



PHOTO COURTESY OF 95 EXPRESS LANES

Representatives from chambers throughout the area, including Holly Dougherty, president of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce (far right), and Nancy-jo Manney, president of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce (fourth from left), posed with project staff and a signed pledge to discourage distracted driving.

Distracted Driving on the Rise

Drivers are encouraged to avoid their phones.

By JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

Although April was designated as National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, the issue continues to affect drivers in and around Fairfax County throughout the year.

According to the Fairfax County Police Department, distracted driving resulted in 1,175 crashes in 2013. In the Lee district, Franconia Road and South Van Dorn Street was a top location for crashes involving distracted drivers.

A recent survey has also found that distracted driving is on the rise along Interstate 95, although construction of the express lanes has kept the area busy with construction.

The report, released on May 8 by Transurban-Fluor and AAA Mid-Atlantic, found that distracted driving rose to 62 percent this year, up from 56 percent in 2013.

"Distracted driving is dangerous under the best conditions — it is even more dangerous in a work zone," said Aubrey Layne, Virginia Secretary of Transportation, in a press release on May 8. "Transportation safety and the safety of those who report to work each day to improve Virginia's infrastruc-

ture is our top priority. Drivers can make our roads significantly safer by taking one simple step — put down the phone while behind the wheel."

THE REPORT surveyed 1,023 drivers who live in Northern Virginia and travel along the express lanes construction. The number of distracted drivers who have had an incident or a near-miss is now at 31 percent, up from 24 percent in 2013, the report says.

The survey also found that work-related demands could be a cause of distracted driving, as 54 percent of distracted drivers were found to have at some point responded to an issue relating to work. And, those who respond to work-related issues are more likely to respond to texts and emails.

"The issue of distracted driving in Virginia starts and ends with this: if you're driving distracted, you're dangerous to everyone on the road," Mahlon G. "Lon" Anderson, AAA Mid-Atlantic spokesman, stated in the May 8 press release. "Employers must actively work to change their culture and discourage employees from driving distracted by changing policy. When it comes to distracted driving, being passive won't work. Changing behavior to save lives demands aggressive action."

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

SEE DISTRACTED DRIVING, PAGE 24

Top Five

- Top locations for crashes with distracted driving in 2013, according to the Fairfax County Police Department:
- ❖ Colvin Run Road/Leesburg Pike
 - ❖ Georgetown Pike/Leesburg Pike
 - ❖ Leesburg Pike/Lewinsville Road
 - ❖ Fairfax County Parkway/Sunrise Valley Drive
 - ❖ Franconia Road/South Van Dorn Street.

Infringing the Right To Assemble?

Residents voice opposition to county proposal at public meetings.

By JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

After a heated public meeting on a proposed change to the Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance, which would limit gatherings of more than 49 people to three times in a 40-day period in a residential dwelling, Leslie Johnson, the zoning administrator for Fairfax County, told residents she doubts the proposal will go any further, based on the feedback that has been received.

This came after every resident at the meeting spoke out against the change, which many see as unnecessary and an infringement on their rights to peacefully assemble.

Still, the proposal is set to be presented to the Board of Supervisors in June.

Michelle O'Hare, the deputy zoning administrator for Fairfax County, told residents that the proposal is a way to respond to inci-

dents that have occurred in which there are large, frequent gatherings in residential areas.

CURRENTLY, the zoning ordinance does not define which size or frequency is appropriate at a residential dwelling. But many residents are concerned that the proposal limits the right to assemble and will cause legal issues for the county.

"While there have been some complaints about frequent and large gatherings creating issues such as lack of parking, noise, and traffic, I have serious concerns about such a sweeping change to the zoning ordinance," Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said in a statement in his regularly-issued Herrity Report. "I believe the County is risking a lawsuit and/or a Constitution challenge by interfering with peoples' right to assemble.

Also taking issue with the proposal is a way to respond to inci-



Steve Gell, former president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, speaks against the proposed changes to the zoning ordinance.

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Shirley Ginwright, the Fairfax NAACP president, talks about the struggles she had in keeping the church's marker description on the plaque to just 150 words.



The congregation gathers in front of Bethlehem Baptist Church for the ceremony.

PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE

Bethlehem Baptist Church Receives County Marker

Plaque from Fairfax County commemorates 150 years.

BY VERONICA BRUNO
THE GAZETTE

To a chorus of "To God be His Glory," long-time members of Bethlehem Baptist Church Lee T. Young and Ada Singletary unveiled the marker plaque from the Fairfax County History Commission. Founded in 1863 by African slave youth the Rev. Samuel K. Taylor, the marker was awarded to the church for its 150th anniversary.

The marker can be seen along Fordson Road in the Gum Springs area of Alexandria. Bethlehem Baptist Church is located at 7836 Fordson Road.

Fairfax County History Commission members, the marker committee chair Jack Hiller, Fairfax County NAACP President and the congregation's pastor spoke during the ceremony. The congregation gathered outside to witness the unveiling. The Rev. Dr. Darrell K. White thanked the trustees for their exhaustive research help. During the blessing he asked to "bless our neighborhood and those that are in need."

White called the marker a "symbol of our progress and our faith."



The Rev. Dr. Darrell K. White thanks those who helped make the awarding of the marker possible.

The Rev. Dr. Darrell K. White thanks the three History Commission members, Phyllis Walker-Ford, Lynne Garvey-Hodge and Anne Barnes.



Jack Hiller, the History Commission Marker chair, describes the process of getting the marker approved. He notes that the marker gives a "sense of place in a moment of time" and that "the present shapes the past."



Lee T. Young, Deacon Emeritus, and Ada Singletary, member, unveil the marker to applause from the congregation.

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8271 Media St. Huge 3-story custom Home, new construction, ready for immediate occupancy. Expansive corner lot. Over 5,200 sq ft of living space. 6 BR, 5.5 BA, 2-car garage. 2 Master BR Suites (1 on main Lvl). Open main lvl with Kitchen, FR, LR, DR. Gourmet Kitchen with large island, granite, recessed lighting. Gas fireplace in LR with granite mantel. Huge third floor rec rm pre-wired for home theater. **OPEN SUNDAY 1-4.** *Leslie Atkinson 703-967-1471*



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Huntington Creek **\$172,500**
2059 Huntington Ave #111. Large (850 sq ft), entry level 1 BR with balcony on first floor. 24-hr front desk, pool, sauna, tennis, plenty of parking, & laundry on each floor. 2 walk-in closets. Close to Huntington Metro, easy access to I-495 & Old Town Alexandria. *Mike Downie 703-360-3189*



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Falls Church **\$219,000**
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CRIME

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

BURGLARY, 7700 block of Richmond Highway, May 17. An employee reported someone entered the business and took property.

BURGLARY, 7619 Richmond Highway, May 16. Officers responded for a burglary alarm and located suspects to the rear of the Firestone Tires business stealing tires. The suspects fled but were located a short distance away by K9. Two suspects were arrested. A 31-year-old man from Chesterfield, Va. and a 26-year-old man from Colonial Heights, Va., were each charged with burglary, grand larceny and grand larceny with the intent to sell.

LARCENIES

- ❖ 4100 block of Bedrock Court, electronic device from vehicle
- ❖ 8400 block of Fort Hunt Road, cell phone from location
- ❖ 8400 block of Frye Road, candy from business
- ❖ 8000 block of Kidd Street, TV and table from residence
- ❖ 7400 block of Mount Vernon Square Center, purse from business
- ❖ 6300 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
- ❖ 4100 block of Bedrock Court, bicycles stolen from residence
- ❖ 7900 block of Fort Hunt Road, merchandise stolen from business
- ❖ 6200 block of North Kings Highway, liquor stolen from business
- ❖ 6400 block of George Washington Memorial Parkway, purse from vehicle
- ❖ Lenore Lane/James Drive, cell phone from residence
- ❖ 5800 block of Mount Vernon Drive, clothing from residence



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Alex./Yacht Haven \$859,900
4505 Dolphin Lane
4,000 sq ft of renovated luxury in this 5 BR/4 BA Split – Updates: Kitchen, all 4 baths, spectacular cherry hwd floors – Great rm opens to beautiful sun rm addition which opens to spectacular 35K deck which overlooks unbelievable custom landscaped back yard. House designed for independent living on either level. Two updated HVAC systems plus tankless HWH – the list goes on and on. Nothing better in all of Mt. Vernon!

Alex./Riverwood \$820,000
3716 Carriage House Court
Spectacular 6 BR/3.5 BA Colonial in Prestigious Waterfront Community of Riverwood. 4,000+ sq ft of remodeled living space. Loaded with upgrades, must see to believe, plus a beautiful In-Law Suite on main level. Stunning hwd floors, light and bright w/great flow – perfect for entertaining. Quiet, private w/absolutely incredible landscaping. Classy, spacious and TLC! 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town Alex, 25 mins to Ntl Airport. Mt. Vernon's Finest!

Alex./Eastgate \$559,900
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NEWS

Otey To Lead Browne Academy

Margaret (Peggy) Patten Otey has been appointed as the fifth Head of School for Browne Academy, effective July 1. This decision caps a 10-month long search process begun when Margot Durkin announced her intention to retire after 42 years in education, including eight years as Browne's Head.



Otey

arts as well as her teaching certificate from Appalachian State University, and her master of education degree from Queens University in Charlotte.

Otey will come to Browne from Charlotte Country Day School, an independent school in North Carolina whose values of educational excellence, diverse community, character, and service mirror those of Browne. Since 2004, Otey has served as Country Day's Head of the Lower School Division, which has more 600 students and 100 faculty and staff.

Before becoming Division Head at Charlotte Country Day, Otey served as teacher, grade level coordinator, and director of studies, where she was responsible for the division's curriculum.

Otey received her bachelor of science degree in communication

and will be coming to Alexandria with her husband, Wade, with whom she has two adult children, a daughter Leigh who lives in the Washington D.C. area, and a son, Tommy. In her time outside of schools, she is an active outdoorswoman who enjoys gardening, cooking and reading.

Browne Academy is a pre-kindergarten through grade eight independent, coeducational day school accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and a member of the National Association of Independent Schools and Independent Educa-



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The 95 Express Lanes, scheduled to open in early 2015, will require all users to purchase an E-ZPass. Shown here is construction from fall 2013 at the northern end of the project area.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF 95 EXPRESS LANES

Existing HOV lanes will be expanded from two to three lanes from Edsall Road in Springfield on I-395 to Prince William Parkway.

Major Changes Coming to Interstate 95

All 95 Express Lane users will need an E-ZPass in 2015.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

When the 95 Express Lanes open in 2015, all drivers, whether they are driving alone, in a carpool, a slug, or in a vehicle with a clean fuel plate, will be required to purchase an E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex to use these lanes.

“What drivers need to understand is that while they travel these HOV lanes today, and a lot of folks have been traveling these HOV lanes for years, the rules that occur in the HOV lanes are going to change when the Express Lanes open in 2015,” said Michael McGurk, a spokesperson for the 95 Express Lanes project.

Unlike the 495 Express Lanes project, which was more like building a highway within a highway, McGurk said, HOV lanes on 95 are being converted into express lanes.

“With that conversion comes a whole bunch of different rules,” McGurk said.

To raise awareness of the changes, the 95 Express Lanes project, along with the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, launched the “Make a Plan” campaign on April 14.

“We want those who use the HOV lanes to continue to vanpool, carpool, slug on the express lanes, but they’ve got to do their homework,” McGurk said.

THE EXPRESS LANES will run from Stafford County near Garrisonville Road up to 395 near Edsall Road, nearly 29 miles. Anyone using the express lanes will need to purchase an E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex, which are available at retailers throughout the area, including Giant and Wegmans.

“The E-ZPass Flex is the special E-ZPass

that was created for use on the 495 Express Lanes, and then the 95 Express Lanes as well, that gives people the option to take a toll-free trip if you have three or more people in your car,” McGurk said. “That E-ZPass actually has the switch at the bottom, and the driver puts it in either toll-paying mode if they’re by themselves or with one other person in the car, or if they have three or more people they put it in HOV mode.”

The E-ZPass Flex is critical, McGurk said, because it will allow those who are traveling HOV-3 in the HOV lanes today to enjoy the same toll-free trip.

Regardless of whether drivers participate in a slug, carpool or vanpool, any vehicle with three or more people needs an E-ZPass Flex to use the express lanes.

“You can take advantage of that same network that you travel today with the HOV lanes,” McGurk said.

The only passengers receiving a toll-free trip on the express lanes will be those with a total of three or more people in their car, transit riders, or motorcycle riders.

“Today on the HOV lanes, if you have a special clean fuel license plate that was issued before July 2006, you can use the HOV lanes without meeting the HOV-3 occupancy requirement,” McGurk said. “That will change as well on the 95 Express Lanes. The only way to get that toll free ride is with three or more or riding a bus or motorcycle.”

Under the current HOV system, drivers with less than three people are not able to use the lanes during restricted peak times. However, under the new express lanes sys-



Drivers are encouraged to plan ahead as the opening of the 95 Express Lanes will change the way the interstate is used. All drivers using the express lanes are required to purchase an E-ZPass. Those who travel with three or more people in their vehicle must purchase an E-ZPass Flex and switch it to the toll-free HOV mode when traveling on the express lanes.

tem, those drivers can pay a toll to access the lanes at any time, McGurk said.

“So during peak morning rush hour, 7:30 and 8 in the morning, normally they aren’t allowed in the HOV lane network, but they’re going to have the opportunity to be able to pay a toll to get in the express lanes network,” McGurk said.

Once the 95 Express Lanes end at Edsall Road in Springfield, those with three or

more people in their vehicles can continue north onto the I-395 HOV lanes. However, during times when the I-395 HOV rules are in effect, those who do not meet the HOV requirement will have to exit the express lanes and travel on the main parts of I-395 when the express lanes end at Edsall Road.

“While using the 95 Express Lanes will be easy, it’s important that all travelers make a plan for the changes the 95 Express Lanes will bring to I-95,” said Kevin Ginnerty, Director of Project Delivery, Transurban, in an April 14 press release. “Many travelers use the HOV lanes today – whether for commuting, week-end or vacation trips – and it’s important that they familiarize themselves with new rules of the road for the 95 Express Lanes.”

IN APRIL, Gov. Terry McAuliffe announced that the 95 Express Lanes project is more than 70 percent complete and will open in early 2015.

“The progress on the 95 Express Lanes project is a visible reminder of the congestion relief and new travel choices that Virginians will have available to them in less than a year,” McAuliffe stated in an April 29

press release. “The project has also benefited jobs and business opportunities, particularly for women- and minority-owned businesses as well as small businesses. Steel work was completed by a local disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE), Interlock Steelworkers, Inc., exemplifying the Commonwealth’s commitment to providing business opportunities that support jobs and generate economic growth.”

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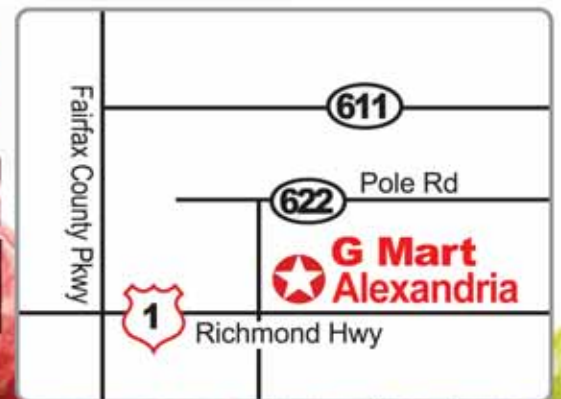
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OPINION

Remembering on Memorial Day

Fewer deaths as military operations wind down, but 22 veterans a day die of suicide.

In Arlington over the coming Memorial Day weekend, the organization TAPS, or Tragedy Assistance for Survivors, will hold its 20th annual Military Survivor seminar and Good Grief camp for children of all ages. TAPS offers support to anyone who is grieving the death of someone who died in the military, whether from combat, suicide, terrorism, homicide, negligence, accidents or illness. www.taps.org.

One veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan recently related that he had lost more of his military family to suicide post-deployment than he did from combat. Reports by the Veterans Administration set the number of suicides among veterans nationwide at about 22 per day.

On Memorial Day, we remember all of those who have died in military service, more than 400,000 in World War II, more than 30,000 in Korea, and more than 50,000 in Vietnam.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 6,400 U.S. military service men and women have died in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Nearly 50,000 U.S. military service members have been wounded, although that number is likely to be revised upward. Last year, the military confirmed traumatic brain injury in at least 220,000 of the more than 2.3 million troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. The long-term consequences of many of these injuries are unknown, but they will require a national commitment to excellence in health care and services for both active duty military personnel and veterans. Virginia's U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine continue to advocate for better service from the Veterans Administration.

Since Memorial Day 2013, with military operations winding down in Afghanistan, the Department of Defense announced the deaths of two military service members from Virginia.

Army Sgt. Lyle D. Turnbull, 31, of Norfolk, died Oct. 18, 2013 in Kuwait, from a medical emergency. Capt. Brandon L. Cyr, 28, of Woodbridge, was one of four airmen who died April 27, 2013, near Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, in the crash of an MC-12 aircraft.

1st Lt. Robert J. Hess, 26, of the Kings Park West neighborhood of Fairfax, was killed by enemy fire on April 23, 2013, Afghanistan. Hess was known as "RJ" and graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 2005, where he played football, lacrosse and was the captain of the swim team. He was a U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter pilot who deployed to Afghanistan on April 11, 2013. His family remembers his sense of humor and his natural leadership ability.

Lance Cpl. Niall W. Coti-Sears, 23, of Arlington, died June 23, 2012, while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. Coti-Sears loved music, played the guitar, composed songs and entertained family and friends at holiday gatherings. Niall was very close to his grandfather, William Coti, who was a Marine. "He was always my protege," William Coti told the Arlington Connection. "He always wanted to be a Marine and he followed my example. It weighs heavily on me that this had to happen."

Chief Warrant Officer Five John C. Pratt, 51, of Springfield, died May 28, 2012 in Kabul, Afghanistan, when his helicopter crashed. Staff Sgt. Jessica M. Wing, 42, of Alexandria, Va., died Aug. 27, 2012 in Kuwait City, Kuwait.

In February 2012, Brig. Gen. Terence J. Hildner, 49, of Fairfax, was the highest ranking military officer to die in the war. Hildner died Feb. 3, 2012 in Kabul province, Afghanistan.

OTHER VIRGINIA DEATHS in Afghanistan in the year before Memorial Day 2013: Sgt. Aaron X. Wittman, 28, of Chester, Va., died Jan. 10, 2013, from small arms

fire. Sgt. David J. Chambers, 25, of Hampton, Va., died Jan. 16, 2013, from a roadside bomb. Sgt. Robert J. Billings, 30, of Clarksville, Va., died Oct. 13, 2012, when enemy forces attacked with an improvised explosive device. Staff Sgt. Jonathan P. Schmidt, 28, of Petersburg, Va., died Sept. 1, 2012, from enemy small arms fire. 1st Lt. Stephen C. Prasnicky, 24, of Lexington, Va., died June 27, 2012, from a roadside bomb.

Here we remember the local men and women who have died since Sept. 11, 2001, in the wars that resulted from that day:

Aaron Carson Vaughn, 30, was one of 30 American service members and 22 Navy SEALs killed Aug. 6, 2011, when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan. Vaughn's family has ties to McLean and Burke. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly, and their two children.

Spc. Douglas Jay Green, 23, of Sterling, died Aug. 28, 2011, when insurgents attacked his unit using a roadside bomb in Afghanistan. Green enlisted in 2007, after attending Potomac Falls High School.

Pfc. Benjamin J. Park, 25, of Fairfax Station, died June 18, 2010, at Zhari district, Kandahar, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

May 12, 2010, Donald J. Lamar II, 23, of Fredericksburg, was killed in Afghanistan. Christopher D. Worrell, 35, of Virginia Beach, was killed in Iraq on April 22, 2010. Steven J. Bishop, 29, of Christianburg, was killed March 13, 2010, in Iraq. Kielin T. Dunn, 19, of Chesapeake, was killed Feb. 18, 2010, in Afghanistan. Brandon T. Islip, 23, of Richmond, was killed Nov. 29, 2009, in Afghanistan.

Stephan L. Mace, 21, of Lovettsville, died Oct. 3, 2009, in Afghanistan.

Bill Cahir, 40, of Alexandria, died Aug. 13, 2009, of a gunshot wound while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. After 9/11, Cahir decided to leave his career as a journalist and join the Marine Corps. His application to become a Marine was denied because of his age, but he lobbied members of Congress to get a special exemption.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Ryan Bennett, 23, of Clifton died Jan. 11, 2009, in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

2nd Lt. Sean P. O'Connor of Burke died Oct. 19, 2008, while stationed at Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah, Ga. O'Connor was an athlete in soccer, baseball and football who attended Fairfax County Public Schools and was a 1999 graduate of Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.

Pfc. David Sharrett II, 27, of Oakton, died Jan. 16, 2008, in Iraq. On Oct. 24, 2008, his father, David H. Sharrett, was on hand as the Oakton Post Office on White Granite Drive was renamed to honor his son. But the senior Sharrett has battled to learn the truth about his son's death, that he was killed by his lieutenant in the confusion of a firefight. In April 2012, Sharrett Sr. obtained documents confirming some of the details of his son's death and a subsequent cover-up.

Army 1st Lt. Thomas J. Brown, a George Mason University graduate and Burke resident, died on Sept. 23, 2008, while serving in Iraq. His unit came under small arms fire, and Brown, 26, died from his wounds.

Sgt. Scott Kirkpatrick, 26, died on Aug. 11, 2007, in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Kirkpatrick, who graduated from Park View High School in Sterling, and also considered Herndon and Reston as his hometowns, was a champion slam poet. His father, Ed Kirkpatrick, calls him the "warrior poet," and he and his wife help injured vets at Walter Reed through the Yellow Ribbon fund (www.yellowribbonfund.org).

Ami Neiberger-Miller of Sterling lost her brother, U.S. Army Spc. Christopher Neiberger, in August 2007 when he was killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq. He was 22.

Staff Sgt. Jesse G. Clowers Jr., 27, of Herndon, died when an improvised bomb exploded near his vehicle in Afghanistan on Aug. 12, 2007. Jonathan D. Winterbottom, 21, of Falls Church, died in Iraq on May 23, 2007, when an IED exploded near his vehicle.

Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, died Nov. 24, 2006, during combat in Anbar province in Iraq. Army Cpl. Andy D. Anderson, 24, was killed by enemy fire in Ar Ramadi, Iraq on Tuesday, June 6, 2006.

Spc. Robert Drawl Jr., 21, a 2003 graduate of T.C. Williams High School, was killed by a bomb in Kunar, Afghanistan, on Aug. 19, 2006.

U.S. Army Specialist Felipe J. Garcia Villareal, 26, of Burke, was injured in Iraq and flown to Washing



STEVE ARTLEY/THE CONNECTION

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SEE HONORING. PAGE 12



2014 Contest Winners Announced

“What can you do to improve your local watershed?”



George Washington Middle School 2 students won top honors for their tree planting project addressing oxygen depletion in the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay.

Thank you to all the students, teachers and partners who participated this year! Hundreds of area students in grades 6-8 competed to develop solutions to watershed issues. Classroom teams presented their proposals at the School Environmental Action Showcase on April 10 at George Mason University in Fairfax.

This program empowers students to imagine, develop and create solutions in their local watersheds, as they develop research, problemsolving, budgeting, community- involvement and presentation skills.

Nearly \$13,000 was awarded in cash prizes and school awards. Agrium is also providing \$10,000 to help implement student ideas.

Turning ideas into realistic solutions is the key to improving our local watersheds.

Alexandria/Arlington/Fairfax Finalists, Grades 6-8

Final Place	Award	Proposal Name	School
1	\$1,000	Dissolved Oxygen Project	George Washington Middle School 2
2	\$900	Watershed Warriors Restoring Wetlands	George Washington Middle School 2
3	\$800	Keep in Line or Pay the Fine	Kenmore Middle School
4	\$700	H ₂ O Bottles Project	Ormond Stone Middle School
5	\$600	Chesapeake Bay Protectors	George Washington Middle School 2
6	\$500	Turn Off the Lights!	H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program
7	\$450	It's in Our Hands	Lanier Middle School
8	\$400	Rain Gardens and Impervious Surfaces	Kenmore Middle School
9	\$350	Alexandria Aquaponics	George Washington Middle School 2
10	\$300	Green Pesticides	Ormond Stone Middle School



CaringForOurWatersheds.com

Honoring Those Who Have Died in Military Service

FROM PAGE 10

ton Hospital Center, where he died Feb. 12, 2006. He was a graduate of Herndon High School.

Capt. Shane R. M. Mahaffee, 36, a 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, died May 15, 2006. He was a lawyer, married, with two children. His parents live in Alexandria.

U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Nicholas Kirven, 21, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005 during a firefight in a cave with insurgents. He enlisted while still in high school after 9/11.

Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq on Oct. 29, 2005.

Maj. William F. Hecker III, a 1987 graduate of McLean High School, was killed in action in Iraq, Jan. 5, 2005. Staff Sgt. Ayman Taha, 31, of Vienna, was killed Dec. 30, 2005, when an enemy munitions cache he was prepping for demolition exploded. Army Capt. Chris Petty of Vienna was killed Jan. 5, 2006.

Staff Sgt. George T. Alexander Jr., the 2,000th soldier to be killed in Iraq, was literally born into the Army here in Northern Virginia, at DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir. Alexander died at

Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 22, 2005, of injuries sustained in Iraq five days earlier.

Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq on Oct. 29, 2005.

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq on Nov. 5, 2005. Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32, of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter was brought down in Iraq.

1st Lt. Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. CW4 Matthew S. Lourey of Lorton died from injuries sustained on May 26, 2005, in Buhriz, Iraq. Operations Officer Helge Boes of Fairfax was killed on Feb. 5, 2003, while participating in counterterrorism efforts in eastern Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Lance Cpl. Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; 1st Lt. Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; 1st Lt. Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Coast Guard Petty Officer Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Army Chief Warrant Officer Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Blankenbecler, 40, of Mount Vernon; Capt. James

F. Adamouski, 29, of Springfield; Sgt. DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Staff Sgt. Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obles-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church; Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington; Maj. Joseph McCloud, of Alexandria, and Major Gloria D. Davis, 47 of Lorton.

OTHER VIRGINIA service members lost:

Capt. Jesse A. Ozbat, 28, of Prince George, Va., died on May 20, 2012, in Afghanistan from a roadside bomb. Constructionman Trevor J. Stanley, 22, of Virginia Beach, Va., died April 7, 2012, while deployed to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. Pfc. Michael W. Pyron, 30, of Hopewell, Va., died Jan. 10, 2012, in Afghanistan. Maj. Samuel M. Griffith, 36, of Virginia Beach, Va., died Dec. 14, 2011, in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. James Ronald Leep Jr., 44, of Richmond, died Oct. 17, 2011, at Forward Operating Base Kalsu in Iraq. Spc. Levi Efrain Nuncio, 24, of Harrisonburg, died June 22, 2011, in Af-

ghanistan. Capt. Michael Wray Newton, 30, of Newport News, died June 11, 2011, in Afghanistan. Capt. Charles A. Ransom, 31, of Midlothian was one of eight airmen who died April 27, 2011, at the Kabul International Airport, Afghanistan, from gunfire. Sgt. Sean T. Callahan, 23, of Warrenton died April 23, 2011, in combat in Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Venetz Jr., 30, of Prince William died Jan. 28, 2011, in Afghanistan, after being seriously wounded months before.

Spc. Sean R. Cutsforth, 22, of Radford, Va., died Dec. 15, 2010, in Afghanistan. Spc. William K. Middleton, 26, of Norfolk died Nov. 22, 2010, in Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. Christopher F. Cabaco, 30, of Virginia Beach died July 5, 2010, in Afghanistan.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Brown v. Board of Education: 60 Years Later

BY MICAH EDMOND
CANDIDATE FOR VIRGINIA'S
8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Today [May 17, 2014] marks the 60th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. This unanimous decision overturned and prohibited future state-supported racial discrimination by declaring that racial segregation in U.S. public schools expressly violated the equal protection guarantees provided by the 14th Amendment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bottom Line: To Help or Not

To the Editor:

Frank Medico's letter ["More Study, Less Emotion"] in Mt. Vernon Gazette, May 8-15, uses the same kinds of arguments similar to the early opponents of Social Security who said that the program would create a nation of dependency and run out of money (even though the benefits are earned). They objected to Medicare because it would lead to "socialized" medicine. Now, they refuse to expand Medicaid because it will cost too much. In these cases, they are rejecting America's long tradition of providing a social safety net which helps ensure the financial security and health needs of our citizens. The "wow" statement by Mr. Medico that "People who now go to the emergency room to get care probably will continue to do so because they have been accustomed to doing that for their benefit regardless of Medicaid" demonstrates a very condescending view of the neediest among us. He offers no evidence for that assumption.

I thoroughly respect Mr. Medico's service to our country and community. The fact remains, his service notwithstanding, that "25,200 military veterans and their spouses could get quality, affordable health care cov-

Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to Oliver Brown who bravely challenged the law and practice of racial segregation so that he could send his child to their local public school. Today we all celebrate Brown's historic civil-rights milestone that has brought us closer together by declaring that separate is inherently unequal.

Although we have come so far since the "Brown" landmark decision, we must remain ever vigilant and do more to ensure equal access to the American Dream. Only through education can our youth transcend the bonds of poverty and race. While we

have fought hard for equal opportunities, not all opportunities are equal today. Equality in education is still not America's reality. In our public schools today, disparities in attendance, achievement and graduation rates reveal that much more needs to be done to ensure that our children and teachers are equipped to succeed and inspired to achieve their dreams.

Unfortunately, we can trace these disparities along racial and economic divides. They are stark reminders that we still have a long way to go to achieve the equality Oliver Brown fought so hard for.

erage through Medicaid expansion" according to The Commonwealth Institute in Richmond (January 2014). The expansion could be even more important considering the accounts of current problems facing veterans' medical facilities.

He also unjustly criticizes The Affordable Care Act (aka ACA and/or Obamacare) as a disaster. Of the six million Mr. Medico claims lost their insurance, Fact Checker in The Washington Post reported on March 17 that "... almost nobody in that pool of six million does not have insurance." This is because a large percentage was automatically enrolled in other plans by the same insurance company. It is true that the roll-out of the ACA was poorly implemented. However, the computer issues have been largely fixed and people are now signing up in droves. Enrollees have first class insurance as well as free preventive care. Importantly, preexisting conditions are no longer a factor in obtaining medical services. A Gallup Poll released in April found that nationally 12 million have enrolled. By most standards that hardly constitutes failure.

Who and what we spend our money on are based on priorities determined by our elected representatives. Future funds are certainly not an absolute certainty, but sickness and death for lack of health care surely are. Virginia has the seventh largest per

capita income of any state in the union. Adequate health care is a moral imperative. The resources are there if we have the will and courage to tap them.

Let's give thousands of the less fortunate among us a fighting chance for the healthy life that all Virginians, including veterans, want and deserve. Medicaid expansion presents us with a special opportunity to achieve that goal. The decision to move forward now rests with neither Mr. Medico nor me, but with Speaker Bill Howell and the Virginia House of Delegates. The Speaker and his colleagues hold the well-being ... as well as the lives ... of possibly thousands of our fellow Virginians in their hands. We'll all be watching closely.

John S. Glaser
Alexandria

Supporting Animal Wellbeing

To the Editor:

Mr. Pope's article "Animal Instinct" [Mount Vernon Gazette, May 8] was spot on. Anyone who is interested in connecting with the tens of thousands of animal lovers in Northern Virginia will have to include the care and well being of animals in their

agenda. Congressman Moran has done phenomenal work on behalf of all animals (both companion and those used in factory farming) and has worked tirelessly in order to improve their care and welfare and eliminate needless suffering by barbaric means that had been used. Everyone who loves animals can appreciate the enormity of work that still lies ahead; and we will support those who are willing to devote their time and attention to this critical agenda.

Together we must continue our efforts and identify, assess and close the achievement gap and improve academic opportunities for all our children. As a community we must fight to provide equal academic environments that nurture the natural curiosity and channel the high energy of our children.

We can all transcend the dark legacy of our past by coming together to support the next generation by promoting public schools that encourage children to dream, incentivize performance and inspire a desire to learn and achieve. Let's keep moving forward together.

Gina Marie Lynch
Mount Vernon

Vote Ignores Conflict of Interest

To the Editor:

One of the most important provisions of the MVCCA Bylaws is its conflict of interest provision that by its very wording is intended to "maintain the non-partisan status and reputation" of the MVCCA. The provision:

6. In order to maintain the nonpartisan status and reputation of the Mount Vernon Council, no person who is an employee of, candidate for, or holding an elective or appointive policy determining position with

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 31

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Encouraging the Next Generation in STEM

Mount Vernon High School hosts panel of scientists and engineers.

BY VERONICA BRUNO
THE GAZETTE

An all-day STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Festival took place at Mount Vernon High School on Saturday, May 17. The festival included hands-on activities for students and parents alike and demonstrations.

In addition, there were two panel discussions for parents: Panel 1 discussed a Pathway to STEM and panel 2 outlined STEM Sustainability, how to keep students engaged in science and math studies. Parents asked about encouraging daughters in science, role models for them and helping students find their passion.

Panel members were pioneers in their field. Parents listened as scientists and engineers talked about the challenges they themselves faced while pursuing their fields

of study and what helped them get through the STEM programs they attended. They offered words of encouragement to parents and provided insight and advice to help their children pursue careers and study in the sciences.

The Mount Vernon High School Pyramid, the NOVA STEM Alliance, and the Alexandria-Fairfax Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., sponsored the 2014 NOVA STEM Career Festival for children ages 9-18. The following organizations participated in the festival: the Alexandria-Fairfax Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, U.S. Patent and Trade Office, D.C. Department of Transportation, Art Way Alliance, National Institutes of Health, iSTEMS Inc., U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Comcast, Friends of Arlington's Planetarium, Northern Virginia Community College and Software Theoretic.



PHOTOS BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE

The STEM Festival included two panels for parents. Panel participants included Teresa Anderson, Don Brobst, Marvin Carr, Tshaka Cunningham, Danielle Hodge, Michael Kane, Alexander Meyers, Ernita Kelley, Marco Jacobs, Christopher Lasalle, Ronaldo Nicolson, Dina Paltoo, Bennie Samuels, Aaron Saunders, Eric Suggs Jr., Kendall White, Wende Wiles, Charlie Williams III and Christopher Williams.



Team 614 Robotics provided a ball-throwing robot that was manipulated with a remote control to move and throw the ball into a basket. Student Fetra Ramidrisoa (not pictured) used the control to make the successful shot.



Dina Paltoo, Ph.D., a senior science policy analyst, talks about the importance of getting students the help they need in math study. Many of the panel experts discussed the challenges they faced in math and science study and what helped to overcome this.



Pam Ellison, one of the parents in attendance and a retired science teacher in the Alexandria area, asks the panel about helping find a student's passion in life and how to align that with unique skills and ability for life success.

Volunteer and teacher Christopher Williams works with students on worm genetics, including participants Eric Twum, Anna Sewizhonova, Beniam Fanta, Sena Eeressa, Angela Lee, Enna Choi, Valeria Vera and Cindy Rivera.



Charlie Williams III, Ph. D. speaks to parents during a panel discussion. Williams works for The MITRE Corporation as a network systems engineer and also serves on the MITRE's STEM council.

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 Form and function unite in fabulous home w/main level master, gleaming hws thruout, 4BR+ den & office/2.5 BA, move in ready and updated w/decorator touches plus lg back yd.
 Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



JUST REDUCED

Wilmar Park \$629,000
 212 East Glebe Road, Alexandria, VA 22305
 Incredible Value in 22305! One of a kind custom property with over \$140,000 in quality renovations and upgrades throughout! Stunning chef's kitch w/vaulted ceiling & granite!
 Nicky McDonnell 703-201-3318



NEW LISTING

Kirk/Williamsburg Manor \$525,000
 8231 Governors Court, Alexandria, VA 22308
 Welcome home! Lovingly maintained property on quiet cul de sac street w/ charming curb appeal and spacious open floor plan! Motivated sellers have found home of choice!
 Nicky McDonnell 703-201-3318



NEW LISTING

Dale City \$269,950
 3805 Corona Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22193
 Simply unbeatable & fabulously updated 4BR, 2lvl Rambler w/ over 2000 sq ft on cul de sac. over \$60,000 in upgrades and improvements to include kit, new roof, windows and more.
 Edward Pagett 571-237-4753

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OPEN SUN 5/25, 1-4! GW Pky S, continue 235 S; L-Forest Haven; R-Dolphin

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5013 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway \$949,000
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 1/2 acre lot. OPEN SUN 5/25, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; continue on 235 S; L-Patton; Immediate L on service rd.



JUST LISTED

9134 Continental Dr \$655,000
Spacious Colonial! Gorgeous grounds back to park!
One of best locations in Exceptionally spacious 3 level Colonial in magnificent setting on large level lot backing to gorgeous wooded parkland. Home is in excellent condition and has many fabulous features inc: large room sizes, main level family room, large kitchen hardwood floors, and oversize 2 car garage. Huge custom deck overlooks incredible natural wonderland. Super Value!



NEW PRICE

4100 Nellie Custis Ct \$590,000
Gorgeous Home-Amazing Price!
If you've been looking for a home priced under \$600,000 and are getting discouraged don't miss out on this fabulous property! It has it all—spacious home, pristine condition, gorgeous lot, quiet cul-de-sac and premier location. Other features include: 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, hardwood floors, huge sunroom and oversize 2 car garage. It all adds up to an exceptional value!



NEW PRICE

8726 Parry Lane \$649,000
Prime Location!
One of best locations in Stratford area! Spacious 3 level Colonial at end of quiet cul-de-sac with absolutely the most gorgeous, private yard you will find! Also features rare oversize two car garage. Home is in pristine condition with thermal windows, hardwood floors, and magnificent exterior deck overlooking fabulous grounds! A truly unique property.



CONTRACT!

9309 Reef Ct \$619,000
Three Level Colonial - Near River!



SOLD!

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



SOLD!

4505 Tarpon Ln \$575,000
Contemporary Rambler Near Water!



SOLD!

4201 Sonia Ct \$539,500
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\$ 995,000 Alexandria "SURPRISING & STUNNING!"

This home will surprise you! Soaring ceilings and glass provide the structure for the "Big Room", a family and entertaining area with French doors leading to a deck and private backyard. 4-5BR/3.5BA, an au-pair suite, hardwoods and much more!



Catherine.Foltz@longandfoster.com
Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914

\$ 1,325,000 Rosemont Park "NEW CONSTRUCTION"

Stunning custom built stone Craftsman home with 4BR/4.5BA, spectacular outdoor stone fireplace with covered slate porch. Gourmet kitchen with Carrera marble counters/island, separate laundry. Big front porch, finished LL with 9' ceilings, wine cellar. Open floor plan, 3 fireplaces, 3 masters. Walk to the Grape & Bean, 2 Metros, Old Town and more!



Jill DiPasquale 571.436.8699

\$ 669,000 Alex. / Waynewood "JUST PERFECT"

Immaculate, renovated home, large family room addition with porch plus absolutely fantastic sun-room addition from dining room. All windows overlook the private backyard. Freshly painted, new Berber in BRs, reno kitchen / BAs, separate laundry + garage.



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www.homesfromanita.com
Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809
Elke Kohler 703.967.7633 & Heidi Kohler 703.609.7367

\$ 414,900 Arlington "NEW PRICE"

This contemporary 1BR with 1.5 baths and den plus parking and steps to Metro is a find! An open floor plan, lots of natural light, and a balcony. You'll love the updated kitchen, SS appliances, gorgeous hardwoods, marble tile in bathrooms. Condo fee includes all utilities. Move-in ready! Whole Foods coming in the future. Community features: pool, media room, on-site fitness center, 24 hr concierge.



Laura Biederman 202.309.1350

\$ 194,500 Alex. / Belle View "BEST LOCATION"

This charming condo is perfectly sited and close to the shopping, the Mt Vernon Rec Center, the bike/hike path and public transportation. It features a first floor unit with laundry and storage facilities in the building, newly refinished floors, fresh neutral paint and a "move in now" attitude. Don't be the last one in the pool - it opens this weekend.



Teddy Marchant 703.402.0501

\$ 1,350,000 Alex. / Mt Vernon "NEW LISTING WITH WATER VIEWS"

Spend next Memorial Day boating on the water! Custom 09 6BR Craftsman with first floor Master bedroom, convenient elevator serving all 3 levels, open gourmet kitchen, 2-story great room, antique pine floors, Media room with wet bar, 2 porches overlooking water, huge garage, summer delight! For appointment, call...



ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330

\$ 399,900 Alexandria "THE COURTS"

A great 2-level condo with private entrance feels like an in-town row home. Warm wood floors, grand living room with fireplace, galley kitchen with brand new stainless appliances. Upper level features a large bedroom plus full bath with laundry. Extensive storage in lower level. Newer HVAC. All the charm of an historic home in a central location midway between King St Metro and the Potomac River!



Michael Manuel 703.615.6317

\$ 259,900 Lake Ridge "UPGRADES GALORE"

Pristine brick front 3BR / 1FBA / 3HBA, 3 level townhouse. Upgrades include: paint, dishwasher, HVAC, refrigerator, oven, water heater, tub, carpeting, washer, disposal, landscaping, and windows. Kitchen with maple cabinets, Corian counters, garden window and French doors to 2-tiered deck. Full bath renovated. Plus plantation blinds, crown molding and chair rail plus more.



Sheryl Lambson 703.217.7012

\$ 248,000 Alex. / Belle View "MOVE-IN READY"

Spacious first floor end unit with 3 sides of replaced windows and gorgeous wood floors - just refinished. The cook will love the extra large kitchen with built-in wine rack and dishwasher. Laundry and extra storage just downstairs. Steps to bus, shopping center, restaurants, pool, marina, and Mt Vernon bike/hike trail. Minutes to Metro, Ft Belvoir, Old Town, and Pentagon 2BR/1BA



Call for more information:
Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264

\$ 627,900 Alex. / Waynewood "NEW PRICE"

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



Leah Chapla 703.929.4875
Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343

\$ 299,900 Alexandria "MONTEBELLO"

Wonderful 2BR/2BA condo! Updated eat-in kitchen, master suite with private bath, wonderful closet space, and great enclosed balcony overlooking the trees. Enjoy all the fantastic amenities that Montebello has to offer - pools, tennis, bowling alley, bar/cafe and more! Close to Huntington Metro (courtesy shuttle), minutes to Old Town and EZ access to the beltway.



Pat Wilson 703.598.7279

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www.novapropertyshop.com
Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545



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OldTownAlexandria.com

Delivering Food Donations

The 22nd annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive took place throughout the community on Saturday, May 10, to help stock local food pantries for the upcoming summer months. Stamp Out Hunger is the nation's largest single-day food collection, hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers with other sponsors.

Local Letter Carriers from Union Branch 567, serving Alexandria city and parts of southeastern Fairfax County, collected bags of food donations by their customers' mailboxes and partnered with local pantries. This year, United

Community Ministries received more than 4 tons of food collected at Alexandria area post offices.

Letter Carrier Brian McCormick, of the Alexandria Post Office Annex at Telegraph Road, serves as a local coordinator and champion for the event to shed light on fighting local hunger.

On a typical week day, 80 to 100 families visit UCM's Food Pantry for supplemental groceries to help make ends meet. To organize a food drive — or virtual food drive — to benefit UCM's families, contact Marcos Castillo at volunteer@ucmagency.org or 571-255-8979.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Celebrating a day of collecting community donations for the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive at the Alexandria Post Office Annex are: Letter Carrier Andre Washington, Letter Carrier and union branch event coordinator Brian McCormick, volunteer Jamie Sousa, Letter Carrier Jon Iriarte, and Alfredo Aguilar of UCM's Food Pantry.

Mount Vernon Awards Teacher Fellowships to Outstanding Educators

George Washington's Mount Vernon has selected four educators to participate in a residential fellowship program at the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington. The Life Guard Teacher Fellows Program enables classroom teachers and educators to conduct short-term residential research on a variety of themes inspired by the life, leadership, and legacy of George Washington.

Fellowship recipients include:

❖ Robin Ferrell is the librarian at McLain Seventh Grade Academy in Tulsa, Okla., after previously serving as an elementary librarian for eight years, and a middle and high school English teacher for 11 years.

❖ Kim Pennington is a social studies content specialist at the University of Oklahoma's K20 Center. She taught junior and senior high school social studies for 18 years, and has worked with pre-service teachers for 10 years.

❖ Eric Schmalz grew up in Mount Vernon and currently teaches world history at Monticello High School in Charlottesville.

❖ Dr. Linda Wilson is an associate professor in the curriculum and instruction program in the Elementary Education Department at Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow, Okla. She has taught students in grades 1-12, as well as 34 different university level courses.

The 2014-2015 fellows will conduct on-site

research on an array of topics, beginning this fall and continuing through summer 2015.

The program is made possible by the support of The Life Guard Society, a group of donors to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association who frequently champion education-based causes and initiatives.

The program is available to classroom teachers (grades 3-12), curriculum specialists, media specialists, and to those engaged in university-level teacher training.

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Girls on the Run at Stratford Landing Elementary raised funds for Brennan Stands Alone Foundation. 1st Lt Brian Brennan is in the center of the back row.

Girls on the Run Support Foundation

Brennan Stands Alone Foundation wasn't standing alone on Friday, May 9, when some 30 Stratford Landing Elementary girls and their friends and family members ran a 5K to raise funds for his organization.

On May 7, 2008, U.S. Army 1st Lt. Brian Brennan of Howell, N.J., an Operation Enduring Freedom combat veteran, was seriously injured in Afghanistan when an IED exploded under the humvee in which he was traveling. The attack took the lives of two soldiers and a civilian. Brennan and Specialist Ryan Price of California were the only two survivors. Brennan suffered cardiac arrest, multiple fractures and traumatic brain injury. He returned home a double amputee.

The outpouring of love and support he received from family, friends and the community was overwhelming and gave him the resolve to recover from his injuries.

Brennan's passion to give back and help others facing the same struggles he endured has led to the establishment of the Brennan Stands Alone Foundation. The Foundation was created to ease the burden of routine stress for those injured in the line of duty in order that they may focus on treatment and rehabilitation.

Visit www.brennanstandsalone.org.

The girls participate in the Girls on the Run 10-week program at their school.

— KATHY PENKIUNAS

MILITARY NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos are welcome.

On April 5, **Jay Galeota**, president, Hospital and Specialty Care, at Merck, was appointed Honorary Commander of the 113th Fighter Operations Group, Joint Base Andrews, through the distinguished Joint Base Andrews Honorary Commanders Program. Galeota, grew up in the Stratford on the Potomac section of Alexandria and attended Bishop Ireton High School. His parents, Elizabeth and James Galeota, still live there. Jay Galeota completed four years of U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps and was officially sworn in by the 113th on April 5, for a two-year civilian appointment as Honorary Commander, and will also be sworn-in during a base-wide induction ceremony. In addition to working closely with the 113th group, he will attend multiple events, such as change of command ceremonies, base tours, and morale-building events for Airmen.

Army Reserve Spec. **Lucious F.J. Fludd Jr.** has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. Fludd is the son of Sheva and Lucious Fludd of Alexandria. He is a 2008 graduate of Mount Vernon High School and earned a bachelor's degree



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. TABITHA HURST

Jay Galeota, president of Hospital and Specialty Care at Merck, poses with Col. W. Mark Valentine, 113th Operations Group commander, in front of a OG F-16C Fighting Falcon on Joint 113th Base Andrews, Md., April 5.

in 2012 from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Va.

Navy Seaman Recruit **Aaron A. Hill**, son of Thomas F. Hardwick and Angelia M. Hill Hardwick of Largo, Md., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Hill is a 2012 graduate of

Mount Vernon High School.

Army Reserve Pvt. **Danny Trinidad** has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. Trinidad is the brother of Fredy Trinidad and Maria Mieszczanski of Alexandria. He is a 2013 graduate of West Potomac High School.

US Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, Fairfax County, Virginia THE US ARMY COMPLETES FIRST FIVE-YEAR REVIEW FOR CLEANUP SITES AT FORT BELVOIR NORTH AREA

The US Army has completed the first five-year review of the environmental remedies undertaken at two sites located at Fort Belvoir North Area, 7501 Heller Road, Springfield, Fairfax County, Virginia. The remedy for the first site involved groundwater well installation and monitored natural attenuation. The remedy for the second site involved soil removal, groundwater well installation and monitored natural attenuation. Because hazardous substances remain onsite above risk based levels that prevent unrestricted use and exposure, the Army is required to evaluate the protectiveness of the remedy at least every five years in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Recovery Act. The five-year review found that the remedies at Fort Belvoir North Area currently protect human health and the environment because the contamination remains on site and the treatment system is effectively reducing contamination levels. The United States Environmental Protection Agency agrees with the protectiveness of the remedy.

If you have any concerns about the environmental remediation efforts at Fort Belvoir North Area please contact Patrick McLaughlin, Environmental and Natural Resources Division Chief. A copy of the final report is available at the information repository or from the contact below.

Information Repository:

Lorton Library 9520 Richmond Highway Lorton, VA 22079-2124	Kingstowne Library 6500 Landsdowne Centre Alexandria, VA 22315-5011
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Contact Information:

Mr. Patrick McLaughlin
Environmental and Natural Resources Division Chief
Fort Belvoir, Directorate of Public Works
9430 Jackson Loop
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116
Email: patrick.m.mclaughlin18.civ@mail.mil
Telephone: 703-806-3193

US ARMY GARRISON FORT BELVOIR DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION REPOSITORY

In accordance with 10 USC §2705 and Department of Defense (DoD)/ Army policy, Fort Belvoir is inviting public involvement by community members in the decision-making process by making publicly available documents supporting Fort Belvoir's environmental restoration program. Environmental restoration is a planned and focused cleanup of contamination associated with past DoD activities to ensure threats to public health and the environment are eliminated.

Cleanup efforts at Fort Belvoir include evaluation and remediation of Munitions Response Sites, Solid Waste Management Units, petroleum remediation sites, and other releases of contamination associated with Army activities.

Community members interested in viewing documents generated under Fort Belvoir's Defense Environmental Program are asked to visit the following locations:

Lorton Library 9520 Richmond Highway Lorton, VA 22079-2124 703-704-6000	Kingstowne Library 6500 Landsdowne Centre Alexandria, VA 22315-5011 703-339-4610
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For any questions or comments, please contact:

Patrick M. McLaughlin
Fort Belvoir, Directorate of Public Works
Environmental and Natural Resources Division Chief
703-806-3193 or
imcom.fortbelvoir.dpw.environmental@us.army.mil

ENTERTAINMENT

GI Film Festival 2014 Returns to Old Town

VMI story told in “Field of Lost Shoes.”

A standing room only crowd packed the Old Town Theatre May 19 for the GI Film Festival’s world premiere of “Field of Lost Shoes,” the story of cadets from the Virginia Military Institute and their role in the Battle of New Market during the Civil War.

The film was co-written by former University of Virginia classmates David Kennedy and Tom Farrell, who is now president and CEO of Dominion Resources.

“My family has a long history of military service and this is a story that I grew up with,” said Farrell at the opening night reception for the GI Film Festival. “I have wanted to write it for 25 years but it wasn’t until four years ago that I finally convinced David that this story needed to be told.”

Also in attendance at the film’s screening was Virginia-born actor David Arquette, who plays Union Capt. Henry A. DuPont.

“My grandfather had a Civil War artifacts business in Gettysburg, so I was raised with a deep appreciation of that time in our nation’s history,” Arquette told the audience following the film. “It is a real honor to be a part of this film and to tell the story of these amazing young men.”

Known as Sundance for the Troops, the GI Film Festival runs through May 25 and features 56 film screenings. Visit www.gifilmfestival.com for more.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



PHOTOS BY JEANNE THEISMANN

Actor David Arquette, left, talks about his role in “Field of Lost Shoes” at the film’s May 19 premiere at the Old Town Theatre during the opening night reception for the 2014 GI Film Festival. With Arquette are executive producer Brandon Hogan, screenwriters and former University of Virginia classmates David Kennedy and Thomas Farrell and film festival co-founder Brandon Millet.



Screenwriter and retired Navy F-18 pilot David Kennedy talks about the making of “Field of Lost Shoes” with former Virginia governor and Army veteran Jim Gilmore and retired Air Force U-2 pilot John Bordner at the film’s premier May 19 at the Old Town Theatre. The film depicts the true story of VMI cadets who fought in the Battle of New Market during the Civil War.

Dominion Resources CEO Tom Farrell, second from left, joins former Gov. Jim Gilmore, retired Navy F-18 pilot David Kennedy and retired Air Force U-2 pilot John Bordner at the premier of “Field of Lost Shoes.” Farrell and Kennedy co-wrote the film based on the true story of VMI cadets who fought in the 1864 Battle of New Market.



CALENDAR

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

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

and 7 p.m. Tickets \$50 (students \$25) at 800-494-8497 or www.boxofficetickets.com. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

Historic Attic and Alley Tours. 9 a.m.-noon through May 31 at the 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.

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.

Art Exhibit. Through June 2, Courtney S. Hengerer’s acrylic paintings on wood panels are on display for the exhibit “Playground” in Studio 21 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. Through 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. Gallery hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

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

Art Exhibit. Through June 22, “Words

and Letters” in the Athenaeum gallery, 201 Prince St. This multimedia show from regional artists uses text as a component of visual art. Visit www.nvfaa.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.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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. More than 50 related activities are planned through May; for full list of programs visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

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

Art Exhibit. "Printed Painted Potted," Avis Fleming's show of etchings, lithographs, monotypes, paintings and ceramics features landscapes and birds, people and dogs. Through 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. Call 703-683-1342.

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.

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

Alexandria Cars & Coffee. Car enthusiasts 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 for tickets.

George Washington's Mount Vernon. The Estate has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will,



"Puzzle Tea" by Joan Ulrich

Meet Joan Ulrich

The Workhouse Arts Center presents featured artists and studio exhibitions for the month of June. An opening reception for all studio shows and featured artists will be held campus-wide during the 2nd Saturday Art Walk June 12, 6-9 p.m. Featured from June 1-20 will be ceramics artist Joan Ulrich, who is a studio artist at the Workhouse and The Torpedo Factory in Old Town Alexandria. A meet and greet with Ulrich will be held on June 8 from 3-5 p.m. in building W-8. Visit <http://workhousearts.org/exhibits-list> or www.joanulrich.com for more..

upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Visit www.PresPassport.Monticello.org.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Summer Aquatics Classes. For youth and adults, including swimming lessons, aqua aerobics, Lifeguard Training, Swim Team Fundamentals and 2013 Gold Division Champions Wahoos Youth Swim Team. Register online at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation or in person at the Registration and Reservations Office, 1108 Jefferson St. Contact Claudia Spencer at 703-74605414 or claudia.spencer@alexandriava.gov.

Pre-School Studio. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. June 9-19, Mondays-Thursdays children ages 4-6 attend for explorations of clay, collage, drawing and painting as well as creativity, problem solving, collaboration and fun. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org.

History Camp. The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, is now registering for a camp for children ages 5-7. The camp runs Tuesday, July 29-Thursday, July 31, 9 a.m.-noon at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Clio's Kids Mini-Camp engages children in American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games and visits to nearby historic places. Cost is \$105, which includes snacks and souvenirs. Advance registration is required. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.alexandriahistory.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. 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. Visit www.mvcc.org to register.

MONDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 19-25

Film Festival. Venues in Alexandria and Washington. The 56-film GI Film Festival includes advanced screenings and world premieres, showcasing

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ENTERTAINMENT

battlefield scenes and issues facing returning GIs on the home front. \$245 all-access pass, \$70 for weekend pass May 24-25; military discounts. Visit www.gifilmfestival.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 22

Art Lecture. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780. Martha Wilson, pioneering feminist artist and founder and director of the Franklin Furnace, speaks as part of the Art League's anniversary lecture series. Reception at 6:30 p.m., lecture at 7. Free, but registration encouraged. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/events_special_exhibits.

Art Presentation. 6-9 p.m. The Digital Exchange, 816 North St. Asaph St. "Inspired By..." an evening dedicated to supporting and promoting the arts features six artists who will present what inspired a particular work of art, describe their greatest influences, and discuss the obstacles they encountered during the creative process. Beer, wine, and light hors d'oeuvres will be served. Free. RSVP at www.evite.com/event/01B46HWEUGC12QV64EPD2YHGGFK4S4.

FRIDAY/MAY 23

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Jenn Grinels will open for 10,000 Maniacs. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 23-24

Choir Performances. 8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers' Theater of Washington present Verdi's "I Lombardi," the Lombards on the First Crusade. \$20, \$15 students and seniors. Visit www.singers-theatre.com or contact singerstheater@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 24

Civil Rights Saturday. 2-4:30 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. With book signing, author reading, storytelling activity and exhibit discussion. Space is limited, reservations are recommended. Call 703-746-4356. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Military Band Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Works included "Victory at Sea," "Hymn to the Fallen" and "America the Beautiful." Adults \$15, students and children free. Call 703-426-4777 or visit www.vgmb.com.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Vertical Current to open for Eric Roberson. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 24-25

Sunset Celebration. 6-8:30 p.m. both days, at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy. Evening tours of the mansion, with wine and desserts available for purchase on the lawn. Music, dancing, games and wagon rides. \$18 adults, \$12 children, free ages 5 and under; requires separate ticket from daytime admission and annual passes are not valid. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 25

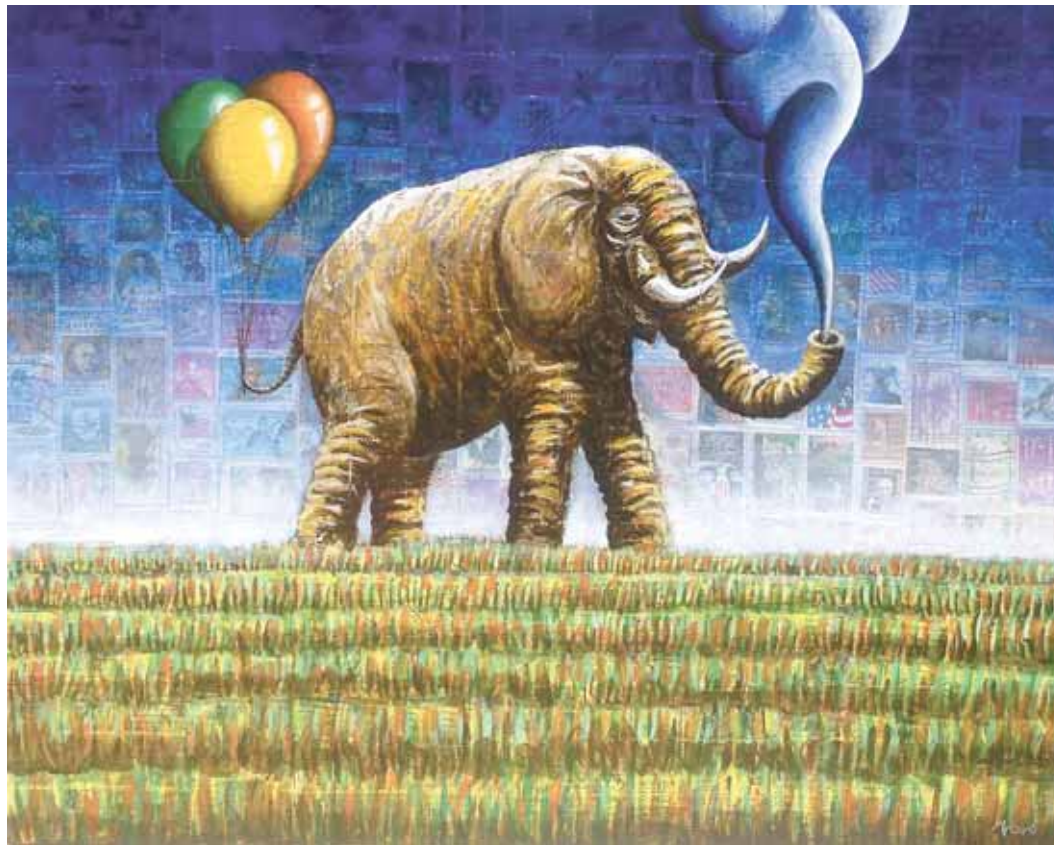
Runs and Family Festival. 7:30 a.m. on Eisenhower Avenue between Elizabeth Lane and John Carlyle Street. Half-marathon with 5K and 1K kids fun run. Free festival with



"It Takes Two," acrylic on map and stamps on canvas

'Here, There, Somewhere'

An exhibition of mixed media paintings by Marcelo Novo, "Here, There, Somewhere" will be on display Friday, June 13-Sunday, July 20 in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. The opening reception is scheduled for Friday, July 11, 7-9 p.m., with an Artist's Talk at 8 p.m. For the exhibition's duration, the gallery is accessible to the public Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and during performances. The exhibition comprises a series of paintings created by utilizing maps and postage stamps.



COURTESY OF MARCELO NOVO

face painting, balloons, yoga, kids' obstacle course, beer garden and more. Races start at 7:30 a.m., festival 8:30-noon. Half-marathon \$70, 5K \$40, 1K \$5 to benefit international charities. Visit www.mc-coop.org.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Revelations to open for Eric Roberson. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

TUESDAY/MAY 27

Memorial Day Jazz Festival. 1 p.m. Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St., Alexandria. The City of Alexandria will host the 37th annual jazz festival featuring a different artist every hour until 5 p.m. Performers include the U.S. Army Blues, The Blue Crescent Syncopators and Seth Kibel. Lawn seating is available and attendees may bring lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic. Food will be available for

purchase. Pets should be left at home. Call 703-746-3301.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 28

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Amelia White to open for Brandy Clark. Visit www.Birchmere.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 29

Live Music. 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Bayanist Volodymyr Marunych and domrist Natalia Marunych perform Eastern European and Russian folk music with the Washington Balalaika's Great Russian Folk Orchestra. \$10. Visit <http://nvfaa.org>.

Choir Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South Pitt St. Ascension Day Choral Evensong at St. Paul's with the Adult Choir. Reception to follow. Donations

and non-perishable food items will be accepted for St. Paul's Lazarus Ministry. Contact Grant Hellmers, Organist-Choirmaster, at 703-549-3312 or grant@stpaulsalexandria.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 30-31

Choir Performances. 8 p.m. at Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road. The Singers' Theater of Washington present Verdi's "I Lombardi," the Lombards on the First Crusade. \$20, \$15 students and seniors. Visit www.singerstheater.com or contact singerstheater@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 31

Firefighting in Civil War Alexandria Walking Tour. 1-3 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Learn about firefighters and firefighting

during the Union occupation. For people age 10 and older. \$6/adults; \$4/age 10-17. Reservations required, www.alexandriava.gov/FriendshipFirehouse or 703-746-4994.

Backyard Reptiles Alive. 11:30 a.m. Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King Street. Learn what to do when encountering wild animals and how to help wildlife in a residential neighborhood. Featured animals may include snakes, turtles, and other native species. \$10. www.theoldtowntheater.com/events.html.

SUNDAY/JUNE 1

Photography Exhibit Opening Reception. 2-4 p.m. in the Multiple Exposures Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St. "Threesomes," photography by Maureen Minehan, on display May 13-June 22.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray's own Rock of Ages Music presents ROAMfest '14. \$15.50. Call 703-838-2130, or email roam.rockofagesmusic@gmail.com. Visit www.roamrockandroll.com or www.Birchmere.com.

JUNE 1 THROUGH JUNE 20

Art Exhibit. Through Friday, June 20, see Alexandria artist Joan Ulrich's ceramics are on display in "Process as Inspiration: New Work" at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Galleries and studios are open Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sundays noon-5 p.m. Meet the artist Sunday, June 8, 3-5 p.m. Visit www.joanulrich.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 4

Film Screening. 6 p.m. at the Old Town Theatre. "Saving Private Ryan" with pre-film reception with wine and cheese. \$25. Part of Alexandria's D-Day commemoration. Visit www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com.

THURSDAY/JUNE 5

Broadway Buffet. 2 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Enjoy 31 songs and song segments, 12 dance routines, dialog from eight shows and 16 costume changes. \$15. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

History Lecture. 7 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. "The Longest Day: June 6, 1944" with the Senior Historian to the Secretary of Defense Tom Christianson. Part of Alexandria's D-Day commemoration. Visit www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com.

THURSDAY/JUNE 5-7

Spring Choir Show. 7 p.m. in the Springbank Auditorium, West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. The West Potomac Choirs present their annual spring show with an exciting evening of great Grammy, Oscar and Tony award-winning music. Tickets will be available at the door and sold online. Call 703-718-2687.

FRIDAY/JUNE 6

Food Truck Rodeo. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Southern Towers, 4901 Seminary Road. Savory food, fashioned-focused trucks and businesses from Alexandria's West End. Visit www.alexandriawebeba.com.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Bruce Robison and Kelly Willis with special guest Dale Watson and the Lonestars. \$29.50. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

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ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 6-7

Broadway Buffet. 7:45 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Enjoy 31 songs and song segments, 12 dance routines, dialog from eight shows and 16 costume changes. \$18-\$25 for show only, \$43 includes hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

SATURDAY/JUNE 7

D-Day Commemoration. 2:30 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. WWII re-enactors, visit a recreated WWII Navy Recruiting Center, dance to the Alexandria Citizens Band Swing Band, and hear a live re-enactment of an authentic Omar Bradley press conference. Children are welcome. Free. Part of Alexandria's D-Day commemoration. Visit www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com.

Dezmo & The Secret Power of Knowledge.

11:30 a.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. A live family stage show featuring music, dancing, audience participation, giveaways and more. \$8. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

SUNDAY/JUNE 8

Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra. 3 p.m. T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The last show of the 2013-14 season featuring three composers' complex works. \$20, under 18 free. Visit <http://www.wmpamusic.org> or contact wmpa@earthlink.net or call 703-799-8229.

MONDAY/JUNE 9

Old Town Days: Celebrity Impersonators Showcase. 7:30 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. A 90 min. review of the

FARMERS MARKETS

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesdays, June 4-Sept. 24. Fresh local food, artisan crafts, live music, kids activities, cooking demonstrations and special events. 415 E Kincaid St., Mount Vernon. Visit www.mountvernonfarmersmarket.org for more.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m., Fridays, May 2-Oct. 31. Giant parking lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria. Products include fresh organic honey, pies and rolls. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm for more.

Old Town Farmers Market. 7 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Local farmers and artists have been selling products there since 1753. Located at Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-746-3200 or email oldtownfarmersmarket@alexandriava.gov.

Del Ray Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon, Saturdays year round. Features fresh vegetables and fruits in season, meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces, Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods and more. Located at the corner of East Oxford and Mount Vernon avenues. Contact pmiller1806@comcast.net for more.

Four Mile Run Farmers & Artisans Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sundays through November. Brings fresh nutritious foods to people of all income levels. Located at the entrance to Four Mile Run Park at 4109 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit <http://www.4mrmkt.org/> for more.

West End Farmers Market. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays from May-November. Fresh, locally grown, in-season vegetables as well as sweet juicy berries, apples, pears, and seasonal peaches. Vendors also sell fresh-squeezed orange juice, fresh-baked pastries, gourmet cheeses and more. Located at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive, Alexandria. Visit www.westendfarmersmarket.org/#FarmersMarket for more.

world's top female legends with a Las Vegas/Atlantic City feel featuring impersonations of Tina Turner, Beyonce and more. \$20-\$30. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

Herbal Medicine Workshops. 7-8 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax St. A series of workshops, "Herbal Medicine and Stress: Past and Present." Professional therapeutic herbalist Lin Porter teaches how herbs were and still are used to relieve stress-related symptoms while exploring practical options for controlling stress. \$8 per person, reservations required. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov or call

703-746-3852.

SATURDAY/JUNE 14

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket for more.

Gum Springs Community Day. 1-5 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr., Community Park, 8115 Fordson Road. The free family event features music, food, demonstrations, children's activities and information booths. The Gum Springs Historical museum will be open. Visit www.newgumspingscivicassociation.com.

Rainforest Reptiles Alive. 11:30 a.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Meet animals from each layer of the rainforest and hear stories of survival in the endangered environment. Animals may include an iguana and boa constrictor. \$10. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

SUNDAY/JUNE 15

Father's Day Open House. 1-4 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Tour the firehouse for free. A photographer will take portraits of families next to historic equipment. Children will receive a fire hat. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/FriendshipFirehouse or call 703-746-4994 for more.

MONDAY/JUNE 16

Herbal Medicine Workshops. 7-8 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax St. A series of workshops, "Herbal Medicine and Stress: Past and Present." Professional therapeutic herbalist Lin Porter teaches how herbs were and still are used to relieve stress-related symptoms. \$8 per person, reservations required. Visit <http://shop.alexandriava.gov> or call 703-746-3852.

Old Town Days: Celebrity Impersonators Showcase.

7:30 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. A 90 min. review of the world's top female legends with a Las Vegas/Atlantic City feel featuring impersonations of Tina Turner, Beyonce and more. \$20-\$30. <http://www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html>.

TUESDAY/JUNE 17

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the

Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Joe Ely performs. \$29.50. Visit www.ely.com, www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

THURSDAY/JUNE 19

Fundraiser Gala. 7 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. "A Night Among the Stars" at the Fostering the Future Gala. \$75+, buffet and drinks included. Benefits The Fund for Alexandria's Child. Visit www.stargala.eventbrite.com or www.alexandriava.gov/thefundforalexchild for tickets. Contact 703-746-5663 or email thefundforalexchild@alexandriava.gov. Attire is Hollywood glamorous, black tie optional.

FRIDAY/JUNE 20

Live Music. 8 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Lauren Mitchell and her band perform a combination of blues and soul. \$12-\$20. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html

SATURDAY/JUNE 21

Night of the Templar. 6 p.m. The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Premiere screening of an indie film weaving together murder, mystery, horror, drama, suspense and more. Features Norman Reedus of "The Walking Dead" and other stars. \$75. www.theoldtowntheater.com/calendar.html.

MONDAY/JUNE 23

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Bacon Brothers performing. \$39.50. Visit <http://baconbros.com> or www.Birchmere.com.

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Group Assembly Proposal Could Limit Home Gatherings

FROM PAGE 1

proposal is the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, the JCC of Northern Virginia, Temple B'nai Shalom in Fairfax Station, and several other synagogues in the area.

Stephen Gell, former president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, spoke against the ordinance at the meeting. "There is an obligation in many Jewish homes to erect sukkot, which could result in having more than 50 people over," Gell said. In addition, a letter to the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning from the JCRC cited other concerns religious communities have with the proposal.

"Jewish mourning rituals or 'shiva' calls for seven days of mourning by family members in their home. The congregation, family and friends are called to participate in prayer and support for the bereaved. These gatherings on occasion may include more than 50 individuals participating," the letter stated.

According to administrators at the meeting, there have been 12 complaints of large gatherings within the past year.

Residents argued that the proposal would punish everyone for violations made by a small group of people.

"While there have been a number of complaints about group assemblies they have been relatively few," Herrity stated.

ALSO AT ISSUE, opponents at the meeting argued, is who would enforce the regulations and how much it would cost the county. According to Herrity, there are existing ordinances that can be used to address problems such as noise and parking.

According to Johnson, the Board of Supervisors asked the zoning staff to look at developing a new proposal. She would not, however, tell residents the specific supervisors that asked for such a proposal.

Proposed changes to the noise ordinance were also discussed at the meeting. According to Lorrie Kirst, the senior deputy zoning administrator, the two main goals of the proposed ordinance are to minimize night time noise and to guarantee a quiet environment for residents.

While some residents, including Joyce Harris of McLean, have complained that noise caused by loudspeakers in their neighborhoods is getting to be too loud, the JCRC also cited concerns with the proposed noise ordinance.

"While the goals of both of these ordinances are meritorious, these proposals as written would have a direct negative impact on our religious observances and some of our routine activities," the letter stated.

The public meeting on May 19 was the final of three meetings, but the proposal will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in June.



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

Lorrie Kirst, senior deputy zoning administrator for Fairfax County, speaks about the proposed noise ordinance at a public meeting on May 19.



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Mount Vernon Gazette will publish them in our Father'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 photos, send to:

gazette@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF 95 EXPRESS LANES

Police officers from jurisdictions around the area, including Fairfax County, stand next to the Fairfax County Police Department's police car that displays messages intended to prevent distracted driving.

Distracted Driving on the Rise

FROM PAGE 1

joined other chambers throughout the area at the second annual "Orange Cones. No Phones." Distracted Driving Safety Campaign press conference to remind the public not to use their cell phones while driving and to avoid distracted driving.

IN MARCH, the Fairfax County Police Department held its first class on distracted driving to train officers on the dangers of this occurrence. Distracted driving is anything that causes drivers' eyes to leave the

road, their hands to leave the wheel, or their mind to be taken off driving.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than nine people are killed every day in crashes involving a distracted driver.

And since construction of the 95 Express Lanes is continuing from Stafford County into Fairfax County near Edsall Road in Springfield through the end of 2014, it may continue to be a problem for commuters in the area.



From left: Principal and founder Anila Angjeli of ALine Architecture; project manager Donnie Hart and president Lou Genuario, both of Genuario Construction; and Jim Seeley, UCM's board member and a Back Porch volunteer gather as work begins on the new location for UCM's Back Porch Thrift Store.

Working Together on New Location

UCM's Back Porch Thrift Store is set to relocate this summer to a newly designed retail space at the Sacramento Shopping Center of Richmond Highway at 8794-A Sacramento Drive in Alexandria. The new location will feature a more space, an improved store, with convenient donation drop-off and ample parking.

ALine Architecture, LLC was selected as architect for the new store build-out, with general contractor Genuario Construction Company. Anila Angjeli, owner of ALine Architecture, and Lou

Genuario, president of Genuario Construction, both live and work in the Mount Vernon area.

The Back Porch Thrift Store and donation hours will remain the same, as listed at the store's website: www.backporchthrift.org. Whether shopping or donating at UCM's thrift store, community members are being helped with UCM programs. Every year, UCM provides an average \$30,000 in vouchers for people in need. In addition to affordable shopping, the store provides a place for people to train and learn new skills.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTOS BY SONJA GLADWIN, OPH VOLUNTEER

From left: Jayme McClain, Stephen Anfield and Melissa Mackey.

Rescue Dog Wins

Operation Paws for Homes, Inc., a locally based dog rescue organization, claimed first prize in the Rosenthal Automotive Facebook Pet Photo Contest. The contest called for snapshots of furry friends to be posted on Rosenthal Automotive's Facebook page in an effort to collect the most "Likes."

OPH Volunteer Melissa Mackey posted a photo of Amos, an OPH alumni pup hoping viewers would fall in love and cast a vote in his favor. It was her hopes to claim the \$750 prize being offered to assist in offsetting the mounting medical bills of Haro, a medical needs dog who currently calls OPH home and is undergoing double hip surgery at a cost of \$2,500. On May 1, Operation Paws for Homes was notified that little Amos had netted 445 "Likes" making him — top dog.

On May 9, Mackey was joined by



Operations Paws for Homes alum Amos

Jayme McClain, executive director for Operation Paws for Homes at Rosenthal's corporate offices where they were presented with a \$750 gift card by Stephen Anfield, a social media manager for Rosenthal Automotive Fairfax. Operations Paws for Homes has rescued and re-homed more than 4,000 dogs is four years. For more information on Haro or to learn more about OPH, visit www.ophrescue.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/MAY 29

Sports Physicals. 6-7:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, entrance #1. \$50 pre-registered, walk-ins \$60, checks made payable to MVHS. Physical forms at www.fcps.edu/sports.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 30-JUNE 1

Historic Garden Symposium. At the Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy. The Triennial Garden Symposium features speakers specializing in historic landscape exploration, preservation, and public interpretation. \$250 tickets include private reception, tours, meals and more. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 31

Volunteer Information Session. 11 a.m.-noon. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates hosts an information session for those who

would like to learn more about advocating for abused or neglected children. Contact 703-273-3526, ext. 22 or email ekosarin@casafairfax.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 19

Health Screenings. 4-8 p.m., at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. Free heart health screenings for high school students. Visit www.ryanlopynski.org.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 19-20

Mental Health First Aid. 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the South County Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Public education program from the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board Wellness and Health Promotion. Over a two-day course, certified instructors help people learn to assist someone developing or experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. \$25. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

Fairfax County Extra School Day. The Fairfax County School Board has voted to add a day to the end of the 2013-14 school calendar as a makeup day for a missed day due to weather. This is the last day of the 2013-14 school year.

TUESDAY/AUG. 19

NOVA Registration Closes.

Registration for Northern Virginia Community College's 16-week fall semester and the first 8-week term closes. Classes begin Aug. 20. Visit www.nvcc.edu or visit campuses in Alexandria, Annandale, Loudoun, Manassas, Springfield and Woodbridge. Call 703-323-3000 for more.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

NOVA Registration Closes.

Registration for Northern Virginia Community College's second 8-week term closes. Classes begin Oct. 15. Visit www.nvcc.edu or visit campuses in Alexandria, Annandale, Loudoun, Manassas, Springfield and Woodbridge. Call 703-323-3000 for more.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/OCT. 16-17

Mental Health First Aid. 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the South County Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy. Public education program from the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board Wellness and Health Promotion. Over a two-day course, certified instructors help people learn to assist someone developing or experiencing a mental health problem or crisis. \$25. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47.

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 so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. 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.

The **Wakefield Choral** needs a piano accompanist to rehearse with and accompany them during performances at Northern Virginia retirement communities. Rehearsals and performances are all on Tuesdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m., from mid-September thru mid-December and from mid-January through mid-June. They need an accompanist who can begin in mid-January. Contact 703-960-0440 or donnajean5536@gmail.com.

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



CERT teachers include members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue who are experienced in emergency response. Here, instructors guide a group of students at a CERT class on May 12.



CERT provides students with 20 hours of training, and uses facilities at the Fire and Rescue Academy in Fairfax that provides hands-on practice.

CERT Helps Citizens Prepare for Emergency Situations

Training provides hands-on disaster response skills.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

Steve Willey, a member of Virginia Task Force One and lead instructor of Fairfax County's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), acknowledges that the police and fire department are dependable in the community after a major disaster.

But, it's important to be prepared, since police and fire and rescue are sent first to major incidents, making it important for community members to take control of their own safety. That's where CERT comes in.

CERT classes, taught by firefighters and trained leaders, provide students with 20 hours of training. Class members learn practical skills and practice them in a hands-on setting. CERT trains citizens how to be prepared and help their families, neighbors and themselves in a disaster situation.

"You learn everything from how to prepare for a disaster to how to conduct search and rescues to how to take care of pets during a disaster," said Missy Tuttle-Ferrio, the lead CERT coordinator.

THE CLASSES, which are taught year round at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy as well as locations throughout the community, teach students not only how to prepare themselves for a disaster, but also how to help their community after an incident.

For example, students learn about search and rescue techniques, and even practice on model buildings also used by students of the Fire and Rescue Academy.

During the May 12 class of the spring ses-



Participants of the Community Emergency Response Team learn how to respond to emergency situations by practicing at the Fire and Rescue Academy in Fairfax.

sion of CERT at the Fire and Rescue Academy, Mike Foggy taught students about the ins and outs of incident command, complete with several zombie references. After the lecture, students put on their gear, which includes a vest, helmet, goggles, gloves, and knee pads, and began the hands-on lesson to practice what they just learned.

Foggy, who has first-hand experience from his part in rescue efforts at the World Trade Center and Haiti, said the classes help members be prepared for events such as the Derecho that occurred a few years ago.

"It teaches them how to look for top priorities after a disaster situation in their neighborhood," Foggy said. "If you're not

thinking ahead, you're going to be behind."

Willey brings first-hand experience as a command officer in the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and as a first responder in a variety of disaster responses.

At the end of the session, students participate in a final exercise in a huge area at the site of the former Lorton Prison. They must determine their priorities as they rescue victims from a disaster scenario, which could be anything from a hurricane to an earthquake.

"It makes it feel like it's a real disaster," Tuttle-Ferrio said. "At first they have a huge rush of adrenaline, but then their training kicks in."

Anyone over the age of 18 who lives, works or worships in Fairfax County is eligible to enroll in CERT. But for those who can't take a class just yet, instructors urge residents to be prepared with a 72-hour kit.

"You can get by without power, but not without food or water. Having a 72-hour kit ensures you have what you need," Willey said.

SOME STUDENTS love the class so much that they say they want to become firefighters.

Others do it because they want to give back to the community. Regardless of what they get out of the class, Tuttle-Ferrio says that most of the students have to work on not being nervous during a drill.

"Everyone is nervous at first, but with more training, it goes away," she said. "It can be very stressful, especially with the victim-actors because it makes it seem more realistic."

CERT, which was established in Fairfax County in 2003, is a nationwide program that began in a 1985 earthquake preparation initiative held by the Los Angeles Fire Department. It is run by the Federal Emergency Management Association.

To register, visit <http://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov>.

PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

You're Never Too Young for Poetry

Local educators say exposing children and even babies to rhyme and rhythm can help develop reading and language skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Though Keith Ward's son is still a baby, he is already being exposed to not just silly stories, but poetry, and a variety of poetic forms at that.

"My son is only 6 months old, but soon I will be challenging him to find, for example, just the right word for the shade of green he is trying to describe — or imagine," said Ward, who is head of the English department at the Madeira School in McLean. "Maybe it's a word and a color we have yet to discover. He's working on it, though."

Local researchers and educators say that young children enjoy poetry. In fact, hearing rhythms, sounds and language patterns play important roles in a child's literacy development.

"Rhythm and rhyme are some key factors in early literacy, and even something as simple as reading and memorizing nursery rhymes with your children can have a huge impact on their later development as readers," said Holly Karapetkova, an associate professor of literature at Marymount University in Arlington. "One research study found that the 3-year-olds who knew eight nursery rhymes were the best readers in third grade. Hearing rhyme and rhythm in language can help children develop phonological awareness and predict word patterns and sounds."

"Without realizing it, students hear poetry and think deeply about sounds and structures in sentences. As a result, they become better readers, thinkers, and writers," said Blake Howard, an English teacher at The Potomac School in McLean.

Howard's students recently studied structural elements, "Such as stanza formations, meter and rhyme, and sound devices like consonance and assonance in poems by Shelley, Keats, Dickinson and Frost," he said. "They practiced scansion of evident rhythms in metrical poems. They learned how and why those devices enhance tone and thematic purpose in the selected poems. Next, they wrote original poems. Some students crafted sonnets with meter and rhyme. They admitted — some reluctantly — that the exercise of reading and writing poetry has made them appreciate the value of precise word choice and balanced syntax."

Ward also encourages the exploration of a variety of poetic forms. "Many students



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

Students at Norwood School participate in Poetry Day, an annual event at the school. Poetry is a way to help children develop essential skills while having fun.

enjoy haiku, too, which are fun and approachable," he said. "They often reward the young poet with a profoundly beautiful result, which builds confidence and appreciation."

THE TYPE OF RHYME doesn't matter, however. Young students at Grace Episcopal School, in Alexandria, explore a different nursery rhyme each month as part of their Music and Performing Arts class.

"We repeat the verses out loud week after week to internalize the cadence, define any challenging words, pair motions with phrases, and culminate the whole affair by acting out each month's poem — complete with props and costumes," said Penelope Fleming, the school's librarian. "This [emphasizes] the notion that language has rhythm and also expands students' vocabulary."

"A good poem really comes alive when it is read aloud," said Barbara Vaughan, a sixth grade teacher at Norwood School, in Potomac, Md. "There is such variety in form, length, and subject. Poetry can help readers pause and look at the world in a different way."

In fact, poetry can be instrumental in a child's development. "Rhyme is a great way to encourage word play in younger children," said Vaughan. "With older students, it can be the basis of a more sophisticated structure for a poem. Many poems are wonderful sources of figurative language, creating rich images in the reader's mind. They can be powerful examples that encourage children to use language in creative and unexpected ways."

Poetry that is written for children is often rich in rhymes. "Rhyming is a wonderful way to develop phonemic awareness," said Tyffany Mandov, Lower School reading specialist at Norwood School. "Phonemic

awareness, or the ability to recognize and manipulate distinct sounds, is the earliest step in learning to decode words."

"The brain loves rhyme and rhythm and children will naturally want to read and reread poems with their parents and caregivers," said Karapetkova. "The more young children learn to enjoy reading and language, the more likely they are to continue that love throughout their lives."

READING POETRY TOGETHER, especially funny poems, and asking a child to guess the rhyming word is a way of reinforcing phonemic awareness and introducing letter patterns, said Mandov. "Playing rhyming games is another fun way for pre-

"Without realizing it, students hear poetry and think deeply about sounds and structures in sentences. As a result, they become better readers, thinkers, and writers."

— Blake Howard, English teacher,
The Potomac School, McLean

school and kindergarten children to reinforce these skills. While driving in the car, try a rhyme chain. Ask your child for a word that rhymes with cat. Perhaps your child will say 'bat.' Then you give a word that rhymes with bat and continue rhyming back and forth. See how many rhymes you can make."

"A good way to encourage children to cre-

ate their own poetry is to devise alternate lyrics to the tunes of familiar songs, an easy activity that can be incorporated into bath time, car trips or even a way to pass the time while waiting in line," said Fleming.

Karapetkova played similar games with her children. "These games are a favorite way to pass our time waiting in line or sitting in the car," said the Arlington mother of two. "We start with a word — simple words with lots of rhymes for younger children and more complex words for older children — and see how many rhyming words we can come up with. We might also start with a word on a billboard or a word from a product while we're shopping at the supermarket."

Poetry games that give children an opportunity to fill in the blank with a rhyming word are another way for parents to bring out their children's inner poets. "You start a poem and let them fill in the rhyming word," said Karapetkova. "For example, 'Star light, star bright, first star I see ___.' Both of my children also enjoy memorizing nursery rhymes and poems, and these nurture a deep appreciation of language and meaning."

Karapetkova says two of her family's favorite poets are Shel Silverstein and Langston Hughes. She encourages her children to try writing their own poems as well. "We often collaborate and write them together," she said. "I might give a suggestion about how to start a poem, or about a topic to write on, and I might also suggest possible rhymes if they get stuck. My daughter, who is 4, makes up nonsensical rhymes about random things that come into her mind and my son, at 9, likes to write poems that are playful and humorous. I let their interests guide what they write."

Ward says poetry games for children of all ages are plentiful. "There is certainly nothing wrong with those poetry refrigerator magnet kits," he said. "My wife and I used to carry on a running game of 'fridge laureate.'"

Word salad is another fun way to explore the possibilities of poetry. "Put a single word on a strip of paper, and, when you have enough strips, shake in a hat and pull them out randomly," said Ward. "The 'poem' that results will have an odd beauty and rhythm. Today, I'm sure there's an app for that."

Ward believes poetry enables older students to explore the possibilities and play of language. "Gwendolyn Brooks said that 'poetry is life distilled.' It is also language distilled, and a good poem allows us to see the deep bones of language clearly," he said. "A prepositional phrase may take on new character and nuance when a student substitutes another word for the object of the preposition. There is a great shade of difference between 'down the pond' and 'down the mere.' As we develop our noses for poetry, we become more nimble users of language. We become better."



West Potomac's Bright Somuah, right, dribbles past South County's Lucas Lombardozzi during Tuesday's Conference 7 semifinal match at West Potomac High School.



Kevin Garcia and the West Potomac boys' soccer team fell short against South County, 1-0, on Tuesday.



Ben Cermak (14), seen Tuesday against South County, and the West Potomac boys' soccer team qualified for regionals by beating Lake Braddock on May 16.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

WPHS Boys' Soccer Secures Regional Berth

The West Potomac boys' soccer team secured a berth in the region tournament by defeating Lake Braddock 2-1 in the Conference 7 quarterfinals on May 16.

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Wolverines advanced to the conference semifinals, where they lost to South County 1-0 on Tuesday.

West Potomac's record is now 6-4-2. The

Wolverines will be the No. 3 seed from Conference 7 in the 6A North region tournament.

West Potomac Baseball Beats T.C. Williams

The West Potomac baseball team, seeded No. 2 in the Conference 7 tournament, defeated T.C. Williams 3-1 on May 19 in the quarterfinals. The victory assures the Wolverines of a regional berth.

West Potomac faced No. 3 South County

in the semifinals on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline.

West Potomac Girls' Lax Edges Annandale

The West Potomac girls' lacrosse team escaped the Conference 7 quarterfinals with an 18-17 win over Annandale on May 17. The victory assures the Wolverines of a regional berth and improved their record to 11-4.

West Potomac faced Woodson in the semifinals on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline.

Mount Vernon Softball Continues Strong Season

The Mount Vernon softball team defeated Falls Church 30-2 in the Conference 13 tournament quarterfinals on May 19, securing the Majors a berth in the regional tournament. Mount Vernon's record improved to 18-3. Mount Vernon faced Lee in the semifinals on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline. The conference championship game is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 23 at the home field of the highest seed.

WP Crew Sending Two Boats to Championship Regatta

The West Potomac crew team is sending two boats to the Scholastic Rowing Association of America National Championship regatta May 23-24, in Mercer County, N. J. The women's senior four and women's lightweight four were invited to race at SRAA Nationals after each placed fourth in their divisions at Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association championship regatta on May 12.

Additionally, these boats each qualified for the semifinals at the Stotesbury Regatta in Philadelphia on May 16.

West Potomac has seen a second year trend of growth, with the roster swelling from 44 rowers in 2012 to 75 in 2014. West Potomac crew boosters attribute this inter-

est in crew to the reputation and popularity of the entire coaching staff, led by head coach Leslie Shinnars, who is West Potomac's nominee for Coach of the Year in the Women in Sports program.

The team faced some challenges with the sudden growth this year, from finding it necessary to purchase and rent additional shells, hire a sixth coach, and install more dock space, to locating a venue for the traditional end-of-year picnic for about 200 rowers and family members.

Notable athletes who are recruited to row in college programs after graduation are Rebecca Gehring, University of West Virginia; Stephanie Fiedler, Boston University, and Brooke Pierson, University of Washington.



Members of the West Potomac crew team, from left, include (first row) Sydney Olson, Jordan Nixon, Alina Selnick, Audrey Boling, (second row) Taylor Haas, Stephanie Fiedler, Lilly Lane, Sarah McKeown, (third row) Alyssa Pierson, Brooke Gehring, and Jessey Willis.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

SCHOOL



Runners sprint to the finish line.

Principal Terrence Yarborough presents Mary Bell with the trophy for first female student finisher.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Isaiah Smith was the first person to cross the finish line.



Sandburg Hosts 25th Annual Pancake Pantherlon

More than 100 runners and walkers turned out for this year's Pancake Pantherlon and almost half were students. The first two male finishers were Isaiah Smith (age 14) and Charlie Eaton (age 14).

The first female finisher was Jill Carey (age 38). The second and third place females were Mary Bell (age 13) and Lily Penn (age 12). This year's race took a slightly different route. Due to the renovation of the school and to minimize road closures, the course was changed to an out and back on Waynewood Boulevard. After the race the runners were treated to a pancake breakfast, complete with orange juice, coffee, and bacon. During the breakfast Carl Sandburg Principal Terrence Yarborough presented the trophies and prizes to the top finishers.

Pantherlon organizer, Michelle Mitchell, estimates the event will make more than \$3,000 for the school thanks to the sponsors which included: The Patterson Group, Michelle Mitchell of Coldwell Bankers, Jim Harvey of Long & Foster, Kulinski Group Architects, Robin Arnold of McEneaney, Del Ray Pizza, The Fort Hunt Sportsmen Association, Moe's Southwest Grill and Hollin Hall Automotive.



Jill Carey was the first female to cross the finish line.



Runners line up at the start of the 25th Annual Pancake Pantherlon.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm Vigil Mass
6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)
Sunday
7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children's Liturgy of the Word);
10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm

Weekday & Saturday Mornings: 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)
Thursday & First Friday of the Month: 7:30 pm Mass en Español

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The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition.
-William Van Horne

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Shiro 2, Inc trading as Shiro Japanese Steak & Seafood House, 5860 Kingstowne Ct #180, Alexandria, VA 22315. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises/Mixed Beverage on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Youngsuk MacPherson
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY: To whom it may concern, take notice that the Annual Report of the BLACKBURN FOUNDATION, INC. FYE 10/31/13 is available for inspection at 228 S. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, during regular business hours by request within 180 days after publication of this notice. Request to inspect said Annual Report should be made to J.W. Blackburn, Prin. Mgr. (703)629-9926."

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101 Computers

101 Computers

Public Notice

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DRAFT GENERAL CONFORMITY DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED COVE POINT LIQUEFACTION PROJECT

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) published a Notice of Availability of the environmental assessment (EA) and Draft General Conformity Determination (DGCD) for the Cove Point Liquefaction Project (Project) proposed by Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP (DCP). DCP requests authorization to construct and operate facilities to process and export domestically sourced liquefied natural gas (LNG) at the existing Cove Point LNG Terminal in Calvert County, Maryland. The Project would enable DCP to export approximately 5.75 million metric tons per annum of LNG via LNG marine carriers that would dock at the existing offshore pier.

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The EA assesses the potential environmental effects of the construction and operation of the Project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. The DGCD was prepared pursuant to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's General Conformity Regulations (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart B), and addresses air emission impacts associated with the Project.

The EA and DGCD are available for review and comment. The FERC staff mailed copies of the EA with the DGCD to federal, state, and local government representatives and agencies; elected officials; environmental and public interest groups; Native American tribes; potentially affected landowners and other interested individuals and groups; libraries in the Project area; and parties to this proceeding. In addition, the EA with the DGCD has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public viewing on the FERC's website at www.ferc.gov using the eLibrary link. A limited number of copies of the EA and DGCD are also available for distribution and public inspection at:

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Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet The Mount Vernon Gazette	

Any person wishing to comment on the EA or DGCD may do so. To ensure that your comments are properly recorded and considered prior to a Final General Conformity Determination and Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that the FERC receives your comments in Washington, DC on or before June 16, 2014.

For your convenience, there are four methods you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances please reference the Project docket number (CP13-113-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

1. To submit brief, text-only comments, you can file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov, under the link to Documents and Filings.
2. To submit comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file, you can file your comments electronically by using the eFiling feature on the Commission's website at www.ferc.gov under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on "eRegister." You must select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing;" or
3. You may file a paper copy of your comments at the following address:
Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426
4. In lieu of sending written or electronic comments, the Commission invites you to attend a public comment meeting in the Project area. We encourage interested groups and individuals to attend and present oral comments on the EA and DGCD. The meeting is scheduled as follows:
Date and Time Location
Saturday, May 31, 2014
1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Patuxent High School
12485 Southern Connector Boulevard
Lusby, MD 20657

Additional information about the Project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208-FERC, or on the FERC website (www.ferc.gov) using the eLibrary link.

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FROM PAGE 12

Fairfax County or who is an officer of a political party may serve as an officer or a member of the Board of Directors.

Were the MVCCA to remove this provision from their Bylaws, the demise of the MVCCA would soon follow. So, instead, they leave it in place and just ignore it.

For the last few years, Elizabeth Martin has concurrently served as both chairman of the MVCCA's Environment & Recreation (E&R) Committee and as a member of the county Wetlands Board, clearly a policy determining board. The MVCCA has looked the other way and refrained from requiring Ms. Martin to choose between these two roles. Recently, Ms. Martin resigned her chairmanship but immediately became a candidate (unopposed) for the job of MVCCA secretary. Although the clear wording of the conflict of interest provision equally applies to MVCCA officers, the MVCCA board permitted Ms. Martin to seek the secretary position. The May 2014 edition of the MVCCA record reports that Ms. Martin was unanimously elected MVCCA secretary by the 17 council members present at its April 2014 Council meeting. I did not attend that meeting and its minutes make no mention of whether a discussion was had concerning whether Ms. Martin was actually eligible to serve as MVCCA secretary, given her membership on the Wetlands Board and the conflict of interest provision.

Meanwhile, Ms. Martin's term on the Wetlands Board expired on Dec. 31, 2013, but according to Virginia law, until she resigns or is replaced, she continues as a Wetlands Board member. Supervisor Hyland first intended to have the Board of Supervisors vote on Ms. Martin's prospective reappointment at their Dec. 3, 2013 meeting. However, in light of the Board of Supervisors' receipt of several letters opposing the reappointment, the vote was deferred. In fact, Supervisor Hyland has now obtained deferment of that vote over the past six consecutive months. No doubt the supervisor has concerns. Given the letters in opposition which detailed numerous reasons in opposition, at Supervisor Hyland's request, the Board of Supervisors referred the matter to the County Attorney's office for investigation and report. The report which was shared with me, and does not address the MVCCA conflict of interest provision, concludes that the other bases for opposition are meritless. However, the investigation was conducted by the same assistant county attorney who is also the one assigned to attend all Wetlands Board hearings. I'll leave it to readers to come to their own conclusions as to whether this was appropriate.

The MVCCA's next Council meeting is on May 28. Under Robert's Rules of Order, anyone who was on the winning side of a vote can request reconsideration of that vote. Thus, it would be appropriate for at least one of the 17 council members who voted in favor of Ms. Martin's election as MVCCA secretary to raise a point of order at that meeting and move for reconsideration of the vote so that a thorough discussion can be had concerning whether the MVCCA will enforce its conflict of interest provision or, instead, lose all credibility as a civic organization.

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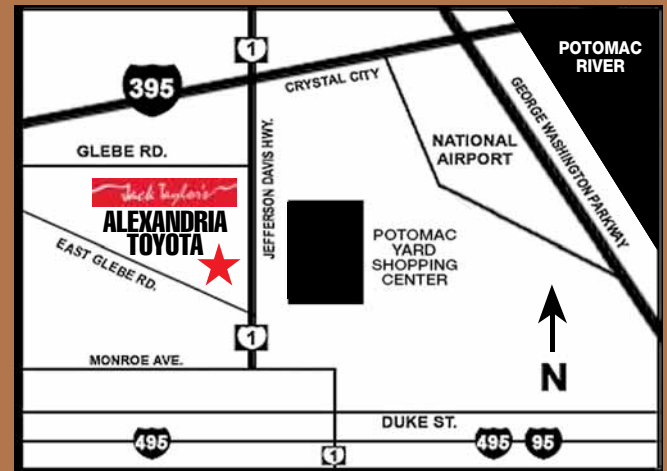
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