



'Into the Woods, Jr.'

Aldersgate Community Theater will present "Into the Woods, Jr.," a family-friendly musical in Wesley Hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church at 1301 Collingwood Road. Shows are Jan. 15-18 and Jan. 22-24. See acconline.org. Above, Jack (Grant Hamilton) sings with the Townspeople, after the magic beanstalk appears.



Rapunzel (Madison Sterner) lowers her golden hair for the Witch (Arianna Parenti) to climb up.



The Prince (Pete Peterson), along with his Steward (Abigail Abraham), sets off in search of Rapunzel, who is hidden away in her tower.



Cinderella, (Willa Denton, right) sings about the Prince and the ball, to the Baker's Wife (Shannon Flack).

PHOTOS BY
RENÉE RUGGLES
THE GAZETTE

Above a Cut

FCPS Superintendent Garza calls for no additional cuts in \$2.67 billion FY 2017 budget.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

For Fiscal Year 2015, Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza oversaw \$96.5 million in cuts made from the school system's annual operating budget. For FY 2016, it was \$55.4 million, she said.

Before a library full of news cameras, elected officials, students, teachers and principals at West Potomac High School, Garza presented her proposed FY 2017 budget for the first time on Jan. 7, 2016.

"The most important announcement for our students and teachers may be what the proposed budget does not do," she said, "it makes no further cuts."

The \$2.67 billion budget includes \$62.2 million for raising all employees' salaries, as well as an-



TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza proposed a \$2.67 billion school system budget for FY 2017 that emphasizes increasing employee compensation and decreasing class sizes — all without making any further cuts.

other \$40 million specifically for teacher salaries.

Garza said the salary raises are the "first steps" in a multi-year plan to make Fairfax County more

SEE GARZA, PAGE 4

A Farewell to Ruth Ann Harvey

Family, friends recall her life of faith.

BY GALE CURCIO
THE GAZETTE

Ruth Ann Harvey died on Jan. 8, at the Mount Vernon Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Fort Hunt. She was 92 years old.

There was standing room only for the viewing at Demaine Funeral Home and a full house at the Jan. 12 mass at Good Shepherd Catholic Church as people came to

say their final farewell.

Father Tom Ferguson, pastor at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, spoke at length about Ruth's love, her kindness, her generosity — and most of all her faith.

Not only did he mention her attachment to her rosary beads, but that theme was repeated by both her granddaughter, Jennifer

SEE FAMILY, PAGE 19



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Ruth Ann Harvey

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Suds That Save

20 local breweries craft a beer to support one of their own.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Lawrence “Lance” Rose was born in September 2015, two months premature, to parents Matt and Kerri Rose of Alexandria. Just one month before, Kerri had been diagnosed with stage-four adenocarcinoma: stomach cancer.

After learning of her pregnancy in June, Kerri Rose began to have severe acid reflux. Though not uncommon for pregnant women, she lost her appetite and became increasingly weaker over the next month. At a prenatal check, a blood panel showed that her hemoglobin level was dangerously low.

A blood specialist gave the Roses Kerri’s cancer diagnosis following a biopsy of a lump on her clavicle. Using an endoscope, doctors located an eight-centimeter tumor in her stomach. They decided to induce labor early and begin chemotherapy within weeks of Lance’s birth.

Kerri Rose’s short- and long-term disability plans through her employer provided some help, but didn’t cover her lost wages for time missed due to hospital stays.

Chemotherapy has already been stopped in favor of going forward with immunotherapy, Matt Rose said. Kerri Rose has spent the last month in Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington and is currently in the Intensive Care Unit. The couple is considering traveling to the University of Pennsylvania for more advanced and experimental treatments there.

To help with the increasing costs of treatment and recovery, Kerri Rose set up a Go Fund Me Page. That’s when the community of local beer brewers got involved.

Matt and Kerri Rose are owners of Forge Brew Works, a Belgian style-focused



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Fifty-five representatives from 20 different local breweries came together at Fair Winds Brewing Company in Lorton to brew a special ale in support of Forge Brew Works owner Kerri Rose’s cancer treatment and recovery.

microbrewery in Lorton. When fellow Lorton-based brewers Casey Jones of Falls Church and Charlie Buettner of Burke found out what was going on with Kerri, they thought immediately, “What could we do to help out?” Jones said.

“As brewers, we have zero dollars,” said Buettner.

“But brewers have the infrastructure to make and sell beer,” Jones said.

So the two, who will celebrate the one-year anniversary of their 4,000 barrel brewery in March, contacted their local representative from the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. They got the go-ahead to brew a special beer, the proceeds from which could be donated to Matt and Kerri.

Immediately they put the call out to other local brewers. “We wanted get the brewing community together, do something together,” said Jones. “And the emails came back so quickly.”

With malted grains donated from BSG Craftbrewing, yeast from Old Ox Brewery in Ashburn and all other raw materials for the beer contributed for free, Jones said they’re able to keep costs to the participating breweries relatively low and give 100 percent of the beer’s sales back to the Roses.

With about 30 barrels planned for production, Jones expects sales to be about \$25,000.

More than 50 representatives from 20 different breweries came out to Fair Winds the morning of Jan. 7 to help give the essential ingredients their send-off into fermentation. Among them was Josh Moon of Manassas, head brewer of veteran-owned Heritage Brewing Company.

“We’re a small community and have to look out for each other,” said the seven-year U.S. Army vet. “When we have a brother in need, we come help.”

“Kerri’s Cure” is the name of the special beer, crafted as a Belgian-style Pale Ale. Matt Rose said it should emerge dry and very hoppy with tropical spice notes, thanks both to Saaz and Citra hops, table sugar and rochefort yeast for “a little Belgian funk.”

The beer will spend a short 11 days fermenting before heading out in rations to each of the participating breweries. It’s scheduled for release on Jan. 29.

Matt Rose blessed the mash tun, an early stage of the brewing, surveying the interior of the large, stainless steel tank with Lance in his arms.

“It’s all been a fairly overwhelming experience,” he said. “People have been entirely too nice. It’s a tough situation made better, with this many people thinking about you.”

When the couple first heard about

the brewers’ project, Matt Rose said Kerri sat down and started crying.

“People are so giving with their time and effort,” he said.

In addition to Fair Winds and Forge, the full list of brewers includes:

- Adroit Theory Brewing Company
- Adventure Brewing Company
- Bad Wolf Brewing Company
- Caboose Brewing Company
- Capitol City Brewing Company
- Corcoran Brewing Company
- Crooked Run Brewing Company
- Heritage Brewing Company
- Lost Rhino Brewing Company
- Mad Fox Brewing Company
- Ocelot Brewing Company
- Old Bust Head Brewing Company
- Old Ox Brewery
- Ornery Beer Company
- Port City Brewing Company
- Pro Re Nata Brewery
- Spencer Devon Brewing
- Tin Cannon Brewing Company

“Kerri’s Cure” is scheduled to be released in each of the participating breweries on Jan. 29. Kerri’s Go Fund Me page where she’s posted about her experience is online at www.gofundme.com/daywalker.

For more information on Fair Winds Brewing Company and “Kerri’s Cure,” visit www.fairwindsbrewing.com.



Forge Brew Works owner Matt Rose and son Lawrence “Lance” check the mash tun stage of “Kerri’s Cure.”

Garza Calls for No Additional Cuts in Budget

FROM PAGE 1

competitive in attracting and maintaining teachers. At the beginning of this school year, she said, there were 200 open positions in the school system. "This must not continue."

Garza cited the nearly half a billion dollars having to be cut from FCPS budgets going back to 2008, as well as a trend of underfunding from state and local government from the last nine years.

Another focus of the budget is decreasing class sizes, for which the superintendent proposed a \$10.8 million increase for hiring 165 new employees. The additional personnel would lower all elementary classes to fewer than 30 students, according to a release from Fairfax County Public Schools.

"This budget reflects only our very basic and most pressing needs," Garza said, "and, as a community, we must commit to investing in our teachers and students once again."

Garza's new budget tops FY 2016 by \$121.4 million, or 4.8 percent, and expecting little increase in funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia (roughly 15 percent of the school's budget), would require a 6.7 percent increase in the transfer from Fairfax County (the majority source of funding) to fully execute.



West Potomac High School Principal Alex Case hosted Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza on Jan. 7 as she proposed her school system budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Kimberly Scott, Franklin Middle School teacher and FCPS 2015 Teacher of the Year, urged community members to support getting the budget fully funded.

Scott said she and her colleagues commit fully to teaching "not for multi-digit salaries but the call we feel to complete this work with excellence."

"As we give our best," Scott continued, "we ask our community now give its best. Please rally around us and for us so we can continue the work we love, and an education families can be proud they've chosen for their children."

Marshall High School senior Samee Ahmad thanked specific Fairfax County teachers who helped him develop a lifelong love of reading and learning. "Schools are the underlying foundation in community-building," he said. "I'm excited to hear Dr. Garza's forward-looking budget in the interests of both students and teachers."

Annandale High School Parent Teacher Student Association president Robin Hylton said the challenge in making sure the proposed budget is fully funded is "not one for just Dr. Garza."

She urged parents, community members and businesses to take a more active role in finding funding solutions. "We as a community must choose to support," she said.

Pat Hynes, School Board chairman, was

the final speaker at the Jan. 7 morning event. "After nine long years" of underfunding, she said, "we need some good news."

Hynes said the school system is already spending \$1,000 less per pupil now than in 2009. "Quality education is not a luxury, it's an absolute necessity," she said. "What should we cut? Those are not questions that should come before the school system."

Among other aspects, West Potomac High School principal Alex Case said he was pleased to see in the fine print of the proposed budget a moderate increase in salaries for support employees such as custodial staff and food service workers that were below federal living wage standards.

"Obviously this is something the school system, Board of Supervisors and delegation to Richmond need to work collectively on," Case added, "to fully fund and protect this wonderful asset we call Fairfax County Public Schools."

Matt Haley was chairman of Garza's budget task force that convened to review community feedback and analyze all operating costs. "We dug into this for a long time," he said after the event. "It all came back to levels of service."

In advertising what potential cuts — from fourth grade strings to language immersion

SEE GARZA, PAGE 19



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OBITUARY

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Long-time Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce member and owner of Travelers Motel, 5916 Richmond Highway, peacefully passed on Jan. 2, 2016 surrounded by his loving family. He was a successful business man, Navy veteran, and member of many organizations including, 32 Degree Freemason, Kiwanis Club International, and Belle Haven Country Club. He leaves Lucille, his wife of 59 years; two children; daughter Christine and son Paul (Tina); two grandchildren, Craig and

Bryan; and three great-grandchildren, Austin, Taylor, and Brendan; brother John Blunt (Janet) and sister Delores Rogers.

A visitation was held on Friday, Jan. 8, 2016 at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria.

Service was held Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 at Mt. Comfort Cemetery, 6600 S. Kings Hwy., Alexandria. Online tributes may be made at www.everlywheatley.com.

CRIME

Police Investigating ATM Fraud

Fairfax County Police believe a man used a counterfeit ATM card to withdraw cash from a SunTrust Bank machine around 4:15 p.m. on Nov. 21, 2015. The machine is located at 5922 Richmond Highway.

The suspect was described by police as a cleanly shaved, dark-skinned white or Hispanic male wearing a dark jacket, striped shirt and baseball hat.

Police didn't disclose the amount of money he withdrew from the original card owner's account.

People with information are asked to contact Crime Solvers electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES (274637), by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477) or calling Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

— TIM PETERSON



11/21/2015 16:14:27.63
ATM L040 WU
Surveillance
STI-Riverside-Park

COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

Police suspect this man used a counterfeit ATM card on Richmond Highway in November 2015.

CRIME REPORT

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

BURGLARY: 7400 block of Lee Highway. Jan. 12, 8:43 a.m. An employee reported that someone entered a maintenance room and took tools.

BURGLARY: 5800 block of Woodlawn Green. Jan. 6, 3:59 p.m. A resident reported someone entered the residence and took property.

ROBBERY: 3300 block of Swallow Ct. Jan. 5, 5:57 a.m. A 53-year-old woman was walking to her vehicle when she was approached by a man who displayed a handgun and demanded money. The victim told the suspect she had no money and he fled. There were no injuries. The suspect was described as being black, around 6 feet tall and about 160 pounds. He was wearing a black, hooded sweatshirt and a black ski mask.

JAN. 13 LARCENIES
3000 block of Javier Road, purse

from business
7300 block of Lee Highway, wallet from business
8300 block of Leesburg Pike, merchandise from business

JAN. 12 LARCENIES
2500 block of Parkers Lane, property from residence
7400 block of Richmond Highway, license plate from vehicle

JAN. 11 LARCENIES
6800 block of Richmond Highway, wallet from residence
7600 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7500 block of Snowpea Court, property from residence
6300 block of South Kings Highway, liquor from business

JAN. 8 LARCENIES
7900 block of Fort Hunt Road, liquor from business
7400 block of Mount Vernon Square

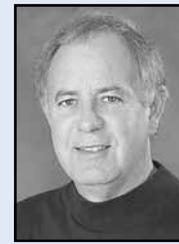
Center, liquor from business
6300 block of Richmond Highway, clothing from business
6700 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

JAN. 7 LARCENIES
2500 block of Parkers Lane, property from residence

JAN. 6 LARCENIES
2400 block of Fairhaven Avenue, wallet from residence
7700 block of Richmond Highway, phone from business

STOLEN VEHICLES
1200 block of Cedar Dale Lane, GMC Yukon
3500 block of Robert E. Lee Place, Chevrolet Tahoe

JAN. 5 LARCENIES
7800 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise stolen from business.



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Alex./Sunny View \$390,000
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Alex./Mt. Vernon Woods \$400,000
4006 Buckman Road

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OPINION

Budget Season Trainwreck?

County looks at “lines of business,” schools call for full funding.

Karen Garza didn't move to Fairfax County from Texas to preside over the decline of Fairfax County Public Schools. For this year's budget, the superintendent refused to cut to fit as the school system has the last two years, and called for a fully funded budget. It's true that Fairfax County schools have more students who are poor and/or are still learning English and those students cost more to educate. It's true that Fairfax County teachers make less than teachers in other bordering jurisdictions. It's true that Fairfax County spends less per student by a significant amount than other bordering jurisdictions, even accounting for size.

It's also true that Fairfax County, which provides most of the school funding, already transfers 52 percent and more of its annual budget to the schools. It's true that the county has limited revenue sources, with almost all revenue coming from property taxes. Residential property tax revenues are not growing much. Fairfax County's commercial tax base is flat or contracting with historically high vacancy rates. This is in part due to reduced spending by the federal government, but it's also about new and likely lasting trends in the way companies use office space.

The county is facing a shortfall, not just for education, but for other important things like transportation, social services, recreation and the environment.

EDITORIAL

The Board of Supervisors and heads of county departments are about to engage in an intensive effort to review every area of county spending, with supervisors devoting two full days a week for the foreseeable future on “lines of business” review in the budget committee. What results from this process could set the stage for some reforms and some savings.

But none of those invested in Fairfax County, not the elected officials, not the teachers, not the county employees, especially not the residents, want to preside over the decline of quality of life in one of the wealthiest counties in the universe.

What's really needed is for the county to have access to a variety of revenue sources. It's excruciating to raise property taxes across the board, knowing that some people will be hard hit since there is no relation to ability to pay. But that is almost the only option the county has.

This brings us to tax reform and the General Assembly. It's pie in the sky, but localities in Virginia should have direct access to a portion of the income tax collected by the state. Northern Virginia pays the vast majority of the income taxes paid to the Commonwealth, but every penny set gets funnelled through a formula that by definition sends less money back.

Income is a measure of economic viability. There are other options, which we will detail in the future.

To find the names of your current representatives in the Virginia House and Senate, visit <http://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/> and enter your address.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Board's Lack Of Transparency

To the Editor:

This week, the newly elected Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held its first meeting. Once a month, it votes on appointments to various boards, authorities and commissions. In letters to the Gazette (one of which was published in the Nov. 24, 2014 edition) and to Board Chairman Sharon Bulova, I have criticized the board for its lack of transparency concerning the manner by which they vote upon prospective appointees. Summarizing, several days prior to each meeting, the meeting agenda is made public including the list of prospective appointees. Invariably, on the day of the meeting, board members receive a revised list of appointees that is not publicly revealed. The board then votes en masse up or down on the entire revised list. The public is only aware of the voted-upon appointees after the fact. This procedure was, again, followed this week.

This procedure violates the Virginia Code which requires all materials furnished to board members to be simultaneously made available for public inspection. Va. Code Section 2.2-3707 F. On one occasion, I compared the agenda list with the revised list and found 60

changes. In the interest of transparency, I have advocated, without success, that any changes in the appointments from the listing made public several days prior to a meeting should automatically be deferred to the next meeting. Unfortunately, our board has valued expediency over democracy and has refused to change its procedure to make it transparent.

Taxpayers are entitled to have advance notice of prospective appointments so that they can contact board members to express support or opposition. Nobody forced members of the board to serve on the board. If they do not wish to make the process transparent for their constituents, nor to spend the time at a board meeting informing the public as to each and every prospective appointee, perhaps they should step aside and allow other citizens to serve who understand the importance to democracy of transparency.

This issue is not political, it is procedural. It is just unacceptable for the board to continue to conceal from taxpayers the people they intend to appoint to boards, authorities and commissions until those appointments have already been made. Accordingly, I have decided that if the board continues to deal with prospective appointees in the same fashion at the next board meeting at which appointments are made, I will consider asking the Fairfax County Circuit Court for an injunction to compel the

Pet Photos for the Pet Gazette

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on Feb. 24, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Feb. 17.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and/or your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your home or yard with you. Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures. Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

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board to abide by Virginia law. This step would be taken with great reluctance, but, sometimes, there comes a time when citizens must do whatever is necessary to force government leaders to obey the law.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Let's Agree On Common Sense

To the Editor:

Here are a few things which might help Frank Medico [Letter, “Infringing on Second Amendment,” The Gazette, Jan. 7] understand the current debate. The correct term is “common sense gun legislation,” not “common sense gun control.” There is a difference. He writes, “They never, however, state how these ‘common sense’ gun laws they want could have stopped the killings that occurred in Newtown, Conn., San Bernardino, Calif and the marathon bombing in Massachusetts,” because they probably would not have stopped them. But clearly, common sense gun legislation could stop future tragedies.

Further on he says, “They always bring out the extremes. They want to ban AK-47's.” Not

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8

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Surovell's 2016 Legislative Agenda: Part I

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
STATE SENATOR-ELECT (D-36)



On Jan. 13, I take my oath of office as your state senator. I am planning on introducing approximately forty bills and about a dozen budget amendments in our 60-day session.

Predatory Lending

Predatory lending is a major problem in the U.S. 1 Corridor. Car title lenders have been abusing this loophole by charging rates over 200 percent by recharacterizing car title loans as separately regulated car title loans. To rein in car title lender bait and switch tactics, I am proposing to limit interest rates on consumer finance loans at 36 percent. I have also introduced legislation to prohibit car title lenders from using subsidiaries from using the open end credit loophole to also evade consumer protections.

Transportation

High occupancy toll lanes or "HOT Lanes" have brought some much needed relief and predictability to commuters on I-495, I-95 and I-395 — but at a price. However, the collection of unpaid tolls through the courts has highlighted problems in the current sys-

tem. I have introduced legislation to confirm a one-year statute of limitations on unpaid toll collections and to only allow a toll collector to collect stepped up fines after an actual conviction of a prior offense. This will prevent HOT lanes operators from suing commuters for over \$2,000 for four offenses involving less than \$20 of unpaid tolls, and provides some notice and fairness to the collection process.

I have also introduced legislation directing the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to study restructuring Virginia's tolls to give some credit to in-state residents for the existing taxpayer investment in road projects. Other states, including Maryland, provide in-state residents discounts on toll roads. We should do the same. I have also re-introduced a bill to restructure voting on the board that decides how transportation money is spent based on current population instead of 1930's congressional district boundaries.

Sunshine

I am carry several bills to increase government transparency. The first, reverses the Supreme Court of Virginia's opinion in my

case versus Department of Corrections interpreting the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The court held that if one sentence in a government record is exempt from FOIA, the government can withhold an entire document. I called that the "poison pill" rule and my bill requires the government to redact information instead of withholding entire documents.

The court also held that a court reviewing FOIA response is required to give "great deference" to the government's decision that information should not be disclosed. That decision runs completely against the purpose of FOIA which is to allow citizens to ensure their government is being run transparently.

I am also introducing legislation that would prohibit law enforcement from withholding police reports from families involving deaths or suicides as is the present practice. I have also introduced legislation prohibiting local governments from using executive session to discuss salary raises for elected officials as occurred last year here in Northern Virginia.

Consumer Protection

Thanks to Congressman Beyer's amendment to federal transportation legislation, I have introduced legislation confirming

that Virginia's localities have the authority to regulate predatory towing. Also, I am carrying a bill to create a cause of action against corporations that fail to include mandatory language in consumer contracts and limit consumer's remedies.

COMMENTARY

Environmental Protection

Plastic bags are the second largest pollutant in our area creeks. I will introduce legislation that would authorize localities in Northern Virginia to charge a \$0.05 per bag tax on plastic bags.

Finally, I will introduce legislation requiring investor-owned utilities to remove and store coal ash in modern landfills. There is a 70-year-old leaking coal ash dump less than 1,000 yards from the Potomac River in Dumfries, Va. Similar legislation was passed in North Carolina's Republican legislature last year.

Constituent Survey

You should be receiving my 2016 Constituent Survey in the mail this week. If you would like to save a stamp, you can fill it out online at www.scottsuovell.org/survey.

It will be a very busy year and I will write about a few more of my bills next week. Please continue to send me your input at atscott@scottsuovell.org. It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

Krizek Announces 2016 Legislative Agenda

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)



The 2016 legislative session is underway and it's already a whirlwind. Endless meetings — and meetings about meetings — I've hardly had a chance to find my office.

I have submitted about a dozen bills so far and am co-patroning even more — the full list of which is available on the Legislative Information Systems website. I would like to highlight a few of these bills for readers.

HB45 and HB391 limit predatory title lenders from operating within 20 miles of a casino and within 10 miles of a military base. This would effectively cease all new predatory title lending operations in Mount

Vernon and Lee.

During the 2015 campaign, I joined state Sen. Scott Surovell in opposing these high-interest lenders preying upon our community. I am confident these unscrupulous businesses

received our message that they are unwelcome in the 44th District.

Also this year, I am patroning HB 627, which would tax e-cigarettes and related nicotine vapor products at 15 percent of the sale price. All previous measures to levy an e-cigarette tax have failed in the General Assembly, but they each designated a specific dollar amount. It is my hope in creating a percentage tax similar to the tax on

cigarettes, that we will finally get an e-cigarette tax in the code. The tax on cigarettes is 10 percent of the sales price, which puts it at one of the lowest cigarette taxes in the country. It will inevitably be raised. I settled on the higher-but-still-too-low 15 percent figure for my e-cigarette tax because it is harder to get legislation initially into the code than it is to alter existing legislation.

I have many years experience working with American Indians, and the Commonwealth's relationship with its Native tribes is very important to me. I have patroned HB 135, which grants all members of a Virginia recognized tribe in-state tuition. I also patroned HB 144, which designates Native Americans Day to be observed on the second Monday in October

COMMENTARY

to honor the great Native American leaders who contributed to the history of the Commonwealth. Finally, I join my predecessor state Sen. Scott Surovell in his push to enact legislation allowing Community Solar Net Metering. HB 618 will allow tens-of-thousands of Virginia residents living in apartments and condominiums an opportunity to receive their power from clean, renewable solar energy.

I invite all constituents to attend my official swearing-in ceremony at the Capitol Building on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 1:30 p.m. — simply email my Legislative Aide at Thomas@paulkrizek to RSVP.

Please come visit me in Richmond to share your positions on issues the General Assembly is considering this session.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 6
true.

What we in Northern Virginia have set as our top three priorities for the upcoming legislative session are universal background checks, a Domestic Violence Restraining Order bill, and a return to the one-gun-a-month law. Nothing extreme here and no mention of AK-47's. So how exactly would these three common sense gun legislation bills infringe on Mr. Medico's constitutional rights?

He and those who share his views like to point to Chicago and other high crime cit-

ies with tough gun laws that still have high crime murder rates. They seldom acknowledge that many of the guns used in those cities came from neighboring states and counties who have not enacted common sense gun legislation. It's simple — go to Indiana, buy your guns, and bring them back to Chicago.

Finally, as to why the Attorney General recently took action to notify 25 states that their concealed carry permits (CCP) would no longer be recognized in Virginia is because he did what you and others have consistently said he should do — enforced the

laws already on the books. Why would you want someone who couldn't meet Virginia's weak requirements to get a CCP to come here with their concealed weapon?

If you look at facts and don't judge based on ideology you will see that common sense gun legislation does make sense and will save lives.

John K. Bergen
Alexandria

The writer is the public health and safety coordinator for the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Brady Campaign for the Prevention of Gun Violence.

Write

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

Letters to the Editor
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Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-917-6444 or email
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PHILLIPS PARK, DC \$4,100,000

4450 Deerfield Road NW

Built in 2015, this Greek Revival is an original Phillips Park home designed by Jones & Boer Architects. Encompassing more than 6,500 square feet, this home offers six bedrooms, a chef's kitchen with La Cornue range, and generously proportioned public rooms with high ceilings.

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ARLINGTON \$2,750,000

1881 N Nash Street #2110

This two-bedroom and den penthouse has an open floor plan and floor-to-ceiling windows with stunning Potomac River views. There is ample closet space, direct elevator access, laundry room, vaulted ceilings, and a spacious balcony. The gourmet kitchen features granite countertops, Miele appliances, breakfast bar and heated floors. Two-car parking and close to metro.

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BELLE HAVEN \$1,395,000

2210 Belle Haven Road

Open Sunday 2-4PM: Sited on a large corner lot in one of Belle Haven's quietest and most secluded locations, this beautiful home has so much to offer. Gracious formal rooms, totally renovated kitchen and baths, first-floor family room with a wet bar, screened porch, garage, and lovely fenced lot.

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OLD TOWN \$1,195,000

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9324 Old Mansion Road

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MOUNT VERNON \$595,000

4310 Southwood Drive

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Design Trends for 2016

Local style gurus predict the elements that will be popular this year.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

The start of the year offers an opportunity to ring in new trends, particularly when it comes to a home's interior. From sustainably sourced textiles to sparsely accessorized rooms, local tastemakers look into their crystal balls and offer predictions on design elements that will be popular this year.

Interior design is going high tech, allowing designers and clients an opportunity to work collaboratively during the design process. "Technology seems to be driving design firms," said Jean P. Freeman, professor of Interior Design at Marymount University in Arlington. "Since there are so many computer programs that assist designers in creating visual, 3-D drawings, clients are able to better understand the designs. Designers and clients both are able to visualize how spaces appear with colors, textures, volume, proportion and other aspects of design."

Freeman believes that consumer demand for energy efficient appliances and designs, as well as sustainably sourced materials, is a trend that will continue and even be elevated. "Now they are interested to find out the origins of various textiles, furniture [and] cabinets," said Freeman.

Eschewing fussy and indulgent decor in favor of a clean and simple aesthetic is a trend that Kristine Winner, associate professor of Interior Design at Northern Virginia Community College expects to see this year. "... This indicates a trend toward more comfortably contemporary environments with minimal accessories," she said. "It also indicates that we should be designing interiors for people that will allow them to be surrounded by the things they love rather than a load of things selected for no real reason."

The trend toward de-cluttering and simplification will extend to home choices. "Go small or go home" is one theme that Sharon Kleinman of Transitions in Potomac, Md. believes will resonate with consumers this year.

"One trend I'm seeing among my clients is that they are either downsizing from large homes on more acreage or moving towards city living with little to no property and more compact living space," said



PHOTO BY GWYN HUNT

Designers will be tasked with creating elegant spaces on a small scale in 2016, predicts interior designer Sharon Kleinman.

Kleinman. "I'm also seeing clients gravitate towards transitional furnishings. There doesn't seem to be as great a divide between the more traditional versus the more modern."

Outdoor upholstery fabric will no longer be confined to alfresco furniture, forecasts Amanda Mertins, president of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria. "One of the most popular design trends for this year is the use of outdoor fabric for indoor upholstery," she said. "It has been used for high traffic rooms especially where kids are involved but now, given a broader selection and interesting patterns, customers are using it in traditional living areas and dining rooms."

Elegant and bold mirrors will make an appearance in bathrooms marrying style and function. "Bye-bye to medicine cabinets and hello to mirrors that make a statement," said Mertins. "Modern metallics, large wood-framed and vintage mirrors add interest and boost style to a utilitarian space which is used every day."

Furniture and accessories made of Lucite, a transparent plastic material, is one trend that Marika Meyer of Marika Meyer Interiors predicts for 2016. The designer also expects to see a transition from cool grays to warmer grays, whites and cool beiges being used as neutral shades. "We are seeing a return to organic patterns as a change from the strong geometrics, which have populated the fabric field for the last few years," she said. "Colors and patterns are still quite popular and will be."

Trends that Gretchen Fuss, interior designer with Tchoupitoulas Furnishings in Alexandria, expects to see include "classic, elegant, fundamental pieces with clean lines as seen in midcentury modern, vignettes composed in thoughtful arrangements that include pops of color found in Abstract art," she said.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JANUARY

1/27/2016..... Community Guide

1/27/2016..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

FEBRUARY

2/3/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I

2/3/2016..... Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month

2/10/2016..... HomeLifeStyle

2/10/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II

2/17/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools

2/24/2016..... Pet Connection

MARCH

3/2/2016..... Wellbeing

3/9/2016..... HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout

3/16/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools

3/23/2016..... Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

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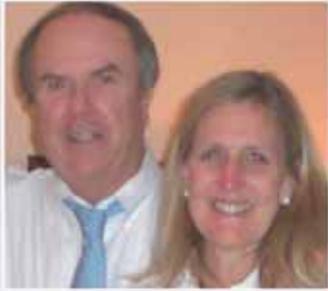
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2403 Stirrup Lane
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Updated Contemporary
Gorgeous fenced lot, just one block from Stratford Elem. Extensive updates throughout including brand new custom kitchen, 3 updated baths. Gorgeous hdwd flrs, and total interior painting. Size, condition, location & price add up to best value in area. Open Sunday, 1/17, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkin, becomes Londonderry; R-Camden; L-Stirrup.



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Minutes from Old Town, just off GW Parkway. Stunning custom home designed by two owner architects featuring delightful combination of classic Mount Vernon inspired exterior with spectacular open floor plan. Glass walls and meticulously planned siting capitalizes on water views provided by elevated lot. Custom two story dock with upper level deck, 182 ft frontage on Little Hunting Creek. Unique opportunity to acquire a prime close-in waterfront property with dock for under \$1,000,000!



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Stunning Open Floor Plan!
Spacious & open-truly spectacular property with stunning family room addition. Expansive glass walls, soaring cathedral ceilings & open floor plan bring light to every corner of the home. Other features include custom, gourmet kitchen with huge 17x6 pantry. Updated baths and 2 car garage. Huge deck capitalizes on private back yard. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac in heart of Mt Vernon! Open Sunday, 1/17, 1-4. GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Presidential; L-Mavis.



8931 Fort Hunt Rd
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Prime Location—Updated Throughout!
Best value in prestigious Plymouth Haven! Fabulous updated 5BR home on magnificent half acre lot. Prime location just across from Ft Hunt Park. Spacious home is loaded with upgrades and custom features. Stunning beautiful grounds with custom in-ground pool. Wayneswood School. Adjoining property just sold for \$1.6. Other recent neighborhood sales \$1.5 - \$1.7. Super value. Open Sunday, 1/17, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Fort Hunt Rd, house on right.



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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!



9408 Brambly Lane
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Builder's Showcase!
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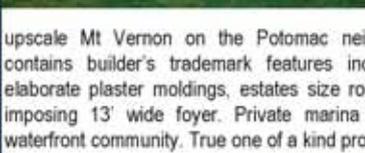
9329 Mt Vernon Cir
\$1,195,000
One of Area's Most Admired Properties!
Classic Georgian manor home crafted by legendary master builder, Eugene Cullinane to serve as model for homes in upscale Mt Vernon on the Potomac neighborhood. Special home contains builder's trademark features including custom brickwork, elaborate plaster moldings, estates size rooms, stately 10' ceilings & imposing 13' wide foyer. Private marina access in area's leading waterfront community. True one of a kind property!



8824 Stratford Lane
\$949,000
Best New Home Value in Stratford



9429 Forest Haven Dr
\$699,000
Spectacular Contemporary!



3232 Woodland Lane
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Absolutely Adorable!



4831 Stillwell Ave
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ENTERTAINMENT

LTA Stages Cult Docu-Drama, 'Grey Gardens'

Story of Jackie Kennedy's relatives and the American Dream gone wrong.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is staging "Grey Gardens" from Jan. 16 to Feb. 6, 2016. Based on a true story and the 1975 cult documentary, it is an exploration of the American Dream gone wrong and what it means to become a social pariah.

Director Christopher Dykton said "Grey Gardens" is a chamber piece about the aunt and cousin of Jackie Kennedy: Big Edie and her daughter Little Edie who created a scandal in the 1970s by living in squalor at their dilapidated Hampton estate known as Grey Gardens. The story focuses on the life of the characters in a couple moments in time. Dykton said exploring the heart of characters in unique situations and taking a good look at human nature has been an artistic focus for him lately.

"Sad, happy, touching, and brutal, 'Grey Gardens' deeply explores human nature and how our choices lead to who we are, what we become, and what we accept, especially as we grow older," said Dykton. "And it's a study of the relationship between a mother and a daughter, albeit a damaged relationship."

Presenting 'Grey Gardens' at two different points in time was quite a challenge, he said. "With the exception of the part of older Big Edie in Act 2, all other actors — there are eight of them: two women, four men, and two juvenile actresses — portray dual parts between the two acts. Of course, the biggest artistic challenge and perhaps the best female musical lead created to date in the 21st century is the role of Big Edie in Act 1 and Little Edie in Act 2. These characters are played by the same actress, which demands an actress of great skill," he said.

Co-producer Rachel Alberts said this musical has everything. "The first act is a fairly classic musical, in style and in tone. But the second act cracks that facade and we're really drawn in to the change. The two acts are so different and so powerful. I loved reading the script, so when I was asked to produce it, I couldn't say no. I wanted to be part of bringing this odd, quirky, powerful musical to life."

She added: "This play is a strange hybrid — part love story between a mother and a daughter and partly an exploration of the American Dream gone wrong and what it means to become a social pariah. The story blends humor, heartache and humanity. It's also based on a true story which makes it even more compelling."

She said the music is challenging, filled with four-part harmonies and odd tonal switches, but it's also incredibly beautiful and really serves to move the story forward. They had to find three actors (Big Edie, Little Edie, and Edith) who could act and sing and "become" one another. "It's pretty amazing what the script asks of these actresses, but they deliver. It took a lot of ef-



The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "Grey Gardens" from Jan. 16 to Feb. 6.

fort, and a lot of practice, but I think they nailed it," she added.

Nicky McDonnell plays Big Edie in Act 1 and Little Edie in Act 2. "In Act 1, we see Big and Little Edie on a splendid summer day in 1941 where their lives appear to be in full bloom and full of promise," she said. "Beneath that wealthy exterior, however, we see the subtle foreshadowing for where we find the mother and daughter in Act 2. This is arguably one of the great tales of riches to rags and an incredible study on how that affects the human condition. It also is a powerful window on how we as onlookers perceive a circumstance such as this from afar."

She added: "Both women are very bright, very fragile and very dependent on one another. Their actions, choices and desperation capture the imagination and the story takes us down a road less traveled."

She hopes the audience will discover the intricacies of the story. "I think a lot of people will see crazy instead of courage. I want them to see nostalgia instead of nuts; I want them to see bravery instead of bonkers. Most of all I want them to see and feel the love and loss that exists in this story and touch their sense of compassion rather than judgment."

Marshall Cesena plays two characters, Joe Kennedy Jr. and Jerry. "Joe is on the road to greatness, and Edie is going to help on that journey — he thinks. Jerry is a young, local handyman who stumbled onto the house one day and keeps coming back for the entertainment and companionship," he said.

For challenges, he said the show has a lot of highs and lows. "One minute your character is on top of the world, endless possibilities ahead, and the next he's fighting for his future, dreams ripped away," he said.

Dick Reed also plays two characters: Major Bouvier, father of Edith and grandfather of the other Edith as well as Jackie and Lee Bouvier in Act 1; and Norman Vincent Peale in Act 2. "The two are oddly similar in that each firmly believes that everyone holds the key to their own destiny," he said. "NVP ex-

presses this in a song that parodies his mantra of the power of 'Positive Thinking,' 'Choose to Be Happy.' Major Bouvier does this in song, too ('Marry Well'), but also clearly states his disappointment in and total disgust with his daughter and her choices."

He said the biggest challenge for him was being strict toward his daughter. "Bouvier is a softie with his grandchildren even while instructing them how to live worthwhile lives. I have daughters and a grandson — each of whom I love dearly and enjoy even more — and while I did and do give them advice on life, I did not do as a [disciplinarian]. So I have nothing in my experience to bring to the character. And the women playing these roles are wonderful, which makes being harsh that much harder to do."

Penelope Gallagher plays the role of Lee Bouvier, the tomboy sister of Jackie, and a real princess. For challenges, she said, "In the show, I have to go from sad numbers to happy numbers constantly. Also, most of the actors are adults who have much more experience than I do. I'm just trying to learn as much as I can."

Joel Reppress plays two different roles: Brooks Jr. and Brooks Sr. "The character Brooks Sr. is the glue in the first act. He keeps everything on schedule. He is aware of the issues between Big Edie and Little Edie, but knows his role," he said.

He added: "While my role is small it helps support the story, so maintaining focus and matching the intensity of the actresses who portray Little Edie in the first act and second act is important."

The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria, is staging "Grey Gardens" from Jan. 16 to Feb. 6. The show runs Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and \$30. Call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

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

"Printed Matter." Through Jan. 17, at The Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Printed Matter features a mix of works (printed media, such as xerography, book arts, and graphic design) created using traditional techniques as well as newer or reimagined ones. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org 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.

"True Colors: Like a Rainbow." Through Jan. 31, gallery hours at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans' artists use colors of the rainbow for inspiration. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/True.

"Celebrating What We're Made Of." Through Jan. 31 at The Associates Gallery, 105 N. Union St. This show features mixed media artist and TAG member Karen Fitzgerald, who creates art from recycled materials. Using everything from junk mail to food packaging,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

3 Healthy Eats to Start the Year Off Right

Trying to balance a resolution with reality?

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

It's a new year, and your willpower to maintain your fitness goal is still going strong. With one eye on the scale and the other on your social calendar, it can be tough to find a middle ground. Here are three restaurants that make keeping your resolution a little easier.

The Sushi Bar, 2312 Mount Vernon Ave.

One of the newer faces on Del Ray's block, The Sushi Bar made a splash when it first opened by becoming the yin to its neighboring Pork Barrel Barbecue's yang. Its calm, sleek demeanor welcomes diners in a way that is quite different from Pork Barrel's more rowdy layout. Whereas its neighbor sports a fun-for-the-whole-family environment, The Sushi Bar is more subdued, even requesting that children stay home. And in perhaps the starkest contrast, the food at The Sushi Bar is filling yet clean and healthy — a perfect way to stay on your resolution diet and still enjoy a great night out.

The first thing you'll notice about The Sushi Bar is its menu. So often, sushi restaurants maintain the same general standards and the same general offerings as all of their competitors: miso soup and salad, a California roll, and the like. But The Sushi Bar does things a little differently.

At first, diners might be a little stymied when scoping out the menu, but given a moment to warm up to the chef's specialty rolls, it's soon clear that this is a chef who knows what he's doing. From the Del Ray roll — a mix of spicy tuna, avocado, eel sauce, jalapeno, and more — to the crunchy salsa roll, a masterpiece teeming with mixed fish, avocado, and mango salsa, there are plenty of opportunities to try new things while sticking to your calorie count. The vegetable rolls — notably the Veggie J roll — are also standouts in their own right, bursting with fresh vegetables and served in creative ways. (Helpful hint: If you're looking for other non-fish sushi options, all you have to do is ask. The chef will make a showpiece worth waiting for.)

If you've got room in your diet for something to wet your whistle, you'd do well to try the sake tasting menu. Or order by the carafe or by the bottle — there's something on the menu for all tastes and price points.

The Pita House, 719 King St.

The Pita House is no Johnny-come-lately to the Old Town restaurant scene, that's for sure. From its former abode on Cameron Street to its newer digs on King, just west of Washington Street, it's a familiar face to many Alexandrians. And its fresh, flavorful menu offerings continue to welcome diners in, year after year.

Sit down, order a Turkish coffee and an appetizer of hommos bel fool — hummus topped with hot fava beans — and peruse the menu for your main dish. You can get a lot for your caloric buck here if you know what to look for. Craving a green-veggie meal? The Pita House's Greek salad, brimming with fresh lettuce, tomatoes, green peppers, fresh feta cheese, and a light, tangy dressing, will leave you satisfied.

If you're in the mood for something a little heartier, one of the restaurant's shawarma varieties — beef, chicken, or a combination — will hit the spot. Slow-roasted and served alongside rice and plenty of vegetables, it's decidedly a Pita House specialty. Or split the difference and select a sandwich: The veggie pita will fill you up without weighing you down.

Fontaine, 119 S. Royal St.

Admittedly, you've got to be careful how you order to stick to your resolution goals at Fontaine, purveyor of crepes both sweet and savory. But peruse the menu carefully — and steer clear of most of the sweet crepes — and you'll find a world of options available that will help you stay on the right path.

If you're ready to dial up your vegetable intake, you could do much worse than the Farmer's Market crepe, which is filled with zucchini, mushrooms, tomatoes, spinach, and a hint of feta cheese. Or investigate the Zenist, which is a wonderful mix of lentils, tomatoes, and spinach in a coriander coco-



The Farmer's Market crepe at Fontaine is full of veggies



The chef at The Sushi Bar creates custom rolls for guests with diet restrictions. Here, he's created a vegetarian roll.

nut curry sauce. Fontaine's array of salads are also excellent choices — but you're at a restaurant that specializes in crepes. Make the most of it!

If you simply can't walk away from Fontaine without a sweet treat, give the Sweetest Thing a try. Filled with wine-marinated cherries and mascarpone cheese, it's a delight for the taste buds, a wonderfully

surprising mouthful of sweet and sour with each bite. Enlist your dining companions to split the crepe with you, and you can still stick to your diet plan with minimal guilt and maximum taste.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

Fitzgerald's art celebrates the small things that make up our everyday lives. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Birds of a Feather." Through Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery—Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The artist focus on things that go together: ham and eggs, bride and groom, etc. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

THURSDAY/JAN. 14

Meigs Hodge. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Traditional and contemporary blues guitar and vocals. Tickets are \$15.

Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Civil War Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Civil War Ball on the Jan. 23, learn the waltz, polka, Virginia Reel and more from an expert. Tickets are \$12 per class, \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

Holy Holy. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Band Holy Holy will perform featuring Tony Visconti and Woody Woodmansey performing David Bowie's "The Man Who Sold the World." Tickets are \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 15

Tea Tasting: Teas for Winter Health. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Taste a variety of the best teas and herbal infusions to boost immunity and boost moods. Learn about their medicinal properties and discover new healthful brews. Tickets are \$22. Call 703-642-5173.

Garden Talk: Houseplants. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn more about the proper lighting, soil, and watering for houseplants. The class fee is \$10. Call 703-642-5173.

"No Holds Barred" Opening Reception. 6:30-9 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N.

Quaker Lane. Celebrate the exhibit named for the "don't hold back, just let go" approach artists Pamela Underhill and Rusty Lynn employ in their artmaking. Free. Visit www.convergence.org for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 15-17

Eddie From Ohio. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Local folk band will give a show entirely based on requests from the audience. Tickets are \$39.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

FRIDAY-MONDAY/JAN. 15-18

"Into the Woods Jr." 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on

Sunday and Monday at Aldersgate Church Community Theatre, 1301 Collingwood Road. Into the Woods, Jr. features Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk), and the Witch in this retelling of classic Grimm Brothers fables. Tickets are \$12 plus a service fee. Visit www.acctonline.org for more.

JAN. 15-30

"Medieval Story Land." 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Saturdays at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Red Knight Productions presents "Medieval Story Land," a parody of the medieval fantasy genre. Tickets are \$18 and

ENTERTAINMENT

\$20. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.com for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 16

Floral Design: Winter Cutting Garden. 9:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Master gardeners will conduct a class to help you determine your needs and rethink your garden space to better match your style. Admission is \$38 plus \$25 supply fee. Call 703-642-5173.

"The History of Fort Myer." 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327. Author and historian John Michael will give a lecture, and will be signing book. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Family Art Workshop: Shape Tape Art. 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Parents and children ages 4-9 are invited to make art using tape, acrylic paint, and a canvas. Tickets are \$30, \$5 for each additional child. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com/mommy-me-holiday-workshops.

Lecture: Civil War Medicine. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Dr. Guy Hasegawa, a Civil War medicine scholar, will give a talk on "Medicinal Alcohol in the Civil War." Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1702.

Book Talk: "Kidnapped by Nuns." 2-3 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Retired White House correspondent Robert Fuss will discuss his book "Kidnapped by Nuns and Other Stories of a Life in Radio," chronicling his four decades of traveling from Hollywood to Zimbabwe with presidents. Book



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Country music artist Emily West performs on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com.

sales and signing to follow. Free. Call 703-768-9840 for more.

Celebration Gala. 6-11 p.m. at Holiday Inn, 625 1st St. This Black Tie Gala will celebrate the installation of the new Pastor of Historic Shiloh Baptist Church, Reverend Taft Quincey Heatley. Tickets are \$60. Visit www.shiloh-bc.org for more.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY/JAN. 16, 23-24, 30

Jane Franklin Dance: "Niche." 7:30 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington. Alexandria dance company Jane Franklin Dance performs "Niche," which follows an unremarkable couple with a new house, big careers, and odd neighbors. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Visit

www.janefranklin.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 17

Celebrate Community 5K & 1K Fun Run/Walk. 8-11 a.m. at Eisenhower Ave. This event will honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with an additional food drive for ALIVE. Registration costs will be \$15-25, and \$20-25 on the day of the race. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for

more.
"Tea Traditions Beyond Downton Abbey." 2-3 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Laurie Bell will share how other parts of the world celebrate and enjoy tea. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1751.

The United States Marine Band. 2 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Free. Visit www.marineband.mil for more.

MONDAY/JAN. 18

MLK Community Summit. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. The MLK Community Summit is an annual community service event created and hosted by The Morning Bishop Theatre to provide meaningful service projects while learning about the contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The community is invited to participate in community service activities of first aid assemblage, baking cupcakes, creating greeting cards for the sick and shut-in, donation sorting and material organization. Contact McKenna Dilworth at theatreofpurpose@gmail.com or call 202-352-4864.

Historic Christ Church MLK Day Event. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Historic Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Christ Church Alexandria is hosting a day-long reading of his writings, speeches, and sermons. Free. Visit www.historicchristchurch.org for more.

MLK Poster Exhibition and Program. 1-3 p.m. at Volva Lawson Lobby of City Hall, 301 King St. The exhibition will display students'



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Monday-Saturday:
9:00 am Mass
En Español: Monday, 6:30 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm;

First Friday, 7:30 pm
Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesday: 6:00 pm; Thursday: 7:00 pm; First Friday: following 9:00 am Mass & 7:00 pm
Confession:
Wednesday, 6:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am, 4:00 pm
En Español:
Sunday, 1:10 pm; Saturday, 6:00 pm

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illustrations of their own family's struggles and journeys to reach Alexandria, perhaps from another country or situation. Free.

www.alexandriava.gov for more.

Gad Elmaleh: "All in English." 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. French comedian performs. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 19

Homestead Records at the National Archives. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Sharon Cook MacInnes, Ph.D. talks about the 30 states where federal homesteading occurred in this talk sponsored by the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society. Free. Visit www.mvgenalogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

Antiques Club Meeting. 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Ryan Johnson, a professional clock repairman, is scheduled this month to speak on how to properly take care of clocks, especially old clocks. Free. Call 703-360-4979 for more.

THURSDAY/JAN. 21

Morris Day and The Time. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Listen to live R&B. Tickets are \$69.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Civil War Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Civil War Ball on the Jan. 23, learn the waltz, polka, Virginia Reel and more from an expert. Tickets are \$12 per class, \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.

FRIDAY/JAN. 22

Bottle Rockets. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. St. Louis-based Bottle Rockets celebrate the release of "South Broadway Athletic Club." Tickets are \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 22-24

"Into the Woods Jr." 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday at Aldersgate Church Community Theatre, 1301 Collingwood Road. Into the Woods, Jr. features Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk), and the Witch in this retelling of classic Grimm Brothers fables. Tickets are \$12 plus a service fee. Visit www.acctonline.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 23

Preparing for a Ball. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Explore the tavern where famous balls like George Washington's Birthright Ball were held and practice the tasks involved in preparing for a ball. Includes an 18th century dance lesson and a craft to take home. The program begins each 45 minutes. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

"Our American Girl" 1-3 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Join Mount Vernon's American girl, "Nelly Custis" on a tour of George Washington's estate. Enjoy refreshments with "Lady Washington" and create colonial crafts. Tickets are \$35 for youth, \$25 for adults. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Author Event. 2-3:30 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Gregg Riley, an inspirational speaker, author and retired U.S. Army Colonel will read from and sign copies of his new book "Steps to the Promised Land." Free. Call 703-746-1702.

Documentary Screening. 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1900 Windmill Lane. Watch a 90-minute documentary on the life and principles of Aldo Leopold, author of "Sand County Almanac" and one of the principal conservationists/environmentalists of the 20th century. Free. Visit www.greenfiremovie.com for more.

Ladies Night Out Art Workshop: Vision Board. 7-9:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Women are invited to make vision boards for 2016. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com.

Emily West. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Country music artist performs. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

Civil War Ball. 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. The evening will include live music, dance instruction, and period desserts. Period attire, either civilian or military, is encouraged. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

JAN. 23-FEB. 28

"Trending: Contemporary Art Now!" Gallery hours at the Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. This all-media exhibition shows works by self-identifying women artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target.

SUNDAY/JAN. 24

American Association of

University Women Program. 2-4 p.m. at Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. The Guest House Speaker's Bureau is a program in which women who have exited from prison/jail share their journeys about the origin of their difficulties, the nature of incarceration, and the steps they are taking to reenter society as responsible citizens. Their talks reveal insights into larger policy issues being addressed by the currently-heightened focus on improving the criminal justice system. Free. Call 703-548-1349 for more.

MONDAY/JAN. 25

"WIRED Alexandria." 6:30 p.m. at The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave. Agenda: Alexandria presents "WIRED Alexandria: Is Our Historic City Living in the Past?" Neighboring jurisdictions offer dark fibre, cable/broadband choices and widespread public Wi-Fi hotspots important to today's businesses and young people. Can Alexandria compete? Find a cash bar followed by dinner. Tickets are \$32 for members, \$37 for nonmembers before Jan. 22; \$37 for members, \$42 for nonmembers after Jan. 22. Tickets for the program only are \$5 for nonmembers, free for members. Reservations required. Call Sherry Brown at 703-548-7089 or email agendaalexandria@aol.com.

Lecture: "Medical Heroism in Alexandria." 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Tom Schultz of DC Military Tours will discuss the heroism and challenges that doctors and nurses experienced in ministering to the wounded in Alexandria and the advances in women's rights and medical science as a result of their efforts. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 26

Homeschool Day: Wrights' Flight. 1-2:30 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear about Orville Wright's historic flight from Fort Myer to Alexandria and test basic principles of flight. Tickets are \$8 per child, free for adults. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.

Annual Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Meeting/Book Talk. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites, 8100 Loisdale Road, Springfield. White House press corps member Paul Brandus will discuss and sign his book "Under This Roof." Tickets are \$45. Visit www.mtvernon-leechamber.com for more.

"Talking Mercy." 7-8 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. A discussion of the show so far and a look at the "real" Alexandria. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1703.

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West Potomac Dominates MV in Second Half

Wolverines get physical, earn third straight conference win.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

West Potomac boys' basketball coach David Houston III entered Tuesday's contest against rival Mount Vernon thinking his team had an advantage in the post and encouraged the Wolverines to attack the basket and be physical in the paint.

Mount Vernon held its own for the first 17 minutes and the host Majors took a 33-26 lead when senior guard Hameed Oyedele made a pair of free throws with 7:14 remaining in the third quarter.

The rest of the second half, however, belonged to West Potomac.

After 3-pointers by West Potomac's Daryl Mackey and Khalil Williams Diggins cut the Wolverines' deficit to one, and a jumper by Mount Vernon's Alpha Kamara boosted the Majors' advantage to 35-32, West Potomac took over with a physical brand of basketball.

Da'Jon Bellfield got things started with an inside bucket. Jamie Sara scored back-to-back baskets in the paint, including a tip-in. Da'Juan Bellfield flew into the lane to grab an offensive rebound and scored on a putback.

Williams Diggins' 3-pointer with 1 minute remaining in the third quarter capped a 21-2 run for the Wolverines, who continued to pull away in the fourth quarter and ended the evening with a 68-48 victory at Mount Vernon High School.

The Wolverines outscored the Majors 21-8 in the third quarter and 42-18 in the second half. Twenty-five of West Potomac's 42 second-half points resulted from shot attempts close to the basket or free throws.

"That was a conscious halftime adjustment," Houston said. "Inside, Sara needed to get in, Bellfield needed to get inside. We just wanted to work inside-out. We wanted to do it for the whole game, but that was definitely a second-half adjustment — making our layups, getting layups, getting to the foul line and seeing how they handled that."

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 14

Business Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Walker's Grille, 6909 Metro Park Drive. Learn more about cyber insurance for your business. Tickets are \$25 for Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce members and their guests, \$35 for non-members. Visit www.mtvernon-leechamber.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help ensure a mentally healthy community. The **Advisory Board of the Joe and Fredona Gartlan Center** for mental health is looking for volunteers. The board meets the second Tuesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. at Gartlan Center 8119 Holland Road.

United Community Ministries seeks volunteers



PHOTOS BY JEFF MCQUILKIN

Khalil Williams Diggins led West Potomac with 26 points during Tuesday's win over Mount Vernon.

West Potomac had four players grab at least four rebounds. Sara led the way with seven, Da'Juan Bellfield grabbed six, Da'Jon Bellfield had five and Idaresit Ekpuk totaled four.

"It was all about going back to the principles of what we were doing in practice," Da'Jon Bellfield said. "Boxing out and ... doing what we do best — getting an offensive rebound and tapping it in."

Williams Diggins led West Potomac with 26 points. The junior guard made four 3-pointers and made 5 of 6 free-throw attempts in the fourth quarter.

Freshman guard Mackey scored 14 points for the Wolverines and Sara had 13. Da'Jon Bellfield and Brandan Lisenby each had five points.

"I felt that West Potomac did a good job of establishing dominance in the paint and we kind of slacked off in the second half," said first-year Mount Vernon head coach

to act as food pantry assistants, basic needs counselors, youth tutors and mentors, office admin/data entry, community outreach, ESL teachers and co-teachers, and teacher aides. Visit www.ucmagency.org/volunteer-at-ucm.html.

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."



Jamie Sara scored 13 points and grabbed seven rebounds against Mount Vernon on Tuesday.

Lou Golden, who spent the previous nine seasons as an assistant for the Majors. "We played with a lot of energy inside in the first half, but didn't come with that same energy in the second half. ... I think we mentally lost it and forgot about the boxing out, forgot about the rebounding and were just trying to out-jump them and they are just way too athletic to out-jump ..."

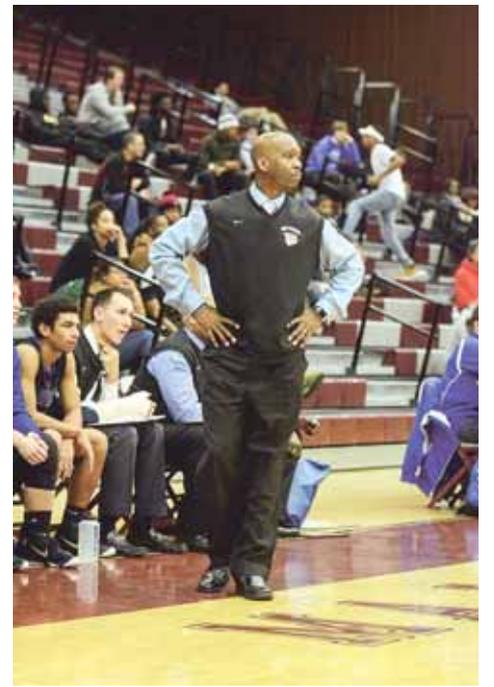
West Potomac led 57-42 with 3:32 remaining in the fourth quarter when Golden received two technical fouls for arguing with officials. Golden felt a West Potomac player should have been called for basket interference for slapping the backboard during a Mount Vernon shot attempt.

"I thought some of the calls weren't going our way — naturally every coach is going to feel like that — but that particular play I've seen ... 30 times and 29 of those 30 times that's a basket interference with the magnitude that he hit the backboard with," Golden said, "so, one, I wanted him to explain how that wasn't basket interference. For two, I really was trying to show my team I'm fired up, I'm passionate about this game, I'm willing to get thrown out of the game to go all-out, to show you how passionate I am about winning and playing hard just because I felt that they weren't giving that to me."

Kamara and Timothy Edwards each scored 12 points for Mount Vernon. Oyedele finished with 10. Orlando Teel grabbed six rebounds and Josiah Jimboy grabbed five.

The victory improved West Potomac's record to 6-6 overall and 3-2 in Conference 7. The Wolverines have won three straight conference games, including victories over Lake Braddock and Woodson, after suffering a 56-55 home loss to T.C. Williams on Dec. 18.

"We thought we gave one away against TC," Houston said. "We thought we should have been one more up on the win column,



Head coach David Houston III and the West Potomac boys' basketball team have won three consecutive Conference 7 contests.



Lou Golden is in his first season as head coach of the Mount Vernon boys' basketball team.

so only way to make it up is to get one here. ... We learned from our mistakes. The TC game was a big game for us ... because we made a lot of mistakes."

Mount Vernon dropped to 5-7 overall and 1-4 in the conference.

The Majors will travel to face T.C. Williams at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15. The Wolverines will travel to take on Annandale.

"It fuels our confidence, but we've got to know we've got to stay within ourselves," Sara said. "... That's three in a row, [and we want to] keep it rolling. We know we have something now but we've got to build off of that. We know we have athletes, we're athletic, we can get in the paint, [and we need to] keep it going."

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ABC LICENSE
Bethelhem Lando, trading as Hebir Ethiopian Exotic Restaurant, 410 East Glebe Rd, Alexandria, VA 22305. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises and Mixed Beverage on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Bethelhem Lando, owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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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OBITUARY
Lawrence A. Wilkes (age 71)

Of Alexandria, on Tuesday January 5, 2016 at INOVA Alexandria Hospital. Born in Warrenton on September 29, 1944, he was a son of Gordon Allen Wilkes and Mildred F. Lunsford Wilkes who preceded him in death. He was graduated from Virginia Military Institute and earned a Master's at the University of Virginia. Mr Wilkes served in the Army as a captain. He was the President of WVS Development Companies. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Carol S. Wilkes; a son, Lawrence Gordon Wilkes; a daughter, Anne Joline Wilkes; his twin brother and sister in law, Gerald and Barbara Wilkes. A memorial service was held at Moser Funeral Home on Sat. January 9, 2016 at 1pm. Interment Warrenton Cemetery. In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to VMI Foundation, PO Box 932, Lexington, VA 24450 with his name on the memo line.
www.moserfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARY
Col. Edward K. Yellman, loving husband, devoted father and grandfather died peacefully at home January 4, 2016. He is lovingly remembered as a man of deep personal integrity, patriotism, dedication to duty, and love of family and country. Friends may call at the Demaine Funeral Home, 520 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 where the family will be present on Friday, January 8, 2016 from 5 to 8 pm.

A mass of Christian burial will be offered on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at St. Louis Catholic Church, 2907 Popkins Ln, Alexandria, Virginia 22306. Graveside services with full military Honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Class of 1949 Fund, Association of Graduates, U.S. Military Academy, at 698 Mills Road, West Point, New York 10996.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Title: RFP No. 00000571, Potomac Yard Metro Station Project Consultant Services

RFP Closing Date and Time: February 9, 2016, 4 p.m., prevailing local time

A Non-Mandatory Vendor Pre-Proposal Conference: January 25, 2016, 9 a.m., Purchasing Division Conference Room, 100 North Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

For general inquiries contact Michel F. Hauer, CPPO, CPPB, Acting Purchasing Agent at 703.746.4295.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-12-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Consulting Services for Online Learning Programs.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-12-03 Consulting Services for Online Learning Programs will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, January 22, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Family, Friends Recall Her Life of Faith

FROM PAGE 1

Harvey, and her son, Michael Harvey — both of whom spoke at the service.

Michael Harvey went so far as to say, “I don’t know what rosary beads are made of, but I can’t believe that she didn’t wear them out. I can remember many a night when she would be kneeling by her bed and praying.”

Given that Ruth lost her husband after 20 years and raised seven boys while running the family business, she had a lot of praying to do.

Her boys were named Tom, Mike, Steve, Bob, Jim, Leon and Butch. Both Leon and Butch died several years ago.

She had 12 grandchildren and six grandchildren. Jennifer Harvey said that her grandmother told her, “God never gives us more than we can handle.”

Michael Harvey said that his mother not only prayed for everybody in their family, but also everybody who came into the gas station. Gesturing to attendees at Good Shepherd, he said, “She thought of all of you as part of our family.”

During the years that Ruth was behind the counter at the gas station, now Hollin Hall Automotive, she greeted everyone with a smile. She listened to their problems and prayed for them. She held court at Paul Spring Retirement Community for the years that she was there.

Ruth found the garden to be a great source of comfort. Michael Harvey said that all of the boys spent time hoeing, planting and harvesting that garden. “She gave food to people who needed it and canned the rest of it so we wouldn’t have to buy food in the winter,” he said. “She and my father were very frugal. They only took one of the boys shopping for clothes — the oldest, who passed the clothes down from boy to boy.”

Jennifer Harvey spent a lot of time with her grandmother. “Recently she asked me if I had met anybody. I said that I hadn’t and she told me not to worry and patted my leg. Then she asked, ‘How old are you?’ When I said that I was 42, she patted my leg again and said, ‘Oh well.’”

“My grandmother taught me so much,” said Jennifer. “I can only hope that I have a



Ruth Ann Harvey is surrounded by her “boys,” Michael, Jimmy, Tom, Steve and Billy.

small part of her in me.”

Michael Harvey talked about how she welcomed all of the boy’s friends into their home. Many came to her for guidance and her sons knew not to interrupt a conversation that she was having with one of their friends — often in the garden. When people asked for advice, she would say, “Well, what do you think you should do?” More often than not, this would point the person in the right direction.

“When I was young, I couldn’t understand why all our friends called her mom,” said Michael Harvey. “I wondered where their mothers were.” In addition to serving as surrogate mom to many in the Fort Hunt community, she also gave many students their first jobs at the gas station. Tom Harvey now owns and operates Hollin Hall Automotive. Michael thanked Tom and his wife, Judy, for caring for their mother, especially at the end when she was so sick. As Ruth neared the end, the other boys scrambled to get into town. She took her last breath shortly after the last son arrived.

Tom Harvey said, “I will miss the incredible close relationship that I shared with my

mother as my mom, my business partner, my mentor on a daily basis for 66 years. My favorite story of my Mom was when I caught her reading something one day behind the cash register. I could see her looking down and her lips were moving I snuck up and grabbed it and it was a well-worn, dog-eared prayer book, entitled “Prayers for the Wayward Son.” She knew it by heart.”

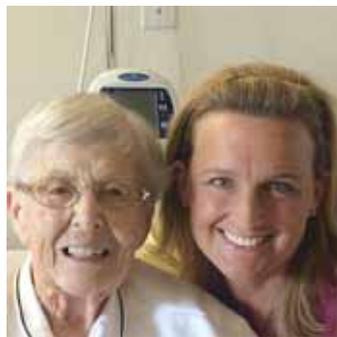
Jennifer Harvey recalls a visit that she took with her grandmother to Ruth’s childhood home. Born on March 11, 1923 in a farmhouse in Custar, Ohio, Ruth enjoyed going back home to visit.

“We walked along the streets with modest homes and grandma said how her parents (Raymond and Matilda) gave her faith.”

Ruth graduated from Tiffin University in May of 1941 and immediately came to Washington, D.C. to work for the War Department in June of 1941. She was among the first group to move into the newly built Pentagon where she continued to work throughout the duration of WW II.

She met her husband, Lee, on a blind date in Sarasota, Fla. They were married on Nov. 16, 1946. After the birth of their first son, they moved to Alexandria.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that donations go to: Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, 8305 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22309.



Ruth Ann Harvey with granddaughter, Jennifer Harvey.

Garza Proposes \$2.67 Billion Budget

FROM PAGE 4

programs to varsity sports — might look like, the task force drew some public outrage. “I believe our community finds any of the potential cuts untenable,” Garza said. “We cannot continue to balance budgets by cutting services, raising class sizes and freezing salaries, or by providing only nominal pay raises.”

Included in the salary raise is a step increase and one percent market scale adjust-

ment for all employees.

Fairfax Education Association President Kimberly Adams said teachers “will feel more valued in this budget than we have in a long time.”

Adams also encouraged more community members to become involved with the budget process and voice their support.

“They need to realize how important the school system is to job security, the local economy.”

Garza formally presented her budget to the School Board at their business meeting in the evening on Jan. 7. Public hearings are scheduled for Monday Jan. 25 and the budget will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on April 5. The School Board should adopt the approved budget in May.

More information on the budget, including a video of the press conference and Garza’s presentation, can be found online at www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml.

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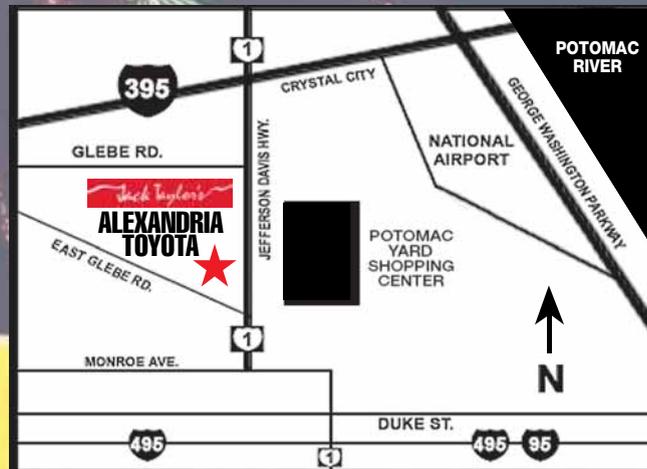
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