Alount Pernon Gazette

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Long-Closed Connector Reopens as Jeff Todd Way

Politicians and family on-hand to cut the ribbon.

> By Tim Peterson The Gazette

n Aug. 25, a warm, gleaming morning, dozens of politicians from various levels of government were joined by members of the late businessman and community leader Jeff Todd's family to cut the ribbon, formally opening Jeff Todd Way.

The stretch of blacktop - Woodlawn and Beulah roads - that once connected U.S. 1 and Telegraph Road had been closed by Fort Belvoir for security reasons since shortly before Sept. 11, 2001. After the attacks, the base chose to close the road indefinitely.

This closure effectively separated the Mount Vernon and Lee districts, and created daily headaches for commuters forced to travel an extra 10 miles around Fort Belvoir.

"The reality is that this was hurting the economy of southeast Fairfax County," said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8). "It's going to be one of the fastest growing communities - economically, socially, politically - in every way. You've got to be able to get around."

WHAT FOLLOWED was a 13-year collaborative effort to bring back the cutthrough. Fairfax County first needed to ing to Mount Vernon District Supervisor



Leaders (from left) Del. Scott Surovell, state Sen. Adam Ebbin, Colonel Michelle Mitchell (U.S. Army Garrison Commander), Supervisor Jeff McKay, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, state Sen. Linda "Toddy" Puller, Del. Mark Sickles, Supervisor Gerry Hyland and members of Jeff Todd's family cut the ribbon officially opening Jeff Todd Way.

work with the Department of Defense as well as the National Trust for Historic Preservation to determine where to build the new road.

The 2003 military appropriations act offered funds for a two-lane road, but accordGerry Hyland, Fairfax County stepped in and authorized funding for a four-lane design

"Jeff Todd found a way to be collaborative, to be deliberate, self-effacing," said Hyland, "and find a way to get people to work together for the common good, the

good of others. When we decided to call it the Jeff Todd Way ... Jeff Todd's way is exactly how this happened today."

THE OTHER SPEAKERS ECHOED Hyland's praise for Todd, and for the col See Jeff Todd, Page G

Family, Friends Recall Former Delegate Gladys Keating

Keating served 22 years and raised five children.



"She was a very determined person, very compassionate one too," said Janet Carver. "Like several of us involved in the civil rights movements back then, we didn't know we could be defeated."

By Tim Peterson The Gazette

ormer delegate from the 43rd House District of Fairfax County Gladys Keating died Aug. 19 of congestive heart failure with her family beside her at the New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, N.C.

"Gladys was a remarkable person who brought a community perspective to legislation passed in was still under the setting of prop-Richmond," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland. "She was a warm, concerned and dedicated public servant who, through her efforts, made thousands of lives better."

Keating's 22-year career as a state delegate spanned 19772000. In that time, she fought for 1997, '98 and '99. consumer rights, family law reform and women's rights.

Before Keating was first elected, "Virginia was quite a different place," said Janet Carver, currently vice chair of the 11th democratic committee and longtime friend and supporter of Keating. "Once when somebody was killed in Vietnam, the court had to appoint a lawyer so that his wife was able to take care of his children — she erty or child."

"You would not believe how bad divorce laws were here for women," current 43rd district Del. Mark Sickles recalls Keating saying to him. Sickles worked for Keating as a volunteer in Richmond during regular sessions in

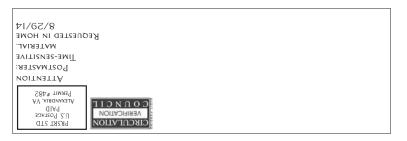
"She was very appreciative of anything I did," Sickles added. "I was learning about the system and also helping her communicate with her constituents. It was good to work for her. She was always complimentary of what we would produce, prepping for town meetings."

Montebello resident Gloria Haher was a longtime aide to

Keating. "She was really the best of bosses," said Haher. "What really impressed me was that she listened to both sides. On any question. There was always access to her. She was a very honest person."

Carver's favorite Keating anecdote goes back to before she was elected delegate:

"She ran three times before she SEE GLADYS KEATING, PAGE G



IM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE



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News



A line of children wait for the next free barber's chair.

Back-to-School Haircuts

ozens of school-aged children lined up throughout the morning and early afternoon for free haircuts on Tuesday morning, Aug. 26, at the Gum Springs Community Center.

The annual back-to-school program is sponsored by the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department in partnership with The Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County, WKYS 93.9, Apple Federal Credit

Union, Gum Springs Community Center Advisory Board, the Gum Springs Community Center and the Pride of Fairfax County Lodge #298.

In addition to haircuts, Modine the Clown entertained the children with face painting and balloon sculptures.

Miniature horses were brought in as part of a petting zoo and volunteers set up a moon bounce for the students.



Darryl Eanes takes his son, Stuart Scott, as his first client of the morning.



Fourth grader Floyd Ntsoko tells barber Marvin Goldsmith that a new haircut makes him feel appreciated and confident.



Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland thanks Fire Captain Kendall Thompson for his participation in the back-to-school program.



Fairfax Fire Technician C. McWilliams volunteered to cut and style the children's hair at the community center.



Garry Bailey works with Derick Sareong on a haircut.

Photos by Louise Krafft The Gazette



Little Jackson takes a second look at his brother Joshua's new haircut. Holding Jackson is Glenda Norori.



Augustine Owusu waits as King Charles Robinson of **Royal Cuts Barber finishes** up his hair. Mount Vernon Gazette & August 28 - September 3, 2014 & 3



Saimaiyah Ingram giggles as Modine the Clown goes for a little glitter to finish up her facepainting.



Wyleng Liew pets Daphne, a miniature horse.



Capt. II Willie Bailey and Capt. Kendall Thompson check out the menu for some carry out lunch for the volunteers.



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 1800 Sunny Creek CV. Fully upgraded, gorgeous 3-level, 5 BR & Den, Center Hall Colonial with fully finished In-Law/Au Pair Suite in lower level, on corner lot in quiet cul-de-sac. Charming, light-filled Master Bath has 2 skylights and separate bathtub and shower. Gourmet Kitchen has large island and eat-in area, and easy access to charming deck overlooking wooded back yard. Quality living in a model home! Mike Downie 703-780-2727



a corner lot in beautiful Stratford on the Potomac has a brand new kitchen with granite, SS, new cabinets, 3 brand new full baths, 5 bedrooms, 2-car garage, hardwood floors throughout main and upper levels. Dave Ingram 703-380-9264



3828 Roxbury Ct. Over 2,200 sq ft Home featuring 5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Full Baths, Corner Lot, Deck for grilling, over 55K in upgrades. This home is a must-see. New roof, wood-burning fireplace in Living Room, 2 master Suites, 2 parking spaces convey. Everything inside is sparkling brand new! Gary Chute 703-371-9926



Old Town \$935,000 206 N Alfred. You will be charmed by this renovated 1900 brick Victorian with 10-ft ceilings, pocket doors, tall windows and original moldings. 3 large bedrooms, 2.5 baths, family room addition, eatin kitchen, and brick patio. Mary Hurlbut

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\$799.900 Alexandria/Braddock Heights 2703 Central Ave. Beautiful detached custom home. Completely renovated in 2011. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen with sleek stainless steel appliances and breakfast bar, separate dining room, spacious family room, main level bedroom suite perfect for guests. Fully fenced flat yard. Custom shed. Driveway for off-street parking Bobi Bomar 703-927-2213



Alexandria \$699,900 1109 Dalebrook Dr. Join the Waynewood community! This 5-level home has it all: 4 BR & 3 BA, updated kitchen & baths, a new sun room plus a certified native habitat yard. A meticulously maintained home with all major systems replaced. Relax on your patio – complete with a pond & tranquil waterfall. Full stand-up attic for future expansion. Walk to a neighborhood pool & park or bike the G.W. Parkway. Greg & Joni Koons 703-209-7277



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2308 Lakeshire Dr. Wonderful Colonial in fabulous Manors at Mount Vernon Community! 2-story foyer & family room w/cathedral ceiling & skylights. Hdwd firs & large eat-in kit. w/granite. Lower IvI. w/full BA, rec. rm., additional 5th BR/den, storage rm. & walk-out to yard. Great lot, deck & gar. Mins. to Old Town, D.C., Metro, bike path, river, school, parks & more! Lisa McCaskill 703-615-6036



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Alexandria \$310,000 3715 Hampton Ct. Beautifully maintained Town Home in soughtafter Woodstone neighborhood. **New Windows** NEW SLIDING GLASS DOOR NEW STORM DOOR HVAC 2010 ROOF 2005

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News Shimmering with **Beautiful Music**

Local legends Al Petteway and wife Amy White perform at St. Aidan's.

> By Ed Simmons, Jr. The Gazette

he cavernous wooden-walled sanctuary of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church on Riverside Drive was thronged with folk music fans Saturday night, Aug. 23, who'd come to hear Grammy-winning guitarist Al Petteway and multi-instrument virtuoso and singer Amy White, his wife of 18 years.

They are known to their fans as "Al and Amy." Petteway graduated in 1970 from Fort Hunt High School where he is remembered for his musical promise and soft-spoken humorous congeniality.

Opening Saturday night's show was singer/ songwriter/guitarist Allison Shapira, new to the Washington, D.C. folk music scene, whose cover of "Diamonds and Rust" shows she's capable of carrying on the Joan Baez tradition. Trained in opera she won hurrahs from the crowd for her folk-style rendition of Giacomo Puccini's aria "O Mio Babbino Caro."

The waxing magic of this musical evening came to full glow when Petteway and White hit the stage with



Photo by Ed Simmons, Jr./The Gazetti Amy White's song "The Best Dog" is featured on her Home Sweet Home album, with Al Petteway's accompaniment.

"Ode to Ferdinand." For their next song, one of Petteway's soaring hymns, White switched to play Celtic harp.

Songs like "It's Good to Be Back Home" were redolent with folksy charm as was their onstage banter and tales of their mountain home in North Carolina with its inspiring vistas and critters.

The all-volunteer outfit Focus Music, led by venue manager Herb Cooper-Levy, produced the show. Their next folk music event at St. Aidan's is Sept. 20 with Slaid Cleaves and Mary Gordon Hall. Other Focus shows planned for the D.C. area can be followed at www.FocusMusic.org.

While last Saturday night was a highlight, Sundays at St. Aidan's regularly brim with music featuring weekly performances by flutist Alison Lattu, classical pianist Kristin Davidson, organist Mark Gillian with choir and various children at the early 8:30 a.m.service playing cymbals, castanets and drums.

Also at 8:30 a.m., performing on guitar and banjo is St. Aidan's pastor, the Rev. John Baker.

to one or all

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RE/MAX Allegiance 703-768-7730 rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com Alex./Riverwood **3801 Riverwood Road** Price slashed on this beautiful Colonial w/2-car garage in sought-after Riverwood. Remodeled Kit w/granite counters & double oven. Updated baths, 3 FPLs, freshly painted interior, refinished hdwd flrs. Cedar shake roof. Fin bsmt w/workshop & storage. Extensive andscaping. Shows beautifully. Blocks to Mt. Vernon Estate & G.W. Pkwy. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir Alex./Riverwood \$798,000 **3716** Carriage House Court THE R 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 hdwd floors, light and bright w/great flow perfect for entertaining. Quiet, private w/absolutely incredible landscaping. Classy, spacious and TLC! 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town Alex, 25 mins to Ntl Airport. Mt. Vernon's Finest! Alex./Yacht Haven \$634,900 4426 Neptune Drive Fabulous 4-level updated split with 2-car garage in prestigious waterfront community of Yacht Haven. 4 large spacious bed-rooms – remodeled kitchen w/ceramic tile, granite & SS appliances. Refinished hdwd floors, 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. 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 hdwd floors – Great rm For a free digiopens to beautiful sun rm addition tal subscription which opens to spectacular 35K deck which overlooks unbelievable custom landscaped back yard. Walk to fantastic marina, clubhouse and pool. Two updated HVAC systems plus tankless HWH he list goes on and on. Nothing better in all of Mt. Vernon! Newspapers, Alex./Riverside Estates \$540,000 www.connect 8426 Cherry Valley Lane Stunning, upgraded 5 BR/3 BA Split ionnewspapers. Riverside's largest split foyer model. Beautiful sunroom addition, com/subscribe remodeled kitchen and lower level bath, freshly painted interior and exterior, refinished hardwood floors know - get your on main level, new carpet/ceramic paper before it tile on lower level. Spacious 2-car garage and utility rm/work shop. This all. 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir, 25 to Pentagon. Alex./Riverside Estates \$2,750 Complete digital 8318 Orange Court Available August 31. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath Colonial with Carport in wonderful Mt. Vernon Community. 3 including photos finished levels. Newer kitchen and and ads, delivbaths, gleaming hardwood floors, screened porch, deck, large corner lot. to your e-mail Separate laundry and storage rooms. Scenic commute along G.W. Pkwy and Potomac River – 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, Alex, 35 to Pentagon/D.C. - Walk to Elementary and High Schools. Alex./Mt. Vernon \$389,900 8212 Glyn Street Your dream home for <\$400K! Beautiful 5 BR, 2 BA Split with a private fenced back yard and sparkling in-ground pool! Totally newspapers.com remodeled: new kitchen w/granite, ceramic tiled floor, and new abinets. Brand new baths, refinished hardwood floors on main level, new carpet on lower level. Freshly painted and professionally landscaped. Doesn't get any better for the price! 5 minues to Ft. Belvoir For more information: www.RexReiley.com

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News



Becky Todd closed the remarks before the ribbon-cutting ceremony got underway, acknowledging her late husband Jeff was above watching.



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran: "Good important things don't come quick and easily, generally, and this has been a long-time coming."



The portrait of the late Jeff Todd looked over the formal opening of Jeff Todd Way on Monday, Aug. 25.

Jeff Todd Way Ribbon-Cutting Opens New Connector

From Page 1

laboration that took place to make the road a reality. "There are few people who have done as much for all levels of our community, in the Lee and Mount Vernon districts, than Jeff Todd," said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay. "And to have the road named after him is just a tremendous legacy for everything Jeff stood for."

"This project is a perfect example of collaboration of the federal, state and local government," said Del. Scott Surovell (D-44). "It gets everyone talking together and working together, and sets a great precedent. It's a harbinger of a lot of great things to come."

McKay went on to describe Jeff Todd Way as a "game-changer," in line with several upcoming developments including the new

Springfield Town Center (formerly Springfield Mall) set to open in about six weeks, the intersection improvement around Kings Highway and Van Dorn/Telegraph Road (October), and the new Wegmans (2015).

"You take all these things and you look at them as a package," said McKay, "these things are changing the face, in a very positive way, for southeast Fairfax County. It's something we can all be very proud of. But these things only work when you can get around.'

By helping relieve congestion at the intersection of Mount Vernon Highway and U.S. 1, Jeff Todd Way should definitly help commuters get the most out of those developments. "22309 has felt isolated by traffic," said Surovell. "I marks, referencing the mixed-use



Civic leaders broke out the fancy tools to formally open Jeff Todd Way, connecting U.S. 1 and Telegraph Road.

think this cut through is going to do a lot of things, not only for people's mental health, but also improve property values in this neighborhood and improve the quality of life around here."

Todd's wife Becky closed the re-



State Sen. Linda "Toddy" Puller: "I don't know what we did without this road. I hope it will have a great impact."

path that is being added to the side of the road.

"Now with a road that not only can take cars, but you can walk a great legacy for him."

Bulletin Board

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

BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to help ensure a stable and diverse blood supply by giving blood in honor of National Sickle Cell Awareness Month this September. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at checkin. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good

through — it makes it a lot better," she said. "Connecting the two areas is what he wanted to do. It's

health may be eligible to donate. Tuesday/Sept. 2, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500

Landsdowne Centre. ◆ Monday/Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Noman M. Cole Jr. Pollution Control Plant, 9399 Richmond Highway, Lorton.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

Firefighters Provide Backpacks and School Supplies. 11 a.m. at Fire and Rescue Station 11, Penn Daw, 6624 Hulvey Terrace. Call Capt. Willie Bailey at 571-641-0036.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Talent Scouts. 7 p.m. at 3709 Shannons Green Way, Talent Scouts will be scouting for amateur performers at the Spring Hills Got Talent Show. People who wish to perform, email spingatore@spring-hills.net by Aug. 31. Visit http:// www.spring-hills.com/ for more.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Gladys Keating Dies at 91, in Wilmington, N.C. From Page 1 won," said Carver. "The first time she ran, in the early

'70s, it was the era of the equal rights amendment. And Gladys did not support it. We had argued with her -- those who'd just met her for the first time.

"The second time, I was chairman of Springfield

Democratic Committee and we were down at Garfield [Elementary School] for a meeting. Gladys was running, with two men. My friend Judy Finney got up and said, 'Gladys, last time you ran, you didn't support the equal rights amendment. What changed your mind?'

"Her eyes were very reserved. She was smiling



with her lips but not with her eyes. 'It was running with two men.' And it just broke the house down. Really quite marvelous. She'd never experienced any discrimination until she became a candidate. Suddenly when she was running with two candidates, you know there's going to be tension between them. When they got together and really excluded her, expected her to clear the table, it changed her viewpoint."

A visitation was held Friday, Aug. 22, at Jefferson Funeral Chapel. The funeral followed on Saturday, Aug. 23, at Olivet Episcopal Church in Franconia, where Keating had been an active member and lay reader. Her burial will take place at a future date at Arlington National Cemetery. Contributions in her memory may be made payable to Franconia Museum at 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia, VA 22310.

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ALEXANDRIA 7717 Southdown Road [\$2,995,000 This waterfront home offers lovely river views, a 300' dock with 2 boat slips, exquisite architectural detail, dramatic two story entrance foyer with a gracefully curved staircase. JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106



ALEXANDRIA 3403 Old Dominion Boulevard | \$959,500 Located in the sought-after Beverly Hills section of Alexandria, this gorgeous brick colonial has 4BR, 4FBA, with an open floor plan, hardwood floors, new carpeting, freshly painted, renovated master bath and a cook's kitchen. JOHN ERIC +1703 798 0097



FAIRLINGTON 4898 28th Street South 1 \$409,900 This light-filled and updated end unit with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms shows beautifully. Highlights include hardwood floors, updated kitchen, and finished lower level. Fairlington amenities include swimming pools, tennis courts, and tot lots. KERRY ADAMS +1 703 587 7841 DAYNA BLUMEL +1 703 597 2252



McLEAN 7811 Langley Ridge Road | \$2,995,000 This stone Georgian masterpiece offers an inviting flow of generous rooms made with refined craftsmanship, ornate interior details, and the finest materials. 3 levels of porches overlook wooded views and an expansive private guest suite sits above the 3 car garage. ROB CARNEY +1 703 927 4290 JILL PARK +1 703 627 1329



MCLEAN 1100 Dogwood Drive | \$7,250,000 Extraordinarily beautiful estate circa 1938 on 2 private acres. 7 bedrooms, 8 full baths, paneled library and beamed family room contribute to the luxury of this grand home. VICTORIA KILCULLEN +1 703 915 8845



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Opinion

Back to School: Good Steps, Good Intentions

he first day of school in Fairfax County is Tuesday, Sept. 2, but Monday, Sept. 8 is the beginning of something important. For the first time in decades, elementary school students will have a full day of school on Mondays instead of being sent home hours early. This action makes so much sense in for families with children in elementary school. The ability of Superintendent Karen Garza to facilitate this change to go into effect right away is remarkable, and we hope a promise for more changes ahead.

Earlier this week, the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement calling for later start times — not earlier than 8:30 a.m. — for high school and middle school students. It's not impossible although some school systems would have you believe that it can't be

he first day of school in Fairfax done. It's time to make that change in Fairfax County is Tuesday, Sept. 2, but County.

The science is undisputed. From the abstract: "A substantial body of research has now dem-

onstrated that delaying school start times is an effective countermeasure to chronic sleep loss and has a wide range of potential benefits to students with regard to physical and mental Bac

health, safety, and academic achievement. The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly

supports the efforts of school districts to optimize sleep in students and urges high schools and middle schools to aim for start times that allow students the opportunity to achieve optimal levels of sleep (8.5–9.5 hours) and to improve physical (eg, reduced obesity risk) and mental (eg, lower rates of depression) health, safety (eg, drowsy driving crashes), academic performance, and quality of life."

You can read the report here: http:// pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/ 2014/08/19/peds.2014-1697.full.pdf

Back to school nights begin this week and run into October. For parents and students, there is no more important event that to turn up at

Back to School Nights for your children, introduce yourself to teachers and open the lines of communication.

Here is a link to a daunting list of Back to School Nights in Fairfax County:

http://www.fcps.edu/news/backtoschool/ bts-chonological.shtml

— Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Letters to the Editor

Justice Delayed Is Justice Denied

To the Editor:

On Friday, Aug. 29, it will be one year since a still unidentified Fairfax County police officer shot and killed an innocent, non-violent, unarmed John Geer as he stood in the doorway of his Springfield home.

Fairfax County Chief of police Edwin C. Roessler, Jr. has not charged the officer with misconduct nor a violation of his department's policies or standard operating procedures. Additionally, he has refused to disclose the findings of his department's Internal Affairs Bureau investigation. Many Fairfax County citizens find his refusal to address this tragic event appalling and overriding the public's interest.

Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh has turned over the investigation of this fatal shooting of the Springfield man to the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of Virginia in Alexandria. Morrogh cited "complications with the case." "There is a conflict of interest that has arisen in this case." Morrogh also said, "and there is a second potential conflict of interest that has arisen out of my office." Morrogh declined to describe the nature of the conflicts. Many Fairfax County citizens are asking "why didn't Morrogh turn this case over to a Fairfax County Grand Jury that would have given the citizens of Fairfax County a voice in this matter?" They are also asking "why Morrogh failed to turn this case over to the Virginia State police for an investigation?"

In February 2014, Morrogh turned this case over to the Acting U.S. Attorney in Alexandria. After nearly six months acting U.S. Attorney Dana Boente remains silent. With all the resources of his office, including the FBI, this case remains unresolved.

During this past year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has remained silent. The question is: Why? Some Fairfax County citizens have speculated the police union has had a major impact on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Many criminal justice experts have long agreed that police unions have been a major obstacle to police accountability and transparency.

In contrast, the Ferguson, Mo., recent shooting death of Michael Brown by a police officer

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has ignited national attention. Within a few days of this incident the officer was identified as Officer Darren Wilson. Shortly thereafter, it the case was referred to a Grand Jury. In less than two weeks the wheels of justice were put into motion. This incident is being investigated by state and federal authorities. The question raised is "Why have the Fairfax County authorities avoided a local or state investigation — and why haven't they referred this matter to a Grand jury that would have allowed local a. citizens to have a voice in a local matter?"

The citizens of Fairfax County deserve an answer.

Since 1979, the citizens of Fairfax County have sought to have the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appoint a Citizen Complaint Oversight Board that would accept and investigate citizen allegations of police abuse, misconduct, negligence and report its findings to the Chief of Police and/or the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, Inc. proposed this same request to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in March 2010 with no results. Why?

Nicholas R. Beltrante

Executive Director Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, Inc.

Helping Working Poor

To the Editor:

In his opinion piece ("Homelessness: Source of Trauma for Children," Aug. 18), Dean Klein, the director of Fairfax

County's Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, clearly enumerated the reality for hundreds of homeless families and their children in the county. While most of them are working, these families do not earn enough income for them to access affordable housing. According to a study completed by George Mason University in 2012, nearly half the households earning less than \$40,000 in annual income in the Mount Vernon and Woodlawn communities have trouble finding or maintaining housing for their families.

At Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, a 40-year-old homeless services and af SEE LETTERS. PAGE 9

Mount Vernon Bazette

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A Connection Newspaper



Letters

From Page 8

fordable housing provider serving the Mount Vernon community, we have seen many such families struggling to access affordable housing. They are living on the brink of homelessness - or are, in fact, experiencing a spell of homelessness. Last year we helped nearly 120 of these families in our area to find permanent affordable housing. As Klein noted, the consequences of homelessness do not end quickly. Especially when children are involved and have suffered the trauma of homelessness, the effects may be lifelong. Moreover, they suffer from emotional or behavioral problems that interfere with learning at almost three times the rate of other children. Children should never have to wonder where they'll be sleeping on any given night. In our county some 700 children do wonder.

Here at Good Shepherd Housing, we work hard to ameliorate the problems these homeless children face. We ensure that formerly homeless children in our housing programs do not miss out on educational, social and recreational activities simply because their families have low-incomes.

Because of generously donated funds, we provide these children with school supplies and new winter coats and pay for their after school activities and summer camps.

At Good Shepherd Housing we are doing all we can to provide our community's working poor with a fresh start toward stable housing and a better life.

David Levine Executive Director Good Shepherd Housing Still a Refuge

Of Liberty, Freedom

To the Editor:

Thomas Jefferson wrote that, "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." I believe most of us would agree, including Frank Medico. But we are at our best when we can find that balance between the beneficial role of government and big business versus the amount of intrusion we can tolerate into our private lives. Mr. Medico exaggerates the latter.

Some private companies gather huge amounts of information from many sources. But, there are legal safeguards which maintain confidentiality of important financial transactions, like buying a home or a car. In the fast-paced electronic age character-

istic of the times in which we live, information on what we buy and how we spend our free time must be weighed against the advantages and convenience of computers, cell phones and GPS units.

NSA surveillance may have gone a little over board. But, it has been widely reported that with court approval, it can monitor our phone calls if we happen to communicate on a regular basis with known, or probable terrorists, usually overseas ... a small price to pay to avoid another 9/11. I definitely feel safer.

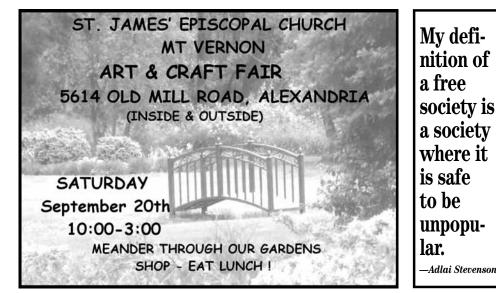
Under the tax law "religious organizations" are not permitted to engage in partisan political activity. They are allowed to preach their religious views, but cannot urge their members to vote for certain politicians. How many of us would want our priests, ministers, and rabbis tell us who they think we should vote for as part of a religious service? This separation of church and state is vital to our democracy.

Also, the government doesn't "impose" on us what we should eat or drink. The Food and Drug Administration performs a great service to the country by informing us of possible dangers to our health and welfare from the food we eat and the drugs we take. Importantly, we are free to make our own choices.

Lastly, let me address the charge that government is taking over our health care. Medicare and Social Security are the most popular government programs in the countrv. The Affordable Care Act provides free annual screenings for a variety of diseases saving lives and resulting in less costly services in the future. Also, both programs are earned benefits because of contributions made through payroll taxes. People are generally free to choose their own health plans, doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, etc.

Our government may make mistakes and poor decisions. Winston Churchill's famous statement that "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the other that have been tried," clearly implies that democracies are not perfect. In the end, our government does far more to keep us safe, healthy, and strong, than it does us harm. The U.S. is the one place in the world where those who suffer a true loss of freedom, liberty, and tyranny have continued to seek refuge on our shores for over two centuries. That truism speaks for itself.

John Glaser Alexandria



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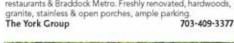


Belle Haven

2108 Foresthill Road, Alexandria, VA 22307 This wonderfully charming 4BR + 4BA brick colonial boasts 2 fps, hdwd fis throughout, delightful bay windows, sunroom, nished lower level plus garagel This is an absolu Donnan C. Wintermute 703-608-6868



215 Bellefonte Avenue East, Alexandria, VA 22301 Two - 28R rental units 1 block Del Ray's Mt Vernon Ave shops restaurants & Braddock Metro. Freshly renovated, hardwoods,





The Court At Mt Vernon 3618 South Place, Alexandria, VA 22309

One year condo fees paid by owner! Home warranty included Stately home in gated Community of Mount Version, 58R/38A, basketball, tennis court, great outdoor entertaini Katharine Kratovil 202-285-6391



Bearings North \$250,000 722 S. Washington Street #203, Alexandria, VA 22314 Terrific Old Town location near dining, shopping, bike path. 1BR/1BA, hardwood floors, renovated in 2005. Stain-

less appliances, granite counters, great storage. Rita McCauley-Redmond 703-447-9114



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Open 9/6 & 9/7 2-4pm. Expanded colonial on cul-de-sac enjoys great flow, updated open kitchen, master suite, rec room, orage, & large, lush grounds. Walk to MacArthur & Metro 703-402-5599 Nancy Perkins



2010 Scapstone Drive, Reston, VA 20191 Nestled in your own private/quiet cul-de-sac in walking distance to the new metro, backing to Reston Natl Golf Course is a true gem. Renovated 5BR home w/over 3400 fin. sq. ft. Fred Marcellus 703-629-0297



\$749,000 The Eclipse 3650 Glebe Road S 644, Arlington, VA 22202

200 N. Pickett Street 1414, Alexandria, VA 22304

Bright freshly painted 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo in a fan-tastic location. Garage parking, W/D in unit, new carpet,

ristine 1BR + den, newer building above Harris Teeter Great views, open kitchen with pgranite, SS appliances, flat screen TV, wired for surround, W/D in unit. The York Group 703-409-3377

\$177,000



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4713 Dolphin Lane \$995,000

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9409 Ludgate Drive \$1,980,000 Stately Virginia Manor House-Dramatic Water Views! Stately Colonial Estate in the Virginia plantation tradition.

Magnificent setting on high bluff overlooking Potomac at its widest point. Views protected by bordering conservation land. Home is truly spectacular with high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, 4 bedrooms, each with private bath and breathtaking river view master suite. Walls of windows capture magnificent river views. Enjoy the same views as those from nearby Mount Vernon Estate.



4416 Tarpon Ln \$569,000

Contemporary Rambler-Waterfront Community! Walk to Yacht Club from this fabulous home. Glass window walls make for exceptionally bright, airy atmosphere & capture natural beauty of grounds. Spacious home with numerous special features include: bright, open floorplan, large glass walled great room with fireplace, bedrooms on main level, hardwood floors, 3 updated baths, finished walkout lower level with fireplace & large windows. Gorgeous setting on 1/2 acre lot near river!



8708 Parry Ln \$598,900 Super Value—Prime Fort Hunt Area Location! Stratford Landing Opportunity-motivated seller has priced for quick sale. Classic 4 bedroom Colonial. Excellent condition with 3 finished levels, updated kitchen and baths, gorgeous hardwood floors, thermal windows, covered parking, huge covered deck, and level lot. Owner found H.O.C. and is ready to move. Take advantage of it!



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***Classes begin on Saturday, September 13th and end on Saturday, October 11th. They will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm - 9:30pm and on Saturdays, 9:00am - 5:00pm during the day.



Val Klotz 703.303.9744 STAFFORD / Somerset Landing \$435,000 Over 4,500 sq ft, 5BR/3.5BA, cul-de-sac, 2-car garage, open kitchen family room walks out to deck. Sun roof off Kitchen. Finished lower level walks out to patio. Formal living and dining room.

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

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area with station. Plenty of parking Full Service rental t





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Steve Kindrick Instructor 703-683-0400 ofc

Sean Satkus 703.887.2116 ALEXANDRIA \$499,000

3BR/2BA 2-level home completely updated and renovated: new kitchen cabinets, appliances and granite. Refinished hardwoods Updated BAs. Finished LL with 9 ft ceilings and double paned replacement windows. New HE HVAC 1/3 acre lot. Just Gorgeous!

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Largest unit (corner) in building offering 3BR/2BA. Rarely available 2 garage spaces. Updated kitchen with SSA, Silestone, double oven/ convection, wine chiller, full-size W/D. Large balcony. Bus stop at front door - Shuttle to Pentagon Metro M -



STAFFORD \$ 775,000 Amazing opportunity to own this unique home on a secluded private 4+ acre lot. 4BR/3.5BA on 3 levels featuring an open floor plan, a main level master suite, kitchen, dining room, sun room, family room with fireplace. Living room and balcony on UL. Huge LL. Back porch.



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D'Antonio-Kohler Realty Group 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633 ALEXANDRIA \$ 599,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4

8711 PARRY LN Large move-in ready center hall Colonial in popular Strattord-on-the-Potomacl Great floor plan, 48R/2,55BA, formal living/ dining rooms, basement rec room/storage. Freshly painted interior. shed hardwoods. Fenced yard has brick patio/hot tub.



Brian Hong & Jery Beamer 703.929.5764 ALEXANDRIA \$ 399,990

Lovely 2BR/1BA condo with glearning hardwoods in living/dining area. Wood-burning freplace in living room. Updated kitchen. Newer HVAC. Updated bath. New W/D. Master BR has rear balcony. Assigned off-street parking. Metro. www.brianaridjery.com



ALEXANDRIA \$715,000 3 levels of luxury living in this 4BR/3.5BA home with gournet kitchen featuring granite, GE SSA, cherry cabinets, plus hardwoods on all 3 levels. 2nd level family room has fireplace and home theatre wiring Deluxe Master Bath Deck. Kingstowne amenities. Van Dorn Metro



D'Antonio-Kohler Realty Group 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633 ALEXANDRIA / Waynewood \$750,000 OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4 1009 DALEBROOK DR Beautifully renovated Cambridge model

located by the park and pool. French country kitchen with fireplace opens to screened deck, master suite. LL bedrooms open up to an inlaw suite with FBA, family room with fireplace and walk-out to yard.



Martha Deal 703.622.6797 ALEXANDRIA / Porto Vecchio \$ 489,000

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ENTERTAINMENT Port City Playhouse Presents 'Black Hole'

Explores loss and grief, control and compulsion, love and forgiveness.

> By Steve Hibbard The Gazette

ort City Playhouse will begin its 2014-15 season on Friday, Sept. 12, with the premiere of "Black Hole" by Jean Koppen. The opening of this show marks the culmination of Port City's first "Playwright Incubator Project," in which the company sponsored the development of a new work by a local playwright.

Directed by Joanna Henry, "Black Hole" is a drama dealing with the themes of loss and grief, control and compulsion, love and forgiveness. It focuses on estranged family members coping with their mother's death, their father's hoarding, and their own feelings of resentment and the need for spiritual comfort.

Playwright Koppen said she was motivated to write a story about the complex nature of family relationships. "I wanted the audience to experience characters and situations that could be interpreted differently based on their own viewpoint," she said. "My favorite theater experiences are ones in which I'm compelled to debate with others after the play ends about who I thought was the hero and why."

When she completed her first draft, Koppen shared it with her friend, director Joanna Henry, to get her opinion. Henry was enthusiastic and wanted to share it with Port City Playhouse as a theater organization that she knew was interested in trying new things. Port City mirrored Henry's enthusiasm for the script and offered to workshop the script with its troupe of actors and a dramaturg , a theater professional specializing in play development, eventually selecting the play for production.

"As soon as I read it, I knew it was a play I'd like to direct," said Henry. "My father had passed away a few weeks before I read 'Black Hole' so many of these sentiments

Calendar

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

ONGOING

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-

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were fresh and raw to me. It touched me on so many levels."

"We'd meet, read and discuss the play, give and receive feedback, insight, comments, and then Jean would do rewrites. A few weeks later, we'd meet again and repeat the process," said Henry.

She added, "It was exciting for me as director to be there from that first draft to this performance. We were the ones creating and developing the characters."

"Working with Port City on their first Incubator Project is one of the most exciting and fulfilling experiences I've had in my adult life," said Koppen. "The opportunity to collaborate with talented actors and production staff has enabled me to refine my script in a way I could never have accomplished alone."

The goal of the Playwright Incubator Project was to move the Port City Playhouse into the direction of fostering local talent in ways other theatre companies were not accomplishing, said Frank Pasqualino, president of Port City Playhouse.

"It's a great collaboration that began with long conversations at a table and then brought us to performing the piece," said Nicky McDonnell, who plays the central role of Jane. "It's a first-time experience for me to be a part of something from the get-go."

In the play, McDonnell's character, Jane, is beginning a slow descent into loss, grief and regret. "The loss of her mother and then having to tackle the contents of her childhood home with nothing but resistance from her father begins to take its toll," she said.

"We hope 'Black Hole' is perceived as a very real play about real people in real situations," she said.

Lars Klores plays the role of Drew, a heavy drinker and husband to Jane. His challenge was to take an ordinary guy like Drew and find the inner points

in his performance that would make the character interesting to an audience. "It was tempting to take one aspect of Drew, like his alcohol consumption, and blow it up into something notable, but that wouldn't have been

true to the script," he said.

Jennifer Lyons Pagnard plays the role of Patty, the devoted stay-at-home wife of Jim and mother to two children. She said that although Patty is a light-hearted, chatty person, she has a deeply emotional side as well. "It's been a challenge to keep her bubbly and positive, but not over the top," she said. "I hope [audiences] will be moved by it, because it's so true to life." Maya Brettell plays the role of Christina, the sweet and smart teenage daughter of Jim and Patty. "Christina is a fairly mature teenager with great manners, but sometimes she's too polite at the wrong times," said Brettell. "In scenes where I'd be tempted to stand up for myself, she is either unaware that she's being taken advantage of or allows it for the sake of being agreeable."

Pasqualino plays the role of the recently-

Details

Port City Playhouse will follow "Black Hole" with three more productions: "In the Next Room," Sarah Ruhl's examination of sexual repression in the Victorian era; "Shining City" by Conor McPherson, a haunting tale set in contemporary Dublin, in which the hint of a ghost story overlays a study of human relationships; and "Stick Fly," Lydia R. Diamond's look at the unique experiences of upperincome African-Americans.

and "Stick Fly," Lydia R. perspective on ique experiences of upperns. ceived by the rest of the family... sometimes this does not sync with reality."

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said, "I'm hoping

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their own unique

"Black Hole" performances are Friday-Saturday, Sept 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27, and Tuesday, Sept 23, at 8 p.m., with Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. on Sept 20 and 27 at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors, military and students. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

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. **Archeology in Action Tour.** Fridays in August. 11-11:45 a.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Take an inside look at the history of the Mount Vernon archaeology program and the current discovery efforts in progress. \$40 for four admission tickets, \$17 for adults, \$8 for children six to 11, \$16 for seniors. Visit www.mountvernon.org. **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/ for more.

Art Exhibition. Through Sunday, Aug. 31 at 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/ for more. Multiple Exposures Gallery.

Through Aug. 31, 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.multipleexposures gallery.com for more. Blue Star Museums. More than 2,000

- 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.
- "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. **Art Exhibit**. Through Sept. 8, 6:30-8 p.m.; Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. An art exhibit titled, "Scapes and Structures." Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.
- **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, www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Entertainment

- with pet boutique and service vendors. Portions of proceeds benefit People. Animals. Love. Visit www.Monaco-Alexandria.com/alexandria-hotel/ doggy-happy-hour.html.
- Art Exhibit. Through Sept. 21 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street. "Influence and Inspiration: The Art League Faculty Celebrates 60 Years." Exhibit showcases Washington Color School Artists to present League faculty. Reception Sunday, Sept. 7 from 4-6 p.m. Exhibit open Thursdays and Fridays noon-4 p.m., Saturdays 1-4 p.m., Sundays noon-4 p.m., and closed Mondays-Wednesdays. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-
- 683-1780 for more. **Saving Mount Vernon**. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 3:30 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit the rarely seen basement and wander the historic area to learn the heroics of the estates caretakers. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.
- Through My Eyes. Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 26. 1:30 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Join people from Washington's world as they go about their daily activities, making several stops along the way. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.
- Wave and the second sec

- 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 rarelyseen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools, landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.
- Songwriter's Showcase. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Features a different Songwriter's Association of Washington artist each week. Visit www.theoldtowntheater.com for
- tickets. George Washington's Mount Vernon has joined Thomas Jefferson's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Visit www.PresPassport.Monticello.org.
- Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-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 or call 703-746-4848.

- **Dinner for the Washingtons**. Noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit
- www.mountvernon.org/ for more. Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

- Art Classes. Fall registration has begun at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Register by Friday, Aug. 29 to take advantage of the early bird discount. Art at the Center is located at 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org class listings
- and registration information. **Creating and Portraying a Living History Character.** This four-part workshop taught by an experienced first-person interpreter will demonstrate how to research and develop a first-person character, select appropriate period clothes, offer practice sessions in character, and provide an opportunity (and goal) to step out onto the "stage" during Gadsby's Tavern Museum's 2014 Candlelight Tour Program. Meant for beginners, participation in all four classes is recommended. Classes are held at Gadsby's Tavern

Museum, 134 N. Royal Street 2-4

p.m. on Sundays, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7. Cost is \$40 for the series, \$12 per class as space allows; tickets must be purchased in advance either through the online shop at http://shop.alexandriava.gov or by calling 703-746-4242. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more. **The Artist's Way: a Spiritual Path**

to Higher Creativity. A 12-week course in discovering and recovering one's creative self. Wednesday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m. informational meeting, then small groups will be formed and continue every Wednesday, Sept. 17 through Dec. 10. Using the principles, practices, and guidelines from the book, "The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity, by Julia Cameron, anyone who is interested will explore their own contemplative creativity as individuals in one or more smallgroup settings, depending on numbers. Free and open to the public. Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St. Call 703-549-1450, visit www.historicchristchurch.org or email parishlife@ccalex.org.

MONDAY/AUG. 25-FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Young at Art. Opening Reception, Aug. 27. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. An exhibit for artists who are 55 or older. Free. Call 703-836-4414 or 703-824-1345 for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen and Carlene Carter perform. \$29.50. Visit www.chrishillman.com, http:// herbpedersen.com, www.carlenecarter.net or

www.Birchmere.com for more.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill PArk, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway. Performance by Seldom Scene using a wide range of different instruments. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances/ for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

- 5K and 1M Family Fun Run. 8 a.m. Fun Run, 8:30 a.m. 5K at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway. Proceeds benefit local non-profit groups as well as the Shepherd's Gate grant program. 5K: \$30 for adults, \$20 for 18 and under. 1M: \$20 for adults, \$15 for 16 and under. Visit http://gscc.org/getinvolvedintlfestivalrun.php for more.
- White Elephant Sale. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway. Shop for found treasures at one of the largest indoor yard sales in the area. Proceeds benefit local nonprofit groups as well as the Shepherd's Gate grant program. \$10 8:30-9:30 a.m.; free after 9:30 a.m. Visit http://gs-cc.org/getinvolvedintlfestivalelephant.php for more.
- intlfestivalelephant.php for more. Wreath Laying at the Grave of Robert Allison, Jr. 10 a.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House Cemetery & Columbarium, 600 Hamilton Lane. As part of the official British Challenge, help honor the Veterans of the War of 1812 by marking the graves of those who fought throughout the cemetery. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812 for more.

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Mount Vernon Gazette 🔹 August 28 - September 3, 2014 🔹 13

Entertainment

- **Cricket Match.** Noon-6 p.m. at Jefferson Cricket Field, Potomac Park, Washington, D.C. Team Alexandria will be taking on Team Britain as part of the British Challenge and memorial of the War of 1812. Visit www.visitalexandria va.com/1812 for more.
- **U.S. Navy Band Concert.** 3-4 p.m. at Market Square, 300 King St. The US Navy Band will be holding a concert as part of the British Challenge and memorial of the War of 1812. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812.
- Honors Ceremony. 4:30-5 p.m. at Alexandria National Cemetery, 1450 Wilkes St. There will be an honors ceremony as part of the official British Challenge featuring the Continental Color Guard with Fife and Drum. Seating opens at 4:15 p.m. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812.
- **Bill Kirchen**. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 31

- Yacht Race. 11 a.m. at Old Dominion Boat Club, 1 King St. As part of the official British Challenge Team Alexandria (Old Dominion Boat Club) will take on Team Britain (British Defence Staff, UK Embassy) in a Yacht Race. Visit www.visit alexandriava.com/1812 for more.
- Signature Event. Noon-5 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Waterfront Park will be transformed into a festival to commemorate the events of the War of 1812. Meet townspeople of 1814, enjoy boat tours of the river, listen to the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters, Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps and learn more about the War of 1812 through a variety of hands-on activities and

information booths. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812. Lyceum Summer Chamber Series.

3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi performs music by Chopin and Gershwin. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-

- 799-8229 for more. **Tug of War.** 3:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Watch as Team Alexandria (City of Alexandria Fire Fighters) takes on Team Britain (British Defence Staff, UK Embassy) in a tug of war. Visit
- www.visitalexandriava.com/1812. **Presentation and Recognition of British Challenge Winners.** 4:15 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. There will be presentations and recognition of the Cricket, Yacht Race and Tug of War winners from the British Challenge. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/1812.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

International Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria. This multicultural festival features ethnic foods and drinks, live entertainment, children's rides and games, bingo, and a raffle with a grand prize of \$10,000. Festival proceeds benefit local non-profit groups as well as the Shepherd's Gate grant program. Free admission. Visit http://gs-cc.org/ getinvolved-intlfestival.php for more.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 2

Stained Glass. 6-8 p.m. at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred St. Artist Joseph Cavalieri combines modern elements with time-honored processes used by Medieval stained glass artists. He will be showing images of his handpainted and silk-screened stained glass works and will do a demonstration of silk screening on glass. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 2-SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Photography Exhibit. Opening Reception on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2-4 p.m. Gallery Hours 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily and 2-9 p.m. on Thursdays at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center #312, 105 N. Union St. E.E. McCollum will be showing images from his "Shadow Series" and Danny Conant will be showing "French Impressions." Visit www.dannyconant.com or www.eemccollum.com for more.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

- 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 for more.
- History Presentation. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. British naval historian Andrew Lambert presents "When John Bull Came to Town: Alexandria in the War of 1812." \$10 per person. Seating is limited. Purchase tickets at shop.alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.4242 for more.
- FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-OCT. 5
- Electronic Athletics. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Opening reception is Sept. 6, 4-6 p.m. Schlesinger Center, Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, 4915 East

apartments.

-2

Campus Lane. Exhibit of artwork by Eric Celarier and Glen Kessler. Free. Visit https://www.nvcc.edu/ schlesingercenter/calendar.html.

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Euge Groove performs live. \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or www.eugegroove.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

- Sculpture Workshop. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Ave. Artist Laura Hummel teaches a mixed-media sculpture workshop about how to repurpose new or vintage metals and more. \$55-\$65. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org/ birdworkshop for more
- birdworkshop for more. **Dedication Ceremony.** 10 a.m. at the Contrabands and Freedmen Cemetery Memorial along Church Street, just west of the intersection with South Washington St. The City has created a new webpage for the event on the homepage of the Office of Historic Alexandria, at www.historicalexandria.org. Visit for
- additional activities surrounding the dedication. All the President's Pups. 10 a.m. at
- George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Bring dogs to explore the Estate and learn about canine life at Mount Vernon. \$5 for dogs, in addition to estate admission for humans. Visit
- www.mountvernon.org/ for more. **Dance.** Lessons at 6:30 p.m., dance at 7-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St., Alexandria. Country-Western themed dance with music provided by a DJ. Smoke and alcohol free. Bring your own refreshments. NVCWDA members, \$10; non-members, \$12;

children under 18 with a paying adult, \$5. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941 for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

- Lyceum Summer Chamber Series. 3 p.m. The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Pianist Haskell Small performs. Free, donations accepted at the door. Visit www.wmpamusic.org or call 703-799-8229 for more.
- Live Music. 7:30 p.m. in the Music Hall at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Asleep at the Wheel. \$35. Visit www.asleepatthewell.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY/SEP. 9-10

Live Music. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3071 Mount Vernon Ave. Chris Isaak performs. \$89.50. visit www.chrisisaak.com or www.Birchmere.com for more.

SEPT. 9-OCT. 14

Art Gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m at Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory, 105 N Union St. In "Architectural Interpretation," artists create fiber art inspired by architecture. Free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

Cute Animals. 7 p.m. at Charles Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. A performance project with dogs and owners. At the dog park, most people know the names of the dogs, but not the name of the owner. Participate along with a casual community of animal lovers and spark a connection with those who share this common interest. Free. Email janefranklindance@gmail.com.

C'MON, BE HONEST. WHAT WOULD YOU RATHER BE DOING THIS SUMMER?

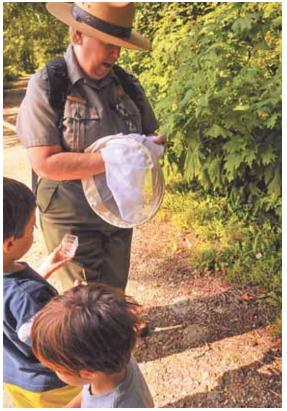


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News



NPS Ranger Laura Sebastianelli carefully removes a butterfly from her net to show the two young boys.

Exploring Dyke Marsh

yke Marsh, one of the longest remaining freshwater tidal wetlands in the Washington metropolitan area along with Great Falls, has yielded a count of 5,000 species of animals and insects over the past 10 years. The survey was conducted by the National Park Service and is still ongoing. Over the summer in July and August, park rangers have guided visitors through self-discovery walks through both parks.

On Saturday, Aug. 16, Ed and Miriam Eder brought their grandsons, Ollie and Parker, along for a walk down the Haul Road Trail in Dyke Marsh with Park



Ollie watches as the park ranker captures a small woodland butterfly.

Ranger Laura Sebastianelli who gave the two boys

box specimen boxes to capture, examine and release

In the survey, more than 3,500 of the species in

Dyke Marsh contains 485 acres of tidal marsh,

The Haul Road Trail follows an old mining road through each type of habitat in Dyke Marsh. The trail

is three-quarters of a mile long, flat, and paved in a

combination of pea gravel and boardwalk.

floodplain, and swamp forest can be explored by boat

all of the insects they found on the two-hour tour.



Ollie stops on the Haul Road Trail with NPS Ranger Laura Sebastianelli to examine the insect traffic across the way.



Ollie and Parker try to get a closer look at a daddy long legs crossing the path with their box boxes.



A stick bug is discovered underneath a leaf where a swamp cicada is munching on leaves.



NPS Ranger Laura Sebastianelli helps Ollie capture a moth caterpillar that is snacking on a spice bush. before releasing it. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



the wetlands are insects.

or on foot.

Ollie and Parker take a close look at a small butterfly in their box



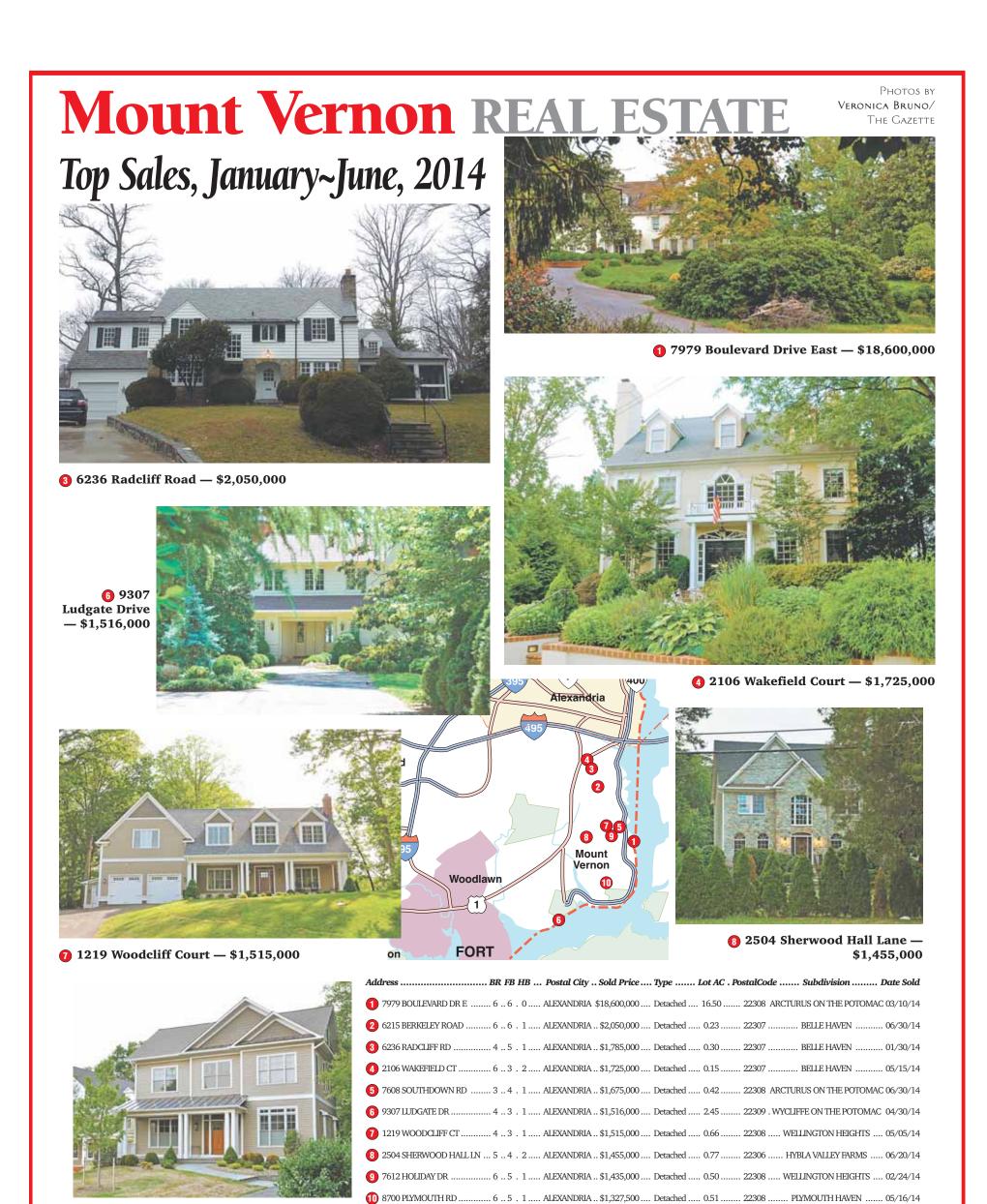
Ed Eder shows his grandsons where the crab spiders hide in the blossoms of a blossoming plant waiting for their prey.



A damselfly rests on a leaf.



leaves of the foliage along the Haul Road Trail. Mount Vernon Gazette 🔹 August 28 - September 3, 2014 🔹 15



1 8700 Plymouth Road — \$1,327,500

IG ♦ Mount Vernon Gazette ♦ August 28 - September 3, 2014

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Sports



Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Gazette Senior midfielder and team captain Amber Sable is one of the more experienced players on the 2014 Mount Vernon field hockey player.



Senior midfielder and team captain Maggie Heltzel scored a goal against Woodbridge during the Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School on Monday, Aug. 25.

Mount Vernon Field Hockey Looking for Improvement

Majors finish runner-up in Pool C at UTL tournament.

> By Jon Roetman The Gazette

fter years as a perennial district title contender, the Mount Vernon field hockey team struggled through a rebuilding season in 2013.

On Monday, the Majors entered the 2014 Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School with hopes of an improved performance during the year. After two days and four games, Mount Vernon remained undefeated.

The Majors went 2-0-2 and finished runner-up in Pool C. On Monday, Mount Vernon tied Battlefield, 1-1, and beat Woodbridge, 3-0. On Tuesday, the Majors tied Annandale, 2-2, and defeated Hayfield, 2-0.

"Overall, we're very happy," Mount Vernon assistant coach Kelsey Otersen said. "We had very specific focuses at practice that we asked these girls to implement in the game and they did exactly what was asked and that's what we attribute our success to.

"... We're very optimistic about what we'll accomplish this year. We have pretty much the same team coming back and we have a couple new girls that we brought up that bring a lot to our team."

Senior midfielder Isabelle Norton led Mount Vernon with three goals during the tournament. Senior forward Renisha Wiggins, senior midfielder Maggie Heltzel, junior midfielder Alison Diminuco, senior forward Maura Ryan and senior midfielder Lindsay Gardiner each scored one.

Junior forward Nicole Simmons had an assist against Annandale.

Senior midfielder Amber Sable is one of four team captains, along with Heltzel, Gardiner and junior forward/midfielder Jessica Miller. Sable was one of two returning starters on last year's team and expects improvement this season.

"Going through that was hard, but we knew last year was going to be a rebuilding



Junior forward Nicole Simmons had an assist during the Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School.

year," Sable said. "We knew once we got experience we were going to be a lot better than we were last year, so we should be pretty good this year." T.C. Williams won Pool C with a 3-0-1 record. Battlefield (3-0-1) won the Pool A title and Robinson (4-0) won the Pool B championship.



唐王国的任臣王的 **Good Shepherd Catholic Church Mass Schedule** Saturday Evening Weekday & Saturday 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español) Mornings: 9:00 am Mass Sunday 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Language Interpreter & istic Adoration) Children's Liturgy of the Word): Thursday & First Friday of the Month: 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español): 6:30 pm 7:30 pm Mass en Español 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309 Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org であ いまたす Loving as Christ loves, serving as Christ serves To Advertise Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468 The and the prover and the prover and the prover

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The deadline for filing an appeal was June 2, 2014, however this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments for real estate that was newly constructed pursuant to Virginia Code §58.1-3292.



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Abby, who lives in Mount Vernon, looks out at her dad, while she enjoys Grist Mill Park's spiral slide.

Newcomers & Community Guide 2014-2015

Alount Vernon Gazette

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About the Gazette

newspaper, the Gazette's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, to gather information about the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our awardwinning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar

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s your local, weekly of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

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> Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

> The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography and much more.

> We have staff and contributors here at Connection Newspapers with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways. We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email gazette@connection newspapers.com. We offer summer and year-round educational internships with information at www.connection newspapers.com/internships.

> In addition to our weekly coverage, we have monthly special focus pages on Wellbeing; Education, Learning, Fun, and HomeLifeStyle, plus other seasonal specials including Real Estate, Senior Living, Fall Fun, Food and Entertainment (also Winter, Spring and Summer), a twice a year Pet Gazette, and others. If you have story ideas email for these. editors@connectionnewspapers.com; if are interested in marketing, email sales@connectionnews papers.com.

— Mary Kimm MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, @MARYKIMM

Newcomers & Community Guide



"I've lived here for 13 years. I'm a Civil War buff, and Virginia is the biggest state for Civil War stuff. But I also like that I have access to D.C." — Don Macnair

What do you like about living in the Mount Vernon area?

Рнотоѕ ву Kara Coleman The Gazette



"I grew up here. I enjoy the proximity to the city, and I like to go running on the parkway a lot." — Nathan Parker



"I enjoy being close to Old Town. My wife and I go to D.C. a lot too, either by driving or taking the metro. Our friends are in the city, but we don't want to be. We wanted something a little more suburban." — Ben Montaquila



"I can walk to work and back. Everything is pretty much close to everything else." -**Janette Dunder**



"I graduated from Mount Vernon High School, and I've lived here for 18 years. I like how my little brother can play outside here without being scared." -**Brianna Hartless**

Issues Confronting Mount Vernon

By Scott A. Surovell State Delegate (D-44)

here are many issues facing the communities between the Potomac River, Huntley Meadows Park, Fort Belvoir and the City of Alexandria. The top three are U.S. 1, the future of our local schools, and a burgeoning uninsured population.

First, our quality of life revolves U.S. 1. The future of U.S 1 not only functions as the spine of our mobility, but it drives housing, retail choices,

property values, schools, environmen-LOOKING tal quality, crime levels and tax revenue. Ahead A year ago, state Sen. Toddy Puller

and I secured \$2 million to fund the U.S. 1 Multimodal Study and determine the optimal transit, road, pedestrian, cycling, and accompanying land configuration for the U.S. 1 Corridor. That study will come to a conclusion in the next few months.

The study is effectively coming down to two choices. One is a dedicated bus rapid transit (BRT) system from Huntington Metro to Fort Belvoir. The second choice is a two-stop extension of the Yellow Line with a bus rapid transit system to Woodbridge - this two-pronged solution is being called the "Hybrid Option."

Once the study issues a recommendation, the



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will need to take a vote to agree upon the Locally Preferred Option ("LPA"). Once the LPA is set, additional planning can commence. Achieving this will not only require the Board of Supervisors to agree upon making the redevelopment of U.S 1 a priority - it will require a con-

sensus here in our community between residents,

SEE ISSUES, PAGE 7



& Community Guide



Local Media Connection LLC Community Guide content compiled by Abby Aldridge,

Kara Coleman, Ashley Dietz, Neeka Eghbali, Emma Harris, Taylor Horner, Alexis Hosticka and Elizabeth Schneider

For more information. call 703-778-9431 or email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mount Vernon Gazette 🔹 Newconers & Community Guide 2014-15 🔹 3

What do you like most about Mount Vernon?



Joe A. Nay: Currently living in Delaware, but lived in the Mount Vernon area for about 20 years and returns to visit his brother. What he likes most about the area is "Right where we are (Huntley Meadows). It's different every time you come." Nay has come to the nature preserve during every season, to observe the changes that occur.



Aneega Tajammal (left) and Namra Shahbaz live in the Mount Vernon area and were with family, enjoying the park at Belle Haven Marina. What they like most: "You know how everything is close together? This is a quiet place that you can come to read, walk, and have a family barbecue."



Liz Killebrew lives in the Mount Vernon area. What she likes the most: "The access to the water and a great community."



William Lee lives in D.C., but works in the Mount Vernon area, at the river, repairing boats. What he likes most: "Great access to the river and a place to relax, away from downtown."

claims 1.5 to two acres a year and is accel-

erating, confirmed USGS. Fortunately, this fall, the National Park Service will release

a restoration plan, many years in the mak-

ing. Last October, U.S. Department of Inte-

rior Secretary Sally Jewell came to Dyke

Marsh and announced funding to stabilize

over two miles of shoreline and rebuild 150

Naturalist Louis Halle in 1947 wrote that

Dyke Marsh is "the nearest thing to primeval wilderness in the immediate vicinity of

the city." Mount Vernon resident and former

U. S. Sen. John Warner called the wetland

Newcomers and long-termers alike rec-

ognize that a restored Dyke Marsh can

strengthen ecological services, enhance the

historic landscape for the George Washing-

ton Memorial Parkway and enhance oppor-

tunities for scientific research, education

To learn more, visit www.fodm.org, http://

/www.nps.gov/gwmp/dyke-marsh.htm,

http://biodiversity.georgetown.edu/ and

the Friends of Dyke Marsh on Facebook.

acres, a historic and welcome step.

"a magnificent little oasis."

and enjoyment in our area.

Restoring a Natural Jewel — Dyke Marsh

By Glenda C. Booth President, Friends of Dyke Marsh

housands of people zoom through Dyke Marsh in their vehicles every day on the Mount Vernon Parkway, where twice-daily tides slosh the wetland's waters in and out under the road. Few probably realize that Dyke Marsh is disappearing. The marsh could be gone in 20-30 years, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has predicted.

Dyke Marsh is a 480-acre freshwater tidal ecosystem that Congress added to the national park system in 1959 "so that fish and wildlife development and their preservation as wetland wildlife habitat shall be paramount." Today, the marsh has over 300 known species of plants, 6,000 arthropods, 38 fish, 16 reptiles, 14 amphibians and over 230 birds. Georgetown University entomologist Dr. Edd Barrows says that counting bacteria, there may be 18,000 organisms in Dyke Marsh. A wetland is a rich "biological supermarket," maintains Dr. Kirk Havens, Virginia Institute for Marine Science. "In an area roughly the size of an average desktop, there can be as many as 8,300 animals."

Why care that Dyke Marsh is vanishing? Wetlands can attenuate wave energy and stem flooding. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says that a one-acre wetland can store about one million gallons of water. Wetlands are natural defenses against storm surges and flooding for many communities. Wetlands filter out pollutants and are fish nurseries.

Dredging that hauled away much of the marsh between 1940 and 1972 fundamentally undermined the ecosystem's delicate equilibrium, subjecting Dyke Marsh to severe erosion from storms, erosion that now



Many walkers, runners, bikers and drivers pass through the cattails, wild rice and buttonbush of the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve daily on the Mount Vernon trail.

- Serving the Community -

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area

Aims to help youth become confident, civic-minded, responsible adults through programs focused on education/career development, health and life skills, leadership, the arts, sports and recreation, and mentoring. www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/.

Mount Vernon Recreation Center

A fitness center with a 25-meter heated indoor pool with poolside spa, a beach area with play features, locker rooms with showers and sauna, Fitness Center with Cybex VR2 equipment, pro shop items for sale, dance room, multi-purpose rooms and a year-round 200 foot by 85 foot indoor ice arena. 703-768-3224 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mvrec.htm.

United Community Ministries

Founded in 1969 as a grassroots movement to assist low-income families and individuals living along the Route One Corridor, UCM provides four different housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center to help prepare people for moving forward with their jobs.703-768-7106 or www.ucmagency.org/.

New Hope Housing

In 1978, New Hope opened the first homeless shelter in Fairfax County. New Hope Housing is the oldest and largest provider of shelter to the homeless of Northern Virginia.

Its mission is to provide both shelter and the tools to build a better life.

See Servicing the Community, Page 15

Demographic Snapshot of Mount Vernon

ZIP CODE: 22309

Population: 33,220

Race: White-15,865 (47.8%), Black/African American-8,585 (25.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-222 (0.7%), Asian-2,503 (7.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-9,260 (27.9%)

Total housing units: 12,006

Owner-occupied housing units: 7,487 (64.5%) **Households with individuals under 18 years:** 4,507

(38.8%)Households with individuals 65 years and over:

2.349 (20.2%) Median household income: 83.092

Mean family income: 121,989

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 41.6%

ZIP CODE: 22306

Population: 32,326

Race: White-14,594 (45.1%), Black/African American-8,811 (27.3%), American Indian and Alaska Native-159 (0.5%), Asian-2,760 (8.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-9,508

Total housing units: 12,295

Owner-occupied housing units: 5,562 (47.4%) Households with individuals under 18 years: 4,640 (39.5%)

Households with individuals 65 years and over: 2,056 (17.5%)

Median household income: 59.243

Mean family income: 96,773 Population 5 years and over who speaks a lan-

guage other than English at home: 41.8%

ZIP CODE: 22307

Population: 9,581 Race: White-8,012 (83.6%), Black/African American-588

(6.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-31 (0.3%), Asian-334 (3.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-990 (10.3%) Total housing units: 4,823

Owner-occupied housing units: 3,391 (76.8%) Households with individuals under 18 years: 1,084

(24.5%)

- Households with individuals 65 years and over: ,222 (27.7%)
- Median household income: 103,026 Mean family income: 191,979

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 13.5%

ZIP CODE: 22308

Population: 12,737 Race: White-11,716 (92%), Black/African American-274 (2.2%), American Indian and Alaska Native-21 (0.2%), Asian-329 (2.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-521 (4.1%)

Total housing units: 4,816 **Owner-occupied housing units:** 4,239 (92%) Households with individuals under 18 years: 1,893

- (41.1%)Households with individuals 65 years and over:
- 1,444 (31.3%) Median household income: 161,953
- Mean family income: 202,299

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 9.9%

ZIP CODE: 22303

Population: 12,601 Race: White-7,754 (61.5%), Black/African American-1,611 (12.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-65 (0.5%), Asian-1,219 (9.7%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,940 (23.3%)

Total housing units: 7,108

- **Owner-occupied housing units:** 2,880 (46.2%) Households with individuals under 18 years: 1,095
- (17.6%)Households with individuals 65 years and over: 1,092 (17.5%)
- Median household income: 76,950
- Mean family income: 98,342
- guage other than English at home: 39.2% Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2012



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Elizabeth Lucchesi The LizLuke Team

703.868.5676 Elizabeth@lizluke.com



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Population 5 years and over who speaks a lan-

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Welcome to Fairfax County

By Sharon Bulova/Chairman FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

elcome to Fairfax County, the best place in the country to live, work and play. Fairfax County is home to a fantastic public school system, top tier business and shopping opportunities, compassionate human services, and some of the best parks and open spaces in the D.C. Metropolitan region. This summer featured the long-awaited opening of the WMATA Silver Line, which connects the Reston and the Tysons areas of the county to the entire Metrorail system.

Last June, I cut the ribbon to open a new segment of our Fairfax County Cross County Trail, named after former Chairman (now congressman) Gerry Connolly. It was his vision, while serving on our board, to build and connect trail sections to make it possible for someone to hike through all nine county magisterial districts. The northern end of the trail begins in Great Falls National Park at the breathtaking Potomac River and travels south to the historic Occoquan River.

The trail passes through stream valleys and meadows, then winds through fascinating Laurel Hill, site of the former Lorton Prison. In addition to parkland and a golf course, these grounds are now home to the Workhouse Arts Center where visitors can watch artists in action and enjoy plays, performances and community events such as Springfest every April.

Fairfax County has something for everyone. Northern Virginia Community College offers more than 160 degrees at the associate's level and numerous certificate programs.

Its partnership with George Mason University provides families and students with a seamless, cost-effective path to a four-year degree.

George Mason University, recently named one of the top five "Up-and-Coming Uni-



versities" by U.S. News and World Report, is also recognized as one of America's Best College Buys by Forbes magazine. Under the presidency of Dr. Angel Cabrera, Mason is fast taking its place as a university for the world.

Fairfax County is known for its businessfriendly climate. Time Magazine has described us as "the epicenter of the Washington region's job boom" and "one of the great economic success stories of our time." Although home to eight Fortune 500 company headquarters (corporate giants such as Northrop Grumman and Booz Allen Hamilton) about 97 percent of the companies in Fairfax County are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees. We are a great location for startups.

Of course, Fairfax County's greatest asset is a population that is welcoming and engaged. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with diverse cultures and entrepreneurship

Visit Fairfax County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov to learn more about what Fairfax has to offer.

I am elected at-large by all registered vot-

any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call me at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening and how you can participate in all that Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

Thanks for making Fairfax County your

Fairfax County's Success Story

Economic Success: 50 Years in the Making

By Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D.

f you are a newcomer to Fairfax County, allow me to welcome you to one of the most dynamic communities anywhere in the world to live and work. It was the vision of many people to create this kind of community, so please allow me to offer a quick history lesson.

The Capital Beltway was completed in 1964. The same year the iconic highway opened, the Virginia General Assembly passed a law that created what is now called the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. In the last 50 years, creation and growth of a diversified business community and local economy transformed a sleepy bedroom community in the shadow of the nation's capital into what Time magazine has called "one of the great economic success sto-

How much of a success story? Fairfax County was home to no Fortune 500 companies in 1964, and today 10 of those businesses are based here. That's more than 30 states. Today more than 400 foreign-owned businesses have a presence here, as do four companies on Black Enterprise magazine's list of the 100 largest African American-owned companies, three companies on HispanicBusiness.com's list of the 100 largest Hispanic-owned companies, and top companies that are Asian-, womanand veteran-owned.

Today Fairfax County is the secondlargest suburban office market in the



United States. Almost no matter where you live, you can see how the county continues to evolve as a business location. The first phase of Metro's Silver Line rail service

further enhances the attractiveness of Tysons Corner and Reston, while the second phase will link Herndon and Washington Dulles International Airport to the rest of the Washington region in 2018.

Southeastern Fairfax County (Springfield, Lorton and the Richmond Highway corridor) are becoming important office centers thanks to growth at Fort Belvoir. The Mosaic District in Merrifield is a popular destination, and the Springfield Town Center opening this fall promises to be a magnet for that area.

As I suggested earlier, this evolution of Fairfax County has been no accident. It has been a strategy driven by a consistent vision: A strong and consistent economic development program that attracts companies and helps them stay and grow here creates job opportunities, builds a strong commercial tax base that holds down residential taxes, and allows the Board of Supervisors to provide high-quality public services that enhance the quality of life here.

Yes, Fairfax County has changed tremendously since 1964. But, even with all the progress that has happened, we believe even better times lay ahead.

Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

A County of 186,785 Students

By Karen K. Garza Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools

elcome to the 2014-15 school year. The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents, and educators. Our dedicated staff has been working hard to prepare for another school year that builds on our tradition of excellence at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Fairfax is a community that embraces its newest residents and the cultural diversity that makes our county such a desirable place to be. For many families and businesses, the decision to relocate to a new area is often dependent on the quality of the local public schools. FCPS has a well-deserved national reputation for excellence.

As we enter a new school year, we are projecting an enrollment of 186,785 mak-6 ♦ Mount Vernon Gazette ♦ Newconers & Community Guide 2014-15



ing FCPS the nation's 10th largest school district. Fairfax County high schools are among the most academically rigorous in the U.S. and are cited every year as among the top high schools in the country. Our class-

rooms are led by teachers who inspire, motivate, and prepare students with the knowledge and skills they will need for the future. Our dedicated teachers promote the success of every student and create a caring learning environment where every student is valued and recognized as an active learner.

Working closely with our school board, parents, teachers, and community stakeholders, we have made a number of posi-

tive and exciting changes for our system during my first year as superintendent. We developed the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate that will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for the school system and will lessen the focus on standardized, high-stakes testing and place greater emphasis on engaged students, project-based learning, and authentic assessments of student learning. The Portrait of a Graduate will ensure that our students are collaborators, communicators, creative and critical thinkers, global citizens, and goal-directed and resilient individuals when they leave FCPS.

Other significant changes include:

The launch of full-day Mondays for all elementary students. The change will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. The change to full day Mondays received overwhelming support in our community and will benefit students, teachers, and our families.

✤ A new standard school calendar that

eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year if fewer than 13 days are missed while providing two full weeks for winter break.

The new Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. A first of its kind for Fairfax County, this new school is being converted from a five-story office building at 6245 Leesburg Pike to provide enrollment relief for the overcrowded Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. The new campus will house grades 3-5, while the existing campus will house preschool to grade 2.

✤ A new CrisisLink text messaging tool for students and parents needing mental health support and resources. Crisis line staff respond to the text messages 24 hours a day. The text number is 703-997-5444.

The future remains very bright for FCPS families, students, and employees. I look forward to welcoming your children to our schools on Sept. 2 and making this year an exciting and rewarding year for all of our students.

ries of our time."

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors,

My office is here to serve you. If you have

home.

Issues Confronting Mount Vernon

 $\mathsf{FROM}\ \mathsf{Page}\ \mathsf{3}$ property owners, businesses, and other stakeholders.

The BRT option and Hybrid Option present two starkly different choices. Due to the land use choices necessary to support it, the Hybrid Option will bring the maximum benefit to the area. A two-stop Yellow Line extension will bring significant redevelopment to U.S. 1 from Huntington to Hybla Valley and beyond and is what our community needs. Enhanced bus-only transit will not bring the significant redevelopment that will maximize quality of life in this area.

Second, the quality of our public schools also depends upon adequate funding. Average Fairfax County teacher pay is \$13,000 less than Washington, D.C., \$10,000 under Arlington, \$8,000 under Alexandria, and only \$4,000 more than Prince William. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is facing a \$2 billion capital backlog. There are trailers at nearly every school in our community.

Last year, 13 schools in Fairfax County failed accreditation – six were in the 44th District although we only have about 7 percent of the county's population. Universal preschool is the long-term key to solving this problem.

Additionally, five schools failed accreditation due to new computer-based science Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests. Closing the Digital Divide is recognized as having significant short-term benefit and is urgently needed.

Virginia's other largest jurisdictions are already deploying computers to every child. Henrico County

has provided computers to every child since 2001. This week, Chesterfield County issues their first 15,000 Chromebooks. FCPS currently spends \$13,472 to educate each child. Computers for every child would cost about \$50 million or only \$265 per student.

There is no question that state funding of secondary education in Fairfax County is lagging. Thanks to the "Sequester," Virginia's economy continues to underperform the nation and state revenue is flat, and raging against funding formulas is a futile exercise without fundamental political change in Richmond, so in the medium-term, funding solutions will need to be local. Supervisor Gerry Hyland has been a strong voice for local education funding for nearly three decades. He will need all of our support.

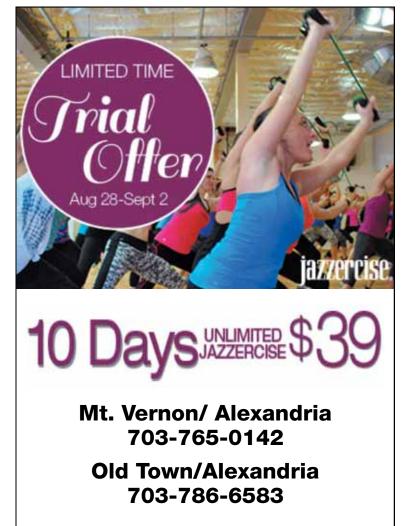
Finally, our growing uninsured population is a longterm unsolved problem. Nearly 13,000 residents in the 44th District receive healthcare from Medicaid – this includes 9,300 children or 1 in 3 people under age 18 in this community. Each of those 9,300 kids has a parent without health insurance. The 22306 and 22309 zip codes lead Fairfax County in non-serious emergency room visits.

Uninsured healthcare expenses drive up premiums for everyone, but no person should have to worry that an unexpected illness will mean they can't pay their rent. Closing the uninsured gap by expanding Medicaid or any other solution is a critical need in this community.

If you disagree with my analysis or priorities, let me know at scottsurovell@gmail.com. It is an honor to serve as your state delegate.



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What's on the Ballot; How to Vote

Election Day is Nov. 4, 2014, but you can vote as early as Sept. 19.

very year is Election Year in Virginia. This year, every Virginia voter will choose one member of the U.S. Senate and their member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Two of North-DULLES AIRPORT ern Virginia's three house seats are open seats with the retirement of two longstanding members, Jim Moran (D-8) and Frank Wolf (R-10). This area has very high rates of voter registration, but voter turnout varies

significantly from year to year. For example, two years ago in 2012, a presidential election year, 71.78 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote. But in 2010, more comparable to this year, only 44.01 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote.

In Fairfax County, with a

population around 1,130,900, there are 713,025 registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 676,802 in 2012. (Population data from U.S. Census and voter data from Virginia Department of Elections.)

In Alexandria, with a population of about 148,900, there are 97,883 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014. That's down from 101,887 total registered voters as of July 2, 2012.

In Arlington, with a population of about 224,900, there are 162,100 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 157, 236 on July 2, 2012.

REGISTER, CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In order to vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2014. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Voting Early, Absentee

Virtually every voter in Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, which includes voting inperson absentee at a variety of locations between Sept. 19 and Nov. 1.

MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX County government LOUDOUN COUNTY Town of G.W. Mer Access Road 495 Sully Nº/ CITY OF FALLS CHURCH Rt. 29 COUNTY OF ARLINGTON Rt. 50 1-66 CITY OF FAIRFAX Columbia Pike Rt. Rt. 29 CITY OF ALEXANDRIA Rd 1-395 1-495 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

> Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.).

You can download an absentee ballot and mail it to your local voter registration office, or you can vote "absentee in person." In person absentee voting begins at Fairfax County Governmental Center begin-

ning Sept. 19. Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax,

703-591-8364;

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll

email

For More Election Information Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222- 10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax,

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/ 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax,

Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/ general-registrar

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22030;

FAX

generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov

email: info@sbe.virginia.gov

http://www.sbe.virginia.gov

Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194

Sept. 19 - Oct. 10: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

FORT

BELVOIR

22035

Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 14 - Oct. 31, Monday thru Friday - 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

Satellite Voting Locations Begin Friday Oct. 14

Franconia Governmental Center - 6121
 Franconia Road, Alexandria, 22310

Dolley Madison Library - 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, 22101

North County Human Services Bldg. 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, 20190
 West Springfield Governmental Center

- 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, 22152

See Every Year, Page 14

New Voter Identification Requirements

As of this summer, there are new requirements for voter identification that voters must bring with them to the polling place.

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections. Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification:

 Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification
 Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card

- Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card
- Valid United States Passport

 Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by US Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth

Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia.

Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business

or a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months. A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot. Don't Have One of These?

Any registered voter who does not possess one of the above mentioned forms of photo ID, may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Com-

monwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

Provisional Ballot Process

Š

A voter who arrives at the polling place without an acceptable form of photo identification will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, inperson submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted. A Friday postmark will not be sufficient. Written notice given to the voter will provide the necessary information, including email, fax, and address of where the ID should be delivered.

If you vote a provisional ballot but don't have an "acceptable ID," you can appear in-person in the office of the general registrar in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast by noon on Friday following the election and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document can be provided to the electoral board as acceptable identification and the voter's provisional ballot will be counted.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Elections, www.sbe.virginia.gov

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Rotary club past president Ellie **Turner, and Past Rotary District Governor Andy Turner flank** their Texas grandchildren. Ian and Katie, following their induction as Paul **Harris Fellows of** the Rotary Foundation.

> Рното Contributed



Join the Rotary Club

Echoing other chapters throughout the world, the Mount Vernon Rotary Club meets weekly on Wednesday for dinner (6:45 p.m.) at the Cedar Knoll Inn (703-799-1501) on the George Washington Parkway. New Rotarian arrivals to the area are welcome to join in fellowship.

The Mount Vernon Rotary Club

supports a variety of community projects: educational (scholarships), environmental, scouting and senior citizens. Business men and women interested in learning more about Rotary International and joining to help support the local community may contact Kevin Farquhar at 703-317-6030 or kfarquhar@hga.com.



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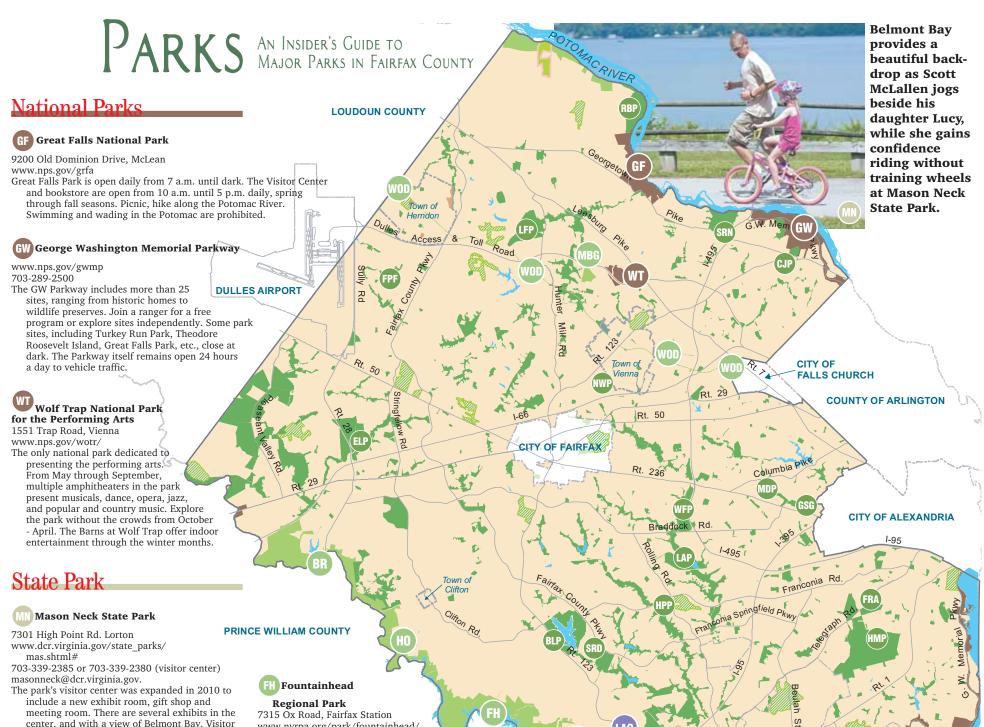
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meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville

www.nvrpa.org/park/bull run/ Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 though Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Hours

BR Atlantis Waterpark

vary.

(at Bull Run Marina Regional Park) 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville www.atlantisbullrun.com/ 703-631-0552 Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a membe of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Family of Waterparks. Aantis also features picnic pavilions, a deck great for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/ 703-250-9124 The observation deck of the Marina Building at Fountainhead commands a spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Summer activities include

catfish tournaments, children's fishing tournament, paddleboat tours and more.

H0 Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton www.nvrpa.org/park/ hemlock_overlook/ 800-877-0954; 571-281-3556: Hemlock

One of the beautiful features of the g Une of the beautiful reatures of the ground Meadowlark is the Korean Bell Tower and Surrounding corder surrounding garden.

Overlook **Regional** Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse trails may be used without prior arrangement.

G Meadowlark Botanical

Gardens

grounds at

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna w w w . n v r p a . o r g / p a r k / meadowlark_botanical_gardens/

703-255-3631 This 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections is open year round and include walking trails, lakes, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wildflowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin. A picnic area beside the Gardens is available to visitors. Meadowlark presents gardening and

Sources: National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Virginia State Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority. Map courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority. Designed & compiled by Jean Card and Laurence Foong. Photos by Renée Ruggles.

horticulture workshops, tours, field trips, concerts and volunteer programs.

OR Occoquan

Regional Park 9751 Ox Road, Lorton www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/

703-690-2121 This park offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Park lands, trails and associated waters are part of the Fairfax Cross-County Trail. Kayak rentals. One hour Tour Boat Rides on the Occoquan River to Belmont Bay and back. Offered Saturdays noon-5 p.m., Sunday 1- 8 p.m., April 2 through Nov. 27. \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under, under age 4 are free.

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

FORT BELVOIR

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton

www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/ Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

✤ Mount Vernon Gazette ✤ Newconers ⑧ Community Guide 2014-15 10

Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. For those interested in swimming, the park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on Mason Neck Pennisula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Nature lovers can expect to see blue birds, osprey, heron, deer, beavers and rare sightings of river otters.

PB Pirates Cove Waterpark

(at Pohick Bay Regional Park) 6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton www.piratescovepohick.com 703-339-6102

Pirates Cove Waterpark is located at Pohick Bay Regional Park. Visitors can cool off under the 300-gallon dumping bucket, fire the water cannons and splash down the waterslide or search for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach sand play area. Pirates Cove also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Dav.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course

703-339-8585 This scenic golf course is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's practice facility features a driving range with practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. A full-service pro shop features an array of name-brand golf clubs, equipment and apparel. Other services include club making, custom club fitting, regripping, reshafting and tournament coordinating.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/ 703-690-4392

The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

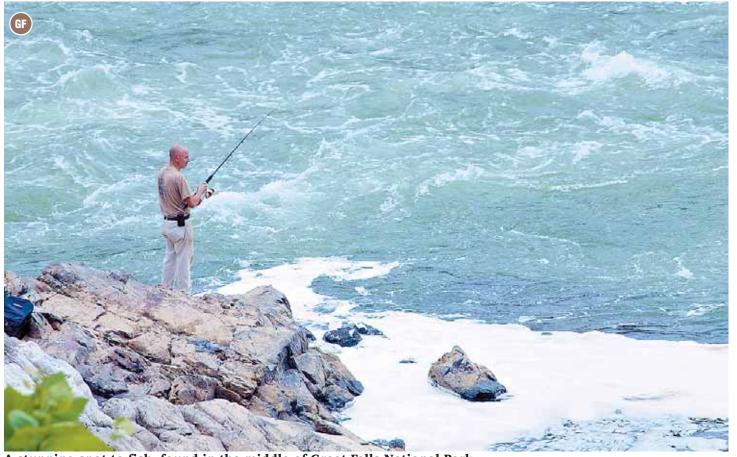
Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton www.lortonarts.org

703-584-2900

The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film



A stunning spot to fish, found in the middle of Great Falls National Park.

institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing 883.4 acres, multiple resource park

CJP Clemyjontri Park

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean fitness, picnic areas and playgrounds 18.6 acres, special purpose park

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

5040 Walney Road, Chantilly baseballl, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater,

trails 650 acres, multiple resource park





Charlotte, from Vienna, shares a sketch that she made of the bridge, across the pond from the **Children's Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.**

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, open areas, playground 135.3 acres, multiple resource park

GSG Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria Community Center, historic structure, biking/hiking trails, open areas, gardens 30.9 acres, special purpose park

HPP Hidden Pond Park

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield tennis (lit), nature center, amphitheater, hiking/ nature trails, playground, fishing 25.6 acres, community park

HMP Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria nature center, historic structure, biking/hiking/ nature trails, observation tower, boardwalk 1444.8 acres, natural resource park

LAP Lake Accotink Park

7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield basketball, volleyball, minigolf, trails, picnic 448.1 acres, multiple resource park

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit), amphitheater, carousel, campground, tour boat, picnic shelters 479 acres, multiple resource park

FRA Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia softball, soccer/football, tennis, basketball, volleyball, trails, treehouse, sprayground, accessible playground 138 acres, district park

MDP Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit/lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), shuffleboard, dog park, amphitheater, biking/hiking/fitness

121.2 acres, district park

NVP Nottoway Park

9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna baseball (lit), soccer/football (lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), trails, picnic 90.9 acres, district park

RBP Riverbend Park

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls nature center, historic structure, biking/equestrian/ hiking trails, picnic areas, craftroom 411.2 acres, multiple resource park

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing 384.3 acres, natural resource park

SRD South Run District

7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield baseball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, equestrian, playground, swimming 196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

8100 Braddock Road, Annandale softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park 292.6 acres, multiple resource park

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PARKS A Guide to Fairfax County Parks in the Springfield & Mount Vernon Areas



4 Lee High 6501 Deepford Street, Springfield Community Park

5 Monticello Woods 6444 Northanna Drive, Springfield Community Park

6 Trailside 6000 Trailside Drive, Springfield Community Park

7 Loisdale 7419 Loisdale Road, Springfield Neighborhood Park

8 Lynbrook 6005 Augusta Drive, Springfield Neighborhood Park

9 Hooes Road 7233 Hooes Road, Springfield Community Park



10 Springvale 6508 Spring Road, Springfield Community Park

11 Lake Accotink 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield Multiple Resource Park

12 Brookfield 7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield Community Park

13 Byron Avenue 6500 Byron Avenue, Springfield Community Park

14 Hooes Road School Site 7336 Hooes Road, Springfield **Community Park**

very large

equipment, with lots of

options for active kids.

piece of playground

15 Kings Park 8717 Trafalgar Ct., Springfield Community Park 7111 Woodland Drive, Springfield

6821 Braddock Road, Springfield

Community Park

20 North Springfield 7025 Leesville Boulevard, Springfield Neighborhood Park

21 Royal Ridge 7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield Community Park

22 Carrleigh Parkway 8020 Carrleigh Prkwy, Springfield Neighborhood Park

23 Cardinal Forest 6121 Roxbury Avenue, Springfield Community Park

24 Hunter Village 7700 Jansen Drive, Springfield Community Park

25 Hidden Pond

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Grist Mill Park is home to the Gunston Soccer Club. The "Gunston Elite 97," a team of high school aged girls, practices hard on the park's large field.



Fairfax Park Authority has garden plots for rent in several of their parks, including Grist Mill.

Community Park 26 West Springfield 6805 Caneel Street, Springfield Neighborhood Park

27 West Springfield Village 6910 Loudoun Lane, Springfield Neighborhood Park

28 Rolling Forest 7019 Flax Street, Springfield Neighborhood Park

29 Cherry Run 7001 Cottontail Court, Springfield Neighborhood Park

30 South Run District 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield District Park

31 Huntsman 9150 Dorothy Lane, Springfield Community Park

32 Rolling Wood School Site 7511 Chancellor Way, Springfield **Community Park**

33 Chapel Acres 7900 Giles Street, Springfield Neighborhood Park

34 Saratoga 8121 North Umberland Rd, Springfield www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Community Park **35** Loftridge 5549 Janelle Street, Alexandria Community Park

36 Burgundy 5516 Norton Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

37 Heritage Hill 5744 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

38 Jefferson Manor 2909 Farmington Drive, Alexandria Community Park

39 Huntington 2121 Fairfax Terrace, Alexandria Community Park

40 Farrington Avenue 2213 Farrington Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

41 Mt. Eagle 5919 North Kings Highway, Alexandria **Community Park**

42 South Kings Forest 4505 Lantern Place, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

43 Stoneybrooke 3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria Community Park

44 Groveton Heights 3429 Clayborne Avenue, Alexandria Community Park

45 Huntley Historic 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria Natural Resource Park

46 Lenclair 6625 Lenclair Street, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

47 Bucknell Manor 2223 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria **Community** Park

48 Hybla Valley 3431 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

49 Huntley Meadows 3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Natural Resource Park

50 Hollin Meadows 7603 Elba Road, Alexandria Community Park

51 Martin Luther King Jr 8115 Fordson Road, Alexandria Community Park

> **52** Stephen S. Foster Intermediate School Site 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

Grist Mill's Dog Park offers a large space for dogs, and their owners, to socialize and play.

Community Park **67** Mount Vernon Woods 4014 Fielding Street, Alexandria Community Park

68 George Washington 8426 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park

69 Walt Whitman School Site 8333 Richmond Highway, Alexandria Community Park

70 Mount Zephyr 8601 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

4341 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria **Community Park**

72 Grist Mill 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria District Park

73 Vernon Heights 8225 Central Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

74 Bush Hill 5417a Waycross Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

75 Mark Twain 5920 Larpin Lane, Alexandria

4100 Franconia Road, Alexandria Community Park

Neighborhood Park

78 Ridgeview 4111 Duvawn Street, Alexandria Community Park

79 Wilton Woods School Site 3701 Franconia Road, Alexandria



Neighborhood Park 80 Tara Village 6417 Joyce Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

81 Virginia Hills School Site 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

82 Manchester Lakes 6775 Beulah Street, Alexandria **Community Park**

83 Greendale Golf Course 6700 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park

84 Lee District 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia District Park

85 Dowden Terrace 5616 Bradley Boulevard, Alexandria Community Park

86 Glasgow 3935 Arcadia Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

87 Parklawn 6454 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria Community Park

88 Glen Hills 6090 Larstan Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

89 Heywood Glen 6210 Larstan Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

90 Pinecrest Golf Course 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria Special Purpose Park

91 Green Spring Gardens 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park

92 Bren Mar 6324 Edsall Road, Alexandria Community Park

93 Backlick Run 5590 First Statesman Lane, Alexandria Community Park

94 Beulah 7119 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park

95 Amberleigh 7516 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Parl

96 Hayfield 7611 Hayfield Road, Alexandria Community Park

97 Wickford 7331a Wickford Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

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7100 Devonshire Road, Alexandria 71 Washington Mill

58 Gilbert S. McCutcheon 7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria **Community Park**

Community Park

53 Belle Haven

Community Park

Neighborhood Park

56 Westgrove

Community Park

57 White Oaks

Neighborhood Park

Multiple Resource Park

6036 Grove Drive, Alexandria

6625 Fort Willard Circle, Alexandria

2017 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria

55 Mount Vernon District

6801 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria

54 Fort Willard Circle

59 Hollin Hall School Site 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria Community Park

60 Kirk 2206 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

61 Williamsburg Manor 2213 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Community Park

62 Collingwood 8200 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria Community Park

63 Carl Sandburg School Site 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park

64 Stratford Landing 2301 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

65 Fort Hunt 8822 Linton Lane, Alexandria **Community Park**

66 Muddy Hole Farm 7941 Kidd Street, Alexandria Community Park 76 Clermont School Site

77 Franconia Forest 6013 Bitternut Road, Alexandria

Every Year Is Election Year in Virginia

From Page 8

Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

* Mount Vernon Governmental Center -2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria 22306 Sully District Governmental Center -

4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151 Monday - Friday, Oct. 14 - 31, 3:30 p.m. -

7 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

For more, call 703-222-0776 or visit http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ absentee.htm

What's on the Ballot?

Every voter in Virginia will vote for U.S senator and their member in the U.S. House of Representatives.

One constitutional question will appear on all Virginia ballots, Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Question: Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

U.S. Senate

One-term incumbent Sen. Mark R. Warner (D) is challenged by Republican Ed W. Gillespie and Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis.

Gillespie, Republican Ed W. www.edforsenate.com Democrat R.

Mark Warner, www.markwarnerva.com

Robert Libertarian C. Sarvis, www.robertsarvis.com

The 8th District is an open seat because of the retirement of incumbent Rep. Jim Moran (D), who was elected in 1990. Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr. will face Republican Micah K. Edmond plus three independent candidates. The 8th district includes all of Alexandria and Arlington, plus parts of Fairfax County including Mount Vernon, Lorton and parts of McLean, Tysons and Falls Church.

✤ Republican Micah K. Edmond, www.micahedmond.com

Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr., www.friendsofdonbeyer.com

 Libertarian Jeffrey S. Carson, jeffreycarson.com/

Independent Green Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III, www.votejoinrun.us

 Independent Gwendolyn J. Beck, www.gwendolynbeck.com

In the 10th District, an open seat was created by the retirement of Frank Wolf (R), who was elected to office in 1982.

Both major party candidates are elected officials from McLean, with Republican Barbara Comstock, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, facing Democrat John Foust, a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The 10th district sprawls from McLean to Winchester, and includes Great Falls, Chantilly, parts of Fairfax Station, the Town of Clifton, part of Burke and Springfield.

Republican Barbara J. Comstock, www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com

* Democrat John W. Foust, www.foustforvirginia.com

✤ Libertarian William B. Redpath, billredpath.com

✤ Independent Green Dianne L. Blais, www.votejoinrun.us

✤ Independent Brad A. Eickholt, www.eickholt4congress.com/

In the 11th District, Gerry Connolly (D), former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, elected to congress in 2008, will face Republican Suzanne K. Scholte and two independent candidates.

Republican Suzanne K. Scholte, www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/

Democrat Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly, incumbent, www.gerryconnolly.com

Green Joe F. Galdo www.joegaldo.com ✤ Libertarian Marc M. Harrold, www.marcharrold4congress.com

In Fairfax County, all voters will vote yes or no for more money for transportation projects.

Transportation Improvements Bond Question: Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

In the City of Fairfax, voters will also vote on an advisory Referendum regarding length of term for Offices of Mayor, City Council and School Board, and whether the term of office should be increased from two years to four years.

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Serving the Community

FROM PAGE 4 www.newhopehousing.org/.

Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services

The goal of Good Shepherd, created in 1974, is to help bring an end to homelessness while promoting the self-sufficiency of homeless individuals with programs in counseling, grant services and housing location assistance. www.goodhousing.org/.

Christian Relief Services

Incorporated in 1985, in Virginia, through part-

nership with 14 agencies, Christian Relief Services offers up to 24 months of transitional housing, case management and supportive services for homeless people.

Around the country, operates the affordable housing units. www.christianrelief.org/.

Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center

Progreso is a community development and advocacy nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that seeks to serve and empower immigrants to improve the quality of their lives and of their communities through education, immigration services, and leadership development.. http://progreso-hispano.org/

Mount Vernon Rotary Club

The club works to provide educational scholarships, educate the next generation to motivate them to pursue world peace, and to simply care about human needs and be willing to take steps to help meet them. h t t p : //localrotaryclub.com/ MountVernonVirginiarotaryclub.

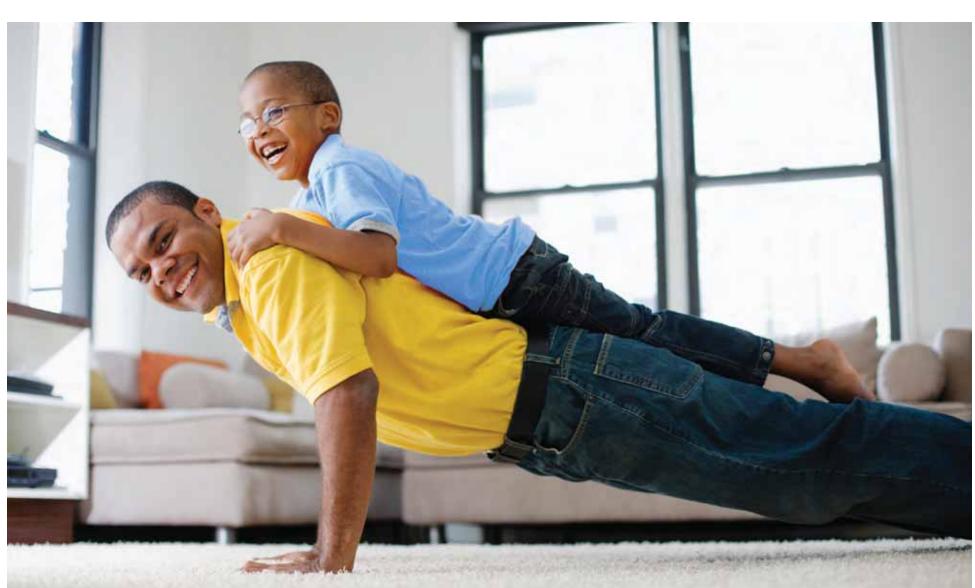
Mount Vernon At Home

Looking for a way to make a difference in the

Mount Vernon community? Consider Mount Vernon At Home, a non-profit organization that relies on volunteer time and talent as it assists older adults to age in place in their homes. Its volunteers provide that extra help that make aging in place easier for seniors in their own neighborhood.

Volunteers are needed for local transportation to medical and personal appointments, errands, and grocery store trips; light handyman chores and home technology to name just a few. No minimum number of volunteer hours are required.

Call Mount Vernon At Home at 703-303-4060 or email info@mountvernonathome.org to learn more. www.mountvernonathome.org.



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Sports

Getting To Know ... Mount Vernon Sports

Girls' basketball team reached the 5A state tournament.

School: Mount Vernon High School. Mascot: Majors.

School Colors: Maroon, gray and white. Athletic Director: Bob Maxey, 703-619-3141. Football Coach: Barry Wells (fifth year). The Majors qualified for the 2013 5A North region playoffs despite a 3-7 record, and lost to Tuscarora

in the opening round. Field Hockey Coach: Jessica Edwards. Boys' Basketball Coach: John Wiley. Girls' Basketball Coach: Courtney Coffer. Boys' Soccer Coach: Tony Garza

Rival School: West Potomac

What happened last year: The girls' basketball team reached the state playoffs, finishing runner-up in Conference 13 and the 5A North region. The softball team went 19-5 and finished runner-up in Conference 13.

Quotable: "I think [there has] been a huge difference form this team and my teams in the past. My teams in the past have generally started strong and we've tended to fizzle out. We've reached our peak too early. This team is [the opposite]." - Girls' basketball coach Courtney Coffer.

> Then-senior DJ Jeanpierre and the Mount Vernon girls' basketball team advanced to the 5A state tournament in 2014.





Daniel Damiani and the West Potomac boys' soccer team defeated Oakton in the region quarterfinals.

... West Potomac Sports Boys' soccer team fell a win shy of qualifying for states.

School: West Potomac High School. Mascot: Wolverines.

School Colors: Royal blue and silver. Athletic Director: Aaron Helmick, 703-718-

2561.Football Coach: Jeremiah Ross (first year).

After dropping four of their first five games in 2013, the Wolverines battled back into playoff contention, but missed the postseason with a 4-6 record.

Cross Country Coach: Jenn Dietz. Volleyball Coach: Bob Lombardi. Boys' Basketball Coach: David Houston III. Baseball coach: Jim Sullivan. Boys' soccer coach: Andrew Peck

Rival Schools: Mount Vernon, T.C. Williams.

What happened last year: Then-senior Katie Genuario earned all-state cross country honors. The boys' basketball team qualified for the region tournament. The boys' soccer team reached the region semifinals. The baseball team finished Conference 7 runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals. The softball team reached the region quarterfinals.

Quotable: "We played three of the best teams in Northern Virginia [during the region tournament] and knocked two of the three out.

We gave these guys a run for their money, it just came to the very end and they put the ball in the back of the net and we couldn't. We had some chances, but they pulled it out, made it happen." ----Boys' soccer coach Andrew Peck after the Wolverines lost to Washington-Lee in the region semifinals.

... St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Sports

School: St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. Mascot: Saints.

School Colors: Red, white, green and gold

Athletic Director: Stephanie Koroma (girls), 703-212-2776; Andrew Taibl (boys) 703-212-2775.

Football Coach: Bernard Joseph (fourth year)

The Saints failed to win a game in 2013, finishing 0-9.

Field Hockey Coach: Alicia Grater. Boys' Basketball Coach: Ron Ginyard. Girls' Basketball Coach: Calvin Crenshaw.

Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Andrew Taibl. Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Kathy Jenkins. Rival School: Episcopal.

What happened last year: The boys' soccer team won IAC and state championships. The field hockey team beat Holton-Arms to win the ISL tournament title. The boys' lacrosse team defeated St. 16 S Mount Vernon Gazette S Newconers & Community Guide 2014-15



The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes boys' soccer team won the 2013 VISAA state championship.

Christopher's to win the state title. The girls' lacrosse team finished 29-2, winning the ISL championship and finishing state runnerup.

Quotable: "Until we get past that hump, I'm feeling like Marv Levy and the Buffalo Bills." — Boys' soccer coach Bo Amato, whose teams had reached the state semifinals four years in row but failed to a win a title prior to the 2013 season.

... Bishop Ireton Sports

School: Bishop Ireton High School. Mascot: Cardinals.

School Colors: Burgundy and gold. Athletic Director: Bill Simmons, 703-

212-5169 Football Coach: Tony Verducci (eighth vear).

The Cardinals won two of their first three games in 2013, lost their next five and ended the year with victories over Potomac School and Pope John Paul the Great to finish the season with a 4-6 record.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Neil Berkman.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Derek Campbell.

Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Rick Sofield. Baseball Coach: Rex Thomas.

Rival School: Bishop O'Connell.

What happened last year: The girls' lacrosse team won WCAC and VISAA state championships. The boys' basketball team posted a winning record and defeated



Kelly Larkin, left, and the Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse team won a pair of championships in 2014.

Bishop O'Connell in the WCAC tournament quarterfinals.

Ouotable: "It was so surreal. It was amazing. We've been working for 11 months, so we deserved it. It was the greatest feeling in the world." - Charlotte Sofield on winning the WCAC girls' lacrosse championship.



Exterior shot of Eleanor U. Kennedy Shelter located at 9155 Richmond Highway.



New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michell and others visit a homeless camp during the 100,000 Homes outreach week in 2013.



Exterior shot of Mondloch Place, a housing program for 20 chronically homeless adults, located at 3516 Lockheed Blvd.

Ending Homelessness in Mount Vernon and All of the County

ucked away in the Potomac Square center on Route 1 is the administration office for New Hope Housing, a nearly 40year-old nonprofit that has been working to help and house the most vulnerable neighbors across Northern Virginia.

Founded in 1977 as Route One Corridor Housing, New Hope Housing opened the first homeless shelter in Fairfax County, Mondloch House, in 1978. This shelter provided a safe and clean place for eight adults. Since those beginnings, New Hope Housing has expanded programs providing housing and shelter for both adults and families with children. Today it operates programs in Fairfax County, Falls Church, Alexandria

City, and Arlington County, that house or shelter more than 300 homeless children, women

"We are here to serve our community and to end homelessness. Different people come to us with different needs, and we want to be sure that we can help anyone who comes through our doors," said Pamela L. Michell, New Hope Housing's executive director for 24 years. "Our goal for everyone is the same: a home and bright future for every man, woman, and child in our community."

Here in Mount Vernon, New Hope Housing operates the Eleanor U. Kennedy Homeless Shelter for Adults; Next Steps shelter program for families; Mondloch House shelter for adults; Mondloch Place, a building

with 20 efficiency apartments for chronically homeless adults; Mobile Medical Outreach, and partners with Ventures in Community (VIC) and Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church to provide a hypothermia shelter during the winter months.

Residents at each of the shelter programs get things you would expect: food, clothing, and a clean bed. But they also receive intensive case management and are expected to work with case managers on individual plans to achieve employment and housing. "Housing our homeless neighbors is possible and the best possible thing we can do for our community. It's better for them and less expensive for the community to house everyone," said Michell.

OUT & ABOUT

Mount Vernon Community Theatre

1900 Elkin St., Alexandria. MVCCT's programs are twofold: each year three to four productions are presented, directed by professionals and featuring children in all roles. Additionally MVCCT, a nonprofit, has an active education program which includes after-school programs in Fairfax County Public Schools (both PTA sponsored and outreach/ grant based), as well as a spring break and summer camp. 703-360-0686 or http://mvcct.org/.

FRIDAY/NOV. 14

Oliver! Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Come watch "Oliver!" based on the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. The show also runs in the evening on the 15, 21 and 22. Matinee performances are on

Serving Animals

Fairfax County Animal Shelter

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter (FCAS) estimates that between 4,000 and 5,000 small animals come through its doors each year, according to its website. The shelter deals primarily with dogs and cats, but also other small animals like rabbits and birds. A foster program is available through FCAS for the care of dogs and cats, and families who wish to be part of the foster program must go through a training session before taking animals into their homes. Other volunteer opportunities with the shelter range from telephone assistant to pet groomer and bather to cat socializer. Potential volunteers may submit an online application at fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter, and must attend a volunteer orientation. For more information on volunteering or adopting a pet, visit the shelter's website, or call 703-830-1100.

Humane Society of Fairfax County

The Humane Society of Fairfax County (HSFC) has a main office in Fairfax and a farm in Centreville. The farm is home to horses as well as nearly 30 dogs, according to HSFC Corresponding

New Hope Housing is one of several organizations working to end homelessness in Fairfax County. Partners include FACETS, Northern Virginia Family Services, Good Shepherd Housing, Cornerstones and the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. The annual count of homeless persons in Fairfax County took place the night of Jan. 29, 2014: 1,225 people were counted as literally homeless on that day alone. This is a declining number in the county, but there's more work to do. To get involved contact New Hope Housing's volunteer coordinator, Nicole Allen, at nallen@newhopehousing.org or 703-799-2293 ext 22. Learn more at www.newhopehousing.org.

the 16 and 23. Check back at http:// www.mvcct.org/ for more info.

SATURDAY/FEB.7, 2015

The Beverly Hillbillies. Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Come watch "The Beverly Hillbillies" in the evening on the 7, 13 and 14. Matinee performances are on the 16 and 23. Check back at http:// www.mvcct.org/ for more info.

Mount Vernon Inn at George Washington's Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon Inn at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Listen to live music while enjoying a meal on the grounds of the first president's home.

Secretary Marlene Hammer. A full-time manager lives at the farm to take care of the animals there. The HSFC's main office is also home to the cats

that are available for adoption through the group. Rather than being housed in crates, the cats are allowed to roam around in rooms at the shelter.

The Humane Society operates almost entirely on a volunteer basis. Aside from sheltering animals, they offer a pet food pantry as a service to the community and operate a thrift shop next door to the Fairfax location. For more information, visit hsfc.org, or call 703-385-7387.

Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (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. AWLA cares for wild as well as domestic animals, from deer to possums to raccoons. Opportunities to foster puppies and kittens are also available through AWLA. For more information or to learn how to volunteer with AWLA, visit alexandriaanimals.org, or call 703-838-4774.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce

The chamber serves over 425 businesses in

the Mount Vernon and Lee districts. www.mtvernon-leechamber.org/

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation

SFDC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the redevelopment and revitalization of Richmond Highway/U.S. Route 1 from I-495 to Fort Belvoir. In the past 32 years, SFDC has helped direct nearly \$2 billion of private investment to the Richmond Highway corridor. www.sfdc.org.

Asian American

Chamber of Commerce

Located in Tysons, it offers programs to Asian and Pacific business communities in the region. www.asian-americanchamber.org/

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association

MVCCA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization of citizens' associations in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District of Fairfax County which represents and promote the interests of its member associations with eight standing committees including Budget and Finance, Consumer Affairs, Education, Environment and Recreation, Health and Human Services, Planning and Zoning, Public Safety and Transportation. mvcca.org/about.html.

Pakistan American Business Association Inc.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. 703-627-1500 or www.pabausa.org/

between Pakistan and the United States of

Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce

The Alexandria-based organization provides resources to black-owned businesses in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties. www.novabcc.org/

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Northern Virginia

Located in Herndon, the organization serves businesses lead by and those that work with the Hispanic community in the area. www.hccnva.org/.

U.S. Lebanese

Chamber of Commerce

A privately held business association founded in 2010 offering networking and resources to Lebanese Americans. 703-761-4949.

Afghan American

Chamber of Commerce

AACC provides resources to members through business advice, conferences, seminars, networking events, publications and other avenues to stimulate U.S.-Afghanistan business and investment; also, sector-based Working Groups seek to reduce impediments to business and market progress for members. AACC also serves as a link between the private sector and government to encourage economic policies that result in increased business and investment between the U.S. and Afghanistan. 703-442-5005 or www.a-acc.org/.

Mount Vernon Gazette 🔹 Newconers & Community Guide 2014-15 🔹 17

ENTERTAINMENT

A sampling of annual COMMUNITY EVENTS.

August 2014

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

Big Chalk Draw. 8-10 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Mount Vernon. This is a free community art event. Once again school supplies and back packs will be collected to benefit children in need in the area. Call 703-201-1250 or visit www.artatthecenter.org.

September 2014

Wine in the Water Park. 6-10 p.m. Crystal City Water Park, 1750 Crystal Drive. Combines sips and sounds to create an outdoor event featuring interesting wine varietals and music in the neighborhood's signature Crystal City Water Park. Every Friday in September. Visit crystalcity.org.

MONDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 1-7

Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. This exhibition represents the depth and breadth of contemporary functional and sculptural ceramic artworks being created throughout the country. Visit www.workhouseceramics.org/ index.php?p=1_15_Clay-National-2014

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

- 24th Annual Rosslyn Jazz Festival. 1-7 p.m. Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway, Arlington. Artists to headline the festival include Corey Wallace DUBtet (1 p.m.), Ghost Train Orchestra (2:15 p.m.), Brooklyn eight-piece band Red Baraat (3:45 p.m.) and New Orleans Grammy winners Rebirth Brass Band (5:30 p.m.). Free to the public. Visit
- www.rosslynva.org/jazz for more. Memorial 5K. 6 p.m. in Crystal City, Arlington. Honors the victims, firefighters, and public safety who responded on Sept. 11, 2001. \$35-40 entry fee. Arlington911race.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

- Craft and Family Fun Fair. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Mount Vernon. Connect with old friends and neighbors. Cold drinks and luncheon items from the St. Luke's grill will be available, along with a gourmet bake sale featuring cakes, pies, cookies and brownies made by St. Luke's finest cooks. There also will be fresh produce from a nearby farm. Entertainment will be provided by a guest guitarist and two local pianists. For children, there will be a moonbounce, face-painting and games. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net or call 703-765-4342 for more.
- Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ ArtMarket for more.

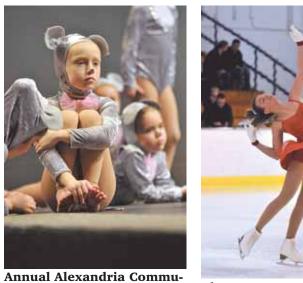
SATURDAY-WEDNESDAY/SEPT.13-24 Northern Virginia Senior

Olympics. Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton. volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit www.nvso.us for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 13-14

King Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-7p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Old Town, King Street, Alexandria. At this community

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nity Nutcracker performances are held in the Springbank Auditorium at West Potomac High School during the first weekend in **December.** Hope Sawyer, playing a mouse, watches the unfolding of the scene with her fellow mice during a dress rehearsal for the 2013 show.

festival, art enthusiasts can discover spectacular paintings, life-size sculptures, jewelry, photography, ceramics and more. Visit www.artfestival.com for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

Vintage Crystal: Sip and Salsa. 2-6 p.m. 220 20th St. Sip and Salsa brings wines from Spain, Portugal and Argentina together with tastes from restaurants in Crystal City and the region. Live Latin jazz and salsa dancing and lessons round out the action for an afternoon outdoors. Tickets cost \$20 and include wine and food tastes. \$10 designated driver tickets include food tastes. Visit crystalcity.org for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

Mount Vernon Colonial Market and Fair. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Fifty colonial-attired artisans demonstrate 18th-century crafts and sell traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, furniture and much more. Visit www.mountvernon.org/plan-yourvisit/calendar/events/colonialmarket-fair/

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 20-21 2nd Annual Arlington Festival of

the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Highland Street in the Clarendon District, Arlington. More than 100 artists will showcase their work including paintings, jewelry, pottery, glass, and much more. Visit artfestival.com. Mount Vernon Marketplace. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Visit a recreation of an early American marketplace with crafts, entertainment and more hand at 18th century cricket and enjoy evening programs. Children \$9, adults \$18. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.MountVernon.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

Pups and Pilsners. 2-6 p.m. 1400

Crystal Drive, Arlington. Fly solo or ♦ Mount Vernon Gazette ♦ Newconers & Community Guide 2014-15



Vernon RECenter. bring Fido to the Pups and Pilsners outdoor beer festival. This dog-friendly festival features a beer garden with multiple stations. Visit www.crystalcity.org/do for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

Clarendon Day. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Near Clarendon Metro station, 3100 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. A celebration of the Clarendon neighborhood and a showcase for the people who make the neighborhood great with activities, live entertainment and food. Visit www.clarendon.org/clarendon-day.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

Blues and Brews. 5-8 p.m. 2121 Crystal Drive. Come to Blues & Brews and enjoy beverages from the Beer Garden, not to mention drinks handselected by experts at Crystal City's Washington Wine Academy and Crystal City Wine Shop. Visit crystalcity.org for more.

October 2014

Clarendon Truck Rally. 6:30-9 p.m. 3140 N. Washington Blvd., Arlington. The Clarendon Truck Rally will be offering sampling of some of the area food trucks Thursdays in October. Each week will feature a few meal trucks, a sweet dessert truck along with a boutique truck. Visit www.facebook.com/LinkLocale/ events.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 3-5 Fall Wine Festival and Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon

Estate, 3200 George Washington Memorial Pkwy., Mount Vernon. Enjoy live blues and spectacular views of the Potomac River while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries. Visitors learn about the successes and failures of our Founding Father's wine endeavors, enjoy live blues music, and meet "George and Martha Washington" on the Mansion's piazza. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 4

Art on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 2301 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. A multicultural arts festival celebrating the community's diversity through the arts in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria



Asher Ager, Henry Wild and Quinn Bloom smooth out the piles of mulch just added to the front garden at Hollin Meadows as the school celebrates Earth Day.

Virginia. Visit

www.artontheavenue.org for more. 15th Annual Mid-Atlantic **Oktoberfest.** Noon-7 p.m. at The Village at Shirlington, 4001 Campbell Ave., Arlington. More than 60 breweries giving out 4 ounce samples, local food vendors, an authentic German band and authentic Oktoberfest food. \$30 for those who sample beer, includes a tasting glass and 10 tickets: free to others. Additional tickets will be sold for \$1 each. Oktoberfest 2014 will be held rain or shine. Visit www.capcitybrew.com/ oktoberfest14.php for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 5

Woodrow Wilson Bridge Marathon. 7 a.m. Starts at Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and ends at National Harbor, Md. Packet pick up Oct. 3, 4-8:30 p.m. and Oct. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the U.S. Patents and Trade Office, 600 Dulany St. Minimum age is 13. Half marathon: \$105, for military: \$95. 6K: \$45, For police, fire and EMTs: \$40. After Aug. 31, prices will increase by \$10. Visit register.wilsonbridgehalf.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

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

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-19

Freedomwalk Festival. The US FreedomWalk Festival is a weekend long, non-competitive, social walking challenge bringing participants of all ages and abilities together for fun, fitness, and international friendship.Different trails will be offered each day, and a variety of distances ranging from 3-27 miles (5-43 kilometers) starting at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 N Fort Myer Drive. Visit www.rosslynva.org/do for more.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 23-26

Marine Corps Marathon. Arlington. Various times and locations through the weekend. A weekend of events leading up to the race. Visit www.marinemarathon.com/ to register and for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 25

Volunteer Fest 2014. A region-wide day of community service that

mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to help nonprofits accomplish tasks that they would not have the time or resources to do on their own. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/nonprofits/volunteerfest.php.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 25-26

Fall Harvest Family Days. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy autumn activities including wagon rides, wheat treating, 18th-century dancing demonstration, and straw bale maze, and more. Included in estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

November 2014

TUESDAY/NOV. 4

Election Day. General Election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ upcoming.htm

TUESDAY/NOV. 11

Arlington National Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony. Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington. About 5,000 visitors attend the annual remembrance ceremonies in the Memorial Amphitheater. Visit www.arlingtoncemetery.mil.

Veterans Day Memorial Service. 11 a.m. at the Rocky Versace Memorial at Mount Vernon Community Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave, Alexandria.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Alexandria Tree Lighting. 7-9 p.m. Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Annual event featuring lighting the City tree, performances and a visit from Santa to open the Christmas season. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Calendar.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28 -TUESDAY/JAN. 6

Christmas in Mount Vernon. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees on the estate estive greenery in the Mansion. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ christmas.

December 2014

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

44th Annual Campagna Center



Celebrating the holidays at the Mount Vernon Estate. Dr. James Craik (Tom Plott) introduces visitors to Aladdin the Christmas camel.

Scottish Walk Parade. 11 a.m. Old Town Alexandria, parade begins at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets. More than 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and drum bands, Scottish dancers, reenactment groups, Scottie dogs, dignitaries and, of course, Santa Claus will march through the streets of Old Town. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/events/ scottish-christmas-walk-weekend or www.visitalexandriava.com/events/ 44th-Annual-Campagna-Center-Scottish-Walk-Parade/983/.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Events take place through out the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit www.firstnight alexandria.org for more.

February 2015

MID-FEBRUARY

Community Tax Assistance Day. Fairfax SkillSource Center, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Suite 300 West, Annandale. The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free assistance with 2015 Federal and state tax returns for households with a total income of \$52,000 or less. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/ individuals/vita.php.

March 2015

SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH

Clarendon Mardi Gras Parade. Annual parade to celebrating Fat Tuesday. Visit www.clarendon.org/ mardi-gras/.

April 2015

SATURDAY/APRIL 18-25

Historic Garden Week. This eight day statewide event provides visitors a unique opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with over 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

May 2015

SUNDAY/MAY 17

Taste of Arlington. A festival showcasing Arlington's food scene and benefitting the Arlington Food Assistance Center. More than 50 restaurants participate in this community event, outside the Ballston Mall on Wilson Blvd. Rain or shine. Visit www.ballstonbid.com/ taste for more.

MONDAY/MAY 25

Memorial Day Jazz Concert. 1-6

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

p.m. at Waterfront Park, Alexandria. A variety of jazz performances take place throught the concert. Waterfront Park features lawn seating and the attendees may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Food, such as barbeque, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones and funnel cakes are available for purchase, but everyone is welcome to pack a picnic lunch. Pets should be left at home. Admission is free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation.

where I've finally

found my family."

-Helena Scott

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-2

Chantilly Connection

Mount Vernon Gazette

June 2015

FRIDAYS IN JUNE

Vintage Crystal: Wine in the Water Park. 10 p.m. Crystal City Water Park, 1750 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Live music and wine-sipping every Friday in June. Visit www.crystalcity.org/do/wine-in-thewater-park21.

July 2015

SECOND SATURDAY IN JULY

USA and Alexandria Birthday Celebration. Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, Alexandria. Celebrate Alexandria's 265th birthday along the Potomac waterfront with fireworks, cake and live music. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/events/ USA-Alexandria-Birthday-Celebration/6607.

August 2015

- Summer Restaurant Week. Mid-August, in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and West End. Menu options vary by location. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301 for more.
- 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/ for more.

TUESDAY/AUG. 4

National Night Out. A celebration across America to heighten police awareness and enhance community relations. Visit www.natw.org for local events.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 5-9

Arlington County Fair. Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 Second St. S., Arlington, One of the largest free events on the East Coast with competitive exhibits, midway rides and games, entertainment, vendors and more. Visit arlingtoncountyfair.us.



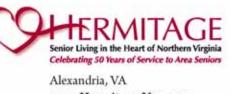
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Erin S. & Chris I.

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James B.

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Alex M.

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