

# Mount Vernon Gazette



MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 24, 2014

## Fort Belvoir School To Be Upgraded

Fairfax County awarded \$23.8 million grant for elementary school.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

A much-needed new elementary school and renovations to the existing Fort Belvoir Elementary School will soon be coming, thanks to a \$23,798,603 federal grant that was awarded last week by the Department of Defense.

"This is great news for Fairfax County and the students of Ft. Belvoir," said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran in a statement. "The children of our service members deserve the best possible education and it is unfair to leave the surrounding community with the entirety of that commitment. I'm glad the

Department of Defense has stepped up to meet its responsibility to our service men and women and their children."

The \$23.8 million grant will be combined with \$5,949,651 in non-federal matching funds, which will be used to upgrade Fort Belvoir Elementary and to construct a new elementary school.

"These funds will enable FCPS to meet the growing enrollment at Fort Belvoir by providing additional capacity for the children of our active duty military personnel," Karen Garza, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, said in a statement. "Overcrowding has been an ongoing issue at

SEE GRANT, PAGE 24



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

### Sailing through Summer

Savannah Hall and Maya Waehrer guide their Sunfish crafts back to shore. More photos, page 4.



FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fort Belvoir Elementary School, whose facilities have been at 57 percent over capacity, will be renovated following a \$23.8 million grant that was announced last week.

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**Alexandria \$729,000**

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**Alexandria \$1,049,000**

One-level living at its BEST backing to Fort Hunt Park! The perfect floor plan for today's lifestyle...open family room and kitchen, screened porch, fenced backyard, 3,400-SF main level. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths PLUS 2 au pair suites with baths.

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**Alexandria \$625,000**

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# Paycheck Gender Wars?

Across Northern Virginia, men pull larger paychecks than women; disparities larger than national average.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

When Lola Arce de Quintela first moved to Oakton 20 years ago, she noticed something about the way men and women arranged their professional careers around their family lives in Northern Virginia. Men took high-powered jobs with large paychecks, while women often dropped out of the workforce to take care of growing families. If women had full-time jobs, she says, they would often select positions that were not as demanding so they could focus their time and attention on their children while husbands and fathers pulled in six-figure salaries.

“The other women who live on my block are teachers,” said de Quintela, a freelance translator. “Their husbands are attorneys or they work for the World Bank.”

On a national basis, women make 77 cents for every dollar men make. But here in Northern Virginia the disparities are greater, especially in wealthier areas. Nowhere is this trend higher than 22124, the suburb of Oakton, where the average median income for full-time female workers is \$77,000. The men in that ZIP code pull in almost \$130,000. That means women who live in Oakton and are full-time, permanent workers earn 60 percent of what men earn.

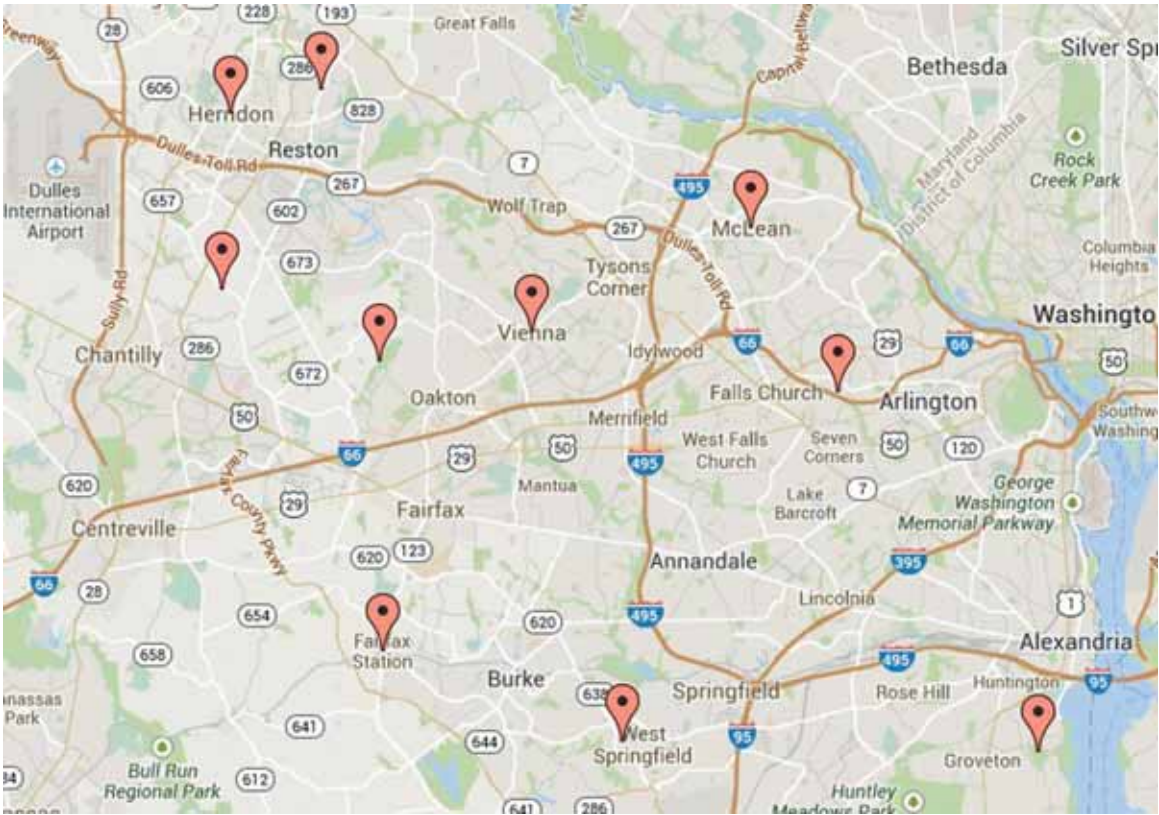
“It’s very difficult to have a family and raise kids when you have two people with high-powered careers that demand a lot of time and attention,” said de Quintela. “So a lot of women tend to find work that’s more flexible and not as demanding, which means they earn less money. It’s a trade off.”

**CENSUS RECORDS** show disparities tend to be greatest where people earn the most money. In the Fairfax Station ZIP code 22039, for example, the average annual male median salary is \$134,000. That’s one of the highest in Northern Virginia. By contrast, women in this area earn \$86,000 a year. That’s still a high salary for the region, but women who live in Fairfax Station earn 64 cents for every \$1 the men who live there make.

Demographers say some of this may be explained by a concept they call “labor force attachment,” which essentially means that women are less attached to the labor force than men.

“Given the traditional understandings about who cares for children or aging par-

zip code	location	median female salary	median male salary	percentage women's median salary is of men's
22124	Oakton	\$77,421	\$128,808	60%
20171	Herndon	\$63,577	\$104,495	61%
22205	Arlington	\$70,755	\$115,729	61%
22152	Springfield	\$57,177	\$93,125	61%
22039	Fairfax Station	\$86,085	\$134,133	64%
20170	Herndon	\$49,325	\$74,714	66%
22102	McLean	\$71,113	\$105,995	67%
22182	Vienna	\$86,875	\$127,994	68%
22307	Alexandria	\$65,243	\$93,883	69%
20194	Reston	\$78,398	\$111,942	70%



ents, what we often see is that women take on those roles,” said Annie Rorem, policy associate in the demographics research group at Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia. “We often see differences in female and male earnings that are related to, although I would not necessarily say caused by, family structure.”

This trend is less evident in ZIP codes where salaries are lower, and the roles are even reversed in some of areas with the lowest salaries. In Bailey’s Crossroads, for example, women earn \$59,000. But men earn \$46,000, the lowest salary of any Fairfax County ZIP code. That means men earn about 22 percent less than women here, a phenomenon that indicates workers here are attached to the labor force in a way that’s different from people at the top of the earnings scale.

“What we are probably seeing in Bailey’s Crossroads is women who are nannies of families that make a lot of money,” said Veronique de Rugy, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. “They make a lot more money than their male counterparts who

are working in construction or putting up drywall.”

**ACADEMICS WHO** look at these numbers say the imbalance of salaries between men and women can be explained by looking at how the genders participate in the labor force differently. A recent study by the George Mason School for Regional Analysis concluded that Arlington County has the highest labor force participation rate for women in the region while the District of Columbia has the lowest. Meanwhile, suburban areas of Fairfax County have much lower female participa-

tion rates than urban areas such as Arlington or Alexandria.

“If you’re looking at why men are earning more, it’s because in those cases women who might have a higher earning potential are not in the labor force, they are staying home to raise a family,” said David Versel, senior research associate at the Center for Regional Analysis.

“That’s obviously less true than it was a generation or two ago, but that’s the easiest way of looking at this.” Although the disparity between salaries earned by men and women are glaring, researchers who look at the data warn not to jump to conclusions about gender inequality. These numbers show that men and women who live in the same ZIP codes earn different salaries, it does not say that they receive different salaries for doing the same work. They probably say more about how women and men approach the labor force differently than how employers choose to compensate their employees.

“This doesn’t necessarily mean that we are talking about any active gender inequality in the sense of discrimination or men and women being paid different amounts for the exact same labor,” said Rorem. “One thing that’s important to keep in mind when you are looking at all full-time year-round workers is that one thing you don’t pick up is experience between workers.”

“If you’re looking at why men are earning more, it’s because in those cases women who might have a higher earning potential are not in the labor force, they are staying home to raise a family.”

—David Versel,  
senior research associate  
at the Center for Regional Analysis



# Sailing at Belle Haven Marina

Summer sailing classes are underway at the Belle Haven Marina off the George Washington Parkway at Dykes Marsh. The marina offers classes for youth and adults.

Sailing basics of rigging, knots, points of sail, identifying navigational markers, right of way rules, man

overboard drills, capsizing and recovery and mooring and docking are taught. The young sailors practice in Sunfish and the adults use Flying Scots. The marina also rents out kayaks, canoes, sailboats, jon boats and paddle boards. For more information on class availability visit [www.saildc.com](http://www.saildc.com).



The morning youth sailing class ties up on a buoy in the river after the wind vanished on Friday morning, July 18.



Canoers explore Dyke's Marsh.



The marina staff helps the canoers and kayakers land and clear their boats.



A floating dock in the marina offers seating with a water view.



Summer campers from Potomac School enjoy a morning on the river at the Belle Haven Marina.



# BULLETIN

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

## SUMMER MEALS FOR CHILDREN

**Fairfax County Public Schools** will participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's summer food service program for children who qualify for free and reduced lunches during the school year. Free meals that meet federal nutrition guidelines will be provided to children at approved sites throughout Fairfax County. To find a location, contact the FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services at 703-813-4800.

## REUNION INFORMATION

**The Groveton High School class of 1964** is looking for contact information for as many classmates as possible. The planning for the 50th reunion is underway, however only a small number of people have been contacted. If a Groveton graduate of '64 and interested in attending next September's reunion email contact information to [GHS64@verizon.net](mailto:GHS64@verizon.net).

## SUNDAY/JULY 27-TUESDAY/JULY 29

**Vacation Bible School.** 5 p.m. Sunday and 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. His Kingdom Ministries Church, 2707 Dewitt Ave. VBS with dinner served each night. Free. No pre-registration necessary. Contact Rose Alston at [ralston45@aol.com](mailto:ralston45@aol.com) with questions.

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscode/ereg/Registration.aspx?groupID=47).

## NOVA SENIOR OLYMPICS

**Registration for the senior olympics** is open for the 10 day of competition from Sept. 13-24. Events include track and field, tennis, handball, dominoes and more. Registration is \$12 which covers multiple events. Participants must be 50 by Dec. 31, 2014. Online registration opens July 1 at [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us). Call 703-228-4721.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

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[www.backporchthrift.org](http://www.backporchthrift.org)

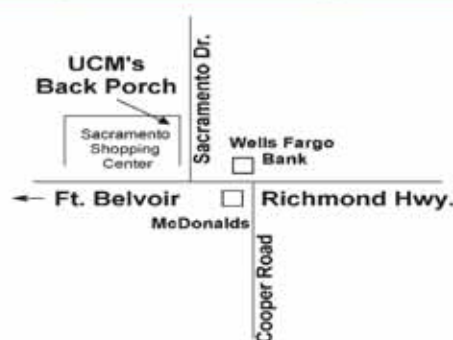
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Mon-Sat 10-6:30  
Sunday 12-6:30

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OPEN SUNDAY

**Alex./Riverwood \$724,500**

**3801 Riverwood Road**

Price slashed on this beautiful Colonial w/2-car garage in sought-after Riverwood. Sellers must sell! Remodeled Kit with granite counters & double oven. Updated baths, 3 FPLs, freshly painted interior, refinished hwd flrs. Cedar shake roof. Fin bsmt w/workshop & storage. Extensive landscaping. Shows beautifully. Blocks to Mt. Vernon Estate & GW Pkwy. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir.



OPEN SUNDAY

**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 flrs - 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!



OPEN SUNDAY

**Alex./Riverside Estates \$554,900**  
**8426 Cherry Valley Lane**

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



OPEN SUNDAY

**Alex./Eastgate \$559,900**  
**4402 Blyth Place**

Beautiful 4 BR, 3 BA, 2-level brick rambler, w/carport & front porch, remodeled top to bottom - located in wonderful Mt. Vernon on a cul-de-sac. Stunning living room, spacious & open, w/wall of Anderson glass doors & windows opening to the deck & overlooking the patio & gorgeous backyard. Over 100k in upgrades & improvements in the last 5 years. Minutes to Ft. Belvoir & Mt. Vernon Estate. MUST SEE!



**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 flrs, 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./Yacht Haven \$649,900**  
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Fabulous 4-level updated split with 2-car garage in prestigious waterfront community of Yacht Haven. 4 large spacious bedrooms - remodeled kitchen w/ceramic tile, granite & SS appliances. Refinished hwd flrs, freshly painted interior - 3 full updated baths - beautiful sun room overlooks lovely fenced back yard. Walk to fantastic marina, club house and pool. Outstanding value in a great community.

For more information: [www.RexReiley.com](http://www.RexReiley.com)



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PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE  
**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly speaks at the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive Dedication Ceremony on July 7.**



**Debra Lattanzi Shutika, English Department Chair at George Mason University, speaks at the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive Dedication Ceremony on July 7.**

# Archive Provides 'Insight into the Reality of Segregation'

## Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive dedicated at George Mason.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**C**ivil Rights activists Edwin Henderson, Lillie Jessie and Ralph Smith joined numerous other Virginia residents who lived through the Civil Rights movement and provided their stories during a dedication ceremony for the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive on July 7.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly began the project to collect personal stories of those who fought for equality, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

"The stories collected for this project provide an important insight into the reality of segregation in our own community and the efforts of those who participated in the Civil Rights movement, documenting the activity of those who paved the way for a more civil society," said Deborah Boehm-Davis, George Mason's dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Connolly reminded attendees that it was because of heroic actions of not only the greats like Martin Luther King Jr., but also those of individuals in the community who fought to make a difference.

"I feel so humbled in the face of these stories. It's a part of our history I want to make sure we don't lose sight of," Connolly said.

More than 50 hours of video interviews have been recorded from the year-long project.

"This isn't that far back in our history. Even today, we face things like voter suppression. We face obstacles to people exer-

cising this sacred franchise that many people fought for and some died for not so long ago in our history. That's why this project is important to remember. It's very important to learn from our past. It's very important to continue to fight the good fight to make sure equality is not an aspiration, but a reality in America," Connolly said.

Marion Dobbins, the project's coordinator and a doctoral student at George Mason, said if it were not for the determination of Civil Rights activists, she would not be standing before the audience today.

"To all those who participated, without you, there is no archive. Without you, we could not collect that history," Dobbins said.

Dobbins, a sixth-generation Fairfax County resident, called the video and written testimonies a treasure. "Each interviewee brought to life their own story, whether they were educators, protestors or every day working folks. They each had a story to tell," Dobbins said.

Northern Virginia was a battleground for civil rights, said archive participant Edwin Henderson. Other officials echoed this sentiment and thanked the participants for sharing their stories.

"It allows us to document the lives of everyday ordinary citizens, people whose stories are otherwise overlooked by history, and to preserve those stories for generations to come," said Debra Lattanzi Shutika, English Department chair at George Mason University.

Henderson, an 11th-generation Virginian, talked about the legacy of his grandfather, who along with Joseph Tinner founded a chapter of the NAACP in Tinner Hill, located in Falls Church. Henderson also founded the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation to preserve the civil rights history of Falls Church.

"I know this is going to be a very valuable asset at the Library of Congress and



**Lillie Jessie, a participant in the archive testimonials, speaks at the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive Dedication Ceremony on July 7.**

other places," Henderson said.

Lillie Jessie, a school board member in Prince William County and a civil rights activist, reminded everyone to listen to the stories of those around them.

"We all want to matter to someone and to leave a mark. It is said your story is the greatest legacy you will leave your friends. Many of us really do die with the music still in us," Jessie said. "I lost a sister yesterday. She died with some of the story still inside of her."

Jessie also shared that her twin sister, due to medical problems, is unable to share some of her stories from the Civil Rights era.

"Maybe I should have listened more. I would say to everyone here, listen more," Jessie said.

Other archive participants who were in attendance at the event included Fannie Fitzgerald, part of the "Courageous Four" who integrated Prince William County Schools, and Ralph Smith, a freedom rider and leader in the NAACP.

Although the Civil Rights Act was passed 50 years ago, Henderson voiced his concern with the Supreme Court, specifically the conservative justices who recently struck down many key provisions of the Civil Rights Act.

"There's no checks and balances on the Supreme Court. They aren't supposed to be lawmakers," he said.

The archives are available for viewing at George Mason University, the Library of Congress, Fairfax County and Prince William public libraries, and Connolly's website.





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### OLD TOWN \$2,475,000

407 Prince Street

Classic historic end brick townhome, built in 1870, features an elegant gracious living room, separate formal dining room, spacious eat-in kitchen with center island cooktop and inside grill, high ceilings and hardwood floors throughout. Beautifully landscaped side garden with porch, patio and off street parking spaces. Great home for entertaining.

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1904 Mallinson Way

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### GRAND VIEW ON THE POTOMAC \$1,995,000

1902 Mallinson Way

One of six luxury homes in this exclusive historic neighborhood, this grand colonial offers 5BRs and 4.5BAs on approximately 7,600 sq ft of living space. Enjoy a large chef's kitchen, gorgeous views of the Potomac from the master suite balcony, and more.

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### OLD TOWN \$1,745,000

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### WELLINGTON \$1,690,000

8000 East Boulevard Drive

This spacious brick colonial offers three finished levels, totaling over 6,000 square feet, 5BR, 4.5BA, 2-car garage, 4 fireplaces, new chef's kitchen with designer touches, luxurious master suite, 2 laundry rooms, and in-law suite with exterior access.

**PHYLLIS PATTERSON** +1 703 310 6201

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### WOODMILL ESTATES \$719,900

8809 Northern Spruce Lane

Located on land once owned by George Washington, privacy abounds on this incredible lot backing to woods and stream. 4BR, 3.5 BA, huge eat-in kitchen with adjoining family room, formal living room and dining room. Spacious lower level rec room with custom bar, workshop, home gym, private master suite with luxurious renovated master bath, abundant storage throughout, Trex deck, patio, and 2-car garage.

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The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in all forms of art, and to establishing programs that will enrich the cultural life of Northern Virginia and the surrounding metropolitan area. As the primary site for these activities, the NVFAA owns and maintains the historic building called the Athenaeum.

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MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE ♦ JULY 24-30, 2014 ♦ 7



# OPINION

## Tragic Consequences

Money lost by refusal to expand health coverage, but also life, health and livelihood.

**T**he Virginia General Assembly's refusal to expand Medicaid, extending health coverage to as many as 400,000 Virginians has resulted in the loss of about \$1 billion in direct payments.

But that understates the loss, failing to calculate the cost of the lost health of thousands of Virginians.

Consider one relatively young man, treated by the Health Wagon, who is losing his vision to untreated diabetes because he has no health coverage, his diabetes went undetected for years and can't afford monitoring or medicine. Once diabetes begins to take its toll, it cannot be reversed. Once the man is blind and unable to work, he will likely be covered by Medicaid because he is permanently disabled.

The Centers for Disease Control says chronic illnesses are "the nation's leading causes of death and disability, leav[ing] in their wake deaths that could have been prevented, lifelong disability, compromised quality of life, and burgeoning health care costs. ... Heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and arthritis are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems."

### EDITORIAL

Consider the hundreds or thousands of Virginians who are not receiving routine care or screenings of any kind, whose cancer or high blood pressure or heart disease or diabetes, or even mental illness, rob them over time of their ability to work, to care for themselves or their families. Many will die of illnesses that could have been prevented or treated. The human toll is incalculable, unbearable and unnecessary.

It is unfair that health coverage depends on what state you happen to live in, that an ideologically driven General Assembly can determine your fate. If you are poor and live in a state that has chosen to accept expansion of health care with Medicaid, you have health insurance, for example in the bordering states of West Virginia, Kentucky and Maryland. But if you are poor and live in Virginia, or one of the other states that has refused to expand Medicaid, you are out of luck, out of health and possibly out of life.

Business groups and chambers of commerce around Virginia, including the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, support the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia under the Affordable

Care Act. One persuasive factor for the business community is that expansion would create an estimated 30,000 jobs and pump hundreds of millions of dollars into Virginia's economy. Hospitals support expanding Medicaid which would offset many of the costs of caring for uninsured populations.

In Virginia, Medicaid eligibility for adults without disability is almost nonexistent, limited to parents with incomes below 51 percent of poverty, or about \$11,900 a year for a family of four, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Adults without dependent children remain ineligible regardless of their income.

Under the Affordable Care Act, people with incomes 100 - 400 percent of poverty qualify for subsidies on their health insurance premiums when they purchase coverage through a Marketplace. Because the Affordable Care Act envisioned low-income people receiving coverage through Medicaid, people below poverty are not eligible for Marketplace subsidies. As many as 400,000 adults in Virginia fall into the coverage gap because they don't qualify for Medicaid under Virginia's rules, among the most stringent in the nation, but earn less than the poverty rate, so not enough to qualify for subsidies.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Police Need Review Board

To the Editor:

I commend the police for their dedication to help keep communities safe for all of us while risking their lives to do so. But, all organizations, no matter how noble, must be held accountable for their actions to help ensure top quality service at all times.

I read news account about Fairfax County police shooting unarmed citizens without disclosing supporting information about the incident and results of any investigation. And, there have been news report that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has awarded financial settlements to families that have sued because the police killed their loved ones. Secrecy by the police and the Board of Supervisors is unnecessarily divisive between the community and law enforcement and unfairly casts a shadow of doubt over our police. That can be easily corrected.

I read where independent citizens complaint review boards have been established in localities of the U.S. with excellent results for the citizens, those directly affected and the police. A win, win situation. The Virginia Citizens

Coalition for Police Accountability, Inc. had been asking the Board of Supervisors to establish and independent citizens complaint review board for several years without success although several supervisors support the concept.

The Board of Supervisors must revisit this issue and establish an independent, fair and impartial citizens complaint review board, whose members are appointed by the supervisors, and use the experience, expertise and results of those established in other locations to help in establishing a board that will be a winner for the police, those directly affected by questionable police actions and all citizens who look to the police to keep them safe. Also, such boards, effectively operated, should remove the cloud that exists over certain police killings in Fairfax County. Again a win, win for everyone.

Please call your supervisor and let him/her know that you support establishing a citizens complaint review board. You can call the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151 to obtain the phone number of your supervisor or leave you message with the Clerk for notice to your supervisor.

Frank Medico  
Mount Vernon



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

### Snapshot

Belle Haven Marina, July 18, 11:41 a.m.: A fisherman casts off a line at water's edge.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

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# BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 5

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Volunteer Advocates for Nursing Home & Assisted Living Residents

needed throughout Northern Virginia. Contact the Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/), email or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711. Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711.

The **Adult Day Health Care Centers** need marketing assistants. For these

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

## Theater Auditions

Aldersgate Church Community Theater will be holding auditions for Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Nile" on Saturday, August 9th at 2 p.m. and Sunday, August 10th at 7 p.m. at the church, located at 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA 22308. Roles for 8 males, aged 18-70, and 5 females aged 20-80. Auditions will be cold readings from the script. Rehearsal held at the church. Performances will be October 10-26, 2014. Please bring a list of all conflicts to the audition.

For more info, see [acconline.org](http://acconline.org).



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## OPINION

# 'Living Wage' Tough to Achieve in Northern Virginia

**Housing and job opportunities needed to relieve poverty.**

BY MARY AGEE  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

**O**n the surface, Martha Ordon is living the typical Northern Virginian life. She works as a medical receptionist at a doctor's office in Fairfax, and talks proudly about her 16 year-old daughter, a socially-active junior who plans to study business in college when she graduates. The reality is a little bit more complicated.

Martha and her daughter moved to Fairfax in 2008 from Louisiana. Her friend had urged her to make the move to Northern Virginia, telling her about the fantastic quality of life: the great schools, the strong job market and the sense of community. What her friend hadn't mentioned was the high cost of living. In Louisiana, Martha had worked as a cook in a Catholic school and always made enough to pay her bills. In Fairfax, she took a full-time job as a cook making \$10.50 an hour and a part-time job as a retail sales associate making \$8 an hour. With two jobs, Martha could pay her bills, but she rarely got to see her daughter. When Martha lost her job as a cook, she began working retail full-time but could no longer make ends meet.

In 2012, Martha and her daughter were evicted from their apartment. They lived in a hotel until a space became available at a local family shelter. Martha recognized that in order to pull her life back together and provide a stable home for her daughter, she

would need a living-wage job. She also realized that her previous experience as a cook was not going to help her rise above the poverty line. During her shelter stay, Martha discovered Training Futures, the nationally-recognized, workforce development solution of Northern Virginia Family Service.

Training Futures is a free program for adults who are determined to gain the skills to excel in professional, administrative roles. The 6-month curriculum not only teaches college-level administrative skills such as the Microsoft Office Suite, customer service, records management, medical terminology, business English and business math, but also through a partnership with Northern Virginia Community College, offers eligible trainees the opportunity to earn up to 21 college credits and a Career Studies Certificate in Business Information Technology.

Trainees come to Training Futures Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., and often arrive early and stay late to master course work. They are outfitted in the Training Futures Clothing Closet and expected to wear business professional clothes every day. Each trainee reports to a "supervisor," or staff member, who coaches them around attitude and business habits, encourages them and above all else, holds them to high "corporate" expectations. When trainees arrive for their first day at their new professional, administrative job, they not only have the skills to add value, but also look and act the part of an excellent employee. Martha knew she had found the pathway to the life she imagined for herself and her daughter. Within five weeks of graduating from this exciting program, Martha landed her position as a medical receptionist, making \$14 an hour.

While at the shelter, Martha was also referred to the Bridging Affordability Pro-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Training Futures is a free program for adults who are determined to gain the skills to excel in professional, administrative roles.**

gram. Bridging Affordability is administered by Northern Virginia Family Service in partnership with Fairfax County Department of Housing & Community Development. The program combines rental subsidies and case management supportive services with the intent of moving families forward toward self-sufficiency. Bridging Affordability has given Martha the time and financial breathing room to attend Training Futures and work towards a living wage. As Martha nears the end of her time in Bridging Affordability she is paying down debt which will allow her to purchase a car and further broaden her housing options. She has increased her income 57 percent since starting the program, thanks to the training and subsequent employment she found following Training Futures, but still needs to consider affordable housing options, which are

rare in this area.

The comprehensive nature of NVFS programs, including Workforce Development and Housing Services, provide clients with a unique opportunity to achieve several substantial goals at one time. NVFS has made the investment to ensure that when clients who seek our services for one issue may access the full range of our programs to increase the odds of achieving self-sufficiency. In the community, NVFS has been working with partners in both the nonprofit and government sectors who recognize the cross section between these two service areas. Families will not be able to maintain stable housing without living wages, and our efforts to solve the housing program in Northern Virginia are contingent upon holistic solutions that address both of these issues, together.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Supervisors' Failure

To the Editor:

Fairfax County, the most populous and affluent jurisdiction in the D.C.-metro area, has failed to respond to the challenge that it faces to significantly support good, safe, secure and affordable homes for its current and future residents. And, has thus jeopardized its future economic vitality. Despite strong advocacy by many constituencies in the public and private sectors, the current Board of Supervisors has failed, with few exceptions, to consistently advance the cause of affordable homes in Fairfax County, despite multiple proposals to surmount that problem. Let us hope that a new generation leaders among the voters and the Board of Supervisors will arise to solve that challenge.

**Conrad Egan**  
Oakton

*The writer is the recently resigned co-chair of the Fairfax County Affordable Advisory Committee.*

### Help Save Our Books

To the Editor:

Last November the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to cancel the Beta Plan for the county library system; however, Library Operations has continued to pursue the Beta Plan. At the Library Board of Trustees meeting July 9, 2014, Michael Cutrone, the Hunter Mill Representative to the Library Board, requested that current procedures for discarding low demand items be changed. Low demand items are books that have not been checked out for 24 months. Low demand books are now transferred to Technical Operations, and large numbers in very good condition are being discarded. Michael Cutrone asked that until a new policy can be instituted that the discard of low demand books be stopped. The Director of Library Operations stated that it was his decision to make and he was opposed to changing current procedures.

Many neighboring library systems keep their books on the shelves for five years

before they are considered for weeding. Even then, I am told by librarians in other library systems, they are very reluctant to let go of nonfiction works. Nonfiction is the heart of any library's collection. Our children need nonfiction for their school papers. Information from the Internet is often incorrect and incomplete.

We have lost thousands of nonfiction books in good condition since February 2014. Especially vulnerable are large art books which are often only used in the library and not checked out because of their size and weight. Since the Library Board is reluctant to direct operational procedures is there anything library patrons can do to protect the collection and culturally significant books?

Yes, there is. Patrons can check out books. Once books are checked out, they are protected for two years. Two years from now we will have a new Library Director and hopefully the new one will value the library as a place of learning and literacy. You can check out 50 books. Check out art, poetry, philosophy, science, history, biography, ethnic cookbooks. And don't forget the

children's nonfiction. It's the only way we have now to protect our collection. Think of it as a civic and patriotic duty.

Help save our books.

**Kathy Kaplan**  
Reston

## WRITE

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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Call: 703-917-6444.  
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# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**On-Call IT Specialists** to help older adults and adults with disabilities with basic computer issues. Schedule is flexible. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Hollin Hall Senior Center** is looking for a DJ ballroom and dance instructor. The Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. **The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** is looking for social companions for participants on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. and front desk volunteers on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-noon and 3:30-4:30 p.m. Located at 8350 Richmond Highway. For these and other volunteer opportunities call 703-324-5406 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults).

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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov).

The **Kingstowe 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov).

The **Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs a volunteer assistant from 11 a.m.-

noon, on Tuesdays to assist with activities and on Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-noon. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto: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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and link to Volunteer Solutions or e-mail [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto: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](mailto:Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Program** needs a volunteer to greet people and answer phones Mondays-Fridays from 9:15-9:30 a.m. to start as soon as possible. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186, [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov), or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and click on volunteers.

**Fairfax County's Meals on Wheels** needs drivers and a coordinator. Contact Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186, [VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov) or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and click on volunteers.

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Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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The perfect home with updated kitchen/baths, open floor plan + sunroom and fenced backyard. Gleaming hardwoods and lots of natural light. Large family room with fireplace. This 3BR/2BA home is very close to the GW Parkway. www.2107Shenandoah.com



**D'Antonio-Kohler Realty Group 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 714,900 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4**

**1006 DEWOLFE DR** Renovated "Mayfield" model across from Wayneswood park/pool. Open, kitchen with island, granite, new appliances, + a sunroom/family room addition off dining room. 4th floor loft, walk-up attic, LL rec room. Pool membership available.



**Sara Rothwell 703.472.5289**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 379,000**

4BR/2.5BA. Large master bedroom with sitting area, remodeled kitchen and baths, SS appliances, family room with wood-burning stove. Spacious screened-in porch with deck and hot tub. Fully-fenced back yard. Close to Ft. Belvoir and GW Parkway.



**Chris White 703.283.9028**  
**Alex / Stafford Landing \$ 615,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4**

Motivated seller has priced for quick sale. Classic 4BR Colonial. Excellent condition with 3 finished levels, updated BAs and kitchen, thermal windows, covered parking, huge covered deck, hardwoods and hardwood under carpet both levels. Gorgeous level lot.



**Christine Vanderhyde 703.309.2829**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 1,195,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4**

**6213 ARKENDALE RD** This Belle Haven home is a must see. Comprehensive, high-end renovations provide for spacious BR, comfortable living space and ample room for entertaining or just relaxing with the family. Elegant fixtures/upgrades thru-out and more!



**Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 530,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4**

**2151 JAMIESON AVE #1008** 1,145 sq ft 2BR/2BA unit with new flooring in some areas. Freshly painted thru-out. White kitchen has granite/hew SSA. Enclosed balcony with urban views. All Carlyle amenities. Near King St. Metro and more. www.brianandjerry.com



**Franki Roberts 703.898.0840**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 625,000**

**7830 MIDDAY LN** A summer retreat - pool and a 2 room pool house or studio/office with A/C and storage. Main house has large updated kitchen - heated floors in kitchen, living and dining rooms, slate floors, newer W/D. Large master bedroom. Gas fireplace. Fenced yard.



**Anya Macklin 703.518.8720**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 255,000 OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4**

**2702 DARTMOUTH RD #3** Features of this 2BR home include beautiful hardwoods thru-out, new blinds, updated heating and appliances + new appliances. Delightful deck. Pet-friendly community with renovated gym. Low condo fees. Extra storage. Near Metro.



**Michael Lekas 703.927.9895**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Cameron Station \$ 899,900**

Fall in love with this beautifully appointed, architecturally detailed, and expertly crafted TH overlooking a gorgeous park. Palladian windows, French doors, brick patio with custom fountain, + one of the largest yards in the community. 4BR/3.5BA++ - 3,500sf. www.mikelekas.com



**Mary Bourke 703.906.5825**  
**FALLS CHURCH \$ 998,000**

Traditional Colonial featuring 4BR plus bonus room, 3.5BA and 2-car garage. 9' ft ceilings on first floor and cathedral ceiling in foyer. Main level bedroom. Handicapped accessible bath. Large eat-in kitchen and much more.



**Anya Macklin 703.518.8720**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 465,000**

Spectacular 3 level, 3BR/2.5BA home with 2-car garage. New stainless steel kitchen, new carpeting and painted thru-out. Renovated community center and pool. Great location, serene neighborhood - close to I-395, BRAC, Pentagon & Old Town.



**Katherine Ward 703.627.8782**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Commercial Space \$ 3,350/month**

Updated condo office suite in professional building near Potomac River, Old Town Alexandria. 1-456, Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Metro. 4 exam rooms/offices, kitchen, bath, storage + large reception area with station. Plenty of parking. Full Service rental terms.



**Poole / Braun Team 703.960.3100**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 699,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4**

**3810 WESTGATE DR** Pride of ownership in every upgrade. 3-level Colonial with sunroom addition, 3 fireplaces, 4 large bedrooms, 3.5 baths, hardwoods refinished, double pane windows, 2-car garage. Kitchen remodeled for gourmet cook. Fantastic curb appeal!



**Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914**  
**ALEXANDRIA \$ 995,000**

Beautiful classic center hall Colonial in the Mason Hill neighborhood on cul-de-sac - 4BR/3.5BA - 2 car garage - level backyard - 5th bedroom or mother-in-law suite or family room - study - PLUS very large game room addition and much more!



**Franki Roberts 703.898.0840**  
**ALEXANDRIA / Hollin Hills \$ 729,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4**

**7424 REBECCA DR** Expanded Goodman home has customized architectural features - 2 wood-burning fireplaces, skylights, vaulted ceilings. Hardwoods. Eat-in kitchen with ceramic, artistic backsplash. LL family room, private patio, beautiful landscaping, and storage.

#### RENTALS

- 6641 Wakefield Dr #913 \$1,650**  
River Towers Hi-Rise 2BR / 1BA  
Peter Braun, Jr. 703.623.0301
- 12248 Maidstone Ct \$1,650**  
Sherbrooke II Townhomes 3BR / 2.5BA 2 Assigned  
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441
- 3911 Sunny Brook Ct \$1,700**  
Old Bridge Estates Townhouse 3BR / 2.55BA 1 Frpl 2 Assigned  
Peg O Connell 202.405.7680
- 5901 Mt Eagle Dr #1205 \$1,950**  
Montebello Hi-Rise 2BR / 2BA  
Brian Hong 703.518.8738
- 8510 Stable Dr \$3,000**  
Riverside Gardens Detached 4BR / 2.5BA 1 Frpl 1 Carport  
Anya Macklin 703.501.6384



# ENTERTAINMENT



**It's an office party with dogs. Dogs are allowed in the offices at IMGE on King Street. After work, they head to Jackson 20. Yappy Hour regulars and IMGE employees Megan Fitzpatrick with "Richard the Dog" (dachshund), Bubba Atkinson with Charley (short for Charliqua) the lab, India Moorhouse with Rosie, and Colin Chocola with a drink (no dog). In the background are Anton Fuljaj and Gabe Egan. "Richard the Dog" is also listed as an "employee" on the IMGE website.**



**Big Charley, medium Charlie, and little Charlie hang out together and survey the crowd before deciding to step out.**

## Dogs' Night Out

The dogs took over the courtyard of Hotel Monaco in Old Town last Thursday night, July 17. As part of the hotel's pet-friendly policy, patrons are allowed to bring their dogs to Jackson 20 for a huge "play date" while their owners enjoy the beautiful weather with food and drink.

Yappy Hour has been taking place since the hotel opened seven years ago. While there, you might be greeted by 8-year-old Charlie Gillett, the "Director of Pet Relations" who makes the rounds and says hi to everyone. All seem to know him and he makes friends easily.

Dogs of all sizes and ages are welcome. Yappy Hour happens every Thursday, 5-8 p.m., weather permitting. Just follow the barking sounds to the courtyard behind the Hotel Monaco. Call 703-549-6080 or email Charlie the Dog at [charlie.gillett@hotelmonaco.com](mailto:charlie.gillett@hotelmonaco.com) — don't be surprised if he asks you to bring him a treat.

— VERONICA BRUNO



**Charlie, the host, gets treats from Nelson, who happily doles out indulgences for many of the "regulars." The dogs eagerly seek him out because they know what he carries in his pockets.**



**George and Martha, two Brussels Griffon dogs, sit on Ron Zells' lap and take in the activity.**



**Ginger stays cool and collected while the social event goes on. She is a patient 11-year-old goldendoodle.**



**Bella, with Sonja Johnson, sits pretty on her owner's lap, with a blue bow just for the social occasion.**



**Charlie Bunga Gillett, the "Director of Pet Relations" for Hotel Monaco's "Yappy Hour," greets guests at the front desk with Stefani Glavin and Logan Lowther.**

PHOTOS BY  
VERONICA BRUNO  
THE GAZETTE

## CALENDAR

Email announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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

**Civil War Sundays.** Sundays through July 27, 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria through exhibits and artifacts. Free. Visit [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org) or call 703-746-4388 for more.

**Photography Exhibit.** Daily 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursdays 2-9 p.m. through Aug. 3. Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. "Frozen Music," a photography exhibit featuring new works by Alan Sisen. Call 703-838-4565 for more.

**"Water."** Through Aug. 3., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Studio 18 of the Torpedo

Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Artists derive inspiration from water, the sea, lakes, rivers, taps, clouds, rain, snow, ice, the elemental liquids of life. Free. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

### Francie Hester: Symbolic Spaces.

Through Aug. 3. Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays, 4-6 p.m. Saturdays, noon-4 p.m. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Art exhibition, Symbolic Spaces, shifts from a linear, mathematical piecing together of sequences to examine time as infinite, fluid, without discrete beginning or end. Free. Visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org) for more.

### The Adventure.

Through Monday, Aug. 4. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio 21. David Alfuth constructs intimate dreamlike worlds and architectural structures with his paper relief and 3D works. Free. Visit [www.theaterleague.org](http://www.theaterleague.org), or call 703-683-1780.

### 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.

**Ice Cream Making.** Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Admission: Adults, \$18; Children, \$9; Under 5, free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/](http://www.mountvernon.org/) for more.

**Blue Star Museums.** More than 2,000 museums across America offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer through Sept. 1. A complete list of museums is available at <http://arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>. The museums in Alexandria participating in the program are Gadsby's Tavern

Museum, the Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden and Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.

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

**New Exhibit.** Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington's design for the grounds of his estate, through a new exhibition, "Gardens & Groves: George Washington's Landscape" at Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington's landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools,

landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Alexandria Cars & Coffee** invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Enthusiasts of 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](http://www.theoldtowntheater.com) for tickets.

**George Washington's Mount Vernon** has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an



# ENTERTAINMENT

added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Visit [www.PresPassport.Monticello.org](http://www.PresPassport.Monticello.org).

**Fifty Years of Collecting.** Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon to 5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum 4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org) or call 703-746-4848.

**Art Exhibit.** Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Old Town Gallery, 109 N. Fairfax St. Art by Paul McGehee. Visit [www.paulmcgeheeart.com](http://www.paulmcgeheeart.com) for more.

## CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**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.

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

**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](http://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](mailto:claudia.spencer@alexandriava.gov).

**Art and Mindfulness.** July 30. 7:30-9 p.m. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Meditation for adults. \$50 for two meetings. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/labyrinth.htm](http://www.artatthecenter.org/labyrinth.htm) for more.

**Puppet Studio.** 10-11:30 a.m., July 29-31 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Students will explore a variety of puppetry techniques to create their own unique characters. Call 703-201-1250 or visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) to register or find other art classes.

**Etiquette Camp.** July 28-Aug. 1. 1-3 p.m. at Tiny Dancers, 621 S. Washington St. A camp that will add a twist to etiquette training. \$250. Visit [www.tinydancers.com](http://www.tinydancers.com) or call 703-358-5580 for more.

**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](http://www.alexandriahistory.org).

## AT THE LIBRARY

**Martha Washington Library,** 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Call 703-768-6700.  
**Kingstowne Library,** 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Call 703-339-4610.  
**John Marshall Library,** 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Call 703-971-0010.  
**Sherwood Library,** 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-765-3645.

### ONGOING

**Guess the Books.** Try to identify the book by looking at pages in a jar and win a prize. In two-week rounds through Aug. 30, in the young adult fiction area at Sherwood Library.

**Teen Scavenger Hunt.** Search for clues and test library knowledge, through Aug. 30 at Sherwood Library.

**Nanowriyer Writers Group.** Inspired by National Novel Writing Month, a group meets to explore new avenues of writing fiction and non-fiction. 1 p.m. the first and third Saturday of the month at Sherwood Library.

**Genealogy Tutoring.** One-on-one session with a genealogy volunteer using library online resources at Kingstowne Library. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

**Internet and Computer Training.** One-on-one session with a technology volunteer at Kingstowne Library. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

Washington Library. Salsa, cha cha and more — fun Latin dance and music for the whole family with Cantaré, Latin American Music. All ages. Register each child and adult separately.

**English Conversation.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Wag a Tale.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Kingstowne Library. Register to read aloud to Bella, a reading therapy dog. Ages 5-12.

**Read to the Dog.** 12:30-1:30 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Register to read aloud to one of our reading therapy dogs. For readers ages 5 and up.

**eBook Workshop.** 1 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Get eBook questions answered; bring your eBook reader and library card.

### MONDAY/JULY 28

**A to Zoo.** 10:30 a.m. at John Marshall Library. Stories and activities for ages 3-5 with adult.

### TUESDAY/JULY 29

**Storytime and Rhyme.** 10:30 p.m. at John Marshall Library. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap teaching artist Kofi Dennis. All ages; register each child and adult separately.

**Spectacular Science.** 2:30 p.m. at

Martha Washington Library. Explore the secrets of fireworks, bubbles and more with Mad Science. Ages 6-12.

### Internet and Computer

**Training.** 8 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. One-hour session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills, and navigating the Internet. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

**English Conversation.** 10:15 a.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice.

**Reptiles Alive.** 2:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. See how reptiles cling, climb and chase in the wild. For ages 6-12.

### THURSDAY/JULY 31

**English Conversation.** 2 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

**Internet and Computer Training.** 6 p.m. at Martha Washington Library. Thirty-minute session with a technology volunteer for help with basic computer skills, and navigating the Internet. Call for an appointment, 703-768-6700.

**English Conversation.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library. A conversation group for adults learning English to practice together.

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**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**

**Mass Schedule**

<b>Saturday Evening</b> 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español) <b>Sunday</b> 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 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309 Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 <a href="http://www.gs-cc.org">www.gs-cc.org</a> <b>Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves</b>	 <b>Weekday &amp; Saturday Mornings:</b> 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration) <b>Thursday &amp; First Friday of the Month:</b> 7:30 pm Mass en Español
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703-360-6925

**Monthly Networking**  
Feb 13, 5:30-7:00 pm @ Hampton Inn Mt Vernon  
Mar 13, 5:30-7:00 pm @ Good Shepherd Housing

MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
6821 Richmond Highway / Alexandria, VA 22306



# ENTERTAINMENT

**Stop Motion Animation and Cartooning.** Aug. 18-21. 10 a.m.-noon and 1-3 p.m. for ages 8-12. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. \$140 for cartooning and \$150 for stop-motion animation taught by Christine Stoddard. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org/classessummer14.htm](http://www.artatthecenter.org/classessummer14.htm) for more.

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

**Cool Yoga.** Wednesdays, through Aug. 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Outdoor yoga classes. Free. Call Maureen Clyne at 703-967-8884 or visit [www.prasadayoga.com](http://www.prasadayoga.com) for more.

**Metropolitan School of the Arts Classes.** 5775 Barclay Drive, Suite 4. The Metropolitan School of the Arts will begin classes on Monday, Sept. 8. The studios offer beginner and advanced instruction in a variety of different dance forms, including tap, jazz, ballet, Pointe, Irish dance, contemporary, acting, combination classes, hip-hop or theatre as well as piano and guitar lessons. Registration is available online at [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).

## THROUGH SUNDAY/AUG. 31

**Art Exhibition.** Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St. Artist Steven Walls will show "Transient States," a solo exhibition, at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. On Thursday, Aug. 14 there will be a reception from 6-8 p.m. and an artist talk at 7 p.m. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/](http://www.torpedofactory.org/partners/target-gallery/) for more.

## THURSDAY/JULY 24

**Drum Circle.** 2:30 p.m. at Spring Hills, 3709 Shannons Green Way. A debut interactive performance by Mark Levine. Space is limited. Free. Call 703-650-0779 to RSVP.

**Theater.** 7-9:30 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. "A Midsummer's Night Swing." Reservations required. \$15. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com) for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Time for Three performs. \$29.50. Visit [www.tf3.com](http://www.tf3.com), [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## FRIDAY/JULY 25

**Happy Hour.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Historical celebration of John Gadsby's 1808 move from The City Tavern to Baltimore. \$10 for two drink tickets, food available for purchase. Visit [www.gadsbys-tavern.org](http://www.gadsbys-tavern.org) or call 703-746-4242.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Sonny Landreth with special guest Jimmy Thackery. \$29.50. Visit [www.sonnylandreth.com](http://www.sonnylandreth.com), [www.jimmythackery.com](http://www.jimmythackery.com) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

**Acoustic Treasures.** 8-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave. Performance by Stan Hamrick. Visit [www.stanhamrick.com](http://www.stanhamrick.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 25-27

**Muster the Militia Weekend.** Alexandria Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, the Lyceum and the Carlyle House. Includes museum tours, War of 1812 exhibits and a special one-day only Alexandria War of 1812 walking tour. Tours leave from Market Square, corner of King and

Fairfax streets, every half hour. Visit [www.dcwaro1812.org](http://www.dcwaro1812.org) or [www.visitalexandriava.com/1812](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/1812).

## SATURDAY/JULY 26

**Christmas in July.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union St., and Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to Union Street for Christmas in July. There will be storytelling, cookies, photos, facepainting, sales at The Christmas Attic and drink specials at Union Street Public House. Free. Visit [www.unionstreetpublichouse.com](http://www.unionstreetpublichouse.com) or contact Dina Ramsted at [info@unionstreetpublichouse.com](mailto:info@unionstreetpublichouse.com) or 703-548-1785.

**Unity Day.** 1-7 p.m. George Washington Middle School cafeteria and plaza, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. Live music and performances, food, face painting, a moon bounce and more. Free. Visit [www.facebook.com/AlexandriaUnityDay2014](http://www.facebook.com/AlexandriaUnityDay2014) for more.

## SUNDAY/JULY 27

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianists Sylvia Hong and Michael Rector perform Chopin piano concertos. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229 for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. HAPA performs. \$29.50. Visit [www.hapa.com](http://www.hapa.com), [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## THURSDAY/JULY 31

**Harry Potter's Birthday.** 5-9 p.m. at The Apothecary Museum, 107 Fairfax St. A tour of the museum as if it was part of the "Harry Potter" universe. \$6. Advanced purchase recommended. Visit <https://shop.alexandriava.gov/EventPurchase.aspx> to purchase tickets.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Big Smo, opened by Denum Jones. \$20. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 1

**Monty Python.** Pre-reception, 7 p.m., show, 8 p.m., post-reception after, at The Little Theater, 600 Wolfe St. A fundraiser for the Pentagon Visitor Education Center, showing "Monty Python and the Holy Grail."

Suggested \$40 donation to The Pentagon Memorial Fund. Contact Tina McCrea at [Tina@thelittletheatre.com](mailto:Tina@thelittletheatre.com) 703-683-5778 x1.

**Kenny G.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$65. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for more.

**Artisan Gallery Reception.** 7-9 p.m. at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Seven artists present "Board and Beyond" art exhibit. Gallery is open through Aug. 31 after opening reception. Free. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 2

**Dance.** 7-9:30 pm. Lesson, 6:30-7 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4701 N. Chambliss St. BYO refreshments. Couples, singles welcome; smoke- and alcohol-free. \$12 general admission, \$5 age 17 and under with paying adult. Call 703-860-4941 or visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org) for more.

## SUNDAY/AUG. 3

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. A violinist, violist,

## FOOD & DRINK

**Mount Vernon Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-noon, Wednesdays, May 7-Dec. 17. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm) for more.

**Kingstowne Farmers Market.** 4-7 p.m., Fridays, May 2-Oct. 31. Giant parking lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center. Products include fresh organic honey, pies and rolls. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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. Visit [www.4mrmarket.org/](http://www.4mrmarket.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. Visit [www.westendfarmersmarket.org/#FarmersMarket](http://www.westendfarmersmarket.org/#FarmersMarket) for more.



**Ramon Camacho of Alexandria chooses honey crisp apples from Spring Valley Farm and Orchard at the Old Town Famer's Market in September 2013. The Old Town Farmers Market operates Saturdays, 7 a.m.-noon, year round in Market Square, 301 King St. Free parking is available in the Market Square garage during the Saturday hours of the Farmers' Market.**

cellist, clarinetist and pianist perform music by Darius Milhaud. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org) or call 703-799-8229 for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Marc Cohn opened by Amber Aubarth. \$45. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## TUESDAY/AUG. 5

**Steve Prince.** 8 p.m. at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred St. A presentation of Steve's work and illustrations of his techniques. Free. Call 703-629-3620 or email [tatyana.ss@verizon.net](mailto:tatyana.ss@verizon.net) for more.

## TUESDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 5-31

**Multiple Exposures Gallery.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursdays 2-8 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Fine art photography exhibition. Free. Visit [www.multipleexposuresgallery.com](http://www.multipleexposuresgallery.com).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 7

**Purple Heart Ceremony.** 1 p.m. at

George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Ave. Join Chapter 353 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to commemorate the anniversary of the oldest military decoration in the world. \$8 for children, \$16 for seniors, \$17 for adults. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) for more.

**Live Music.** 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon Inn restaurant, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The Kevin Kline Band performs covers of many familiar Billy Joel, Elton John and Bruce Hornsby tunes. Free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/Inn](http://www.mountvernon.org/Inn) for more.

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. An evening with Jay Hayden and V. Rich. \$25. Visit [www.jworldrecords.com](http://www.jworldrecords.com), <http://vrichmusic.com>, or [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## AUG. 5 THROUGH SEPT. 7

**"Fire."** Through Sept. 7. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 105 North Union St. The artists' imagination is "fired" by heat, flames, burning, passion, fiery tempers, anger, explosive situations, camp fires, BBQs, and fireflies to

name just a few possible interpretations. Free. Call 703-838-4565 or visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 8

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Buster Poindexter (aka David Johansen). \$29.50. Visit [www.facebook.com/officialBusterPoindexter/](http://www.facebook.com/officialBusterPoindexter/) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

**Cirque du Soleil.** 8 p.m. at National Harbor. Cirque du Soleil performs "Amaluna." All proceeds from ticket sales go to support The Campagna Center. \$120. Visit [www.campagnacenter.org/amaluna](http://www.campagnacenter.org/amaluna).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 9

**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](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket) for more.

**Hometown History Bus Tour.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Franconia Museum, 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia. The Franconia Museum will be holding a bus tour traveling from the museum and ending with refreshments at Nalls Produce. \$25. Call Carl Sell at 703-971-4716 or Don Hakenson at 703-971-4294 for more.

**Jane Austen Ball.** 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. This 1790s era ball will include English country dancing, live music, a period-inspired dessert collation and "iced refreshments." Period attire is optional, "after-five" attire is encouraged. Tickets are \$45 per person and reservations are required. Visit <http://apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar/Detail.aspx?si=3455> for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 9-10

**Summer Sidewalk Sale.** Hours vary by retailer at Old Town and Del Ray. Moved inside in case of inclement weather. Free. Visit [www.VisitAlexVA.com/SidewalkSale](http://www.VisitAlexVA.com/SidewalkSale).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 10

**Family Day.** 1-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Explore the magic of history with a tour of the tavern. Adults: \$5; Children: \$3. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) for more.

**Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.** 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Cellist Philip Wolf and pianist Stephen Bertino perform Grieg and other short pieces. Free, donations accepted. Call 703-799-8229 or visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 12

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Dick Dale. \$29.50. Visit [www.dickdale.com](http://www.dickdale.com) or [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) or call 703-549-7500.

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 13

**Live Music.** 7:30 at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Victor Wooten Band performs. \$35. Visit [www.victorwooten.com](http://www.victorwooten.com) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 14

**Live Music.** 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Zombies. \$45. Visit [www.thezombies.net](http://www.thezombies.net) or [www.Birchmere.com](http://www.Birchmere.com) for more.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 16

**Angaleena Presley.** 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$35. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# Cross County Trail Renamed to Honor Connolly

**“Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail” unveiled at ceremony in Lorton.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**O**n National Trails Day on June 7, the Cross County Trail, which goes through each district in Fairfax County, was renamed to the “Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail” in honor of U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly’s work to build the trail.

In June 1999, Connolly, who represented the Providence district on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, motioned to create a cross-county trail. Now, over a decade later, Connolly was honored during a ceremony at Laurel Hill Park in Lorton, part of the 40-mile trail that goes from Great Falls to the Occoquan River.

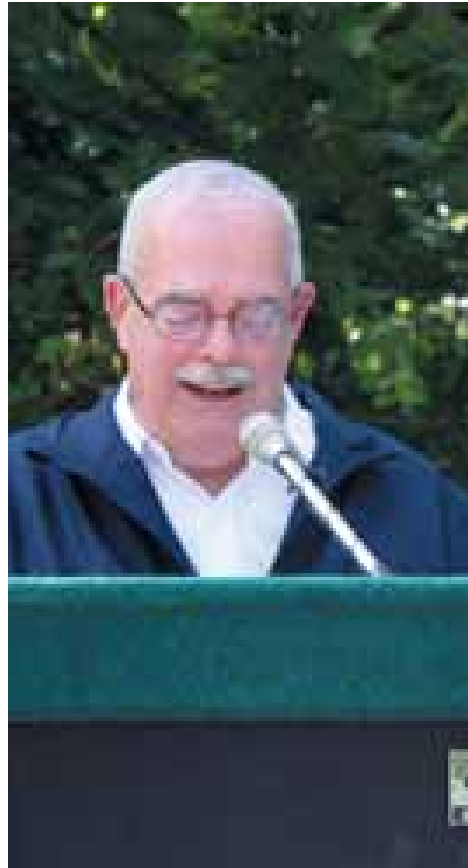
“Well first of all, thank you for not waiting until I was dead,” Connolly said at the ceremony. “I know it’s a great honor after you’ve passed, but I’m not sure I would have appreciated it. But thank you so much for doing this.”

When Connolly was chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, he was a key figure in the development of the Cross County Trail. He worked with others to link together the existing trail system from Great Falls to Occoquan.

“He has been involved in countless projects and initiatives, but this one, this project, is indicative of his personal strengths, his ability to listen to his constituents,” said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Connolly, calling the trail one of his “proudest accomplishments in public office,” thanked the Fairfax County Park Authority Staff and other volunteers and figures in the county who helped to make the trail a reality.

“This trail is a way to ride bikes, to hike with their friends, or even to ride horses. But it’s also about connectivity—from one end of



**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly speaks in Lorton at an event on June 7. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted last year to rename the trail after Connolly.**

this community to the other,” Bulova said.

Bulova pointed out that the trail is part of the East Coast Greenway, which stretches from Maine to Key West.

“This trail network will allow someone to hike all the way from here, all the way down to Key West. Is that a romantic thought or what?” she said.

Flying above Fairfax County shows how much green there is in the county, said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland.

“To be able to say that we have 10 percent of our land in parks is a truly remarkable accomplishment,” Hyland said.

Volunteers who helped implement the Cross County Trail were also honored.

“Trails do not just magically appear for our enjoyment. Their construction and



**Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland speaks at an event on June 7 renaming the Cross County Trail to the “Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail.”**

maintenance takes hours of dedicated planning and labor. That is especially true in Fairfax County, where volunteers are the backbone of our trail maintenance and construction,” Bulova said.

Pedestrians, bikers and horseback riders can travel all the way from Great Falls Park down to the Occoquan River.

“You can go out on the Cross County Trail and feel like you’re in the middle of nowhere. It’s a unique experience,” said Bill Niedringhaus, president of the Potomac Heritage Trail Association.

Connolly said that the beauty of the Cross County Trail is that most of it is in a stream valley.

“It is hard to believe you’re in a big urban county with over a million people,” Connolly said.

PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION



**Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, speaks about U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly’s work to build the Cross County Trail.**



**Nancy Wilson, a supporter of trails in Fairfax County, speaks at an event honoring U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly for his work on his Cross County Trail.**

## CRIME REPORT

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

**BURGLARY**, 6100 block of North Kings Highway, July 18. An employee reported someone entered the business and took property.

**BURGLARY**, 8000 block of Kidd Street, July 20. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

**BURGLARY**, 2500 block of Popkins Lane, July 21. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

**INDECENT EXPOSURE**, 8000 Janna Lee Avenue, July 17, 12:55 a.m. A woman had stepped outside her residence when a man exposed himself. The suspect was described as black and wearing dark clothing.

**ROBBERY**, 7600 block of Richmond Highway, July 17, 4:43 p.m. The victim was sitting inside a restaurant when two suspects approached him. The suspects assaulted the victim and took cash and

property from him. The victim was transported to a local hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Responding police officers located the suspects and took them into custody. A 19-year-old Woodbridge man was charged with robbery and assault. A 17-year-old Alexandria area male was charged with robbery and illegal possession of tobacco by a juvenile.

**PEEPING**, 6100 block of Paulonia Road, July 15, 12:45 a.m. A resident looked out the window and saw a man looking into the room. The suspect fled prior to police arrival.

**BURGLARY**, 7500 block of Republic Court, July 14. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

**ROBBERY**, 3300 block of Lockheed Boulevard, July 11, 10:20 p.m. The victim was walking when he was approached from behind by two men. An unknown object was pressed against the victim’s back and the men demanded cash. The suspects

took cash and fled. There were no injuries. No suspect description is available.

### LARCENIES

2800 block of Beacon Hill Road, beer from business

1600 block of Belle View Boulevard, merchandise from business

8200 block of Claremont Woods Drive, items from vehicle

2400 block of Fort Drive, money from residence

8100 block of Hinson Farm Road, cell phone from business

2000 block of Belle View Boulevard, shoes from business

7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

6600 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

7700 block of Richmond Highway, bicycle from

business

7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

7800 block of Richmond Highway, cell phone from business

2300 block of Huntington Avenue, beer from business

2800 block of Beacon Hill Road, merchandise from business

6300 block of Richmond Highway, cell phone from business

7900 block of Audubon Avenue, tools from vehicle

7900 block of Fort Hunt Road, beer from business

2300 block of Mary Baldwin, property from residence

7400 block of Vernon Square Drive, bicycle from residence

SEE CRIME, PAGE 17



# Fairfax County Updates Green Building Policy

**New policy is result of new technology for green rating systems.**

BY JANELLE GERMANOS  
THE GAZETTE

**T**he green building policy in Fairfax has been updated, requiring higher standards for residential, retail, office and other construction projects seeking approval for rezoning in the county.

“Fairfax County’s Green Building Policy is a major component of our board’s environmental agenda and my own efforts toward making Fairfax County a leader in energy efficiency. Business leaders understand the value of this policy not only for its environmental benefits, but also the savings they achieve and the competitive advantage of low energy costs,” said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The vote was made at the July 1 Board of Supervisors meeting. Fairfax County first adopted a green building policy in 2007, as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Now, the policy is updated to include changes that have been made in rating systems of green buildings.

LEED certification or equivalent pro-

grams, which are more clearly defined in the updated policy, are extended to industrial areas under the plan, and for proposals in high density areas. Green buildings in higher density areas must meet higher levels of performance to be certified green in these areas. The new plan also urges data collection of water and energy use within green buildings.

More than 100 developers have committed to design and construct green buildings since the policy began in 2007.

“The Green Building Policy is all about promoting sustainability in Fairfax County. This policy helps position office buildings, residential developments, industrial sites and other developments for an energy-efficient and competitive edge well into the future,” Bulova said.

The policy applies to development projects required to undergo the rezoning process. Under the updated policy, existing buildings looking to meet green standards are also supported. Infrastructure for electric car charging stations is also included in the plan.



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

**The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, pictured here in May, voted last week to update the county’s green building policy.**

Green buildings are buildings that have minimal effect on the environment through a decreased greenhouse gas emission through lower levels of water and energy consumption. Fairfax County government has built 16 green-certified buildings since 2008.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity addressed his concern with the fiscal impact of this policy, specifically with the electric car charging stations.

“Clearly, this policy has a cost to industry, clearly this has a cost to housing, it has a cost to commercial development — there

is a cost impact,” Herrity said. “I think we have to look at the cost of this before we charge ahead.”

Some board members wanted to defer the decision, but this motion failed.

“I think the time has come to provide some guidance in our plan,” said Lee district Supervisor Jeff McKay. “I don’t know what delaying this accomplishes when people have been working on this and discussing this for this long.”

Supervisors John Cook, Pat Herrity and Michael Frey voted against the motion to update the green building policy.

## CRIME REPORT

FROM PAGE 17

7700 block of Richmond Highway, cell phone from business

7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

3100 block of Sherwood Hall Lane, clothing from business

6800 block of Stoneybrooke Lane, wallet from residence

7900 block of Woodpecker Way, bicycle from business

7900 block of Fort Hunt Road, beer from business

2100 block of Prices Lane, sunglasses and phone charger from vehicle

6000 block of Richmond Highway, generator from vehicle

7900 block of Sausalito Place, wallet from residence

8000 block of Buckman Court, wallet from vehicle

7900 block of Richmond Highway, laptop computer from vehicle

## BUSINESS NOTES

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

**Spring Hills Senior Communities** is introducing new technology that will enhance the quality, thoroughness and efficiency of care and services for residents at its senior assisted living communities throughout the country, including Spring Hills Mount Vernon. The technology will ease record keeping and make it easier to immediately access information about residents.

George Washington’s Mount Vernon welcomes **Kellie White** and **Emily Daniel** from George Mason University as part of its 2014 class of Historic Preservation Field School student interns.

**The Fred W. Smith National Library** for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon has been awarded a LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SYLVIA DUNCAN

**From left: The Virginia State Regent, Virginia Storage; Emily Ryan; Sasha Mkrtychyan; McClain Moran; Sofia Strickler; Caroline Curran; Olivia Maaia; Anni Chams-Eddine; Tara Laughlin; Sylvia Duncan, JAC chairman, Mount Vernon Chapter; and Kathryn Maxson, Mount Vernon Chapter Regent. Not pictured: Cole Early and Claire Fergusson.**

## Daughters of the American Revolution Presents Youth Awards

The Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution District V had a Youth Awards Celebration at Belle Haven Country Club on April 27 where students from Alexandria schools were presented with art awards from DAR. Ten students sponsored by the Mount Vernon Chapter won first place in the Virginia State Junior American Citizens Art District V contest and first place in the Virginia State contest. Three of these students also won first place in the Eastern Division Contest, comprised of DAR chapters in six states and Washington, D.C. One student also won first place in the National Contest and another won honorable men-

tion in the National Contest, which has 3,000 chapters.

This year’s theme was “Honoring Our Heritage.” Students presented art work in the form of posters, stamps, and photo essays.

First place winners in District V and Virginia State include: Cole Early, 9th grade, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Upper School, stamp; Caroline Curran, 10th grade, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Upper School, stamp; Anii Chams-Eddine, 12th grade, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Upper School, stamp; Olivia Maaia, 1st grade, Charles Barrett Elementary School, poster; Sophia Stickler, 2nd grade, Charles Barrett Elementary

School, poster; Sasha Mkrtychyan, 5th grade, Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, poster; McClain Moran, 8th grade, George Washington Middle School, poster; Tara Laughlin, 11th grade, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Upper School, poster; Claire Fergusson, 6th grade, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes Middle School, photo essay; and Emily Ryan, 8th grade, George Washington Middle School, photo essay. Eastern Divisional winners were Tara Laughlin, Sasha Mkrtychyan, and Emily Ryan. National Winners were Sasha Mkrtychyan in first place and Emily Ryan with an honorable mention.

— KARA COLEMAN





PHOTO BY MORGAN HOWARTH

Architect George R. Bott of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. was able to create a nook for the dog’s food and water bowls, as well as storage space for his supplies and accessories in an Arlington home.

# Remodeling with Pets in Mind

Keep pets safe during construction projects created for man’s best friend.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE GAZETTE

Home remodeling projects often come after considerable planning and expense. One factor that can be overlooked is the family pet. While the end result of a remodel is often a new, updated or enlarged living space, the road to that improvement is often filled with dust, debris and inconvenience — which can be upsetting and even dangerous to dogs and cats. Homeowners should be aware of the added traffic that comes with a construction project. “The biggest risk during a construction project could be that the pet could

escape because workers might not be aware of doors or gates or windows being left open,” said Carol Petit, hospital manager at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital in Alexandria. “There are many more cars and trucks going back and forth,” said Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman, BOWA in McLean. “The driveway should be off limits to pets.” Actually, the entire construction zone should be off limits. “Pets, especially dogs, will eat anything,” said Petit. “There are construction materials. They could eat leftover food from construction workers, which could be toxic or contribute to weight issues, depending on

SEE SAFE, PAGE 22

In June 2014, 152 homes sold between \$2,050,000-\$107,000 in the Mount Vernon area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,050,000-\$340,500 range.

Address .....	BR .	FB .	HB ..	...	Postal	City ....	Sold Price ...	Type .....	Lot AC ..	PostalCode .....	Subdivision .....
6215 BERKELEY ROAD .....	6	...	6	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,050,000	Detached	0.23	22307	BELLE HAVEN
7608 SOUTHDOWN RD .....	3	...	4	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.42	22308	ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC
2504 SHERWOOD HALL LN .....	5	...	4	...	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,455,000	Detached	0.77	22306	HYBLA VALLEY FARMS
3201 WOODLAND LN .....	6	...	5	...	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,325,000	Detached	0.43	22309	WOODLAND PARK
7629 ESSEX MANOR PL .....	4	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,075,700	Detached	0.35	22308	FENWICK ESTATES
6125 EDGEWOOD TER .....	3	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.19	22307	BELLE HAVEN
8810 FIRCREST PL .....	5	...	4	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$951,000	Detached	0.25	22308	WAYNEWOOD
7305 BURTONWOOD DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$875,000	Detached	0.39	22307	VILLAMAY
7410 ADMIRAL DR .....	5	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$871,000	Detached	0.36	22307	VILLAMAY
1211 GATEWOOD DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$865,000	Detached	0.29	22307	VILLAMAY
8917 BRIDGEHAVEN CT .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$823,000	Detached	0.61	22308	BRIDGEHAVEN
2311 GLASGOW RD .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$814,000	Detached	0.34	22307	HOLLIN HILLS
2401 DAPHNE LN .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$810,000	Detached	0.30	22306	HOLLIN HILLS
7406 PARK TERRACE DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$805,000	Detached	0.30	22307	VILLAMAY
7110 RICHARD CASEY CT .....	5	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$775,000	Detached	0.26	22307	RANDALL ESTATES
2310 KIMBRO ST .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$755,000	Detached	0.40	22307	HOLLIN HILLS
2104 PICKWICK LN .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$745,000	Detached	0.41	22307	HOLLIN HILLS
8316 BOULEVARD DR W .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$739,000	Detached	0.27	22308	COLLINGWOOD ON POTOMAC
3619 DREWS CT .....	4	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$730,000	Detached	0.17	22309	MOUNT VEE MANOR
9012 GREYLOCK ST .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$720,000	Detached	0.33	22308	STRAITFORD LANDING
3002 DOBG INDIAN CT .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$715,000	Detached	0.36	22309	WESSYNTON
2509 LONDONDERRY RD .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$705,000	Detached	0.26	22308	STRAITFORD LANDING
8012 BAINBRIDGE RD .....	6	...	4	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Detached	0.23	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
8617 CYRUS PL .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Detached	0.32	22308	WAYNEWOOD
9014 NOMINI LN .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$695,000	Detached	0.34	22309	SOUTHWOOD
6416 10TH ST .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$690,000	Detached	0.24	22307	NEW ALEXANDRIA
8231 CROWN COURT RD .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$675,000	Detached	0.24	22308	RIVERSIDE
7516 LINDBERG DR .....	5	...	4	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$669,900	Detached	0.13	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
8417 RIVERSIDE RD .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$660,000	Detached	0.26	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
3217 WESSYNTON WAY .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$647,500	Detached	0.34	22309	WESSYNTON
7625 MIDDAY LN .....	6	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$635,000	Detached	0.42	22306	KIRKSIDE
2321 WITTINGTON BLVD .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$634,500	Detached	0.27	22308	STRAITFORD LANDING
1129 ARCTURUS LN .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$630,000	Detached	0.30	22308	COLLINGWOOD MANOR
8716 PARRY LN .....	4	...	2	...	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$630,000	Detached	0.20	22308	STRAITFORD ON THE POTOMAC
6334 GOLF COURSE SQ .....	4	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$629,000	Townhouse	0.06	22307	OLDE BELHAVEN TOWNE
7807 DAYBREAK CT .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Detached	0.31	22306	HOLLIN BROOK PARK
8506 CROSSLEY PL .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$620,000	Detached	0.30	22308	WAYNEWOOD
7809 EVENING LN .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$608,000	Detached	0.24	22306	HOLLIN BROOK PARK
7735 MIDDAY LN .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$597,000	Detached	0.35	22306	HOLLIDALE
2217 TRAIES CT .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$595,000	Detached	0.35	22306	KIRKSIDE
7508 TOLL CT .....	5	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$588,000	Detached	0.30	22306	MILWAY MEADOWS
8423 WENDELL DR .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$588,000	Detached	0.27	22308	STRAITFORD ON THE POTOMAC
3807 MARYLAND ST .....	4	...	2	...	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$584,900	Detached	0.34	22309	WOODLEIGH WOODS
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #715/711	3	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$580,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22303	MONTEBELLO
9033 BUCKNER RD .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$579,000	Detached	0.50	22309	WOODLAWN MANOR
8909 CHARLES AUGUSTINE DR .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Detached	0.32	22308	POTOMAC VALLEY
8012 YORKTOWN DR .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$569,000	Detached	0.37	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
8608 BLUEDALE ST .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$569,000	Detached	0.25	22308	STRAITFORD LANDING
8105 KANE CT .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$567,000	Detached	0.25	22308	KIRK
6727 WILLIAMS DR .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$566,500	Detached	0.17	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
6510 CYGNET DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$565,000	Detached	0.19	22307	BELLE HAVEN TERRACE
9022 OLD MOUNT VERNON RD .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$565,000	Detached	0.46	22309	WESTGATE
2501 APPIAN CT .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached	0.35	22306	MILWAY MEADOWS
4413 FERRY LANDING RD .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$545,000	Detached	0.54	22309	YACHT HAVEN EST
7105 COVENTRY RD .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Detached	0.38	22306	WHITE OAKS
3105 MCGEORGE TER .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$521,000	Detached	0.26	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
8510 DOYLE DR .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.26	22308	WAYNEWOOD
7109 COVENTRY RD .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Detached	0.49	22306	WHITE OAKS
8231 GOVERNORS CT .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Detached	0.28	22308	KIRK
1317 ALEXANDRIA AVE .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,100	Detached	0.49	22308	TAUXEMONT
1918 DUFFIELD LN .....	2	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Townhouse	0.04	22307	BELLE HAVEN ON THE GREEN
8125 BAINBRIDGE RD .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Detached	0.24	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
4016 COOL BROOKE WAY .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$497,500	Detached	0.26	22306	WOODSTONE
7704 LOOKOUT CT .....	5	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$497,000	Detached	0.47	22306	KIRKSIDE
3464 LITTLE HUNTING CREEK DR	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Detached	0.53	22309	SUNNY VIEW
4527 FLINTSTONE RD .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Detached	0.32	22306	STONEBROOKE
3423 SPRING DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$489,500	Detached	0.34	22306	VALLEY VIEW
4318 ROLLING STONE WAY .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$489,000	Detached	0.24	22306	STONEBROOKE
4509 E MARCIA CT .....	5	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$489,000	Detached	0.47	22309	COLONIAL FARMS
7903 BAYBERRY DR .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$487,000	Detached	0.27	22306	SHERWOOD HALL
6711 QUEENS RD .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Detached	0.33	22306	GROVETON HEIGHTS
6906 LICHEN CT .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Detached	0.35	22306	STONEBROOKE
3416 MEMORIAL ST .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Detached	0.44	22306	GROVETON HEIGHTS
5902 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1504	2	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$455,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22303	MONTEBELLO
3221 MEMORIAL ST .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$453,900	Detached	0.32	22306	GROVETON HEIGHTS
7692 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$450,001	Townhouse	0.04	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
8705 MILLBROOK PL .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$447,500	Detached	0.48	22309	SEDGWICK FOREST
2910 HUNTINGTON GROVE SQ .....	3	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$443,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTINGTON GROVE
3716 HUNTLEY MEADOWS LN .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTLEY MEADOWS
4348 ROLLING STONE WAY .....	4	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$437,000	Detached	0.19	22306	STONEBROOKE
5839 BERKSHIRE CT .....	4	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$433,555	Townhouse	0.04	22303	BERKSHIRE EAST
1909 ROLLINS DR .....	4	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Detached	0.17	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
6918 DUKE DR .....	3	...	1	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$429,000	Detached	0.17	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
3636 RANSOM PL .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTLEY MEADOWS
3453 LITTLE HUNTING CREEK DR	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Detached	0.34	22309	SUNNY VIEW
4225 LAUREL RD .....	4	...	3	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Detached	0.43	22309	MT ZEPHYR
7606 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.03	22306	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS
7010 VANDERBILT DR .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$409,000	Detached	0.17	22307	BUCKNELL MANOR
8407 BYERS DR .....	3	...	3	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.04	22309	SKYVIEW PARK
8511 MOUNT ZEPHYR DR .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$398,000	Detached	0.43	22309	MT ZEPHYR
7010 HUNTLEY RUN PL #143	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$390,000	Townhouse		22306	GROVETON WOODS
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1404	2	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$388,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22303	HUNTINGTON
2712 FARMINGTON DR .....	2	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$387,500	Duplex	0.08	22303	JEFFERSON MANOR
7136 HUNTLEY CREEK PL #70B	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$379,500	Townhouse		22306	GROVETON WOODS
3771 SHANNONS GREEN WAY	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$372,900	Townhouse	0.03	22309	MOUNT VEE MANOR
8457 HALLIE ROSE ST .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04	22309	SKYVIEW PARK
7823 COLONIAL SPRINGS BLVD	3	...	2	...	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$368,000	Townhouse	0.03	22306	VILLAGE AT GUM SPGS
2437 TEMPLE CT .....	4	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$365,000	Duplex	0.09	22307	BUCKNELL HEIGHTS
8010 NOEL ST .....	3	...	2	...	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$365,000	Detached	0.24	22309	WOODLAWN TERRACE
2315 VICTORY DR .....	2	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Duplex	0.08	22303	HUNTINGTON
5809 MOUNT VERNON DR .....	3	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Duplex	0.10	22303	HUNTINGTON
5850 EDGEHILL DR .....	2	...	2	...	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$357,500	Duplex	0.08	22303	JEFFERSON MANOR

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# Slugger Sara Showed Power Late in Sophomore Season

**West Potomac rising junior listens to Riff Raff, ASAP Rocky before games.**

**W**est Potomac's Jamie Sara found his power stroke late in his sophomore season, hitting five of his six home runs near the end of the 2014 campaign. Three of his homers came in a single game against South County.

**Q&A** Sara played multiple positions for the Wolverines, earning first-team all-conference honors. He helped West Potomac finish conference runner-up and reach the region quarterfinals, where the Wolverines lost in extra innings against Madison.

With two seasons remaining in his high school career, Sara, who also plays basketball at West Potomac, appears to have a bright future. Sara recently participated in a Q&A with The Gazette.

**Q: Judging by your Twitter feed, it looks like you've been playing summer baseball. Who do you play for?**

Sara: I play baseball with the Stars program. It's a great program and I've been with them for a good amount of time.

**Q: What did your late-season power surge, specifically your three-home run game against**



West Potomac's Jamie Sara, right, is congratulated by his teammates after hitting a home run.

**South County, do for your confidence?**

Sara: It brought up my confidence tremendously. I just was way more comfortable hitting and earned respect through the other teams in the conference.

**Q: What traits, physical or mental, are required to be a successful power hitter?**

Sara: Confidence in yourself. Most of it is mental, knowing what pitch you're going to get and what the situation is. The physical part will just follow if you have practiced and put in hard work in and out of the season.

**Q: How many positions did you play for West Potomac last year?**

Sara: Pitcher, third base, and a little bit of shortstop. Working on outfield, though,

for next season, too.

**Q: What do you consider to be your primary position?**

Sara: Pitcher. I feel like it's where I feel the best and also have most control of the game.

**Q: At what age did you start playing baseball? Do you have interest in playing college baseball?**

Sara: I started when I was about 5 through T-ball, Fort Hunt Little League alumni. I'm very interested in playing baseball in college. I'm getting looks from some really good schools. College baseball will be in my future.

**Q: How would you describe the way you felt after the team's extra-inning loss to Madison at regionals?**

Sara: I felt demoralized. It was probably

the most intense game I'll play in my high school career and it was unfortunate the end result wasn't in our favor, but I was proud of how my team performed and thought we gave it our all. Sad to see all of the seniors leave. I've been playing with them forever.

**Q: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?**

Sara: Either Riff Raff or ASAP Rocky. They both are funny characters and can pump you up before games.

**Q: What is your favorite movie?**

Sara: "The Sandlot," no doubt.

**Q: What is your favorite food?**

Sara: Pasta and chicken.

**Q: Do you enjoy video games? If so, which is your favorite?**

Sara: Not really a video game guy, but when I play, I usually play 2K14 or Super Smash Bros.

**Q: What is your favorite hobby outside of baseball?**

Sara: Favorite hobby outside of baseball is basketball and fishing. I do a lot of fishing.

**Q: What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. metro area?**

Sara: Hawaii. Fun trip.

**Q: Are you a pro sports fan? If so, who are your favorite teams?**

Sara: Love the Nationals and Wizards. Have to stay local.

— JON ROETMAN

## SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Aaron Faulx** of Sandburg Middle School and **Irv Katz** from Lake Braddock Secondary School were selected to participate in the 2014 American Air Museum Summer Residency Program at the Imperial War Museum Duxford in Cambridgeshire, England.

**Reese Paul Frerichs** was named to the dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Justin A. Borrison, Thomas C. Ponikowski, Matthew J. Teets, Catherine J. Vermillion, Quinn T. Caslow, D'Elia M. Chandler, Matthew T. Czechanski, Samuel J. Ferrara, Catherine M. Hadeed, Andrew K. Kicinski, Carmen C. Lodato, Renee C. Von Guggenberg, Eileen Cheng, Catherine A. Doulis, Olivia N. Foroughi, Xavier E. Gomez, Marines Tarabillo, Sanjeev K. Thiagarajan, Zhiyuan Yang, Zach VeShancey, Khoki N. Bernier, Teresa-Camthao D. Dang, Christina L. Devine, Edward B. Harmon, Laura A. Jacobs, Michael C. Pourchot, Michael L. Robertson, Lindsay M. Rosenfeld, Claudia S. Siles, Anthony Q. Tran, Jeal S. Walters, Kathleen E.**

**Brady, Alexander W. Cheng, Kevin H. Corcoran, Kathleen H. Driscoll, Alexandra K. Dunn, Anna M. Gehring, Gabrielle N. Gonzalez, Mark C. Micklem, Ian S. Philips, Joseph F. Taylor, Karina S. Bakhshi-Azar, Lindsey M. Baumann, Julianne D. Bigler, Rebecca Y. Campbell, Catherine S. Canary, Todd P. Ferri, Miles H. Gheesling, Casey P. Jenkins, Justine S. Joo, Dylan M. Keightley, Saskia R. Kroesen, Corinne C. Mayer, Daniel J. Morris, Leo T. Naegel, Owen T. Nugent, Catherine B. Royka, Brian T. Smith, Emma P. Swaney, Madison K. Tindle, Sean M. Trenchard, Matthew J. Watson, Trevor R. Woods, Patrick M. Murphy, Blake H. Barrow, Fatima J. Berrios, Megan E. Cole, Michael C. Fagan, Hunter J. Fairchild, Travis E. Frank, Sonia Garakyaraghi, Andrew K. Hicks, Louis G. Michael, Kevin R. Ng, Katherine A. O'Neill, Matthew J. Petroff, Amy J. Rhodes, Elizabeth M. Sagar, Serenna R. Schantz, Lina S. Abdelatif, David A. Anderegg, Andrew J. Chesley, Peter D. Coffey, Daniella E. Diaz, Gillian F. Gavino, Jason J. Gebran, Allison M. Guzman, Erica N. Hess, Brooke A. Hopke, Saron Iasu, Kruthika Kikkeri, Navneeth Kikkeri, Frank C. Kozuch, Brian M. MicKey, Henrique A. Moco, Deloris D.**

**Nimako-Mensah, David C. Oetjen, Connor B. Pearson, Stefan J. Povolny, Megan P. Rigsbee, Hoda Tadlaoui, Hannah Mae A. Tecson, Jennifer L. Thompson, Rebecca K. Truong, Jwalita Veeramachaneni, Hope H. Wentzel, Philip J. Daniel, Rachel E. Cotton, Eric R. Do, Katherine Y. Askew, Thomas J. Dean, Kellie M. Del Signore, Matthew F. Del Signore, Peter Francis S. Guevara, Tony W. Ma, Rae A. Mangum, Kirsten R. Melone, Alicia L. Sobral, Kevin V. Tranhuu, Mitchell S. Youmans, Ryan P. Connors, Caroline E. Kelly, Mahmood A. Alwash, Robiel M. Ande, Stephen W. Berberich, Kate R. Brown, Shewit F. Burhan, Alan Cai, Gwendolyn M. Cardiff, Bradley N. Cotrina, Ashley E. Esquivelm Lindsey N. Flowers, Mekonen H. Halefom, Katherine E. Huffman, Olivia M. Javornik, Kelly N. Kalkus, Zachary T. Kiszka, Sarah B. Parshley, Eileen H. Phan and Melanie K. Trammell** were named to the dean's list at Virginia Tech.

**Caroline Deschak** and **Dustin Hess** were named to the dean's list at Salisbury University.

**Tori Mittelman** received the Chancellor's Leadership Award at the University of Wisconsin.



## Collecting School Supplies

United Community Ministries is seeking backpack and financial donations for school supplies so that 1,000 students in southeast Fairfax County will be prepared for the new school year. The deadline for donations is Wednesday, Aug. 6, to allow time for UCM to place the bulk order for discounted supplies and to fill the backpacks. Volunteers are also needed to help organize and distribute the supplied. For more info, visit [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org) or email [alexandra.delgado@ucmagency.org](mailto:alexandra.delgado@ucmagency.org).



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- Ralph Waldo  
Emerson

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## HELP WANTED

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## 21 Announcements

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### MARY IDA CAMMISA (age 96)

Of Alexandria, Virginia; passed away peacefully on July 17, 2014, at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads. Loving wife of the late Guido F. Cammisa; devoted mother of James E. Cammisa, Anne Marie Cammisa (Paul Christopher Manuel), and Michael X. Cammisa; cherished grandmother of Maria Teresa Manuel and Rosa Caterina Manuel.

Mary Ida Hitchman was born on January 16, 1918, in Mount Pleasant PA, the youngest child of John J. and Anne Clancy Hitchman. On the morning of December 7, 1941, she took a train to Washington and soon began a career in the federal government. She was followed in early 1942 by her mother, her brothers J. Joseph Hitchman and Edward R. Hitchman, and her sister Katharine H. Thomas. (Her brother Paul L. Hitchman remained in Pennsylvania to raise a large extended family in greater Pittsburgh.) Mary Ida worked as a secretary for the Navy, Army, and Defense departments and the Bureau of the Budget, but her longest tenure was as an executive secretary in the Department of State. A fond memory was meeting General Dwight D. Eisenhower and receiving a personal autograph in his book "Crusade in Europe."

On June 11, 1955, she married Guido F. Cammisa, owner and director of the Alexandria Clinical Laboratory, and they settled in Old Town to raise their family. Over the years she volunteered at St. Mary's Catholic Church, St. Mary's Parochial School, St. Mary's Academy, Bishop Ireton High School, Meals on Wheels, and the White House Greetings Office. In the 1970s, with the encouragement of a friend, she began taking classes in oil painting at the YWCA and became an accomplished artist. Guido retired in 1984, and in 1989 they moved to the Montebello condominium community in Fairfax County. Guido passed away in 1998 and Mary Ida moved to Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads in 2000, where she continued her artistry with ceramics, and concluded a long and happy life surrounded by family and friends.

The family will be present at the Demaine Funeral Home, 520 South Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314, on Friday, August 1, 2014, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Saturday, August 2, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 South Royal Street, Alexandria VA 22314. Interment to follow at St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Development Office - St. Mary's, 407 Bertrand Hall, Notre Dame IN 46556-5000 ([www.cscsisters.org](http://www.cscsisters.org)).

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## 29 Misc. for Sale

## 29 Misc. for Sale

### For Sale:

73 inch projection TV with media console (large piece of furniture) both in excellent condition. The media console comes apart and has bookcases on both ends. Asking \$250.00. Will need truck to pick it up. Square Coffee Table 3ftx3ft painted a peach color and stenciled (can be repainted). End Table 22inx22in painted the same color, both have glass on top to protect the paint. Asking \$75.00 for both. If interested, call (703) 360-4165 and leave a message.



Light tomorrow with today!  
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is recommending the Simpson Park Playground and Passive Use Lawn renovation project ("Project") to the National Park Service for partial funding made possible by assistance from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) is soliciting public comment on the Project. In 2013, RPCA developed a Simpson Park Improvement Plan (as part of the Citywide Parks Improvement Plan), which included a recommendation to renovate the playground and adjacent lawn, based on community feedback. The plan proposes restoring open space to accommodate multiple passive uses and help to balance the type of activities in Simpson Park. An adjacent playground renovation will include areas with rubberized surface, areas for different age groups, and more tree canopy for shade. The design will also improve the connection to passive use areas.

RPCA is accepting comments for 30 days from initial announcement with a deadline of August 31. A concept plan for the project is available online at <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=65170#Citywide> and the RPCA offices at 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Prior to the grant award, comments must be provided in writing and may be submitted where the plans are available, by mail or email. Contact information: Dana Wedeles, [dana.wedeles@alexandriava.gov](mailto:dana.wedeles@alexandriava.gov) or 703-746-5491. If awarded, RPCA will hold community meetings to discuss and review design concepts.

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-Thomas A. Edison

When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.  
-Ethiopian Proverb

## 21 Announcements

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## REAL ESTATE



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOWA

During a construction project, homeowners should keep pets away from the construction site.

## Keep Pets Safe

FROM PAGE 19

the pet."

Additionally, "dust can affect eyes and lungs just as it can in humans," said Petit. "Home improvement project materials like paint and glue can be toxic. It can be the fumes, or if the dog or cat licks paint, it could be lethal."

"If any pet owners feel that their pet is acting oddly or like they might have consumed something that they shouldn't have, the best solution is to take them to the vet to make sure that everything is OK," she said.

Petit added that pets could become fearful because strangers are in the home. That fright, she said, could either increase separation anxiety or trigger a pet's basic protection instinct, leading him to become aggressive.

"There are a lot of things to consider," said Baker. "It's not unlike thinking about small children."

**AND WHILE THINKING** about pets, some builders incorporate features into a home project designed specifically for a pet.

One set of clients "wanted to be able to cordon off the tiled area off the side entrance, to contain the dog when he comes in wet or dirty," said Danielle Frye of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. in Cabin John, Md., referring to a recent kitchen and mudroom renovation. "It also provides a dedicated place where he can eat without damaging the new hardwood floors in the kitchen."

Architect George R. Bott was able to create a nook for the dog's food and water bowls, as well as storage space for his supplies and accessories. In fact, say builders, pet feeding stations can incorporate modern conveniences and high-end materials.

"We can add custom cabinetry," said Baker. "We can bring in a waterline to supply instead of having to refill the water bowl in the kitchen. There is also potential automation where the bowl is kept full."

Mudrooms and garages can be designed to include pet bathing spaces as well. "In terms of showers, they're custom built with a hand held sprayer so you can control the temperature," said Baker. "We can also choose a height so you can reach it without hurting your back while you're bathing the dog."

**"The biggest risk during a construction project could be that the pet could escape because workers might not be aware of doors or gates or windows being left open."**

— Carol Petit, hospital manager at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital in Alexandria

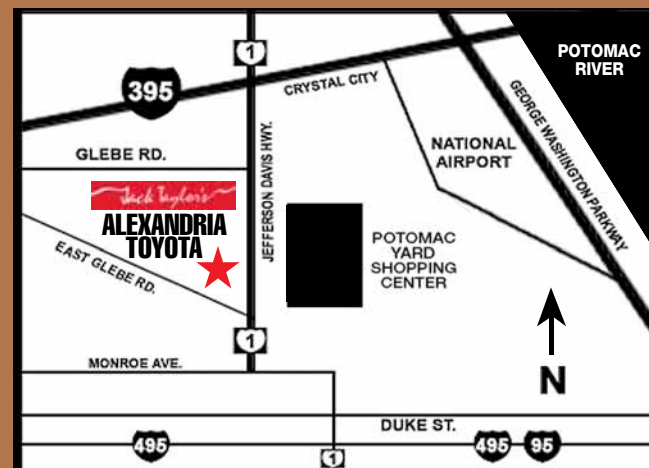


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# Grant To Upgrade School

FROM PAGE 1

Fort Belvoir Elementary and, as a temporary solution, we moved some students to schools off the base. Fort Belvoir officials and FCPS agreed that base students should remain on base property and the grant funding will enable us to educate all base residents on Fort Belvoir property."

Along with Moran, U.S. Senators Mark Warner and Tim Kaine praised the decision in a statement released last week.

"The approval of this grant is terrific news for the families at Fort Belvoir," Kaine said. "Facilities at Fort Belvoir Elementary School have been at 57 percent over capacity, and additional classrooms will help to alleviate this serious problem. I applaud the Department of Defense for its commitment to providing a quality educational setting to the children of our service members, and I look forward to seeing the completed renovation."

**"The approval of this grant is terrific news for the families at Fort Belvoir."**

— U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine

More than 1,590 military-connected students, from kindergarten through sixth grade, will be served by the school once the project is completed.

"When we send our men and women into harm's way, our responsibility is to provide their dependents with a quality of life that reflects the high standards of the nation they defend," Warner said. "Especially during a time of record high deployments, we owe it to our military families to take care of their children."

Fort Belvoir Elementary School opened in 1998, and has previously received a STEM grant, allowing for a STEM lab and STEM resource teacher. Funding for the renovations and construction is provided by DOD's Public Schools on Military Installations program. The school was listed as number 26 on the Deputy Secretary of Defense's priority list for capacity and facility deficiencies.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## On Exhibit

A gallery opening of photographer Renée C. Gage's exhibit, "Washington's Captivating Spirit," at the Virginia Florist in Hollin Hill Village was held June 26. The exhibit will run through July 26. From left are Laura Niswander of Virginia Florist, Gage, and Virginia Florist owners Kevin and Kathy Green. A wine tasting was provided by UnWined. Gage writes: "Washington's Captivating Spirit' showcases the love I have developed for our home in Alexandria, the city of Washington D.C. and Mount Vernon Estate. These images reinforce what I have always known — the love of a place, person or thing comes from the ways we embrace, enjoy and encapsulate the many and varied moments in time we share with them." Visit [www.rcgphotography.com](http://www.rcgphotography.com).



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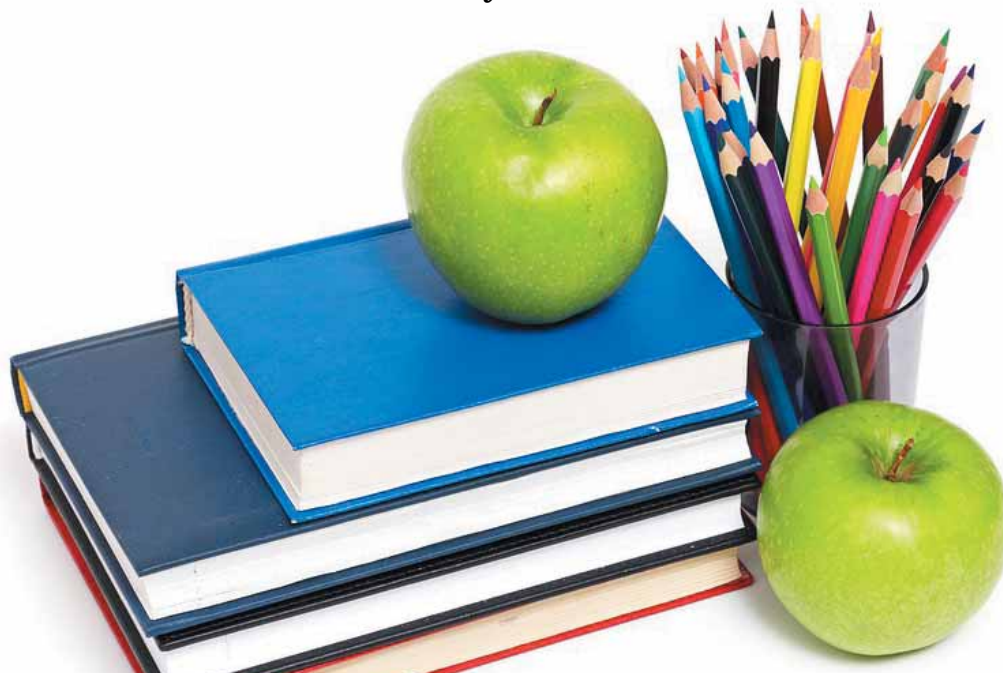
Michael Macrina  
(Island Creek)

Suzanne Montgomery  
(Laurel Hill)

Lindsay Trout  
(Terraset)

### MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Penny Gros (Glasgow)



### HIGH SCHOOLS:

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Michael Yohe  
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# PET GAZETTE

SUMMER 2014

## AWLA Connects Animals With Prospective Adopters

PETS/PAGE 2

## Dogs, Cats and Even Horses

PETS/PAGE 3

## Lizzie and Yola, the Life Saving Labs

PETS/PAGE 4

Charlie Bruno, a 3-year-old  
Japanese Chin, enjoys  
spending time outdoors  
and jumping in the leaves.

# Mount Vernon Gazette

PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO



# PET GAZETTE

## 'They Need One-On-One Attention'

**AWLA connects animals with prospective adopters.**

BY KARA COLEMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**W**hen the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria received a report that a lion was running loose in the community, its staff went to find it. But what they found wasn't a lion; it was a Husky with a shaved body.

"I could kind of see how it looked like a lion, from far away," said Megan Webb, executive director of AWLA. "It's funny that that's what people's minds jumped to, though."

If it had been a lion, though, AWLA would be the group to call. AWLA is responsible for animal services in the City of Alexandria, and also trains dogs, operates an animal shelter, and provides humane education classes for children.

"We want to be the place that people come to if they need care for animals," Webb said.

AWLA has 27 full- and part-time staffers and more than 150 volunteers. Volunteers are now able to be actively involved in the adoption process. Previously, potential adopters had to wait to meet with staff members to go through the adoption process. Webb is hoping to adopt more animals out more quickly by having the extra help. She said that in 2013, AWLA placed 1,041 animals in homes. As of last month, the group has adopted out 600 animals to families so far in 2014.

AWLA takes animals that have been rescued as well as animals that have to be given up due to their owners dying, moving to a nursing home, or being deployed. According to Webb, the group has also been working with Potomac Highlands Animal Res-



**Not a lion: It's a Husky with a shaved body.**

cue in Cabins, W. Va., for more than 17 years.

"They have a hard time finding adopters in West Virginia," said Webb. "Almost every Saturday they bring us animals for adoption."

AWLA deals with wild as well as domestic animals.

"We get a lot of service calls for wild animals, anything from deer that have been injured to raccoons in attics," Webb said. "We just got a group of baby possums. Sometimes, when a mother possum gets hit by a car and her babies are in her pouch, the mom dies and the babies get left behind. So our officers go and rescue them."

The AWLA works with local veterinary clinics that provide medical services at discounted rates to the animals who need care before they are ready for adoption. Webb said that while some animals need medical care before they can be placed with a fam-

ily, some animals need a different kind of care.

"Our foster program is very important," Webb said. "We get a lot of animals that have special needs and are not quite ready for adoption: puppies and kittens who are not old enough to be adopted, senior animals who don't do well in the shelter, scared and frightened animals, they need one-on-one attention."

**Broc (formally Bruce), an AWLA alum, had a great day with his buddy Jack and his mom Elizabeth Ramsay at Pups in the Park at a Nationals game.**



**Willow**

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria has a number of business partners in the community to help provide care to its shelter animals. For example, here is Willow. She was injured and extremely fearful when she was transferred into the shelter. AWLA treated her injury but she was terrified of people. She would sit in the back of the kennel and hide when people came by — making it difficult for her to get adopted. Dogtopia, a local dog daycare and boarding facility, agreed to take in for a few weeks since she seemed to be more comfortable with other dogs than people. Willow quickly met friends at Dogtopia which helped reveal her real personality, build her confidence and ultimately get adopted.



**Mount Vernon Gazette**

**PET GAZETTE**

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### PETS IN MOUNT VERNON



**Oscar and Riley, beagle companions to Kara, Nathan, and Simon Macek of Alexandria, find a comfortable spot to bask in the sun.**

— Nathan M. Macek



**Thomas Bruno and his Japanese Chin puppy, Leesha, love hanging out with each other.**

— Veronica Bruno



# Dogs, Cats and Even Horses

## Humane Society of Fairfax County seeks adopters.

BY KARA COLEMAN  
THE GAZETTE

According to the Humane Society of the United States 2013 Annual Report, 118,328 animals were cared for last year by the Humane Society and its affiliates, through disaster relief, cruelty interventions, wildlife rehab centers and more. But that number doesn't count the local rescue groups around the country who work to protect, shelter, and rehabilitate animals and adopt them out to homes, including many in Northern Virginia.

Marlene Hammer, corresponding secretary for the Humane Society of Fairfax County, said that the local organization currently has dogs, cats, rabbits, horses, and a ferret up for adoption.

"Our main goal is to adopt as many animals as we can out," she said. "By having people adopt, we can take in more animals."

The Humane Society of Fairfax County has a main office in Fairfax and a farm in Centreville. The farm is home to horses as well as 27 dogs.

A full-time manager lives on the farm to care for the animals, and if people want to adopt a horse or dog from the farm, they must go through the manager to apply.

The Fairfax office is also a home for cats who are waiting to be adopted out to families. "The cats have it very nice," Hammer said. "It's not like being in their own home, but it's the best thing to it."

According to Hammer, the cats are not in crates, but instead are housed in rooms at the shelter. Four or five cats, usually members of the same litter, share

a room. Caretakers clean the cats' rooms every day, including changing litter and blankets, and mopping the floors. Volunteers that the shelter refers to as "socializers" also come in to play with the cats.

Hammer said that occasionally, animals will be dropped off at the Humane Society of Fairfax County with no note.

"One Sunday morning a few years ago, someone left a tiny dog on the porch," Hammer said. "I found him, and took him to the vet as we always do. My daughter had been looking for a small dog, and she ended up adopting that one."

Hammer said that drop-offs don't happen often. Many of the animals the Humane Society receives are given up when an owner has to move to a nursing home or is not able to keep the animal anymore. But other dogs are rescued, such as one Hammer adopted that had been left tied up outside for a long period of time.

The Humane Society of Fairfax County operates almost entirely on a volunteer basis. Operating a thrift shop in the building next door to its main Fairfax office, its volunteers sort donations, operate cash registers, and wait on customers. With the exception of one paid staff member, the proceeds from thrift shop sales go toward the shelter's operating costs.

The Humane Society also offers a pet food pantry as a service to the community.

"People who are in need of assistance and are unable to buy food for their pets can come here and get free pet food," said Hammer. She said that most of the people who come to the pet food pantry for help are residents of Fairfax County, but that sometimes people come from a little farther away. Hammer also said that most of the food is donated to the pantry by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who organize pet food drives as a service project.

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Grace Hecker, age 14, just finished 8th grade at Carl Sandburg and is heading to West Potomac High School in the Fall. Her horse is named Hans Solo and he is an 8-year-old "Pony of the Americas" breed. Here, Grace and Solo are competing in the Virginia Region Pony Club Show Jumping Championship in May 2014, where they qualified to compete in the U.S. Pony Club national championships in Lexington, Ky. She loves her horse and he is also very attached to her. We have had him for about 18 months. His mom died while giving birth to him and he was bottle-fed by humans, so he acts like a (very large) dog.

— KAREN HECKER



# Lizzie and Yola, the Life Saving Labs

BY WILLIAM AND MEG CLONTZ

About eight years ago, a very special dog came into our lives — and the lives of many others. We signed up with Guiding Eyes for the Blind to be Puppy Raisers.

Our task was to spend a year with a puppy, providing socialization, some basic training, and preparing the dog to go on to advanced training before joining a blind person to be a life team. It's difficult to think about having a dog in your life for a year and then giving her up, but this was important work that could change someone's life, and the program was really well done, so off we went.

Elizabeth, a beautiful black Labrador retriever, was soon a part of our household. Blind people came to talk to our class on several occasions, emphasizing what a powerful service this was for them.

About three-fourths of the way through our scheduled time together, Elizabeth had a third recurrence of an ear infection, which was a minor problem, but it took her out of the program, as guide dogs cannot have any lingering medical issues. We were offered the opportunity to keep Elizabeth as a pet.



Partners in service Lizzie (left) and Yola.

We accepted with delight and Lizzie, as she had become known to us, became a permanent part of our family. Today, she pretty well rules the roost around here.

Our time with Lizzie began with the idea of service and so we looked for other ways she could serve. She is pretty large as Labs go and was a bit too rambunctious as a youngster to be a hospital visitation dog.

Fortunately, someone told us about the dog blood donation program — we found Lizzie's service opportunity.

Like most people, we had never heard of dog blood donation, but we learned that there is more than one type of dog blood and a blood supply is needed for surgeries, just as for people.

In some places, dogs are raised just to be blood donors, a grim sounding life, and so the Blue Ridge Veterinary Blood Bank, a wonderful organization that runs its programs on the strength of volunteers and donations, began a voluntary blood donation program. We signed up with Lizzie.

For about seven years, Lizzie and her good friend Yola (a yellow lab who also had a career change from the guide dog route) would go to the Old Towne Pet Resort in

Springfield about every six weeks to donate. They loved it!

Upon arrival, they were warmly greeted by Dr. Valery Latchesore and Veterinary Specialist Chris Old, who played with them a bit, then settled in with Chris who would hold them (literally spoon with them on a table), while the veterinarian constantly fed them peanut butter as a quick and painless blood draw was completed.

If you know Labs, you know the combination of constant attention and food was irresistible. Both dogs went into happy fits whenever we pulled into that parking area.

Lizzie and Yola both celebrated their eighth birthdays in June, which means they have retired from the donor program. During their time of service, Lizzie and Yola each helped over 50 dogs by providing blood for surgeries. It was a great run and we are all glad to have participated.

If you would like to know more about these fine organizations and investigate some of the many ways you might be able to contribute, check out The Blue Ridge Veterinary Blood Bank at [www.brvtb.com](http://www.brvtb.com) and Guiding Eyes for the Blind at [www.guidingeyes.org](http://www.guidingeyes.org).

*William and Meg Clontz live in Alexandria.*



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sharon Bulova with her cats: "Animals add so much to your life!"

## Becoming Best Friends

Frodo and Sam have become best friends — sort of. My husband and I adopted Frodo from Home Alone Cat Rescue several years ago. He is part Maine Coon and part American Bobtail, with a funny short tail. He may have been mistreated by a previous owner because he is afraid of everything, especially ceiling fans. He quickly became comfortable in our home as an "only cat."

We adopted "Sam" in September of 2012. She was an adorable tabby kitten, part of a feral litter living outside of a restaurant in Washington D.C. Lee District School Board Member Tammy Kaufax and her two high school aged kids, Halle and Matthew, were fostering the litter as part of a school project. Tammy showed me a photo of the kittens in August of 2012 during the Springfield Bridge Walk and I fell in love with the smallest kitten with tiger markings. As soon as Sam had gained enough weight to be adopted we brought her home as a companion for Frodo.

It took a few weeks for the two cats to get used to each other, but now they play together and chase each other around all the time. They are so cute together, especially when Sam hides behind the bedroom door and ambushes Frodo when he walks into the room. Animals add so much to your life!

— SHARON BULOVA, CHAIRMAN,  
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## New Approach to Adoptions

BY AMANDA HEINCER  
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA

People seeking to adopt animals from the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria may notice some changes in the shelter's approach to adoptions. By partnering with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to evaluate its adoption process, AWLA discovered that some of its previous policies and procedures were likely screening out people who could have been great adopters.

The new adoption process is designed to make it more welcoming and more educational for potential adopters. AWLA staff members are now trained to ask potential adopters open-ended questions that initiate conversations rather than depending on questions that have a defined "right" or "wrong" answer.

Katie Faxon, adoptions and community outreach manager, said, "Our focus is on good conversations and customer service. It's about having mutual respect for each other." Volunteers are now assisting with the adoption process by showing animals to the public; this decreases waiting time to visit animals and volunteers can share their personal experience with the animals with potential adopters.

The open-adoptions approach also emphasizes working with people to solve problems and match them with the right animals for their individual situation. "I have

been excited to see the many more adoption matches we can make when we eliminated the automatic list of reasons to deny an adoption," said Faxon.

For example, a man who did not have a permanent residence came to the shelter seeking to adopt a cat. In the past, the shelter would have automatically denied his adoption because he was technically homeless.

However, the staff talked to him at length and discovered that he drove a large truck across country and wanted a cat as companion. Based on the information the man provided, the staff introduced him to a cat who absolutely loves human attention and the two immediately bonded. He now has a riding companion — and the cat has human attention all day and night.

Studies have shown that people who are denied an adoption at a shelter generally become frustrated with the entire adoption process and turn to a breeder or a pet store.

AWLA's goal is to build a mutually respectful relationship with people and help them to think through what it means to be responsible for a pet rather than simply denying their adoption.

Since making the changes in approach to adoptions in early May 2014, the adoptions numbers are trending up. The AWLA adopted out 224 dogs and cats to loving homes from May 1, 2014, to June 30, 2014, nearly twice as many as in the same period last year.