Inside: Winter Fun Alount Pernon Gazette

January 28, 2016

Outlook

♦ Neighborhood

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper Snow Place Like Home Residents, volunteers dig out after Jonas drops over 20 inches of snow.

By Tim Peterson The Gazette

ompared to Wednesday night's sneak-attack dusting that caught Virginia Department of Transportation crews unprepared and commuters stuck in hours of slick rush hour gridlock, Fairfax County Supervisors think the full force of Winter Storm Jonas was weathered about as well as possible.

For one thing, projections of the snow beginning in earnest around 3 p.m. Friday and continuing, mostly uninterrupted until Sunday morning while depositing nearly two feet of the white stuff, were pretty spot-on.

"This is one of the first I remember where they got the projections basically right," said District Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon). "Timing and everything else was basically as projected. That was really very helpful for all of us to be able to respond."

Storck said he was pleased to hear of "only a fluttering of power outages" compared to the extended lack of power that accompanied the "Snowmageddon" storm of 2010. "That's absolutely the best news," he said.

After receiving reports about lack of plowing service that he then relayed to VDOT, Storck made a few house calls Tuesday to see if crews had responded.

"I've never seen that much attention before, and I grew up in Fairfax County," Mount Vernon



Ryan Herrmann of Mount Vernon spends time out of school putting finishing touches on a snowman.



Mount Vernon residents Kaitlyn Herrmann and Cooper Swartz enjoy the shelter of their snow cave.

resident Kristin Hermann said in an email. "There had been a high degree of frustration on our street Washington Road, especially since every street but ours had been plowed. I know folks had communicated with Dan, VDOT and the Chairwoman's office It was great to see that he came to check to see that we had been taken care of."

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said as many as 200 people in Chantilly and Centreville lost power during the storm, but that it was restored in a short period of time.

Given the volume of snow that fell, Herrity said he was generally positive on the job VDOT did digging out Fairfax County.

"This was clearly a big improvement over the dusting we had Wednesday night," he said.

Herrity himself got behind a neighbor's snow-blower and worked with neighbors in Little Rocky Run to clear a number of driveways and sidewalks for people who either weren't home or had difficulty digging out themselves.

The happiest thing I've seen, everywhere I've gone, is everyone out helping everyone, just a lot of neighbors helping neighbors," said Herrity. "It's always a good thing and help other folks."

Elsewhere in the county, numerous non-profit organizations, Fairfax County staff and faith communities helped homeless individuals weather the storm, bringing them in from the cold.

Margi Preston, executive director of the Fairfax-based non-profit FACETS, said her organization and volunteers at two different faith communities served more than 77 people during the storm.

"The volunteers from both St. Mary's and St. John Neumann were amazing and took excellent care of our hypothermia program participants," Preston said in an email.

Normally, their hypothermia shelter would only be available overnight, one night at a time. For Winter Storm Jonas, FACETS extended the hours.

"There was enough food, planned activities and things to do to keep people entertained for the duration of the storm," said Preston. FACETS shelters were open from 3 p.m. Friday until closing Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. They opened back up at 2 p.m. Tuesday and transitioned to new faith communities Monday afternoon.

"This is a lifesaving service that's

when people can come together is a true community-wide effort to address the critical needs of those individuals experiencing homelessness in Fairfax County. The health and safety of these individuals is always our number one concern and we're grateful to have such amazing partners to enable our community to come together for the greater good of our neighbors in need."



Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck (D-**Mount Vernon)** helps shovel a neighbor's driveway after the historic snowfall from Winter Storm Jonas.

1\56\10 Кедиезтер ім номі матевіаг IIME-SENSITIVE :яэтгамтгоЛ ATTENTION Асехаиряја, VA Рекміт #482 сописіг PAID PAID CIRCULATION PRSRT STD

Dean Klein, director of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, said volunteers and staff from 55 faith communities, FACETS and other nonprofits including Cornerstones in Reston, Northern Virginia Family Service in Falls Church and New Hope Housing Inc. in Mount Vernon "really went above and beyond to ensure homeless individuals were safe."

Klein said staffs at shelters were very well prepared and scheduled experienced individuals who would be able to manage spending several days in close quarters with homeless guests and engage with them in a meaningful way.

"This took a different level of commitment," said Klein. "It was so impressive to see people coming together during this type of storm."

"It's a reminder when you see so many in need of more permanent housing solutions that it's important to push for more affordable, safe housing options," Klein added. "We still have people living in the woods who had to come in from the cold. They need opportunities to allow them to be independent."

Anyone without at least one "passable" lane for traffic in their neighborhood by 6 a.m. Wednesday morning, Jan. 27, can report to VDOT at 1-800-FOR-ROAD or email novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov.







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Alexandria

Alexandria

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Melissa Shelby

703.627.0074

Neighborhood Outlook Several Projects Taking Shape in 2016

Including commercial, residential, hospital and U.S. Army.

By Tim Peterson The Gazette

Here is a survey of changes along the Route 1 corridor:

Towne Place Suites by Marriott

Corner of Richmond Highway and Woodlawn Court, adjacent to Woodlawn Shopping Center

Baywood Hotels plans to build a 92-room, extended stay hotel in the Woodlawn area.

Penn Daw area of U.S. Route 1: South Alex

The former Penn Daw Plaza shopping center was rezoned as part of a 2012 Comprehensive Plan amendment for the Penn

Daw area and is set to be replaced by a mixed-use development. The development, now named "South Alex," will feature 400 apartments, 41 townhomes and 44,000 square-feet of groundlevel retail space. The project team is hoping to break ground by the second quarter of 2016.

North Hill area

33-acres along U.S. Rt. 1 by Lockheed Blvd.

In March 2015, members of the Fairfax County Redevelopment and

Housing authority voted in favor of moving forward with interim agreement to develop the remaining 33 acres of North Hill. (Fifteen acres out of a 1981 land purchase have been developed as Woodley Hills Estates.) The Community Housing Partners of Virginia and Philadelphia-based developer Pennrose partnership have proposed building 329 multi-family apartments in two separate buildings, 144 townhomes and leaving some space for a park. A number of the units would be designated households with lower incomes.

41 townhomes.

New Fairfield Inn & Suites

6421 U.S. Rt. 1

The Hersha Group has finished with demolition of the Fairview Motel and obtained construction permits to move forward with a new 108-room development renamed Fairfield Inn & Suites. Construction is ongoing.

Widening of Richmond Highway **Still Underwav**

3.5 miles of U.S. Rt. 1 between Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and Telegraph Road

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

The \$180 million project to widen Route 1 from four to six lanes, while also accommodating mass transit, bicycles and walking, is expected to be completed in five segments between late summer and early winter 2016.

"Embark Richmond Highway" transportation and land use planning team for Route 1, Bus Rapid **Transit and Metro Expansion**

The team is a collaboration of Fairfax County staff from various departments and agencies working with a 13-member citizen advisory group to help coordinate community input. "This has great potential for revitalization and economic development along the highway," said Edythe Kelleher, Executive Director of the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, "with a lot more and better access for people getting back and forth from home to work to shopping to whatever. For bringing tourists down, and other visitors, there's great potential.'



Image courtesy of Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation Rendering of the extended stay Towne Place Suites by Marriott planned for the Woodlawn Area.



The next meeting is open to the public

and scheduled to take place some time in

February. Meetings take place at the South

County Government Center. For more in-

formation, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/

dpz/embarkrichmondhwy/meetings.htm.

Development: New Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Emergency Department

The Parker at Huntington Metro

2550 Huntington Ave. The decades-old VSE office building situ-

See Outlook, Page 19



Photo courtesy of contractor Corman-Wac Richmond Highway widening over 3.5 miles is expected to be completed by winter 2016.

The development in the former Penn Daw Plaza shopping center is IMAGES COURTESY set to include 400 apartments and OF THE SOUTHEAST FAIRFAX DEVELOP-

Lorton

ment Corporation



A rendering of the new South Alex multi-use area planned for the site of Penn Daw Plaza.



The development in the former Penn Daw Plaza shopping center is set to include 400 apartments and 41 townhomes.

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Alexandria/Braddock Heights \$875,000 1303 Quincy St. Fabulous renovation & expansion in Braddock Heights! Quaint stone "cottage" has been transformed into a sleek contemporary with open floor plan, rich hardwood floors, high ceilings and abundant windows. 2 main level bedrooms and 2 upper including the spacious Owner's suite with luxury en suite bath. Large corner lot with fenced back & side yard, patio, shed and manicured lawn with irrigation. Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Alexandria \$429,900 5902 Mount Eagle Dr. #518. Live in a private "tree house" in Montebello's park-like oasis of 35+ acres close to Old Town. 3-bedroom condo w/1,695 square feet floor plan, newer large kitchen w/maple cabinets & SS appliances; updated bathrooms. Garage space included. New state-of-theart fitness center, tennis courts & indoor pool refurbished. 24/7 security. Petfriendly. Small town ambience w/many activities & events. *Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418 & Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010*



5902 Mt. Eagle Drive #802. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath with lovely glass enclosed balcony – over 1,000 sq ft. UPDATED kitchen and bath. Cherry Wood floors. Everything is done, just move right in. Julie Hall 703-786-3634



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719 S. Royal St. Walk to cafés, shops & the riverfront from this beautifully renovated home. 2 BRs, fireplace, handsome kit/FR. Finished Basement. Deep garden. Easy parking. Diann Hicks Carlson

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News Door-to-Door Service

Fort Hunt's Care and Share Meals hand-delivered before Jonas.

very weekend, Fort Hunt Elementary School's Care and Share program typically provides three ready-made meals for each day away from school to more than 30 children in the school's community. The food packs are distributed discreetly to students in need at school on Friday, before they leave for the weekend.

With Winter Storm Jonas bearing down at the end of last week, Fort Hunt staff volunteered to personally deliver the packs to the recipients, one day early.

"The ultimate goal is that Fort Hunt students can be successful at school," said PTA President and Spanish teacher Allison Verich.

Because of the long weekend, the normal pack of two days'-worth of meals was bulked up to 12 total meals, Verich said. "They also delivered some winter clothing that we had accumulated: snow boots, snow pants and jackets."

Now in its second year, Care and Share runs with partnerships and donations from Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Fort Hunt, St. Aidan's Episco-



With Winter Storm Jonas bearing down, volunteers from Fort Hunt Elementary School personally delivered weekend meals to families as part of the school's Care and Share program.

pal Church in Fort Hunt and Waynewood Elementary School, as well as help from Fort Hunt Elementary School counselors, school psychologists and PTA volunteers.

For more information on the Care and Share program, visit forthuntpta.membershiptoolkit.com/ care&share.

— Tim Peterson

Brewer's Wife Dies from Cancer

ne week after a special ale was brewed to support her medical and other related costs, Kerri Rose of Alexandria died from cancer.

Rose was first diagnosed with stomach cancer in August 2015. She was well into her pregnancy, and the adenocarcinoma had already advanced to Stage IV.

Kerri and her husband Matt's son, Lawrence "Lance" Rose, was born two months premature so she could begin chemotherapy.

Casey Jones of Falls Church and Charlie Buettner of Burke, CEO and head brewer of Fair Winds Brewing Company in Lorton respectively, came up with the idea of a beer fundraiser — Matt Rose is owner of Forge Brew Works in Lorton — that would add to the Go Fund Me page Kerri had already created.

Jones said donations on the page are close to \$50,000. He expects the beer sales to bring in another \$25,000. The funds will now to go paying off Kerri's remaining medical costs and then contribute to an educational trust for her son Lance.

The beer, a Belgian Pale Ale called "Kerri's Cure," is scheduled to be released at each of 20 different breweries that contributed to the project on Jan. 29:

- ✤ 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
- Fair Winds Brewing Company
- Forge Brew Works
- Heritage Brewing Company
- Lost Rhino Brewing Company
- \clubsuit Mad Fox Brewing Company
- Ocelot Brewing Company
- Old Bust Head Brewing Company
- Old Ox Brewery



All proceeds from the special "Kerri's Cure" ale will support paying Kerri Rose's medical bills and then contribute to an educational trust for Kerri and Matt Rose's son Lance (center).

Ornery Beer Company

- Port City Brewing Company
- Pro Re Nata Brewery
- Spencer Devon Brewing
- Tin Cannon Brewing Company

Kerri's Go Fund Me page where she posted about her experience is online at www.gofundme.com/ daywalker. Forge Brew Works, located at 8532 Terminal Road in Lorton, will tap "Kerri's Cure" at 1 p.m. on Jan. 29. Fair Winds Brewing Company, located at 7000 Newington Road Suites K and L in Lorton, releases theirs at 2 p.m. For more information www.fairwindsbrewing.com.

— Tim Peterson





News

Help Feed Fairfax Families by Stuffing the Bus

olunteers from United Christian Ministries (UCM) solicited food donations on Jan. 16 from local shoppers at the Mt. Vernon Shoppers Food and Pharmacy. Several thousand pounds of food were collected which will help restock the UCM food pantry which serves the Alexandria area. Shelves are full at holidays, but

after the New Year "giving fatigue" sets in and most pantries' supply run low.

To help fill the need, Fairfax County runs "Stuff the Bus", a food pantry giving program that partners with nonprofits, like UCM, grocery stores and FASTRAN to restock depleted shelves.

Stuff the Bus runs from Martin Luther King weekend through Presidents Day at 14 local grocery stores, including Giant, Shoppers Food and Pharmacy, and Walmart. Volunteers for local nonprofit food pantries are on hand at each store to collect donated food from local shoppers.

The food is then placed in a FASTRAN bus, and when it's full,



From left: Ann Clites; Jeremy Morehead, Shoppers Food; Harry Shepler; Marcos Castillo, UCM; Bryce Hensley, Janay Balwin; and Anna Hartley.

food pantry. In 2015 more than collected and distributed through

the bus delivers the food to the 30,000 meals worth of food was the food pantry network.

For more information, visit ing/food/stuffthebus/

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/liv-

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Рнотоѕ

Contributed

Al Koroma and Victor

Lopez, FASTRAN



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News

McNaughton Renovation To Start

Groundbreaking ceremonies are scheduled at noon on Saturday, Jan. 30, for the Fairfax County Park Authority's renovation of the baseball fields at McNaughton Park, 5320 Pole Road, in Alexandria. The public is invited to these brief ceremonies featuring local officials, members of the Park Authority Board and the athletic community.

This Fairfax County park has been home to the Woodlawn Little League (WLL) since the 1960s, and the baseball complex is being upgraded to meet current athletic field standards.

Work will include the demolition of the four existing fields and facilities, site re-grading and construction of four new lighted and irrigated diamond fields – a 90foot diamond, one 60/70-foot diamond with a grass infield, one 60/ 70 diamond with a skinned infield and one 60-foot diamond with a skinned infield.

Amenities will include covered dugouts, bullpens, batting cages, bleachers and fencing. A 173-



Discussing Renovations

The Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club dined at the newly renovated Cedar Knolls restaurant on the George Washington Parkway on Jan. 6. The new managing partner and chef, Andrew Holden, spoke to the club about the process of organizing the renovations of a historical restaurant, and his plans for future expansion of dining arrangements and then getting into lunch service. After his presentation, Club President Joanne Malkin, on right, and president-elect Vivien Peterson, on left, presented Holden with a club baseball cap as a token of appreciation.

space parking lot will also be added. Utility connections will also be provided for future restrooms and a concession stand. This will allow for a Park Authority partnership with WLL for construction of these additional facilities when funding becomes available. Work is expected to be completed by December 2016.



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OPINION 'Disappointing, Not Surprising'

Bills to rein in predatory lending die in Senate committee.

ave you ever paid 36 percent in terest on a loan or credit card? Not likely. It's an outrageous rate, especially given that the actual cost of money is close to zero right now.

But right now, some people in Northern Virginia are paying more than 200 percent on loans secured by their car title. These are people who are both financially desperate and financially unsophisticated, who likely assume that regulation would keep a lender from bleeding them dry with unrestricted interest rates.

Predatory lending is a local issue, with car title lenders congregating in lower income areas like along Route 1 in the Mount Vernon area, and also queuing up near the border with Prince George's County, Md., where car title lending is illegal.

Earlier this week, a Virginia Senate committee killed a bill that would have capped consumer loan interest rates at 36 percent. It's hard to believe, but right now there are no limits to the interest rates that can be charged in Virginia. And car title lenders, which are not consumer loans, often have effective interest rates of more than 200 percent.

"Predatory lending is a major problem in the U.S. 1 Corridor," said Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced the failed legislation to curb predatory lending. "Car title lenders have been abusing this loophole by charging rates over 200 percent. ... To rein in car title lender bait and switch tactics, I am proposing to limit interest rates on consumer finance loans at 36 percent." But that effort died in a Virginia Senate Committee this week.

Between 2010, when the Virginia General Assembly gave the green light to the car title lending industry, the total number of locations more than doubled from 184 to 395.

Some legislators claim this is a free market and personal responsibility issue, that people who have no other options should be able to turn to high interest lending as a last resort. But most people who turn to these loans would be better off without this last resort.

"It's a trap, and although it's presented as a loan it's really loan-sharking," said Jay Speech, executive director of the Virginia Poverty Law Center. "People who get into this end up much worse off than when they started."

We all pay the price when an industry preys on the poor. People who lose their cars can lose their jobs, then relying on the frayed and inadequate safety net.

Michael Pope, who wrote about car title lend-

My resolution to ratify the Equal Rights

Amendment (ERA) cleared committee. The

ERA is necessary to ensure equal rights for

women by ensuring that discrimination and le-

gal classifications based on sex are

given that same judicial scrutiny as

Listen to Michael Pope's reports on predatory lending on WAMU

http://wamu.org/the debt trap

ing abuses when he worked for the Connection and Gazette Packet, recently completed a multi-part investigative series on predatory lending for WAMU, which you can listen to here: http://wamu.org/the_debt_trap

When his series concluded, the message of the damage of predatory lending seemed to resonate. Legislation to rein in the abuses of 200 percent interest seemed destined to make a difference.

This year, it will not.

Attorney General Mark Herring tweeted, "disappointing, not surprising" on Monday in response to the news that all four bills that sought to limit predatory lending were voted down in committee.

Disappointing, but not surprising. A sad commentary.

- Mary Kimm

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Reining in Predatory Towing

By Scott Surovell State Senator (D-36)

side from the snowstorm of the century, this week brought the start of consideration of legislation and initial work on our state budget.

An Invitation

(Letter: "Gun Laws not Being En-

forced"). Rather than trading

barbs, claims and counter claims,

how about all of us go out to din-

To the Editor:



Four of my bills were acted on this week. This included my legislation to ban the use of spotters by tow companies. Spotters' sole job is to call in and initiate tows before unwary consumers even realize they are illegally parked. The bill also required written authorization from property owners for each tow and confirmed that predatory towing victims can sue towing companies for violations of local ordinances. My bill was referred to the Joint Commission on Transportation Accountability to be studied outside of session and acted on next session.

race, religion and national origin. My resolution was reported by the Privileges and Elections Committee on a bipartisan 7-6 vote and goes to the floor this week. We also presented our budget requests to the Finance Committee this week. My

amendments included a \$130,000 to fund the removal of a derelict barge in Belmont Bay, \$2 million to study the extension of the Blue Line to Prince William County, \$50,000 to fund well water tests for homes near coal ash ponds in Dumfries, \$50,000 to fund computer recycling for students in low income families, about \$600,000 to fund two vacant Fairfax County judgeships, and \$600,000 to fund the gap in compensation for court-appointed counsel. I also proposed language to prohibit the expenditure of taxpayer dollars for partisan redistricting litigation.

Our Mt. Vernon and Lee District Town Halls have been rescheduled to Feb. 20 at 9:30 a.m.

and 12:30 p.m. In the meantime, you can read other articles I write and watch two 30-minute interviews regarding my COMMENTARY legislative agenda from Public Tele-

> vision and Comcast Cable interviews on my online newsletter, The Dixie Pig, at scottsurovell.blogspot.com.

Also, over 500 constituents have responded to my constituent survey - please keep the responses coming in by responding online at www.scottsurovell.org/survey.

Finally, as the snow melts, you are likely to find curb damage or other problems related to snow removal. As always, if you need any help with state government services or have any feedback, please drop me a note at scott@scottsurovell.org or call my staff at 571-249-4484

It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

discussed a portion of his 2016 See Letters, Page 10

Hlount Vernon Gazette

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common ground. See if there is 5833. anything we can agree on.

If we are successful, we could let I have a suggestion for Mr. our elected officials in Richmond Medico (Letter: "Efforts Still In- and Washington, D.C. know it can fringe on Rights") and Mr. Spiegel be done since they haven't had much luck on this topic up to this point. If you're willing and I sincerely hope you are, my email is kevinbergen40@gmail.com and ner, talk and see if there is any my cell phone number is 703-786-

8 & Mount Vernon Gazette & January 28 - February 3, 2016

Letters to the Editor

John K. Bergen Alexandria

Doomed Proposal

To the Editor:

In last week's Gazette, newly elected state Sen. Scott Surovell

legislative agenda. What caught my eye is his introduction of a proposal that he had also introduced in 2014, without success, during his tenure as a state delegate, to prohibit from obtaining a concealed weapon permit or purchasing a firearm, those persons who are listed on the "Terrorist Watch

OPINION

Time To Raise Minimum Wage

"The Fairlington'

new dimensions inc.

By Paul Krizek State Delegate (D-44)

any readers know that I work for a nonprofit headquartered on Richmond Highway, in the heart of Mount Vernon. Small nonprofits like mine face many

of the same troubles as small businesses: money is always hard to come by and we must operate within very small margins. Indeed, we rely on the generosity of the public for our support. Many of the people we serve are barely making it; they work long hours and struggle to get by. Helping people is what we do

but wouldn't it be better if they could do more to help themselves? The best way to make that happen is to raise the minimum wage.

A reasonably targeted and tiered increase can improve consumer spending, reduce worker turnover, lift people out of poverty and help grow our economy — all this without hurting our local business community. It is a win-win opportunity that is especially timely now that our economy is climbing out of the doldrums caused by the last federal sequester. Research suggests that a modest minimum-wage increase like the one I have proposed in HB623 could have a small stimulative effect on the economy as low-wage workers spend their additional earnings, raising demand and even push up job growth.

Let's face it, the current minimum wage of \$7.25 is just simply too low. It hasn't been raised since July



2009 and adjusted for inflation — albeit a low inflation rate — it has even less value than it did seven years ago. An average minimum wage earner takes home only \$14,500 a year before taxes, that's working an eight hour day, five days a week. Even the most frugal single adult cannot survive, let alone thrive, on that small amount of income. Certainly not in Fairfax County. It's no wonder he or she must turn to charities for assistance.

A man or woman who works a full-time job shouldn't have to rely on public assistance or charities like mine, but they will have to in order to live anywhere close to where the minimum wage jobs are in our community.

There is an argument that raising the minimum

wage, though it will help the individual worker, could have an adverse effect on the economy as a whole by putting too much of a financial burden on our business com-

munity, especially the smaller "mom and pop" operations that are an important economic driver. Another big concern is that employers would be unlikely to hire young inexperienced workers at the newly raised minimum wage rate.

These are valid concerns and my legislation, HB623, addresses them through a tiered rate and by exempting small businesses with less than 15 employees. My bill would keep the current federally mandated rate of \$7.25 for those under the age of 25 years — an exception to allow businesses to hire teens and young people at a lower wage rate. This will protect the adult unskilled worker struggling to SEE RAISE MINIMUM WAGE, PAGE 11



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OPINION

A Blizzard of Bills and Budget Amendments

By Adam P. Ebbin STATE SENATOR (D-30)

ast week the General Assembly 🛭 kicked into high gear holding committee hearings to re-



view the thousands of bills considered during the "long" 60-day session. Seven of my bills have passed through committee and I am proud to report that two of them - one providing photo identification cards for private investigators, the other protecting the safety of asbestos workers - have passed the Senate by comfortable margins.

The annual tradition of gun safety groups and Second Amendment advocates converging on Capitol Square continued on Martin Luther King Day as I met with people on both sides of the issue to hear their perspectives. I am sponsoring three measures

Letters to the Editor

From Page 8 List."

It is both chilling and enlightening when a politician who is also a trained trial attorney seeks to enact legislation he clearly knows is unconstitutional on its face and could never pass muster at the lowest level court. We have this inconvenient constitutional provision in America called the requirement to accord its citizens due process of law. That provision is found in the 5th Amendment and, in case there was any doubt, is applied to the individual states under the 14th Amendment.

Citizens are not accorded due process of



Missing

Summer Breeze got lost Jan. 21 behind the Hybla Valley Veterinary Hospital in Alexandria. She is an indoor cat and very skittish. If seen, call Christy at 703-209-0306 or 703-360-0758 or Raychel at 571-235-5467.

to prevent gun violence this year, the first health inspectors to bring us up to the fedof which would have penalized adults for allowing toddlers 4 and younger to handle firearms; sadly, this bill did not survive committee. A second piece of legis-

lation to require universal background checks was combined with another member's bill and

awaits further consideration, while the third - prohibiting intoxicated people from carrying loaded weapons in public - will be considered this week.

Last Thursday, the Senate Finance Committee heard each senator present their budget amendments to be considered in the Senate budget that will be released in mid-February.

I proposed several budget amendments, including funding to foster the development of the unmanned aerial systems industry, the creation of an Office of Immigrant Assistance, and the addition of new Department of Labor and Industry safety and

law before their names are added to the

terrorist watch list. In many cases they don't

even know they are on the list until they arrive at an airport to travel and are con-

fronted with this information. Many times,

their inclusion on the list is erroneous,

caused in a number of ways including false reporting and having a name similar to the

name of a terrorist. The 2nd Amendment

to the Constitution is not an option, it is a

basic constitutional right. Senator Surovell's

proposal will get no further than it did in

2014, namely, thrown into the circular file.

mond to represent our interests, not to impose their extreme agendas upon us. The two most important issues facing us in Northern Virginia are transportation and education funding. In each case, Northern Virginia receives far less than it contributes in tax money to address these issues. If Senator Surovell and his Northern Virginia political colleagues did nothing else other than band together and demand a more

equitable distribution of the state's financial resources, Northern Virginia, the eco-

nomic engine of the state, could solve its transportation and education financing

problems. And their representation would

To those of you who choose to vote to

elect politicians who travel to Richmond to

support the goals of the minority party, this

is what you receive as a result. Congratula-

H. Jay Spiegel

Mount Vernon

be deemed a success.

We need politicians who travel to Rich-

eral government's recommended benchmark employment level.

I also submitted a budget amendment to fund a Commission Commemorat-

ing the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage. I will continue COMMENTARY

working with colleagues to see that as many of these amendments as possible are included in the final budget that the General Assembly sends to Governor McAuliffe.

Due to last week's blizzard, two of our town hall meetings have been rescheduled. I hope Mother Nature will be more cooperative so that you can join me at one:

Arlington: Saturday, Feb. 6, 10-11:30 a.m.

Walter Reed Community Center - 2909 16th Street South, Arlington, 22204 with Del. Alfonso Lopez

Alexandria: Saturday, Feb. 6, 2-3:30 p.m.

Mt. Vernon Community School - 2601 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria, 22301 with Del. Mark Levine

Mt. Vernon: Saturday, Feb. 20, 12:30-2 p.m. Whitman Middle School - 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306 with Sen. Scott Surovell and Del. Paul Krizek

♦ Lee District: Saturday, Feb. 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Hayfield Elementary School -7633 Telegraph Rd, Alexandria, 22315 with Sen. Scott Surovell, Del. Mark Sickles and Del. Paul Krizek

Please share your thoughts on legislation and other state-related matters with me by emailing district30@senate.virginia.gov. Follow me on Twitter @AdamEbbin and Facebook at www.facebook.com/ EbbinCampaign. You can sign up for my weekly email updates and check town hall postponement notices at www.AdamEbbin.com.

It is my continued honor to represent the citizens of the 30th Senate District.



View from Mary Paden's front porch to the road.

Kudos on Snow Removal

To the Editor:

For the first time in the 18 years I have lived on Duke Drive, the VDOT snow plow came down my side of the street after I sought constituent services from our new state delegate, Paul Krizek.

About five houses sit on the wrong side of a widening in the street on the 6800 block. When it snows, we have to dig out

not only our drives but another three car lengths or so to get to the plowed area. The other side was plowed Sunday and my side was plowed Monday after I emailed Paul's aide Thomas Bowman for help. And how cool is this site where you can track the plows and see the road conditions at VDOTplows.org?

Mary Paden

BULLETIN BOARD

announcements to Email gazette@ connectionnewspapers.com

THURSDAY/FEB. 4

Nomination Deadline. Volunteer Fairfax invites organizations to nominate volunteers who have provided outstanding service to an organization. Details are available at www.volunteerfairfax.org. Nominees will be honored at the 2016 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards breakfast on Friday, April 8 at

♦ Mount Vernon Gazette ♦ January 28 - February 3, 2016

the Waterford at Springfield.

tions.

THESDAY/FEB 9 Judges Needed. 8:30-11 a.m. The Mount Vernon listen to student presentations about their will convene to pick 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and

Science Fair is in need of judges. Judges will projects, use a script to interview them briefly, and evaluate their work. From there, the judges Honorable Mention winners. Refreshments will be served. Email Cameron Mathison at

ccmathison@fcps.edu for more. Pohick Church Pancake Supper Fundraiser.

The Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) will be sponsoring the Annual Pancake Supper from 5-7 p.m. The cost is \$8 for ages 13 and over, \$3 for ages 6–12, and free for children under 6 years old. All proceeds go toward the EYC Youth Retreat in the spring. For more information contact Rusty Booth at 703-339-6572 or rusty@Pohick.org. Pohick Church is located at 9301 Richmond Highway in Lorton, at the corner of U.S. 1 & Telegraph Road.

Valentine Card Making 10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 10

at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Making cards for the residents at Paul Spring Retirement Community at the MOMS Club of Alexandria South monthly meeting. MOMS Club of Alexandria South serves at-home parents as well as parents who work part-time or have home-based businesses and who reside in zip codes 22303, 22306 and 22307. Free. Email Southalexmoms@yahoo.com or visit southalexandriamomsclub.webs.com

OPINION

Raise Minimum Wage

From Page 9

make it on one (or two minimum wage salaries for a couple), while maintaining what we historically recognize as the traditional minimum wage jobs for entry level, students, and seasonal or temporary workers. Our older workers, who have the experience, knowledge and loyalty valued by employers will benefit from the higher rate of \$10.10, while younger workers will be more likely to get hired for an entry level position to gain the experience necessary for career success.

Some business owners may be worried that my proposed wage would affect Medicaid waivers. However, at \$10 you're still a long way from \$14.33 per hour that Medicaid reimbursement grants. However, pushing people off the Medicaid roles and onto

Volunteer Opportunities

Email announcements to gazette@connection newspapers.com.

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Love boating and have interest in giving back to the community? Learn more about the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, the civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard. The Auxiliary is built on four cornerstones: Member Services, Recreational Boating Safety, Operations, Marine Safety, and Fellowship. The Auxiliary will begin training staff for the upcoming 2016 boating season. All ages are welcome. Email

the federal exchanges where they are eligible for insurance subsidies is not a problem, but a benefit and reduces the burden on Virginia taxpayers, who are currently being double-taxed for our inability to close the Medicaid gap.

The need for an increase in the minimum wage is the same one that created it in the first place, low and unskilled workers cannot survive on the current minimum wage rate of \$7.25 an hour throughout the vast majority of the Commonwealth.

It may seem a lot to those of us who remember when working a minimum wage job paid only a few dollars an hour, but when inflation and other costs of living are factored in, this is a meager rate indeed. I believe our hard-working neighbors deserve a raise.

Flotilla2508@gmail.com for more. 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 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-atucm.html.

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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT 3 Tables to Reserve for Restaurant Week

s Alexandrians dig themselves out from their recent string of snow days, Restaurant Week arrives at the perfect time for a respite from shoveling. Here are three eateries worthy of saving a spot for in the coming week.

Restaurant Eve, 110 S. Pitt St.

Long the darling of Old Town fine dining, Eve's got quite a deal in **APPETITE** store for Restaurant Week.

Whereas many restaurants pick and choose a special tasting menu, Restaurant Eve is allowing diners to concoct their three courses straight from the entire bistro menu.

Relatively new participating in Restaurant Week, it's clear that Eve has hit the ground running. In an age of prix fixe options, Chef Cathal Armstrong and his team may have set the top spinning in the opposite direction, allowing diners to enjoy the freedom of choice in their menu offerings.

Bistro entrée prices generally land in the \$35-40 range, so enjoying an entrée plus a first course and dessert for Restaurant Week prices is a treat indeed. Try one of Chef Armstrong's internationally inspired dishes, such as the Jinga Palak, and for a first course, the heirloom beets can't be, well, beat. For a more complete Eve experience, ask the sommelier, Todd Thrasher, for the perfect pairing, or take the bartender up on

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

- "Medieval Story Land." Through Jan. 30, 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 \$20. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.com 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
- 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.
- "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, Fitzgerald's art celebrates the small things that make up our everyday lives. Free. Visit

- www.torpedofactory.org for more. "Muted." Through Jan. 31, gallery hours at the Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. "Muted" will showcase the artist's ability to focus on using a limited palette, exploring subtle composition, pursuing soft representation or discussing thoughts that are not expressed strongly or openly. Free. Visit
- www.theartleague.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
- for more. "Fred Zafran and Danny Conant." Through Feb. 14, gallery hours at the Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N.

Union St. Danny Conant presents compositions inspired by a recent trip to Paris. Fred Zafran's new work is an allegory of being, time and memory. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Mountains: Recent Paintings by Sue Grace." Gallery hours, through Feb. 22 at Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson St. Sue Grace's paintings draw inspiration

- from the West Virginia Mountains and time she has spent there. These paintings represent her fascination with the representational, abstract, and figurative elements of painting. Free. Email Anthony Brock at abrock@goodwinhouse.org. "**No Holds Barred."** Through Feb. 27,
- 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. This exhibit is 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.
- "Who The Wounded Are." Through July 11 at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. "Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital" is about people who lived and worked at this site in Alexandria and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$2-12. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.
- The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's

objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit

Coldsmith Gallery, the historical

- www.alexandriahistory.org for more Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit. Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for
- more. Alexandria's Nurses & Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who

To finish off your meal, you could be "good" and order the cardamom poached pears, or you could go the decadent route and dive into a Guinness brownie. Either way, you're sure to enjoy a sweet surprise.

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

> served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more

- **Occupied City: Civil War** Alexandria Self-Guided Tour. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. learn about the real history behind the show "Mercy Street" on this selfguided walking tour, which features significant Civil War Alexandria sites all within walking distance of The Lyceum, which was seized and used as a hospital during the war. Tickets are \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/
- lyceum for more. "Ancient Art of Movement." 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for 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 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.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Do Alexandria's many restaurant deals have you stymied? Here are three menus to consider. his offer to make an interesting cocktail By Hope Nelson from Thrasher's repertoire. The Gazette Cheesetique,

2411 Mount Vernon Ave. Cheesetique is by far a perennial Restaurant Week favorite. Like most of its brethren, it offers a set menu for the week, but its options are hardly limited as a result. A \$35 dinner for two gets you and your companion three selections of meats and cheeses from the restaurant's wide array, plus two entrees and a chocolate mousse for the two of you to share. It's easy to get bogged-down in the entrée

selection, and you really can't go wrong. But to ignore the grilled pimiento sandwich would be a crime — its gooey center is offset perfectly by crisp bread, and the side salad makes you feel rather virtuous in the end. Or consider the Mediterranean white bean salad, which is certainly filling (and flavorful) enough for a hearty meal - with a little room to spare for dessert.

A silky chocolate mousse is a perfect way to top off the evening. And with a glass of wine or pint of beer to wash it all down, how can you go wrong?

Trademark,

2080 Jamieson Ave. Tucked away amid hotels, condos, and the

federal courthouse, it's easy to overlook Trademark. But the tavern's Restaurant Week special is sure to win you over. A three-course prix fixe will run you \$35 per person — with drink pairings you'll pay \$45 - and the variety of offerings will likely pull

The first course of Cheesetique's Restaurant Week menu allows diners to pick three meats or cheeses to share. you in straightaway. chop with sweet potato polenta. Give Trademark's winter Caesar a try to

start with — the liquorice-like taste of Belgian endive blends very nicely with the dish's capers — and then move on to the main course, where you'll find a solid array of options. The butternut squash risotto offers a seasonal take on the rice dish, and you could do worse than the grilled pork

Winter Fun & Entertainment



Poppy seed fritters are on Vermillion's Restaurant Week menu.

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week

Neighborhoods throughout Alexandria — including Old Town, Del Ray and the West End will offer a \$35 three-course dinner or a \$35 dinner for two. More than two dozen restaurants are also offering lunch deals at \$10, \$15 or \$20 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Visit www.alexandriaestaurantweek.com for a complete list of participating restaurants.



Blackwall Hitch is participating in Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week.

Calendar

From Page 12

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. Through March, 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

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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.



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The residents at the Hermitage stay busy. Just ask Helena Scott, who was confined to wheelchair for 30 years because of Multiple Sclerosis and with regular physical therapy at the Hermitage, can now walk a mile a day when the weather permits. In her spare time, Helena knits scarves for fellow residents, volunteers in the beauty salon, sits on the Health Center Committee and delivers mail. Our residents also rave about our superb dining service, our courteous and helpful staff, and an overall feeling of caring and security that comes with living at the Hermitage.

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> For more information, call 703-797-3814.



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decorators and shoppers with "good eyes" and great taste.

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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Alexandria Cars and 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.-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.

 National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit. Through November at The National Inventors Hall of Fame– USPTO campus, 600 Dulany St. The exhibit features the stories of Inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame who served their country during World War II and returned home to help build the nation with their innovations. Free. Visit www.inventnow.org.
 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 more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

- Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.
- **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 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



Brazilian singer Cissa Paz will lead a concert of Carnaval dance music at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. on Feb. 6 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.

weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 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.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

Reading: "Virginian Luxuries." 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Attend a staged reading of a new play written by Pamela Leahigh detailing the lives of two Alexandria families — one modern, the other living in the Civil War era. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.nvfaa.org for

more. Birthnight Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on Feb. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

JAN. 28-FEB. 11

George Washington Birthday Cherry Challenge. Various times and various locations around Alexandria. Celebrating George Washington's Birthday, local restaurants offer dishes and beverages featuring cherries in the spirit of the old cherry tree tale. Visit any of the more than 50 participating restaurants during the contest and vote for your favorite cherry based items. The customer sampling the greatest number of competing items will receive the Frequent Cherry Diner Award. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net/ cherry-challenge.

JAN. 28-MARCH 6

"Shake Loose." Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. "Shake Loose" features music and lyrics by Thomas W. Jones II, William Hubbard and William Knowles. It features stories and songs from MetroStage productions including "Three Sistahs," "Cool Papa's Party," "Ladies Swing the Blues" and more. Tickets \$55-60. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 29

- "Paris Vivra: France After the Attacks." 7-9 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Ave. Guy Sorman, publisher of "France-Amerique" will present a lecture. \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.guysorman.eventbrite.com.
- **Civil War Wine Dinner.** 7-10 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N.



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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Royal St. Start your evening in the museum for the first course and conversation with Gray Ghost Vineyards. Then head down to the restaurant's main dining room to experience more wine and great food inspired by the 19th century. Tickets are \$100. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for

more. **The Fabulous Hubcaps.** 8 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Oldies and classic rock show band. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com for more.

JAN. 29-FEB. 6

"U-Street, the Musical." 7-9 p.m. at Richard Kauffman Auditorium–Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. U-Street, features 12 original songs and eight dance numbers, bringing light to the issue of homelessness in America. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.ustreetmusical.wordpress.com.

JAN. 29-FEB. 7

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week. Neighborhoods throughout Alexandria — including Old Town, Del Ray and the West End. More than 60 Alexandria restaurants offer a \$35 three-course dinner or a \$35 dinner for two. More than two dozen restaurants are also offering lunch deals at \$10, \$15 or \$20 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Visit www.alexandrirestaurantweek.com

for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 30

- "Explore the Real Mansion House." 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Go behind the scenes and learn about the true story of the nurses, doctors, soldiers and Alexandrians who star in PBS's series "Mercy Street." The program will begin in one of the original lobbies of the hospital, normally closed to the public. Tickets are \$10 for Alexandria Historical Society members and friends of the Carlyle House, \$20 for non-members. Visit
- www.alexandriahistoricalsociety.org for more. Artist Workshop: "No Holds

Barred." 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn to make box sculptures. Supplies will be provided. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

- Kitchen & Bath Remodeling Seminar. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Ferguson Lighting Gallery, 5650 General Washington Drive. Gain insight into the latest trends and the different levels of kitchen and bath remodeling. Also learn more about time frames and project budgeting. Free. Visit www.casedesign.com for more.
- "Northern Virginia Women in the Civil War." 2-3 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Prof. Alice Reagan discusses the changes in lifestyle for women during and after the civil war. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-746-1704.

SUNDAY/JAN. 31

- Alexandria's Destination Bridal Showcase. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Experience live music, talk with professionals in the areas of floral design, cake design travel, event planning, and more. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.
- Wonders of Science. 1-4 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Visit the Apothecary and discover curious objects, from poison bottles to

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"Filigree Lamp" by Cameron Turner 'March Melee' Coming to Del Ray Artisans Gallery

The March Melee exhibit at the Del Ray Artisans gallery is inspired by the Roald Dahl quote "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest [wo]men." Beyond the art exhibit running March 4-27, also find a "Build a Beast" textile workshop, a generative digital art lecture, a hat making workshop, and a reception with the artists. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for a full schedule.

dragon's blood, find out how they were used and if they worked. During the hour-long tours, Project Enlightenment, McLean High School's historical-reenactment society, will conduct 18th century scientific demonstrations. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

JAN. 31-MAY 15

Art Exhibit: "Partnerships." Business hours at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. All artwork is available for purchase through Del Ray Artisans. Artists are donating 20 percent of the purchase price of sold pieces in an equal split between Del Ray Artisans and the VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital's charity of choice, Veterans Moving Forward. Free. Call 703-751-2022 for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 2

Art Extravaganza. 7-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. This event will feature a "Tuesday Night Live" performance, a parody of "Saturday Night Live." featuring students from TV Production, dance, and theater classes performing musical numbers, sketch comedy, dance, and a digital short. Attendees can participate in the West Potomac Super Art Fight and paint with light, paint like Jackson Pollock, play with pixels and clay; and learn how to play guitar during a mini lesson by a guitar student. Free. Contact principal Alex Case at 703-718-2500 or abcase@fcps.edu or event liaison Amy Stoll at aestoll@fcps.edu.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

www.historicalexandria.gov

Lecture: Medical Care During the Civil War. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Learn about medical practices of the Civil War era and military hospitals in urban settings like wartime Alexandria by attending a lecture entitled "We are not Butchers: Military Surgeons of the Civil War." In honor of the PBS drama series, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$5. Visit

FEB. 3-14

Art League Patrons Show. Gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. This annual event features 600+ works of original fine art donated by Art League artists, Art League Faculty, and Torpedo Factory artists. The number of tickets sold matches the number of works donated. Prior to the drawing on Feb. the Gallery, giving ticket-holders an opportunity to study the artwork and note their favorite pieces, so they'll be prepared to select from the available artwork when their names are drawn. Admission to the gallery is free, tickets for the drawing are \$200 for one work of art and one

seat, \$250 for a couple's ticket which includes two seats and one work of art. Visit www.theartleague.org/ content/patrons_show.

THURSDAY/FEB. 4

Salon: An Artful Conversation. 6-8 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Judith HeartSong's Salon: An Artful Conversation is a monthly meeting of artists, writers, and arts professionals. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Heroines of Mercy Street." 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. "Heroines of Mercy Street," a new book by historian Pamela Toler, tells the true stories of some of the nurses at the Mansion House Hospital, Alexandria's largest during the Civil War. Ask questions and learn more. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com/ mercystreet.

Birthnight Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on Feb. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

FEB. 4-MARCH 13

"Wings from Chains." Gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists consider the roles and responsibilities in society. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

FRIDAY/FEB. 5

- "Wings from Chains" Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Celebrate the launch of this exhibit considering the roles of women in society. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.
- "Trending: Contemporary Art Now!" Opening Reception. at the Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Celebrate this all-media exhibition featuring works by self-identifying women artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.
- Mardi Gras in Alexandria. 6-8:30 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Make a Mardi Gras mask with Metamorphosis Art and Enrichment Center or bring your own and participate in the evening's Mardi Gras parade. In advance, tickets are \$5 for residents, \$10 for nonresidents. At the door, tickets are \$10 for residents, \$15 for nonresidents. Visit

www.alexandriava.gov/webtrac and register using class code 355203.01. **"Joshua."** 7:30 p.m. at Blessed

Sacrament Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road. Blessed Sacrament music director John H. McCrary will conduct the Blessed Sacrament festival choir, along with an orchestra of professional DC-area musicians in Handel's oratorio, "Joshua." Featured soloists are Michelle Kunz and Joshua Hong, Washington National Opera, and Sally Mouzon and Phillip Pickens, San Francisco Opera. Free. Call 703-998-6100 ext. 103.

FEB. 5-28

"All aBoard." 7-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Eight board members, Ron Blank, Michele Reday Cook, Kim S. Joy, Stephen Lally, Marlin Lord, Elizabeth Guerry Mead, Kathy Turner and Joan Woodill, display their work. Free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org/ show.

SATURDAY/FEB. 6

Winter Warehouse Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Westin Alexandria-400 Courthouse Square. Each year, the Old Town Boutique District hosts a warehouse sale featuring designer clothing, shoes, jewelry, home furnishings, and more at up to 80 percent off retail. Admission to the sale is free. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.comfor more.

- 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 Birthnight 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.
- John Carlyle Birthday Celebration. 12-4 p.m. at The Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Celebrate the birthday of Alexandria town founder John Carlyle with 18th-century dancing, live music, Scottish history and more. Free. Visit www.novaparks.com for more.
- "The Green Family of Cabinetmakers." 1:30-3 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Learn how the Greens made their money and became a prominent Alexandria family. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us or call 703-
- 746-1703. **Cissa Paz.** 8-10 p.m. at the Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Brazilian singer Cissa Paz will lead a concert of Brazilian Carnaval dance music.

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



Anthony Manough, Lori Williams, Rayshun Lamarr, and Roz White star in "Shake Loose" through March 6.

MetroStage Presents 'Shake Loose'

"Shake Loose" is a musical production featuring the music and lyrics of Thomas W. Jones, William Hubbard and William Knowles. "A musical odyssey" of African American people in the 20th century, "Shake Loose" celebrates the gospel tradition, and the African American icons, who invented the jazz, blues, and R&B. "Shake Loose" will run at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., Jan. 28-March 6. Tickets are \$55-60. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

Tickets are \$25. Visit www.thecarlyleclub.com for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 7

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 138 N. Royal St. Drink a special blend of tea or a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, eat period-inspired delicacies, with "Mrs. Martha Washington." During the tea, "Mrs. Washington" will be sharing stories from her life and visiting with each guest. Also take a tour at 2:15. Tea is \$35 per person, all inclusive, reservations are required. To make reservations call 703-746-4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

MONDAY/FEB. 8

- **Partners in Art.** 2-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Creatives gather to discuss art and exchange ideas. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.
- Lecture: Women of Alexandria. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Women of Alexandria, from Antebellum to the 20th Century" will depict the effect of the Civil War on the lives of Alexandria's women before, during, and after the war. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

TUESDAY/FEB. 9

Interfaith Dinner. 6:30 p.m. at Beth El Synagogue, 3830 Seminary Road. Maureen Fiedler, founder and host of public radio's preeminent religious news magazine program, "Interfaith Voices," will be the keynote speaker at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation/ Fairlington United Methodist Church Interfaith Dinner. Tickets are \$15. Email Ron Sturman at

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

rgsturman@msn.com to RSVP. Workshop: Vegetable Gardening.

7-8:30 p.m. at the Walter Reed Recreation Center, 2909 16th St. South, Arlington. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener. Program will address best practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement, as well as guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

FEB. 10-MARCH 13

"A Salute to Primary Colors." 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 9 p.m. on second Thursday of each month. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery presents primary colors in all forms including as gifts, jewelry, sculpture, clothing, and wall pieces. Free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

Birthnight Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Birthnight Ball on Feb,13, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are \$12 per class or \$30 for the entire series. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

Mount Vernon Chocolate Dinner. 6:30-10 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Find a fourcourse meal in celebration of Valentine's Day featuring peppercorn crusted steak and triple chocolate cheesecake. Tickets are \$125 each. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

- Beyond the Battlefield Walking Tour. 10 a.m. starting at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Discover the real-life stories and locations of soldiers, citizens, and former slaves that inspired the PBS drama "Mercy Street" in this walking tour of Old Town.Tickets are \$15. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.
- **Birthnight Banquet and Ball.** 5:30-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Attend a recreation of a celebration of Washington's Birthday. The evening includes an 18th-century banquet, English country dancing, dessert collation, character re-enactors, and General and Mrs. George Washington. Tickets are \$125, \$150 for dinner in the same room as the "Washingtons" and \$250 for a spot at the same table. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 13-14 Presidents Day Weekend

Celebration. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Join "General Washington" for a sample of "hoecakes swimming in butter and honey," mingle with costumed characters from George Washington's orld, take p largest-ever 18th-century dancing demonstration with costumed characters on the Bowling Green, and more. This event is included in admission: adults, \$20; children ages 6-11, \$10; and children under 5 are admitted free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.





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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

"The Dramatic." 8 p.m. on Saturday at Rachel M. Schlesinger Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive, 3 p.m. on Sunday at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Alexandria Symphony Orchestra performs love duets from "La Bohème" and "Madame Butterfly" by Giacomo Puccini, Respighi's "Pines of Rome," Vivaldi's "Double Cello Concerto" and selections from "The Godfather." Tickets are \$5-80. Visit www.alexsym.org for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 14

- Parade Day Open Houses. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St., and the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. Find a collection of herbs and botanicals at the Apothecary museum, see leath water buckets and hand-drawn fire engines at the friendship firehouse, and more. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.
- Music in the Gallery: The Navy Concert Band. 2 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Navy Band Chamber Music Series features musicians from the U.S. Navy Band. This chamber music recital will feature traditional and modern music for woodwinds and brass. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.
- Adulteration of Chocolate Tasting. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn more about 18th century tavern beverages and American Heritage Chocolate. Find multiple courses of beverage, chocolate, and food

pairings. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

Art League Patrons Show

- **Drawing.** 4 p.m. at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. For 10 days prior to the drawing, the show is on view online and in the Gallery, giving ticket-holders an opportunity to study the artwork and note their favorite pieces, so they'll be prepared to select from the available artwork when their names are drawn. New this year: an app called "Art Thief" that helps build a list of art and keep track of it during the Patron Show drawing. Admission to the gallery is free, tickets for the drawing are \$200 for one work of art and one seat, \$250 for a couple's ticket which includes two seats and one work of art. Visit www.theartleague.org/ content/patrons_show. Burlesque-A-Pades in Loveland.
- 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 301 Mount Vernon Ave. Burlesque ensemble performs. Tickets are \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 15

Presidents Day Celebration. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Participate in a dance demonstration, take a photo in front of the Lansdowne portrait, and more. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

FEB. 10-26

"Space Bop." Various times at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Space Bop" features Christylez Bacon in a show engaging children ages 0-2 in an exploration of celestial life. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org/spacebop for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 16

- Homeschool Day: Washington's Ball. 1-2:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In honor of George Washington's actual birthday on Feb. 22, learn how the citizens of Alexandria would celebrate his birthday in the late 1790s. Admission is \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.
- www.shop.alexandriava.gov. **Workshop: Vegetable Gardening.** 7-8:30 p.m. at the Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener. Program will address best practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement, as well as guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

THURSDAY/FEB. 18

Marshall Tucker Band. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Southern rock band performs. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 19

Harlem Renaissance Fair. 6-11 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College–Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little Turnpike, Annandale. The event will include performances by Thad Wilson's Jazz Orchestra, featuring jazz vocalist Sharón Clark. During the musical performances, dancers will demonstrate dance steps of the era. Actor and poet David Mills will also present a one-man play based on the life and poetry of Langston Hughes. Tickets are \$20-50. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 20

- **GenreCon5: Who Dunnit Best?** 2-4 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 10 and up are invited to wear their best detective outfit and participate in sleuth trivia, games, and more. Free. Call 703-746-1751 for more.
- Workshop: Vegetable Gardening. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, (Arlington and Alexandria) present a workshop for the beginning vegetable gardener. Program will address best practices for site selection, soil requirements and soil improvement, as well as guidance on crop selection and planting schedules. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 20-21

Tea with Martha Washington. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. 18th century tea includes the museum's special blend of tea, pound cake, dried fruit, and assortment of cookies. Also learn how Martha Washington might entertain guests. Tickets are \$25 each, \$20 for groups of six or more. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.

SUNDAY/FEB. 21 2CELLOS. 8 p.m. at DAR Constitution Hall, 1776 D St. NW, Washington, D.C. The Birchmere of Alexandria presents 2CELLOS, a band comprised of Croatian cellists. Tickets are \$47.50-67.50. Visit www.2cellos.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 22

- George Washington's Birthday. 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Visit Mount Vernon for special wreath-laying ceremonies throughout the day and watch as newly naturalized Americans take the oath of citizenship. Also find birthday cake, storytelling and more. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.
- Lecture: Women of Alexandria. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Women of Alexandria, from Antebellum to the 20th Century" will depict the effect of the Civil War)on the lives of Alexandria's women before, during, and after the war. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes and fun on the "Aqua Challenge" floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Tickets are \$4. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

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Monthly Networking Second Thursday Business Breakfast 2nd Thursday of each month 8:00 am to 9:30 am Belle Haven Country Club

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

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

FEBRUARY

2/10/2016	HomeLifeStyle
	Pet Connection

MARCH

3/2/2016	Wellbeing
3/9/2016 HomeLifeStyle	e Real Estate Pullout
3/16/2016A	+ Camps & Schools
3/23/2016Spring Fun, Food, A	rts & Entertainment
FCPS Spring Break 3/21-3/25	
ADDIT	

APRIL

4/6/2016	.Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout		
Easter Sunday is March 27			

- 4/13/2016.....Real Estate Pullout New Homes
- 4/20/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
- 4/27/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout 4/27/2016.....Mother's Day Celebrations,
- Dining & Gifts I





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Neighborhood Outlook

Projects Take Shape in 2016

From Page 3

ated by the Huntington Metro was torn down to be replaced a 390-unit, residential development, as well as a 15-story, 260,000 square foot office-retail building and a 150room hotel. Rezoning and a site plan were approved in 2012. The Parker at Huntington Metro luxury apartment building is open and taking on tenants.

Lennar multi-family housing development "Huntington Crossing"

The project team has just applied for rezoning for the 6.3 acres site adjacent to the Huntington Metro and right up against the water. The draft plan calls for five stories and approximately 360 multi-family units, however hearings are not yet scheduled. Access will be from Metro View Parkway.

Accotink Village

Richmond Highway between Fairfax County Parkway and Fort Belvoir's Tulley Gate

Work is expected to begin shortly on a mixed-use development sitting on 6.6 acres of historic Accotink Village by the Bainbridge Companies and Eastwood Properties. The project includes

283 units of 1 and 2-bedroom apartments,



The Parker at Huntington Metro luxury apartment building is open and taking on tenants.

as well as 24,000 square-feet of retail space.

National Museum of the U.S. Army Fort Belvoir

The Army Historical Foundation is continuing to raise money for construction of a brand-new National Museum of the U.S. Army to be located on a 41-acre campus at Fort Belvoir. The 185,000 square-foot main building will showcase 15,000 works from the Army Art Collection as well as 30,000 rare and never-before-seen artifacts, document and images from the service branch's 200-year history. A memorial garden, amphitheater and parade ground are planned for the exterior grounds.

New Inova Emergency Department to open in late 2016

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parkers Lane, Alexandria 22306

An entirely new Emergency Department







at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital is expected to be operational for employee training by December 2016. The new department is being funded largely by Jeffrey Veatch, an entrepreneur from the Mount Vernon area, who's committed a \$2 million lead matching gift toward the new construction. The future Accotink Village will include 283 residential units and 24,000 square-feet of retail space.

Photo courtesy of Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation

A 41-acre campus at Fort Belvoir is planned for the National Museum of the U.S. Army

Image courtesy of the U.S. Army and Army Historical Foundation

A new Emergency Department at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital will add around 19,000 square feet of treatment space and 15 additional treatment rooms beyond the current facilities.

Image courtesy of Inova Mount Vernon Hospital

Sources: Former District Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) and land use aide, District Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and land use aide, Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, the Army Historical Foundation and Lee Barton, senior project manager for Design and Construction with the Inova Facilities Management Department.



TCHOUPITOULAS

Fine Furnishings and Interior Design

Tradition with a Twist

Join us Thursday, February 11th between 6pm and 8pm for our Fine Wine and Design Event. We will have hors d'oeuvres and champagne. Look forward to seeing you there!



210 N. Lee Street, Alexandria ~ 703-299-0145 www.TchoupitoulasFurnishings.com Mon-Fri: 10-6 • Sat: 10-5 • Sun: 12-5 Bring as many guests as you'd like, but please RSVP to orders@tchoupitoulasfurnishings.com by February 8th.



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SPORTS MV's Ray Spent Quality Time with Family

Snowstorm caused Fairfax County Public Schools to cancel classes and athletic events from Thursday, Jan. 21 through Wednesday, Jan. 27. Some areas received more than 20 inches of snow during the weekend, according to the National Weather Service, creating a break from competition for local high school athletes.

Mount Vernon senior guard Chanise Ray shared her storm experience via email.

Q: How did the amount of snowfall in your neighborhood compare to what you thought would fall?

A: I really didn't think there would be this much snow. I thought it would be a few inches, maybe get us out of school for a little, no big deal,

SNOWSTORM Q&A but this was a lot of snow.

Q: What, if any, preparations did you and your family make for the storm?

A: My mom and I went to the grocery store before the storm hit to make sure we had enough food to last us. We also bought firewood in case there was some type of power outage.

Q: What did you do to pass the time during the storm?

A: To pass the time, I definitely spent a

snowstorm caused Fairfax County Public Schools to cancel classes and athletic events rom Thursday, Jan. 21 through Jan. 27. Some areas received

Q: Did you play in the snow? If so, what did you do?

A: I did play in the snow with my niece. We attempted to make a snowman but this was when the snow was kind of powdery, I guess you could call it. Not very good for snowman making. We also had a little snowball fight. It was a lot of fun.

Q: Were you able to exercise/ practice during the storm? If so, what did you do?

A: I wasn't able to do much exercising, except for of course pushups and stuff like that. I did spend hours outside shoveling snow. I also watched a lot of basketball just to keep my mind on the game.

Q: You're interested in playing college basketball, correct? How is that process going?

A: I hope to one day play ball in college like my sister (West Virginia guard Chania Ray). The process is going OK. I know it must be tough for my mom because it's not coming as easy for me like it did for my sister. However, she's been a huge help. My mom knows her way around the college recruiting process. I've been keeping my options open so I can be certain I make the best decision on where I spend my next four years.

Q: You scored 25 points in a recent win over Annandale. Is that a career high for you? If not, what's your career high?

A: That game was actually not my career high. I scored 26 in a recent game at the Title IX tournament my team participated in against Meade High School. I scored 21 in the fourth quarter alone. I honestly don't know what came over me. I just took over the game. We were losing by almost 20 points until the fourth quarter. I got us to only being down six. We ended up losing that game, and Meade went on to win the tournament. It's never fun to have a game like that and lose but I wasn't too hard on myself.

Q: What will it take for the team to build on the Annandale win coming back from the snowstorm?

A: It's going to be very hard to come back from being gone all this time. I know for a fact some girls haven't done anything over break because it's so easy to lay in bed and be lazy because of how busy we usually are. We're going to have to get back in shape, if that means running or whatever coach thinks we should do we will do. I hope our



PHOTO BY JEFF MCQUILKIN Mount Vernon senior guard Chanise Ray, seen earlier this season, scored 25 points against Annandale on Jan. 19.

losing streak is now over and we can start to be the team I know we are. Although my senior year has been tough because of all of the losses, I can honestly say that I'm proud of how much adversity my team has overcome and I wouldn't want to spend my senior year with any other team.

— Jon Roetman

West Potomac's Lisenby Got into Snowball Fights

snowstorm caused Fairfax County Public Schools to cancel classes and athletic events from Thursday, Jan. 21 through Wednesday, Jan. 27. Some areas received more than 20 inches of snow during the weekend, according to the National Weather Service, creating a break from competition for local high school athletes. West Potomac junior football/basketball player Brandan Lisenby shared his storm experience via email.

Q: How did the amount of snowfall in your neighborhood compare to what you thought would fall?

A: It was way more than I had expected; by far

the most I've ever seen. At one point I went outside and the snow was up to my hips.

<u>Sports Briefs</u> -Looking for

Umpires

Northern Virginia Baseball Umpires Association is in need of umpires for youth leagues, high schools, and collegiate-level baseball and volleyball games. Experience is helpful, but not required. Will give classroom and field training to aid you in ac-

Q: What, if any, preparations did you and your family make for the storm?

A: The day before it started snowing hard, me and my mom went shopping and stocked up on food, flashlights and batteries to last us about a week.

Q: What did you do to pass the time during the storm?

A: I watched some NBA games and completed extra credit that a few of my teachers had assigned me.

Q: Did you play in the snow? If so, what did you do?

A: Yes, I played in the snow. I had a few snowball fights with my brother and friends and went sledding.

quiring skills needed. Contact John Porter

at 703-978-3601 or assignor@umpires.org.

Hockey Registration

Registration is now open for Potomac

Field Hockey's spring FUNdamental pro-

Potomac Field



Junior receiver Brandan Lisenby and the West Potomac football team defeated T.C. Williams 42-18 on Oct. 24.

Q: Were you able to exercise/ practice during the storm? If so, what did you do?

A: Yes, me and a couple of my friends/

gram for Pre-K through second grade and Youth Rec league program for grades 3-8. No experience necessary. Once-weekly team practices with games on Saturdays. Technical skills sessions included. Season begins March 28 and runs through June 4. For more information or to register, visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org or email info@potomacfieldhockey.org. teammates went to some gyms and rec centers to shoot around and lift weights.

Q: The West Potomac boys' basketball team has won five straight. Are you concerned the team's success will be disrupted by the storm?

A: No, I believe that we have a talented team that is capable of coming off this storm ready to play and win.

Q: Are you interested in playing college basketball or football? How's that process going for you?

A: I would love to play either in college and the process is going pretty well for me. I've joined a few Web sites to help me with exposure and to get my name out there.

— Jon Roetman

Field Hockey Open House

Learn more about field hockey. Potomac Field Hockey will be holding open houses on March 1 and March 3 from 5-7 p.m. Drop in any time. Equipment provided. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.potomacfieldhockey.org.

LASSIFIED

Zone 3: • Alexandria Mount Vernon

21 Announcements ABC LICENSE Chicken Boxx, LLC trading as Chicken Boxx, 2303 Hunting-ton Ave. Alexandria, VA 22303. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on and off premises/Keg Permit & Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Julie Lien Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov 800-552-3200

Computers

DEADLINES

DEADLINES

703-778-9411

ZONE 3 AD DEADLINE: Tuesday Noon









CHRIS WHITE

Planning to sell in 2016? Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White! Leading the Area in Real Estate. SOLD!!!



\$575,000 2512 Culpeper Rd Bright Open Floor Plan-High Ceilings! One of Stratford's nicest models-contemporary with mid century modern flair. Soaring cathedral ceilings, open floor plan and large windows bring light to every corner of the home. Numerous updates include kitchen, 3 baths, refinished hardwood floors, and thermal windows. Gas heat and hot water. Open Sunday, 1/31, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkin, becomes Londonderry; R-Culpeper.



2403 Stirrup Lane \$569,000 **Updated Contemporary!** Gorgeous fenced lot, just one block from Stratford Elem. Extensive updates throughout including brand new custom kitchen, 3 updated baths. Gorgeous hardwood floors, and total interior painting. Cathedral ceilings. Size, condition, location & price add up to best value in area. Open Sunday, 1/31, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkin, becomes Londonderry; R-Camden; L-Stirrup.



3163 Woodland Lane \$950,000 Prime Waterfront-Acre Lot! 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!



8605 Cotswold Ct \$669,000 Three Car Garagener has moved and ants immediate sale esult the most home for

area! Fabulous features including rare three car garage, open floor plan, hardwood floors and sunroom. Recently updated roof and HVAC system. Large level lot fronts quiet cul-de-sac. Size, condition, location and price create truly unique opportunity! Open Sunday, 1/31, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt; R-Elkin; L-Wittington; R-Cotswold Ct.



3719 Riverwood Rd \$709,000 Fabulous Opportunity-Prestigious Riverwood! Exceptionally attractive price for updated Colonia in premier riverfront community. Recent work including custom interior

paint and beautifully refinished hardwood floors provide true "move-in" opportunity! Other features include main level family room w/fireplace & custom built-ins, bright white kitchen, 4 spacious bedrooms, thermal windows, 2 car garage. Gorgeous setting on large fenced lot.



9329 Mt Vernon Cir \$1,099,000 One of Area's Most Admired Properties! Classic Georgian nanor home crafted by legendary master Eugene Cullinane to serve as

LONG&FOSTER REAL ESTATE-

LUXURY HOMES

CHRISTIE'S

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!



8931 Fort Hunt Rd \$729,000 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. Waynewood School. Adjoining property just sold for \$1.6. Other recent neighborhood sales \$1.5 - \$1.7. Super value.



8708 Plymouth Rd \$1,499,000* Classic American Four Square Design-*Special **Pre-Construction Price!** Best of both worlds-classic American Four Square exterior combined with stunning modern floor plan and amenities. Numerous features include open floor

plan, high ceilings, top line kitchen and baths. Prime location on half acre level lot in popular Plymouth Haven. Pre-construction contract provides maximum opportunity to customize and discounted price!





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