

'Reports and Tears Are Not Enough'

Protesters demonstrate for Natasha McKenna, social justice and improved mental health services at ad hoc police review commission public hearing.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Cayce Utley of Centreville said Natasha McKenna, the 37-year-old African American woman with mental illness who died in the Sheriff's Office custody in February, must be "more than just a mistake, more than an accident. Black women aren't your 'Oops,' they aren't your teachable moments."

Utley was one of nearly 30 individuals and organization representatives who spoke at the Sept. 14 public forum for the Fairfax County ad hoc commission to review police policies.

Though the work of the commission is focused mainly on the Police Department and came about largely as a result of the way the county handled the 2013 officer-involved shooting death of Springfield man John Geer, the forum provided residents with an opportunity to both hear the final recommendation report from the commission's Use of Force subcommittee and voice their frustration about McKenna's death and the lack of services for individuals with mental illness. When Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid released footage last week of



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Amanda Moore (left) of Annapolis and formerly of Kingstowne, and Mike Curtis (right) of Manassas protest outside Walt Whitman Middle School prior to the Sept. 14 public forum held by the Fairfax County ad hoc police policies review commission.

McKenna being forced to the ground outside her cell in the Adult Detention Center by six male deputies, then restrained, shocked with an electricity conduction device or "taser," and later losing consciousness and a heartbeat, it sparked outrage in the community.

RESIDENTS from all over Fairfax County, as well as Maryland and

Washington, DC, filled the auditorium at Walt Whitman Middle School to capacity. Many were holding signs they had brought to demonstrate for McKenna in front of the school prior to the meeting.

Throughout the forum, several demonstrators cried out "Say Her Name!" ("Natasha McKenna!") and other exclamations condemning the graphic scenes from the

video, continued violent treatment of people of color by law enforcement and asking what was being done about it.

Erika Totten of Alexandria compared McKenna's death to the "casual slave killing" act in the Virginia code from 1669. "This is what we're dealing with today," she said. "Her death was ruled as an accident. I have a problem with

that. Natasha is me. Your reports and tears are not enough."

"Their anger is understandable," said Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) who attended the meeting but did not speak publicly. "You can't look at the video without saying this could have, should have been avoided."

"The fact they're here, expressing angst over the case and how we deal with mental illness, is something the community needed to hear, they needed to be listened to," Hyland continued.

Before beginning the forum, commission chairman Michael Herschman called on Use of Force subcommittee chairman Phil Niedzielski-Eichner to review the group's final recommendations to the full commission.

Niedzielski-Eichner explained that the subcommittee's work was "substantially augmented and facilitated" by a June 2015 report from the Police Executive Research Forum that included 71 recommendations for policy changes.

Among its 40 recommendations, the subcommittee called for a more clear and concise use of force policy, the collection and maintenance of "robust demographic data on all detentions and use of force," limiting the use of SWAT

SEE 'REPORTS', PAGE 16

Protesters Gather Prior to Public Forum

Alexandra and Angelo Napoli live near Walt Whitman Middle School in the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria. They stood, stoic, with signs reading "Say Her Name: Natasha McKenna" outside the school among a few dozen other protesters. The effort was organized through Facebook by the organization Northern Virginia Cop Block.

Conversations about how Natasha McKenna died have "been hushed," said Alexandra Napoli, "It hasn't been talked about."

This is our community, we're supposed to find safety in our police force."

Watching the video of McKenna being forced to the ground outside her cell at the Fairfax County Adult

Detention Center, then restrained, shocked with an electricity conducting device or "taser" and ultimately dying in the custody of the Sheriff's Office, makes Alexandra Napoli "feel afraid."

"This is where we live," she said. "Whether there's a misunderstanding or not, this happens."

Amanda Moore used to live in Kingstowne, though now lives in Annapolis. "Whether it's in Maryland or Virginia, these people are paid to protect us," she said. "The video is just horrific, there's no defending it."

Mike Curtis of Manassas, with NOVA Cop Block, said, "It's not that anyone here is anti-police, we're anti-police killing people."

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Siblings Alexandra (right) and Angelo (left) Napoli carry "Say Her Name" signs to encourage people to talk about what happened to Natasha McKenna.

Video of McKenna Incident Released

Three days after Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrow announced he had concluded his investigation of Natasha McKenna's death while in the custody of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff

Stacey Kincaid released the video of the incident. Her justification for not releasing it sooner was that it had previously been evidence in an ongoing investigation.

The 48-minute video, available at www.fairfaxva.gov, SEE VIDEO, PAGE 16

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9/11 Heroes Run

Inaugural event benefits Fort Belvoir Fisher House and the Travis Manion Foundation.

The inaugural Alexandria 9/11 Heroes Run (5K) was held Saturday, Sept. 12, at Carl Sandburg Middle School to raise funds for the Fort Belvoir Fisher House and the Travis Manion Foundation (TMF).

Despite a rainy start, the event attracted more than 900 runners, and hundreds of volunteers and spectators. Highlighting the event were a patriotic opening ceremony, a classic car display, a free pancake breakfast and dozens of sponsors and vendors. Terrence Yarborough, principal of Carl Sandburg Middle School, was the official starter for the race, and Col. (Retired) Greg Gadson, former U.S. Army Garrison Commander at Fort Belvoir, and Fairfax County Police Chief Ed Roessler delivered pre-race remarks. West Potomac High School student Anna Bozard kicked off the event by singing "The Star Spangled Banner."

"We could not have had such a successful event without the support of more than 150 volunteers," race director Jim O'Farrell said.

The 9/11 Heroes Run is a 5K race series held each September across the United States with the support of local communities. Its purpose is to remember the sacrifices of military and first responders and raise funds to provide support. From a few hundred people in 2007, the 9/11 Heroes Run now encompasses more than 50 communities. Last year more than 50,000 participants joined to run, volunteer, donate, and cheer.

TMF is named for Travis Manion, a Marine Corps 1st Lieutenant and graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy who was killed in Iraq in 2007. As event planners were preparing for the event, they discovered that Manion grew up on Bainbridge Road in the Fort Hunt area until he was 10 years old, attended Hollin Meadows Elementary School and played for the Fort Hunt Football team.

Proceeds from the event will also benefit the Fisher House at Fort Belvoir. The Fisher House Foundation provides temporary, free lodging for military families at major military and VA medical centers throughout

SEE HUNDREDS ATTEND, PAGE 6



Members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department raise the American flag using platform ladder trucks.



Col. Greg Gadson USA (Ret.) speaks with Carl Sandburg Middle School Principal Terrence Yarborough.



Boy Scouts from Troop 888 assist IHOP in making more than 2,400 pancakes for the run. Above are Nick Mason, Hain Henderson, John Boswell, Jason and Justin LaKier, David Anderson, and, from IHOP, Elmer Parada.



The Angle family



Participants take off from the starting line for the 9/11 Heroes Run.



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OBITUARY

Christopher Kim Weidman

Christopher Kim Weidman, 32, died of cardiac arrest on Sept. 4, 2015, at Oklahoma State University Hospital in Tulsa, Okla. He was born on Nov. 17, 1982 in Alexandria.

Chris was a 2015 graduate of Rhema Bible Training College in Broken Arrow, Okla., where he earned a degree in Biblical Studies and was actively involved in the street evangelism team. He was also a 2006 graduate of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he studied Small Business Administration and Music, and a 2001



graduate of West Potomac High School. Before attending Rhema, Chris worked for Charles Schwab in Phoenix, Ariz.

Christopher is survived by his parents, Stanley and Sook Hee Weidman, his sister and brother-in-law, Katie and Joe Wolf,

and his nephews Caleb, Joshua, Moses, and Asher Wolf of Alexandria.

The visitation and funeral will be held at 10 and 11 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 18 at Demaine Funeral Home in Alexandria. Interment will be at Mount Comfort Cemetery.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

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BUSINESS

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Variety Store sells more than 12,000 items.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

“Experience the Nostalgia of an Old Five and Dime Store.” This statement is inscribed on the Variety Store business card, and reflects its commitment to the old school approach to retail store customer service. The iconic Variety Store, located on Fort Hunt Road in Mount Vernon is, according to the owners, a landmark in the Washington metropolitan area. They held the store’s 30th annual sidewalk sale on Saturday, Sept. 12. Other retail stores in the immediate area that participated in the sidewalk sale were the 529 Hollin Hall Consignment Boutique, and the InItial Impressions retail store.

According to Douglas and Deborah Bentley, their Variety Store sells more than 12,000 different items. “If you can’t find the item you are looking for here, then it is not likely you will find it anywhere else,” said Douglas Bentley, a resident of the area since 1961 who, along with his wife Deborah, bought the Variety Store seven years ago. They have two children, Douglas Jr., and Michal.

The store was first established in 1958 and has been a magnet for local Fort Hunt and Mount Vernon area shoppers ever since. According to the Bentleys, approximately 85 percent of their customers are lo-



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

Douglas and Deborah Bentley, the Variety Store owners.

SEE ESTABLISHED, PAGE 9

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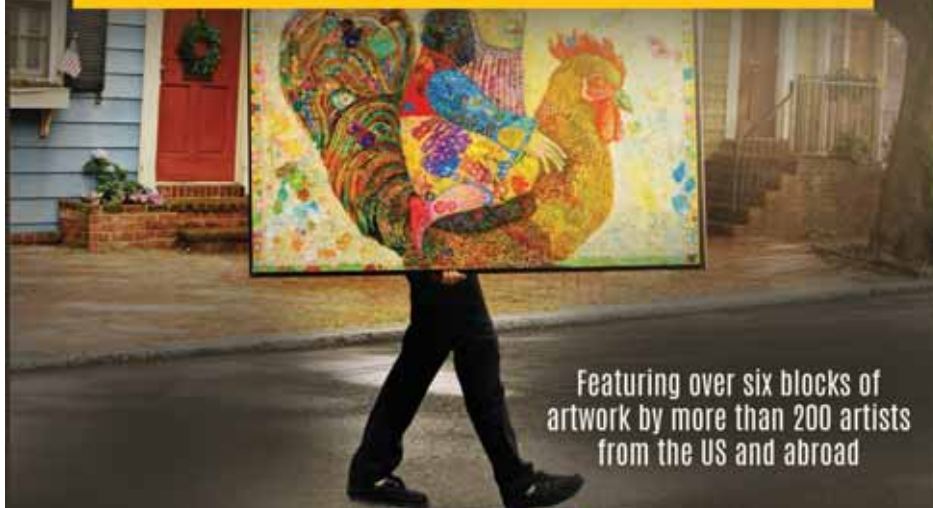
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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Hundreds Attend 9/11 Heroes Run

FROM PAGE 3

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PHOTOS BY CHUCK BOTTS

Greeted through Song

A group of veterans arriving at Reagan National Airport Wednesday morning, Sept. 9, were greeted with patriotic music sung by a group of men who are mostly veterans themselves. The Harmony Heritage Singers, a men's barbershop chorus based in the Mount Vernon neighborhood, is one of several local groups who volunteer to provide music for a program known as Honor Flights. The program arranges for veterans who served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to be flown to Washington to see the memorials built in their honor. The Harmony Heritage Singers rehearse at Sherwood Regional Library and give more than 25 performances each year, most at retirement communities or assisted living facilities. Above, Chorus Director Bob Wachter greets arriving veterans as chorus members sing.

Chorus president David Weaver and director Bob Wachter greet arriving veterans.



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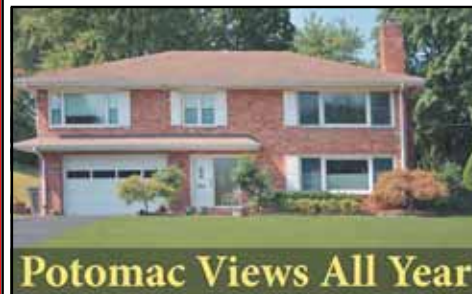
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OPINION

Treatment Denied Syndrome

Natasha McKenna's blood is on all of our hands.

BY PETE EARLEY

Natasha McKenna did not die from excited delirium. She died from Treatment Denied Syndrome.* Commonwealth Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh's 51-page investigative report about the death of the 37-year-old woman contains a horrifying litany of attempts by McKenna to seek help for her mental illness only to be met with ineptness and indifference.

Rather than being welcomed when she appeared in area emergency rooms, she either was shown the door without receiving help or was discharged before being stabilized. In one instance, she was stuffed into a cab less than four days after being so violent that she needed to be restrained to prevent her from harming herself or others. In another, a police officer and magistrate overruled a doctor who twice tried to get McKenna hospitalized. In a third, she was discharged from one INOVA hospital at 12:30 p.m., only to reappear at another INOVA emergency room at 10 p.m. on the same day. The medical personnel's solution was not to help her but to call the police and have her arrested. Taken to jail, she was stripped naked, held in solitary and stuck in bureaucratic limbo for several days. When it came time to move her, she was stunned with a taser four times and died.

If the lack of treatment McKenna received while she was alive was not enough, she was further abused in death. Relying on "junk science," Medical Examiner Dr. Jocelyn Posthumus declared the cause of McKenna's death to be excited delirium — a make-believe syndrome not recognized as real by the American Psychiatric Association, American Medical Association or the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) of the World Health Organization.

No matter, that diagnosis allowed Fairfax Prosecutor Morrogh to drive in the final nail. Declaring at a press conference that McKenna possessed super-human strength and quoting a deputy who described McKenna as being demonically possessed, the Commonwealth Attorney stripped away what little dignity was left for this woman whose only real crime was that she got sick.

The release of a sheriff's video of McKenna being removed from her cell — naked and afraid — visually disputed Morrogh's characterizations. McKenna walked from her cell in handcuffs and was knocked to the floor by a squad of men who never showed any signs of losing control of her or of having their lives threatened.

This week, two important meetings could help set the agenda for change. On Monday Sept. 14, the Ad Hoc Police Practices Commission was scheduled to discuss the use of force by law enforcement in Fairfax. On Tuesday night, Sept. 15, community leaders planned to meet to discuss how to create a jail diversion system to keep individuals such as McKenna from being incarcerated. Nearly 50

community leaders attended the inaugural Diversion First meeting last month. (Morrogh did not.)

The ideas being suggested by Diversion First are not new. They were first brought to the attention of Fairfax officials more than a decade ago but were never implemented because of a lack of funding, a lack of interest and a lack of leadership.

Natasha McKenna paid with her life because of that. Who's to blame?

Like the biblical Pontius Pilate washing his hands of Christ's blood, nearly everyone who crossed paths with McKenna during the last month of her life can claim blamelessness. Thanks to Dr. Posthumus and Prosecutor Morrogh, McKenna is not only the victim but perpetrator of her own death.

The unanswered question is whether Fairfax County — its leaders and its citizens — have learned anything from this tragedy or if they will continue washing their hands and reassuring themselves that there was nothing any of them could do — after all, Natasha McKenna was mentally ill.

* Treatment Denied Syndrome is a term first used by a long time National Alliance on Mental Illness advocate to describe our nation's lack of mental health services and callous disregard for persons with mental disorders.

Pete Earley is author of 13 books including the New York Times bestseller 'The Hot House' and the 2007 Pulitzer Prize finalist 'Crazy: A Father's Search Through America's Mental Health Madness,' former Washington Post reporter, a resident of Fairfax, and a member of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Tag Day Thank You

To the Editor:

The following is an open letter to the community.
Wow. Our kids knocked on your doors, and you responded with incredible generosity. We cannot thank you enough.

This year's Tag Day featured a record number of kids out there working hard (in the rain!) — and you matched their enthusiasm with a

record donation amount. There were 226 students from band, chorus, guitar, orchestra and theatre going door-to-door, explaining why they love West Po's performing arts programs so much. The result? A whopping \$28,000 that'll make an immediate difference by funding instruments, costumes, equipment, staffing, travel and other critical components of a top-notch learning experience.

We truly hope that you'll tape our "tag" up on your refrigerator, and come to see as many of our performances as you can. Our students are eager to show you what they're learning, thanks to you.

If you weren't home on Saturday, you can go to www.wolverineband.com, click on Tag Day, and give online to the five performing arts groups. You can also mail a check made out to WPBPO to West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Rd., Alexandria, VA 22307.

The West Potomac Performing Arts Department

A Step Forward

To the Editor:

On this past Thursday evening, our group held its monthly meeting at which time our guest was Captain Shawn C. Martin, Commander of the Fairfax County Police Mount

Vernon District Station. We concluded that Captain Martin is dedicated to making the Mount Vernon District a better and safer place for everyone. He has our pledge to work together for him to make his job a success. We are satisfied that Captain Martin and his police officers will perform their difficult jobs with respect to our community and in compliance with the law. We urge you to support these fine men and women who are sworn to serve and protect us.

Nicholas R. Beltrante
Executive Director
Virginia Citizens Coalition
for Police Accountability, Inc.

WRITE US

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

Letters to the Editor, The Gazette
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-917-6444 or email
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Mount Vernon Gazette

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

West Potomac sophomores David Zahniser, Henry Drembus and Halen Anderson were three of the 226 students who braved the rain Saturday to raise funds for the performing arts.

BUSINESS

Established in 1958

FROM PAGE 5

cal, with another 15 percent coming from elsewhere in the region — City of Alexandria, elsewhere in Fairfax County, and Maryland. How do they survive in an era of big box stores with their large inventories and lower prices? Douglas Bentley answers that it is the personal touch, the friendly atmosphere, and the constant change and relevance of their inventory that keeps customers coming back.

“The Variety Store is one of the last of its kind,” he said. “A Five and Dime general store, where a family can go and find whatever they need from toys, party goods, housewares, fabrics and notions, candy, crafts, Lego, school supplies, canning supplies, pet sup-

plies, candles, greeting cards, kitchen ware, and many more items. If you can’t find it in our store, we will try and find it for you. When you walk into our store you will feel like you stepped back to 1958. The nostalgia and atmo-

sphere of the store and the infinite variety of items takes you back to an earlier time. Deborah and I, and our friendly staff are always there to assist you with your questions. The Variety Store continues to be successful because of the support of the

community, the variety of items, and the friendly personal touch we offer to our customers.”

The Variety Store is located at 7902 Fort Hunt Road. Phone is 703-765-4110 or email at hhvs@vacoxmail.com.

“If you can’t find the item you are looking for here, then it is not likely you will find it anywhere else.”

— Douglas Bentley, who, along with his wife Deborah, bought the Variety Store seven years ago



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Ending Bullying

Local educators offer advice for parents on how to deal with bullying as school resumes.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

When Carol Baker cried, no one heard her. She and a classmate were alone in the girls locker room, and as Baker, then an eighth grade student, tried to leave, her classmate grabbed her gym shirt and pushed her into a locker. They weren't fighting over anything in particular and Baker didn't sustain any physical injuries.

"I was awkward and easily intimidated," said Baker. "I was an easy target for someone who got pleasure out of scaring other people."

As she describes her pubescent encounter, Baker is still visibly shaken, even though the encounter happened more than 30 years ago. It could just as easily happen to her two children — a daughter in fifth grade and son in eighth grade — today. Bullying remains a real issue in schools, and from smart phone apps to in-school programs, there are a plethora of initiatives to address and prevent it.

"Most researchers agree that bullying is an intent to cause harm," said Michele Garofalo, Ed.D., chair of the Department of

Counseling and school counseling program director at Marymount University in Arlington. She is an expert in bullying, adolescent stress and character education.

Educators describe bullying as unwanted, aggressive behavior that is repeated and occurs where there is an imbalance of power, either real or perceived.

However, it's important to know the difference between teasing, exchanges between two people who simply don't like each other, and outright bullying. "Teasing can be hurtful, but the intention may not be to cause harm and an imbalance of power might not be there," said Garofalo, who also has a private therapy practice.

When offering in-the-moment strategies for addressing bullies, Garofalo says children's well-being comes first. "Most importantly, students should consider their safety," she said. "If they feel they are in danger, they should quickly leave the area and go to a safe place and tell an adult — school counselor, teacher, administrator, parent. Students should not stay and fight back."

Bullying is most likely to peak in sixth through ninth grades. "The early teen years is when it emerges, when there is a lot of identity development," said Amy Best,

Ph.D., chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University in Fairfax. Her research focuses on the study of youth identity formation, youth well-being and social inequalities. "Peer groups assume much greater importance for kids and kids are more self aware than they had been previously. There's not a lot of cross-gender or cross-race bullying."

If parents suspect a child has fallen victim to bullying, it helps if they already have open lines of communication and their kids feel comfortable talking to them. An effective dialogue is crucial when it comes to addressing the problem.

"The hard part is when kids don't want to talk about it, but parents should have on-going conversations with their kids," said Best. "It's useful to be able to create spaces where kids feel comfortable sharing."

ONE ROADBLOCK to assessing a potential bullying situation is when a child is reluctant to share or talk. Unfortunately, this is particularly common among the same age group most susceptible to bullying. "Yes and no questions won't glean the best information," said Lauren Keller, Lower and Middle School counselor at Bullis School in Potomac, Md. "Instead, parents should ask

Bullying Resources

Know Bullying phone app:

store.samhsa.gov/apps/knownbullying/index.html; www.stopbullying.gov; www.tolerance.org; stopcyberbullying.org; character.org/key-topics/bullying-prevention

Fairfax County Public Schools:

www.fcps.edu/dss/ips/ssaw/violenceprevention/bullyinginfo/definition.shtml

questions about relationships and times of day, such as: 'Who did you sit with at lunch? What did you do during recess and who were you with? Is there anyone you would like to make plans with for this weekend?'"

A new phone app comes to the aid of parents who might find initiating a conversation with their children daunting. It's called Know Bullying, and it offers conversation prompts, tips for preventing bullying and warning signs that a child might be a victim or a bully.

Local school districts and private schools have anti-bullying policies and plans in place. St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria hosts groups such as Lunch Bunch and Courageous Conversations, which are forums where "students can talk

SEE BULLYING, PAGE 11

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Advice about Bullying

FROM PAGE 10

candidly ... about their daily hopes and challenges," said Linda Stratton, director of communications at the school. "These groups also take leadership in fostering a community of respect."

Experts also urge parents to contact school counselors, administrators and classroom teachers to report bullying and to obtain more information. "If parents believe their child is a victim, they should consult the school counselor or mental health professional who can work with the child to examine feelings and come up with strategies to help the child cope," said Garofalo, who also advises parents to be vigilant for signs of depression, anxiety and suicidal ideation. If any of those danger signs appear, they should immediately contact a mental health professional for assessment and counseling.

If parents find it necessary to contact their child's school, the approach is important, and experts suggest sticking with specifics. "Labels are often unhealthy in some cases. Parents and other adults would do well to address the behavior in front of them," said Peter Braverman, founder of the education group ARC Professional Development in Bethesda, Md. "As a teacher or administrator, if you say, 'Josh is a bully,' I can't do anything about it, but if you say, 'Every time my son walks into Spanish class, Josh dumps his notebook on the floor,'" then I can address it."

AVOIDING LABELS also helps when confronting the child who is suspected of bullying. "One of the first things we hear from students is that they shut

off when they hear the word 'bully,'" said Erin O'Malley, dean of student services at Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington. "And we want the students to listen to us."

"Most kids don't want to be bullies," added Braverman. "Addressing specific actions and behaviors allows the kid to think, 'I'm a good person and I can modify these behaviors.' As an administrator, I have no problem calling your parents at work and telling them to come and pick you up. I'll help you change your behavior in any way I can, but if you do it again, you're going home."

Additionally, it is good for adults to focus on all parties involved in bullying. "There are three actors: the bully, the victim and the bystanders," Braverman continued. "The great irony is the bystanders are the ones who hold all the power."

Braverman knows this from experience. "The best class I ever graduated in 8th grade was the worst class I had in 6th grade. There were two boys in the class and for years one bullied the other, and one day one it stopped when [the victim] stood up to [the bully]. He got other kids to stand with him while he did it. If a powerful bystander stands next to the victim, the problem would stop immediately."

Garofalo is about to embark on a research project to study the role of bystanders in bullying situations.

Parents can also turn bullying situations into teaching opportunities, says Best. "Learning to deal with conflict and confronting problems are important life skills. Listen to kids first and then map out a plan of action."



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ENTERTAINMENT

Linking Old and New Symphonic Traditions

BY KIM ALLEN KLUGE
ALEXANDRIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

"Film music is a story conveyed and told in front of your eyes ... It's live classical music of fantastic standard and composition and performance... it adds to the symphonic music canon."

— Jasper Hope, COO of Royal Albert Hall

Where have all the symphonies gone? To the Silver Screen! Contemporary symphonic film composers are carrying on the tradition of Wagner, Tchaikovsky and Puccini by writing music that accompanies theatrical genres. Cinema has become sym-

MAESTRO'S MUSINGS phonic music's new concert hall. Film composers are creating a vast new global audience for symphonic music that transcends age, ethnicity and socio-economics, linking the old and new symphonic traditions — a circle unbroken. Each concert in the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra's 2015-2016 season focuses on one contemporary film composer and explores the composers and symphonic tradi-



pieces with fantastically exuberant music and orchestrations, including Gustav Holst's "The Planets," in its entirety. When George Lucas first approached John Williams to arrange "The Planets" for use as the film score to "Star Wars," Williams instead suggested he write an entirely original score that would be much better suited to the movie. He succeeded in writing one of the most celebrated film scores of all time.

The next concert of the season, "Whimsy & Wonderment," explores the profound influence that Prokofiev and Stravinsky ex-

tions that shaped that unique musical style.

The season opener, "The Fantastic," features music from John Williams's film scores to "ET" and "Star Wars." The concert includes orchestral show-

erted on the evolution of Danny Elfman's musical style. Fascinated by the macabre, sarcastic and parody-like elements in the music of these two Russian masters, Elfman incorporates this same whimsical quality through his scores to "Spiderman" and "Edward Scissorhands."

"The Dramatic" explores the influence of Verismo Italian opera on the musical style of "The Godfather's" composer Nino Rota. Director Martin Scorsese asked Rota to embody the "Verismo" sound in his film score. This emotionally supercharged Italian tradition of realism will be displayed in iconic pieces from the "Verismo" canon. The concert includes other masterpieces from this genre—the Intermezzo from Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana" featured in Scorsese's "Raging Bull" as well as arias from Puccini's "La Bohème" and "Madama Butterfly."

"Lushness & Lyricism" pairs James Newton Howard's lyrical setting of "Peter Pan" with three lushly Romantic masterpieces from the classical canon including the Waltz from Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake", Bruch's "Scottish Fantasy" and Smetana's "The

Moldau." The ASO welcomes back "America's violinist" Jenny Oaks Baker to headline "Scottish Fantasy."

The season finale — "The Transformative" — features the work of composers who were great bridge builders between seemingly disparate styles of music. Copland bridged the musical styles of American folk music with the European classical style, redefining American classical music. Gershwin bridged the contrasting styles of jazz and classical music. Today, Hans Zimmer bridges the styles of classical music with electronic music and ethnic traditions. This American musical eclecticism, known as the "great melting pot," is celebrated in "The American Concerto for Piano & Orchestra," receiving its world premiere in the ASO's season finale. Composed by husband-wife team of Kim Allen Kluge and Kathryn Vassar Kluge, you will hear folk-like melodies reminiscent of Stephen Foster and Copland as well as jazz-tinged echoes of Gershwin and Cole Porter. Thomas Pandolfi returns to the ASO stage to unveil this new American masterpiece.

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

International Guild of Realism 10th Annual International Juried Exhibition. Through Sept. 18, during gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. The Guild is dedicated to the advancement of realism in fine art. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.principlegallery.com/alexandria for more.

Baseball Boat to Nationals Park. Through Sept. 26 at various times. Leaves from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Baseball fans can avoid heavy traffic and cruise along the Potomac to Nationals Park. Tickets are \$20 one-way and \$25 round-trip, Monday-Thursday, \$28 roundtrip Friday-Sunday. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

Sidney Xunnian Zhang Exhibit. Through Sept. 26 at The Monroe Gallery, 2017 I St., NW, Washington, D.C. Chinese artist and Virginia resident Sidney Xunnian Zhang depicts the Alexandria waterfront and Old Town in much of her work. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.artsclubsofwashington.org/galleries for more.

Fred Eberhart Photography Exhibit. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. through Sept. at Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Drive. Photographer Fred Eberhart focuses on local Virginia landscapes. Free. Visit www.broadwaygalleries.net.

"The Ring of Fire." Through Oct. 5, gallery hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; Thursday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; 12-6 p.m. Sunday at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Indonesian American artist Wijati Soemantoro expresses her emotional response to the natural disasters she experienced while growing up in the most seismically active zone in the

world, the Pacific Ring of Fire. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried Show: "What I Did On My Summer Vacation." Through Oct. 18, 10-5 p.m., 10-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Studio 18. View summer vacation-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

"Angel Soldier Dance Sublime." Through Oct. 18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. View work exploring femininity and masculinity by female artists from Maine's Blue Hill Peninsula. Free. Visit torpedofactory.org.

Athenaeum Invitational Exhibition. Through Oct. 25, during gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Works inspired by the song "Don't Fence Me In," by Cole Porter, will be on display. Free. Visit nvfaa.org.

"Artifact" Exhibit. Through Oct. 25, gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, and during performances at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E Campus Drive. In this exhibit artist J.T. Kirkland integrates the painted gesture with the naturally occurring textures or "gestures" in the wood. John James Anderson will also share the space. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu.

Doggy Happy Hour. Tuesdays through Oct. at 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20, 480 King St. Enjoy discounted drinks and treats with one's dog. Free. Visit www.jackson20.com.

"Seven Deadlies." Through Oct. 31, Fridays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Sculptor Karen Swenholt explores lust, sloth, greed, gluttony, wrath, envy, and pride. Free. Visit www.convergence.org for more.

Water Taxi to the National Mall. Through Nov. 1, at various times at Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Cruise from Old Town to D.C. on the *Miss Sophie*, while stopping view

some of the area's most popular attractions. Tickets are \$28 roundtrip and \$14 one-way for adults. For children under 12, tickets are \$16 roundtrip and \$8 one-way. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/.

"Painting the Line, Drawing the Paint." Through Nov. 8 at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E Campus Drive. This show that will include works by Ann Schlesinger, daughter of Jim and Rachel Schlesinger. Free. Visit

www.nvcc.edu for more.

Mount Vernon in 3-D: Then & Now. Through Nov. 20 during regular operating hours at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visitors will have the chance to travel back in time, and in 3-D, to see how the estate appeared more than 100 years ago through a special photography exhibition. The exhibition is included in the regular admission fee of \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for

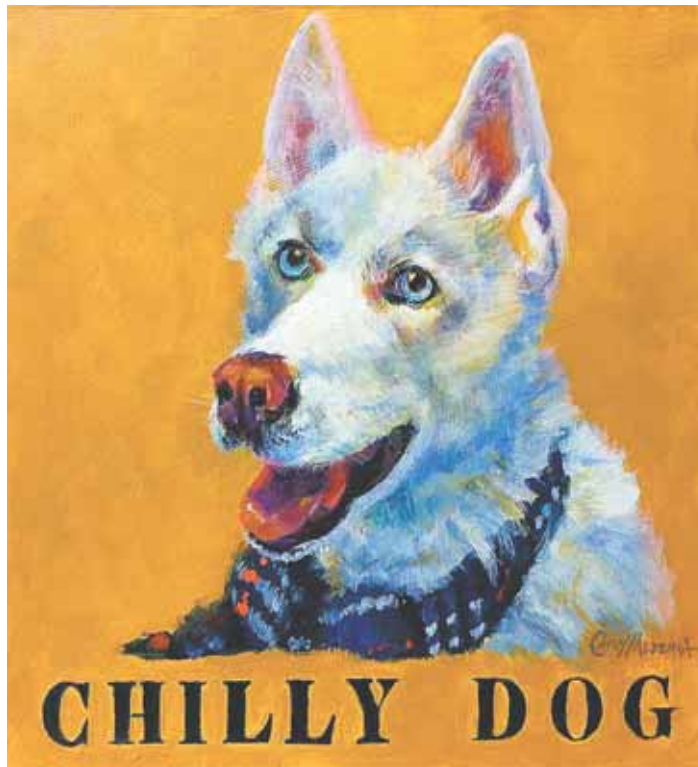
youth and free for children younger than 5. To view the historic stereoview images as well as the modern 3-D anaglyphs, visit www.mountvernon.org/3D.

Young at Art Juried Art Show. Through Nov. 20, Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Artists 55 and older can contribute their artwork for the exhibition. On Thursday, Aug. 20, artists can bring their work to the Durant Center from 10 a.m.-noon to be registered and displayed. Artists must fill out a Entry and Artist/Lender Agreement and pay an entry fee of \$20 for up to three works of art, \$5 for any additional pieces. Entry forms can be found at www.seniorservicesalex.org or by calling Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, extension 111.

"Not-So-Modern" Jazz Quartet Performance. Thursdays through Dec. 31, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Not So Modern Jazz Music plays music from the glory days of traditional jazz, including tunes from traditional Dixieland and the Swing era. Free. Visit www.stelmoscffeeepub.com for more.

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital Art Show. Through Jan. 31 at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. The artwork is on display in waiting areas and examination rooms as a part of Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls program. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

"Ancient Art of Movement." Beginning Sept. 17, at 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches the Ancient Art of Movement in a series designed for those ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call



"Chilly Dog" by Cathy Messina is part of the VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital Art Show at 2660 Duke St. through Jan. 31., 2016. Visit www.TheDelRayArtians.org/gww for more.

ENTERTAINMENT

703-765-4573 to sign up.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen's Cemetery. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars & Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina's, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more

meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. 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. 12 p.m. 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.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Art for Life. Third Thursday of every month. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Hyatt Regency Crystal City has partnered will the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn

In the "Artifact" exhibit, artist J.T. Kirkland integrates the painted gesture with the naturally occurring textures or "gestures" in the wood. John James Anderson will also share the space. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, and during performances at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive.

more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. every third Friday at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music. Tickets are \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions

for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint our live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 17-20

Fair Trade Oriental Rug Event.

During store hours at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. More than 300 rugs will be on sale at the store, all of which have been handcrafted by fairly-paid adults. Also find seminars and other learning opportunities. Free to attend. Visit www.rugs.tenthousandvillages.com/event/rug-event-alexandria-va.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Fair Trade Oriental Rug Seminar.

7 p.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. To bring understanding of the importance of fair trade, representatives of rug artisans will give an in-depth seminar about how the rugs are made. Free. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com for more.

Medical Heroism in Alexandria. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Tom Schultz of DC Military Tours will discuss medical heroism in Alexandria during the Civil War. The discussion will be based on the PBS



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mini-series "Mercy Street" which will depict hospital workers in Alexandria during the war. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

2015 SIGGRAPH Computer Animation Festival. 7-9 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Washington DC ACM SIGGRAPH is partnering with the Torpedo Factory Art Center to host some of the best examples of computer animation from the past year. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Dave Mason's Traffic Jam Tour. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Dave Mason's music is influenced by rock and roll and is backed by guitar. Tickets are \$55. Visit www.davemasonmusic.com/tour.

Clarinet Quartet. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band-Chamber Players Series presents an evening of music for clarinet quartet featuring members of The U.S. Air Force Concert Band. Free. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

"Seven Deadlies" Opening Reception And Artist Talk. 5-8 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Celebrate sculptor Karen Swenolt's exploration of lust, sloth, greed, gluttony, wrath, envy, and pride. Free. Visit www.convergence.org for more.

Factory Society Open House. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The Factory Society is a new young-professionals group at the Torpedo Factory Art Center dedicated to hosting innovative programs to advance the region's creative community and engage with artists at the Torpedo Factory. Young professionals are invited to an exclusive peek of the Target Gallery's new exhibition, Angel Soldier Dance Sublime, hear about new projects, and learn how to get involved as a charter member or a volunteer. There will be an open wine bar and DJ Juan Zapata. Free, but registration is required. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/openhouse.

Third Friday Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Live music conducted by Owen Hammett, and played by The Mount Vernon Swing Band. Admission is \$4. Call 703-324-4600.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 19-20

Colonial Market And Fair. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visit the 18th century at this colonial celebration featuring crafting demonstrations, puppet



'Boats on Potomac River'

Artist Sidney Xunnian Zhang's oil paintings are on display in the Monroe Gallery of the Arts Club of Washington, 2017 I St., Northwest, Washington, D.C., through Sept. 26. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Born in Shanghai, China, in 1947, Zhang came to the United States in 1988 when he was awarded a fellowship from Savannah College of Art and Design. In his artist's statement, he writes, "I try to express an atmosphere that is filled with tranquility and soft beauty."

shows, military drills, and traditional food and music. Tickets are \$9-17. Children age 5 and under are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

King Street Art Festival. Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 480 King St. In its 13th year, the festival features art displays, art giveaways and sales and live music. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest.

Scottish Highlander Festival. 10 a.m.-2:15 p.m. on Saturday; 11 a.m. on Sunday at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Attend a fashion show, highland dance performance, or Celtic concert on Saturday or an Outlander Tea and Tour on Sunday. Prices vary based on activity. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

8th Annual Art and Craft Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Saint James' Episcopal Church of Mount Vernon, 5614 Old Mill Road. Saint James' Episcopal Church of Mount Vernon Art and Craft Fair offers a wide variety of art and handmade crafts—paintings, jewelry, knitted clothing items, decorative items, and more, from a variety of local and regional artists and vendors, plus prepared food, and

a bake sale. Free to attend. Visit www.stjamesmv.org for more.

Big Dog Swim. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center's Memorial Pool, 901 Wythe St. Following the end of the summer pool season, this annual event provides dogs 25 pounds and more with the opportunity to swim and play games in one of the City's pools. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/aquatics.

Fairfax County NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. 1-5 p.m. at The Waterford at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. Event will recognize numerous organizations and individuals for continued community service. Eric Broyles, co-author of "Encounters with the Police: A Black Man's Guide to Survival," will be the event speaker. The evening will include a silent auction, cash bar, and door prizes. Tickets are \$65 per person or \$600 per table of 10 guests. Email fairfaxnaacp@gmail.com.

Ladies Night Out: Radiating Joy in Painting. 7-9:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. In this workshop participants enjoy the practice of centering through painting. Admission is \$45 per person. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com to

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ENTERTAINMENT

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SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

Fest for All. 2-4 p.m. at Free Church of St. Andrew and St. Margaret, 402 East Monroe St. Enjoy crafts, games and skills: tying sailors' knots, navigating by stars, and soldiers' drills. Listen to oral history about ancestors, including slaves at Arlington House, a blockade runner, Alexandria families and stories of artifacts; a Union sword, GAR medal, political cartoons and photos from London, family quilt and chunk of a sunken ship. Free admission. Call 703-683-3343.

Jazz at Meade. 4-6 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Jazz artist Marshall Keys will perform. Suggested donation is \$15. Visit www.meadechurch.org for more.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

STEM Homeschool Program:

Firefighting Technology. 1-2:30 p.m. at 107 S. Alfred St. Homeschool student and their families are invited to explore science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) with a monthly program sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Visit the Friendship Firehouse to learn how fire-fighting technology has evolved and test the scientific concepts behind how the historic equipment worked. Features the 1851 Suction Engine. Children attend free, adult tickets \$8. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

ASO Night at Top Golf. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Top Golf Alexandria, 6625 S. Van Dorn St. The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra invites the public to help support the symphony by spending some time on the driving range. Tickets are \$80 per person, and \$350 for teams of five. Visit www.alexsym.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

Get Moving in Carlyle. 6 p.m. at John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. and 1901 Jamieson Ave. Take an outdoor yoga class sponsored by Local Motion Studio. Free. Visit www.localmotionstudio.com.

The Campagna Center Oktoberfest. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Bill Butcher, owner of Port City Brewing Company, has opened his doors for a day of beer, bratwurst, auction, and more.

Proceeds will benefit the Campagna Center New Neighbors Program for English Language Learners. Tickets are \$60. Visit www.campagnacenter.org.

History Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. David Preston will be giving a lecture hosted by the Alexandria Historical Society. Preston's book "Braddock's Defeat: The Battle of the Monongahela and the Road to Revolution," gives a definitive account of the Braddock Expedition and its abrupt end at the Battle of Monongahela in early America. Free to Alexandria Historical Society members; \$5 for non-members. Light refreshments will be served, and books will be available for signing and purchase after the program. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

St. Luke's Annual Craft Fair. 9 a.m.-2 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 bake sale featuring cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Also fresh produce from a nearby farm, entertainment by a guest guitarist and two local pianists, a moonbounce, face-painting and games. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net or call 703-765-4342 for more.

74th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. For the 74th annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour, the public may visit six historic homes and gardens in Old Town Alexandria, all within walking distance of one another. Proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Tickets are \$35 through Sept. 25 and may be purchased online. Thereafter, tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at The Twig's Thrift Shop, 106 N. Columbus St. Visit www.thetwig.org/homes-tour for more.

3rd Annual Community Celebration and Business Expo. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parkers Lane. Learn more about the community and local businesses. Take part in the chili cook-off, cute baby contest, ugly dog contest and scavenger hunt. Free to attend. Visit www.mtvernon-leechamber.org.

50th Anniversary of the Immigration and Nationality

Act and the Civil Rights Movement Reception. 2 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Special remarks will be made by Professor Janelle Wong, director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Maryland. Guests may view a traveling exhibit "Remembering 1882: Civil Rights Under the Shadow of the Chinese Exclusion Act." The exhibit will be on display for a week in the museum's Watson Reading Room of Alexandria Black History Museum. Free. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

Simpson Park Gardens Fall Open House. 1-3 p.m. at 420 E. Monroe St. Master Gardeners who maintain this demonstration garden welcome visitors to the garden for a display of what's in bloom, with emphasis on native plants and plants for pollinators. Enjoy light snacks and drinks and pick up packets of seeds from plants in the garden. Call 703-228-6414.

"Painting the Line, Drawing the Paint" Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. This exhibit includes work by Ann Schlesinger, daughter of Jim and Rachel Schlesinger. Meet and discuss with the artist. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

Factory Society Open House. 5-7 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. CRAVE micro-granting dinners give everyone a chance to be a patron of the arts. The Torpedo Factory Art Center and Convergence host CRAVE (Creating Resources for Artistic Vision and Engagement) as an opportunity to connect innovators with enthusiasts and supporters to fund new artistic community projects. Now in its fourth installment, CRAVE has granted about \$3,500 to creative endeavors in the region. A \$15 ticket buys a meal and a vote. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

MONDAY/SEPT. 28

Dance Class: The Art of Ballroom Dance. 7-7:45 p.m. practice and 7:45-8:30 p.m. dance at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Come with or without a partner to learn several classic dance styles from Gary Stephans. Admission is \$15. Email garystephans@me.com or call 703-505-5998 for details.

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For more information about Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, please visit www.risinghopeumc.org and www.facebook.com/risinghope or call 703.360.1976



Virginia Resident Depicts Downtown Alexandria

Chinese artist and Virginia resident Sidney Xunnian Zhang depicts the Alexandria waterfront and Old Town in much of her work. Her work will be on display at the Monroe Gallery in D.C. through Sept. 26. Admission to the gallery is free Tuesday-Saturday. Visit www.artclubofwashington.org.



Members of the Fairfax County ad hoc police policies review commission and Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova (center) hold a public forum at Walt Whitman Middle School on Sept. 14.



Members of the audience at the Fairfax County police policies review commission public forum raise signs protesting in the name of Natasha McKenna, who died while in the custody of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THEGAZETTE

‘Reports and Tears Are Not Enough’

FROM PAGE 1

“and other advanced tactics,” the employment of body cameras to record interactions with the public and establishing independent oversight of the police department.

Another recommendation proposed that Mobile Crisis Units for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis be expanded with three additional units.

SPEAKERS at the public forum who addressed the report were generally supportive of its recommendations, with the exception of its additional item that all police officers carry tasers on their person while on duty. More information and materials from the police practices review commission are available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission. The next meeting will be held Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.



Erika Totten of Alexandria compared McKenna's death to the “casual slave killing” act in the Virginia code from 1669. “This is what we're dealing with today,” she said.



Queenie Cox of Gum Springs spoke on behalf of the New Gum Springs Civic Association. She questioned how a civilian review board would be funded; citing the adverse financial effect on other county agencies and services' budgets that creating one could have, she said her organization was not supporting such a board “at this time.”

Video of McKenna Incident Released

FROM PAGE 1

able to stream on YouTube begins with a message from the Sheriff: “I want all of you to know this tragic incident has been ingrained in my mind from the day that it occurred. There is no better way for me to share what actually occurred than to make this video available for the community to review it in its entirety.”

As of publication, the video had over 400,000 views.

The graphic footage shows McKenna being removed from her cell and forced to the ground as she struggles against six Sheriff's deputies who are telling her, “Stop resisting,” and “Ma'am, if you do not stop resisting, you will be tased, do you understand?”

While being moved from the ground to a chair and restrained, McKenna received four shocks

from an electricity conducting device or “taser” wielded by one of the deputies. He applied the taser twice in her lower body, twice her upper body, one of the deputies explains on the tape.

A medical team was called to check McKenna's vital signs. In the hallway outside her cell, she was deemed stable enough to transport. When the team that was moving her reached the van waiting to take her to Alexandria, another check showed she no longer had a pulse. Deputies began performing CPR on her and were eventually relieved by Fairfax County Fire & Rescue.

McKenna's body was put on a gurney and taken away in an ambulance, at which point the video ends.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Fairfax County Sheriff's deputies, wearing protective suits, can be seen forcing Natasha McKenna to the ground outside her cell at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center in the video released by Sheriff Stacey Kincaid.



After being restrained with upper and lower body cuffs, and a spit hood, and receiving shock from four applications of a conducted electricity weapon or “taser,” a medical team checked Natasha McKenna's (center, seated) vital signs prior to her being taken from her cell to a van bound for Alexandria.

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FROM PAGE 4

show with Ernie Tolley, massages, music trivia with the Sojourners, a magic show, a music therapy session, arts & crafts and more. Free. Call 703-650-0779 or visit www.springhillsmountvernon.com for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

Free Breakfast Day. 6-9 p.m. at all Greater Washington area McDonald's locations. Every student in Kindergarten through 8th Grade who visit McDonald's with an adult will receive a free breakfast. The free breakfast will include an Egg McMuffin, apple slices and choice of milk or apple juice. Visit www.mcdonalds.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Worship Watch Meeting. 8:30-12 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd. Participate in a crime prevention meeting focused on preventing crime targeted toward places of worship. Admission is free. Call 703-360-8928 or e-mail Robert.urps@fairfaxcounty.gov.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

SFDC Summit: Sustainability & Resiliency. 9-11 a.m. at Hampton Inn & Suites, 5821 Richmond Highway. Attend a program about "green" building, planning for a healthier environment and a more resilient community. Time to network and a continental breakfast will be provided. Free. Visit www.sfcd.org for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

Drug Take-Back Day. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Franconia District Station, 6121 Franconia Road; Mount Vernon District Station, 2511 Parkers Lane. According to the 2013-2014 Fairfax County Youth Survey, over 13% of high school seniors have used painkillers without a doctor's order. Moreover, four out of five heroin abusers report prior abuse of prescription drugs. Individuals can bring unused or expired medications (pills or liquids – no pressurized canisters or needles). Visit www.upcfairfax.org

FRIDAY/OCT. 2

The Walgreens Wellness Tour. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Walgreens, 7629 Richmond Highway. The Walgreens Wellness Tour with the National Urban League will be providing three free health tests valued at over \$100. The free tests measure 10 key health indicators that include total cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, body mass index, body composition, skeletal muscle, resting metabolism, visceral fat, real body age and body weight.

The tests are administered by certified wellness staff and are available to adults who are ages 18 and older. Free. Visit www.multivu.com/players/English/7511351-walgreens-wellness-tour for more.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 14

Mount Vernon At Home Coffee Social. 11 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 7116 Fort Hunt Road. This event will include information on aging in place and volunteer opportunities in the Mount Vernon at Home community. Free. RSVP by calling 703-303-4060 or emailing info@mountvernonathome.org.

TUESDAY/OCT. 27

"Understanding and Caring for a Person with Dementia." 7-8:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. This class will discuss the different types of dementia, common behaviors, the reasons for troubling behaviors, communication techniques, and services available for caregivers. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center** needs a volunteer to maintain a fish aquarium upkeep and instructors for the following classes: Basic Guitar, Italian, Pottery and Ballroom Dance. Call 703-324-5406 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults for more.

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center in Alexandria needs a licensed beautician, a social companion and a Spanish-speaking social companion. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions under "Get Involved."

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

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21 Announcements

OBITUARY
Marjorie O. Olson, 85 of Mechanicsville, VA formerly of Alexandria, VA passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 2, 2015. She was predeceased by her husband of 48 years, Ordell P. Olson. See www.bennettfuneralhome.com for complete information.

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21 Announcements

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Non-Mandatory Site Visit: September 22, 2015, 11:00 a.m., prevailing local time at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park located at 426 E. Monroe Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304.

For general inquiries contact Peter Tomaselli, Contract Specialist I at 703.746.3892.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure.

THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

16 RE Services

FREE BOOK:
Selling Goods due to downsizing/estate settlement. Only 80 available. Contact MaxSold Downsizing/Estate Services: 202-350-9388, easy@maxsold.com or MaxSold.com/book by Nov.15

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ACPS
Alexandria City Public Schools

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-08-07

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for ADA Improvements at Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

Sealed Bids with the notation ITB # 15-08-07, ADA Improvements at Francis C. Hammond Middle School will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Thursday October 22, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services – Current Bids and Request for Proposals.

All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., October 16, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held on October 8, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the address listed above.

No ITB may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB.

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
Senior Buyer

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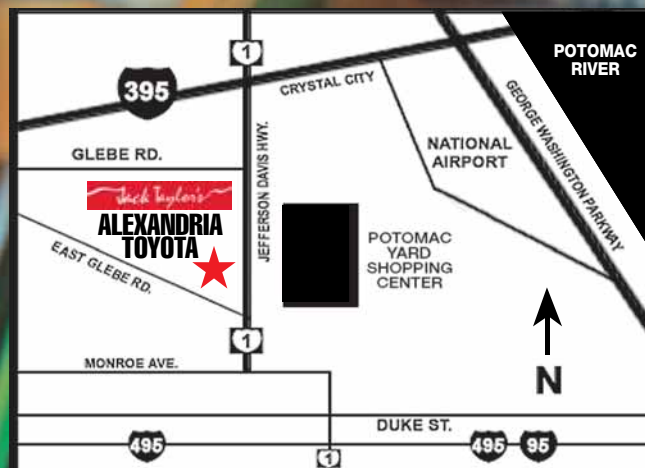
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Includes: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, tire rotation, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters

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Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.

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Synthetic \$10 More

Includes: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

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POWER STEERING FLUSH **\$139⁹⁵**

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FOR TRANSMISSION FLUSH, TYPE T OR WS FLUID ADD \$80.00. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

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& interior cleaning

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CHRIS WHITE

*Planning to sell in 2015?
Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White!
Leading the Area in Real Estate. SOLD!!!*



4008 Robertson Blvd **\$649,900**

A True Gem!

Updated throughout. Nothing to do, just call the movers! Numerous fabulous features including beautifully updated kitchen and baths, 5BR including luxurious master suite. Economical gas heat and hot water. Hardwood floors & covered parking. Gorgeous grounds with custom patio. Exceptionally attractive property in the heart of Mt Vernon! **OPEN SUN 9/20, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Robertson.**



9412 Ferry Landing Ct **\$789,000**

Beat the Heat in your Own Custom Pool!

Uniquely gorgeous property! Custom home in premier setting on quiet cul-de-sac ending at river. Magnificent grounds featuring custom pool, hot tub, expansive decking and large level lawn. Home with numerous features: open floor plan, updated kitchen & baths, fabulous rec room over side load, two car garage. Super value-nothing like it at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 9/20, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; L-Ferry Landing Ct**



9408 Brambly Lane **\$1,165,000**

New Home Feel!

Spacious Colonial by Wakefield Homes-the area's leading custom builder! Home has striking open floor plan accentuated by high ceilings and large windows which bring light to every corner of the home. Numerous fabulous features include: 3 luxurious finished levels, open kitchen-family room, spacious master suite and oversize 3 car garage. Deck overlooks private wooded yard. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac. Impossible to duplicate at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 9/20, 1-4! GW Parkway S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Brambly.**



6036 Fort Hunt Rd
\$799,000

True Belle Haven Gem!

Classic Belle Haven Colonial in prime location on gorgeously landscaped grounds overlooking Belle Haven Country Club. Fabulous property carefully updated throughout in a

manner which provides a delightful blend of the home's original character with many modern conveniences. Numerous features include 3 finished levels, updated kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, fireplace and garage. Private grounds with outdoor kitchen and brick patio. **OPEN SUN 9/20, 1-4! GW Parkway S; R-Belle Haven; R-Fort Hunt.**



8720 Plymouth Road
\$1,599,000

Brand New Home!

Spectacular Wakefield home loaded with virtually every custom upgrade & amenity in fabulous Plymouth Haven! Three levels of luxury! Fabulous features include striking open floor plan, high ceilings, designer kitchen, luxury baths, hardwood floors, sumptuous master suite, fabulous screen porch and 3 car garage. Prime location on large lot-walk to Wayneswood School!



3205 Woodland Lane
\$1,550,000

One of a Kind Property-Waterfront!

Spacious residence, custom crafted to capitalize on natural beauty of its setting. Soaring cathedral ceilings and expansive glass walls bring light, natural beauty of property and water views to every corner of home. Special features include 3 finished levels, 6 BR including 2 master suites (one on main level), 4 fireplaces, spectacular family room off kitchen, walk-out lower level, fabulous screen porch and open deck. Nearby private boat launch. Magnificent property! Impossible to duplicate!



7107 Richard Casey Ct
\$779,500

Victorian Classic-Exceptional Price!

Stunning value-custom built by Wakefield Homes. Numerous features characteristic of area's leading builder include large

room sizes, bright open floor plan, high ceilings, 3 finished levels, chef's kitchen, private master suite and oversize 2 car garage. Distinctive wrap around front porch. Screen porch and deck overlook spacious fenced rear yard. Unique opportunity to purchase Wakefield custom home at fraction of today's prices.



4327 Ferry Landing Rd
\$559,000

Mid Century Modern-Yacht Haven Estates!

Classic contemporary Rambler featuring the open floor plan, large room sizes and high ceilings that characterize this popular model. Kitchen and baths have been beautifully updated. Other features include 2 finished levels, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, gas heat & tankless hot water heater. Unique main level master suite with private porch. Prime location near Mt. Vernon Yacht Club. Fab combination of modern amenities with mid-century character.



9357 Mount Vernon Cir
\$1,500,000
Mt Vernon on the Potomac!

9227 Allwood Dr
\$548,950
Updated Throughout- Move-In Ready!



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