Mount Pernon Gazette

CONNECTION FAMILIES PAGE 12

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

June 30, 2016

Hundreds Pack Airplane Noise Meeting

Flight changes cause deafening conditions at homes.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

t a meeting convened for community members to discuss airplane noise complaints, the irony of some struggling to hear over the sound of planes taxiing just outside the packed lounge at Reagan Washington National Airport's historic Terminal A wasn't lost on the audience of more than 300.

"This is quiet compared to what we deal with at home," said Laura Quirk, who's lived in the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria for four decades. She used to live in Belle Haven and now resides in Hollin Hall Village.

"I'm accustomed to some noise," she said.
"But this is deafening. You can't shout over the noise. It shakes my wall, glasses get knocked over."

Quirk was among numerous speakers at a meeting convened by U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) on Monday night, June 27, to discuss changes that have been made in flight frequency and routing that impact various communities in Alexandria.

In the last year, morning and evening flights have increased, coinciding with the airport activating a new air traffic control program called Next Generation Air Transportation System, or "NextGen."

Citizens as well as local elected officials including Alexandria Mayor Allison Silberberg and Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) said the changes in flights and patterns have drasti-



In the last year, morning and evening flights have increased, coinciding with the airport activating a new air traffic control program called Next Generation Air Transportation System, or "NextGen."

cally increased airplane noise over and around the Potomac River, and that community members weren't involved in the process whatsoever.

"What happened?" Storck said repeatedly. "Things were good."

"It's about engaging the community before you make changes," Storck said in an SEE HUNDREDS PACK, PAGE 3



Left, Elizabeth Lynn Ray, vice president of Support Services Air Traffic Organization for the Federal Aviation Administration, said the working group is considering flight path solutions to the noise pollution issue.

'Some Measure of Justice' Former Police Officer Torres sentenced to 12 months for killing John Geer.



Photo courtesy of John McDonnell/The Washington Post

Clad in a black suit, John Geer's mother Anne walked calmly past Adam Torres and his attorneys.

By Tim Peterson The Gazette

or the first time in its threequarters of a century in existence, a Fairfax County Police officer has been convicted and sentenced after an officer-involved shooting death.

After pleading guilty to felony involuntary manslaughter in the shooting death of Springfield resident John Geer, former Fairfax County Police Officer Adam Torres could be a free man within a matter of weeks.

Torres was set to go to trial April 18 for murdering Geer, shooting him in the chest with his service weapon in August 2013, when the defense and prosecution announced the surprise agreement.

Fairfax County Circuit Court Judge Robert J. Smith announced Friday June 24 he was ruling in concert with the sentence length set forth in the plea agreement: 12 months jail time.

Smith spoke to a crowded courtroom that he had "reached a solution that may not please everyone." But he said he hopes it brings "some measure of justice" to Geer's family, Harrington and their two daughters.

Following his release, Torres will SEE TORRES, PAGE 16

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Upgraded kitchen with



News



Laura Quirk has lived in the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria for four decades and said it's impossible to even shout over the deafening noise at her Hollin Hall Village home.



Left, Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) meets with Mount Vernon community member John Walsh following the June 27 noise pollution meeting at Reagan Washington National Airport.



From left, David Mould, vice president of Communications and Government Affairs, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority; Ed Donaldson, FAA Capital District manager; and Elizabeth Lynn Ray, vice president of FAA Support Services Air Traffic Organization listen to comments and concerns from community members complaining of deafening airplane noise around their homes in Alexandria.

Hundreds Pack Airplane Noise Community Meeting

From Page 1

interview after the meeting. "It's undemocratic to not do so. This has gone on too long. The noise is unacceptable. Nobody's talked to the community about it at all." That was the overwhelming sentiment of citizen speakers as well as the occasional outburst from audience members.

People complained of not being able to sit on their deck or work in their yard without battling acute noise pollution. Others referenced Hollin Meadows Elementary School, which after the flights change they said now has planes passing over every three minutes. "The students can't live with it," one woman said. "No one should have to live with it."

One community member asked if an environmental impact study had been done before the flight changes were made.

Elizabeth Lynn Ray, vice president of Support Services Air Traffic Organization for the Federal Aviation Administration, said that only an "environmental assessment" was required, which they completed. The assessment did not call for canvassing communities and interviewing residents, she said.

In her comments, Ray referenced the Reagan National Airport Community Working Group that was established to give community members a say with regards to aircraft noise south of the airport.

Applause went up when Ray said the working group is considering solutions.

"We continue to work through the working group," she said, "to put airplanes over water longer to the north and south sides."

Ray gave the estimate of nine to 12 months for any changes to occur, due to the length of process design.

"At least now there's listening happening," said Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) who lives in and represents the Mount Vernon area in the Virginia General Assembly. "People who don't live under this don't understand," he continued. "It's really ridiculous. It was foisted upon us."

Krizek praised the Mount Vernon community for their calls that the flight traffic not simply be "pushed down to someone else's community." "They're victims of noise, they don't want anyone else to be victims." Among other ideas, Krizek wondered about the possibility of alternating days or weeks of flight patterns to give residents at least some relief from the noise pollution.

State Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) said his and other elected officials' job is to keep informing the public of the process, of the federal government making changes that trickle down to the community members — or changes that sound like "planes falling out of the sky at two in the morning," as one citizen put it. "Tonight shows not just how big but how engaged this community is," Ebbin said.

Though Beyer's staff said he wasn't able to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict, Ebbin said the fact that he put the event together shows his concern over the issue.

For information on how to submit a noise complaint, visit www.flyreagan.com/dca/reagan-national-submit-noise-complaint.



Frank Cohn, co-chair of the Transportation Committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen Associations, said that group has submitted a resolution to the Board of Supervisors calling for a DCA Fly Quiet Program and a permanent noise advisory working group, among other recommendations.

Advisory Group Shaping Transportation Plan for Route 1

Next meeting set for July 25.

By Gerard A. Fill The Gazette

he BRT (bus rapid transit) Advisory Group met Monday evening, June 27, at the Sherwood Hall Library to discuss the future of transportation along Richmond Highway.

Members of the community, Fairfax County planning and revitalization, and www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

transportation staff attended.

Advisory Group participants in the discussion included Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan who had a number of comments, including questions about the impact of the draft street and community design proposals on current bus transportation in the Fort Hunt and Mount Vernon areas.

Flanagan expressed his desire for the Advisory Group and county staff to work toward formulating a vision of what the Route 1 corridor and surrounding area should look like over the long term and to work toward building consensus among

community groups on the vision.

Flanagan pointed out that what the group is essentially accomplishing is fine tuning an amendment to Fairfax County's comprehensive plan to support the transportation infrastructure from Huntington to Fort Belvoir and south. In that connection he cautioned that the group was still in the formative stages of designing the transportation plan and that the affected public will have ample opportunities in the near future to have impact on the final plan.

In addition, Mount Vernon Transportation Commissioner Frank Cohn expressed concern that the goal to achieving sufficient density in the Route 1 corridor to justify BRT may lead to additional traffic gridlock.

"We already have heavy traffic on Route 1," Cohn said. "Encouraging added residential and commercial construction to achieve the desired density level so that we can secure BRT and subsequent extension of the metrorail yellow line may be preceded by traffic gridlock. How can we assure that the widening of Route 1 will precede the rising volume in traffic so that gridlock can be avoided?"

County planning staff said they will be prepared to respond to their comments at SEE LOOKING. PAGE 5

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News



Julie Houghton received flowers and golden dance shoes for her time spent teaching at Hollin Hall. In addition, she received a letter of commendation from Gov. Terence McAuliffe.



Julie Houghton has help from her daughter as well as the older dance students in organizing all of the children for their performances.

Julie Houghton of The Dance Studio Retires After 21 Years

ulie Houghton, the owner and director of The Dance Studio at Hollin Hall on Fort Hunt Road in Alexandria, began to close the doors of her studio on June 18, at the studio's 21st annual

dance recital in preparation for her retirement this coming August.

"She started teaching when she was 13," said Mike Houghton, Julie's husband.

Houghton opened The Dance Studio at

Hollin Hall in 1995 and it became one of dance instructor in the Northern Virginia the longest running dance studios in the Hollin Hall area. Gov. Terence McAuliffe also thanked Houghton in a letter, commending her for 50 years of service as a

See thedancestudiohh.com.

Evan Jenkins





News

Looking at Transportation on Route 1

From Page 3

the subsequent community meeting scheduled on July 25 at West Potomac High School.

The acting chair of the Advisory Group meeting, Carlos L. Heard, a Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) member, said, "I think the meeting went well, and Fairfax County staff is keeping us on schedule. I am looking forward to the next community meeting on July 25 and to the opportunity to hear more from the public whose participation is vital."

At the conclusion of the Advisory Group meeting, comments from the public were encouraged. Several dealt with questions about the impact of the design proposals on the immediate community's en-

vironment, traffic, and safety. One local resident expressed concern about the impact of the widening of Route 1 on their church. Another expressed concern about the traffic impact of the design proposals on the local neighborhood. Fairfax County staff advised the community to provide their concerns to the Virginia State Department of Transportation as well as the Fairfax County Embark community meeting scheduled for July 25. County staff said the design proposals for Route 1 widening are very preliminary and there would be ample opportunity for public input in upcoming meetings.

The next community meeting for Embark Richmond Highway will be Monday, July 25, 7-9 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road.

Background

Embark Richmond Highway is a multiyear transportation design effort managed by Fairfax County involving land use and transportation planning, design, and construction activities that will result in a bus rapid transit (BRT) system from Huntington to Fort Belvoir along Richmond Highway.

The envisioned BRT will operate primarily on dedicated lanes along Richmond Highway initially from the Huntington Metrorail Station to Fort Belvoir. The project will also include a future extension of the Metrorail Yellow Line from Huntington to Hybla Valley.

A 13-member advisory group was appointed by Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay and then Mount vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland in the spring of 2015 to support the Embark design effort. The group is made up of Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) members, appointed representatives from the Lee and Mount Vernon Districts, and an at-large representative. The advisory group provides community outreach, local and subject area

expertise, and reviews and comments on input and analysis by county staff who are engaged in designing the BRT plan. All advisory group meetings are open to the public. The design planning is projected to take until the end of 2017 to complete, in phases, as follows:

Phase 1: BRT Huntington to Hybla Valley

Phase 2: BRT Hybla Valley to Ft Belvoir

Phase 3: Ft. Belvoir to Woodbridge

Phase 4: Metro Rail Line Extension from Huntington to Hybla Valley

What is a BRT System?

- ❖ A bus system that operates primarily on dedicated lanes in the Richmond Highway roadway.
- Provides frequent, reliable, and attractive bus service to reduce travel times.
- Works with traffic signals to extend green time for the buses.
- ❖ Features intelligent transit system components such as innovative fare collection, real-time bus tracking for mobile devices, etc.





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Mount Vernon Gazette





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Alex./Sedgewick Forest \$559,000 4015 Gibbs Road

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double carport overlooks beautiful bkyd w/large shed/workshop w/electric power – 7 minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S), 15 mins to Old Town (N) – Great Home & Property!



Alex./Riverside Estates \$649,900 8425 Mount Vernon Highway

Beautiful home w/over 4,000 fin sq ft & 2 lvl addn plus 600+ sq ft bsmt in lovely Riverside Estates. Great Rm on ML w/gas FP & wet bar. Adjacent Family Rm w/woodburning 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./Riverside \$544,90

8332 Wagon Wheel Road Riverside Estates' most popular Colonial Model—5 BR, 3.5 BA w/3 finished levels, 2 FPLs, 1car garage on a lovely lot. 5 large spacious BRs, refinished hdwd floors on main & upper levels plus new carpet on lower level. Freshly painted interior,

new windows, siding & gutters. 6 mins to Fort Belvoir, (S), 15 mins to Old Town (N), & 27 mins to National Airport (N). This is a Gem!



Alex./Riverside Estates \$534,900 3412 Ramsgate Terrace

Beautifully updated 5 BR, 3 BA Rambler with walkout lower level – beautiful kitchen totally updated & open w/SS, Silestone counters & birch cabinets – updated baths, roof in 2015. Furnace, A/C, & hardwoods all replaced – fantastic

deck overlooks beautiful backyard – Perfect for entertaining!



Alex./Riverside Estates \$524,900 8412 Wagon Wheel Road

Beautifully maintained & updated Split w/4 finished levels – 5 BRs, 3 BAs, gas fireplace, sunroom addition, garage, deck overlooking lovely fenced backyard w/garden space & large shed. Roof & newly insulated attic & expanded concrete driveway in 2013 – Baths 2011, Kitchen 2010 – Double pane win-

Kitchen 2010 – Double pane windows added in 2013-5. Minutes to Fort Belvoir (S), 15 mins to Old Town (N), 25-35 mins to Ntl Airport, Pentagon and D.C. Turn Key & Great Price!



Alex./Wellington Manor \$745,000 1114 Arcturus Lane

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family rm, half bath (which can easily be expanded to a full bath), den, & large workshop. Walk to Shopping, 3 mins to G.W. Pkwy, 8 mins to Alex., (N) 10-12 mins to Ft. Belvoir (S) – GREAT BUY!



Riverside Estates \$2,90 8318 Orange Court

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OPINION

Getting Home Safely on Independence Day

ndependence Day is a national celebration, and for many, that celebration includes alcohol. The summer overall and July 4 in particular are times of greater risk for drinking and driving.

This is true for the young adults over 21 living with you, and unfortunately also for many teens who are under 21. More on that below.

For all revelers: Make a plan. Plan to celebrate with access to public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate in a place safe and comfortable to spend the night.

But in case those plans go awry, here is an alternative safety net.

EDITORIAL

On the night of Monday, July 4, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free

taxi rides home (up to \$30), beginning at 10 p.m. for six hours until 4 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, July 5. Participants must be at least 21. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

On July 4, 2015, more than 230 people used WRAP's SoberRide service rather than possibly driving home impaired.

In summer, 44 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths are caused by alcohol-impaired drivers, according to statistics provided by WRAP. SoberRide is a way to help keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

On July 4, historically, more than 40 percent

drivers; more than 20 percent of the drunk drivers involved in those deaths had blood alcohol concentrations of nearly twice the legal limit, said Kurt Erickson of WRAP.

SoberRide is only available for those over 21. For parents of young adults who may be living at home and parents of those under 21, this is time to talk. Ask about plans, ask spe-

of traffic deaths in the U.S. are caused by drunk cifically about getting home. Let your younger family members know that you would much rather pay for a cab or come get them yourself than run the risk of losing them.

> This is a message important for the tail end of graduation season and good for the whole summer, which is the time of the highest risk for teen drivers.

Visit www.soberride.com for more.

Submit Photos for the Pet Gazette

edition, will publish on July 27, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 17.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about

The Pet Gazette, a twice-yearly special pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

> Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

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> Email to gazette@connectionnews papers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

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New Virginia Laws Go into Effect July 1

BY PAUL KRIZEK STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

undreds of new Virginia laws will go into effect on July, 1 that passed during the 2016 legislative session. This week, I want to highlight a few of them



for readers while the topic is timely. The format of this week's column will be a little different.

EDUCATION

High School Redesign: The Board of Education, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, will develop and implement a Profile of a Virginia Graduate that identifies the knowledge and skills that students should attain during high school to be successful contributors to the Commonwealth's economy, emphasizing critical and creative thinking, collaboration, communication and good citizenship. Beginning with the 2018 freshman class, students will have options for different pathways to graduation to better prepare them for the new economy. The first two years of high school will emphasize core skillsets, and students will have multiple paths toward college and careers that include internships, externships and credentialing. Protecting Physical Education: Children in Virginia's elementary schools must have at least 20 minutes of physical activity during the school day.

TRANSPORTATION

HOTLanes and EZ-pass toll roads more notice for unpaid tolls and lowers penalties for unpaid tolls. The new law also allows reciprocity with other states to allow tolls to be

collected for travelers who reside out-

Smoking in a Vehicle with a Child: This new measure makes it a secondary offense to drive with a child under the age of eight years old in the car and smoking, subject to a civil penalty of \$100. Dooring: Requires drivers to wait for a reasonable opportunity to open vehicle doors on the side adjacent to moving traffic. Failure to do so will result in a traffic violation and up to a \$50 fine.

JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Financial Exploitation of Adults: The law provides that upon receipt of a report or during an adult protective services investigation of suspected financial exploitation of an adult who is 60 years old or older or incapacitated in which financial losses to such adult resulting from the exploitation are suspected to be greater than \$50,000, the local department of social services or adult protective services hotline shall immediately refer the matter to the local law-enforcement agency for investigation. Structured Settlement Protection Act: The General Assembly passed a law to protect victims of predatory settlement purchasers. The bill will require the purchaser and the payee appear in circuit court where the payee lives. This change will help ensure the predatory companies that purchase structured settlements cannot take advantage of the payee, and

Tolling Overhaul: Gives drivers who use the payee understands exactly what deal they're entertaining. Dating Violence Education: High school students in Virginia will learn to identify dating violence in relationships. The

goal is to reduce domestic violence once those students become adults

COMMENTARY

HEALTHCARE

Cannabidiol Production: The General Assembly passed a new law to help epilepsy patients obtain cannabidiol oils to help with treatment. Previously, the oils could be possessed in Virginia, but not produced or purchased. Allowing the oils to be produced in the Commonwealth will increase their availability.

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Electrical Line Siting: Virginia will now require the State Corporation Commission to hold a public hearing when choosing where to put new high-voltage electrical lines. This measure will protect neighborhoods from unsightly and dangerous electrical lines.

If you're interested in discussing legislative ideas for next year, please contact my office at DelPKrizek@house.virginia.gov.

BULLETIN BOARD

announcements gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SOBER-RIDE FOR JULY 4TH

Free Cab Rides. Monday, July 4, 10 p.m. through Tuesday, July 5, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 7

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A Connection Newspaper



OPINION

Help Reduce Gun Violence

Join effort in Congress.

By Don Beyer U.S. Representative (D-8)

was moved and inspired last week by my colleagues — starting with the great civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis — who had the tenacity and creativity to launch a sit-in on the floor of the House of Representatives to demand a vote on solutions to gun violence.

In the shadow of the June 12 Orlando shootings, members of Congress gathered almost spontaneously on the House floor. When the Republicans shut off the cameras, members of Congress broke House rules to live-stream the events from their phones.

I was impressed when I heard Representative Jim Clyburn — also a powerful figure in the world of civil rights and of gun safety, not only because his district includes Charleston, the site of another horrific shooting — say that our sitin was his proudest moment in 46 years of public service. It was my

proudest moment in 18 months in the House, and I was there all night.

We simply must move forward on gun policy in America. We must find a way to stop the mass shootings, we must find a way to lower the suicide rate, we must find a way, as our Founding Fathers did, to be a thoughtful, structured, fair society.

We must not sell guns to those under investigation by the FBI for terrorism. We must have background checks and we must somehow limit the sale of weapons of war that are not needed by ordinary citizens.

I was heartened to see the oped by General Stan McChrystal urging veterans to add their voices to the chorus for sensible gun policy in America. I am heartened by Republican Senator Susan Collins and some of her colleagues who are trying to find a compromise, a beginning, across party lines

I urge you to add your voice in any way you can, and I thank those of you who have contacted my office to lend support. We will persevere.

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 6

celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI (8294) and receive a free (up to a \$30 fare) safe way home. Visit www.soberride.com.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Plant Clinics. 9 a.m.-noon at the Mount Vernon Farmers Market at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Volunteers from the Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association will conduct plant clinics during the 2016 season to answer gardening questions, identify plants and insects, and dispense soil test kits to the general public. They encourage backyard gardeners to bring samples for diagnosis or identification. Visit fairfaxgardening.org for more.

FARMERS MARKET OPEN

The McCutcheon/Mount Vernon Farmers Market is open for the year at the Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 8 a.m.-noon every Wednesday, through

Local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; meats; breads and pastries; honey, jams and jellies; dairy products and eggs; herbs; and more. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets for more.

SEPT. 10-21

2016 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration will open July 5. Registration forms will be mailed to previous participants in late June and will be available at community and senior centers, senior residences and event venues. The registration fee of \$12, which covers multiple events, remains the same. Three events have an added fee, ten pin bowling, golf and orienteering. Deadline for registering is Aug. 27 (by mail), Sept. 3 (online). Call 703-830-5604 or email nvso1982@gmail.com for more. To volunteer, call 703-403-5360.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Fairfax makes it easy for individuals and families, youth and seniors, corporate groups and civic clubs to volunteer. Fulfill hours, give back, or pay it forward through a variety service options. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

THURSDAY/JULY 14

Chamber Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. John Frey, Clerk of the Fairfax County Court, will speak at the monthly Business Breakfast of Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce. Cost is \$25 per person for Chamber members and \$35 for non-Chamber. Register at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org or call 703-360-6925.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Family Support Group. 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Gartlan Center, 8119 Holland Road. Opportunity for discussion, information and support for families with members experiencing symptoms of mental illness.

Professionally facilitated. Program varies, may include guest speakers, movies

Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. Free. For more information contact Nga Nguyen at 703-799-2726, TTY 711.

Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. For family caregivers of older adults. Discuss "Keeping Organized as a Caregiver: What Works?" Share experiences, gain support and get information without having to travel. Free. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices.

Alzheimer's Association support **groups** provide a place for people with Alzheimer's, their caregivers, family members, and/or friends to share valuable information, caregiving tips and concerns throughout the Alzheimer's journey. Groups are facilitated by trained group leaders and are ongoing, free and open to the community. Call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900 before attending a group for the first time to verify meeting information, obtain directions or other information about the group. A complete list of all groups in the National Capital Area region can be viewed at www.alz.org/nca.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Fairfax County's Community
Services Board is seeking
volunteer office assistants. Volunteers
are needed to assist CSB staff with
greeting guests, making reminder
phone calls, data entry, filing,
shredding, stocking shelves, and
other duties as needed. Hours are
flexible, but would be during normal
business hours. Visit 711 or visit

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 8



Four-Year-Olds!

Aldersgate Day School, a safe, loving, Christian environment for your children, has a limited numbers of openings in its Four-Year-Old program for the 2016-2017 School Year. Children should be four years old on or before October 1, 2016.

For more information contact the Day School Director, Patty Spitnale, at 703-768-8351, email dayschool@aldersgate.net, or visit www.aldersgate.net/dayschool/

Aldersgate Day School is a ministry of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, located at 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA.



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Saturday, July 9, 2016 The Truth Deliverance Center Pastor Carletha Oliver A Non-Denominational, Multicultural Church Family Services: Saturdays 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM Intercessory Prayer: Saturdays 11:00 AM to 11:30 AM Bible Study: Thursdays 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Intercessory Prayer: 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM 8009 Fort Hunt Rd. Alexandria, VA 22308 Please Contact Us Today! 703.991.9271



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Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is July 20.

2016 Lord and Lady Fairfax Honorees Selected

By Steve Hibbard
The Gazette

elebrate Fairfax, Inc. named the 2016 Lords and Ladies Fairfax at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, June 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

"We're proud to honor the 2016 Lords and Ladies Fairfax. Since 1984, each supervisor has selected a Lord and Lady to represent their district. Each honoree dedicates time to the betterment of their community," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

Each year the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors selects two people from each district who have demonstrated superior volunteer service, heroism, or other special accomplishments to receive the award.

Later that evening, the Lords and Ladies were honored at a cocktail reception and special dinner and hosted by Great American Restaurants, Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The Chairman's Lord And Lady Fairfax

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova read the following description of Shirley Ginwright and Michael J. Hershman at the board meeting:

"Ms. Shirley Ginwright is one of the most devoted citizens of Fairfax County. She exemplifies community service in her countless efforts to bring people together and facilitate communal growth. Ms. Ginwright is the president of the Fairfax County NAACP, and served on the Fairfax County Chief of Police's Diversity Council in 2013. Ms. Ginwright inspired and facilitated the establishment of the Communities of Trust Committee, and serves as the committee's chairman. In addition, Ms. Ginwright served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, serving as the chair of the Subcommittee to Review Police Practices for Recruitment, Diversity, and Vetting. Ms. Ginwright has done invaluable work to make Fairfax County a leader in community and law enforcement engagement and is very deserving of the title Lady Fairfax.

"Mr. Michael J. Hershman is president and CEO of Fairfax Group, and is an internationally recognized leader on ethics and transparency in business and government. Mr. Hershman's extensive resume begins with his career with U.S. military intelligence. He is a cofounder of Transparency International, a nonprofit coalition promoting transparency and accountability in business and government. For 20 years, he gave generously of his time and talents as one of two citizen members of the Board's Audit Committee. Mr. Hershman's dedication was on display through his impressive handling of his role as chairman of the Board of Supervisors' 70-person Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. Mr. Hershman ably steered the commission and subcommittees through six months of discussions that cul-



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova with her choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Shirley Ginwright and the Lord Fairfax honoree, Michael J. Hershman.

minated in 142 policy recommendations for the Fairfax County Police Department, many of which have already been implemented. Mr. Hershman is a proud and dedicated leader in our local and global community."

Mount Vernon's Lord And Lady Fairfax

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Daniel G. Storck and former Supervisor Gerry Hyland read the following description Marcia Hanson and Larry Clark at the board meeting:

"For three decades, Ms. Marcia Hanson has been a tireless champion for the Lorton Community. As a community advocate, she worked to ensure the county's mass burn facility had the best environmental safeguards, and she pushed to close the I-95 debris landfill. In 1984, she established the Federation of Lorton Communities, which evolved into the South County Federation. For over 20 years, Ms. Hanson served as the chief aide and environmental representative for the former Mount Vernon supervisor. She has been instrumental in transforming the Lorton Community into a vibrant, exciting, and more livable community by advocating for the closing of the prison, the addition of new schools, and the Workhouse Arts Center. Ms. Hanson's continuous and nurturing efforts have left an indelible mark on the Lorton landscape. That is why Ms. Hanson is 2016 Mount Vernon District Lady Fairfax.

"Mr. Larry Clark moved to Spring Hill in January 2010, where he immediately reached out to find ways to contribute to the quality of life in the community. As chair of the community's Transition Committee, tasked with ensuring a smooth transfer of responsibility between the community and the developer, Mr. Clark was tremendously



Mount Vernon District Supervisor Daniel G. Storck and former Supervisor Gerry Hyland and their choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Marcia Hanson with the Lord Fairfax honoree, Larry Clark.

successful at building positive relationships for all stakeholders. He spent countless hours as chair of the Community Relations Committee in support of the process to transform Lorton Prison into the presentday project known as Liberty Crest. While still serving as chair for the Transition Committee, Mr. Clark also served as vice president of the South County Federation and as president of the Spring Hill Board of Directors. In his service to the Federation and community at large he was instrumental in halting further expansion of the ESI Landfill. The commitment, dedication and outstanding leadership displayed by Mr. Larry Clark make him especially deserving of the 2016 Mount Vernon District Lord Fairfax award."

Lee's Lord and Lady Fairfax

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay read the following description of Burnette G. Scarboro and Jack Pitzer. at the board meeting:

"Ms. Burnette G. Scarboro has been an integral part of the Fairfax County volunteer community. She has dedicated her life to creating an active and healthy learning environment for her children and taken her skillset far. Ms. Scarboro has been extremely involved and active in Lee District, Fairfax County and throughout Virginia. She is a member of Virginia State PTA Board, is the Northern Virginia District PTS director, and a member of the Lt. Governors Commonwealth Council for Childhood success. Locally, she is the coordinator of the West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition, a member of the Ad Hoc Police Review Committee, cofounder of the South County Youth Network, a non-profit youth organization, an African Heritage Early Lit-



Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey C. McKay with his choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Burnette G. Scarboro with the Lord Fairfax honoree, Jack Pitzer.

eracy Project Leader, as well as the Family Engagement Representative for our schools. The contributions she has made to our community are innumerable. Ms. Scarboro makes Lee District a better place for people of all ages.

"Mr. Jack Pitzer exemplifies what it means to be an active part of a community. He has volunteered more than 100 hours per year at Frying Pan Farm Park and has served on their board for more than 25 years. He also serves as the Hayfield Farm Garden Club President, promoting civic beauty and conservation of natural resources. He has been committed to volunteering since his sons were in 4-H, the nation's largest positive youth development and youth mentoring organization, and became heavily involved after an annual fair at the park. In addition to all his service at Frying Pan, Mr. Pitzer serves on the strategic board for his church and sings with the Alexandria Harmonizers barbershop chorus. He is a fundamental member of the Lee District and Fairfax County communities. Mr. Pitzer contributes to many different aspects of our county and uses his talents to make our community a

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 7

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

Yoga Teachers are needed. Help improve a person's well-being by teaching yoga classes to adults who are staying in a residential facility. The day/time is flexible, but would be during the week. Prior yoga instruction is required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa. Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Veichert

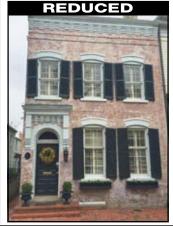
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Old Town \$1,590,000

130 Prince Street. Historic 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath semi detached home on "Captain's Row," 1 block off of King St. Fully restored, (over \$900K) with spacious rooms, high ceilings, 2 fireplaces, random width wood floors and custom built-ins. Lovely garden with Koi pond, brick patio and pergola with

Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Old Town \$959,000 911 Cameron Street.

Historic circa 1820 plaqued 2 bedroom, 2 bath semi-detached home with expansive gardens. Living room with high ceilings, beautiful moldings and a fireplace. Formal dining room and adjacent kitchen with brick floors, and an oversize window looking out to the private garden. Upper level with bedrooms and a sitting room. Prime location just 1 block off of King Street

Christine Garner 703-587-4855



Old Town/Yates Gardens 924 S. St. Asaph St. You'll love this charming stone front town house in the southeast quadrant - two large BRs, 2 full baths, finished lower level, updated kitchen, two FPs. The bonus - a stunning FR addition with built-

ins and French doors to a deck and private brick patio. . Mary Hurlbut 703-980-9595



Alexandria House

Alexandria House Condo #204. A unique, renovated open floor plan in the largest 2 BR, 2 BA, condo. The 81foot balcony provides for outdoor living and grilling. Enjoy 24/7 concierge, garage parking, roof pool, 2 lights to D.C. Lib Willey 703-362-7206



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY

6913 Duke Drive. 6 bedroom, 3 bath home. Gorgeous hardwood throughout. Large eat-in kitchen.

Michelle Zelsman 202-390-8714



Alexandria/Montebello

5901 Mount Eagle Dr #514. Serene view of trees from large, enclosed & private balcony! Spacious 1525 SF, 2 bedroom + den, 2 baths. Newer kitchen, windows & fresh paint. Garage space. Resort-like gated community 2 lights from Old Town; pet-friendly, w/ 35+ wooded acres & many amenities. Financially strong; no special assessments ever. Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418•Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010



3001 Elmwood Dr. Rents are rising, mortgage rates are dropping - time to be a homeowner! 4 bedroom/2 bath updated Cape Cod just a 1/2 mile walk from Huntington Metro and 1 block from a Metro bus stop. 2015 master bedroom & bath addition with glass subway tile & heated tile floor. Hardwood floors, stainless steel kitchen & recessed lighting. Cool off under a shade tree on a new slate patio. Fenced yard with storage shed. Home warranty. Best value in Burgundy Village today Greg Koons 703-209-7678 Joni Koons 703-209-7277



Alexandria \$385,000 7030 Stanford Dr.

Three levels, semi detached, 3 BR, 2 BA located on a quiet culde-sac, driveway, backing to woods. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, newer windows, home warranty. Huge fully fenced backyard for entertaining and expansion. Conveniently located close to major roads,

bus service. Elvira Jakovac 571-405-8058



Alexandria/Groveton

7019 Grove Rd. Well-maintained Cape Cod, fully fenced, front and back yard, new A/C/newer windows, roof, hardwood floors, built-in closets, skylights, peaceful neighborhood, beautiful views, especially sunsets. Backing to your own wood lot; conveniently located close to all major routes, shops, schools. Elvira Jakovac 571-405-8058



Alexandria City – West End \$318,800 200 North Pickett Street, Unit #1204. Renovated with Views! LARGE 2 BR/2 BA -1,295 sq. ft. New windows/SGD. Well-run Hallmark. New kitchen – granite. New baths. HUGE rooms, walk-in closet. Full-size W/D. Large balcony - electric grills OK! Great garage+visitor parking. Pool, tennis, exercise, party room. Commuter dream – bus stop in front – easy Metro. Creek and park across street. Foxchase Shops including 24-hour Harris Teeter and new Aldi one block too! Come see or call me. www.bxrosen.com Barbara Rosen 703-407-6481



Alexandria \$269,900

4561 Strutfield Lane #3117. Palazzo at Park Center condol Charming end unit that does not share walls w/neighbors! 2 bedroom, 1 full bath, w/2 balconies! New carpet & fresh paint throughout. Large kitchen w/eat-in kitchen area. Home gives ton of natural light! One garage space included, plus gym facility on site and pool! Amazing location to 395, easy access! Maren Seubert 703-835-2580



\$195,000 **Alexandria**

5904 Mount Eagle Drive, Unit 511. Renovate this unit to your personal design. Enclosed balcony adds useable space to bedroom + den.

Montebello has 35+ acres of 'park-like' landscaped woods, with monitored & patrolled security; free shuttle bus to Metro & Old Town; cafe, indoor & outdoor pools, bowling alley, comm. center; pet friendly. Variety of activities and events. Financially strong w/ no special assessments ever!

Cindy Baggett 703-593-1418•Leslie Rodriguez 703-400-3010

Broker, Will Wiard, at 703-888-5100 for furth





Alexandria/Old Town Office 703-549-8700 • 121 N. Pitt Street



ON THE TRAIL



Mountain laurels (Kalmia latifolia) are found on the peaks of many mountains along the trail.

Earning My Mountain Laurels

Mount Vernon resident hikes part of the Appalachian Trail.

By George Griffin

f we find you collapsed beside the trail, George, we will pray over you." I laughed, but Tex wasn't kidding. with his wife Beverly, knew what it was to the Appalachian Trail, from Maine to Georhurt along the Appalachian Trail.

slowly but consistently, for weeks. Purpose- besting over 1,100 miles of trail, including fully, but burdened with heavy packs and the trail's second tallest peak, Mt. Washinghampered by Bev's ankle — injured long ton in New Hampshire, before summer's before their mission on the Appalachian end. Trail, on they went. When we said goodbye that morning, that offer of intervention was, of 10 mile up-and-down, hardscrabble hikes I felt, sincere and I might need it. I also knew had ruined my feet and I openly questioned I would see them later, hours behind me but before nightfall, at the next shelter. These row to reach a highway and egress to the two were no-quitters, and by my third day motor lodge, a shower, and beers. on the trail I was genuinely impressed.

My friend Just Bryan — that's his trail name — invited me to join him on a small portion of his trek across half of the Appala- and hung my hammock. Just Bryan lit a fire. chian Trail's nearly 2,200 miles. He began He had already unpacked and claimed his



The author's feet at camp, with a beer hauled up from a deli stop that day.

Mother's Day at Harper's Ferry, W.Va. and was determined to reach one end. Mt. Katahdin, Maine, another 750 miles north of where I joined him in southeastern New York State.

By now a baptized-by-trail "LASHer" under any interpretation, Just Bryan had hiked more than 350 miles. "Lasher" stands for "Long Ass Section Hiker." That's one degree less hardcore perhaps than the "Through Hikers" who dedicate their full time and He saw I was hurting, and along fuller stamina to the complete distance of Nature making art, overhanging the gia, or vice versa, in one fantastic march. An elderly couple from Dallas, they hiked No small feat his, if he can manage — space within the shelter. I didn't understand

My end appeared much closer. Three days whether I could do the eight miles tomor-

At the shelter that night, I gently removed the boots I bought used on Craigslist, slipped on my "camp shoes" (cheap green flip-flops)



it, but to him this was paramount.

Shelters punctuate the Appalachian Trail, but can be far apart, 20 miles or more. Long stretches of trail offer no shelters at all. Threadbare, the three-sided structures of wood are a foot or so above the ground and open to the elements on one side with an overhanging roof. Roughing it for sure, but and water — they are a social center that for hikers who don't want to haul and pitch a tent, shelters are critical. Just Bryan shaped his hiking plans on securing himself a space each night — most shelters sleep only six so he hiked with fervor. When I complained that this pace kept me from enjoying the woods as fully as I hoped, he said dryly, "This



Harder to hike down than one might think: Killer on the toes!



As seen from a peak in Fahnestock State Park, looking down at Canopus Lake.

is not camping, dude, it's hiking."

As the afternoon faded into evening, I People who said goodbye hours earlier reunited, strangers became temporary friends. son they hum with interesting folk.

Tuna Roll — his trail name — is an Iraq War vet. Maine or bust for him. Many former

service members appear on the Appalachian Trail this time of year, Afghanistan vets too. understood. More and more hikers came to Some know both wars. They huddle together stop for the night. Shelter space tightened. at the shelters like some kind of self-help Tents popped up, hammocks were hung. group, trading stories. I think the trail offers its own kind of therapy; these guys pack light, move fast, push on through pain. From Shelters offer more than just weather cover the moment he arrived to the time he went down for the night, Tuna Roll chugged Coors breaks the lonely miles of trail. At peak seatallboys he had hiked up the mountain that afternoon

While he spoke very little with us, Tuna livened up when a mother and teen daugh-



The author transverses a tight pass. Just Bryan (trail name) said, "If they can take you the hard way, they nearly always will ..." of the trail manag-



ing onto the trail.

ter team of redheads emerged through the forest. He had seen them before, but they were new to us. I wished Tuna had kept quiet, for he indulged in use of the "f" word, hushed, I found out they were from Burbank, Calif., on the trail since school ended and hoping to make it from the Delaware Water Gap to New Hampshire. The night before, camped in a state park on the trail, their food them a lot from my overburdened pack.

Good — because I brought too much, and was feeling it. My shoulders ached, my hips, where most of the pack weight is borne if spite the lingering pain, I am hooked. I want you are doing it right, were chafed and bruis- to LASH again, slow down, perhaps take my ing. My feet were a mix of blisters, cuts,

where the trail is. book a neighbor lent me. He puts his name its most scenic. and address on stickers in his books so I left sentence, phrase and thought. When he a note and \$3 for whoever found it, asking it be returned. (Sorry, Conley.) The hiking, however, was beautiful. Rich

oak-heath forest of trees old, new, and reborn splayed out uphill and down and when we peaked, after a long, torturous, and toiletries were stolen as they slept. I gave switchback ascent, I was healed by an expansive Hudson Valley view, or uplifted, unexpectedly washed in rich, white mountain laurels. Spectacular in full bloom. Deson and do the length of the Appalachian

moleskin, tape, and pain. The first night, I Trail through Virginia (550 miles, its longiettisoned a lantern, some Gold Bond, and a est single state stretch) which many say is

If I do, I hope to find Tex and Bev again, for an update, good news and celebration. Early in their trek north, word came from home — a young granddaughter named Harmony had been diagnosed with lymphoma. Instinct said quit and return — their daughter said go on. Instead they wiped tears, shaved their heads and continued, hiking and praying, and asking all their fellow trekkers to sign the cards they send back to Harmony regularly from the trail.

George Griffin, of Mount Vernon, is a reformed television news producer now working on his fatherhood



The Morgan Stewart shelter on the trail: Just Bryan (trail name) is seen in the foreground with the fire. Shelters are meant to accommodate six sleeping adults ... comfortably - provided one has a sleeping bag and mat.



Fallen trees make art along the trail. White "blaze" trail marker can

be seen painted on the tree. Hikers follow these blazes to know

The author's sleeping setup, The sign gives a hammock bug net and tarp; the sense of where author is not for shelters. you are when at

Morgan Stewart.

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CONNECTION FAMILIES

Planning Memorable, Meaningful Family Vacations

Tips for turning summer trips into a lifetime of memories.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL The Gazette

s summer gets underway, vacationbound families are packing their bags and heading out of town. Vacations often fly by - months of planning and anticipating can be over in the blink of an eye. With a little advance planning and forethought, however, even a quick weekend trip or a visit to relatives can become meaningful and memorable.

To begin with, give all family members an opportunity to be part of the travel planning. "Let kids have some input into what the plan is," said Linda Gulyn, professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "For instance, if you want to take them to the beach, let them choose something that they want to do at the beach, something that's important to them. That creates a balance between each kid's interests and the family's interest."

Allowing children to have a say in the plan sets the stage for a memorable vacation. "You can show them pictures in a guide book of age-appropriate activities that you would be willing to do as well, " said Karen Prince, LCSW, a Bethesda, Maryland-based psychotherapist. "It's important to give kids a voice because it's their vacation, too."

Indulging in some screen time on a family vacation is fine, said Gulyn, as long as there is a balance between screen time and family time, and screen limits are set before the vacation begins.

"Try to be positive about it instead of punitive," she said.

"Negotiate screen time and make it reasonable. Always get the kids' input to reduce family stress. You don't want the family vacation to be dominated by these issues if you can negotiate them ahead of

Don't rule out allowing a child's friends to join the family vacation. "I think what happens as kids get into adolescence they want to form an identity outside the immediate family," said Gulyn. "Including a friend is a nice balance because the family unit gets respected and the family gets to know and spend time with the friend.'

From family group shots to picturesque scenery of mountain tops and oceans, documenting a trip with photographs will help preserve your favorite memories. This is made easier with the ubiquity of smart phones and tablets, and the entire family can participate.

"Encourage kids to take pictures of the event on their phone as opposed to just messing around with it," said Gulyn. "Social media is very picture oriented. If kids have the job of taking the family pictures, that's cool.'

"You can give [children] an inexpensive camera that you get for \$10 at CVS," said Prince. "That way they can capture memories as they go."

Discuss expectations and hopes for the vacation so each family member can clarify his or her own interests and hear

other family members' ideas, and the family can set realistic plans that keep everyone's needs in mind. "I'd recommend a wish list and perhaps agree everyone gets to have at least one wish fulfilled," said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University.

Make a plan for mediating conflicts that are likely to arise in even the most easy-

going families. "It's easy to get bogged down in small conflicts that can cast a dark shadow," said Best. "Doing some anticipatory work is a good idea.'

At the end of each day, take stock of how the vacation is going and make adjustments along the way as necessary, said Prince. "That way you don't have the whole vacation go by and find out that the kids didn't enjoy it," she said. "There is often the expectation that a vacation is going to be nirvana the entire time and it doesn't happen that way. Things come up unexpectedly and you adjust."

> "Family vacations are an opportunity to teach kids how to be part of a team and how to cooperate," said

> > 'Be prepared for activities that you enjoy but they don't," said child psychologist Stacie Isenberg, Psy.D., "If you love viewing art but your kids don't, bring drawing pads and books to keep them occupied while you admire the artwork for just a

appropriate activities from a travel guidebook is one way to include them in the vacation planning process. little longer. Create challenges and games for them during less exciting outings, such as 'I Spy' or scavenger

Allowing children to choose age.

appropriate activities from a

It's a good idea to create some family vacation rituals, advises Best. "If it's a place you return to frequently, try some new things, but do the round of traditions," she said. "This will strengthen kids' attachments to the place and create lasting positive memories."

Remember to schedule time for rest and food breaks. "Even the best travelers need some time to replenish themselves," said

Continuing Education

Online classes offer flexible options.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL THE GAZETTE

nterested in learning to landscape your yard using sustainable practices? Want to practice Spanish before traveling to South America? Didn't take philosophy seriously in college, and want to take a refresher course? Looking to get an advanced degree or certification to secure a job pro-

Opportunities for continuing and professional education abound for the intellectu-

One trend in continuing education that local educators say is on the rise is online learning. A study by the Babson Survey Research Group shows the number of students enrolled in distance learning courses increased each year for the past 13 years.

Driven by advancements in technology, the explosion of online learning is making education — once available only to those with extra time and funds — accessible to anyone with a tablet or laptop computer.

"Our online courses have increased at about 20 percent a year for about three years," said Stephen Nodine, Ph.D., associate vice president for E-Learning and director of Distance Education at George Mason University.

One of the reasons for the rapid growth of online courses is the flexibility that they offer working adults. "Students are able to schedule a course that they couldn't work into their daily schedule," said Nodine. "People who are looking to advance in their career or change careers can earn a graduate certificate and have a new credential without having to come to campus."

The demand for courses that enhance professional marketability is another factor behind the popularity of online continuing education. "One example of how this works is in the [information technology] field," said Jennifer Lerner, associate vice president for e-Learning at Northern Virginia Community College. "One program that is in demand is cyber security if someone needs an additional certificate to prepare them for the new kinds of IT roles, like Cyber Secu-

The flexibility that online courses offer does not mean that they are less challenging than courses taught at a university, said



Online and professional education courses, such as this landscape design class offered at The **George Washington University's Arlington** campus are growing in popularity.

Photo by William Atkins

"Students need to be really organized and really self-motivated," said Lerner. "Online courses aren't for those who take an outof-sight-out-of-mind approach to learning. Students need to just be committed with online courses as they would for an on campus class. "They shouldn't be the last thing on your priority list that you expect to fit it in without a time commitment.'

Jennifer Webb, senior associate director of Graduate Enrollment for New Student Graduate Admissions at Marymount University, said that while traditional online programs are best suited for students who have strong time management skills and adequate technology literacy, "many programs now have support and format opportunities which offer additional structure and engagement, and are, therefore, well suited for all types of learners."

The reasons that some students choose

online courses vary, said Nodine. "There are some students who might be in Iowa and want to take a class that we offer and they can't get to a university near them," he said.

Universities strive to make their online classes accessible and relevant. For example, The University of Virginia's School of Continuing and Professional Studies has academic centers in Falls Church. The George Washington University offers courses on campuses in Arlington, Alexandria and Ashburn, as well as more than 100 degree and certificate programs online.

"Online education remains an extremely high priority for both faculty and administration at GW," said Geneva Henry, George Washington University's dean of libraries and academic innovation. "Because of the success of our current online offerings, we will continue to grow our online courses as the demand from faculty and students is currently very high."

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Entertainment

Junction: A Crossroads of New Food, Old Favorites

The new bakery and bistro aims to open shortly after Independence Day.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

n the corner of Monroe and Mount Vernon avenues, a landmark building has been given new life. What's most noticeable to neighbors and frequent visitors through Del Ray is the new mural: "Junction Bakery and Bistro, Serving Del Ray and Abroad," it reads in gray paint, splashed across the side of the building that used to house Mancini's at 1508 Mount Vernon Ave.

And there, at a major junction into the neighborhood — the gateway APPETITE of Del Ray, really — is where chef Nathan Hatfield and his team are looking to make inroads with Alexandrians.

"We wanted to try to stay true to Del Ray" and its history, Hatfield said, from its days as a railroad junction to its newer life as a bustling, booming neighborhood that Hatfield himself has been a part of for years (he lives a stone's throw away from his new restaurant). "... We're hoping to become a part of this community, really."

Junction, which is scheduled to open shortly after the Fourth of July holiday, will aim to be many things to many people. From breakfast sandwiches to dinner and drinks, the restaurant's hours will be long — and, Hatfield hopes, its scope wide.

"In the morning you'll be able to find fresh coffee from Commonwealth Joe Coffee Roasters down in Culpeper," Hatfield said. Lunch will bring with it mostly locally purveyed salads along with sandwiches and small plates. And though some perennially well-known favorites — BLTs, turkey sandwiches, pastries — will be on the menu, look for some new twists on old favorites as well.

To wit: A breakfast sandwich starring "a fried egg and bacon and kimchi on a steamed bun," Hatfield said.

The look and feel of a restaurant is nearly as important as the service and food. The ambience at Junction aspires to be a blend

of old and new, of modern and traditional, Junction's Lauren Belisle says. Natural lighting, marble, granite, and glass all combine to make what Belisle hopes will become a "second home" for visitors.

"We preserved some of the tin ceiling tiles from when the building was a grocery store in the 1950s," she said. Also, the exterior



Junction chef Nathan Hatfield: "We wanted to try to stay true to Del Ray."

mural "has been getting a lot of love and buzz. And that definitely ... is a great embodiment of the look and feel of what the interior will look like as well."

But in the end, Hatfield aims for the food to be the star of the show. And he's striving for Junction to take hold of the neighborhood in short order. "I'm most proud of the fact that I get to hopefully be a part of this community and show everybody some new fresh ideas," Hatfield said. "Hopefully we'll turn on some people to new food."

Hope Nelson runs the Kitchen Recessionista blog, www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Exhibit: "A Retrospective Exhibit of Florals and Still Life." Gallery hours at Goodwin House Alexandria Art Center, 4800 Fillmore Ave. Artist Concetta C. Scott presents her work. Call 703-578-1000 for more.

Caribbean-American Jubilee Arts Exhibition. Through July, gallery hours at The Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The Second Art Impact USA Caribbean Jubilee Arts Exhibition is in honor of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month. Free. Visit www.artimpactusa.org for more.

Alex Tolstoy: "Watermarks."

Through July 3, gallery hours at The Art League, 105 N. Union St. Artist Alex Tolstoy's past life as an ocean acoustics mathematician subconsciously informed and inspired her present life as a watercolor artist, as she now paints the moods and forms of the oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, and storms. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

"Who The Wounded Are." Through
July 11 at Carlyle House Historic
Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. "Who These
Wounded Are: The Extraordinary
Stories of the Mansion House
Hospital" is about people who lived
and worked at this site in Alexandria

and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$2-12. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

Grown Ups Art Camp. Through July 15, various times at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans is offering more than 30 workshops and sessions to choose from. Prices vary. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

Indoor Arts Supplies Yard Sale.

Through July 15, various times at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Art supplies will be for sale a half-hour before and immediately after each Grown Ups Art Camp workshop. Free to attend. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GUAC.

Target Gallery: "Please Touch."

Through July 17, gallery hours at Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Sixteen national and international artists, including four people from Virginia, were juried into this group show. This all-media exhibition features 20 works with which audiences are invited to engage. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Art Exhibit: "Out and About."

Through July 17, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery – Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. TAG member artist and oil painter Ellen Kolansky presents a grouping of her landscape paintings. Free. Visit

www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery:

"Circuses." Through July 24, 10
a.m.-5 p.m. at 105 N. Union St.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery
announces the juried show

"Circuses." Artists' derive inspiration from clowns, animals, trapezes, jugglers, ringmasters, sideshows, crowds and other big house trappings. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

Summerquest. Various times at various libraries in Alexandria. SummerQuest is divided into three groups: SummerQuest, Jr. (ages 0-5), SummerQuest (ages 6-12) and Teen Summer Reading (ages 12-18). This year's theme is "Read for the Win!" Free. Visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

"Violent Grace: A Retrospective."
Through July 30, gallery hours at
Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane.
This exhibit is a survey of five
decades of paintings by Edwards
Knippers. Free. Visit
www.ourconvergence.org for more.

"The Beauty of Inflection." Through July 31, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Julia Bloom and Susan Hostetler have created complementary bodies of work, in both two and three dimensions, inspired by nature; murmurations and birdsongs, and organic grids of color and light. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Through Aug. 15, business hours at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. The exhibit features the work of two Del Ray Artisans artists, Joshua Oliveira and Betsy Mead. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW.

Fort Hunt Concerts. Through Aug. 28, Sundays 7-8 p.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. A different band performs each week. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp for more.

Collage and Ceramics - Kathryn Horn Coneway. Through Aug. 28, gallery hours at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Free. Visit www.kathrynconeway.com for more. Women of Civil War Alexandria

Tour. Through Sept. 3, 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Learn more about women's roles during the Civil War in Alexandria. Presented by the National Women's History Museum (NWHM). Tickets are \$15, \$12 for NWHM members. Visit www.nwhm.com/get-involved/event/walking-tours.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking
Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at
Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King
St. Experience an inside access tour
of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired
by the PBS mini-series "Mercy
Street," accompany a trained military
historian through Civil War-era
Alexandria and learn the actual
history behind the TV show. Short
tours are \$15, private tours for five
are \$149. Visit
www.dcmilitarytour.com 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

"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

ENTERTAINMENT

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.

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.

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.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Olympic Champions Camp. July 25 Aug. 26, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at Boys & Girls Club, 401 N. Payne St. The Olympic Champions Camp incorporates "Triple Play" to engage mind, body, and soul. Campers participate in reading, STEM, sports, meditation and more. Prices vary. Visit www.bgcgw.org for more.

Theatre Camp. Through Sept. 2, various times at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Offering a variety of camps for age 3 through 8th grade, covering creative play, acting, singing, dancing, musical theatre and improv. Sessions also include comedy, scene study, Shakespeare and drama. Tuition prices vary. Visit www.thelittlethetre.com for more.

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

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

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

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-

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

TUESDAY/JUNE 28

Family Fun Day: Shaping

Our City. 10-11:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Explore how shapes are used in buildings, in the classroom and on the streets of Alexandria. Families are encouraged to bring recycled materials to share during a building workshop and should be prepared for a short walk outdoors, including walking shoes, sunscreen, and clothing appropriate for the weather. Tickets are \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov/ events.aspx for more.

Cat-tastic Craft Night. 7-8:30 p.m. at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. Visit

www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

THURSDAY/JUNE 30

Film Screening: "House

Maid." 6-8 p.m. at The Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The Alexandria Black History Museum hosts a series of programs from the pages of Port Of Harlem Magazine. All programs open with a 20minute reception with light refreshments. Set in Gambia, West Africa and written by Gambian Bubacarr Jallow, this 90-minute culturally reflective, sometimes comedic film is about a wife who loses her man to their maid. Free. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 1

Tribute to Earth, Wind, and Fire. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. Tickets are \$30-35. Visit www.carlyleclub.com for more.

JULY 1-31

Art Exhibit: "Generations." Gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center Studio 306, 105 N. Union St. Realist artists James Dean and Kara Hammond bring together their space related works to celebrate the early days of space travel and exploration.

www.karahammond.wordpress.com for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 2

Independence Fireworks. 6 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Greet "General and Mrs. Washington" in the historic area before trying a turn at bocce ball and 18th-century dancing demonstrations. Mount Vernon's colonial artisans will reveal how 18th-century ice cream was made in the days before freezers. Enjoy a performance by Yorktown Fife & Drum and the National Concert Band. Also enjoy a fireworks show. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for youth. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

MONDAY/JULY 4

An American Celebration. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Watch made-for-daytime





fireworks shoot off over the Potomac

River. Admission is \$9-20, free for

www.mountvernon.org for more.

Waynewood Recreation Park, 1027

Members from the Garden Club of

answer questions on plants. There

also will be a children's table to help

them start plants. Free. Call 703-549-

Waynewood will be available to

Dalebrook Drive. Features plants that are known to thrive in this area.

children 0-5. Visit

4245 for more.

Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at

Above: "Whispering Wave," Michael Jasinski

King Street Art **Festival Scheduled**

King Street Art Festival, returns to historic Old Town Sept. 17-18 with an array of eclectic art created by more than 250 artists from all over the country. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.artfestival.com for more.

Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. TAG member artist and oil painter Ellen Kolansky presents a grouping of her landscape paintings "Out and About: Environs of DC." Her style is loose, noted for its rhythm, color, and grace. In the current show, scenes depict the C & O Canal, Potomac river, Frederick Maryland train station and Great Falls and more. Visit

TUESDAY/JULY 5

Simpson Park Garden Stroll. 11

a.m.-12 p.m. at 420 E. Monroe St. VCE Master Gardeners who maintain Simpson Park Demonstration Gardens invite Alexandria residents and others to stroll by the gardens. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 6

Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. The Crawstickers play blues music with jazz and soul influences. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 7

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Dig In."

1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children will visit Green Spring's greenhouses and nursery areas to see the garden staff at work, help them start some seeds for late summer planting, and trek down to the veggie patch to talk about what plants need to grow. Make a plant marker for the garden and pot a plant to bring home. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring/.

Artist's Reception. 6-8 p.m. at The Associates Gallery, Studio 311, The torpedofactory.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 9

Civil War Kids Drill Day. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Fort Ward, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Children ages 9-12 can learn more about the daily life of the Civil War soldier. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.fortward.org for more.

Herb Container Workshop, 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to care for and harvest your herbs and share some of your favorite herb recipes. Tickets are \$35. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

greenspring/. 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

Film Screening: "This Little Light of Mine." 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Director Robin Hamilton will discuss her work to shine a light on the life of Fannie Lou Hamer, an often-overlooked heroine of the Civil Rights Movement in this documentary film. A question and answer session with Hamilton follows the film. Tickets are \$5. Call 703-

"Eating Right on the Run." 11:30

a.m. at Williams-Sonoma Old Town, 825 S. Washington St. Presented by Certified Wellness Master Ruvi Makuni. Free. Visit https://ruvi.typeform.com/to/x2ioCE.

Carlyle House 40th Anniversary Open House.

12-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Birthday festivities will take place throughout town that afternoon and evening. Free. Visit ww.carlylehouse.org for more.

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

www.mountvernon.org for more. Alexandria/USA Birthday **Celebration.** 6-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison

St. Visitors celebrate America's 240th birthday and Alexandria's 267th along the Potomac waterfront at Oronoco Bay Park and enjoy live music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, patriotic birthday cake, food vendors and a fireworks display. Free. Visit

www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/ alx-bday.

TUESDAY/JULY 12

"Casablanca." Garden reception at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. at Woodlawn-Pope Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. The Picnic Theatre

Company returns to Woodlawn estate for a one-act garden party theatre performance of "Casablanca." Tickets are \$15-25 plus a service fee. Visit www.facebook.com/PicnicTheatre.

THURSDAY/JULY 14

Rejuvenate the Midsummer Herb Garden. 7-8:30 p.m. at Burke

Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn how to keep your herb garden going strong in hot summer weather through good maintenance practices and occasional replanting. Learn tips and techniques to use and preserve herbs, including how to flavor vinegars. Free. Call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 15-16 **Alexandria Comcast Outdoor Film**

Festival. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Two movies will show on a 40-foot inflatable movie screen, with the Alexandria Waterfront as the backdrop. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/ summer.

SATURDAY/JULY 16

Family Fun Day: The Wright

Flight. 10-11:30 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Celebrate the 107th Anniversary of Orville Wright's historic flight from Fort Myer to Alexandria and test the basic principles of flight. Like the Wright brothers, work together as a family to create a hypothesis and conduct test flights to learn which design is the best. Tickets are \$8 for children, free for adults. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov/Events.aspx.

Canine Cruise. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. With four-legged friends in tow, board a Potomac Riverboat Co. cruise and tour the Alexandria Seaport on this popular 60-minute waterfront excursion. Dogs must be on 6-foot

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Entertainment

flat leash at all times. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$10 for children, free for dogs. Visit www.PotomacRiverboatCo.com/ canine-cruise.php.

SUNDAY/JULY 17

Presidential Salon with James

Madison. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Join President Madison as he discusses and engages guests about political and personal issues of 1816. Reservations are recommended. Tickets are \$15, \$10 for students. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/ summer.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 18-22

Del Ray Artisans Art Camp. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans invites young campers to spend a week creating art with professional artist instruction. All artist supplies, as well as lunch and snacks, are provided. There will also be a one-day only gallery show held on July 23 1-3 p.m. The fee is \$300. Visit www.delrayartisans.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 19

Searching Adoption Records. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Genealogist and adoptee Susan Palma talks about adoption records through time and gives tips on finding family. Free. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

THURSDAY/JULY 21

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Bee

Quest." 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Test your pollinator spotting skills in the gardens with our pollinator game. Figure out how pollinators help us grow food and what plants they like to visit. Visit bee hives and sample flower honey. Take home some pumpkin seeds for planting. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring/.

FRIDAY/JULY 22

Closing Reception: "Violent

Grace." 6—9 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. This exhibit is a survey of five decades of paintings by Edwards Knippers. Celebrate the exhibit and meet the artist. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

Del Ray Music Festival. 3-8 p.m. along Mount Vernon Avenue. The 9th Annual Del Ray Music Fest is a celebration of local talent. Free. Visit www.DelRayMusicFestival.com. **Summer Concert.** 7-9 p.m. at Carlyle

House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Surprise band performs. Free, \$5 suggested donation. Visit www.carlylehouse.org.

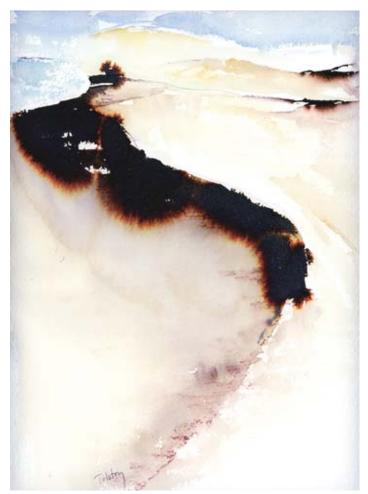
MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 25-29

Del Ray Artisans Art Camp. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans invites young campers to spend a week creating art with professional artist instruction. All artist supplies, as well as lunch and snacks, are provided. There will also be a on day only gallery show held on July 30 1-3 p.m. The fee is \$300. Visit www.delrayartisans.org for more.

JULY 26-AUG. 28

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery:

"Explorations Part I." 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 105 N. Union St. Artists' take www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



"Edge," watercolor, Alex Tolstoy 'Watermarks' Now Open at Art League

Alex Tolstoy's "Watermark" exhibit will be on display at The Art League through July 3. Tolstoy's past life as an ocean acoustics mathematician subconsciously informed and inspired her present life as a watercolor artist, as she now paints the moods and forms of the oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, and storms. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

inspirations from the early explorers: Vikings, Phoenicians, Marco Polo, tall ships, discovery of the New World and other. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 28

Jane Austen Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing. Tickets are \$12 each or \$30 for the series. Call 703-746-4242 for

FRIDAY/JULY 29

Film Screening: "Back to the

Future." Movie starts at dusk, activities start at 6 p.m. at Four Mile Conservatory Center, 4109 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Visit www.fourmilemovieseries.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 30

Children's Art Workshop: "The

Beauty of Inflection." Through July 31, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Julia Bloom and Susan Hostetler have created complementary bodies of work, in both two and three dimensions, inspired by nature. The artists will conduct a workshop for children ages 8-12, to explore various media including making stencils and create work reflecting the nature of the show. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 30-31

Harry Potter Birthday Weekend.

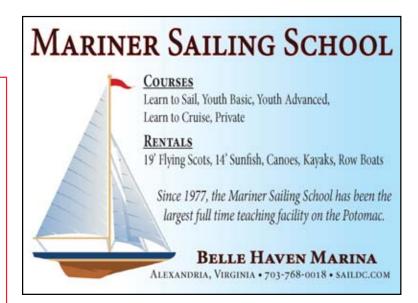
At Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Saturday features adult-only tours of the museum from 7-10 p.m. that includes an adult beverage, makeand-take activity, photo opportunities and time to explore items familiar from the Harry Potter series and their real-world uses. Event ends in time to join the midnight release of "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child – Parts I & II" at Hooray for Books. On Sunday, celebrate Harry Potter's birthday with family-friendly tours of the apothecary from 1:30-6 p.m. Hooray for Books will sell Harry Potter merchandise and leading Harry Potter trivia. Tickets are \$15 for Saturday, \$6 for Sunday. Visit shop.AlexandriaVA.gov.

THURSDAY/AUG. 4

Let's Grow Garden Club: "Sunny

Days." 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Kids will learn why the sun is important to photosynthesis and cook garden-fresh pizzas in a solar oven. Tickets are \$15 per child. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring/

Jane Austen Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. 134 N. Royal St. In preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13, learn 18th-century English country dancing. Tickets are \$12 each or \$30 for the series. Call 703-746-4242.







Torres Sentenced for Geer Killing

From Page 1

serve a three-year probation period. Since his time already served counts toward the sentence, Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh said Torres could be released within days or weeks. Typically



John Geer

in year-long sentences, Morrogh explained, inmates exhibiting good behavior can be released in as few as 10 months.

Torres' attorney John F. Carroll said that Torres has been a "model inmate" in his time in the prison. After the Geer shooting, he was placed on administrative leave before being fired many months later. Torres ran the intern program successfully, Carroll said, and exhibited "no indications of a continuing problem."

ANNE GEER, John's mother, spoke at Torres' sentencing hearing, the final witness in the case. Clad in a black suit, she walked past Torres and his attorneys, keeping her eyes fixed in front of her.

Anne Geer had already heard of the potential punishment for Torres at the plea hearing, and the confirmation of the 12month jail sentence was upsetting to her.

Anne Geer cited the great length of time she and her family didn't know any details of her son's death, including the name of the officer who shot him. She said her John "was executed by a police officer" and that Judge Smith's sentence "completely negates the intent to kill."

"If I went out and shot and killed somebody," she said in interviews following the hearing, "I'd never see the light of day again."

The police and county released virtually no information about the case for 17 months. After the Geer family filed a \$12 million wrongful death lawsuit that also called for the release of incident information, a court order forced release of details and the name of the officer who fired the

"It's Insulting to suggest for the crime of murder someone would only spend one year in jail," Anne Geer said. "John will spend forever in his grave. I ask: Where is the justice for John?'

Torres was among several officers who responded to Geer's residence after his longtime girlfriend and mother of his children Maura Harrington called the police.

Geer was upset over hearing that she was planning to move out. He was throwing her belongings out on to the lawn.

A 40-minute conversation took place between Torres, another officer and Geer, while Geer stood in the doorway of his home with hands resting above his head on the doorframe.

Torres claimed to have seen Geer drop his hands suddenly and reacted quickly and shot Geer. His version wasn't corroborated by the other officers with him on the scene.

Torres gave an apology at the plea hearing in April, but had no response or state-



Photos courtesy of John McDonnell/The Washington Post

Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond Morrogh delivers a final statement to the judge on the sentencing of former Fairfax County Police Officer **Adam Torres.**

ment at sentencing.

In a brief interview following the proceedings on June 24, Torres' attorney Carroll was asked whether his client truly thought he had done anything wrong.

"He absolutely has remorse," Carroll said, adding Torres expressed that as part of the

Carroll repeated that "many of the facts" of the case "are not in dispute" and that the agreed upon sentence was "a good resolution for everyone."

Commonwealth's Attorney Morrogh, also speaking after the sentencing, said he felt the 12 months was "appropriate," though not the ideal outcome. "It's a fact of life you can't please everyone.'

Morrogh said he would've preferred to try the case, but acknowledged it's "very difficult to convict a police officer ... you can't second guess them."

By avoiding trial, the family also avoided the possibility of one of Geer's daughters being forced to testify.

THE FAMILY just wanted to see Torres punished, Morrogh said. "It's not a perfect punishment."

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Police Chief Edwin Roessler released individual statements in response to the ruling, mailed to-

"The death of John Geer was a tragic event and a painful chapter in Fairfax County history," Bulova's statement reads. "With today's sentencing, the justice system has done its part. Although Adam Torres' act cannot be undone, there are many things Fairfax County can do to ensure future tragedies such as this never happen again. The Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Police Department have worked together to implement policy changes recommended by the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. These changes are reengineering



Adam Torres' attorney John F. Carroll gave final remarks that Torres has been a "model inmate" in his time in the prison.

the way officers are trained to respond to critical incidents and the way the Police Department and the County communicate information to the public. We are committed to promoting community trust and making our Police Department a national model moving forward."

In his statement, Roessler said, "My thoughts and prayers remain with the Geer family, the friends and loved ones of Mr. John Geer, the community we proudly serve and the men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department. We support the judicial process and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. The action of one former employee is not reflective of the honorable work performed by the members of our Department, sworn, civilian and vol-



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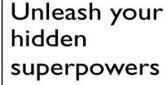
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OBITUARY



Sandra Jurgan Ferretti, beloved wife of 51 years to Energy at the U.S. Pavilions at the World's Fairs in Spokane, Peter Eugene Ferretti, passed away on June 17th at the age of WA. And New Orleans, LA. He last served as a manager with 74. She was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, the second youngest of nine children, to John and Anne (Wojtowicz)

Jurgan. Sandra graduated from Hackensack High School (New Jersey). Jurgan. Sandra graduated from Hackensack High School (New Jersey) in 1960, where she was a cheerleader and she and A lifelong sports fan, Bruce was an avid supporter of the Wash-Peter were voted class couple. Sandra got her college degree ington Redskins, Ohio State University, Fort Hunt High School in English while on scholarship at Farleigh Dickinson University and Bellaire High School. He loved the outdoors and his dog, where she was a member of the Olympic squad fencing team. Sam, and finished the prestigious Marine Corps Marathon in After graduation, Sandra taught English and Physical Education at New Milford High School in New Milford, New Jersey. Peter and Sandra then settled in Hingham, Massachusetts A devoted son and loving brother, he is survived by his brother, where they lived for 22 years and raised their children, Peter Capt. Mark D. Neuhart, USN (Ret.) (Pam) of Knoxville, TN; his sisters, Paige Harrell (Stan) of Alexandria, VA. and Brooke and winter vacations at Lake Winnipesaukee, New Hampshire. Neuhart Toth of Phoenix, AZ. Bruce has five nieces and nephsandra was active in Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Hingham ews: Sara and Matthew Neuhart, Elizabeth and Jonathan Harwhere she continued to work with young people as the Parish rell and Thomas Toth. Sandra was active in Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Hingharin ews: Sara and Matthew Neumant, Elizabeth and Soliation in ews. Sara and Soliation in

Sandra was fun loving, smart, athletic, loved to work on New In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made York Times crossword puzzles and an avid follower of Jeopardy. In more recent years, Sandra devoted much of her free time to her passion for cooking and to doting on her beloved grandchildren and her two cats

the Northern Virginia Family Practice as a Receptionist.

Canulia leaves behind her husband, Peter, her son, Peter Online condolences at Ferretti, daughter-in-law Andreae, and granddaughters Sophia http://www.bauknechtaltmeyer.com. and Isabella of Sammamish, Washington and her daughter Catherine Ferretti Munson, son-in-law, Steven, and granddaughter Sara and grandson Tyler of Alexandria, Virginia.

OBITUARY

Richard Bruce Neuhart, age 65, passed away peacefully Sunday, June 20, at an Alzheimer's Care Facility in Annandale, VA.

A native of Bellaire, Ohio, Bruce was preceded in death by his A native of Bellaire, Onlo, Bruce was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Lou Dickens Neuhart and his father, Richard Frederick Neuhart, both of Bellaire. He attended Bellaire public schools, and Linsly Military Institute in Wheeling, W.VA. He subsequently graduated from Fort Hunt High School in Alexandria, VA. and the College of Wooster in Wooster, OH. He was a member of the Rock Hill Presbyterian Church in Bellaire, OH.

to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (alzfdn.org)

Arrangements by Bauknecht-Altmeyer Funeral Home and Crematory Bellaire, Ohio.

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PUBLIC NOTICE Please be advised that a brief fireworks display will take place as part of a public evening event at George Washington's Monday, July 4, between 1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. (5 minutes) Mount Vernon on the following date:

Saturday, July 2 between 9:30 p.m. and 9:45pm. (15 minutes)

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Code § 58.1-3292.

The Board of Equalization and Assessment Review for the City of Alexandria will convene at 4:00 PM on Friday, June 30 2015, at 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 3008, Alexandria Virginia, for the purpose of equalizing real estate assessments

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss meeting dates docket order and processing, and other administrative issues There are no scheduled public hearings for this meeting, how ever members of the public are welcome to attend. Additional information about this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Department of Real Estate Assessments, 301 King Street, City Hall, Room 2600, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in person, in writing, or by calling 703.746.4180. The deadline for filing an appeal is June 1, 2016, however this appeal deadline is not applicable to appeals of assessments made pursuant to Virginia

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lawn equipment, money, ooters, and other items. persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasona-ble 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 tv Section at (703) 746-6709.

Joseph Milton Harmon



HIGH POINT, NC -Joseph Milton Harmon, 67, died after a 4-year illness of COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease) followed by pneumonia on June 27, . 2016, at Select Specialty Hospital - Greensboro, NC. He served a 20-year career of distinction in the US Army in Vietnam,

with the 3rd Armored Division in Germany, and later at the Pentagon in the Adjutant General's Office for Information Systems Command, where he trained and supervised up to 10 personnel accountable for more than 200,000 NATO documents. Harmon received the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 4 Service Stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation, among other honors.

Previous to residing in High Point, Harmon lived 21 years in Spring Lake, NC, and at Ft. Bragg. As a computer programming and data collection expert, Harmon in his later years worked for Sears in High Point, Lockheed Support Systems, Inc., in Fayetteville, and Test and Experimentation Services Co. at Fort Bragg. He was a member of the Noncommissioned Officers Association, an organization fighting for the service benefits and rights in Congress for Armed Forces members in need, and of the Independent Order of Foresters, which helps people in need in all walks of life.

Harmon followed the death of his wife of 33 years, Mary Ella Teague, who passed in 2002. He is survived by his daughter and devoted caretaker, writer Mary Angela Harmon of High Point; two sons, Joseph Milton Harmon Jr. of Denver, CO. and Jonathan Mark Harmon of Rocky Mount, NC; sisters Faye Dean Parnell and Darlene Annette Bryant; and brothers Michael Eugene Harmon and Kevin Andrew Harmon.

Friends and family will remember Joseph Harmon as enjoying playing the piano and guitar, listening to his collection of 50s/60s and military music, taking care of his vehicles and riding his 1981 Kawasaki motorcycle when he could, and using his professional computer knowledge for fun and for teaching those skills to his children.

Visitation will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 pm 1800-2000 hours) on Friday, July 1, 2016, at Cumby Family Funeral Service, 1015 Eastchester Drive, High Point, NC 27262. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm (1400 hours) on Saturday, July 2016, at Abbotts Creek Missionary Baptist

Church, 2817 Abbotts Creek Church Rd, High Point, NC 27265, with Reverend Mark Hollar officiating. Interment with full military honors will follow at Abbotts Creek Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the USO, Donor Services, 2111 Wilson Blvd., #1200, Arlington, VA 22201 or online at https://www.uso.org/donate/next

Online condolences may be shared at www.cumbyfuneral.com.

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Obituary



Mrs. Margaret Bixler Howell, age 94 of Wallace, NC, died on June 23, 2016 at Pender Memorial Hospital. Burial will be at Mt. Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria, VA on Wednesday, June 29 at 12:00 p.m. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, July 16, at Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church at 11:00 a.m. and on Monday, July 25 at Wallace United Methodist Church at 4:00 p.m.

Margaret is survived by two sons, Robert Lyndon Howell and wife Elaine Merrey Howell of Williamsburg, VA and Thomas G. Howell, Sr. and wife Kathryn Ann Howell of Wallace, NC, her sister, Louise Bixler Griffith of Corinth, TX, six grandchildren, Thomas G. Howell, Jr., Stephanie E. Howell, Catherine

Maiberger, Amy J. Redwine, Martha E. Howard and Alison J Harlow and ten great grandchildren

Margaret was born on April 30, 1922 in Washington, DC to the late Walter Glen and Ruth Harris Bixler. Her husband, Odie Robert Howell, Jr., also predeceased her

Margaret or "Bickie" as her friends knew her lived in Northern Virginia for almost all of her life. She was a longtime resident of the Ft. Hunt area for over 62 years. Margaret graduated rom Washington Lee High School in 1939 and matriculated to Madison College that same year. On December 22, 1942 she married her high school sweetheart, Odie R. Howell, Jr.

Margaret graduated from Madison College with a teaching degree in 1943. While her husband was overseas during the war, she taught for 3 years at Henry Clay Elementary School n Arlington County, VA.

Margaret was a living example of Christianity throughout her life. She accepted Christ at the age of 12. Margaret was a powerful influence on bringing others to Christ as her sister and parents joined Calvary United Methodist Church with her at Christmas in 1934.

Throughout her life, Margaret was involved in the work of the church. She joined Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church in 1953, the year it began, and was a member until her death. Among her many activities, she taught Sunday School for over 30 years, served as President of the Women's Society, sang in the church choir, and led the Prayer Group. When she moved to Wallace, NC with her son in 2013, she attend-ed Wallace United Methodist Church. Once again Margaret was a living example of Christianity, as she loved to attend the Bible Study sessions each Tuesday morning. She could recite the names of all 66 books of the Bible by memory in ess than one minute.

Margaret also donated her time to many community outreach activities. She was a volunteer at the American Red Cross, The United Community Ministries and up to her late 80's, she volunteered at the Mt. Vernon Hospital.

Margaret was very active in the Order of the Eastern Star She was a Past Worthy Matron of the Martha Washington Chapter OES #42 and a member for over 63 years.

Margaret was truly an example of Christianity acknowledging the Lord every day of her long life. Her caring, outgoing personality, ready smile, boundless energy, helping hand and unselfish service to her church and community made her well known and endeared her to her friends and fellow citizens. She truly lived her favorite Bible verse of Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine bown understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.'

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials in Margaret's mem ory to Mt. Vernon UMC, 2006 Bell View Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22307 or Wallace UMC, 303 S. College Street, Wallace, NC

To sign the guest book, go to www.padgettfuneralhome.com. A service of Padgett Funeral and Cremation Services,

Memorial Service Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church Saturday July 16th, 2016 11:00am 2006 Belle View Blvd Alexandria, VA 22307

Memorial Service Wallace United Methodist Church Monday July 25th, 2016 303 South College street Wallace, NC 28466

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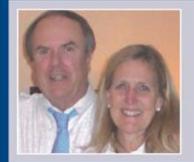
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Most of this home is brand new, the rest has been totally updated. Shows like a new home! Special features include: open floor plan, new custom kitchen, 3 updated baths. Luxurious master suite, hardwood flooring and oversize two car garage. Large deck overlooks gorgeous half acre lot. Prime location near Mt. Vernon Hospital. Super Value



4520 Dolphin Lane \$745,950 Great setting!

Walk to Mt. Vernon Yacht Club from this custom rambler on a sunny corner lot in a premier riverfront community. Open floor plan, fireplaces, huge solarium with soaring ceiling and sunken hot tub, three spacious family rooms, oversize 2-car garage, and half-acre of beautiful landscaping and decks make this home perfect for entertaining indoors and



7512 Ft. Hunt Rd. \$1,250,000 Mid-century Gem. 6 Gorgeous Acres!

Award winning mid-

century home designed and built as personal residence by areas leading architect. Magnificent residence with exceptional floor plan and top quality materials. Carefully crafted to enhance its stunningly beautiful six acre setting. Natural wonderland with stone lined private lane, meandering creek and gorgeous woods and pond.



Wakefield Homes Pre-Construction Opportunity!

8717 Plymouth Rd.

New Melson II Model- 3,525 sf

- 1/2 Acre Lot in Plymouth Haven
- Open floor plan High ceilings
- Upgrades throughout
- Finished recreation room & bathroom in basement
- Maximum opportunity to customize



9419 Mt. Vernon Cir. \$1,299,000

One of the area's most distinctive properties!

Custom estate caliber home with classic French Provincial flair. Premier location in Mt Vernon on the Potomac-the only community in the area with a private marina for the exclusive use of its' residents. Imposing residence with many custom touches including open foyer with double curved stairway, custom white brick exterior, high ceilings, spacious room sizes and oversize garage. Columned veranda overlooks pool and grounds.



4302 Robertson Blvd. \$575,000

Spacious Rambler backs to park!

9327 Boothe St. \$624,900 Exceptional opportunity!





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