Mount Pernon Gazette Home Life Style PAGE 10

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

February II, 2016



The Board of Supervisors' Public Safety Committee met Feb. 9 to go over a basic plan "matrix" for implementing recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission of 2015.

The Police-Changing Matrix

Public Safety Committee meets to discuss police review recommendations, Diversion First initiative.

"As we go through

this, we need to be

- Brad Carruthers,

President, Fairfax Fraternal

Order of Police, Lodge 77

cautious and do

this right."

By Tim Peterson The Gazette

ust over a year since Natasha McKenna died following multiple shocks from a taser, while in custody at the Fairfax County Adult Detention center, her name was never raised during the Feb. 9 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee meeting. Two audience members stood on one side of the Government Center conference room, holding posters bearing a picture of McKenna's face and text including "Black Lives Matter."

The committee met to hear overviews of a matrix of recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission that met in 2015, as well as Diversion First, a collaborative initiative to help offenders with mental illness be directed to proper intake, evaluation and treatment services rather than simply be dumped at the jail or emer-

When the Ad Hoc Commission presented its 142 ing the department's use of force policy. final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors last fall, county staff transformed the list into a spreadsheet organizing each recommendation beside its lead agency, other stakeholders, crossover with prior recommendations from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), any required legal review and the ultimate authority that would give approval of the change.

In some cases, staff determined one recommen-

dation contained sub-recommendations that ought to be considered independently from the parent. Including those, the matrix contains just over 200 items, according to Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer.

The matrix is intended to help with potentially implementing recommendations and eliminate redundancies with the PERF report assessing Fairfax County Police's use of force policy. "Many of the recommendations are solid," Rohrer said, and some are "already being used by the police department in making changes."

Rohrer said the force has, since the final rec-

ommendations of the commission, worked on its use of force policy and helped bring about Diversion First.

According to Rohrer, an implementation committee including members of the 2015 Ad Hoc Commission will meet to help the Board of Supervisors work through the recommendations.

Chief of Police Edwin C. Roessler followed Rohrer with a brief presentation on updat-

Focusing on the three areas of the force's mis-

sion to protect and serve, developing a culture of safety and keeping pace with urbanization, "law enforcement profession needs to re-engineer itself," Roessler said.

"Things are changing. In the last two years, there were gaps in policing.'

Of changes already in the works, Roessler SEE WORKING, PAGE G

Proffers In Danger?

State seeks to rein in county's power.

> By Ken Moore The Gazette

"What businesses

told me about being

whether it's zoning,

partnerships, etc.,

is that they need to

predictability, and

systems that work."

- State Sen.

Scott Surovell (D-36)

have repeatedly

able to work with

procurement,

public-private

have fairness,

ichmond caught the attention of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors this week specifically with House Bill 770 (Gilbert) and Senate B 549 (Obenshain), bills Sharon Bulova says will place "significant restrictions" on development, specifically citing "unreasonable proffers."

The Board of Supervisors drafted emergency letter during its board meeting Feb. 2 to the Fairfax County delegation to the General Assembly opposing the two bills.

"Please oppose HB 770/ SB 549, or seek amendments to safeguard Fairfax County's proffer authority," according to the letter.

"Virtually all development in the county is infill development. In these types of cases, proffers are

critical in meeting infrastructure and compatibility needs of surrounding areas. If enacted, these bills may require us to rewrite entire sections of our Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance,"

wrote Sharon Bulova, chairman of the board.

The board detailed the way the county works with developers to balance the impact of new development with "added demand for county services and public facilities that result from that development."

"We do that through the proffer system, which provides an opportunity for developers to work with the county to address community concerns related to the increased density of such development," according to the Board of Supervisors. "In Fairfax County, our collaboration with our partners in the

> development community has led to successful, innovative plans such as the redesign of Tysons, construction of the Mosaic District, and the revitalization Springfield."

> The board approved drafting the letter during its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb.

> THE HOUSE DEL-OF EGATES passed the bill later that day, 68-27. Local delegates voting in favor of the bill restrict-

ing local proffer authority included Dave Albo (R-42), Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Charniele Herring (D-46), Patrick Hope (D-47), Tim Hugo (R-40), Paul Krizek (D-

SEE STATE SEEKS, PAGE G

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patios, porches and decking less than

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Ann McClure & Shirley Mattam-Male

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Elizabeth Lucchesi

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Elizabeth Lucchesi

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News

School Board Approves \$2.67 Billion 'No Cuts' Budget

Calls for general salary raises and additional \$40 million for teachers, lowering elementary class size.

By Tim Peterson
The Gazette

embers of the Fairfax County School Board have taken the next step in realizing Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza's vision of no additional cuts in the Fiscal Year 2017 school system operating budget. The \$2.67 billion budget, a \$121 million or 4.8 percent increase over the FY 2016 approved budget was supported unanimously at the board's Feb. 4 regular business meeting.

Highlights of the new budget include a step and one percent market scale adjustment salary increase for all FCPS employees, as well as another \$40 million earmarked for making teacher salaries more competitive and reducing class sizes in elementary schools.

"The Superintendent's Budget Task Force spent many hours over several weeks last summer and fall developing a list of potential program cuts and new fees," Board Chairman Pat Hynes said in a statement. "Those cuts and fees are not in the Advertised Budget because they would fundamentally change the quality and character of FCPS. I did not leave the classroom to serve on the School Board so that I could preside over the dismantling of this world class school system. Potential cuts will, sadly, have to be considered should we not receive



The School Board approved the \$2.67 billion advertised budget it will present to the Board of Supervisors

the revenue our schools need."

BUDGET COMMITTEE chair and School Board member Janie Strauss introduced the motion to approve the budget.

"This budget reflects the basic needs of our schools and is critical to maintaining an essential quality education for our children," she said in a statement. "Community support for this budget is critical to the future of our schools, our children, and the overall strength and reputation of Fairfax County."

At-large member Jeanette Hough, a new addition to the board, presented a lone amendment to the advertised budget. She proposed reducing the transfer request from Fairfax County by \$4.3 million, in part through recognizing additional funding from the Commonwealth of Virginia and also absorbing some employee living wage expenditures into the Food and Nutrition Services fund.

Increased funding from the state, a potential \$3.2 million, is part of Gov. Terry McAuliffe's proposed budget, which the General Assembly has yet to approve. This uncertainty caused most other board members to vote against the motion.

"It's still a proposal of the Governor's, not in hand by any means," said Vice Chairman and Mason District representative Sandy Evans. "It's also a best case scenario. These chickens are far from hatching."

There was also concern over the effect Hough's proposal would have on developing a higher quality food program.

"As we try to improve nutrition for our young people, I don't want to put more pressure on that fund right now," said Strauss.

Though each member congratulated Hough on her effort to dig into the budget and make an attempt to improve it despite her short time on the board, Springfield representative Elizabeth Schultz and the new Sully member Tom Wilson were the only other members to vote in the amendment's favor.

"In the Virginia state code, there's a requirement for board members to run school systems with 'the utmost efficiency," said

Schultz, who went on to address the Food and Nutrition Services aspect of the amendment: "This is an incredibly modest way to recognize a self-sustaining fund that numbers bear out over time is already provided for in the budget.

"The best face we can put forward is that we have done all the appropropriate things to recognize savings when we can," Schultz added.

Hough defended her work, explaining with regards to the change in revenue from the Commonwealth, that based on comparing projected and actual funding, it wasn't unreasonable to reflect the Governor's proposal in the budget.

"The whole budget process is based on assumptions that may not come to fruition," she said. "I do think that when we look at what this \$3.2 million is, it's just another assumption we're basing our budget on."

In discounting the amendment, other board members explained that this preliminary approval vote is just the first part in a multi-step process. The board will present the budget to the Board of Supervisors on April 5. Once it's clear what will be revenue and transfer from the county and the state, the board will have another opportunity to make changes and cuts, Hynes said.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS has scheduled public hearings on the budget on April 5-7. More information about participating and the complete budget calendar is available online at www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/budgetcalendar.shtml.

Additional info on the FY 2017 budget can be found online at www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml.



Jeanette Hough, a newly elected at-large school board member, introduced an unsuccessful amendment that would have reduced the proposed Fairfax County transfer to the school system by \$4.3 million.

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Alexandria/

Old Town



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CRIME

Bus Aide Charged

Major Crimes Division Child Exploitation Unit detectives investigated the report from a 16-year-old student that a student bus aide, an acquaintance of hers, sent at least two inappropriate photos of himself to her electronically between November and December 2015.

Police followed up on the report at Quander Road School in Alexandria, 6400 Quander Road, on Jan. 13 in the afternoon.

Detectives charged 24-year-old

Morrice D. Stephenson of Alexandria with a pair of felony counts for soliciting a minor using a communication device. Police arrested Stephenson Jan. 15, a release said.

Anyone with additional information on the case is asked to contact Crime Solvers by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637) or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477) or the Fairfax County Police non-emergency number 703-691-2131.

— Tim Peterson

Charges Against Teacher Updated

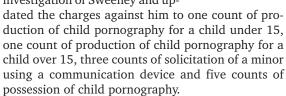
In September 2015, Michael A. Sweeney, 44, of Woodbridge, was charged with contributing to the



Detectives charged Morrice D. Stephenson with soliciting a minor using a communication device.

delinquency of a minor. Sweeney had been discovered with the victim, a 16-year-old girl from the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, in a vehicle that was parked in the parking lot of the 8800 block of Richmond Highway.

According to a Feb. 2 release, Major Crimes Child Exploitation Unit detectives completed their investigation of Sweeney and up-



According to police, these crimes took place between November 2013 and September 2015.

— Tim Peterson

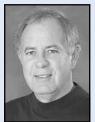
Michael A.

Two Armed Robberies In 15 Minutes

Detectives are investigating reports of two armed robberies that occurred along the Richmond Highway corridor, in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, on Wednesday, Feb. 3. The first robbery was reported at the 7-Eleven Store at 8226 Russell Road at 11:18 p.m. Two men entered the store; one displayed a handgun and demanded money while the other apparently acted as a lookout. An undisclosed amount of cash was handed over and there were no injuries.

The second robbery was reported at the Denny's SEE CRIME, PAGE 11





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Hollin Hall \$489,000 7924 Jackson Rd.

1,300 sq. ft. Hollin Hall rambler is an oasis for NATURE LOVERS: perennials abound in the front yard, and a huge Koi pond, greenhouse and raised garden beds are in the backyard. Beautiful upscale renovated kitchen. Newly refinished hardwood floors and interior painting. 2 baths and 2 bedrooms, but 3rd bedroom could be easily configured

from part of the large Family Room addition. Walk-in closet. Newer HVAC, replacement windows, new hot water heater. WAYNEWOOD ELEMENTARY.



Alex./Riverside Est. \$649,900 8425 Mt. Vernon Highway

Beautiful home w/over 4,000 fin sq ft & 2 level addition plus 600+ sq ft bsmt in lovely Riverside Estates. Great Rm on ML w/gas FP & wet bar. Adjacent Family Rm w/wood-burning FP. An office adjoins the gorgeous 20' x 32' MBR addn w/vaulted Douglas Fir ceiling & skylights.

Library/studio (32' x 12') on upper lvl addition. Both HVAC systems, HWH & roof replcd 2011. 1 mile to G.W. Pkwy. Close to Ft. Belvoir.



Alex./Stratford Landing \$529,900 • 2403 Cavendish Dr.

Lovely 3 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial bursting w/charm – wood firs under quality carpeting on main & upper levels. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/beautiful oak cabinets & Corian counters – upgraded baths. Family rm & den along w/workshop/utility rm on lower level. Tons of storage in both floored attics w/pull-down stairs. Lovely screened

porch/carport overlooks a deck & beautifully landscaped & fenced bkyd. Quality nome for an attractive price – minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S) & Old Town, Alex (N).



Alex./Wessynton \$679,900 3301 Wessynton Way

Beautiful Contemporary Split on one of Wessynton's premiere lots backing to over 10 acres of pristine forest, teeming w/wildlife and spectacular views. Roof, furnace, A/C, HWH, double pane windows replaced. Great, Great Value at this price. 5 minutes

to Ft. Belvoir, $15\,\mathrm{mins}$ to Alexandria. Community pool, boat ramp and walking trails.



Alex./Mt. Vernon Hills \$549,900 8620 Curtis Avenue

Total renovation of this beautiful 5 BR, 3 BA Split – 2015: New Roof & Exterior Painted – 2016: New Kitchen, Baths Updated, DBL Pane Windows, Hardwood FIrs, Carpeting & Interior Painted – Large .31 acre lot with new privacy fence

- 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir – 12 minutes to Old Town Alexandria - Walk to MVHS – GREAT BUY!



Alex./Riverside Estates Mid \$500s • 8316 Orange Ct.

Wonderfully updated new listing – 5 BR, 3 BA Split w/2-car garage, spectacular stained & screened back porch perfect for entertaining. Beautiful hdwd floors, updated kitchen w/hdwd, Corian countertops & a bump-out breakfast area. Updated baths w/jetted tub in hall bath. Lower level offers large fam-

ily room w/gas fireplace, 3rd bath & 5th bedroom. This is the complete package. 5minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S) – 15 minutes to Old Town Alex, (N).



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Working through Details To Improve Policing

pointed to his call for an on-site national accreditation assessment of the department spanning 400 standards, as well as new guidelines for hostage barricade situations.

Roessler's department will also be rolling out a new Critical Decision-Making model for officers, he said, that will become part of all training and will be continually reinforced through training year after year, as well as introduced at the academy.

"The first six months of academy be successful building blocks to making decisions out in the community," Rossler said. This all lives and breathes the recommendations from our community.'

Members from five police organizations sat around the table. Det. Sean Corcoran, president of the Fairfax Coalition of Police Local 5000 and a member of the Ad Hoc Commission, offered a defensive perspective on the recommendations matrix. He said it's raised a level of anxiety among officers on the streets.

"Why does it feel on some level like we're doing something wrong?" he asked. He wanted to remind the committee "We're making a good organization better."

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon

largely silent during the presentations, thanked the different police organizations for being involved with the Ad Hoc Commission process.

"It's important you continue to be at the table with us," she said. "We are the safest iurisdiction of our size in the nation. I hear what you're saying, that you're doing something wrong. You're not. But policing is changing." Bulova continued, saying she remembered when Neighborhood Watch was first implemented and that now it's an integral part of community law enforcement.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) asked the committee to remember to keep the matrix of recommendations "in context" in terms of other public safety issues.

"Some things I think are important aren't on this list," he said. "Heroin and opioid addiction, elder abuse, internet crime hope we're not pulling resources off those other things."

Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) went back to Corcoran's comments, responding against the construct of right versus wrong versus grey. "It's a matter of doing things differently," she said. "Technology has changed things. That's the troubling part.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) added that "every good organization needs to re-look at itself, otherwise you won't remain good."

Brad Carruthers, president of the Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77, didn't speak initially, but responded when newly elected Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) asked for additional viewpoints to be shared from other police organizations.

Carruthers said he thinks "great things came out" of the Ad Hoc Commission, of which he was also a member. But "as we go through this," he said of the matrix of recommendations, "we need to be cautious and do this right."

THOUGH A LARGER, more detailed event focused on Diversion First is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 11 at the Merrifield Crisis Response Center of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, representatives from the participating agencies gave a brief overview of the program.

One area of focus is the Sequential Intercept Model, explained Laura Yager, strategic projects coordinator in the County

Bulova, who had up to that point been You can't just flip a switch. It takes much Executive's Office. The model breaks down the common places people first come in contact with police — from out in the public, court hearings and magistrate's office, jails and courts, and people re-entering society - and how those with mental health challenges might be diverted in each setting. Implementation of the program includes a three-year funding plan of \$13.77 million, which Bulova said could be funded at least in part through grants rather than entirely by the county.

> Fire and Rescue Chief Richard R. Bowers said the program is about making sure people who might otherwise go straight to the emergency room "get the right help they

> "They get caught in that spin cycle," he continued, of being picked up during a mental health crisis, being taken to the hospital, being discharged, picked up again, etc. "We call them our most loyal customers. This program is going to break that cycle."

> More information about the Public Safety Committee meeting and links to the Ad Hoc recommendations matrix and presentation documents are available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/boardcommittees/meetings.

State Seeks To Rein in County's Proffer Power

From Page 1

44), Mark Levine (D-45), Ken Plum (D-36) and Vivian Watts (D-39).

Local delegates who voted against the bill included Jennifer Boysko (D-86), David Bulova (D-37), Mark Keam (D-35), Kaye Kory (D-38), Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Alfonso Lopez (D-49), Kathleen Murphy (D-34), Mark Sickles (D-43), and Marcus Simon (D-

Lobbying continued on the Senate version of the bill but it was expected to pass in the Senate on Tuesday, Feb. 9. The Senate version would exempt development around current or planned Metro stations.

Simon said he voted against the bill because it wasn't ready. "Fairfax uses proffer system as it currently exists to be creative in developing areas like Tysons and the Mosaic District," he said.

"We have to communicate how bad this bill is," said Dranesville Supervisor John Foust. "It flies in the face of everything we are trying to do for the economic success of Fairfax County."

"The more I thought about this bill, the worse it seems to get," said Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth, warning of profound effects on in-fill development. "We will no longer get proffer features on design issues." Later version of the bill in the Senate appear to allow architectural and design prof-

"If enacted it may require us to rewrite our entire Comprehensive Plan. We will have to rewrite our entire ordinance," said Lee Supervisor Jeff McKay.

"This is major in terms of the repercussions we will face here in Fairfax County," said Smyth. "This will be huge, it will be time consuming, and it will be expensive

Smyth and other supervisors discussed the ability of developers to work with the community during the proffer process.

"There may be a unique opportunity, a community that may need a stream restored, and all that will be gone, and we will have to rewrite our residential zoning," said Smyth.

"Our development community does not support this. What they are seeing is something set up in other parts of the state that will undermine what we are doing here," she said. "We have a very responsible development community."

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity voted against the letter.

"I think we have gone too far with proffers," he said. "This will lower the cost of housing in Fairfax County."

"I agree with Supervisor Herrity that we have to be careful about the requirements we put on builders. It is expensive to build in this county," said Braddock Supervisor John Cook.

"The answer to this problem is not asking Richmond to fix this problem for us," Cook said. "Going to Richmond for the answer is a bad, bad, bad idea."

But legislators in Richmond who support the bill said localities have gone too far with proffers, using them in ways that were never

"What businesses have repeatedly told me about being able to work with the government, whether it's zoning, procurement, public-private partnerships, etc., is that they need to have fairness, predictability, and systems that work," said state Sen. Scott

Tying County Hands in Development?

HB 770 Conditional zoning; provisions applicable to all proffers.

SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:

Conditional zoning. Provides that no locality shall (i) request or accept any unreasonable proffer in connection with a rezoning or a proffer condition amendment as a condition of approval of a new residential development or new residential use or (ii) deny any rezoning application, including an application for amendment to an existing proffer, for a new residential development or new residential use where such denial is based on an applicant's failure or refusal to submit, or remain subject to, an unreasonable proffer. A proffer shall be deemed unreasonable unless it addresses an impact that is specifically and uniquely attributable to a proposed new residential development or other new residential use applied for. An off-site proffer shall be deemed unreasonable pursuant to the above unless it addresses an impact to an off-site public facility, such that, (a) the new residential development or new residential use creates a need, or an identifiable portion of a need, for one or more public facility improvements in excess of existing public facility capacity at the time of the rezoning or proffer condition amendment, and (b) each such new residential development or new residential use applied for receives a direct and material benefit from a proffer made with respect to any such public fa-

In any action in which a locality has denied a rezoning or an amendment to an existing proffer and the aggrieved applicant proves by a preponderance of the evidence that it refused or failed to submit, or remain subject to, an unreasonable proffer that it has proven was suggested, requested, or required, formally or informally, by the locality, the court shall presume, absent clear and convincing evidence to the contrary, that such refusal or failure was the controlling basis for the denial. The bill also provides that certain conditional rezoning proffers related to building materials, finishes, methods of construction, or design features on a new residential development are prohibited.

Surovell (D-36). "Otherwise, they don't want to put the time into trying to get to the end zone. Right now the litigation check on [proffers] is totally tilted towards the localities. That can't continue.'

STATE SEN. DAVE MARSDEN (D-37) admitted that one reason localities turned to proffers was because of severely limited tax authority.

But he supports the bill, with amendments, in part because the costs of proffers add to the cost of housing, making houses less affordable. Proffers should also serve the area around the new development, not the other side of the county, he said.

"I did feel like something needed to be done on behalf of the builders," Marsden said. "It's a depressed industry."

Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) voted against the House bill, but added it is a work in progress.

"The abuses that have driven this bill are not centered on NOVA," she said. "We are working with supervisors and the business community to make sure this is done right because it is so important to economic development."

Reporting contributed by Mary Kimm

News



U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) kicks off the Feb. 6 Democratic Straw Poll held at the Richmond Highway Don Beyer Volvo car dealership.

Clinton, Kaine Win Straw Poll

resh off her victory in the Iowa caucuses. Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton scored another win for the party's nomination at the first northern Virginia Democratic Straw Poll of 2016, held Feb. 6 at Don Beyer Volvo on Richmond Highway.

State's 70 percent of votes defeated the 20 percent challenger Sen. Bernie Sanders (D-VT) received, according to a release from the Mount Vernon District Democratic Committee.



The former Secretary of Del. Paul Krizek (D-44), in the middle of his freshman Virginia **General Assembly** session, joins revelers at the Feb. 6 Don **Beyer Volvo Demo**cratic Straw Poll.

Write-ins accounted for nine percent of votes. Total vote count was 69 for Clinton, 20 for Sanders, 9 for write-ins.

A poll for vice president pick resulted in first place votes for U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine, with 55 percent (54 votes), followed by Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro (16), U.S. Sen. Cory Booker (10), former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley (7), former Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer (2) and eight other write-ins.

- Tim Peterson



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) speaks to the Democratic faithful at the party's straw poll event Feb. 6. Connolly is up for re-election in the fall.

Inova Medical Group Welcomes Dr. David Gehring to Inova Primary Care - Old Town



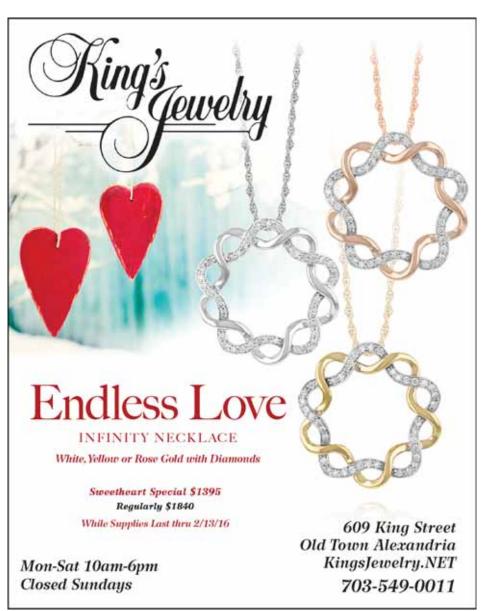
Dr. Gehring sees patients of all ages, and has extensive experience in geriatric care, prevention, and hypertension.

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OPINION

Limiting Local Authority

Assembly rushes bill limiting proffers without addressing who will pay for infrastructure.

n Virginia, a Dillon Rule state, local governments have only the powers explicitly granted by the General Assembly. And what the assembly gives, the assembly can take away.

It's the reason, for example, that localities have limited means of raising revenue and limited taxing authority. And those limited means are one reason localities have turned to proffers, payments and improvements to infrastructure agreed to by builders as part of approval and zoning changes for new **EDITORIAL** development.

Members of the General Assembly, including many who represent only Fairfax County districts, agree with builders that in many places, the way local governments are using proffers is unfair, even out of control.

Many point to Loudoun County, where builders pay substantial cash proffers, as an example. And to other counties where large, off site intersection improvements were required.

Everyone seems to agree that the "abuses" are not taking place in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria. But the restrictions apply to these areas as well.

How are local governments supposed to pay for the costs of growth? Should the lion's share be paid by existing residents through increase property taxes?

This is a complex question, not one that should be rushed.

But right now, the General Assembly

is rushing to restrict proffers and to give developers and builders substantial clout in legal challenges to local government action. And they are doing this without any consideration to how localities will replace the resources they

It's time to slow this process down, and for a

reasoned consideration. What exactly are the abuses that require action? Look at specific examples and address the specifics.

Local delegates voting in favor of the bill restricting local proffer authority included Dave Albo (R-42), Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), Charniele Herring (D-46), Patrick Hope (D-47), Tim Hugo (R-40), Paul Krizek (D-44), Mark Levine (D-45), Ken Plum (D-36) and Vivian Watts (D-39).

Local delegates who voted against the bill included Jennifer Boysko (D-86), David Bulova (D-37), Mark Keam (D-35), Kaye Kory (D-38), Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Alfonso Lopez (D-49), Kathleen Murphy (D-34), Mark Sickles (D-43), and Marcus Simon (D-53).

The Virginia Senate was expected to vote for an amended version of the bill on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

Reasonable action will fall to the conferees in reconciling the House and Senate versions, and to the governor, who would be able to amend the bill before signing or veto.

— MARY KIMM

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Legalized Extortion

To the Editor:

Thank goodness we have the Dillon Rule in Virginia. That rule precludes localities such as cities and counties from taking any actions not specifically authorized by the state legislature. The House of Delegates and State Senate have both passed Bills (HB 770 and SB 549, respectively) the intention of which is to place limitations on the ability of localities to extract unreasonable proffers from property developers.

From my lengthy experience in land use in Fairfax County, it is not an exaggeration to say that the proffer system in Fairfax County has operated as legalized extortion. In the Mount Vernon District, under the former supervisor, developers wishing to develop properties that could not be developed in the desired manner "by right" were required to attend hearings before the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Association (MVCCA) and gain their blessing before the supervisor would decide what development conditions to impose. Since the MVCCA only represents approximately 20 percent of the citizen associations in the district, and since many neighborhoods in credit toward the purchase of afthe district don't even have a citizens' association, and since community representatives to MVCCA committees are rarely accountable to their respective communities (the MVCCA does not record how we have a Wal-mart at the site

each committee member votes), visits to the MVCCA by developers amount to nothing short of a

I recall three clear examples of this abuse and they are just examples. One member of the MVCCA's Environment & Recreation Committee (E&R) routinely demanded that developers exceed the legal requirements for stormwater treatment to gain his vote. On two occasions, the chairman of that committee informed the developers of proposed developments, one on Lukens Lane and the other concerning the Green Church on Mount Vernon Highway, that he would urge the committee to favor their proposals if they made significant contributions to a dog park he was supporting.

I also recall the former supervisor demanding that the proposed developer of the Kings Crossing Town Center project pay each trailer owner at the trailer park that would be swallowed up by the development a relocation payment of \$50,000. The developer offered \$30,000, but the supervisor refused to budge. As chairman of the MVCCA's Planning and Zoning Committee, I asked the developer if they would be willing to give trailer park residents a \$30,000 fordable housing planned at Kings Crossing. They readily agreed, but the supervisor refused to back down from the \$50,000 demand. This was one of the reasons why

devoid of the storm water controls that would facilitate restoration of the adjacent Fairchild property.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and her fellow Democrats John Foust, Linda Smyth, and Jeff McKay have gone on record opposing these bills while the two remaining Republicans Pat Herrity and John Cook favor passage of the bills. To his credit, state Sen. Scott Surovell has also come out in favor, although I note a \$1,500 campaign contribution to him from the Home Builders Association of Vir-

Proffers requiring developers to make improvements concerning issues of transportation, schools, parks, and other county infrastructure not directly impacted by their proposed development are unreasonable and inappropriate. I understand the legislation if enacted is intended to address these abuses. Hopefully the House of Delegates and State Senate can reconcile the differences in their respective Bills and complete the process and hopefully Governor McAuliffe will sign the final bill into law.

> H. Jay Spiegel Mount Vernon

Beware of Scam

To the Editor:

Beware of IRS impersonation scammers. I received a telephone call in mid January 2016 that IRS was filing a suit against me and to

call a call back number provided for more details. Since I don't owe IRS any money and hadn't heard from IRS about taxes due, I suspected the call was a scam.

I contacted the IRS tax inspector general for tax administration to find out if a scam existed and I wanted to file a complaint. I found out that, according to the Inspector General the IRS impersonation scam is widespread with scammers collecting over \$23 million from October 2013 to October 2015. The scammers use various tactics to persuade people that they should pay using debit cards. They use fake IRS badge numbers, some have the last four digits of the person's social security number and call two or three times claiming to be the police or DMV.

After you get a call and you believe you owe IRS taxes, call 1-800-829-1040 to get help with your questions. If you don't owe taxes, fill out the form for the IRS impersonation scam that is on the website www.tigta.gov or call 1-800-366-3844. Add "IRS telephone scam" to the comments on your complaint form. The website also provides information about the scam. You should also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at www.FTC.gov.

Be alert during and after tax filing season for the scam artist contacts who prey on people for money and cause severe personal anguish.

> Frank Medico Mount Vernon

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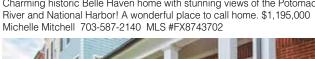
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Open House Sunday 2-4pm Manors at Mt. Vernon 8307 Centerbrook Place, Alexandria VA True Center Hall Colonial - move-in ready in Stratford Elem. neighborhood; 4 BR, 4.5 BA, 2-car gar., 3 fin. levels, tons of upgrades. \$939,000 Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788 MLS #FX8760765



Open House Sunday 2-4pm Williamsburg North 2408 Apple Hill Road, Alexandria VA Renovated and awaiting its new owner in the New Year! 3 BR, 2 new designer baths, new kitchen w/lg eat-in space, new HVAC, HWH, electric upgrade; centrally located/commuter routes. \$549,900 Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788 MLS #FX8762757



Open House Sunday 2-4pm Belle View Condominiums 6612 Tenth Street #A-1, Alexandria VA NEW LISTING: Lovely 2 BR/1 BA, PORCH unit with great views of wildlife preserve! Updated kitchen, refinished hardwoods, newer windows & HVAC. Great location & amenities! \$263,000 Heidi Burkhardt 703-217-6009 MLS # FX1234567

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REVIEW



SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

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FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

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

APRIL

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

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Home Life Style

Stylish Valentine's Day Table Settings

Flowers and candles create romantic designs.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL THE GAZETTE

resh flowers and candles are an easy way to add elegance and romance to a Valentine's Day table. From dramatic to understated, local tastemakers offer suggestions for setting the mood for a memorable dinner.

"Candles are key to set a romantic atmosphere," said Marika Meyer of Marika Meyer Interiors in Bethesda, Md. "Soft lighting is flattering to all of us and creates a sense of intimacy for conversations."

The ambience is enhanced, says Meyer, when the candlelight glints off of metallic accessories like candlestick holders. "You can use silver, mercury, glass or even gold or brass to help move the light,"

In fact, gold accents are a current trend, says Angela Phelps of Le Village Marche in Arlington. "They pair well with pinks, reds, and fuchsias," she said. 'So, as you're planning a romantic dinner at home, think about incorporating china, vases, candle votives, trays, and glassware with a gold trim for a stunning table."

Metallics combined with a few pops of a soft color help create an elegant setting. "White and silver tables can be very romantic — for example, a white tablecloth, mirrored or silver placemats, silver flatware and crystal stemware," said Fay Johnson, an interior designer with J.T. Interiors in Potomac, Md. "The centerpiece [could be] a silver ice bucket with white and blush colored roses and a array of assorted size candles and votives."

For a more traditional table, Johnson stated that "a black, white and red table can be very dramatically romantic. A black and white tablecloth [such as] a houndstooth or herringbone ... pattern with red, glass stemware, white dinner plate, a ruby-red glass salad plate and silver flatware."

Johnson suggests completing the look with a crystal or silver vase filled with red roses and accented with few red glass votive candles.

Johnson believes that not all centerpieces need to be flowers. She suggests filling three compote dishes, graduating in size, with chocolates and red and pink rose petals for table design with a touch of whimsy.

A vase can add a powerful style impact. "A vase is like a frame for a picture," said Linda Wilson-Vertin, floral designer with Merrifield Garden Center in Fair



A table setting by Alexandria-based Ivy Lane's Alex Deringer and Courtney Cox incorporates fresh flowers.

Oaks. "A clear vase is like not having a frame on the picture."

Instead, choose a vase that has visual interest or one that is meaningful on a personal level. "I like using things that are special to the individual," said Wilson-Vertin. "I ask clients to bring in a container that they like so that I can create an arrangement that works with it."

While red is often the go-to floral color for Valentine's Day, Wilson-Vertin says that shades of pink, peach and purple can offer elegance and romance. "Go with what works for you and what works in your home," she said. "For example, red doesn't work in my home, so I use watermelon and apricot."

Consistency adds an unexpected touch of enchantment. A monochromatic palette conveys more romance than contrasting colors," said Wilson-Vertin. She recommends using "red roses with deep burgundy mini carnations to vary the size of the flower head and texture. Mini carnations have ruffled tex-

For the ultimate in texture and color variety, "think English garden, like roses, hydrangeas, lisianthus and snapdragons," said Wilson-Vertin. "Add berries and eucalyptus" to complete this elegant floral arrange-

Linen napkins offer a finishing touch to an elegant table setting, says Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Interior Design in Bethesda, Md.

"Use pretty salt and pepper shakers, festive napkin rings, and if you have fancy water or wine glasses, now is the time to use them," she said. "And don't forget the champagne bucket nearby for cooling white wine or champagne."

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CRIME

From Page 5

Restaurant at 7214 Richmond Highway at 11:33 p.m. Two men entered the restaurant; one displayed a handgun. One suspect took an undisclosed amount of cash from the business and from customers, while the second suspect took additional cash from another area in the business. There were no injuries.

In both cases the suspects were described as black, 20-30 years old. One was about 5 feet 8 inches tall and around 160 pounds, wearing a black, hooded sweatshirt and a mask. The second suspect was about 5 feet 6 inches tall and around 150 pounds, wearing a green, hooded sweatshirt and a mask.

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

Suspect Arrested In Robbery

Police responded to the area of Aspen Drive and Wyres Street for a report of a robbery on Tuesday, Feb. 2. Shortly before 9 p.m. officers met with the victim who indicated that he had met a man after communicating with him via the "OfferUp" application reference the sale of a cellular phone. Upon meeting, the man took the victim's cell phone and cash from his hand and entered a four-door-sedan and fled.

Officers located the vehicle and a traffic stop was conducted. Three of the occupants were arrested. A 23-year-old man from Alexandria was charged with grand larceny. Charges pending for the other suspects and case remains under investigation.



To Officers, With Love

Local children sent cards of holiday cheer and gratitude to the police officers at the Mount Vernon District Station in appreciation of their being on-duty during the holidays. Detectives are investigating other similar cases throughout Fairfax County.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers electronically by visitinghttp://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637) or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), or call Fairfax County Police at703-691-2131.

CRIME REPORT

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

FEB. 8

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY: 6600 block of Cavalier Drive. Feb. 7, 11:50 p.m. A 68-year-old man was confronted by two men in front of his home. One suspect threatened the victim with a knife and demanded money. The victim initially refused and was stabbed. He self-reported to a local hospital and was eventually upgraded to non-life-threatening injuries. The suspects were described as black, 20s to 30s, around 5 feet 11 inches tall. They were wearing dark clothing.

LARCENIES

1600 block of Belle View Boulevard, merchandise from business

6000 block of Grove Drive, purse from vehicle 2300 block of Huntington Avenue, merchandise from business

 $7900\ block$ of Janna Lee Avenue, license plates from vehicle

2500 block of Parkers Lane, phone from business 7600 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

 $8200\ block\ of\ Richmond\ Highway,\ merchandise\ from\ business$

3100 block of Southgate Drive, tires from vehicle **FEB. 5**

ROBBERY: El Cerrito Place/Seven Woods Drive, Feb. 5, around 1:25 p.m. Three men approached a 19-year-old man as he was walking home from work. One suspect allegedly assaulted the victim, pointed a gun at him and took his cell phone and wallet. The victim did not require medical attention. The suspects were described as wearing dark clothing and their faces were covered.

LARCENIES

8100 block of Lee Highway, liquor from business 6500 block of Orland Street, furniture from residence

6300 block of Richmond Highway, purse from residence

 $2800\ block$ of Woodlawn Trail, license plates from vehicle

FEB. 4 LARCENIES

8500 block of Hallie Rose Place, cash from residence

Hinson Farm Road/Sherwood Hall Lane, money from business

3100 block of Lockheed Boulevard, beer from

2500 block of Parkers Lane, wallet from resi-

4300 block of Pembrook Village Drive, jewelry from residence

from residence 6400 block of Richmond Highway, wallet from

residence
7600 block of Richmond Highway, property
from residence

from residence 8200 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business

FEB. 3 LARCENIES

7900 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise stolen from business
8400 block of Fort Hunt Road, property stolen

from school 7800 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise

stolen from business
7600 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise

stolen from business
Arlington Drive/Republic Court, tools stolen

5800 block of North Kings Highway, beer stolen from business

FEB. 2

LARCENIES7900 block of Richmond Highway, wallet stolen from business

trom business

8000 block of Pantano Place, purse stolen from

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• Generous Two-Car Garage – Brick Paver Patio at Rear Dir.: Alex. South

G.W. Pkwy. Right on Tulane Left on Park Terrace to home on right 7204.



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OPINION

Coal Ash Bill Fails, Other Bills Move Forward

BY SCOTT SUROVELL STATE SENATOR (D-36)

s we move towards the midpoint of the General Assembly Session called "Crossover," we are required to finish work on all bills in our respective chambers. Things are picking up in Richmond.

First, I am on track to pass about a dozen bills out of the Senate and several bills were passed by the Senate. First, my legislation to raise Virginia's threshold between misdemeanors and felonies from \$200 to \$500 was incorporated into a Republican senator's bill and passed 26-14 with wide

COMMENTARY

bipartisan support including the support of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's At-

torneys.

There is interest in reforming Virginia's tolling practices. My legislation and Sen. Adam Ebbin's legislation to limit toll operators' ability to sue people for tens of thousands of dollars over less than \$100 of outstanding tolls was referred to Virginia's Transportation Accountability Commission to be studied over the next few months. My bill to study revising our tolling practices to give credit to in-state residents was also referred to the same commission.



The Digital Divide is it over the year. a major problem in the 36th District. Many children still do not have computers at home or adequate broadband. My legislation to require school systems using electronic textbooks to provide computers to

every child passed out of subcommittee unanimously. A child ability to access their homework and learning tools at home should not be a function of that child's family's income.

My legislation to create Virginia standards for electronic authentication of digital documents was also referred to the Joint Commission on Technology for study. These kind of standards would allow Virginians to obtain official records electronically — birth certificates, driving records, land records, professional licenses, court records — that they could then use for legal purposes. It would save taxpayers millions of dollars.

I also introduced legislation to create a whistleblower rewards program for tax cheaters. President Bush created a highly effective federal program in 2006. Virginia collects \$20 for every \$1 we spend on tax compliance. My legislation was continued to 2017 so that the committee could study

Finally, my legislation to require modern storage of coal ash waste died in a Senate Committee on a 7-7-1 vote. Dominion and Appalachian Power complained that the legislation would double their cost to clean up coal ash and went beyond requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency. Although I received bipartisan support, many were still concerned that raising utility bills by one-percent to ensure we had clean wa-

ter was too much to ask. This issue is far from being resolved and I will continue to work to protect Quantico Creek and the Potomac River.

Over 600 constituents have completed my 2016 Survey. Please complete it online at www.scottsurovell.org and email me at scott@scottsurovell.org if you have any feedback.

It is an honor to serve as your state sena-

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

Chamber of Commerce. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Col. Michelle D. Mitchell, Fort Belvoir Commander, will speak at the monthly Business Breakfast of Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce. Supervisor Dan Storck will also be present to help renew the Community Covenant with Fort Belvoir. \$25 for Chamber members, \$35 for non-Chamber, Register at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org or call 703-360-6925.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

Boater Safety Class. 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall, 8592 Richmond Highway Recreational Boater Training, sponsored by the

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary meets Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. mandatory boating education requirements. \$40 or \$60 for two sharing the book. Contact Jean Ponton at 703-362-7079 or herpomp79@yahoo.com. Visit wow.uscgaux.info/?unit=054-25-08.

Story-telling Lenten Retreat. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Lent is a time to slow down and consider where people are in their lives and on their journeys. This retreat will invite participants to reflect on formative moments, life-changing events, and people and places that have left their mark. Lunch included, RSVP. Free, donations welcome. Email staidansalexandria@gmail.com, call 703-360-4221 or visit www.staidansepiscopal.com for

MONDAY/FEB. 15

George Washington Birthday Service and Breakfast at Pohick Church. The

SEE BULLETIN. PAGE 14



"The Hermitage is where I've finally found my family." Helena Scott

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iscover why many people like you have come to call the Hermitage home—the chance to experience a new lifestyle with an array of services and amenities.

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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BELLE HAVEN \$1.395,000 | 2210 Belle Haven Road
Open Sunday 2 - 4PM: Sited on a large corner lot in one of Belle
Haven's quietest and most secluded locations, this beautiful
home has so much to offer, Gracious formal rooms, totally
renovated kitchen and baths, first-floor family room with a wet
bar, screened porch, garage, and lovely fenced lot.

JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106



ARLINGTON \$1,300,000 | 1881 N Nash Street #1504
This 1,645 sq ft 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with impeccable wideplank cherry floors is flooded with sunshine from floor-to-ceiling
windows spanning the entire property. Enjoy unobstructed views
of the Virginia countryside from the 274 sq ft balcony. Deeded
parking and storage included.

DONNA MANK +1 202 550 5617



COLLEGE PARK \$1.185,000 | 1109 Trinity Drive
Beautifully appointed, 5 BR painted brick home with soaring
2-story foyer, open floor plan, chef's gourmet kitchen with bar
opening to family room, and French doors to flagstone patio and
pool. Lower-level rec room with fireplace, 1-car garage.
VICTORIA KILCULLEN +1 703 915 8845



GEORGETOWN, DC \$3,200,000 | 3220 Volta Place NW Volta place is a historic landmark in the heart of Georgetown that features an elevator, high ceilings, hardwood floors, and elegant moldings throughout. There is an attached guesthouse with a bedroom and full bath, Garage parking.

MICHAEL RANKIN +1 202 271 3344



DEL RAY \$924,900 | 212 Duncan Avenue E
Spacious Craftsman fully remodeled in 2011. Light-filled open
concept main level with formal dining and living rooms and gourmet
eat-in kitchen. Master bedroom with tray ceiling, 3 closets, and
marble bath, 2 additional spacious bedrooms. Finished lower level.
Large fenced backyard with deck. Driveway parking for 3. Front porch,
custom shutters, wired speakers, and hardwood floors throughout.

PHYLLIS PATTERSON +1 703 310 6201



POTOMAC YARD \$899,000 | 722 Annie Rose Avenue This consciously-designed, custom-built residence offers luxury and conventional livability. This 4-story home boasts over 2,500 sq ft of living space, 4 large bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 half baths, a large gourmet kitchen with an eat-in breakfast bar, granite counters and stainless steel appliances, brick accent wall, gleaming wide plank hardwood flooring, and 2-car garage.

BRENT JACKSON +1 202 263 9200



BELLE HAVEN \$849.000 | 6212 Tally Ho Lane
Open Sunday 2 - 4PM: This light-filled home offers comfortable living
with its open floor plan and entertaining space. 5 BR, 4 BA, Lower level
game room, bathroom, storage, and laundry. Updated kitchen opens
to sunny family room, overlooking expansive patio with built-in grill
and food prep station. Minutes to Old Town, the river and DC.

JEANNE WARNER +1 703 980 9106 SHARON WILDBERGER +1 703 597 0374



BELLE HAVEN \$750,000 | 6028 Fort Hunt Road **Open 2 - 4PM:** Charming home located right across from Belle

Haven Country Club. Spacious rooms, hardwood floors, recently
renovated kitchen, cozy library, lower level family room, and
private brick patio overlooking a lovely fenced lot. **JEANNE WARNER +1** 703 980 9106



PHILLIPS PARK, DC \$4,195,000 | 2101 Foxhall Road NW Inspired by the estates of Brittany, France, this exceptional 6,900 sq ft residence was designed by Barnes Vanze Architects and newly built by Mauck Zantzinger & Associates. The property showcases luxurious finishes, spa baths, open kitchen and family room, high ceilings, and formal public rooms, Offers a 2-car garage and gardens.

MICHAEL RANKIN +1 202 271 3344



POTOMAC GREENS \$1,050,000 | 716 Bracey Lane Under Contract: This award-winning Fairfax model lives like a detached home with its open rooms, high ceilings, and streaming natural light. 3 outdoor living spaces, wide 2-car garage, 3,825 finished square feet, Quiet location, just minutes to DC, Reagan National Airport, and Old Town.

HEATHER COREY +1 703 989 1183



OLD TOWN \$1,025,000 | 925 Parker Gray School Way Under Contract: This almost-new, all brick end townhouse is filled with thoughtful, custom upgrades throughout. Open floor plan and stunning kitchen. Watch a movie or game in the family room with built-in surround sound system. Rooftop terrace with Old Town views. Over-sized windows and high ceilings. HEATHER COREY +1 703 989 1183

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OPINION

State Should Pursue Education Initiatives

BY PAUL KRIZEK State Delegate (D-44)

aving grown up in the Fairfax County Public School system and with a daughter at West Potomac High School, ensuring Fairfax County students receive the highest quality education is a top priority of mine. Education is an investment that we make in our children

COMMENTARY

to ensure that they are given the tools and opportunities to live up to

their potential. We are fortunate to live in an area with a school system that is recognized for its excellence.

Governor McAuliffe, in his new 2016 budget, recognizes the pressing need for increased funding of education and proposed a \$1 billion increase in state funding for K-12 and higher education.

Additionally, the Governor wants to spend \$139.1 million to help districts hire addi-



tional teachers for schools and \$41 million for cost-of-living-adjustments.

I support these proposals because they will help to reduce class sizes and help to make FCPS an attractive employer by allowing it to

pay faculty enough to live close to work.

I am disappointed the legislature failed to include many of the Governor's proposed amendments in either the House or Senate budgets. However, we are making individual efforts to increase funding for education. For example, Del. Mark Sickles has proposed a budget amendment for foreign language programs, which would mostly go to toward FCPS title I schools, three of which are in the 44th district.

While this, and a few other proposed amendments to the 2016 budget would help toward strengthening our schools, Rich-

mond still has a long way to go toward improving education funding. I have copatroned several pieces of education legislation. If passed, two of the more important bills will help improve the quality of education for students with learning differences and limited English proficiency.

Visually impaired students use tools such as Braille in order for them to learn. The current law requires a determination of the appropriateness in the use of Braille for visually impaired students, but does not require the student to be evaluated by a certified Teacher of the Visually Impaired. HB 166, of which I am a co-patron requires this evaluation and requires that visually impaired students receive instruction in Braille or the use of Braille unless deemed unnecessary by the team determining the student's IEP or 504 plan. I hope that this legislation will enhance visually impaired student's learning experience by giving them the correct tools they need to succeed.

I am also a House patron on SB 538,

which requires the Board of Education to authorize the use of an alternative to the Standards of Learning (SOL) end-of-course English reading assessment for students with limited English proficiency. These students are placed at an unfair disadvantage to demonstrate their knowledge, since evaluations are in an unfamiliar language. Having an alternative to SOL testing will empower students with limited English proficiency to demonstrate their knowledge, while still meeting state educational standards.

I am glad the Governor and legislature are taking important steps toward improving Virginia's public schools, both through funding and legislation. I am also thankful for the local leadership of Karen Corbett Sanders, who is representing the Mount Vernon District with distinction on the Fairfax County School Board. I hope that through the efforts of state and local leadership, together, we will enable students to better reach their educational goals.

Three-Part Gun Deal Passes State Senate

By Adam P. Ebbin State Senator (D-30)

s the fourth week of our legislative session drew to a close, all three pieces of legislation comprising Gov. Terry McAuliffe's gun deal passed the Senate. The first component of the deal – SB610, introduced by Senator Bryce Reeves (R-Spotsylvania) – restores and expands interstate reciprocity for the concealed carry

COMMENTARY

of firearms, reversing Attorney General Mark Herring's December decision that severed

agreements to honor concealed handgun permits (CHPs) from 25 states with weaker restrictions than the Commonwealth.

Under SB610, any CHP holder who is at least 21 will be permitted to carry a concealed handgun in Virginia as long as their state honors a Virginia CHP. I believe this is a mistake, and consequently I joined 12 other senators to oppose removing prohi-



bitions designed to prevent possession of CHPs by persons who would otherwise be denied a Virginia permit. This bill passed 27-13 despite our objections.

Encouragingly, the other two parts of the gun deal that passed the

Senate are much better pieces of legislation than the first one. SB49, sponsored by Sen. Janet Howell (D-Northern Fairfax), will prohibit those subject to a permanent protective order from possessing a firearm; this passed 31-7. The third piece – SB715, sponsored by Senator John Edwards (D-Roanoke) – requires the State Police to be available at gun shows to provide background checks at the seller's request and allows private gun vendors the ability to perform background checks. This measure passed 34-5.

While not part of the broader gun deal,

my bill SB300 – which would prohibit intoxicated persons from carrying a loaded weapon – has passed the Senate Courts of Justice Committee and has been sent to the Senate Finance Committee for further consideration.

Although I recognize that we did not get everything we wanted in the gun deal, two of these bills represent a major step forward for the Commonwealth and reflect compromise on an issue few would have expected we could find common ground.

This would not have been possible without the leadership of Attorney General Mark Herring, who was able to bring the NRA to the table for the first time in recent memory. However, we must continue working toward achieving more common-sense gun safety reforms, and I am committed to doing everything I can to address this growing problem.

Thanks to everyone who attended my town hall meetings in Arlington and Alexandria. I will have additional meetings on

Saturday, Feb. 20 and I hope you can join me at one:

♦ Lee District: Saturday, Feb. 20, 9:30-11:30 a m

Hayfield Elementary School – 7633 Telegraph Road, Alexandria

with Sen. Scott Surovell, Del. Mark Sickles and Del. Paul Krizek

Mt. Vernon: Saturday, Feb. 20, 12:30-2 p.m.

Whitman Middle School – 2500 Parkers Lane. Alexandria

with Sen. Scott Surovell 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 at www.AdamEbbin.com.

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

Bulletin Board

From Page 12

Brotherhood of Saint Andrew Pohick Chapter, will sponsor a breakfast following a commemorative service celebrating the birthday of George Washington. The service will start at 8 a.m. Following the service there will be a breakfast hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. The Docent Guild will be conducting tours of Historic Pohick Church following the breakfast. Ticket are \$10 per person,\$25 per family group, with children under 12 free, and can be purchased by calling the church office at 703-339-6572. Pohick Church is located at 9301 Richmond Highway in Lorton, at the corner of U.S. 1 & Telegraph Road.

Stuff the Bus. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Giant , 5870 Kingstowne Blvd. Benefitting Koinonia Foundation. For many local, nonprofit food pantries, this is the time of year where donations drop to one of the lowest points. To help address this need, Fairfax County is promoting its annual "Stuff the Bus: Helping Fairfax Families" program to collect food donations.

THURSDAY/FEB. 18

The South County Task Force for Human Services. 1 p.m. at South County Building, 8350 Richmond

County Building, 8350 Richmond Highway, in the Haywood Conference Center. Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive for Human Services, will speak about the County's FY2017 budget, which will be presented to the Board of Supervisors by the County Executive at their meeting on Feb. 16. In addition there will be the regular update on Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. All those interested in

human service issues involving the Route One corridor are welcome.

American Association of University Women Mount Vernon Branch. 7 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. Hear a lecture with master gardener Eileen Powell on container gardening. It's easy to create beautiful containers if with a few professional tricks. Bring questions for Powell to answer. Free. Call 703-718-8892 or visit mtvernonva.aauw.net for more.

Outdoor Gym Coming to Gum Springs. 7 p.m. at Gum Springs Community Center gym, 8100 Fordson Road. A public meeting to talk about a new outdoor gym

The public is invited to the meeting to learn about this new facility, and speakers may sign up in advance to

coming to the community will be

offer their comments. Outdoor
Fitness is similar to what is found in
a gym, but the equipment is located
outdoors and is free for the public to
use during daylight hours. The fitness
equipment can be used by anyone
age 14 and up, regardless of ability
level and some units are even
designed for individuals in
wheelchairs. Email
parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or call
703-324-8662 for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 20

Auction and Potluck Dinner. 3:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. The evening kicks off at 3:30 p.m. with a silent auction and refreshments. At 5:30 share a potluck dinner (bring a dish to share if participating in the dinner). Beginning at 6:30, a live auction showcases donations such as

quilts, dog sitting services, professional tarot card reading, and a professional photography session. Open to the public, all proceeds support the mission and vision of MVUC. Visit www.mvuc.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 24

Imaginative Prayer. 7:30 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Poetry and stories from scripture can come to life in wholly unexpected ways when we use our imaginations to experience them. Dr. Kathy Staudt, professor, poet, and spiritual director, will talk about this type of prayer and lead us in several meditations. Free. Call 703-360-4221 or visit www.staidansepiscopal.com for more.

Bagel Uprising Launches Farmer's Market Revolution

Chad Breckinridge's fresh-baked bagels often yield a line dozens of customers deep.

By Hope Nelson THE GAZETTE

here's a revolution afoot at the Four-Mile Run Farmer's Market most Sundays. Amid the produce vendors, soapmakers and craftspeople selling their wares, you'll find one table with a line dozens of customers deep. And to hear them speak of it, what this guy is selling is worth its weight in gold.

There's an uprising happening, all right. A Bagel Uprising.

The success of Bagel Uprising, the product of a one-man/one-family operation based in Del Ray, has been startling in its speed. From September 2015 to now, owner

Chad Breckinridge has nearly APPETITE quadrupled his business's output, leading to a steady following and an extra refrigerator in the living room.

Breckinridge has been baking bagels at home for about a decade, but only last year did he decide to make a go of selling them in the public square.

"I stated making bagels mostly for my kids at home, stuff like that, and then over the summer ... some cousins were over and we were having some bagels, and I'd sort of

been toying with the idea, mostly just in my mind, that (launching a business) would be a fun thing to do, but never thought I'd actually do anything more than talk about it," he

But talk turned into action, and by early autumn, Bagel Uprising had found a home at Four-Mile Run. And the first Sunday of sales was an eye-opening experience for Breckinridge.

"I came to (the Four-Mile Run Market) for the first time in September, and I showed up with about 150 bagels the first time, which is many more than I had ever made and they sold out in a couple hours," Breckinridge said. "And I was thrilled that they sold out. It was great."

But Breckinridge knew that if he was going to continue to expand his business beyond 150 bagels, he was going to have to upgrade his infrastructure. Though he still bakes everything in his family's home, he was quickly outgrowing his family's refrig-

"I Freecycled a fridge ... and that fridge is now in our den," Breckinridge said. "... I got that fridge pretty much immediately after that first weekend. My wife tolerantly said 'OK.' So the next weekend I made 300 bagels and they sold out in about 1 hour. And in the busiest (season) of the market, it was crazy: I was making about 500 bagels, which was my max, and they were moving pretty fast.'

Now that the market has moved into the winter months, Bagel Uprising continues to sell out quickly. It's not uncommon for 450 bagels to disappear from the display case within 90 minutes — and that's on a slow

As fall turned to winter and will soon pivot into spring, Bagel Uprising has begun to welcome plenty of repeat customers into the fray. And over time, Breckinridge gets to know them — their names, sure, but also their preferences.

"I know their orders there's one guy who gets a batch of salt (bagels), every time. The first few times I didn't have any salt bagels, and he said,



Sometimes Chad Breckenridge can sell 450 bagels in one morning. Pictured here: everything bagels and plain bagels.



'You've got to get some salt bagels.' So I got the salt bagels. He's a reliable salt-buyer," Breckinridge said.

Sunday mornings start early at Bagel Uprising HQ — Breckinridge begins baking around 4 a.m. amid the solitude of a quiet house, when the children are still asleep and the stillness of the day is unbroken.

"In my Freecycle fridge, there are 450 bagels ready to roll" on baking day, he said. "They come out of the fridge and right into the water while they're still cold, and they boil for a few minutes. And then I top them at that point, and then they go into the oven for about 10 minutes. ... It's been really fun."

So what's the next revolutionary step for Bagel Uprising? Breckinridge downplayed any possibility of a storefront, saying he's having a great time focusing on farmer's markets for now.

"I like the entrepreneurial part of it," he said. "I like that my kids can see that if you have some crazy idea, go for it. Try it out and see how it goes."

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

Details

Bagel Uprising

Where: Four-Mile Run Farmer's Market, 4109 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria

When: Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Baking Secret: "One of the secrets to good bagels is refrigerating (the bagel-shaped dough) overnight, ideally longer, like maybe two or three days is the best," owner Chad Breckinridge said. "If it's going to be longer than that, you can even freeze them.

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 be-

ONGOING

George Washington Birthday

Cherry Challenge. Through Feb 11, 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.

"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 allegory of being, time and memory. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art League Patrons Show. Through Feb. 14, 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. 14, 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. Admission to the gallery is free 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.

"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 @ 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

"Color and Shape." Through Feb. 28, gallery hours at The Associates

Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The Associates Gallery (TAG) February exhibit features two painters – Jill Finsen and Barbara Muth Both Finsen and Muth paint moments made vivid through color and shape. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more

"All aBoard." Through Feb. 28, gallery hours at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Eight board members, Ron Blank, Stephen Lally, Marlin Lord, Elizabeth Guerry Mead, Kathy Turner and Joan Woodill, display their work. Free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org/show.

Art Exhibit: "Women Do It!" Through Feb. 28 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The National Women's Caucus for Art

more

presents the "Women Do It" exhibit. Free. VIsit www.torpedofactory.org

"Shake Loose." Through March 6, 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

"A Salute to Primary Colors." Through March 13, 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.

"Wings from Chains." Through March 13, 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.

Art Exhibit: "Partnerships." Through May 15, 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.

"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 Coldsmith Gallery, the historical 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 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. The 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 served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for

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. 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 Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at



Above: Chuck Aldrich and Cathy Zaret and Soldiers (below) from the First Virginia Regiment march ahead of "General and Mrs. Washington" at a previous George Washington Birthday Parade.

George Washington Birthday Celebrations

Each year, the City of Alexandria celebrates George Washington's birthday with dozens of events including 18th Century dance class in preparation for the Annual Birthnight Ball on Saturday, Feb. 13. This event, held at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., includes an 18th-century banquet, dancing, dessert, character re-enactors. Tickets are \$125, \$150 for dinner in the same room as the "Washingtons" and \$250 to eat at the same table with the Washington's. Also, on Feb. 15, find a parade in Old Town Alexandria. Other parade day events include a Wreath Laying Ceremony, open houses at historic sites and more. Visit www.washingtonbirthday.net for a full schedule.



SHOP LOCAL FIRST



Connecting Business and Community

Find local businesses at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org 703-360-6925

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

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

First Friday, Eucharistic

Wednesday: 6:00 pm; Thursday: 7:00 pm; First Friday: following 9:00 am Mass & 7:00 pm

Good Shepherd Catholic Church Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español) Sunday: 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter and

Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm Monday-Saturday:

Confession: Wednesday, 6:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am, 4:00 pm En Español: Monday, 6:30 pm; Sunday, 1:10 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm;

Saturday, 6:00 pm 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309 Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 • www.gs-cc.org

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the site. Call 703-746-4356 Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees

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

548-1789. Alexandria Cars 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-

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-

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

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

"Big Data for Virginia Plant

Taxonomy." 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. The plant taxonomic world is flattening in the 21st century due to new technologies. Dr. Andrea Weeks explains. Free. Visit www.vnps.org/ potowmack/events/. **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.

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

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

Souper Saturday. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at The Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. A donation to United Community Ministries earns patrons a ceramic bowl donated by local artists, and a bowl of chowder donated by Chart House restaurant. \$20. Visit www.ucmagency.org for

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

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 world, take part in Mount Vernon's 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.

"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 George Washington Classic. 8 a.m. For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnews papers.com/subscribe

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Valentine's Weekend Menu

Appetizers (choice of one) Fried Feta Martini - Cubes of deep fried feta served over

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Entrées (choice of one, includes salad)

Beef Medallions – Filet mignon sautéed with portabella mushrooms and reduced in a creamy Marsala sauce, served with couscous

 Lobster Ravioli – Tossed with a lobster-based Alfredo sauce, Lobster Rayloli – Tossed with a lobster-based Alfredo Sauce, covered with mozzarella and baked
 Lemon Rosemary Chicken – Chicken lightly floured and seared, topped with a lemon rosemary sauce
 Swordfish with Herb Pesto Sauce – Marinated in a citrus blend

and seared, served with couscous

Dessert (choice of one)

Limoncello Gelato – Lemon sorbet, with lemon liqueur served

in a champagne glass Red Velvet Cake – Moist red cake with sweet cream cheese frosting Espresso Crème Brûlée – Custard tart topped with caramelized

at the US Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. Participate in the 10K race or the 2K Fun run. Registration is \$10 for fun run, \$40 for 10K. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/GWbday.

Revolutionary War Reenactment.

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Historic camp and tactical demonstrations throughout the day including a Revolutionary War skirmish between the Redcoats and the Colonial Army. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/ GWbday.

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.

Walking With Washington Tour. 2: 3:30 p.m. starting at Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King St. Visit George Washington's hometown and view some of the sites connected to the General, such as where he filled his prescriptions or slept overnight before returning to Mount Vernon. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/

GWbday. **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.

Lenten Choral Evensong. 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Celebrate the season of Lenten. The evensong will feature romantic music by British composers Ley, Stanford, Walford Davies, Walmisley. Free. Call 703-549-3312 for more.

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.

Washington's Birthday: Breakfast & Meeting. 9-10:30 a.m. at Hotel Monaco, 480 King St. Sponsored by the Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association, this annual tradition at the Hotel Monaco features "George Washington's" first appearance of the day, plus an address by U.S. Rep. Don Beyer, the awarding of the Ben Lynt Award and breakfast. Tickets are \$30. Visit www.friendshipfire.net or call 703-751-6416.

Wreath Laying Ceremony. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St. Colonial military and civilians honor the soldiers of the Revolution. Free. Call 703-549-6670 for more.

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 for more.

"What You Need to Know About
Adoption Searches Through the
Generations." 1-3 p.m. at Hollin
Hall Senior Center, 1500
Shenandoah Road. JonMarie
Pearson, Susan Palma and Don
Palma talk about adoption records
through time and give tips on finding
family in this free talk sponsored by
the Mount Vernon Genealogical
Society. Free. Visit
www.mvgenealogy.org or call 703768-4101.

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.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 17

Antiques Club Meeting. 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Callie Stapp is the Curator of Collections for the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and Gadsby's Tavern Museum, both owned and operated by the City of Alexandria. She will speak about how the apothecary shop was used in the 1800s until it closed in 1933. Free. Call 703-360-4979 for more.

Book Discussion. 10:15-11:45 a.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. A discussion group for parents, grandparents, teachers, caregivers, and child advocates. Discuss "Children's Imagination: Creativity Under Our Noses." Free. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com for more.

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 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.

FEB. 19-MARCH 15

Solo Exhibit: Lynn Boggess. Gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Lynn Boggess paints landscapes from the West Virginian woods to Floridian seascapes with palette knives and cement trowels for texture. Free. Vlsit www.principlegallery.com for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 20

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.

.ive Painting Demonstration. 1-2:30 p.m. at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Artist Lynn Boggess demonstrates her painting techniques using palette knives and cement trowels. Free. Visit www.principlegallery.com for more.

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.

Auction and Potluck Dinner. 3:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. This event starts at 3:30 pm with a silent auction and refreshments. At 5:30, partake in a potluck dinner. Then, at 6:30, a live auction showcases donations such as quilts, dog sitting services, professional tarot card reading, and a professional photography session. Free. Call 703-298-2176 for more.

Country-Western Dance. 6:30-7:30 p.m. lessons and 7:30-10 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance with music provided by a DJ. Tickets are \$10 for members, \$12 for nonmembers. Visit www.nvcwda.org.

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,

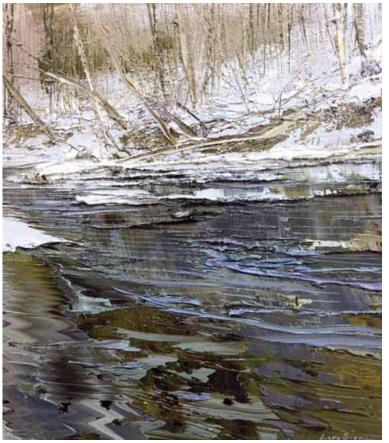
SUNDAY/FEB. 21

Walking With Washington Tour. 2-

3:30 p.m. starting at Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King St. Visit George Washington's hometown and view some of the sites connected to the General, such as where he filled his prescriptions or slept overnight before returning to Mount Vernon. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/

GWbday.

"African-American History in



West Virginian artist Lynn Boggess paints landscapes from the West Virginian woods to Floridian seascapes. Boggess paints with palette knives and cement trowels for texture. Her solo exhibit will hang at Principle Gallery Feb. 19-March 15. Free. VIsit www.principlegallery.com.

Alexandria." 2-4 p.m. at Cameron Station Clubhouse, 200 Cameron Station Blvd. Audrey P. Davis, Director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, presents "African-American History in Alexandria." Free. Call 703-256-4541 for more.

Children's Tea with Martha

Washington. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. "Martha Washington explains 18th-century tea customs as well as clothing and dancing of the period. The tea includes the museum's special blend of tea, pound cake, dried fruit, and assortment of cookies. Party attire is requested. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-4242 for more.

Barbershop Harmony Concert. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. The 30-member Harmony Heritage Singers presents a concert of familiar patriotic and popular music. The men's a capella chorus preserves the American tradition known as "barbershop." Free. Contact 703-765-4779 or brandtron@verizon.net.

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 throughou
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.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 24

Women & Wine. 6 p.m. at Sara Campbell, 320 Prince St. This event is for women 21 years and older who enjoy wine and are interested in getting to know other women in Alexandria. Tickets are \$27. Visit www.eventbrite.com/o/volunteeralexandria-230855757.

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Center for Alexandria's Children Gala. 7-10 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch, 5 Cameron St. This year's theme is "boots & bling." Enjoy custom

5 Cameron St. This year's theme is "boots & bling." Enjoy custom signature cocktails, taco bar, raffle and live music. Tickets are \$150. Visit www.alexandriaskids.org.

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.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

ids Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road. Doors close at 11:15, then everything is 50 percent off. No strollers allowed. Free. Email momsclubconsignment@gmail.com.

Honoring Black History

Fairfax County's Cable Network presents programs in celebration of Black History Month.

airfax Public Access (FPA) will air a special series of movies and documentaries throughout the month of February in recognition of Black History Month. The series movies include "The Emperor Jones" starring Paul Robeson, "The Jackie Robinson Story" starring Jackie Robinson and "Ruby Dee" and "The Mark of the Hawk" starring Sidney Poitier and Eartha Kitt. The documentaries in the series include the Academy Award-Winner "Nine from Little Rock" and the World War II documentary "The Negro Soldier," produced by Hollywood great Frank Capra.

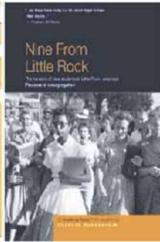
FPA states that, "The series motion pictures are notable for their fine performances and presentation of black Americans in a manner that broke away from Hollywood's negative stereotypes, while the documentaries explore important milestones in Black History."

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) or Metro is the exclusive sponsor of the 2016 Black History Month specials. Metro services include Metrorail, Metrobus and MetroAccess. "We are extremely pleased to have WMATA serve as this year's underwriter of our Black History Month television specials," states Fairfax Public Access executive director Chuck Pena.

FPA is Fairfax County's nonprofit community media center and cable network. FPA's television channels are carried by Verizon FiOS TV and Cox Communications in Fairfax County, and by Comcast in Reston. For complete schedule go to www.fcac.org/blackhistory.







Black History Month television specials will air throughout February on Fairfax Public Access Channel 10, Fairfax Public Access International Cable and Fairfax Public Access Spiritual TV 36 — the community cable channels carried on Verizon FIOS TV and Cox Communications.

Black History Month Offerings

*"THE EMPEROR JONES" (1933) - Stars Paul Robeson in his iconic motion picture role. Based on Eugene O'Neill's play of the same name, Robeson plays Brutus Jones, who uses his wits from being a Pullman porter to the ruler of a Caribbean island and to his eventual hubris and downfall. When "The Emperor Jones was" released in 1933, it was first time a black actor's name was given top billing in a motion picture over a white actor.

* "THE MARK OF THE HAWK" (1957) - Starring Sidney Poitier and Eartha Kitt, "The Mark of the Hawk" is set in the post-World War II period, as the British Empire's African colonies were beginning to achieve independence. Aided by his beautiful wife,

played by Eartha Kitt, Poitier's character must navigate between two opposing blocs – one supporting the interests of the colonial British landowners and the other representing the interests of the native Africans – both groups possessing factions with violent intentions. Poitier works to avoid bloodshed on either side.

* "THE JACKIE ROBINSON STORY" (1950) - Jackie Robinson stars as himself along with the actress Ruby Dee ("A Raisin in the Sun," 1961). in this epic biography, which chronicles the life and career of Jackie Robinson — the first black American to play major league baseball in the modern era. On April 10, 1947, Robinson made history when he took to the field in

his Dodgers uniform and was instrumental in the Dodgers winning the National League pennant that year. Later that same year, Robinson was named the National League's Rookie of the Year, and was voted the League's Most Valuable Player in 1949. In 1962, he became the first black American elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

* "NINE FROM LITTLE ROCK" (1964) - This Academy Award-winning documentary tells the story of the 1957 integration of Little Rock Central High by nine black students. On the first day of school, a white mob gathered in front of the school, and Governor Orval Faubus deployed the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the black students from entering. In response, President Eisenhower ordered troops from the 101st Airborne Division to protect the students for the remainder of the school year. The students' integration of Central High became a major milestone in the Civil Rights movement.

❖ "THE NEGRO SOLDIER" (1942) - This World War II-era documentary was produced by acclaimed Hollywood film legend Frank Capra, and was both written by and starred Carlton Moss, a young black man who had been director of the Harlem Federal Theater. Declared by black poet Langston Hughes as, "the most remarkable Negro film ever flashed on the American screen," "The Negro Soldier" shows the heroism, determination and sacrifice of African Americans in the nation's fight against tyranny for the cause of freedom, during a period when much of that freedom was not extended to people of color.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Jackson J. Harvey, a student at West Potomac Academy will advance to the American Bankers Association national competition, Lights, Camera, Save! His video, "A Squirrel's Guide to Saving," was selected as the Burke & Herbert Bank preliminary round winner. The association's Lights, Camera, Save!

video contest challenged students across the nation to submit a 90-second video that would inspire other teens to use money wisely and promote the value of saving. Jackson and his video will advance to the national competition.

Six Fairfax County public schools and 13 teachers and teams of teachers have been awarded Apple IMPACT Grants for Schools and Teachers by Apple Federal Credit Union. School level grants provide \$5,000 to each winning school, and teacher level grants provide up to \$2,000 to winning teachers and teams of teachers. The teacher grant award winners include

❖ Irvin Kalugdan, Bianca Nicole Jones and Julie Gilmore of Mount Vernon High School for Apple IMPACT Grants for Teachers;

Jeanne Taylor, Lisa Heath and Samantha Ortiz of Woodlawn Elementary for F.A.R. Families as Readers: Fostering Family Literacy through Shared Reading; and

❖ Dr. Sofie Hussain of Woodley Hills Elementary for Sowing Success Through Science.

Ayanna Bundy and **Stephanie Restifo** have been named to the University of Delaware (Newark, Del.). dean's list for the fall 2015 semester.

A team of students from Mount

Vernon High School is competing to determine the team to represent Virginia in the high school National Finals of the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science's National Science Bowl. Visit science.energy.gov/wdts/nsb/.

Sheena Nickel was named to the Barton Community College (Great Bend, Ks.) president's list for the fall 2015 semester.



Dental Office To Give Away Free Smile Makeover

Doctors Jimani Mwendo and Mike Nguyen and the team at Neibauer Dental Care – Fort Belvoir, 8626 Richmond Highway, are giving away one free smile makeover as part of My Free Smile.

Candidates can apply at www.MyFreeSmile.org and submitting their story and a photo of their smile. Applications will be open through Monday, Feb. 29. The winner will be announced approximately two or three weeks after applications have closed.

In addition to a complete smile makeover worth up to \$10,000, the winner will also receive a salon and clothing makeover. The smile makeover will be completed over an extended period of time. Once complete, a final reveal of the winner's makeover worth restock the shelves. Each week a Fast location and collect to the shelves. The smile makeover will be completed over an extended period of time. Once the shelves are the shelves are the shelves and collect to the shelves are the shelves are

will be held at Neibauer Dental Care – Fort Belvoir. For more on My Free Smile, call 703-554-3500.

'Stuff the Bus' Benefits Koinonia Foundation

Fairfax County is promoting its annual "Stuff the Bus: Helping Fairfax Families" program through Feb. 15. For many local, nonprofit food pantries, this is the time of year where donations drop to one of the lowest points. This collaborative program, now in its sixth year, is a partnership among Fairfax County Government, local grocery stores and nonprofits to restock the shelves

Each week a Fastran bus will park at a different location and collect food donations. On Monday, Feb. 15, the bus will park at Kingstowne Giant, 5870 Kingstowne Blvd., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



Jackson Harvey, shown with his TV Production teacher, Nancy Mantelli.

SPORTS



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

West Potomac sophomore Cassidy Bayer won the 200 freestyle at the 6A North region swim meet on Feb. 6 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.



West Potomac sophomore Holly Jansen finished first in the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke at the 6A North region swim meet on Feb. 6 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.

West Potomac's Jansen, Bayer Win Region Titles

est Potomac sophomore swimmers Holly Jansen and Cassidy Bayer combined to win three individual titles and were part of a championship relay at the 6A North region swim and dive meet on Feb. 6 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.

Jansen won the 200 IM and 100 breast-stroke titles. She finished with a time of

2:03.54 in the 200 IM, good for All-American consideration. In the 100 breaststroke, she produced an All-American time of 1:02.36.

Bayer, the defending state champion in the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly, finished first in the 200 free with an All-American and meet-record time of 1:48.32. Bayer defeated defending 200 free state champion Megan Byrnes of Oakton by half of a second.

Bayer also finished runner-up in the 100 free, recording an All-American time of 50.59 seconds. Bayer finished behind two-time defending 100 free state champion Hannah Baker of Robinson by one-one hundredth of a second.

Bayer and Jansen were part of the 200 medley relay team that finished first with an All-American time of 1:45.36. Junior Alexandria Puskar-Beckett and sophomore

Jenna Martin also swam in the relay for the Wolverines.

The girls' team finished fifth with 163 points. Robinson won the team title with 222 points, followed by Langley (194), Oakton (183) and McLean (178).

The 6A state dive competition is scheduled for Feb. 19 at Oak Marr. The 6A state swim championship is scheduled for Feb. 20 at George Mason University.

Sports Briefs



Mount Vernon gymnast Jada Bates qualified for regionals with a fourth-place finish on floor at the Conference 7 meet on Feb. 4.

All girls are welcome - no

boundary requirements.

Register at

fhyaasoftball.org

March 1. Register by

2/20/16 to avoid a late fee.

Questions? Contact Registrar

at fhyaasoftball@gmail.com

MV Gymnast Bates Qualifies For Regionals on Floor

Mount Vernon gymnast Jada Bates qualified for regionals on floor with a fourth-place finish during the Conference 7 championship meet on Feb. 4 at West Potomac High School.

Bates finished with a score of 9.35. Lake Braddock's Jordan Clark placed first with a score of 9.525 and West Springfield teammates Abbie Levine and Hannah Dotson tied for second at 9.425.

The top eight finishers in each event qualify for regionals, along with any competitor who scored 9 or better.

West Springfield won the team title (143.2) and Lake Braddock finished runner-up (141.95).

Levine won the all-around championship (37.525).

Mount Vernon Diver Fisher Sets Record

Mount Vernon sophomore Hailey Fisher won the 6A North region girls' diving championship on Feb. 3 with a meet record score of 448.85 at Oak Marr Recreation

The 6A state diving championship is scheduled for Feb. 19 at Oak Marr.

Fort Hunt Lax Registration

Registration is open for spring 2016 Fort Hunt lacrosse for girls in kindergarten through eighth grade. Register players at www.forthuntlax.org.

Evaluations for registered play-

ers will be held Saturday, Feb. 13 at the turf practice filed at West Potomac High School. Session 1, for grades 3/4, runs from 10-11:45 a.m. Session 2, for grades 7/8, goes from 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Session 3, for grades 5/6, goes from 1-2:45 p.m. Check-in begins 30 minutes before each session.

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.

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 help in acquiring skills needed. Contact John Porter at 703-978-3601 or assignor@umpires.org.



Going to Villanova

Photo Contributed

Mount Vernon senior Josh McGrigg on Feb. 3 signs a letter of intent to play football at Villanova University. The 5-foot-10, 180-pound McGrigg earned second-team All-Conference 7 honors as a receiver and a kick returner.

Fort Hunt Youth Softball

Registration is going on now!

Girls grades Kindergarten through 12th grade.

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OBITUARY



Captain Norman C. Nash, USN (Ret)

Captain Norman C. Nash passed away peacefully on January 28, 2016 at Goodwin House Alexandria. Born in Idabel, Oklahoma October 6, 1918, he was the son of Dr. and Mrs. M.A. Nash. He attended the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University before being appointed to the Naval Academy by Senator Josh Lee of Oklahoma as a member of the Class of 1942.

Norm graduated in December 1941 and began serving primarily in submarine duties, spending most of WWII in USS Tunny (SS 282) completing seven war patrols in the South Pacific. He alternated duties at sea and ashore including tours on operational and support staffs in Pearl Harbor, Norfolk, the Pentagon and the Naval Academy. Sea tours included WWII, Korea and Vietnam which included Command of USS Catfish (SS 339), Commander Submarine Division Ninety-One, Commander Service Squadron EIGHT, Commanding Officer of USS Bayfield (APA 33) supporting Marines in Vietnam, and as Commander Submarine Flotilla Seven. His decorations include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", Presidential Unit Citation, and Meritorious Unit Citation.

In 1944, Norm married Mary Frances Hendrix of Idabel, Oklahoma (known affectionately as Muff). Married 70 years Muff and Norm always set an example of love and support for others to follow. They have two sons: Captain Donald H. Nash USN (Ret) '69 and MajGen Gordon C. Nash, USMC, (Ret), five Grandchildren, and 10 great

Upon retirement from the Navy in 1969, Norm pursued a long time passion to teach, earning a master's degree from George Mason University. He taught mathematics in Alexandria, Virginia public schools for 17 years, earning Teacher of the Year recognition in 1973. He taught his students the importance of attaining an education while emulating his personal high standards.

Norm will always be remembered for his love and support of his family, Trinity United Methodist Church and many young adults. Norm was a Boy Scout leader, Little League Coach, Sunday School Teacher, and mentor with so many benefitting from

In 2006, Norm and Muff moved to Goodwin House Alexandria where they benefited from the dedicated loving care of all the employees.

A Memorial Service will be held at Goodwin House Alexandria at 3:00 pm on February 21st, followed by inurement at the U.S. Naval Academy Columbarium at a later date. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Memorial Fund, Trinity United Methodist Church 2911 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of

the City of Alexandria, the

Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Ave-

nue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is

now in possession of un-claimed bicycles, mopeds

lawn equipment, money,

scooters, and other items. All

persons having valid claim to he property should file a claim

to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a

complete listing go to

http://alexandriava.gov/police/ and contact the Police Proper-ty Section at (703) 746-6709.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY Karen Marie Hurley

Age 54

Peacefully passed away on January 30, 2016 after a battle with cancer. Karen served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Air Force for 26 years. She leaves to cherish her memories her parents Richard and Anna Corrente; one sister and two brothers; and a host of other relatives and friends. A memorial services will be held on February 11, 2016 at 11 am at the Washington Community Church, 8800C Pear Tree Village Ct., Alexandria, VA 22309. Interment private

online tribute page can be found www.everlywheatley.com

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 5112 CLINTON ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22312

By virtue of and pursuant to the terms of a Deed of Trust dated May 28, 2010, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia on June 7, 2010 as Instrument Number LR2010049629.001 (the "Deed of Trust") executed Jonathan Michael Babson, (the "Owner") originally to Daniel H. Borinsky, Trustee, and default having been made under the terms of the Deed of Trust and in the payment of the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust, and having been requested to do so by the current holder of the note evidencing the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust (the "Noteholder"), the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the main entrance of the Fairfax County Circuit Court courthouse located at 4110 Chain Bridge Rd., Fairfax, Virginia on February 25, 2016 at11:00 AM, the property with improvements to wit:

Lot 46-A, Indian Springs, as the same is shown on a plat of resubdivision recorded April 7, 1976 in Deed Book 4378, at page 230, among the land records of Fairfax County.

Street address of the property: 5112 Clinton Road, Alexandria, VA 22312

AND further described in the above Deed of Trust. (Tax Map No. 071-4-07-0046-A) $\,$

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of \$60,000 will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional Terms to be announced at sale. Loan Type:

Kevin M. Carson, Substitute Trustee, c/o Odin Feldman & Pittleman PC, 1775 Wiehle Ave., Suite 400, Reston, VA 20190

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-01-03

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide Teaching Services for the Blind and Visually Im-

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-02-01 Teaching Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Februby the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the

firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website

http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php

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

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the Office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

RFP No. 00000596: Red Light Camera Solution

RFP Closing Date and Time: March 1, 2016, 4 p.m., prevailing

Pre-Proposal Conference: February 17, 2016, 8:30 a.m., Purchasing Division Conference Room, 100 North Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

For general inquiries contact Michel F. Hauer, CPPO, CPPB. Contract Specialist III at 703.746.4295.

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

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Fabulous updated 58R
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. Open Sunday, 2/14, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Fort Hunt Rd



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!



9329 Mt Vernon Cir \$1,099,000 One of Area's Most Admired Properties!

Classic Georgian manor home crafted by legendary master builder, Eugene Cullinane to serve as

model for homes in upscale Mt Vernon on the Potomac neighborhood. Special home contains builder's trademark features including custom brickwork, elaborate plaster moldings, estate size rooms, stately 10' ceilings & imposing 13' wide foyer. Private marina access in area's leading waterfront community. True one of a kind property!





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