaw said.

Anyone who has questions or concerns related to the fall cankerworm spraying can call the Fairfax County Forest Pest Management Branch at 703-324-5304.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT BRANCH

Region Sees Lowest Number of TB Cases in Decades

FROM PAGE 3
infected with TB," said Werder.

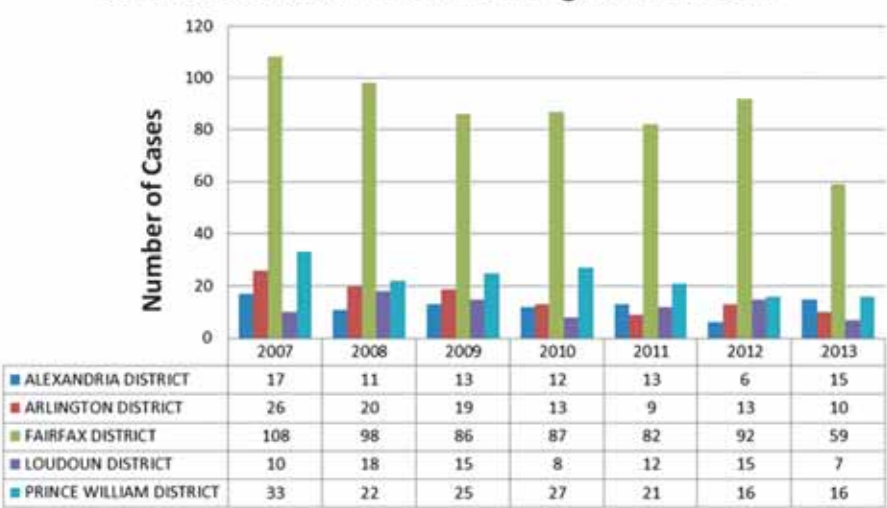
LOCAL NORTHERN VIRGINIA clinics offer educational pamphlets in different languages, and have partnered with key community leaders in hopes of raising awareness about TB treatment in communities where English is a second language. Now, they hope to give people the information they need to know about TB so that the community understands that it's curable, preventable and isn't something that people should be shameful of getting treated.

"The health department and the county at large are very aware at the fact that, with a diverse population comes the

need to figure out how to engage residents who do come from diverse backgrounds," said Werder. Although both state and local health department TB representatives agree that the number of TB cases can be unpredictable each year, they hope that their efforts will continue to keep numbers as low as this year.

"We need to work with them [people in the community] saying 'no anyone can get it ... there's no reason to be ashamed,' said Glen Barbour of the Public Safety Information Office at the Fairfax County Health Department. "Our bottom line message is: You have to know the symptoms so that if you experience them you know to go see a doctor."

Tuberculosis Cases in Northern Virginia Since 2007



Data from the Virginia Department of Health's TB Surveillance Reports by VA Region



The Metropolitan School of the Arts is raising funds for the construction of a black box theatre.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Concert Raises \$8,000

The Metropolitan School of the Arts raised \$8,000 at its second Annual Benefit Concert to go toward construction of their Black Box Theatre project in Alexandria. MSA is working toward a fundraising goal of \$100,000 to complete the theatre project. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for more information.

Metropolitan Youth Ballet, Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble and iMPulse Jazz Ensemble performed at the concert at the George Washington National Memorial in Alexandria, hosted by FOX 5's anchor, Annie Yu.

The 200-seat Black Box Theater will be a part of the Metropolitan School of the Arts studios in Alexandria. When completed, the state-of-the-art black box theater will be designed specifically for dance company performances. It will be one of the few performance spaces in Northern Virginia available to stage and perform dance work in an intimate and appropriate setting.

Founder and president, Melissa Dobbs, was classically trained at Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C., George Mason University and the Royal Academy of Dance in London, where she became a registered teacher.

A Musing

Easily-Confused Words

Some of the most common words we all use daily sound so much alike that they are easily confused, and therefore, are misinterpreted by the listener(s), and therefore, get you into big trouble. (Any sentence with two "therefore"s must be taken very seriously.) Quirky regional dialects can account for some of these sentences, for as we all know, dear readers, folks from weird states, like say, Alabammy, or Maine, or New Joizey (my beloved, but speech-handicapped home state). For instance, one tête-à-tête that popped out of a conversation I had after church this morning went like this: Friend (originally from Boston), "Could you

push the refreshments cot into the kitchen?" Taken slightly aback, my College-English-Major mind quickly weighed several smarty-pants answers, and I settled this one: "No, I slept on that cart last night, and it might not be appropriate." So you see, beloved readers, there are some basic things that we, as thinking mammals, must consider when we interact with others. And as highly-intelligent, socially-ept beings, we must yearn to do so with the utmost elan (final smarty-pants word).

— BART HEWITT

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—Chief Seattle (1788-1866)
Suquamish/
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Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



OPEN SUN 1-4PM
Stratford on the Potomac
9000 Stratford Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308
Watch the eagles from your backyard or walk 2 blocks to the River. A great home featuring 4BR/3.5BA, in-ground swimming pool, open living, and master on main level.
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



NEW LISTING
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OPEN SUN 1-4PM
Belle Haven On The Green
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Absolutely lovely 2BR/2.5BA, 2 lvl brick TH w/Gar, den, formal LR, DN, wood burn FP, HDWDs, inviting deck overlooking flowering garden. Mins to metro, Old Town Alex & 95/495.
Edward Pagett 703-518-6161



OPEN SUN 2-4PM
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501 Slaters Lane 503, Alexandria, VA 22314
Waterfront, 2BR/2BA on Potomac River w/Balcony. Updated Baths. Lots of Closets. Lux. bldg. on Bike Path w/Pool, Fitness Ctr, Conven. Store, 24-Hr. Desk. Near Nat'l Airport & DC.
Eloise Brantley 703-408-4887



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6812 Tiddle Way
\$650,000
Updated Colonial!
 Spacious Colonial, substantially updated in prime Raceway Farms location. Features include: 3 finished levels, open floor plan, windows, roof, siding baths and kitchen. Gorgeous home in "move-in" condition at exceptionally attractive price! **OPEN SUN 4/27, 1-4.** From Alexandria City: Telegraph Road South; R-Graceway Dr; L-Tiddle Way.



4200 Ferry Landing Rd
\$675,000
Unique Opportunity!
 This gorgeous 4 bedroom Colonial is in impeccable condition, located on large lot and is loaded with upgrades. Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Fabulous features: main level study and family room, large updated kitchen with breakfast area, finished lower level, sumptuous master suite, stunning Brazilian Cherry floors, Andersen thermal windows and oversized two car garage. Size-condition-location can't be duplicated at this price! Great Value!



4713 Dolphin Lane
\$1,150,000
Rare Close-In Waterfrontage!
 Set sail from your own backyard to open waters of Potomac, Chesapeake Bay & beyond! Private dock with power lift on protected waters of recently dredged canal just off Potomac. Spacious 4000 sq ft contemporary Rambler with cathedral ceilings & large expanses of glass capitalize on striking nautical views. Just repainted & features gorgeous hardwood flrs & expansive decking. Unique opportunity to acquire huge home for price of waterfront lot.



5013 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway
\$979,500
Stunning New Luxury Home!
 Absolutely nothing comparable for under \$1 Million. Just completed luxury home designed on the "Great Room" concept. Incredibly wide open main level with high ceilings and many windows provides bright, airy atmosphere. Other features: 3 luxuriously finished levels, 5 full baths, hardwood floors and stunning master suite! Gorgeous setting on level 1/2 acre lot.



4413 Ferry Landing Rd
\$549,000
Yacht Haven Gem!
 Fabulous listing in Yacht Haven Estates, one of area's leading waterfront communities! Many major upgrades include: furnace, A/C, water heater, roof, and washer and dryer. Truly stunning gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets, gas cooktop, top level granite countertop. Hardwood floors, bright, open floor plan, covered parking & stone walkway. Large deck overlooks gorgeous 1/2 acre grounds.



9309 Reef Ct
\$619,000
Three Level Colonial - Near River!
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Alexandria / Porto Vecchio
1250 S WASHINGTON ST #710
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Mary Taylor 703.785.5619



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\$ 519,000
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Martha Deal 703.622.6797

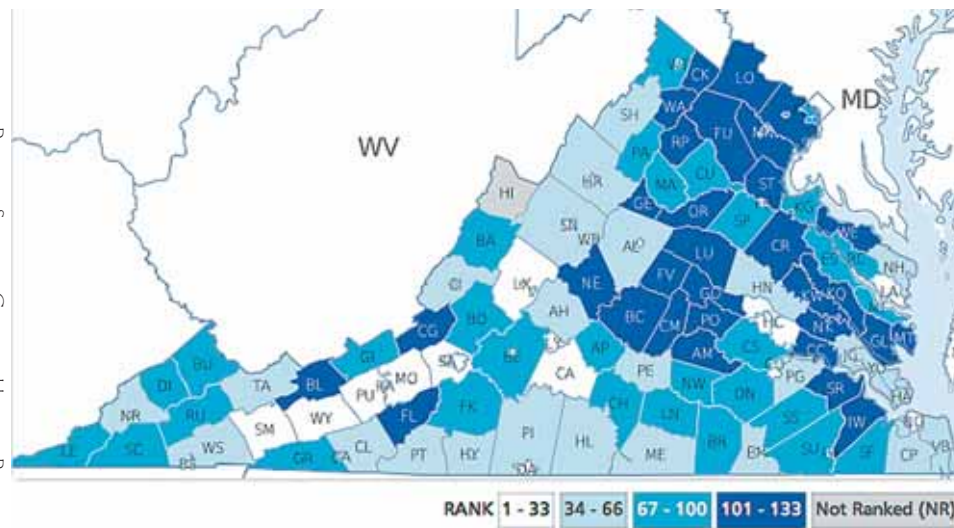
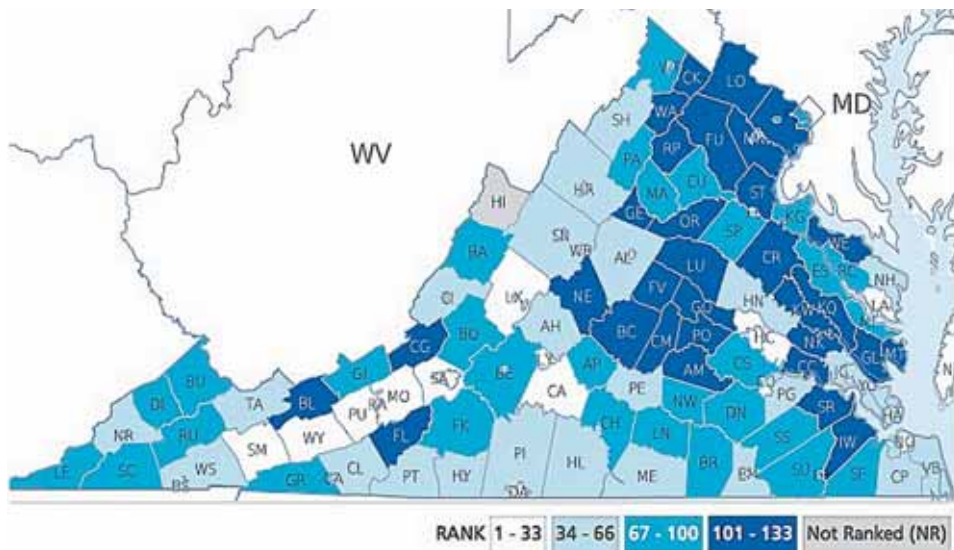
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The range of single-occupancy vehicle drivers who spend more than 30 minutes alone in their car ranges from 9 percent in Charlottesville to 66 percent in Amelia County.

Among workers who commute in their car alone, the percentage that commute more than 30 minutes.

Studying Time Drivers Spend in Single-Occupancy Vehicles

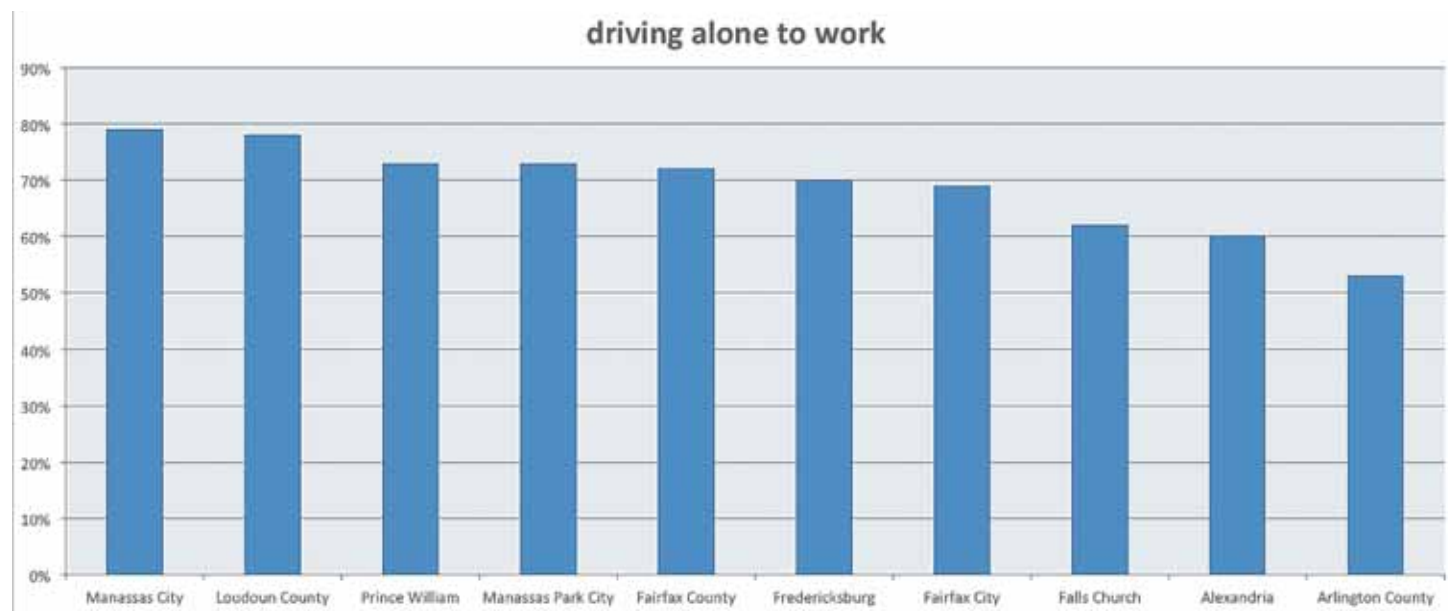
FROM PAGE 1

ginia is that most jurisdictions are below the state and national average for the use of single-occupancy vehicles, which is 76 percent nationwide and 77 percent in Virginia. The average in Northern Virginia is 69 percent. The bad news is that the drivers who are alone in their cars are in for a long commute. Of those who commute alone to work, 33 percent of Americans spend more than 30 minutes alone in their car, and 38 percent of Virginia single-occupancy vehicle operators have a commute that's longer than a half hour. The average for Northern Virginia is 47 percent.

"I've seen this phenomenon in some of my nationwide research on private-vehicle commuting where commuter rail absorbs some commuters and those who live beyond the reach of the Metro, in the case of D.C., have no other choice than to drive to work," said Ed Zolnik, assistant professor in the School of Public Policy at George Mason University. "This makes driving commutes longer on average the further away you get from the reach of the Metro."

BECAUSE NORTHERN VIRGINIA has access to the Metro, rates of drivers who are alone in their cars during the daily commute are lower than other parts of Virginia or the country. Arlington County leads the region, with 53 percent of workers using a single-occupancy vehicle each day. Only Lexington County has a lower rate, which is 51 percent. Arlington's relative success in reducing single-occupancy vehicles is a function of decades of land-use decisions, although the county still has one out of every two workers driving alone to work each day.

"Alexandria and Fairfax County are struggling to catch up from the far-sighted efforts undertaken by Arlington," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Leadership at George Mason University. "These efforts will matter more as the federal commitment to transportation infrastructure continues to remain bankrupt."



Percent of the workforce that drives alone to work.

Perhaps more vexing to people who live in the region is the length of the daily commute for people who are alone in their cars, which is far greater in Northern Virginia than the rest of the commonwealth or nation. According to the Bureau of the Census, the longest average commute times are all in Northern Virginia: Stafford County, Fauquier County and Prince William County all have average commutes near 40 minutes. "We know that if you're driving alone for very long periods of time, that's costing you in the opportunity to be with other people," said Julie Willems Van Dijk, deputy director of the County Health Roadmaps program at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. "And we know that having good social support and good interaction with other folks is also very helpful to supporting good health."

"In Northern Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, we suffer from the worst congestion in the area."

— John Townsend, manager of public and government affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic's Washington office

THE DEBATE about single-occupancy vehicle use is slowly moving from a conversation about social behavior to a discussion about economic incentives. When the 95 Express Lanes open in Northern Virginia in early 2015, every vehicle using the HOV lanes will need an E-ZPass or E-Z pass Flex to use them lawfully. Drivers riding alone won't always be able to use Interstate 95's

High Occupancy Vehicle lanes during off-peak hours the way they can now, a significant shift from the way the system works now.

"In Northern Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, we suffer from the worst congestion in the area," said John Townsend, manager

of public and government affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic's Washington office. "People are so exasperated and so fed up with congestion that they are willing to pay their way out of it."

The 95 Express Lanes begin in Stafford County and include a portion of I-395 between the Capital Beltway and Edsall Road in Fairfax County. Drivers who choose to use the HOV lanes between Edsall Road and D.C. will be subject to current HOV rules for peak hours. Experts say the shift is not only about using transportation policy to influence social behavior. It's also about raising money to build infrastructure, a trend that has grown in recent years as drivers are asking to pay for a premium services, sometimes known as "Lexus lanes" because of the cost associated with using them.

"There's a lot of capital expenditure that's going on that's being paid for by private investors, either lenders or equity investors," said Jonathan Gifford, director of the Center for Transportation Public-Private Partnership Policy at George Mason University.

"These folks are interested in having their loans paid back or generating earnings on their investment, so why would you operate a road for free and say, 'Yeah, come and use our facility for free?' If you have the right to charge for it, you're going to charge for it."

SCHOOLS

MVHS Student Leads State Chapter

Mohammed Ali, Mount Vernon High School junior, was named president of Future Business Leaders of America's Virginia chapter. Ali was elected during the 2014 Virginia State Leadership Conference in Reston on April 5 by a majority of the 1,700 attending delegates. Immediately following the election, Ali appointed Fazila Tariq, a MVHS junior, as corresponding secretary for the state.

As the first state president from Mount Vernon High School, Ali stressed his commitment to the values and standards of the Future Business Leaders of America during his day-long-campaign at the conference.

"I'm really excited to have such a great opportunity and will try to make this organization the best it can be," said Ali. As president of the Virginia Chapter he will be responsible for presiding over State Chapter meetings, serving as a representative of the state at national events, and adhering to the FBLA state bylaws.

In total, five student officers from the Northern Virginia region were elected to the state board, including three from Mount Vernon High School and



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Fazila Tariq, corresponding secretary; Mohammed Ali, president, and Amna Waseem, vice president, of the Future Business Leaders of America.

two from Robinson High School.

Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda is a nonprofit education association with a quarter million students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields.

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Alexandria 1130 Arcturus Lane/22308
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Alexandria New Homes Starting at \$699,000
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Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for Construction of Skills Training Facility U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, Virginia

The Army has prepared an EA that considers the proposed construction of a Skills Training Facility at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. This facility will enable consolidation of existing training activities at Fort Belvoir into a new 96,000 square foot building on a 10-acre parcel

at the Davison Army Airfield area of the garrison. The proposed development activity includes surface parking for up to 180 vehicles and internal site improvements required to support 190 personnel at the facility. The EA considered the effects of the project on land

use, plans, coastal zone management, natural resources, socio-economic factors, traffic and transportation, air quality, and utility systems and concluded that the project is not expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts.

Therefore, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required. The EA and FNSI may be viewed online at:

www.belvoir.army.mil/envirodocssection2.asp. Paper copies of the EA and draft FNSI are available for review and comment at the Fort Belvoir Van Noy Library and the following Fairfax County, Virginia libraries: John Marshall Branch, Kingstowne Branch, Lorton Branch, and Sherwood Regional Branch.

Comments on the EA and draft FNSI should be submitted to: Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, ATTN: Public Works, 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116; or by e-mail to:

imcom.fortbelvoir.dpw.environmental@us.army.mil. Comments must be received no later than 30 days after publication of this Notice of Availability. Subject to review and consideration of comments submitted by individuals, organizations, or agencies during the comment period, the Army intends to issue the final FNSI at the conclusion of the comment period and to proceed with the proposed action.



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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

All Alexandria Reads. Spring events mark Alexandria's annual one book, one community campaign. Adults are invited to ready the recently republished "When Washington Was in Vogue," a once-lost novel by Edward Christopher Williams which depicts the vibrant social life of Washington D.C.'s upper class African Americans during the Harlem Renaissance and jazz age. Younger readers are invited to read the picture book, "Harlem's Little Blackbird," by Renée Watson or the chapter book, "Bud, Not Buddy," by Christopher Paul Curtis. Events begin April 30 and more than 50 related activities are planned through May; for full list of programs visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

Pop Art Exhibit. Works by Art League members celebrating the pop movement with a modern twist. Through May 5 at the Art League, Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday, noon-6 p.m. Sunday. Art on the Rocks cocktail reception Wednesday, April 30, 7-10 p.m., \$35. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. "Printed Painted Potted," Avis Fleming's one-artist show of etchings, lithographs, monotypes, paintings and ceramics features landscapes of Ireland, Maine and Louisiana and birds, people and dogs. May 1-June 30 at Printmakers Inc., Studio #325 in Alexandria's Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Open daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Opening reception Sunday, May 4, 2-4 p.m. Call 703-683-1342.

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.

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.

Film Screenings. Duncan Cinema Club begins monthly series, "Films of the Pre Code Era," May 7, 6:30 p.m. Films will be shown the first Wednesday of the month at Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Post-screening discussions at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. at 9 p.m. Call 703-746-1705 for film.

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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 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.

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 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,



Paul Morella stars in "Underneath the Lintel," one of two shows now playing at MetroStage.

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED

MetroStage Presents 'Underneath the Lintel'

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
METROSTAGE
ARTISTIC PRODUCING DIRECTOR

Storytelling at its best — storytelling in a small intimate space where the audience is actively engaged — this seems to be a common theme at MetroStage. In our two plays being performed on our stage In Rep this spring the audience cannot escape. In "The Thousandth Night," they are being addressed by Guy de Bonheur as he is stranded temporarily but destined for a concentration camp. Will the stories from the Arabian Nights (think Scheherazade's 1,001 stories told to the Sultan to save her life) convince the gendarmes in the train station to let this simple Parisian actor escape? When he asks them (you) directly for help, will anyone speak up? Is the lesson here that there are times in our lives when we may need to speak up, but may not for fear of some repercussion?

In "Underneath the Lintel," The Librarian has rented a hall to give a lecture. He has brought tagged "evidences" to tell his story that begins with an overdue book and ultimately continues on a worldwide journey. Through a series of clues he hopes that you will understand his drive and determination and maybe have a little better under-

standing of life's meaning or the search for meaning in life's journey.

Sounds like a heavy evening at the theatre right? Actually they both have tremendous entertainment value — but underlying are stories of a very serious human dilemma. Choices made, betrayals, and ultimately the search for meaning as we journey through life — confronting both the unpredictable, unavoidable, unfathomable yet trying only to retain our humanity and integrity in the journey. And, dancing when the opportunity arises.

This is MetroStage's first Rep series. Both can be seen on the same day (with a dinner break in between — we promise there will be lots to talk about at dinner) or come on a Tuesday or Wednesday for a brief talk back with the actor and occasional invited speakers. Theatre is a thinking sport but we offer entertainment as well. How often can you experience both simultaneously?

We have a crazy schedule so please check out our website (www.metrostage.org) for which show is in performance which day (we are in a perpetual state of confusion) and experience fascinating human stories in a communal setting and leave the theatre knowing you will still be talking about the experience well into the future.

For performance information or tickets, call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

collaboration and fun. Call 703-201-1250 or visit 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.
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 or call 703-206-8064.

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.

ENTERTAINMENT

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.

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 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.mvctt.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

Spring Book Sale. 4-8:30 p.m. at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Members only preview, membership at door \$10. Visit 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, 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.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 24-26

School Musical. 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. AIDA (School Edition) will be presented by the Mount Vernon Players in the Little Theatre. The show features original choreography and technical design by MVHS students in addition to student performers playing the classic love story about a Nubian princess and an Egyptian army captain. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from cast members, during lunch on show days, or at the door the night of the performance.

FRIDAY/APRIL 25

Spring Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., at the Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Open to general public. Visit 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. Visit <http://magi-whirl.org>.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Walkathon. 8-10 a.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. 18th annual Project Discovery Walkathon 3K Registration at 8, walk at 9, prize ceremony at 10. \$5 students, \$20 adults with fundraising goals to benefit Project Discovery college access program. Visit <http://alexandriava.gov/PDWalkathon> to donate or register.

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 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



17th Annual Student Art Show

Del Ray Artisans and the T.C. Williams High School Art Department jointly present the 17th Annual Student Art Show at the Del Ray Artisans gallery, Friday, May 2-Sunday, May 11. The exhibit will feature the work of members of the National Art Honor Society. Twenty juniors and seniors comprise this year's selection. Many of these students will continue to study art at the college level, and much of the work on exhibit was featured in their winning college admission portfolios. The opening reception will be held Friday, May 2, 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Gallery hours are Thursday, noon-6 p.m.; First Thursday, Friday and Saturday, noon-9 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-6 p.m. The gallery is free, open to the public and handicap accessible. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

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.

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. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Visit 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

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8th Annual Golf Spectacular
 benefiting West Potomac High School Athletics

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ENTERTAINMENT

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.

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 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 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 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.

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.

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

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

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Cook Off. Noon-3 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 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 or 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 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 or call 703-548-0035.

Spring Book Sale. 1-4:30 p.m., at Charles E. Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for hardbacks, kids books for less. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

Historical Lecture. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 134 N. Royal St. One of a series of presidential salons with President James Madison, portrayed by John Douglas Hall. Reservations recommended; \$15 adults, \$10 students. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx> or call 703-746-4242.

Jazz Concert. 4 p.m. at Meade Church, 322 North Alfred St. Jazz at Meade features the Sandra Y. Johnson Quintet. Light refreshments. \$15 donation requested. Call 703-549-1334 or visit 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, 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 or call 703-548-0035.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Book Lecture. 7 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Suzanne E. Smith

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ENTERTAINMENT

discusses the research from her book "To Serve the Living: Funeral Directors and the African American Way of Death." Call 703-746-4356.

Threads of Time and 1920s

Fashion Show. 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Models will showcase the history of African American clothing trends. Sponsored by local vintage boutique Amalgated Clothing and Dry Goods. Part of All Alexandria Reads. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

Art Exhibit Cocktail Reception. 7-10 p.m. at Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Art on the Rocks with seven local mixologists creating cocktails based on art. \$35, drinks and appetizers included. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/art_on_the_rocks_spring2014.

THURSDAY/MAY 1

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Historian Ida E. Jones will speak about her book: "Mary McLeod Bethune in Washington, D.C." Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1751.

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 <http://wphs-spamalot.brownpaper tickets.com>.

FRIDAY/MAY 2

Preschool Fun Fair. 4:30-7 p.m. at 7719 Fort Hunt Road. The Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool Annual Fun Fair has a carnival theme with games, crafts, magic shows, music and face painting. Food is available for purchase. Tickets sold at door: \$12 per child ages 2 and up, adults free. Visit www.tauxemont.org or email tauxemontpp@gmail.com.

Art Reception. 6:30-9 p.m. at B&B Gallery, 215 King St. Artist Serenety Hanley will exhibit a series of black and white oil on canvas pieces. Free, contact mddbrumbaugh@me.com.

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.

Student Art Exhibit Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Twenty T.C. Williams High School students selected as this year's National Art Honor Society inductees exhibit artwork May 2-11. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

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 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.

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



"Depths" by Natalie Shudt

www.theoldtowntheater.com or call 703-549-1025.

House & Garden Tour. Noon-6 p.m. at Hollin Meadows Elementary School on 2310 Nordok Place. Bi-annual House & Garden self-guided walking tour of mid-century modern architecture and landscape. Ten Charles Goodman-designed properties and three gardens will be open. A lecture will take place prior to the tours in the school cafeteria at 11 a.m. \$25 in advance, \$30 day of. Visit www.hollinhills.net.

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. 703-706-4500.

Food History Symposium. 1:30-5 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. 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.

Theatre Performance. 2 p.m. and 7 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 <http://wphs-spamalot.brownpapertickets.com>.

Art Exhibit Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. 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. On display through June 8. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

Kentucky Derby Party. 4:30-8 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club. Junior Friends of the Campagna Center present Bowties & Belles Kentucky Derby Party. Watch the Derby and enjoy a raffle, live music, silent auction and cocktail reception. \$100 tickets to benefit the Campagna Center's programs. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/events/bowties-belles.

Country-Western Dance. 6:30-10 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St. Lessons, 6:30-7:30 followed by open dancing 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 or call 703-860-

Botanical Fiber Sculptures

Natalie Shudt has created large, flowing botanical sculptures anchored to the floor and wall. "Sway" will be on display at The Art League Gallery through May 5. Botanical and architectural forms inspired Shudt's three-dimensional fiber sculptures. She uses silks, wools and other fine fabrics, stitching and quilting them heavily enough to build sculptures with flowing lines and vibrant color. "Sway" envelops the viewer amongst hovering lily pads, flowing leaves, and crawling mushroom shelves. See "Sway" at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. in Studio 21. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

4941.

SATURDAY/MAY 3-31

Historic Attic and Alley Tours. 9 a.m.-noon, Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, 614 Oronoco St. or at the Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. The curious are invited to visit rarely seen spaces at four of Alexandria's historic sites on this special three-hour walking tour of Gadsby's Tavern Museum, the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden and Carlyle House Historic Park. \$35. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/GadsbysTavern.

SUNDAY/MAY 4

Women's Bike Ride. 9:30 a.m. beginning at Jones Point Park, under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. Women on a Roll Ride organized by Alexandria Spokeswomen. Leisurely ride will visit cycling shops to remind businesses that female cyclists are a growing market. Riders are encouraged to wear green and must wear helmets. Snacks and refreshments provided at the shops. Free, registration available at <http://goo.gl/7v8PJ2>.

Wetlands Awareness Day. Noon-4 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn about the wetlands and the birds and animals that live there. Family fun fair with displays, games, face paintings. Free event, fee for some activities. Rain or shine. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park.

T.C. Williams Titan Expo. 1-5 p.m. at the school, 3330 King St. Carnival games, car bash, bake sale, bingo, used book sale and music. Rain or shine. Free admission but activities cost, to benefit scholarships.

Jazz Concert. 2 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Jazz music with the Northern Virginia Community College Jazz Combo. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1751.

Art Exhibit Opening Reception. 2-4 p.m. at Printmakers Inc., Studio #325 in Alexandria's Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. "Printed Painted Potted," Avis Fleming's one-artist show, on display May 1-June 30.

History Lecture and Book Signing. 3 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Historian and author John Beakes will speak on the military career of Colonel Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee during the American Revolution. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 day of. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

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Good Shepherd Housing Celebrates 40 Years

FROM PAGE 5

used comedic props to help make the auction a success. The crowd enjoyed it as he switched from Disney Mickey Mouse ears during the Disney Vacation package to a Washington Nationals hat to encourage bidding for the sports package auction item. Many attendees also bid at different donation levels for the Kid-to-Camp program sponsored by GSH. As Executive Director David Levine said, these donations will help youngsters "realize their dreams."

Levin also introduced a video which featured success stories of individuals who had been helped by the program. The evening ended with a DJ and dance portion as the dance floor quickly filled up once the music started. Good Shepherd Housing broke its gala record by raising a record \$272,000 that evening.

— VERONICA BRUNO

PHOTOS BY
VERONICA BRUNO
THE GAZETTE



Gala attendees Deb Alderson (in green), Pat Petrovic (in black and red), Anne Amhart (in blue) and Sue Genuario (center) took to the dance floor as classic rock-n-roll hits played.



Good Shepherd Housing Board of Directors Chair and Gala Committee member Sanjiv Mahan congratulated former Deputy Executive Director and then Executive Director Shannon Steene and presented him with the Joseph T. Adinaro Humanitarian Award for long-standing contributions and work in support of the organization. Steene was recognized for his tenure with the organization, during which time GSH received several significant awards.



Cathy Gillespie (left) hosted her table at the gala and is seen here talking with Sarah Revers.



Don Rogich placed the winning bid for a vacation retreat in St. John. His was the highest live auction bid of the evening.



Sarah Revers (seated) chats with friend Kari Davidson during the festivities.



Kathleen Kryza danced with Jack Nagliere towards the end of the evening.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

3:30 p.m. at FCPS Virginia Hills Center- 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria. NEXUS presents "Access to Hope: Whole Child & Whole Health." Interactive discussions with public school leaders including students. Morning session, lunch and afternoon session, all free. Contact Lainge Bailey by e-mail: lainge.bailey@earthlink.net, laingeb@cox.net or 703-660-2327. Reservations needed for each session and luncheon.

SATURDAY/MAY 10

Spring Vendor Fair and Yard Sale. Yard sale 7 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parking lot, fair 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. The PTSA hosts the spring vendor fair and yard sale. Vendor

tables are \$25, tables for yard sale are \$10. Concurrent yard sale 7 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parking lot, with proceeds to benefit the All Night Grad Party. For fair, contact Dana Melvin at dana.melvin@cox.net, for yard sale contact George Vargas at vargasbe@aol.com or Kay Martinez at akam4@hotmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 14

Bird Banding Presentation. 7:30 p.m., at the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Dr. Bruce Peterjohn, Chief of the USGS Bird Banding Laboratory-Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, will present information that has been learned from banding birds. Free. Call 703-768-2525.

FRIDAY/MAY 16

Invasive Plant Training. 10 a.m.-

2:30 p.m., meeting at the Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. National Park Service biologist Erik Oberg will conduct a training on how to identify and control invasive plants. Wear sturdy shoes. Free, but reservation requested at 703-289-2542 or erik_oberg@nps.gov.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Comfort Zone, an organization that helps give grieving children a voice, a place, and a community in which to heal, grow, and lead more fulfilling lives, seeks volunteers. There is a volunteer training Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the VT/UVA Northern Virginia Center, 7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church. To register, visit www.comfortzonecamp.org/volunteers/application.

Fairfax County needs **volunteers to drive older adults** to medical

appointments and wellness programs. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The **Kingstowne Senior Center** needs instructors for classes in art and bridge as well as an experienced boater to discuss boating. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The **Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs a volunteer assistant from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Fridays to assist with activities and on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The **Wakefield Senior Center** in Annandale needs Spanish speaking interpreters, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine asked the students questions about finance and American history.



Teaching Financial Skills

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine and former Gov. Frank Keating, president and CEO of the American Bankers Association, visited Hollin Meadows Elementary School on Friday, April 11 to teach a financial literacy lesson to the school's fourth graders. The event was sponsored by American Bankers Association and was part of its 18th annual Teach Children To Save Day.

Kaine and Keating gave lessons on the basics of saving, the benefits of creating a budget and conceptualized how interest helps money to grow. Students were selected to represent various budget items in a lesson that illustrated the difference between needs from wants. Students were

asked to compare the wants of buying a bike with the needs of paying for water. All the students actively participated in the discussions, demonstrations and question and answer sessions.

"The kids were astute on all the answers," said Kaine. "They're so bombarded by so many commercials" as he described the influences that affect children's spending habits today. "Trying to save money is difficult." However, he noted that this generation has "lived through the bust" and that new "laws make it harder to borrow so much."

Regarding saving, Kaine advised, "Start early. Start thinking. You have to make wise decisions."

— VERONICA BRUNO



U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine and former Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, president and CEO of the American Bankers Association with the fourth graders of Hollin Meadows Elementary School. They gave a financial literacy lesson for "Teach Children To Save Day," sponsored by American Bankers Association.

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NEXUS Conference To Address Mental Health Issues

Conference is May 9 at Virginia Hills Center.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

Lainge Bailey of the Gartlan Center for Community Mental Health's NEXUS committee is encouraging anyone interested in decreasing the stigma surrounding mental health and addressing the issues youth face in today's society to attend the NEXUS 2014 conference on May 9.

The conference is an all-day, free event open to the public that aims to address ways to improve mental health and well-being for youth.

The keynote speaker is Stuart White, a post-doctoral research fellow at the National Institute of Mental Health. White will address what the organization is learning in relation to aggressive behavior in youth and how this can be treated.

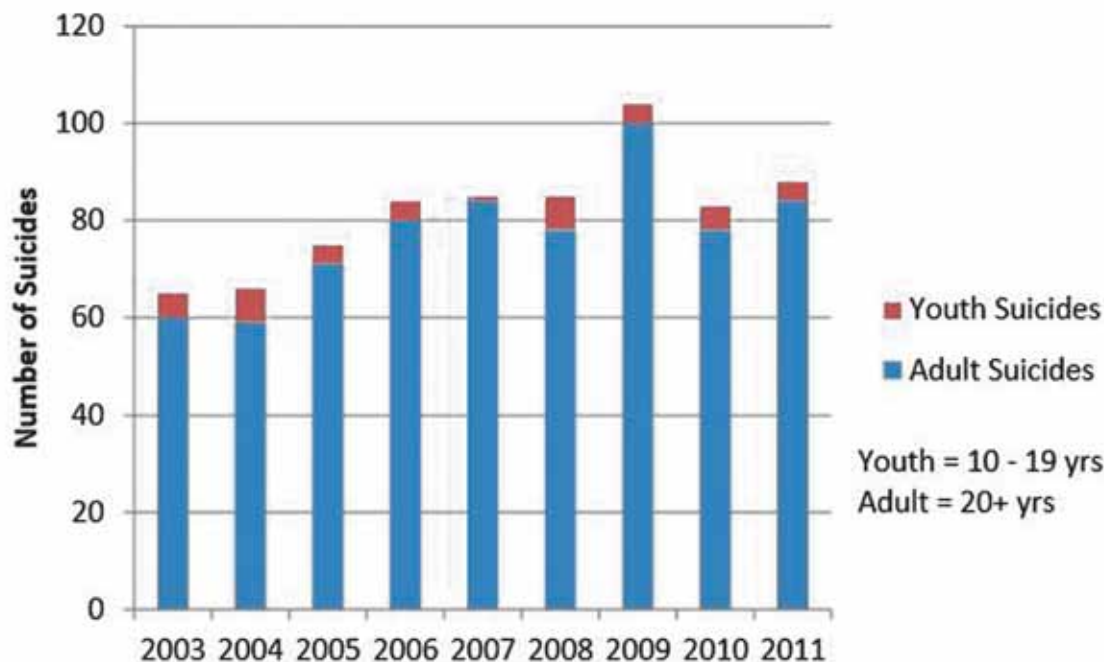
Conference attendees will learn the importance of prevention and intervention, Bailey said.

"The conference will demonstrate a prevention point of view," Bailey said. "There is a need to jump in early and see the connection between health of all kinds."

The Gartlan Center, located in Mount Vernon, recently opened a clinic providing integrated primary and mental health care. This conference will address the importance of health care integration, especially for youth.

The focus of the conference is to keep youths happy, healthy, and safe, Bailey said.

The conference is dedicated to the late Cliff Hardison, a former principal of West Potomac High School and one of the



A graphic from the 2013 report to the Board of Supervisors on suicide in Fairfax County shows the number of suicides between 2003 and 2011. The NEXUS conference on May 9 will address youth mental health in Fairfax County.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

founders of the NEXUS committee at the Gartlan Center. Other speakers include Coordinator for School Psychology Services Dr. Dede Bailer, Assistant Superintendent for Cluster IV Deborah Tyler, Del. Scott Surovell, Director of Health for Fairfax County Gloria Addo-Ayensu, West Potomac Principal Alexander Case, and Jesse Ellis, Prevention Manager, Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

The suicide rate is high in the Mount Vernon area, Bailey said. A September 2013 report to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors determined that between four and seven students commit suicide every year.

In February, two students at Langley High

School committed suicide. At Woodson High School, six students died of suicide within the past three years. Two of these deaths occurred in February 2014 within the same week.

"There is still stigma surrounding mental health," Bailey said. "This conference will address a whole-health approach."

Mental health treatment and suicide prevention were topics brought up by some speakers to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at the public hearings on the proposed 2015 budget.

Dr. Robert Phillips, a Woodson High School parent and representative of Community of Solutions — Helping Teens Deal With Adversity and Build Resilience, said

additional resources are needed in Fairfax County to address mental health problems and prevent suicide.

"We're concerned, because we know that your own survey in the county shows that one in five girls and one in 10 boys have had suicidal thoughts. Between 3 and 5 percent have actually made an attempt in a given year," Phillips said at the budget hearing.

Attendees will learn how to address this issue and more at the conference.

The free, public conference is May 9 from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at FCPS Virginia Hills Center, located at 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria. Contact Lainge Bailey for reservations by email at lainge.bailey@earthlink.net; laingeb@cox.net or by phone: 703-660-2327.

NEWS BRIEFS

Firman, Teacher at Hollin Meadows, Dies

After a lengthy illness, Hollin Meadows sixth grade teacher Jeff Firman died on Wednesday, April 16. Firman was born in 1970 and spent his career teaching for 21 years at Hollin Meadows. A memorial will be held Saturday, April 26 at Jefferson Funeral Home, 5755 Castlewella Drive, Alexandria from 2-5 p.m.

"Mr. Firman was a person of intelligence and integrity, always anxious to help and an inspiration to all of us. He will be greatly missed," Hollin Meadows principal Jon Gates wrote in an email to the community on April 20.

Mobile Home Park Explosion Destroys 21 Homes

A gas explosion in the Audubon Estates Mobile Home Park in Hybla Valley on April 17 has displaced residents and damaged 21 homes.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue responded to the explosion and fire at 9:30 a.m., and the fire was brought under control in 30 minutes. There were no injuries, but several families are without a home. The explosion took place at 7800 Eagle Avenue.

CRIME REPORT

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

BURGLARY, 7500 block of Vernon Square Drive, April 21. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

ROBBERY, 2800 block of Camellia Drive, April 12, 11:30 p.m. Two men were walking when five to six suspects approached them. Several suspects displayed handguns and assaulted the victims. The suspects took cash and property from the victims and fled on foot. The victims received non-life threatening injuries.

ROBBERY, Sacramento Drive/Village Green Court, April 13, 2:20 a.m. Two men were walking when three suspects approached them. The suspects assaulted and took cash from the victims. The victims were transported to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

BURGLARY, 5700 block of Woodlawn Green Circle, April 9. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

ROBBERY, 6300 block of Richmond Highway, April 7, 10:16 a.m. The victim was going to her car when she was approached by two suspects. One suspect

implied he had a weapon and both took cash from the victim. There were no injuries. The first suspect was described as a black male, 40s, and about 6 feet tall with a heavy build. The second suspect was described as a black male, 30s, and about 5 feet 7 inches tall with a medium build.

ROBBERY, 6300 block of Richmond Highway, April 6, 6:44 p.m. A man entered a department store and displayed a gun to an employee. The suspect took cash and fled. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as black, 45-50, about 5 feet 5 inches to 5 feet 6 inches tall, and wearing dark frame eyeglasses and black leather golfer's hat.

BURGLARY, 6600 block of Tower Drive, April 4. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

ROBBERY, 3400 block of Lockheed Boulevard, April 6, 1 a.m. The two victims were walking when two suspects approached them. The suspects demanded money but the victims fled on foot. The suspects chased the victims and one suspect assaulted both victims with a machete. One victim was transported to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The first suspect was described as a black male, 16-20, about 5 feet 6 inches tall and weighing

200 pounds. The second suspect was described as a black male, 20s, and about 5 feet 8 inches tall.

BURGLARY, 7800 block of Richmond Highway, April 6. An employee reported someone entered the business and took property.

BURGLARY, 8300 block of Richmond Highway, April 6. An employee reported someone entered the business and took property.

LARCENIES

- ♦ 7700 block of Richmond Highway, personal items from business
- ♦ 3500 block of Stephies Court, book bag from business
- ♦ 7400 block of Vernon Square Drive, money from business
- ♦ 7000 block of Canterbury Lane, handgun from vehicle
- ♦ 5400 block of Claymont Drive, license plate from vehicle
- ♦ 3300 block of Lockheed Boulevard, wallet from residence
- ♦ 6300 block of Richmond Highway, headphones from business
- ♦ 8600 block of Richmond Highway, liquor from business
- ♦ 7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
- ♦ 8000 block of Richmond Highway, liquor from business



The Presentation of the Teams Ceremony: 14 teams were introduced.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Fort Hunt Softball Celebrates Opening Day

Fort Hunt Softball held its Opening Day Celebration on Sunday, April 6, at the Walt Whitman softball complex. Approximately 500 people including players, family members and volunteers from the softball community attended. The party started off with a picnic, games and dancing.

Larry Grey of Village Hardware received the Award of Special Recognition. For over 15 years, Village Hardware has been supporting FHYAA Softball and Baseball by donating pallets of lime and turface — two crucial elements required to make a field playable.

In addition, Village Hardware has also consistently sponsored softball teams over the years. "This award of special recognition is long over-due," said FHYAA Softball Commissioner Cindy Jackson. "They consistently give back to the Fort Hunt Community year after year and it was a privilege to honor them this way."

Jim Miller, former Fort Hunt Softball Commissioner, received the Commissioner's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2013. Miller was recognized for consistently volunteer-

ing his time to oversee several important programs which will have a positive and direct impact on the overall success of the youth softball program.

The Presentation of the Teams Ceremony revealed Fort Hunt softball fielding six U9 teams (age 6-9), five U12 teams (age 10-12) and three U18 teams (age 13-18). The presentation was kicked off by introducing the West Potomac Varsity and JV softball teams and was concluded with the National Anthem. The ceremonial first pitch of the season was thrown out by Miller.

Fort Hunt Softball League sponsors include: Fort Hunt Sportsmen, Fischer McMaster Homes, Merkli, Inc., The Moery Company, and Sheehy Honda Alexandria. Opening Ceremony Sponsor was Artman DJs. Team Sponsors are Primo Family Restaurant, The JBG Companies, Dick's Sporting Goods, Hollin Hall Automotive, Sew N'Luv, Physical Therapy Zone, KRIMMG, T&T Keller Williams Realty, and Del. Scott A. Surovell.

FHYAA Softball offers spring and fall softball for girls ages 6 to 18. For more information visit www.FHYAAsoftball.org.



Accepting on behalf of Larry Grey, spouse Janet Grey and her son Brendan receive the Special Recognition Award. The award was presented by Commissioner Cindy Jackson and Softball Board Members Miriam Miller, Kerry Daly, Barbie Hendrix, Shawn Zannino, Sandy McMaster and Paul McGuire.



Jim Miller, former Fort Hunt Softball Commissioner, received the Commissioner's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2013.



Doing the Limbo, played by sponsor Bob Artman of Artman DJs.



Fridays in February Spirit Award Winners Emily and Keagan Hendrix.

**This notification is to inform
the general public that
Dawson Dry Cleaners
located at
6410 Richmond Highway,
Alexandria, VA will be closing
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Special Thanks to the Mt Vernon Gazette

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

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Helen Sudhoff,
Winnie Joshi,
Sierra Lerma,
Barbara Smith,
and Mary
Robinson.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

West Po Baseball Enters Second Half with Winning Record

The West Potomac baseball team completed spring break action with a 24-0 victory over Hayfield on April 16, improving its record to 6-4.

The Wolverines defeated Dominion 18-9 on April 12. They lost to West Springfield 12-5 on April 11 and fell to Stone Bridge 7-0 on April 14.

West Potomac, which is 3-2 against Conference 7 opponents, will return to action at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 at home against Lee.

Mount Vernon Softball Improves to 12-2

The Mount Vernon softball team opened the Conference 13 portion of its schedule with a 10-0 victory against Falls Church on April 22. The win improved the Majors' record to 12-2.

Mount Vernon has won 12 of 13 games since opening the season with an 8-0 loss to West Potomac on March 20.

The Majors will host Thomas Jefferson at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 25.

Mount Vernon Boys' Soccer to Host Yorktown

The defending state champion Mount Vernon boys' soccer team will host former National District rival Yorktown at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 28.

Yorktown is off to a 6-1-1 start, including a scoreless tie against Washington-Lee on April 22. The Patriots, now a member of Conference 6 in Group 6A, defeated defending region runner-up Oakton 1-0 on April 4.

Mount Vernon, now a member of Conference 13 in Group 5A, started the season 1-1-3. The Majors will travel to face South County at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, and will host Thomas Jefferson at on April 29.

Mount Vernon Baseball Beats Falls Church

The Mount Vernon baseball team defeated Falls Church 9-4 on April 22. It was the Majors second win in their last four games after starting the season 0-7.

Mount Vernon faced Stuart on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline. The Majors will host Thomas Jefferson at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 25.



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

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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Paul Murphy with wife Sue and daughter Carolyn.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Murphy Presented With Massey Award

Paul Murphy was awarded the 2014 Massey Award for consistent and committed volunteer service to the Fort Hunt Little League program at Fort Hunt Little League's Opening Day Ceremony on April 5.

Murphy has been involved with the Fort Hunt Little League baseball community as a player, umpire, League Commissioner and President for over 40 years. He played from 1970 - 1976 and over the years, he has served as Commissioner of each League through Majors and was elected President in 2004, a position he held for 10 years. As President, he also served as a member of the Virginia District 9 Little League Board of Directors for 10 years.

Murphy was an active and innovative Little League President and guided Fort Hunt through many changes. He amended base running rules in the AAA League to keep it competitive for players of all skill levels which has endured and been embraced by succeeding boards as the "Murphy Rule."

In 2006, he instituted annual "All League" games to recognize top players in the AAA and Majors Leagues which were expanded to the Minors League instituted in 2013 during his tenure.

He also established the "Parade of Teams" at the annual Opening Day Ceremonies and morphed Home Run Derby into Family Fun Day. He also started the annual tradition of Fort Hunt hosting Opening Day for District 9 All-Star teams.

Murphy presided over major facility and field renovations including a major renovation of Red Stevens Field in 2008. He also constructed the partnership between travel baseball and Fort Hunt Little League and guided Fort Hunt Little League through its 50th anniversary season!



FHLL President Barry Meuse and Mount Vernon Fairfax County School Board Member Dan Storck at Opening Day Ceremony where Paul Murphy presented with Massey Award.

Over the years, Fort Hunt Little League hosted nine District 9 all-star tournaments and won six All-Star tournaments: five District 9 Championships: 2004 9/10's, 2005 11's, 2006 Majors, 2008 Junior League, 2009 Junior League, and the 2005 11 Virginia State Championship.

The 10 years of Murphy's presidency was a period of growth for Fort Hunt Little League: T-Ball and A leagues grew from 185 players in 2004 to 313 in 2013. The fact that 68 different individuals served on Paul Murphy-led Fort Hunt Little League Boards of Directors during his 10-year tenure illustrates his commitment to service and leadership. He is staying on as an umpire and draft manager.

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Title of RFP No. 00000439: Landscape Architectural Design Services for the Conceptual Design of the Braddock Neighborhood Park
Closing Date and Time of RFP: May 23, 2014, 3 p.m., prevailing local time
Pre-Proposal Conference: May 2, 2014, 10:30 a.m., prevailing local time
For general inquiries contact Michael Hauer, Contract Specialist III at 703.746.4295.
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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Mount Vernon Gazette

PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE GAZETTE

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Del Ray Realtor Honored for Community Leadership

Jen Walker receives the Marguerite Payez Leadership Award.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

When Jen Walker moved to the Del Ray section of Alexandria in 1997 she received a warm welcome and felt an immediate sense of community.

"The day I moved, neighbors came over to welcome me, offered to loan me a lawn mower if I needed one," said Walker. "Del Ray is a small community in a big city. Being from the South, it reminded me of my small town in Georgia. You know your neighbors, their kids, pets. We help each other. You need something, just ask. Sometimes you don't even have to ask, it just happens."

The sense of community she felt led her to community action.

"After moving to Del Ray, I

wanted to get involved," said Walker. "My colleague and mentor Nancy Dunning suggested I join the Potomac West Business Association [which is] now the Del Ray Business Association. The next thing I knew [I was asked] to join the marketing committee of the Del Ray Business Association. Next thing I knew, I was asked to chair First Thursdays. The rest is history."

That history has culminated with Walker being named winner of the Marguerite Payez Leadership Award. Established by the Alexandria Commission for Women, the award is given to a woman who, through volunteer work, has exhibited leadership qualities and has trained other women to assume leadership roles in the community.

Marcia Call, CEO, TalentFront, a corporate recruiting company,



Jen Walker

and a friend and neighbor of Walker's, nominated her for the award. "Jen says yes first to any request for help and then figures out what it is you need," said Call. "We have a close-knit community because Jen invested her time and money in making it so."

In addition to her community involvement, Walker is a real estate agent at McEneaney Associates, a locally owned real estate company. "Jen is an exceptional real estate agent," said Dave Hawkins, Managing Broker in the Alexandria office of McEneaney Associates. "She lives and breathes it. She has the biggest following and the largest business in the Del Ray marketplace in large part because of her community involvement."

Friends say that she is a shining example of how women can become community leaders. "She is the perfect role model for my daughters," said Call. "In addition to being very successful in business, she brings joy to people who know her. She always has time for her friends and neighbors."

Hawkins said, "She is a big supporter of the organizations that do a lot of good. Jen is intimately involved in various charities, group and neighborhood activities that go on in the Del Ray area."

Walker supports non-profit organizations and local schools to raise funds for important causes including the Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, T.C. Williams High School's All Night Graduation Party, First Night Alexandria, and Northern Virginia Aids Ministries (NOVAM).

Walker's other honors include the Heart of Del Ray award from the Del Ray Business Association, an honor "given to a business that serves as the heart and soul of Del Ray."

Walker has volunteered to shovel snow for Alexandria Snow Buddies, served coffee during the Alexandria Turkey Trot and filled goodie bags for the Del Ray Halloween Parade.

"It's not just about events," said Walker. "It's helping others, giving to a cause, being passionate about something besides yourself."

Walker works to underscore the importance of community service.

"Alexandria is a great city full of women and men who are generous with their time and money," said Walker. "I'm just following in their footsteps and trying to do my part."

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Spring Real Estate & New Homes

What to Expect

Real estate experts offer a forecast for spring.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Real estate agent Joan Caton Cromwell says she lost a home bidding war last week in Falls Church even though her client was a strong contestant.

"We were one of five contracts and we even waived the appraisal," said Cromwell of McEneaney Associates. "Any house that is close-in [to Washington, D.C.] and that is in nice condition, is going to attract a lot of attention."

Real estate agents say spring is one of the busiest times of the year for home sales and there is dearth of available homes in popular neighborhoods. "The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties," said John Eric, Vice President TTR Sotheby's International Realty in Arlington. "I expect all sectors of the market to see price gains and demand to remain high."

HOME PRICES are on the rise. "If you put a home on the market and it gets multiple offers, the eight other people who didn't get the house will bid on another house," said Cromwell. "In a market where there are multiple offers it definitely drives the prices up and it drives them up quickly."

"We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located."

— Marsha Schuman,
Washington Fine Properties

Anthony B. Sanders, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Finance at George Mason University said, "Very simply, this is still an area that is growing, so housing home sales will continue to rise, but more slowly than during the real estate bubble."

Still, agents are optimistic as they enter the spring buying season. "The state of the real estate market is great," said Marsha Schuman of the Washington Fine Properties' Schuman Team. "The weather is behind us and there is a momentum going into the spring market that feels very positive."

The spring market in the Washington, D.C. area is aligned with academic calendars. "It starts in April and May in the suburbs," says Cromwell. "Those in the military or who work for the World Bank for example, put their homes on the market in spring to prepare to relocate during the summer."

Proximity to public transportation increases desirability. "For example, Reston

SEE WHAT TO EXPECT, PAGE 7

Fairfax County Real Estate Overview

- ❖ In February, 789 homes were sold in Fairfax County, an increase of 2.1 percent from the 773 homes sold in February 2013.
- ❖ On average, homes that sold in Fairfax County in February were on the market for 60 days, 8 days longer than the 52-day average in February 2013.
- ❖ The average home sales price of all homes that sold in February 2014 in Fairfax County was \$499,765, an increase of 4.8 percent over the February 2013 average sales price of \$476,735. Compared to the annual 2013 average home sales price of \$531,136, the February price decreased 5.9 percent.
- ❖ The average sales price for detached homes that sold in February 2014 was \$677,199, an increase of 7.4 percent over the February 2013 average of \$630,557.
- ❖ The average sales price of attached homes increased 6.9 percent in the same time period, to \$352,384 from \$329,534 the year before.
- ❖ In February, the number of active listings in the County was 1,814, an increase of 26.3 percent over the 1,436 listed in February 2013. Based on the February 2014 listings and the current sales rate, there is a 2.3 month supply of homes for sale in the County, up from the 1.9 month supply a year ago.

SOURCE: Fairfax County
Office of Management and Budget

A Picture Perfect Home

Tips from the pros on boosting a home's curb appeal.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Realtors Marsha Schuman and Betsy Schuman Dodek drive up to a home to show it to a prospective buyer, they know that they have only one chance to make a good first impression. Potomac-based Dodek and Schuman of the Schuman Team of Washington Fine Properties say a home's curb appeal matters.

"When we think of curb appeal we think of the lawn and landscaping, front door, windows, roof and how it all looks," said Dodek. "Buyers want to buy from someone who has taken really good care of their home and that translates in to curb appeal."



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRUPLACE

Realtors say this Oakton home exemplifies ideal curb appeal, a critical factor when selling a home.

Schuman added, "If things are not nice on the outside, then [potential buyers] wonder what the house will be like on the inside."

REAL ESTATE AGENTS SAY buyers want to purchase a well-cared for home, and the exterior aesthetic of a home creates that impression. Whether you're planning to put your house on the market or would just like a clean and fresh exterior to welcome you home each day, local real estate experts offer advice on enhancing a home's exterior.

McLean-based realtor Chris Pritchard of McEneaney Associates suggests starting by

"The sense of arrival is very important — you never get a second chance to make a first impression."

— Chris Pritchard

critiquing your own home. "Stand in front of your house and take a look," she said. "Walk up the driveway, ask yourself what

you would want to see if you were shopping for a house."

The yard should be pristine and vibrant. "Trimming, mulching and planting some colorful plants are key," said Pritchard.

"Add color with flowers, pots with plants, choosing things like geraniums and pansies," said Dodek. "Adding color just makes such a difference. It makes the yard pop."

Consider safety. "Is the yard hazard-free?" asks Dodek. "It needs to be freshly mowed and mulched with dark mulch because that makes the greenery pop. Make sure your bushes are trimmed and proportionate. Look at trees to make sure they aren't blocking the size of the house."

"One of the next areas we look at are patios, walkways and fences," continued Dodek. "Do they need repairs? Is there loose mortar?"

McLean Realtor Ann McClure of McEneaney Associates says that a home's exterior should be well-lit. "You need good looking and functional lighting which should be on in the evening."

Examine the entrance. "Take a look at the front door," said Dodek. "Does it need painting? We had a recent listing and we painted the door red and added new hardware and a kick plate and that made it stand out. That is something that is very cost effective to do."

A clean appearance is critical. "There should be no algae stains on the roof," said McClure. "The homeowner should make sure that if they have siding that it doesn't

SEE PICTURE PERFECT, PAGE 7

Mount Vernon Gazette

Spring Real Estate
& New Homes

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Local Designers Help Unveil DC Design House

Area tastemakers dream home, currently on the market for \$3.85 million.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Local designers showed off their master work when the 2014 DC Design House was unveiled recently. From Arlington to Burke, and Alexandria to Potomac, Md., the area's top designers competed for an opportunity to donate their talent to transform a local, grand home into a showcase home.

The home, which is on the market for \$3.85 million, is now open to the public for tours. It features six-bedrooms, five full-and two half-baths. Built in 1929, the home features a three-car garage and a pool. The stone house offers three levels and nearly 8,000 square feet of living space, which local designers transformed.

THE HOME'S FRONT FAÇADE was designed by David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac's Rill Architects. Inspired by the stately stone home, the duo decided to add a bit of detail and interest in the form of "style appropriate light fixtures, shutters, furniture and accent colors." When choosing a paint color for the front door, they wanted a hue that was traditional, but unexpected. Their choice: a "high-gloss verdigris green-blue [that] immediately catches your eye from the street. They replaced the existing solid wood single door with a glass-paned French door that "pulls outside views and daylight into the entry hall."

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. "I wanted to create a room with a casual and cozy feel," she said. The room, which has large picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room. Sanchez choose woven rattan furniture to fill the space.

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria designed the family room, which overlooks the pool and patio. The design duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months. They created "cascading light down the hand-woven wall covering..." The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling Inc. Mann describes the small space as "chic, classic and timeless ... a jewel box bath." The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing. Mann was able to preserve and refinish the home's original iron bathtub.

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a guest



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

One of the home's guest bathrooms was created by Arlington-based Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling. The room features Calcutta marble flooring in a herringbone pattern and the acoustic "Moxie" showering system that allows one to listen to music while bathing.

bedroom in the home. In an effort to create a light and airy space, the duo selected wall paper in a pink floral pattern. "We choose streamlined furniture and fabrics to accent the Asian feeling of the wallpaper." The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. The art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother,



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Victoria Sanchez, of Victoria At Home in Old Town, Alexandria, designed the family breakfast room. The room, which has large, picture windows that offer uninterrupted views of nature, connects the kitchen with butler's pantry/wine tasting room.

Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

THE MASTER BEDROOM was designed by Nancy Colbert of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to al-

low for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving. Colbert discovered a painting that she thought would be perfect for a master bedroom, and designed the room around it. She chose an ivory turned-post king bed that she furnished with silk bedding in parchment and seafoam

green. Colbert added crown molding for additional detail. "One of the room's multi-purpose features is a silver toned gilded butterfly side table that was created by a newly discovered artist. It is a work of art and a table."

Beth Boggs, Teri Lohmann and Lynne

Go: D.C Design House

Location: 4600 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008
Hours: Saturday and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Monday, \$25. The home will be open for tours through May 11, 2014.
Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The room is filled with organic textures, tone-on-tone colors and "nods to both a mid-century flair and modernism."

Parmelee of C2 Paint, Potomac Paint & Design with locations in Alexandria, Arlington and Chantilly, added color to the back staircase. The team chose paintable wallpaper in shades of plum, lilac, and spring green. Paintable wall paper "conveniently camouflages old plaster wall cracks, provides durability for high-traffic use and creates a

striking textured design."

Now in its seventh year, the annual event is a fundraiser for Children's National Health System, formerly Children's National Medical Center. The D.C. Design House has raised more than \$1 million and attracted more than 55,000 visitors over the past six years.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown, of Akseizer Design Group in Alexandria, designed the family room of the DC Design House. The duo created a room with French doors that open to the pool area when the weather is mild, but added a linear, modern fireplace to create a warm and cozy space during cooler months.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The master bedroom was designed by Nancy Colbert, of Design Partners in McLean. The space was repurposed to allow for a larger master bathroom and a walk-in closet with built-in shelving.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

The home's front façade was designed by Rill Architects' David Benton and Jim Rill of Potomac.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Susan Donelson and Sharon Bubenhofer, of Cleveland Hall Design created a light and airy guest bedroom in the DC Design House. The room, designed whimsically in pink and green, features twin beds. Art in the room was painted by Donelson's mother, Janice Donelson, a classically trained artist.

Sampler of New Homes Offerings



Pulte Homes

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT

Metro West — with prices from \$454,990-\$831,845, Pulte has 1,256-1,942 square-foot condominiums and townhomes next to the Vienna Metro with 2-4 bedrooms, 2-3.5 baths, located at 2952 Rittenhouse Circle, Fairfax. Call 888-817-2201 or visit www.pulte.com.

Potomac Yard — 1,736-4,167-square-foot condominiums and townhomes priced from \$619,990-\$1,133,845. Located at 2400 Main Line Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22301. Call 888-617-8583 or 800-665-4161, or visit www.pulte.com.



Ryan Homes

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL

Ryan Homes is offering several models of single family homes up to 6,000 square feet at Hampton Reserve in Fairfax Station. Homes at Hampton Reserve sit on lots of at least one acre and have three-car garages. Located at 8830 Chisanthe Court, Fairfax Station, VA, 22039. Call 540-940-9397.



Basheer & Edgemoore Wins Silver

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL

The Maymont community in Vienna, Va. won a Silver Award for Basheer & Edgemoore at the National Sales and Marketing Awards for 2014. Hosted by the National Association of Home Builders, Basheer & Edgemoore took silver in the Community of the Year category.

The 5,000-8,000-square-foot homes at Maymont feature amenities such as hardwood flooring, granite countertops and brick and stone exteriors.

Since its founding, Basheer & Edgemoore has emerged as a leading developer and builder of

luxury estates and communities. The company selects and develops each property based on its natural beauty, convenience and potential, with a sense of respect for preservation and history.

Over the years, Basheer & Edgemoore used technological advances and improvements in construction and design, and these efforts have garnered industry recognition for leadership and innovation.

Visit www.basheerandedgemoore.com.



VAN METRE

Van Metre

The Van Metre Portsmouth Model at Brambleton includes 3,692 square feet with five bedrooms and three baths with a main level bedroom and full bath. Van Metre homes operates an award-winning new homes design center at 24600 Mill Stream Drive #400, Stone Ridge, VA 20105. www.vanmetrehomes.com

Stanley Martin

Summit Oaks — a community of new single family homes in Lorton, will offer two floorplans: The Carey (3,331-5,849 square feet) and The Davidson (3,492-4,917 square feet). Prices start in the low \$700,000s. Contact Lisa Sullivan at 703-339-9670.

Cameron Glen — new homes located just off Judicial Drive in the City of Fairfax, with the benefits of new construction amidst the charm and conveniences of Old Town Fairfax. Prices start at \$639,900. 4092 Sutherland Place, Fairfax, VA 22030.

Callaway — a community of new single family homes in Annandale, with three single family floor plans ranging from 3,037-4,363 square feet. Prices start in the upper \$700,000s. Contact Rhonda Shapiro at 571-266-9172 or Lisa Chapel at 703-994-3780.

Evergreene Homes

Columbia Place — 1100 S Edgewood St., Arlington, VA 22204, Condos From the Mid 500s - Towns from the 800s. Call 703-868-8196.

Vale Oakton — 11797 Stuart Mill Road, Oakton, VA 22124. Single Family, \$2,313,925. Call 703-466-5411.

Wolf Trap Woods — 9518 Leemay St., Vienna, VA 22182. Single family- \$1,449,900. Call 703-466-5411.

Oakton Heights — 10412 Miller Road Oakton, VA 22124. Single family homes from \$1.3 million. Call 888-925-7411.

Westover Place — 1009 North Kensington St., Arlington, VA 22205. Townhouses from the \$800,000s. Call 703-652-2949.

A Picture Perfect Home

FROM PAGE 3

need power washing.”

“Power wash driveways, walkways and even the house sometimes,” said Pritchard. “The house should be washed before it is painted. Do any kind of painting or touch up painting of siding trim and doors that needs to be done. Sometimes you don’t have to paint at all if you do power washing. All homes get dusty. Sometimes paint fades and needs repainting.”

“Another easy thing is the windows,” said Dodek. “Remove screens and wash the windows. You want your house to sparkle inside and out.”

Pritchard said, “Curb appeal also goes to having a fence in good shape: washed and painted or washed and sealed. The home’s deck should be in good shape. More often than not a deck should be power washed and painted or stained or sealed or whatever the appropriate finish is.”

Minor touches can make a major impact. “Take a look at your mailbox,” said Dodek. “Is it upright? Is it tilted? Does it need to be painted?”

Don’t hide your amenities. “If you have a swimming pool, we get them to remove the cover,” said Dodek. “There’s nothing more beautiful than a beautiful blue swimming pool.”

“The lack of inventory in sought-after communities like Arlington and McLean has already ushered in the return of bidding wars for move-in ready properties.”

— John Eric,
TTR Sotheby’s
International Realty

What to Expect

FROM PAGE 3

is popular because of the Silver Line,” said Cromwell. “North Arlington and Falls Church are popular. Anything that offers a decent commuting experience for someone who can’t afford what they want in the city will be sought after.”

Schuman said, “We see a new trend in all price ranges where buyers want to buy where they can walk to amenities, restaurants and shops. Buyers are satisfied with smaller houses that are conveniently located. They want an easier life. Convenience is the new real estate buzzword. Property becomes compelling when buyers see value.”

Sanders said some communities are especially competitive. “Virginia has two of the wealthiest counties in the country, Loudoun and Fairfax counties, so those communities should see a fairly short turn over.”

NOT EVERYONE IS KEEP-
ING with the trend. “We’re not seeing middle class families buying homes through the mortgage market,” said Sanders, the GMU professor. “Their income was devastated during the housing bubble burst due to foreclosures. Real household income has fallen since 2007. So the American middle class is worse off than it was in 2007. It’s more high-income families with cash or investors who are buying homes.”

Schuman says that homes priced below \$1.3 million “are being snapped off the market if they are well conditioned and fairly priced. The ultra-luxury market, homes over \$2 million, is a little bit slower paced at present, but there are signs that these buyers are out there and wanting to buy.”

Cromwell agrees, “The 600-900K price point is very busy for a house in good condition.”



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Mount Vernon REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY
VERONICA BRUNO/
THE GAZETTE

Top Sales in February 2014

IN FEBRUARY 2014, 99 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN
\$1,435,000-\$1,017,500 IN THE MOUNT VERNON AREA.



1 7612 Holiday Drive — \$1,435,000



3 9300 Old Mount Vernon Road — \$1,250,000



2 8110 Boulevard Drive East — \$1,250,000



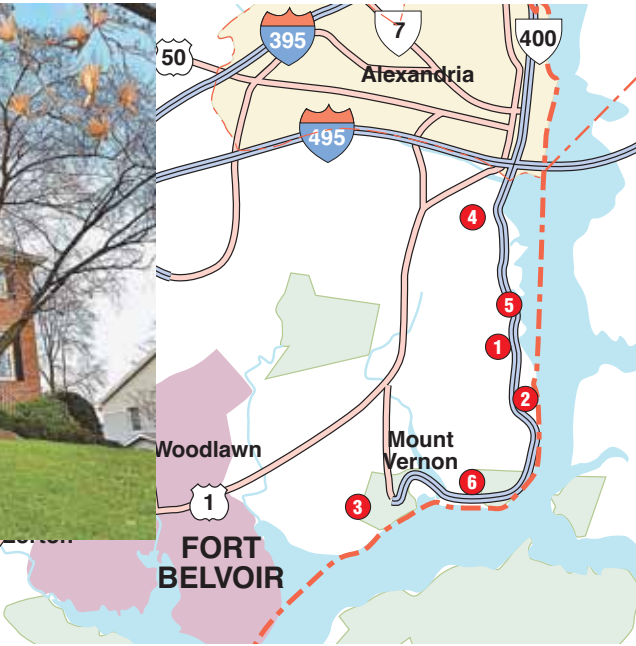
5 7301 Park Terrace Drive — \$1,125,000



4 1904 Belle Haven Road — \$1,170,000



6 8911 Charles Augustine Drive — \$1,017,500



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1 7612 HOLIDAY DR	6	..	5	..	1	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,435,000	Detached	0.50	22308	WELLINGTON HEIGHTS	02/24/14
2 8110 BOULEVARD DR E	5	..	3	..	1	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,250,000	Detached	1.72	22308	BOGUESS AND SIMPSON ...	02/21/14
3 9300 OLD MT VERNON RD	7	..	5	..	1	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.82	22309	MT VERNON FOREST	02/06/14
4 1904 BELLE HAVEN RD	4	..	3	..	1	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,170,000	Detached	0.25	22307	BELLE HAVEN	02/28/14
5 7301 PARK TERRACE DR	4	..	3	..	1	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,125,000	Detached	0.47	22307	VILLAMAY	02/21/14
6 8911 CHARLES AUGUSTINE DR ..	6	..	5	..	0	ALEXANDRIA ..	\$1,017,500	Detached	0.32	22308	RIVER BEND ESTATES	02/21/14

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