



COURTESY OF ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The church's choir performed a piece commissioned for the church, composed by René Clausen.

Aldersgate Church Marks 60 Years

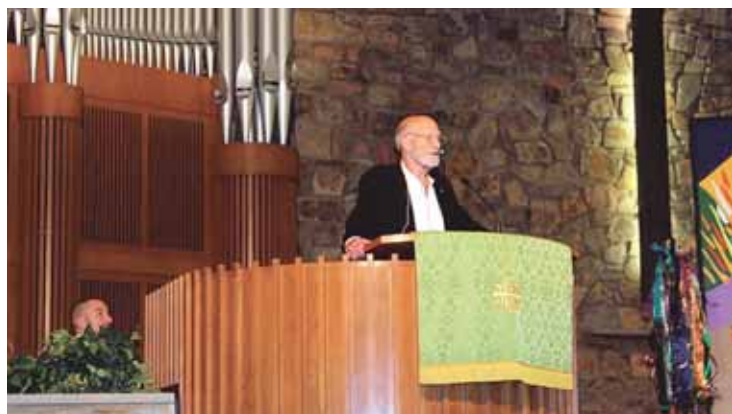
Choir performs specially commissioned work.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church marked its 60th anniversary Oct. 23. For the special occasion, the congregation welcomed Duke University theologian Stanley Hauerwas to their campus. He preached at all four services that weekend.

The more than 2,000-member church also welcomed new members during the anniversary weekend's services, including adults and baby baptisms.

The church's choir performed a piece commissioned for the church, composed by René Clausen.

"I love coming to worship here," member Karli Eddinger said in a statement from Aldersgate. "The music is great,



For the Aldersgate UMC 60th anniversary, the congregation welcomed Duke University theologian Stanley Hauerwas to their campus.

and the sermons challenge you and really make you think about how you live your life outside these walls."

Aldersgate United Methodist

Church Alexandria campus is located at 1301 Collingwood Road.

— TIM PETERSON



The more than 2,000-member church also welcomed new members during the anniversary weekend's services, including adults and baby baptisms.

Storck Defers Farm Vote

Board to revisit farm property development in February.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Once again, Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) recommended the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors defer taking action regarding the development of more than four acres of the land close to the Inova Mount Vernon medical office suites on Hinson, or Bock, Farm.

There's a proposal to build 128 units for independent senior living, but to do so would require zoning approval and a change in several community covenants covering the land.

"My objective here is to recognize if we can get the developer,

the Bocks, together with the covenant holders and come up with way of getting an agreement that will last a long time," Storck said in an interview. "One that won't cost attorneys' fees, and also won't take a year or more to get an answer on."

"We don't have much time to lose."

— Supervisor
Dan Storck
(D-Mount Vernon)

The board voted unanimously to defer any vote until Feb. 14, 2017, Valentine's Day.

The extension, Storck said, "will give me and us enough time to hopefully spread the love of community and get a consensus about what

would work for the community and for the Bock family."

Some community members have voiced numerous concerns, including through a Change.org petition
SEE STORCK DEFERS, PAGE 7

Civilian Review Panel Up for Vote

Draft item discussed at Public Safety Committee.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

By its Dec. 6 meeting, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors should have the opportunity to vote on creating a Civilian Review Panel for police oversight, a first in Fairfax.

That's the goal of supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock), who chairs the board's public safety committee. The committee met Tuesday, Oct. 25 to consider a draft of the action item that would establish the review panel.

The independent panel was one of the more controversial of the 142 recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission created by board chairman Sharon Bulova in 2015.

The commission, with representatives from law enforcement, the media and the community at large,

SEE SUPERVISORS, PAGE 3

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Gala Honors Rising Hope Church

Nearly 200 supporters of Rising Hope attended the annual Hope Grows Gala at the Waterford of Springfield on Oct. 14. State Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36) presented Rising Hope Mission Church with a joint resolution passed by the General Assembly in recognition for being “an innovative church that provides spiritual leadership and general support to less fortunate in-

dividuals and families in Alexandria.” The resolution was co-sponsored by state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30), Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) and Del. Mark Sickles (D-43).

The resolution was presented to the Rev. Keary Kincannon, pastor of Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church.

Kirk Kincannon, director of Fairfax County Park Authority and brother of the pastor, ran a live auction at the event.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

A crowd of nearly 200 was present at the Oct. 14 Hope Grows Gala for Rising Hope Mission Church.



State Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36) with the Rev. Dr. Keary Kincannon and the General Assembly resolution recognizing Rising Hope Church.



Rising Hope members Dale Turner and Nicola Carter enjoyed the evening.



Craig Griffith reminds the crowd Rising Hope supports many homeless and formerly homeless veterans.

Supervisors To Vote on Civilian Review Panel on Dec. 6.

FROM PAGE 1

was set up in response to a lack of transparency and accountability surrounding the 2013 shooting death of unarmed Springfield man John Geer by Fairfax County Police officer Adam Torres.

Fairfax County Police and the supervisors didn't release information about the case for more than a year after Geer's death, even to his family. It took a wrongful death civil suit filed by the family and a court order to finally get investigation files and Torres' name released. Torres was fired in July 2015 and indicted by a grand jury for murder in August 2015, a first charge of that kind for any officer in the history of Fairfax County Police. The former police officer pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and was released in June, after receiving credit for time served for a 12-month sentence.

On Sept. 20, the supervisors unanimously approved another recommendation from the commission: creating an office of the independent police auditor.

The auditor will review all use of force incidents that result in serious injury or death, as well as other citizen complaints about police use of force not resulting in serious injury or death.

In addition, the auditor could engage in policy and practice analysis, as suggested by the Board of Supervisors, County Executive or Chief of Police.

BY CONTRAST, the civilian review panel would “review completed police internal

administrative investigations of civilian complaints concerning allegations of abuse of authority and serious misconduct,” according to the draft action item.

At the Oct. 25 meeting, Cook specified the civilian review panel would not conduct investigations. Rather, the panel would review investigation files and decide whether the police's own review was “well done, not well done or needs more work,” Cook said.

If they determine more work is required, the panel would be able to send the issue back to the police.

Citizens could initiate that process in two ways, Cook explained: If they file a complaint with the police department but are unsatisfied with the results of an investigation, they can bring the matter to the civilian review panel. Or they could submit a complaint to the panel directly, which could request an investigation be conducted by police, that could then be reviewed by the panel.

Review of the investigations would happen at public meetings held by the panel. Fairfax County Chief of Police Edwin Roessler and an officer from the Internal Affairs Bureau would attend these hearings to offer additional explanation, but involved officers can't be required to come before the panel or answer questions, under the Code of Virginia.

Adrian Steel, a member of the Ad Hoc Commission, said the goal of the meeting was to provide the public with a “full and fair presentation” of an investigation review.

The meeting before the panel would provide a place for the complainant to appear “and have his or her day,” Steel said. But Cook raised questions about whether the complainant should speak at the meeting, and if so, what limits might be in place.

Cook and Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer said the complainant could state the reasons he or she asked for a review. Rohrer said that since police investigators will appear before the panel to answer questions, it would be fair to allow the complainant to speak as well.

The board will also need to finalize criteria for who would be eligible to serve on the nine-person panel. All panel members would be appointed by the supervisors, but they would encourage communities and organizations to nominate candidates. Other potential criteria would exclude current and former Fairfax County employees, as well as current law enforcement officers and anyone holding public office.

Panel access to sensitive documents that would be part of the investigation files created another area of controversy.

Police Officer 1st Class Richard Barron said members of the department are “very concerned” with the fact that volunteer civilians would have that type of access.

Det. Sean Corcoran, president of the Fairfax Coalition of Police Local 5000 and a member of the Ad Hoc Commission, said it's about “who has access to what, and when, and why.”

Corcoran echoed a suggestion made by

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and separately by Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) that the board could wait to establish the civilian review panel until after the independent auditor office is up and running.

Barron challenged the need for a Civilian Review Panel and said the reviews the police conduct on themselves are adequate. “I don't see a legitimate need for it,” he said.

“I don't think there's any purpose” for another level of review, Barron said, adding that officers feel this panel is being “rammed down their throats.”

Unlike Barron and Corcoran, Chief of Police for Fairfax County Edwin Roessler voiced support for the panel. He acknowledged “we have a great department,” but said he believes in moving forward with engaging in the community in this way, while protecting the rights of officers.

BOARD CHAIRMAN Sharon Bulova asked Corcoran, who voted in favor of the Ad Hoc commission's final list of recommendations, if he'd changed his mind since then. Corcoran responded he had lobbied against the panel prior to the final vote, but was outnumbered.

Herrity said he supports independent oversight, but is concerned that the fiscal impact of the panel is unknown.

The Board of Supervisors expects to vote on the proposal for Civilian Review Panel at its Dec. 6 regular meeting, with documents posted the week before.

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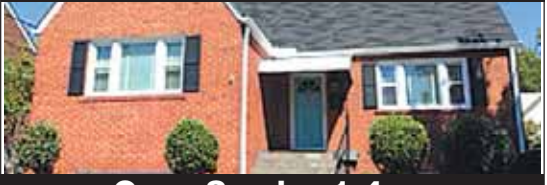


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Fairfax County Fire Chief Richard Bowers helps a child with a coat during the Firefighters and Friends annual coat distribution day Oct. 27 at Penn Daw Station 11. More than 1,600 new coats and over 500 new books were distributed to 70 schools, shelters and nonprofits in Fairfax County and Alexandria.



Police detective Melissa Wallace holds a child after helping select books for distribution to Fairfax County schools and nonprofits.

PHOTOS BY ELLIOT RUBINO

Keeping Children Warm

Firefighters distribute coats, books to local charities.

JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

With Fairfax County Fire Chief Richard Bowers at the helm, Penn Daw Fire Station 11 held its annual Firefighters and Friends coat distribution day Oct. 27, with more than 1,600 new coats and 500 new books going to 70 schools, shelters and nonprofits throughout the county.

More than 220 preschoolers arrived by bus to select their own new coat and several books. The remaining distribution was done through various social services and school representatives.

"We had requests for over 3,000 new coats so we will have another event in December," said Capt. Will Bailey, organizer of the event and Firefighters and Friends founder. "We understand that giving a child a new coat builds self-esteem. It's brand new, all their own and creates a sense of pride in ownership that we hope fosters self-confidence in children."

Sponsors of the drive include Operation Warm,

Fairfax County Police Dept., Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Apple Federal Credit Union, Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax, Local 2068, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Nationwide Credit Corporation, Primo Family Restaurant, Modern Technology Solutions, Medcracy and Fairfax Fire & Rescue Retirement Assoc.

Caring Angels Therapy Dogs and their handlers were also on hand with 10 dogs for the children to pet prior to returning to school.

"I think the number one way to break the cycle of poverty is through education," Bailey added. "With a brand new coat children can go to school more often on cold winter days, where they receive nourishment for their minds and bodies. In the end, we believe a new winter coat gives children the freedom and confidence to play more, learn more and do more. When we are not running 911 emergencies we are trying to find ways to help the community and today it was providing new coats and books to children in need."

OBITUARY

David Dougherty

David Dougherty, 70, of Stratford on the Potomac, a long-time voting rights protection advocate with the Mt. Vernon District Democratic Committee and a retired attorney with service in several federal departments, died after a short illness on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016 at Mt. Vernon Hospital.



As a senior member of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee Election Law and Voter Protection Committee, Dougherty was a district liaison with the Fairfax County Election Commission, and for many years in charge of organizing Democratic poll watchers during absentee voting days at Mt. Vernon Government Center and of conducting training classes for volunteer voter registrars.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

He was respected for his passion for fair elections and his gentle wit.

Dougherty was born in Springfield, Ohio in 1945. He graduated from American University in 1967 and from George Mason Law School in 1988.

A 35-year resident of Stratford on the Potomac, where he was active in the neighborhood association for many years, Dougherty raised a family with his late wife, Ellen.

He is survived by his daughter Elizabeth (Dougherty) Stoddard, granddaughter, Claire Ellen, and two brothers, Gene and Clark.

Friends may call at Demaine Funeral Home, 520 S. Washington St., Alexandria, on Wednesday, Nov. 2, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. The funeral is 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 3, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 S. Royal St., Alexandria, VA 22314. See www.demainefuneralhomes.com for more details and an online guest book.



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8011 Jackson Road
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Alex/Riverside Estates \$498,500
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Alex/Eastgate at Mt. Vernon \$2,550
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Alex/Riverside Ests \$499,900
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Storck Defers Farm Vote

FROM PAGE 1

with more than 500 signatures. Some of those concerns are that the increased density on the property would add too much traffic to the area, potentially hindering response time by first responders. Others say having the structures so close to the road destroys the natural, bucolic feel that's been enjoyed by the community for years. "The farm there now serves as lovely buffer, between the residential area and landscape of the hospital," said Brittany McMaster of the Riverside Gardens area of Fort Hunt. "If there could be some kind of more gradual development, that's what what folks would hope for. There is an opportunity for members of the community, the landowners and developers to come to a compromise on a proposal that would work well for the community and be of benefit to the county."

Queenie Cox, president of the Gum Springs Civic Association, is most worried

about the potential for a traffic light to be added at Holland Road and Sherwood Hall Lane.

"Gum Springs will fight tooth and nail to stop that," Cox said. "We've got a stake in it as well."

Cox said the historic neighborhood has already seen the brunt of traffic travelling those roads for the hospital, the Gartlan Center and Sunrise at Mount Vernon senior living center. Storck said he plans to schedule private meetings with community covenant holders, the developer and owners in the near future.

"We don't have much time to lose," Storck said. "Feb. 14 is not the day. The day to get this done, to bring people together, really is the end of this year, the holidays."

"Once we have a consensus, a general agreement" he continued, "then we can get county staff involved. It will take a fair amount of time to bring this together."

BULLETIN BOARD

THROUGH NOV. 4

Food Drive. At Sheehy Honda of Alexandria, 2434 Richmond Highway. Sheehy Auto Stores will collect canned goods and non-perishable food as part of the company's annual Fall Harvest Food Drive to benefit Feeding America.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 9

Planning and Zoning 101: An introduction to land use for citizens. 7 p.m. at the South County Government Center, Room 221 A-B,

8350 Richmond Hwy. Learn how neighborhoods are designed, streets laid out, and the shape of communities are driven by our planning and zoning. Free light supper provided, compliments of Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation.

THURSDAY/NOV. 10

The Circle of Caring Holiday Grief Program. 7-9 p.m. Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Hwy. Presentation by Katie Basinski, licensed clinical social worker. Free. Call 703-704-5285.



SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK WEEKEND & PARADE

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OPINION

Vote No Later than Tuesday, Nov. 8

Vote early (“absentee in person”) through Saturday, Nov. 5.

Who knows what will happen on Election Day? Voters can avoid the uncertainty of possible traffic gridlock, bad weather or other impediments by voting “absentee-in person.” If you work, you qualify to vote absentee because of the possibility you could be commuting and working for 11 hours on Election Day. There are many other reasons voters qualify to vote early in Virginia.

Voters can vote absentee-in person at Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, now through Friday Nov. 4, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Nov. 5 is the last day to absentee vote in-person.

Absentee voting is also available at 10 satellite locations, now through Friday, Nov. 4, 2-8 p.m. and Saturday Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Satellite voting locations:

- ❖ Providence Community Center - 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax
- ❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria
- ❖ McLean Governmental Center - 1437 Balls Hill Rd., Community Room, McLean
- ❖ North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Community Rooms, Reston

- ❖ West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield
- ❖ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale
- ❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria
- ❖ Sully Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly
- ❖ Lorton Library - 9520 Richmond Hwy., Lorton, Saturdays only.

VOTING ON THE QUESTIONS:

Here are our recommendations:

Vote YES for the MEALS TAX. Fairfax County needs to find alternatives to the real estate tax, and in Virginia, there are not many options allowed to localities. This is one of the few alternatives available, and it requires a referendum.

Vote YES for the three Fairfax County Bond Questions: Vote YES for Transportation; vote YES for Parks; Vote Yes for Human Services.

Vote NO on on Question One. This anti-union language is already Virginia law; it doesn’t belong in the Virginia Constitution.

For Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, or you face any other challenge to voting at your polling place, don’t panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. Ask for a provisional ballot if one is not immediately offered. You will then have until Monday, Nov. 14 to resolve

the issue and demonstrate your right to vote.

After completing the provisional ballot, you will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of your identification so that your vote can be counted.

EDITORIAL

A voter will have until noon on Monday, Nov. 14, following the election to deliver a copy of identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Monday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted.

Also by noon on Monday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a temporary identification document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

CORRECTION

Voters who do not present photo ID and vote by provisional ballot have until noon on Monday, Nov. 14 after the election to present their identification. Previous coverage reported that the cutoff was Friday.

— MARY KIMM
KIMM.MARY@GMAIL.COM

Bulova: Vote Yes

A legally binding commitment that 70 percent would go to the Fairfax County Public Schools.

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISOR

I was elected chairman in 2009, just as the Great Recession settled over this country like a stubborn storm cloud. The market value of property in Fairfax County plummeted, resulting in historic reductions in both residential and commercial tax revenues. At the same time, more people than ever turned to the county for assistance.

Former County Executive Tony Griffin’s prediction, in the throes of the Recession years, that “this will be our new normal” has proven prescient.

Recovery from the recession has been sluggish, exacerbated by the effects of sequestration and cut-backs in our commercial sector’s bread and butter, federal contracting. To maintain fiscal equilibrium;

real estate tax rates were raised, hundreds of millions of dollars were eliminated from the budget, salaries were frozen and reductions-in-force require our workforce to do more with less. County cost-cutting measures that were accepted as necessary when the Recession first materialized eventually have caused some “fraying around the edges,” per The Washington Post, (April 2, 2016). I am providing this backdrop to lend some context to our board’s decision to put the question of a meals tax to the voters.

In Virginia, towns and cities are allowed a greater array of revenue tools, including the right to adopt a meals tax. Most cities and towns within and around us have a meals tax: Alexandria, Arlington, Herndon, Vienna, Falls Church, Fairfax City, Leesburg, and Manassas. Counties on the other hand must rely primarily (almost

SEE BULOVA, PAGE 20

Davis: Reject the Tax

“A closer look at school spending shows that the intentions of the School Board are to delve into more political correctness and social engineering.”

BY TOM DAVIS
FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

On Nov. 8, Fairfax County voters have an opportunity to cast a powerful vote for themselves, and for better government by voting “no” on the proposed Meals Tax. A “no” vote will send a message to the

county Board of Supervisors that higher taxes should not be routine, and that county leaders must focus on better management, and more importantly, the School Board, more efficiency, and greater respect for taxpayers.

The ballot language for the meals tax referendum was carefully worded to avoid guarantees

for how the money will be spent, while pro-tax forces want voters to believe it will be used for teacher pay raises and property tax relief.

In fact, there are no guarantees for this at all. To remedy this glaring political error, a public relations campaign has been launched, partially at taxpayer expense, by teacher unions and some on the county board, to try to convince voters that the board’s intentions are to use the new revenue for teacher pay hikes even though no such requirement exists.

Voters shouldn’t buy the argument, and they shouldn’t approve the new tax.

A closer look at school spend
SEE DAVIS, PAGE 20

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LETTERS

Silence Over Plane Noise

To the Editor:

It is amazing that 25 years of community input on the air traffic noise coming out of DCA was destroyed with the flick of a switch by the FAA and its NextGen System. I am not prone to write letters such as this, but I was recently sitting on my back patio at 11:26 p.m. trying to enjoy the last of an early fall evening. Every 5 minutes, the quiet was shattered by planes taking off. The noise meter on my phone was reading almost 100 decibels with each passing. This is at 11:26 p.m. — almost midnight! Then, this morning, the planes started taking off at 5 a.m. Around 6:15 a.m., it occurred every 3-4 minutes. It is as if someone built an airplane super highway right through our neighborhood, and it has been this way for over a year and a half.

There are only a handful of Mount Vernon politicians (Kudos to Mr. Storck and Mr. Krizek) that have made an attempt to get this issue to the forefront of the discussion with the FAA and the Board of Supervisors. Apparently, because of the status of DCA, it seems that Congressman Beyer is the only one in our district with authority over the FAA to help change the situation. However, he has done little except call a community meeting this summer at Reagan National Airport (which he did not attend) to check the box with his constituency. Staff mem-

bers from the FAA who attended this meeting basically shrugged off the questions and concerns from community representatives regarding the unrelenting overhead noise south of the airport. When asked what could be done about changing the patterns back to less noise intensity, officials said, "It would require months of study." There were more useless responses when asked what happened to the distributed flight approach that existed for many years prior to NextGen. No answers or solutions were offered.

Other attendees asked about the 10-mile turn limit that is in place for northbound air traffic. "How is it that the low altitude, south bound traffic is allowed to carry the deafening noise over residential areas turning only five miles south of the airport, while northbound traffic requires 10 miles?" I am curious if it might have something to do with housing values and constituencies in that direction. Perhaps Mr Beyer might be able to answer that question, but he is, again, silent.

During this community meeting and in hopes of better understanding his perspective and plans, I decided to sign up for Mr. Beyer's email communication. Interestingly, as I sit here writing this letter another email comes in from the congressman. Just a sampling of his newsletters show our man in Washington discussing melons in the Great Barrier Reef, climate refugees in the Gulf, the global covenant of Mayors, a congres-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

sional dispute with ExxonMobil, gun suicide, government agencies adhering to EPA policy, a Kiribati weightlifter in the Olympics doing a playful environmental dance — and let's not forget the 30,000-year-old virus laying in wait in Siberia that is going to kill us all. When will Congressman Beyer begin to talk about issues related to his own district? Perhaps with the multitude of environmental emails, he trying to assuage his guilt for having sold thousands of carbon emitting vehicles out his automobile dealerships? If the environment is his concern, what about the concentrated noise pollution over our heads?

At least in his July 28 missive, Mr. Beyer opines once on aviation — but only in regard to jet CO2 emissions destroying the earth. This is the closest he has come to any discussion of the impact of these planes over his own constituency. To describe it in environmental terms for the congressman, it is noise pollution plain and simple. To the point: if the Federal Highway Administration were going to build an interstate through the Mount Vernon District, you can be certain there would be environmental impact studies, noise

analyses, public hearings, etc. etc. The FAA's own charts show a bright yellow air traffic line cutting right thru this district south of the airport. The main chart indicates repetitive flights going over the same path at low altitude and high volume where, prior to the current NexGen system, those same flights were dispersed over a broader area allowing more altitude and thus reducing noise.

How was the FAA unilaterally allowed to change the pattern that so many communities had developed with hard work over years and years in conjunction with elected officials and airport authorities? No studies, no hearings. I have lived in this area for over 20 years, and I understand there will be occasional aircraft noise. However, what has changed in the last year and a half has been unconscionable by any standard. Where is our congressman and where are our other elected officials who can actually make an impact on our behalf? Silent.

This newspaper recently published an edition noting priorities for the Mount Vernon area. There was not one mention of this noise pollution as a quality of life issue. There is an article in this newspa

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12



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OPINION

Support County Bonds

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)



Everybody knows about the Presidential election on the ballot. In previous weeks I have also written about the Meals Tax and the "right-to-work" constitutional amendment that will hurt the middle class.

There are also three bond issues on the ballot on Nov. 8 totaling \$312 million to address the county's infrastructure needs in transportation, parks and their facilities, and human services and community development.

The transportation referendum question asks if the county may issue up to \$120 million in bonds to fund the county's share of Metro's Capital Improvement Program and road improvements.

The parks referendum question asks if the county may issue up to \$107 million in bonds for additional parks and park facilities, preservation of open space and the improvement of existing parks owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority and by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

The human services and community development referendum question asks if the county may issue up to \$85 million in bonds for human services facilities and community development facilities across the County.

Fairfax County's bond program is designed to avoid increasing tax rates. As a result of strict adherence to sound fiscal management policies and their consistent implementation, Fairfax County has a great reputation for responsible financial management. Indeed, Fairfax County has held an AAA bond rating, the highest possible bond rating for a local government, since 1978.

Bonds are an important feature of the county's ability to provide the capital infrastructure for existing services and programs already in the budget and being paid for

by taxpayer dollars. They also allow the county to finance projects with money up front and complete deliverables sooner.

To finance a major capital project without a bond would require the county to raise taxes.

Bonds allow the county to align the cost of what the infrastructure project is needed for with the value across generations.

Most importantly, it is key that voters understand the purpose of the referendum. The approval of these bond referendums is the authorization, by the voters, for the county to issue debts although the county does not automatically issue it. The county operates under the same financial advice most of us operate by as well: do not take out more debts unless necessary. Many constituents have proposed the idea of buying out old buildings and renovating existing infrastructure rather than building new in order to save costs. That is always an option the county looks at and has been utilized in the past.

One of the beneficiaries of the human services bond would be a new Lorton Community Center which would house the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) and Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) programs, the Lorton Senior Center and age level offerings for kids and teens.

Currently, the Lorton Senior Center is over capacity in the rented space they have at Gunston Plaza. And the LCAC has been providing summer lunch programs to neighborhood children for the last three years. The new space would allow them to meet the basic (pantry, emergency rent/utility) needs of the 220-plus families they see every week, and provide ESL, financial management and other adult educational opportunities to better families' lives. The additional space would allow LCAC and NCS to partner to meet the increasing needs in this portion of South County.

I urge you to vote for these important bond issues.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

per almost every week about the automobile traffic on Route 1, but not the drumbeat for change for the deafening super highway of airplane traffic overhead.

Lacking the support of our elected officials who are in a real position to change the situation,

local community groups recently found out that there is an online log for noise complaints at DCA <https://complaints.bksv.com/dca>. You can also call the tower directly at 703-413-0341. Additionally, should you wish to sign it, there is an online petition at <http://>

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 20

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ENTERTAINMENT

The Italian Place Brings Taste of Europe to Old Town

New shop has been labor of love for owner Adriana Penachio-Sifakis.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

When it comes to international cuisine, Old Town is no slouch. Mexican, Thai, and sushi, just to name a few, find themselves well-represented within the community. But unlike some cities in the Northeast, where bodegas and international markets dot the landscape block by city block, the realm of Italian markets has been sorely lacking in Alexandria — until now.

Enter The Italian Place, a labor of love launched by Adriana Penachio-Sifakis and her family. Opened on Sept. 8, the cozy market at 621 Wythe St. has already developed a following, welcoming visitors in daily with freshly made breakfast and lunch offerings — and a plethora of take-home supplies for dinner.

“My husband and I travel to New York City a lot,” Penachio-Sifakis says. “... Every time we go, we go to Eataly — it’s Mario Batali’s establishment — and we’re just fascinated by what he’s done. So we figured we’d bring that to Old Town — a little taste



The shelves at The Italian Place are lined with international goodies perfect for a festive dinner.

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED

of it — and being Italian-American myself, growing up in Boston, you see this everywhere. In the Northern Virginia area, there’s not enough. So I felt like this community needed it, and it’s been wonderful because they love it.”

In a world that tries to be all things to all people, The Italian Place has found its niche — and its customer base.

“We’re a small gourmet market. We introduce new products every day; we have everything from fresh-filled cannoli with Sicilian sheep’s-milk cream flown in from Italy to bomboloni, which is an Italian-style donut filled with cream that we ship in from Milan,” Penachio-Sifakis said. “We warm it up in the morning with hot Illy coffee and

they’re delicious.”

About 50 percent of the market’s visitors are now repeat customers, Penachio-Sifakis says.

“The happiness, the joy, that this place has brought to the community has been the best part of opening The Italian Place,” she said. “People come in and they’re happy; people come in and they like the fresh bread — we have our bread baked fresh every morning by the Gold Crust Baking Company.”

But The Italian Place isn’t just for morning and noontime. On Fridays, Penachio-Sifakis and her team aim to kick the weekend off in style.

“We have a wine room. The wine room

Details

The Italian Place, 612 Wythe St.

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

Try This: The meatballs, says Adriana Penachio-Sifakis. “They’re just delicious. They’re all-beef, they have no pork filling, so they’re a real tasty meatball with a very sweet marinara sauce. ... That’s what we make our meatball subs with and now we’re packaging them to go for dinner, and we can’t package them fast enough. People came in at 8 o’clock this morning and were asking for meatballs.”

has a variety of Italian wines, a couple of Greek wines because my husband is Greek,” she said. “... Every Friday from 5 to 7 we have free wine tastings, and all are welcome for that. ... It gets people in the mood for a great weekend.”

Beyond serving the community, what Penachio-Sifakis is proudest of is how her market came to fruition in the first place — and what it’s teaching her three children, ages 12, 9, and 6.

“What makes me the most proud is showing my three children that I can work really hard and that I can balance it all as a working mom,” she said. “... I think I’m teaching them a really good lesson that you can do almost anything if you put your heart and soul into it. And I have put my heart and soul into (the market) and they see that.”

Hope Nelson owns and operates the *Kitchen Recessionista* blog, located at 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

“Transformations: Tapestries in Glass.” Through Nov. 6, gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. Anita Bucsay Damron’s vibrant mosaics draw from many sources, both traditional and contemporary. Inspired by tapestries from Rajasthan and Gujarat, India, her pieces incorporate crystal from Austria and the Czech Republic, specialty glass from Murano, Italy, and found objects such as beads, brooches, and cameos. Damron notes that “new applications of mosaic art encourage recycling and reuse,” and her creative reuse of materials is what gives this ancient art form its exciting new sparkle. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: “Salute to Secondary Colors.” Through Nov. 6, gallery hours at 105 N. Union St. The secondary colors orange, green, and purple are the theme for this show. Artists were challenged to use these hues individually, paired, or in a triadic color scheme. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.
“Oh The Joy.” Through Nov. 6, Gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 S. Prince St. Artists from across the

region were asked to interpret the theme, “Oh! The joy!” The selected entries represent the wealth of art being created in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Little Theatre of Alexandria: “A Party to Murder.” Through Nov. 12, various times at 600 Wolfe St. It’s Halloween and six people have come to play a murder-mystery game hosted by writer Charles Prince at a rustic island cottage in Michigan. This play is a fast-paced farce, so what could go wrong? As the characters embark on a weekend of fun, ghosts from the past begin to haunt the proceedings, and it becomes clear that they are both playing for laughs and their lives. The Little Theatre of Alexandria audiences are treated to rising tensions, secret passageways, incriminating letters, unexpected corpses, and a 25-year-old unsolved mystery that will propel the audience to...well, we don’t want to give away the unexpected and terrifying conclusion. Tickets are \$19-22. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

John M. Adams: “Current Interrupted.” Through Nov. 13, gallery hours at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.thefullempy.com for more.

Matthew Grimes: “(In)Material” and “Pliant.” Through Nov. 14, gallery hours at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts

Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter for more.

Young at Art Exhibition. Through Nov. 17, gallery hours at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Calling all senior artists. This annual event is cosponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and Goodwin House Foundation. The Call for Art is Oct. 4, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$20 fee to submit up to three works of art. Visit www.seniorservicesalex.org or call Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, ext. 111 or Jeanne Jacobs at 703-824-1345.

Art Exhibit: “Serenity in Chaos.” Through Nov. 20, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The theme of this show reflects the artist’s unique view of the photographic medium. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Post-Graduate Residency Program. Through Nov. 27, gallery hours at Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The Torpedo Factory Post-Graduate Master’s of Fine Arts Residency is a competitive program, housed in Studio 12, where four emerging artists create and sell work, interact with the public, and network with other working artists. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Thursday Mornings with Kathryn Coneway. Dec. 8, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. The themes in the book, “The Artist’s Rule,” will be a foundation to share experiences with

creative practice. Each session will begin with a quiet time and exploration of materials before transitioning to a discussion of the themes and practices outlined in the chapter. Participants should purchase a copy of “The Artist’s Rule” and read the introduction and first chapter prior to the first meeting. Registration is \$50. Visit www.staidanepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening for more.

Art Making as Meditation with Kathryn Coneway. Second Wednesday of each month, 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Each session begins with a short reading and a brief introduction to materials. Silence for making and meditation lasts an hour followed by sharing images or insights gained through the process, if desired. Children able to participate in silence are welcome to come with a parent’s quiet supervision. RSVP not necessary for attendance, but helpful for planning purposes. Email info@centerforspiritualdeepening.org.

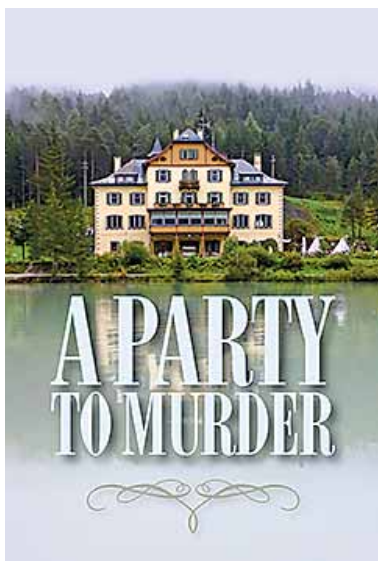
Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour. Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series “Mercy Street,” accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual 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 Goldsmith 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

ENTERTAINMENT



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SHOW DATES:
Oct. 22 - Nov. 12, 2016



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hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

“Ancient Art of Movement.” 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

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

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffé & 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.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Dishing up Wares for a Holiday Harvest Spread through Nov. 30 at 105 N. Union St., ground floor Studio 19. Artists riff on an abundance of raw material, creatively cooking up a table fully dressed for the holidays from the centerpiece down to the dishes. For more information, call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit scopegallery.org, or

Veterans Day Events

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

Veterans Day Share-A-Haircut. 9 a.m., at Hair Cuttery, 6758 Richmond Hwy. For every haircut purchased at one of Hair Cuttery's nearly 900 salons, one free haircut certificate will be donated to a veteran locally. For more information, contact Emily Noto at enoto@tbc.us or 410-986-1137.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum tours in Honor of Veterans. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents – including George Washington – and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history. In 1929, American Legion Post #24 purchased the buildings that now make up Gadsby's Tavern Museum and restored them with help from other community organizations as a memorial to honor the soldiers who lost their lives in World War I. The Post continues to meet at the tavern. For more information, call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

A Dawn Like Thunder: Africa, Black America, and World War II. 11 a.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Historian CR Gibbs discusses the often neglected role African people played in WWII and the impact it had. For more information, call 703-746-4356.

SATURDAY/NOV. 12

Civil War Tours at Fort Ward in honor of Veteran's Day. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Soldier-led tours of historic Fort Ward in commemoration of Veteran's Day. Event is weather-dependent. For more information, call Fort Ward Museum at 703-746-4848 or visit fortward.org.

Veteran's Ball at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. English Country dances, live music, cash bar, and period-inspired desserts will be featured and a special recognition of all veterans. Although 1780s period costume (military or civilian) is optional, “after five” attire is encouraged. For more information, visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope
National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit. Through November at The National Inventors Hall of Fame-USPTO campus, 600 Dulany St. The exhibit features the stories of Inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame who served their country during World War II and returned home to help build the nation with their innovations. Free. Visit www.inventnow.org.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 p.m. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the

parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com for more.

Baseball Boat to Nationals Park. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. The Potomac Riverboat Company offers baseball enthusiasts the chance to avoid the crowds and take a leisurely cruise from Old Town Alexandria to Nationals Park along the scenic Potomac River. Admission: one-way \$20; round-trip \$25 Monday-Thursday; round-trip \$28 Friday-Sunday. Visit www.baseballboat.com.





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ENTERTAINMENT

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.thelittletheatre.com for more.

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.

THURSDAY/NOV. 3

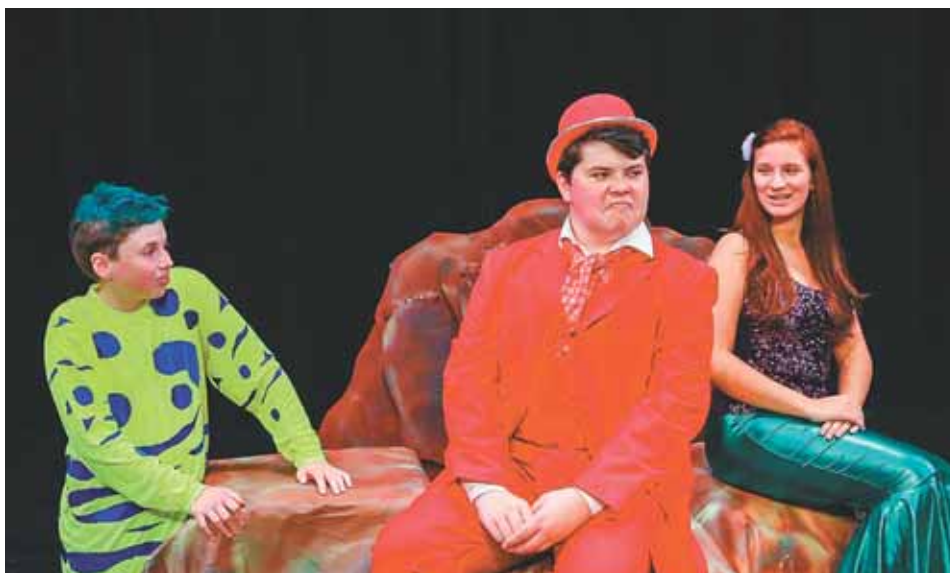
Del Ray Aglow. 6-8 p.m. at Ease Yoga & Cafe, 3051 Mount Vernon Ave. This annual Del Ray event pays homage to a German tradition of Martinmas or St. Martin day celebration, bringing light and warmth into the night as we move towards the darkest days of the year. Stroll the streets of Del Ray with lanterns and end for a treat of cider and cookies. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com for more.

Veterans Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. In preparation for the Veterans Ball on Nov. 12, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are priced per person at \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. For more information, call 703-746-4242.

FRIDAY/NOV. 4

Art on Tap. 7-10 p.m. at The Art League Gallery – Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Craft beers from local breweries have been paired with a work of art from an Art League instructor. Local restaurants have chosen a brew/artwork coupling to serve as their muse to create the perfect complementary appetizer. Sample the creative combinations while drinking from a take-home Art on Tap beer tasting glass, and then vote for your favorite at the end of the event. Tickets are \$35 until Oct. 21; \$45 after. Visit www.TheArtLeague.org.

The Good Woman of Setzuan. 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts



'The Little Mermaid'

Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre's Aidan White as Sebastian, Nicole Jones as Ariel and Stuart Conrad as Flounder

PHOTO BY
LAURA MARSHALL

Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. The play is set in a far, distant land focusing on Shen Te, a poor but warmhearted prostitute who is accused of murder. Due to subject matter, this show is recommended for an eighth grade audience and older. Tickets are \$5. See www.sssas.org/arts or call 703-212-2950.

Dances Around the World. 6-10 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron Street. Learn all about and partake in international forms of dance and music. Advance per person reservations: \$5 residents; \$10 nonresidents. At door: \$10 residents; \$15 nonresidents. For more information, contact Cheryl Anne Colton at 703-746-5565,

cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov, or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Arts.

NOV. 4-27

Art Exhibit: "H2O/Waterworks." Gallery hours at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. A visual exploration of humankind's relationship to water, or lack thereof, through 2D and 3D media. They express water's effect on us and our effect on water, for enjoyment, health, political, ecological and environmental outcomes. Free. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Fires." Gallery hours at Convergence Gallery, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. the Convergence Arts Initiative presents: 'Various Small Fires,' a site-specific installation and exhibit by Isabel Cureux. Various Small Fires explores how each small event in our lives creates who we are. Mental illness, divorce, "biraciality," and religion will be presented in innovative ways to garner a feeling of solidarity with others who have experienced these things, and present a new way to understand them for those who have not. Free to attend. Visit www.ourconvergence.org.

NOV. 4-DEC. 17

Convergence: "Various Small

NOV. 4-DEC. 18

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ENTERTAINMENT

Modernity.” Gallery hours at The Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Elements of motherhood and the good and bad of being a parent can be found in the ceramic pieces Jessica Gardner created for the exhibit “Raising: Motherhood in Modernity.” Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

NOV. 4-19

School of Rock. West Potomac Theater, 6500 Quander Rd., presented by the Beyond the Page Theatre Company (BTPTC) at West Potomac High School. Show times vary: Nov. 4, 7 p.m.; Nov. 5, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Nov. 11 - 5 p.m.; Nov. 12 - 7 p.m.; Nov. 18 - 7 p.m.; Nov. 19 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. For more information, contact Peelee Clark at WestPoTheatre@gmail.com or 703-718-2585.

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

Horses & Hounds. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. At this exciting event, watch a simulated fox hunt demonstration on the estate of the Father of the American foxhound. Observe a cavalry demonstration on the 12-acre field before meeting the breeds that Washington loved so much. Learn about the role these animals played in the American Revolution and even meet Nelson, a horse similar to Washington’s beloved warhorse. Close the day by watching The Washington Cup, where horses and riders compete in series of judged skill competitions. Included in general admission. Tickets are \$9-20, with a discount for buying online. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Presidential, Political & Historical Auction. 10 a.m. at The Potomack Company, 1120 N. Fairfax St. Potomack Company tradition returns as the Virginia auction house marks the 2016 Presidential Election with the sale of antiques, documents and decorative art from two John F. Kennedy family residences along with a rare autograph collection of 31 presidential signatures. Free to attend. Visit www.potomackcompany.com.

Tour of Friendship Firehouse. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 South Alfred St. Guided tour of Friendship’s firehouse and learn about the company’s firefighting procedures and equipment, as well as the different roles the organization played in serving the community. Best for ages 10 and up. Tickets are priced at \$5 for adults; \$4 for ages 10-17; reservations are required, as space is limited. For more information, call 703-746-4994 (weekdays); 703.746.3891 (weekends).

Behind the Scenes Tour of Carlyle House. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 North Fairfax St. A Guided tour of the Carlyle House that highlights the architectural history of the only stone mansion in Alexandria. Tickets for the general public are \$10, reservations and prepayment are required in advance. For further information visit www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997.

Arts for Autism. 6-10:30 p.m. at Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square. The Autism Society of Northern Virginia is hosting a night of cocktails, dinner, a fashion show, and both a silent and live auction. Tickets are \$175. Visit www.crowdrise.com/artsforautism for more.

Burning Bridget Cleary. 7 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Burning Bridget

Cleary is a Pennsylvania-based Celtic and folk band known for their captivating sound and engaging stage presence. Joined by Nicole Belanus. Tickets are \$18, \$15 in advance and for Focus Music member. Visit www.focusmusic.org/concert-burning-bridget-cleary.

Collective Delusion. 8 p.m. at Casa Tequila Bar & Grill, 9020 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Local band plays rock songs from ’70s to present. Free. Visit www.CollectiveDelusion.net.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 5-6

Vivaldi: “Four Seasons.” 8 p.m. Saturday at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Fisher Art Gallery, 4915 E. Campus Drive; 3 p.m. Sunday at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Renowned conductor Kathleen Kelly and the ASO celebrate the falling of the leaves with Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons.” Master coach for the Washington National Opera’s Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, Maestra Kelly will take us through each musical season with these brilliant concerti. The ASO welcomes back celebrated violinist Elizabeth Pitcairn for the “Four Seasons.” Tickets are \$5-80. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/.

SUNDAY/NOV. 6

Christmas Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Historic Christ Church of Alexandria, 121 N. Columbus St. Holiday merchandise, jewelry, food items, Christmas cards, scarves, pashminas and more. Free. Call 703-836-5258.

Behind the Scenes Tour: “The Architecture of Carlyle House.” 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Have you ever wondered why Carlyle House is built of stone and not brick? Or why it is the only house in Alexandria that is set back from the street? Or what changes subsequent owners made to the house after John Carlyle’s death? Take a specialized tour highlighting the architectural history of the only stone mansion in Alexandria. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.nvrpa.org for more.

Paint What You Love. 3:30-6:30 p.m. at Monet Gogh Sip, 1101 Queen St. Monet Gogh Sip partners with Gifted Custom Art to for a custom paint-by-number experience. Transform your favorite memory into a masterpiece. Event benefits the Boys & Girls Club. Every registered painter for our Gifted Giving event pays for a child at our local Boys & Girls Club to have a Gifted painting experience, too. Tickets are \$65. Visit www.monetgoghship.net.

Friends of Historic Huntley Annual Meeting and Lecture. 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Explore how people communicated when living a rural lifestyle in this area, prior to social media and technology.

MONDAY/NOV. 7

Friends of Historic Huntley Annual Meeting and Lecture. 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. What was life like along the Route 1 Corridor before the advent of developments? Find out during this unique and fascinating lecture on the historic community of Groveton.

NOV. 8-JAN. 8

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery: “Geometry Glitz.” Gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. 2016. In this show, our artists have the sparkle and shine of the holidays for inspiration, with an additional focus on geometry. Explorations may focus on points,

lines, and other flat shapes, such as circles and triangles, or 3-dimensional shapes, such as spheres and cubes. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

Bagels and Bach Concert Series Returns. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Enjoy classical music from Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association’s Youth Orchestras while eating a light brunch. Advance registration: resident \$10/Nonresident \$15. Children under 5 years old are free. For more information, contact Cheryl Ann Colton at 703-746-5565 or e-mail cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 9

Planning and Zoning 101. 7 p.m. at the South County Government Center, Room 221 A-B 8350 Richmond Hwy. Learn about how planning and zoning impacts the design of neighborhoods, streets, and the shape of surrounding communities. The event is free and a light supper provided by the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 9-13

Fall Book Sale. 7-8:45 p.m. Wednesday (for members only), 10 a.m.-6:45 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Sunday at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Friends of Duncan Library is hosting is bi-annual book sale, the proceeds of which go to support Library programming and materials. Free. Visit friendsofduncanlibrary.org.

WEDNESDAY-MONDAY/NOV. 9-14

Alexandria Marina Welcomes Tall Ship “El Galeón.” 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at City Marina, 0 Cameron St. Tours are available and tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12, and free for children under age 5. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/el-galeon.

NOV. 9-DEC. 4

“Sound of Butterfly” Art Exhibit. 3-4:30 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 21, 105 N. Union St. Photographer and multimedia artist Soomin Ham explores grief through the “Sound of Butterfly.” See www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 10-13

Alexandria Film Festival. AMC Hoffman Center 22, 206 Swamp Fox Road and Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. The 10th annual Alexandria Film Festival brings together short and feature length films of all genres from emerging and established, local and international filmmakers. All ticketed events will be held at the AMC Hoffman Theater 22, with Beatley Central Library offering free programs to the public. Visit www.alexandriafilm.org for more.

THURSDAY/NOV. 10

Veterans Ball Dance Class. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. In preparation for the Veterans Ball on Nov. 12, learn 18th-century English country dancing from expert dance instructors. Tickets are priced per person at \$12 per class or \$30 for the series. For more information, call 703-746-4242.

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ENTERTAINMENT

NOV. 10-JAN. 8

Katie Baines and Amy Chan:

“Color Disorder.” Gallery hours at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Both artists use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. The richly layered surfaces conjure the formal elements of color, shape, and line, while also taking cues from bizarre real life objects such as coral, bolts of lightning or diatoms. Baines and Chan share an interest in color palettes that evoke meaning and the use of meticulous brushstrokes to convey control in an otherwise uncertain process. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

Browne Academy Open House. 9 a.m., at Browne Academy, 5917 Telegraph Road, Call 703-960-3000, ext. 1001 to register or to schedule a private tour.

A Dawn Like Thunder: Africa, Black America, and World War II. 11 a.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Historian CR Gibbs discusses the often neglected role African people played in WWII and the impact it had. For more information, call 703-746-4356.

Mount Vernon Inn Fall Farm. 7-10 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join the Mount Vernon Inn for a special dinner featuring products cultivated and produced on the estate. Mount Vernon Inn invites guests to taste the season's freshest ingredients with a dash of history during its popular culinary event, Farm to Table. Guests will enjoy a flavorful five-course dinner, with wine pairings at the Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant. The dinner features produce and herbs cultivated on the estate, as well as estate-raised heritage breed livestock. Tickets are \$175 per person. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School presents The Good Woman of Setzuan. 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. The play is set in a far, distant land focusing on Shen Te, is a poor but warmhearted prostitute who is accused of murder. Due to subject matter, this show is recommended for an eighth grade audience and older. Tickets are \$5, for more information, go to www.sssas.org/arts or 703-212-2950

Gadsby's Tavern Museum tours in Honor of Veterans. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St. Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and Washington. For more tour information, call 703.746.4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 11-13

Comedian Paula Poundstone. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Paula Poundstone's quick-thinking, unscripted approach to comedy makes for a perfect fit as a regular panelist on NPR's #1 show, the weekly news quiz show “Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me” where she holds the record for game losses. Tickets are \$49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 11-12

The Little Mermaid. 7:30 p.m., at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre presents Disney's The Little Mermaid.

‘The Good Woman of Setzuan’

Sasha Koch '17 (left) as Shen Te and Christian Corpening '18 as Yang Sun in rehearsal of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School's production of “The Good Woman of Setzuan.” Performance is Friday , Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$5. See www.sssas.org/arts or call 703-212-2950.

\$12 admission, for more information contact Pam Peckar at 703-360-0686 or email admin@mvcct.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 12

Beyond the Battlefield Walking

Tour. 10 a.m. starting at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Discover the real-life stories and locations of soldiers, citizens, and former slaves that inspired the PBS drama “Mercy Street” in this walking tour of Old Town. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

Civil War Tours at Fort Ward in honor of Veteran's Day. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Soldier-led tours of historic Fort Ward in commemoration of Veteran's Day. Event is weather-dependent. For more information, call Fort Ward Museum at 703-746-4848 or visit fortward.org.

Veteran's Ball at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. 8-11 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. English Country dances, live music, cash bar, and period-inspired desserts will be featured and a special recognition of all veterans. Although 1780s period costume (military or civilian) is optional, “after five” attire is encouraged. For more information, visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School presents The Good Woman of Setzuan. 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road. The play is set in a far, distant land focusing on Shen Te, is a poor but warmhearted prostitute who is accused of murder. Due to subject matter, this show is recommended for an eighth grade audience and older. Tickets are \$5, for more information, go to www.sssas.org/arts or 703-212-2950

Making Herbal Holiday and Hostess Gifts. 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn to use dried herbs to make gifts. Learn how to make herbal soaps in a crockpot too. Free. Advance registration requested at mgmv.org. Questions, telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgaralex@gmail.com.

Oral History Project. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Bring your family heirloom and stories for a history “show-and-tell” co-sponsored by the Alexandria Library and Office of Historic

Alexandria. Oral historians will be on hand to document the objects and stories as part of the City's oral history archive. Participants should arrive a few minutes early to complete consent forms. All are welcome to come and enjoy local history through the perspective of fellow residents. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org.

Empty Bowls Alexandria. 6 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Northern Virginia Community College's Fine Arts Department at the Alexandria Campus has partnered with the local organization ALIVE! (ALexandrians InVolved Ecumenically) and will donate handcrafted, one-of-a-kind bowls for the Second Annual Empty Bowls Alexandria. Attendees and donors will enjoy a simple meal and receive handmade bowls made by NOVA students as gifts. Tickets for this event start at \$30 per person. Visit www.alive-inc.org for more.

SUNDAY/NOV. 13

Women of Civil War Alexandria

Walking Tour. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Learn more about women's roles during the Civil War in Alexandria. Alexandria was in a unique position during the Civil War. It was a city with Southern sympathies continuously occupied by the Union Army and virtually operating as a Northern supply depot due to its proximity to Washington, D.C., and its transportation infrastructure. The women who remained in Alexandria and those who came during occupation experienced the War not as a battle but a day-to-day way of life. This tour will explore the stories of a diverse group of women and their experiences living in Civil War Alexandria. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.nwhm.org/get-involved/events/walking-tours.

The Little Mermaid. 3 p.m., at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre presents Disney's The Little Mermaid. \$12 admission, for more information contact Pam Peckar at 703-360-0686 or email admin@mvcct.org.

Capitol Steps Benefit. 5 p.m. at U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. United Community Ministries hosts a 25th annual Capitol Steps Benefit. Tickets are \$80 and include food, wine, beer, and soda. Visit www.ucmagency.org.

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- Springfield Connection
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- Mount Vernon Gazette
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ENTERTAINMENT

MONDAY/NOV. 14

Holiday Container Gardening. 7-8:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Learn some tips and tricks for keeping greenery fresh and for selecting plants for winter long interest in containers. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org, 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com, or to ABC at 703-746-4550 or AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/NOV. 15

Homeschool Program: The Apothecary and the Civil War. 1-2:30 p.m. at Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. What was the Apothecary's role during the Civil War? What did it sell? How did it stay in business? Learn this and more as visitors delve into the Civil War and medicine through the lens of the Apothecary. Tickets are \$8 per child, adults free. Pre-registration is required. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 16

How to Bring Nature Home. 7:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. "Hometown Habitat, Stories of Bringing Nature Home," is an 8-part, 90-minute documentary by Catherine Zimmerman that explores how we can restore and incorporate nature into every landscape and redefine our relationship with nature, a practice some call conservation landscaping. Free. Visit themedadowproject.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 17

Preschool Scholarship Gala. 7-10 p.m. at Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square. The inaugural Chairman's Hopkins House Preschool Scholarship Gala is an event to raise critical funds to provide preschool scholarships to deserving low-resourced, working and military families. Tickets are \$250. Visit www.hopkinshouse.org for more.

Simply Three. 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets are \$25. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com for more.

Living Legends of Alexandria Host Beaujolais Nouveau Party. 7 p.m. at 901 Pitt St. The event features a wine tasting, holiday shopping, music, food and an opportunity to view the 2016 Living Legends Exhibit and meet Living Legends. Tickets are available for purchase at llawine.eventbrite.com. Proceeds from the event will support Living Legends of Alexandria and the Family Legends Project. To volunteer, become a sponsor or nominate a future Legend, visit www.AlexandriaLegends.org or email AlexandriaLegends@outlook.com

Historic Pohick Church Christmas Mart. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Pohick Episcopal Church is located at 9301 Richmond Hwy. Visit www.pohick.org or call 703-339-6572.

FRIDAY/NOV. 18

Various Small Fires artist reception. 7-9 p.m. Torpedo Factory, at 105 N. Union St. Convergence Arts Initiative is working with the Torpedo Factory to highlight Isabel Cureux's "Various Small Fires," an artwork exhibit that explores how each small event in our life creates who we are.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 18-19

The Little Mermaid. 7:30 p.m., at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Mount Vernon

Community Children's Theatre presents Disney's The Little Mermaid. \$12 admission, for more information contact Pam Peckar at 703.360.0686 or email admin@mvccct.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 19

Family Volunteer Day 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Address and directions will be sent by e-mail after you signing up. To sign up your family, please choose the 'Sign up as a team' option and list all of your family members with their ages. For more information, go to Volunteer Alexandria <http://www.VolunteerAlexandria.org>.

Cider Tasting Festival. 7-9:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. The cider tasting highlights Celebrate Virginia Cider Week, Nov. 11-20. All week participating restaurants and retail stores to taste and purchase Virginia Cider. A passport can be picked up at the Alexandria Visitor Center, The Lyceum, and participating businesses. For list of participating sites and details about the passport and contest, visit alexandriava.gov/Historic.

Country-Western Dance. 7-9:30 p.m. at the Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. The dance is sponsored by The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. For more information go to www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941.

Community Holiday Shop. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mt Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane in Mt. Vernon. A local tradition that includes 50 artisans, orchids, chutneys, cakes, and pies, upscale resale, handmade quilt raffle, and a homemade lunch shop. For more information, go to mvuc.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 20

Carpenter's Run for Shelter. 8 a.m. at USPTO Building, 600 Dulany St. Run for Shelter, featuring a 5K, 10K and Fun Run is a great way to get your entire family involved and giving back to the community this fall. Race to end homelessness.

The Little Mermaid. 3 p.m., at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre presents Disney's The Little Mermaid. \$12 admission, for more information contact Pam Peckar at 703-360-0686 or email admin@mvccct.org.

James Madison at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, 134 N. Royal St. John Douglas Hall takes on the persona of James Madison in appearance, in content, and syntax. Check-in is at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. For more information, visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 24

Turkey Trot. 9 a.m. at George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Ave. A Thanksgiving morning tradition, this fast, flat, USATF-certified 5-mile course through the heart of Del Ray. Registration is \$5-25. Visit www.alexandriaturkeytrot.com.

SATURDAY/NOV. 26

Collective Delusion. 8 p.m. at Alley Cat, 2 S. Whiting St. Local band plays rock songs from '70s to present. Free. Visit www.CollectiveDelusion.net.

MONDAY/NOV. 28

Veterans in Alexandria: Talent Ready to Serve, Ready to Work, and Ready to Grow. 6:30 p.m. at

The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave. Members \$32 (nonmembers \$37); after November 25 members \$37 (nonmembers \$42)]. Program only at 7:15 free to members; \$5 for nonmembers. Reservations required. Call Sherry Brown at 703-548-7089 or email agendaalexandria@aol.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 1

Steep Canyon Rangers Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere 3701 Mt Vernon Ave. The Bluegrass sounds of The Rangers can be heard as the play songs off their new album *RADIO*, produced by the legendary Dobro virtuoso Jerry Douglas of Alison Krauss and Union Station.

FRIDAY/DEC. 2

Metropolitan School of the Arts features the Nutcracker. 7 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Cultural Center at the Annandale Campus at 8333 Little River Turnpike. Tickets are \$26.50-\$30 and can be purchased online at www.metropolitanarts.org.

DEC. 1-17

"Adventures With Mr. Bear." Various times at The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. One cozy winter afternoon, a young girl and her favorite stuffed animal, Mr. Bear, play a game of hide and seek which evolves into a series of exciting adventures. Together, they embark on a journey of endless possibilities – all from the comfort of her playroom. Tickets are \$9. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 2-3

46th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend. a full lineup of festivities that celebrate the Scottish heritage of Old Town Alexandria including Scottish Christmas Walk Parade, Heather and Greens Sales, Taste of Scotland, Holiday Home Tours and Deck the Halls with Santa. For parade application and ticket sales, visit campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend

Premiere of New Ballet to "Daphnis and Chloe" 3-5 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center 4915 E Campus Dr. BalletNova Associate Artistic Director Constance Walsh presents a premiere of her new work choreographed to Daphnis and Chloe. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online or at the door.

SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Metropolitan School of the Arts features the Nutcracker. 10 a.m., 2 and 6 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Cultural Center at the Annandale Campus at 8333 Little River Tpke. Tickets are \$26.50-\$30 and can be purchased online at www.metropolitanarts.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 4

Bagels and Bach Concert Series Returns. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Enjoy classical music from Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association's Trombone Trio while eating a light brunch. Advance registration: resident \$10/ Nonresident \$15. Children under 5 years old are free. For more information, contact Cheryl Ann Colton at 703.746.5565 or e-mail cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov

Messiah Sing-Along. 4 p.m. at Fairlington United Methodist Church 3900 King St. Cost is \$9 for a Messiah score, or bring your own music. Email Louise Wilson louise@fairlingtonumc.org, or call 703-671-4057

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Managing Holiday Weight Gain

Advanced planning is key to keeping off pounds.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Holiday weight gain between Halloween and New Year's Eve is not only common, a new study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found the issue to be global. Researchers tracked the weight of nearly 3,000 people in the United States, Germany and Japan, and found that every single person studied gained weight during the period of time from October to January.

"Some people ... just give up on [weight management] during the holiday season. With Halloween candy, Thanksgiving and then Christmas, I think some people say, 'I'm just going to deal with it in the New Year,'" said Domenica M. Rubino, M.D., of the Washington Center for Weight Management and Research in Arlington. "It's easy to get derailed that way.

"Some people ... just give up on [weight management] during the holiday season. ... Some people say, 'I'm just going to deal with it in the New Year.' It's easy to get derailed that way."

— Domenica M. Rubino, M.D.

It's better to say, 'How am I going to manage it?'

What different ways can I celebrate?"

In fact, Rubino advises patients to consider starting a weight-management program before the holiday season. "It gives them a little extra structure during the holidays," she said.

There are a few, simple ways to combat those holiday pounds today. "From a nutrition perspective, start thinking about it now," said Dietician Lauren Trocchio. "Know that you'll be at a party or a dinner and there will be a lot of food accessible to you and have a plan."

Avoid arriving at a party on an empty stomach. "Keep up with a routine so you're not too hungry," said Psychotherapist Raquel Willerman. You will have a better chance of making a wise food choice if you're not starving."

Also, be aware of what food traditions may be most important or memorable. "For some people, it doesn't feel like it's the holidays if we don't have sweet potatoes with marshmallows on top or mashed potatoes with gravy, even if those food choices are a detriment to their health," said Rubino.

Therefore, watching alcohol consumption



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Develop a plan now to combat holiday weight gain.

and practicing portion control rather than forgoing tempting foods altogether are among Trocchio's recommendations.

"If you're going to have holiday cocktails, your inhibitions might be lower, so you can try limiting your cocktails and alternating them with seltzer," said Trocchio. "Rather than substituting fat free versions of food that you want, practice portion control."

Caring for one's emotional well-being can mitigate the risk of over eating as well. "Know ahead of time that a lot of things will be overwhelming," said Willerman. "There will be an increased number of fam-

ily members in close proximity, there could be traveling, the amount of food, there are a lot of overwhelming things happening at once."

Such mindfulness practices can help people avoid emotional eating traps. "Going home can be stressful during the holidays," said Rubino. "It can be a trigger to use food to help calm and cope."

To manage feelings of anxiety or stress in such situations, Willerman recommends diaphragmatic breathing — also known as belly breathing or deep breathing. "Take 10 breaths and push your stomach out like a balloon," she said. "It forces a kind of relaxation response to help you not feel overwhelmed. When people get overwhelmed, you become more of an emotional thinker and it's more difficult to think through and activate the plan."

In addition to a dietary plan, an exercise plan is critical, too. "Ask yourself, 'What am I going to do when the weather gets colder?'" said Rubino. "Planning is most important going into the season. You need winter transition exercises."

Among the activities that Rubino recommends is walking at an indoor location like a museum or shopping mall. "It is harder when it gets colder and darker, but the idea is to get people moving in a way that builds it into their day-to-day life, like taking the stairs," she said. "It should be a sustainable change like brushing your teeth, so that it feels really weird if you don't do it."

"You can get the whole family involved with an activity like dancing with a Wii. You can start some kind of tradition with an activity that gets people outside."

Staying Healthy and Safe During the Holidays

Health officials offer safety reminders in advance of the holiday season.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Late fall ushers in the holiday season and with that comes cooking and baking and parties and shopping — and the accompanying stress, worry and frustration.

"Whether you are serving up eggnog or making a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, the most important ingredient for any holiday meal is food safety."

— Cassandra Mitchell, environmental health supervisor, Fairfax County Health Department

There's pitfalls everywhere, from imbibing too much at parties to cross contaminating foods or leaving a dish out too long, making for a very unmerry holiday.

"Whether you are serving up eggnog or making a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, the most important ingredient for any holiday meal is food safety," said Cassandra Mitchell, environmental health supervisor, Fairfax County Health Department.

Mitchell points to a statistic from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which estimates that each year, nearly 48 million people get sick from a foodborne illness. "Make sure your guests are not among them," she said.

To help ensure a healthy meal, Mitchell advises frequent hand washing and thorough utensil washing to avoid spreading harmful bacteria. Use separate cutting boards when preparing raw meat, poultry and vegetables.

"Use a food thermometer to ensure



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When cleaning kitchen counters use dry paper towels instead if wet clothes and sponges which harbor bacteria.

meat and poultry reach the proper temperature," said Mitchell. "Keep the fridge at 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below to prevent harmful bacteria from growing."

Wash hands, utensils, sinks and anything else that has come in contact with raw poul-

try, added Kurt Larrick of the Arlington County Department of Human Services. When cleaning a kitchen counter, eschew wet cloths and sponges, which harbor bacteria, in favor of dry paper towels. Never defrost food at room temperature. Thaw it in the refrigerator, in cold water or in the microwave. Keep in mind that a stuffed bird takes longer to cook.

Whether hosting or attending an event that includes alcohol consumption, experts recommend partygoers be sensible about alcoholic drinks. More than half of all traffic fatalities are alcohol-related. Use designated drivers, people who do not drink, to drive other guests home after a holiday party.

"Don't drink and drive or let anyone else drink and drive [and] wear seatbelts," said Mary Anderson, spokeswoman for the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. "Eat healthy... stay active, manage stress [and] travel safely," to have a healthy and happy holiday season, said Anderson.

FROM PAGE 12
chn.ge/23575yB

In this election season, is it any wonder that voters are so upset with their representatives at all levels? If our local officials are silent for those whom they represent and our congressman can't get his priorities in order, why should we vote for these candidates when simple quality of life issues are not a priority for them in this district?

Chris Fulghum
Villamay

An Appetite For Spending

To the Editor:

When I was running for Fairfax County School Board last year in the Mount Vernon District, one of the main issues discussed during the campaign was the forecasted (at the time) \$100 million budget deficit for Fairfax County Public Schools. Public hearings were held and a plan on how to bridge the gap was proposed. In spite of many calling for a closer look at how money is being spent, the Board of Supervisors voted earlier this year to increase property taxes by 4 percent to help raise additional revenues for our schools. This averages about \$300 in increased taxes for each homeowner.

That additional revenue was apparently not enough, because now in the spirit of diversifying our revenues and funding our schools, the four percent meals tax is on the ballot on Nov. 8. According to state Sen. Scott Surovell's recent commentary, a four percent meals tax is equal to \$.04 of increased real estate taxes – or “the equivalent of \$200/year on a \$500,000 home.” Before voting on Nov. 8, consider the following:

❖ Go through your personal budget tonight and decide where you are going to cut \$500 to support these tax increases.

❖ The meals tax only diversifies county revenues by approximately 2.5 percent. Don't expect a reduction in your property taxes anytime soon because of the meals tax.

❖ Meals tax revenue designated for general county services (30 percent, or approximately \$30 million/year) will do little to renovate schools and remove trailers parked in their backyards, especially with a \$2 billion backlog in capital improvements. Voters should not be led on to believe this will happen through the general fund; it will happen through a bond issue for capital expenditures.

In addition, ask your elected officials the following questions:

❖ Will you commit to not asking for additional school funding for five years? If not, then you can take this to the bank — your property taxes will be raised again or the percentage of the meals tax will be increased to raise additional revenues within the next five years. Don't expect the meals tax, which will only equal approximately 2.5 percent of the county budget, to curb the appetite for additional revenues.

❖ Will you commit to doing a comprehensive assessment on how to reduce ex-

penditures and then implementing them before asking for more revenue? Many are not convinced that the Fairfax County government has committed itself to finding additional means for efficiency. Finding efficiencies of only 2 percent in the \$4.01 billion budget will free up an additional \$80 million.

❖ Will you commit to permanently keeping school funding at least \$70 million (70 percent of the annual revenues from the meals tax) above FY 2017 levels to ensure the meals tax is in addition to current school funding? I have seen time and again advocates supporting taxes, casinos, lotteries, etc. in the spirit of helping education. What eventually happens is the money is absorbed into the general fund and is not a permanent supplement to the education budget. The Washington Post said in its recent editorial about the meals tax that elected officials conceivably could supplant rather than supplement the additional school funding. This would betray its stated purpose and “the right response would be to vote those officials out of office.”

If the answer to any of these questions is no, then I urge you to vote against the meals tax.

I have two kids in FCPS and appreciate the excellent teachers and quality education they are receiving. But when are we going to take a hard look at how we are spending taxpayer dollars in Fairfax County? Diversifying \$200 million in increased taxes in one year is still a \$200 million tax increase. The current rate of tax increases, which far surpasses the rate of personal income increases, is not sustainable. Our public officials were elected to make courageous decisions during difficult times. It does not take much courage and ingenuity to raise taxes twice in one year to make ends meet.

Anthony Stacy
Alexandria

Bulova

FROM PAGE 8

80 percent of our budget) on real estate and property taxes to provide local services. Other revenues are capped or controlled by the state.

Counties in Virginia (which were rural farmland when early tax authorities were allocated) are only able to implement a meals tax following a successful voter referendum. This question will be put to Fairfax County voters on Nov. 8.

If the referendum is successful, and a 4 percent tax on restaurant meals and prepared foods is adopted, it would raise almost \$100 million, equivalent to over 4 cents on the Real Estate tax rate. The language on the ballot question becomes law and revenue from the meals tax must be used per the ballot language.

If authorized by the voters, the Board of Supervisors would hold a public hearing to adopt an ordinance defining specifics of the tax. Already we have made the legally binding commitment that 70 percent would go to the Fairfax County Public Schools. The School Board has committed that its share, estimated to be about \$70 million in new funding, would be used primarily to address

Davis

FROM PAGE 8

ing shows that the intentions of the School Board are to delve into more political correctness and social engineering. One example, is their recent release of an RFP to identify a community convener to “study” and bring about the name change of Jeb Stuart High School, despite the fact that the Stuart-area population and students oppose the change.

teachers' salaries, which have lagged behind those in neighboring jurisdictions. Fairfax County today is spending \$800 less per pupil than in 2008.

The remaining 30 percent would go toward other county needs, including public safety, parks, libraries, and mental health. The meals tax is intended to diversify and enhance county revenue — to supplement and not supplant — support for school and county services.

While our county continues to work hard to identify efficiencies and to stimulate our commercial tax base, we are also hoping to diversify the local revenue available to provide the quality services our residents value and rely upon — top notch schools, safe communities, and compassionate human services.

I am proud to lead Fairfax County, one of the best-managed, safest and well-educated jurisdictions in the country. Residents love Fairfax because of our great schools and because we are a safe and welcoming community. Maintaining that quality is a top priority for the Board of Supervisors and our partners on the School Board. It isn't, however, a simple or easy job given constraints under state law.

I hope you will vote “yes” on the meals tax referendum on Nov. 8.

There are a number of problems with a new tax on prepared foods and meals, but most troubling is the very regressive nature of this proposed new tax. The tax would be imposed on all meals at restaurants and carry-out, in addition to prepared food sold at convenience stores, food trucks, etc. — meals that are necessities, not luxuries, for many working men and women, and busy families. The new tax would also be levied on all ready-to-eat foods including a long list of items such as deli foods and grocery store rotisserie chickens.

While there are many other problems with the proposed tax, it's also troubling because it confirms an unhealthy focus by county leaders on higher taxes and more revenue as opposed to better management.

Earlier this year, county leaders passed a \$100 million increase in property taxes — also presumably to fund education. Now, they're back in front of voters asking for another \$100 million in the form of the Meals Tax.

Easy money makes for bad management. In 1992, as board chair, I supported a meals tax. The county budget was in terrible shape coming off a real estate depression that saw our commercial tax base collapse. Voters rejected the tax, we took the opportunity to reorganize our budget from top to bottom and two years later were named the Best Financially Managed County in America. The budget problems today are nothing of that magnitude. And with no guarantees as to how the money will be spent, plus the current School Board's spending proclivities. I am voting no.

It's important that voters reject this, join me in voting “no” on the Meals Tax.

Tom Davis is former U.S. representative and past chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.



PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

A Wolverine Win

After suffering a loss against rival T.C. Williams the previous Friday, West Potomac used a first half offensive outburst and a second half defense to topple ranked South County 24-21. West Potomac travels to Mount Vernon Friday for the battle of the highway. Game time is 7 p.m. Above, West Potomac Senior QB Jack McDaniels threw for one TD and ran for another TD.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

101 Computers

101 Computers

LEGAL NOTICE

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

RFP No. 00000615: Professional Engineering Services for the Design of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Master Plan

RFP Closing Date and Time: November 29, 2016, 4 p.m., prevailing local time

For general inquiries contact Darryl K. Jackson, CPPB, Contract Specialist III at 703.746.4298.

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

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources will hold a Public Information Hearing to discuss the proposed Woodlawn Cultural Landscape Historic District, Alexandria, VA. The public hearing is scheduled for Monday November 7, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. at South County Government Center, 8352 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to: Director Julie Langan, VA Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221. This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers.

This proposal will be presented to the State Review Board and the Historic Resources Board on December 15, 2016 in Richmond, VA. For a copy of the proposal and/or a boundary map, contact Aubrey VonLindern, 540-868-7029 or Aubrey.VonLindern@thr.virginia.gov.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-10-11

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for World Languages Assessments for Seal of Biliteracy.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-10-11 World Languages Assessments for Seal of Biliteracy will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, November 16, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8140, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site.

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

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

Francine Morris
Buyer

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 16-10-14

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors for the provision of Small Group Differentiated Reading Instruction Professional Development for Teachers of English Learners.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-10-14 Small Group Differentiated Reading Instruction Professional Development for Teachers of English Learners will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, November 9, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php>

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

Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 16-10-10

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for John Adams Elementary School Parking Lot Improvements at Alexandria City Public Schools.

Sealed Bids with the notation ITB # 16-10-10, John Adams Parking Lot Improvements will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Wednesday December 14, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services – Current Bids and Request for Proposals.

All questions must be submitted before 3:00 p.m., November 30, 2016. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held on November 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the address listed above.

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

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

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
Senior Buyer

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MORTON



JOHN I. MORTON, 92,
OF MOUNT VERNON

died Tuesday, August 9, 2016. Born February 18, 1924, in Roxboro, NC, he was the son of John Carlyle and Elma Kathryn (Long) Morton. Preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Rosa Rimmer, and by his son, Michael Lane Morton, he is survived by his daughter Rosemary Mitchell and her husband Larry of Rocky Mount NC and three grandchildren, Lindsey Mitchell Zapletal and husband Jeff of State College, PA, Alexandra Morton Mitchell of Charlotte, NC and Harrison McLain Mitchell of Rocky Mount, NC. John I is also survived by two great grandchildren and a sister, Kathryn Hopkins of Burlington, NC.

Morton attended elementary and high school in Roxboro. The first day of 1st grade his teacher realized that she had six Johns in the class. Each became John and middle initial. His nephews, to tease him, still called him "Uncle Irvin" at the Long family reunions that have been held December 26th for more than 80 years.

Stories marked all parts of his life, from being forced to wear knickers in grade school to one occasion when he and some friends went swimming in the Roxboro reservoir! The day was hot so, biking back from visiting a favorite principal in the next town, they decided to cool off. Caught by the game warden, their families were fined in the middle of the depression. Days at North Carolina State College were remembered in terms of barbershop quartet singing and purple Jesus (grape juice and everyone's alcohol contribution served from a tub).

Growing up on a farm, tobacco was always part of Morton's life. In 1942, he became an assistant factory manager for Reidsville Tobacco Company dealing with flue-cured and burley leaf tobacco. His career in public service began in 1948 with the Tobacco Inspection Service. The inspection service was part of the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Markets Service established in 1946. By 1958, he was supervisor of packing of all flue-cured tobacco acquired by the USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation.

Morton came to Washington in 1961 as Chief, Commodity Programs Branch, Tobacco Division in the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) USDA. Other ASCS posts included Director, Producer Associations Division; Deputy Director, Tobacco Division and Deputy Director, Emergency Preparedness. From August 1977 to his retirement in 1982, Morton was the Director, Producer Associations Division administering the tobacco and peanut and naval stores price support program for U.S. and Puerto Rico through 12 tobacco cooperatives, 3 peanut cooperatives and 1 naval store cooperative. As such he traveled the world.

Morton spoke with pride of the work done under Public Law 480 with Catholic Charities distributing surplus commodities where needed over the world and with humor as he described a night in jail (detention) in Cairo Egypt where his plane made an emergency

landing and he didn't have all the required immunizations. The bed became more narrow and the mattress thinner over the years.

The family moved to Anesbury Court, Alexandria, VA on August 20, 1961. Neighbors recall volleyball in the court. One family was responsible for the net, ball and court lines while Morton handled the hot-dogs and hamburgers. He also began his service at Aldersgate UMC and was President of the Board of Trustees while the current sanctuary was under construction. Well remembered was the meeting night the now iconic steeple was on the ground, the Church line-of credit was totally drawn down and a member of the congregation and his wife made the enabling contribution. Each Sunday found John I occupying the same seat in that sanctuary-row five, middle of the pew on the left hand side.

In retirement Morton continued to raise tobacco until the Tobacco Buyout in 2004.

Freed from the restrictions of the Hatch Act, Morton embraced his family roots as "yellow dog Democrats." His involvement in the local party began when he and Gerry Hyland met while Hyland was unloading a food truck at UCM. For more than 30 years, John I put up signs for Hyland and Toddy Puller; ran the hot dog stand at the annual Lobsterfest; and supervised the cooking of Brunswick stew for volunteer thank you gatherings.

He attended the Mount Vernon ice cream socials and the annual Shad Planking in Wakefield VA. A vivid memory of his was of President Obama speaking at the 2008 Jefferson Jackson Day dinner in Richmond. One could hear a pin drop in the crowded room. Most recently he advised the campaign of an old friend who was running for office in Vermont.

In his later years walking replaced bike riding. He enjoyed Dyke Marsh and Huntley Meadows Park. For more than 15 years, breakfast was at Roy Rogers. As things come full circle, one of the regulars had, as a young man, helped build the stone front of Aldersgate Church. It was there and from his regular seat at Hollin Hall's Village Hardware store that the problems of the world were solved.

Vegetable gardening became his agricultural hobby. In the best farmer's coop style, one neighbor produced the cucumbers; another, the green peppers; and John I, the tomatoes.

Computers, coming into use when John I retired, invoked a mixed reaction. That the grandchildren could 'type' and enlarge the font so he could read their letters without his glasses was good, but a casino without the clink of quarters was no fun. After grasping the idea of "cyber store", he would call a friend who would order from Amazon and things would come to his door. This did not replace the pleasure of going to COSTCO.

On his 90th birthday, his daughter gave him a "virtual" birthday party. Over 200 friends and family sent cards and letters. The postman opened the door and sang 'happy birthday'. He was reminded of his method of telling Northern Virginia from 'real' Virginia—if Hardee's served ham biscuits for breakfast, one was in 'real' Virginia! Another letter thanked him for five years of fresh flowers. John I had advised her suitor never to visit without them. He was best man at their wedding.

In December of 2015, John I renewed his passport in preparation for the time there would be a ferry to Cuba. Once there he planned to tour their tobacco fields, some of the few in the world he had not seen.

A private service was held on October 29 at Aldersgate Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Aldersgate Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria, VA 22308.

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To the Editor:

In last week's Gazette, local politicians Supervisor Dan Storck, School Board Member Karen Corbett Sanders and state Sen. Scott Surovell explained why they support the Meals Tax Referendum that is on next week's election ballot. I take no issue with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) putting a meals tax referendum on the ballot for voters to decide. I do take strong issue, however, with the dishonest way by which its political proponents have promoted it. I do not use the word "dishonest" lightly but in this case it is inescapable.

In the Storck-Sanders joint statement, they say, definitively, that revenue generated from the resulting meals tax would be used to "make teacher salaries more competitive and decrease class sizes ...". The truth is there is no assurance this would be the case. The reason why is quite simple but not revealed by these politicians: enactment of the meals tax provides no guarantee that additional revenue will flow to our school system from the BOS nor does it guarantee increases in teacher salaries or reduction in class sizes. The BOS decides how much money it will send to the school system. Last year, the number was \$1.7 billion. Enactment of the meals tax only means that the BOS will be legally obligated to appropriate 70 percent of the revenue generated from the meals tax to the school system. The \$70 million estimate is only about 4 percent of last year's \$1.7 billion allocation to the school system. The BOS is free to reduce the allocation from resources other than those derived from the meals tax by the same amount generated by the meals tax so that the school board still receives \$1.7 billion and the BOS has \$70 million to spend elsewhere. Money is indeed fungible. Additionally, the school board decides how to spend money it receives. There is no guarantee the school board will increase teacher salaries or reduce class sizes. If the BOS does not increase their allocation, they are unlikely to do so.

Senator Surovell makes similar arguments to those of Storck and Sanders. Of the three politicians, he is the one who can go to Richmond to advocate for an increase in the 23 percent of the tax revenue, sent to Richmond from County taxpayers from income taxes, sales taxes and real estate transfer taxes, that is returned to Fairfax County. A 3 percent increase (to 26 percent) would cover all revenue estimated to be generated by the meals tax without requiring an additional tax.

The dishonesty employed by our local politicians in an effort to pull the Referendum over the finish line is counterproductive in the long term because whether or not the Referendum is approved, voters and non-voting residents will have concluded that our local politicians do not honestly deal with their constituents concerning issues of importance. Dishonest politicians should not be rewarded with a victory. Irrespective of the alleged merit of a meals tax, voters should vote "no" to send a message that their elected representatives must deal with them honestly and with integrity.

H. Jay Spiegel/Mount Vernon

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-Abraham Lincoln

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Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and
complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON
MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.
TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
VARIABLE DISCOUNT
\$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99
\$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99
\$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99
\$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 Or more
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**BUY 3 TIRES
AND GET THE 4TH FOR**
\$1
SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.
GOT TIRES?
INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY,
AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BRAKE SPECIAL
\$99⁹⁵
INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads,
inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition
and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.
MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.
DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. NOT
VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST
BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND
SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**30,000 MILES FACTORY
RECOMMENDED
SERVICE**
\$159⁹⁵
Synthetic \$10 More
INCLUDES: Change engine oil & filter (up to
5 qts.), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure,
measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace
cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter,
reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and
multi-point vehicle inspection.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

GENUINE TOYOTA
SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES
\$10 OFF
Sight Line only.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE
PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS
CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**15% OFF
ANY ACCESSORIES**
• Apparel • Window visors • I-pad adaptors •
• All weather floor mats • Toyota bedliners •
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**10% OFF
OVER THE COUNTER PARTS**
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/16.
BATTERY SPECIAL
\$129⁹⁵
INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION
Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement,
24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated,
PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.
Does not apply to hybrid batteries.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER
EXPIRES 11/30/16.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT 703-684-0710 OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM



CHRIS WHITE

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



3808 Washington
Woods Dr.
\$1,249,000
Absolute Perfection

Prestigious
"Wycliffe
on the
Potomac"



Best of both worlds. Stately colonial exterior combined with stunning bright open floor plan. Enhanced by over \$400,000 in recent expansion and upgrades including: Kitchen, 3.5 Baths, HVAC system and cedar shake roof. Other features include: Three beautifully finished levels, 4 fireplaces, and three car garage. Custom "Trex" deck overlooks magnificently landscaped grounds.



Mount Vernon
Park II
Great Location!



4401, 4403, 4405 Mt.
Vernon Memorial Hwy

3 New Homes in Mount Vernon from \$899k!

Wakefield Home's popular Custis, Radford and Stockton models at exceptionally attractive prices! These models typically sell for well over \$1,000,000. Numerous fabulous features include: large room sizes, open floor plan, high ceilings, chef's kitchen, custom trim detail and two car garage. Pre-construction allows for maximum customization! Limited time offer-free finished basement rec-room.



8717 Plymouth Rd.
\$1,399,000
Time to add your
personalized touches!

Best new
home price
in Fort
Hunt's
"Plymouth
Haven"



New Nelson II model on half acre lot in Plymouth Haven. 3525 square feet on two main levels plus fully finished basement and 2 or 3 car garage. Open floor plan, high ceilings, upgrades throughout. Finished recreation room & bathroom in Basement. Pre-construction contract offers maximum opportunity to customize! \$10,000 towards closing costs! (Using approved lender)



8400 Riverside Rd.
\$795,000

Stunning renovation!
Spacious 3 level Colonial with 4 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths & 2 car garage. Totally renovated with truly amazing

results! Virtually all major components are brand new. Includes: Roof, siding, windows, flooring, chef's kitchen, luxurious baths, trim detail, & interior decorating. Large deck & private level lot. Walk to Stratford E.S. & Sandburg M.S. If you've been dreaming of a new home in Ft. Hunt without the \$1,000,000 price tag, this is it!



9314 Craig Ave.
\$635,000
Pristine Condition!

Truly exquisite property! Spacious 5 Bedroom home on gorgeous, fenced level lot in premier location. Numerous features include: Bright open floor plan, Hardwood floors, gas cooking/heat/hot water, thermal windows, and garage. Large deck overlooks spacious grounds. Property is in pristine "move in" condition!



4220 Scotland Rd.
\$598,500
Unusual Opportunity

Spacious 3 level Five Bedroom Colonial at remarkably reasonable price!

Features include: Large room sizes, Hardwood Floors, Five Bedrooms, Including Master Suite with private bath and sitting room. Prime location on large corner lot in the heart of Mt. Vernon. A ton of potential!



9433 Forest Haven Dr.
\$745,000
New Orleans
Style Appeal!

Unique New Orleans Colonial on gorgeous large lot in prime location near Potomac River. Features include:

Updated custom kitchen, 3 finished levels, 4 BR's including spacious Master suite w/ balcony, 3 full baths, recently installed Andersen windows, oversize 2 car garage, expansive rear deck overlooks magnificent grounds which includes detached studio/office. Walk to nearby MV Yacht Club



5428 Grist Mill
Woods Way
Great Space for the
Money!

Stunning 5,686 sq. ft. Colonial featuring dramatic open floor plan, large room sizes, soaring high ceilings, and modern amenities typically found in \$1 Mil+ properties. Features include: 3 Fin levels, walk out lower level, 5BR's, 4.5BA's, Chef's kitchen, upgraded trim, hardwood floors, & 2 car garage. Custom deck and brick patio capitalize on gorgeous fenced grounds backing to park. Amazing Value!



9300 Old Mt. Vernon
\$1,289,000
One of Mt. Vernon's
most majestic
properties.

One of area's most admired homes! Truly exceptional estate on approximately one acre grounds in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Superlatives include: Three luxuriously finished levels, 7 Br's, 5.5 baths, stunning main level master suite, stately room sizes, elegant finishes + oversize garage. Vacation at home- custom salt water pool and hot tub!



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028

www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com

Alexandria/Old Town Historic - 400 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

