

Mount Vernon Gazette

Inside



MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

NOVEMBER 24, 2016

Community Tribute for Police, Fire, and EMTs

Honoring Mount Vernon, Franconia and Fort Belvoir public safety personnel.

Officers from the Mount Vernon and Franconia Police Stations — along with first responders from the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department and their counterparts on Fort Belvoir — were recognized at the 9th Annual Police & Fire Fighters Tribute on Friday, Nov. 18, at the Hilton Springfield Hotel.

Media personality Jonathan Elias, WJLA/ABC7, entertained the guests as he presented awards to 23 local public safety personnel.

“Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce is proud to host this community celebration and recognize the service rendered

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 6



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Outstanding personnel from Mount Vernon and Franconia Police Stations, local Fire Stations, and Fort Belvoir Public Safety were recognized at the annual Police & Fire Fighters Tribute hosted by Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce.



Joint Fairfax County Services Color Guard.



Major Christian Quinn, Lt. Justin Palenscar, Franconia Police Station; Captain Michael Ginnan, Franconia Police Station; and Captain Shawn Martin, Mount Vernon Police Station.



Jonathan Elias, WJLA / ABC 7 entertained the audience while presenting awards.



Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Anna Morgan, Franconia Volunteer Fire Station.



Centerpieces were provided by Sunflower Florist.

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Search for New Superintendent Begins

Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) has been contracted by Fairfax County Public Schools to search for a new school system superintendent.

Dr. Karen Garza announced on Sept. 19 she would be leaving that role to become president and CEO of the Columbus-based education organization Battelle for Kids. Dr. Steven Lockard will take over as interim when her resignation takes effect Dec. 19.

The contract award is for \$47,500 plus approved expenses.

"HYA brings extensive experience to this work and will play a crucial role in assisting the board in hiring the best possible superintendent," School Board chair Sandy Evans said in a statement. "FCPS has embarked on a path to identify a leader that will ensure that our students are provided a world class education in Fairfax County."

Evans also said they welcome and need feedback from parents, employees and community members.

"We will work with HYA to develop a plan that will allow our community to engage in this important process either in person or online," Evans said.

Mount Vernon District representative Karen Corbett Sanders chaired the committee that selected the superintendent search firm.

"HYA was selected because of its successful track record in placing superintendents in large school districts and national reach," Corbett Sanders said in a statement.

Board members who also sat on the selection committee included Pat Hynes of Hunter Mill, at-large member Jeanette Hough, Braddock representative Megan McLaughlin, Dalia Palchik of Providence, Elizabeth Schultz of Springfield and Janie Strauss of Dranesville District.

The public should expect future input opportunities, as well as school board work sessions discussing the search over the next several months.

FCPS Testing Water Quality

Drinking water at 40 public schools in Fairfax County has been tested for safety, a release from FCPS said.

"Even though water quality reports, knowledge of our buildings and water distribution systems, and previous monitoring efforts all suggest that lead is not an issue for our school system," the statement said, "FCPS has initiated a sampling program to ensure the drinking water is safe."

Federal and state guidelines are being followed in the sampling program, which an independent firm contracted by FCPS is conducting. All remaining schools are expected to have been tested by June 2017.

— TIM PETERSON

Teacher Publishes Counting Book

Welcome to "My Class" at Key Center.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

If Barney, the big purple dinosaur, motivates one of his students to learn to count, Ka'ala Rapoza won't stand in the way. But Rapoza, 37, also recognizes the need to balance age-appropriate teaching tools with the skill being learned. At the Key Center school for students labeled "intellectually disabled severe" in Fairfax County Public Schools, he can have teenagers up to 20- and 21-year-olds still working on mastering counting.

Making educational materials "age-appropriate has been a big push in this field today," said Rapoza, a Springfield resident who's worked at Key for 14 years. "How do you create interest in the skill" across a broad spectrum of ages. This was a question he sought to answer in writing his own educational book: "Over on the Football Field."

Rapoza teaches a class he designs himself, that focuses on topics inherent to the students. He calls it "My Class," so the students take ownership and each also call it "My Class" themselves.

He sees every class in the building of about 100 students once a week for an hour to 90 minutes. A recent lesson centered around Thanksgiving. They discussed not only the origin and history of the holiday, but also what it looks like to celebrate from the unique perspective of the students, the changes at home for which they need to prepare.

Another part of the lesson included having the students write thank you notes using a computer program that helped them choose words, pictures and phrases to build complete thoughts.

Rapoza's book is meant to appeal to a variety of ages and provide several levels of challenges for these students.

Each page spread includes a similar repetitive rhyme structure that introduces a different football scenario, a number and an object to count, with illustrations by



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Making educational materials "age-appropriate has been a big push in this field today," said Ka'ala Rapoza, who's worked at the Key Center school for students with severe intellectual disabilities for 14 years.

"I thought of sports, they appeal to a 5 year old and a 90 year old. And I thought of football, it's certainly got the nation's attention."

— Ka'ala Rapoza, teacher at Key Center

Rapoza's father Richard.

"It's a vehicle for emphasizing counting skills," Rapoza said, while more skilled students can also use the book to practice reading. "I thought of sports, they appeal to a 5 year old and a 90 year old. And I thought of football, it's certainly got the nation's attention."

Rapoza self-published the book and had copies printed by Illinois-based company Print Ninja. He expects to receive copies on hand in early December, with the intention of doing a combination of selling and donating them.

"I just wanted to get it out there," he said. "We'll see what the reaction is," he said.

For more information, Ka'ala Rapoza can



Ka'ala Rapoza inside Key Center

be contacted at Rapozawriting@gmail.com.

The Key Center school is located on Franconia Road in Springfield, attached to Key Middle School. The Kilmer Center in Vienna serves students with severe intellectual disabilities in the other half of Fairfax County.

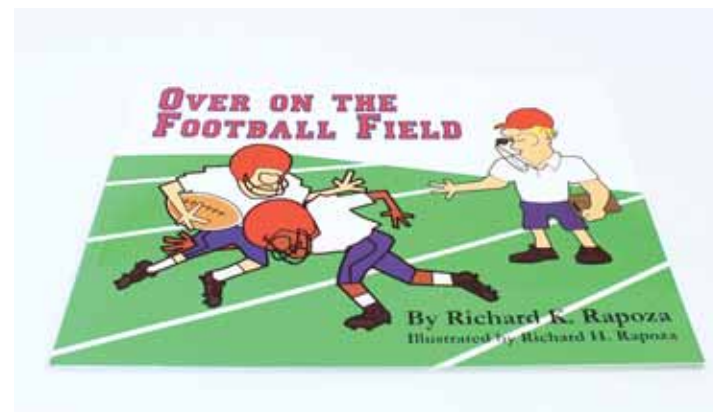


IMAGE COURTESY OF KA'ALA RAPOZA

"How do you create interest in the skill" across a broad spectrum of ages. This was a question Ka'ala Rapoza sought to answer in writing his own educational book: "Over on the Football Field."



Each page spread includes a similar repetitive rhyme structure that introduces a different football scenario, a number and an object to count, with illustrations by Rapoza's father Richard.



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NEWS

Police Submit Shooting Report

Commonwealth's Attorney reviewing report on deputy-involved shooting.

Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh said he has received the completed criminal investigation from Fairfax County Police into the Aug. 15 fatal shooting of Yovani Amaya Gomez, 29, by Fairfax County Sheriff's Deputy MDS Patrick McPartlin outside Inova Fairfax Hospital.

Gomez had initially been taken to the hospital for treatment of either heat-related issues or a mental health crisis, or some combination, police have reported. Inova Fairfax declined to comment on Gomez' treatment or conditions, citing the HIPAA Privacy Rule. He was released the same day and escorted to a bus stop, where he later reportedly began threatening people with a signpost.

Police said Gomez attacked a security guard with the post. Deputy McPartlin responded to a call for backup. When Gomez allegedly advanced on the deputy with the signpost raised, he didn't heed orders from McPartlin to stop. The deputy shot him, and he didn't recover from the wounding.

Official cause and manner of Gomez's death have yet to be released. The results of the autopsy are included in Morrogh's bundle from FCPD.

Morrogh said he received the FCPD report Thursday, Nov. 17 and has already begun reviewing the files. It could take up to 60 days to render a decision

on whether there is any criminal liability, he said.

"The length of time it will take depends upon what is contained in the file and whether or not we need to do further investigation or consult experts, etc," Morrogh said in an email. "I give these cases priority and try to provide answers as soon as possible without rushing to a judgment."

Lt. Maegan Timothy, a representative for the Sheriff's Office, said their own administrative investigation of the shooting will begin once the criminal investigation is concluded. They consider that to be when Morrogh announces his determination.

— TIM PETERSON

Pedestrian Dies

Officers responded to the report of a pedestrian that was struck near the intersection of Richmond Highway and Belfield Road on Saturday, Nov. 12, shortly after 7:30 p.m. Officers located the scene and summoned detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit. The initial investigation determined that a 69-year-old male pedestrian was attempting to cross Richmond Highway, not within a crosswalk, when he was struck by a 2015 Hyundai Sonata traveling northbound. The 35-year-old, female driver of the vehicle remained on the scene and was subsequently transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The pedestrian, Eugene Michael Kotlarchuk, of Forest Hills, N.Y., was pronounced dead at the scene.

Alcohol is not considered a factor in this crash. The investigation is ongoing.



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News



Anna Schalk, center, enjoyed speaking with two fellow Montebello residents, Mitch Levy, left, and Regina Ryder, at a reception celebrating Schalk's portraits of friends.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL K. BOHN

Mitch Levy, in the flesh and on canvas, lives with his wife at Montebello.

Capturing Complexity in Paint

The Montebello condominium community on Route 1 is hosting an art show that opened Nov. 19 and runs through Jan. 5.

The exhibit features a series of oil portraits called "The Good Fellas" by Montebello resident Anna Young Schalk. And her fellow residents will recognize the subjects — they are all male Montebello residents.

"They are my friends," Schalk said. "Selecting each person was a bit arbitrary. As I talked to each person in a social environment my instincts took over and I asked if they wanted to sit for a portrait."

"With each man I wanted to capture the complexity of the person," Schalk said. "Women sometime try to simplify a man's personality and emotions."

Schalk said she wanted to mimic ancient paintings on masonry. So she applied a cement slurry to either canvas or a board and painted with oils on

that surface. Also, she painted mostly from photos she took of her subjects.

The Montebello hosted a reception on Nov. 19, and residents and guests filled the community's café and bar. The crowd included several of the subjects. Mitch Levy, one of Schalk's friends, posed for a photo beside his portrait. "When she asked, I said yes and was honored to do so," Levy said at the reception.

Schalk is a retired pediatric occupational therapist and has studied painting throughout her life. She particularly values the instruction she received at the University of Georgia, Rochester Tech, College of Charleston and the Corcoran School of Art in Washington. Her website displays a range of her paintings: <http://annaschalkstudio.com/>

Nonresidents wishing to see the Montebello exhibition should call the community's office, 703-960-0410.

— MICHAEL K. BOHN



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Alex/Sequoyah \$162,500
3879 El Camino Place
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Thank you to the hundreds of caring community members who joined us on Nov. 13. You helped raise more than \$77,500 to give families a fighting chance to create a better future for themselves.

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Commission Delays Vote on Farm Alcohol Zoning Amendment

Comments may be sent prior to planning's Nov. 30 meeting.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

The Fairfax County Planning Commission has deferred action on a zoning ordinance amendment that would affect the establishment and expansion of farm breweries, distilleries and wineries in the county.

The commissioners were scheduled to vote on the amendment Wednesday night, Nov. 16 at their regular meeting. Instead, more action will be taken on Nov. 30.

"I have to say, candidly, I was very apprehensive about tonight," said James Hart, at-large commissioner and secretary for the Planning Commission, "not just because we had seven cases scheduled and this too — but, I think, I was pleasantly surprised at the quality of the comments that

"... I was pleasantly surprised at the quality of the comments that we got and I think we have some issues still to think about and material to digest."

— James Hart, At-large Commissioner, Planning Commission



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Some residents in areas where a farm alcohol business already exists, such as Paradise Springs Winery in Clifton, have expressed concern that the initial farm brewery legislation, 2016 update and proposed ordinance don't do enough to prevent traffic and noise from overwhelming communities that aren't set up to support something like that.

we got and I think we have some issues still to think about and material to digest."

The amendment is in response to 2016 Virginia General Assembly legislation from Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) and state Sen. George Barker (D-39) that places some regulations on farm alcohol businesses.

Under that new legislation, the Fairfax County staff report on the amendment says, "a new farm winery/brewery/distillery may not be granted a license from the Virginia

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board) for operation on any land zoned as a residential conservation district if the application for such license was submitted after July 1, 2016."

In addition, "any existing farm winery/brewery/distillery already approved in a residential conservation district and any proposed farm winery/brewery/distillery in a residential conservation district with a pending application for licensure by the

ABC Board prior to July 1, 2016 (and such license is ultimately approved) shall require special exception approval for any new or expanded building, structure or the uses thereof."

The amendment in question would establish the special exception process for brewery, distillery or winery uses when the business is located in the R-C District, and for certain events and activities at like establishments located in Rural-Agricultural (R-A), Residential Preservation (R-P), Residential-Estate (R-E) and Residential District, One Dwelling Unit/Acre (R-1) Districts.

Some residents in areas where a business already exists, such as Paradise Springs Winery in Clifton, have expressed concern that the initial farm brewery legislation, 2016 update and proposed ordinance don't do enough to prevent traffic and noise from overwhelming communities that aren't set up to support such a business.

"I want to thank all the folks who came out tonight or submitted written comments and emails," Hart said Nov. 16, "and we still have some work to do on this."

The item was scheduled for a Board of Supervisors public hearing Dec. 6 at 4:30 p.m.

Though there won't be an additional public hearing before the Planning Commission, the record will remain open for written and electronic comment prior to the Nov. 30 meeting.

The staff report on the proposed zoning ordinance amendment is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoningordinance/proposed/farmwineries.pdf.

Letters can be addressed to: Planning Commission Office, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 330, Fairfax Virginia 22035-0042. Emails can be sent to plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Community Tribute Honors for Police, Fire, and EMTs

FROM PAGE 1

by our police, firefighters, and first responders," said Scott Stroh III, chamber vice president and executive director of Gunston Hall.

"They keep our community safe and provide a great service to individual, families, and businesses," Stroh said.

Award recipients from the Mount Vernon Police Station were Supervisor of the Year, Sergeant Michael Wheeler; Detective of the Year, Jonathan Hartle; Police Officer of the Year, PFC Thomas Duffy; Meritorious Service Award, MPO Robert Urps; and Auxiliary Police Officer Carol Might.

Award recipients from the Franconia Police Station were Supervisor of the Year, 2nd Lt. Timothy M. Forrest; Auxiliary Police Officer of the Year, Richard R. Majauskas; Meritorious Service Award, 2nd Lt. Patrick J. Ronan; Police Officer of the Year, PFC Daniel A. Houtz; and Detective of The Year, MPO Richard R. Henry.

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

recognized Volunteer Firefighter Anna Morgan; Company Officer of the Year, Captain Leroy "Sam" Butler; Meritorious Service Award, James "Jimmy" Low; EMT / Firefighter of the Year, Michael Guck; and Firefighter of the Year, Technician James "Brodie" McKendree. Butler also received a plaque for 30 years of service with Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

Lt. Col. Christopher Tomlinson, Battalion Commander at Fort Belvoir, represented the Installation in recognizing outstanding personnel. Those recognized from the Fort Belvoir Police Department were Security Guard of the Year Veronica Jones; Traffic Officer of the Year Blas Conrad Robert; Patrol Officer of the Year Christopher Metcalf; Detective of the Year Lisa C. Caicedo; and Supervisor of the Year Ronald L. Horne II.

The Fort Belvoir Fire Department presented awards to Firefighter of the Year Phillip Neith; Firefighter Medic Mike Estes; and Company Commander of the Year Stephen A. McDoniel.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Entertainment was provided by the Center for American Military Music Opportunity, C*A*M*M*O.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is seeking volunteers to participate in a free, non-profit program, offered in conjunction with the IRS, that provides tax filing assistance to people of low- and middle-income, with special attention paid to those aged 60-plus. Training will be available in December and January to help taxpayers Feb. 1-April 18, 2017. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Sponsors Needed. Britepaths Family Sponsoring, Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread) is seeking community members to sponsor families in need who live throughout the Fairfax County area. Sponsors are matched with an individual or family with demonstrated need, and may opt to provide a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal, and/or gifts for children under 18. Cash donations and gift cards are welcome to assist those who are not sponsored. Britepaths is expecting to have 3,000 households on its assistance list. A great family, company or group holiday service project. Register and learn more at <http://britepaths.org>. Contact 703-273-8829 or hpassist@britepaths.org.

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Art Making as Meditation. 7-8:30 p.m. St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Art making as

meditation can be an active form of contemplative practice. 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. Call 703-360-4220, email info@centerforspiritualdeepening.org or visit www.staidansepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening.

TUESDAY/NOV. 29

Embark Richmond Highway community meeting. 7-9 p.m. at Whitman Middle School, Auditorium, 2500 Parkers Lane, a multi-year effort involving land use and transportation planning, design and construction activities that will result in a bus rapid transit (BRT) system. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/embarkrichmondhwy/>

SATURDAY/DEC. 3

School Open House. 2-4 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. School serves pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Call 703-329-6968 to RSVP or schedule a personal tour. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 7

Facing the Empty Chair. 7:30-9 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Carey Gauzens, LCSW, from the Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia will facilitate an opportunity to share feelings, thoughts, and coping strategies for

dealing with grief and the holidays. 703-360-4220 or www.staidansepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening

SATURDAY/DEC. 10

Supervisor Dan Storck holds open office hours at the Lorton Library (9-11:30 a.m.) and at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center office (12:30-3 p.m.) on the second Saturday of each month (except August). Call 703-780-7518 for a 15-20 minute appointment, which could result in a longer subsequent meeting during the work week, if needed. He may meet with walk-ins as time permits between appointments.

SUNDAY/JAN. 8

School Open House. 2-4 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. School serves pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Call 703-329-6968 to RSVP or schedule a personal tour. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org for more.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Family Support Group. 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Gartlan Center, 8119 Holland Road. Opportunity for discussion, information and support for families with members experiencing symptoms of mental illness. Professionally facilitated. Program varies, may include guest speakers, movies. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. Free. For more information contact Nga Nguyen at 703-799-2726, TTY 711.

Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 9

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OPINION

Celebrate, Shop, Dine Locally

Every day can be “small business day.”

There is a joy to participating in community traditions and celebrations during the holidays, from walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to shopping in local stores, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambiance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that is otherwise unmatched.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon. An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, also called Shop Small. This year that day is Nov. 26.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive, and communities depend on those businesses as well. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who

is active in fundraising for local charities, advocating for improvements, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers. But local families will literally spend millions of dollars to shop and exchange gifts during the next month in a variety of places.

EDITORIAL

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will shop online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to do some celebrating, shopping and dining locally. We promise it brings more joy.

Be sure to go to some of the hometown Christmas events coming up. Visit our holiday calendars to find more.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Go Local

Attend some hometown holiday events

❖ **The City of Alexandria Tree Lighting Ceremony** at Market Square will kick off the holiday season on Friday, Nov. 25 at Market Square, 301 King St. The event will include a welcome by the town crier, the mayor, other city officials and a visit by Santa.

❖ **Mount Vernon Candlelight Tours**, Nov. 25-Dec.18: A candlelit tour, complete with characters, caroling, and 18th-century dancing on select dates. Tour the Mansion in all its holiday glory and learn about Mrs. Washington's infamous festive cooking. Tickets are required and may be purchased online at www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/mount-vernon-by-candlelight/

❖ **46th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend and Parade**, Dec. 2-3, presented by the Campagna Center. Scottish Christmas Walk Parade, Heather and Greens Sales, Taste of Scotland, Holiday Home Tours. www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend

❖ **Mount Vernon Christmas Illuminations**, Dec. 16-17: Fireworks over the Potomac River are accompanied by visits from George and Martha Washington. Enjoy music from local choirs, snuggle by the bonfire, and sip some hot cocoa during this Christmas event. Special tickets are not required; general admission fees do apply.

Children's Gazette

During the last week of each year, The Gazette devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. It is a keepsake edition for many families. The annual Children's Gazette is a tradition of well over a decade.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or other creative efforts. We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. To be published, we must have first and last name of the student. Please include the student's age and/or grade, school attended and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide submissions by Friday, Dec. 2.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

Happy Indigenous People's Day

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)



Last year, I proposed legislation that designated the day before Thanksgiving as Indigenous People's Day. The day before Thanksgiving is the day when the Pamunkey and Mattaponi tribes present a deer and turkey to the Virginia governor as part of a 338-year tradition as their tax tribute. The Mattaponi and Pamunkey have reservations based in colonial-era treaties ratified by the colony in 1658 and their treaties included providing this tribute to the Crown, now replaced by the Commonwealth. The tribute will be ceremoniously handed over to the Governor at 10 a.m.

Working together with local tribal leaders to find a day in the calendar that would recognize our Virginia tribes and their historic and current contribution to our Commonwealth, the day before Thanksgiving was the day that they decided upon as the best day to be recognized as Virginia's Indigenous People's Day. The General Assembly unanimously voted to pass the legislation as a joint resolution and this

year is the first year Indigenous People's Day will be commended in Virginia.

I decided to sponsor the legislation because Native Americans are too often marginalized through a lack of access to education, and the problem is compounded with a lack of recognition for the issues confronting Native Americans both on the federal and state levels. There is an overall misinformation and confusion about the 11 state-recognized tribes in Virginia who deserve to have their history and culture acknowledged and appreciated:

- ❖ Chickahominy - Charles City County
- ❖ Eastern Chickahominy - New Kent County
- ❖ Mattaponi - Mattaponi River/King William County
- ❖ Upper Mataponi - King William County
- ❖ Nansemond - Cities of Suffolk and Chesapeake
- ❖ Rappahannock - Indian Neck/King and Queen County
- ❖ Monacan Indian Nation - Bear Mountain/Amherst County
- ❖ Pamunkey - Pamunkey River/King William County
- ❖ Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) - Courtland/Southampton County
- ❖ Nottoway of Virginia - Capron/Southampton County

COMMENTARY

Southampton County

❖ Patowomeck - Stafford County

My hope is that this day will raise awareness for Native Americans in Virginia and educate the general public on historic and current struggles of these tribes. The role our American

Indian tribes played, and continue to play, in shaping the history and culture of the Commonwealth deserves to be acknowledged and appreciated, through learning from educational resources that focus on the traditions, culture and background of Native Americans. It is a day to celebrate the heritage of Native Americans, our Indigenous people, and for both native and non-native cultures to unite so the many aspects of native culture can be shared.

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to: Letters to the Editor, The Gazette 1606 King St. • Alexandria VA 22314 Call 703-917-6444 By e-mail gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

@MtVernonGazette

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A Connection Newspaper



LETTER

Thankful To Comment

To the Editor:

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week, I wish to express my appreciation for the Mount Vernon Gazette providing a forum in which local residents can express their views in letters to the editor and thus help educate the public on issues of importance. I often write letters to the editor and the editor typically agrees to publish them. I write letters when I think my fellow citizens need to be aware of important issues confronting our community, when I believe our politicians are not honestly or accurately portraying the issues, and when I see what I perceive to be a wrong that I think should be righted.

Although I am likely more conservative than the average Gazette reader, I try my best to avoid injecting politics into my letters. My letters typically address issues of process, not politics, and I have no problem criticizing politicians of all stripes where I perceive they are not appropriately representing their constituents. I also have no reluctance to criticize local community groups where they take

positions I perceive to be out of the mainstream, and I have no reluctance to criticize politicians who rely too heavily on the views of such organizations.

There are over 220 community organizations in the Mount Vernon District and many communities are not represented by a community organization. As such, organizations that purport to speak for a plurality of community organizations should have their views respected by our politicians, but weighted only to the extent of the number of community organizations represented as a whole and the number of them participating in the decisions made. For example, an organization claiming to represent the views of 50 community organizations but in which fewer than half of those organizations routinely attend meetings and vote, should have the weight of their decisions downgraded accordingly.

I wish my neighbors and friends a Happy Thanksgiving and that the adverse impacts from a contentious election will soon subside so that we can move ahead as a community for the greater good.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

For family caregivers of older adults. Discuss "Keeping Organized as a Caregiver: What Works?" Share experiences, gain support and get information without having to travel. Free. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

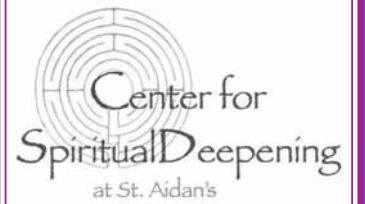
STEM VOLUNTEERS. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) needs scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and physicians to assist K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) teachers in the Northern Virginia Area, during the 2016-17 school year. In the 2015-16 school year, the numbers of STEM

volunteers in Northern Virginia were: Fairfax County - 40, Arlington - 20, and Alexandria - one. Details of the collaboration are worked out between the teacher and the volunteer, and may involve giving demonstrations, assisting in lab experiments, lecturing on special topics, assisting with homework, etc. The hours are flexible, and volunteers attend a one-day training in September before being assigned to schools. To see how volunteers are assisting their teachers, view the video clips at www.seniorscientist.org. To volunteer, contact donaldrea@aol.com.

Fairfax County's Community Services Board is seeking volunteer office assistants. Volunteers are needed to assist CSB staff with greeting guests, making reminder phone calls, data entry, filing, shredding, stocking shelves, and other duties as needed. Hours are flexible, but would be during normal business hours. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

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

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



Body Prayer

November 30, 7:30-9:00 pm

Cheryl Sabo

Mystics describe three vehicles for spiritual deepening: mind, heart and body. Western tradition has often overlooked the body as an avenue for spiritual transformation. Coming out of the Eastern tradition of yoga, we will, through healing music and simple exercises, explore opening and nourishing the sacred energy centers of the body. Cheryl Sabo leads classes and workshops in YogaDance, yoga and early childhood music in Virginia and nationally.

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
8531 Riverside Rd. Alexandria
centerforspiritualdeepening.org

www.staidanepiscopal.com

A Special Holiday Message from Fairfax County's Wastewater Management Program

**Save your cash. Put grease in the trash.
Never down the drain!**

This greasy criminal is wanted for clogging drains on Thanksgiving. Protect your pipes by putting grease in the trash or by recycling your used cooking oil at the I-95 landfill complex in Lorton or the I-66 transfer station in Fairfax.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/wastewater/preventing_backups.htm

To obtain this information in an alternate format, call 703-324-5033, TTY 711.

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One of Fairfax County's Greatest Assets Is Its Diversity

The county welcomes and celebrates one another's differences and cultural backgrounds.

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



One of Fairfax County's greatest assets is our diversity. We are and will continue to be a county that exemplifies values of respect and acceptance, where we welcome and celebrate one another's differences and cultural backgrounds. Our diversity makes our community strong and vibrant, and I am proud of what every resident has to offer.

Immigration is a federal matter. Fairfax County partners with federal authorities on immigration issues when required. The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office piloted the Secure Communities program under a partnership with U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) in 2009, and has continued this partnership through the Priority Enforcement Program, where individuals who commit serious crimes and are in

this country illegally are turned over to the Department of Homeland Security for deportation. Just being here without documentation is not considered a serious crime by DHS.

Fairfax County fully

complies with federal and state laws requiring the county to ensure that people benefiting from public services are here legally. These federal and state laws are very clear about benefits that can only be provided to residents who are in this country legally. Such benefits include voting in elections, welfare, food stamps, and affordable housing. Many nonprofit and faith-based charitable organizations do serve Fairfax County residents who are in need regardless of their immigration status.

Lastly, Fairfax County complies with the federally mandated requirement that we

educate all children, despite immigration status. The United States Supreme Court ruled in *Plyler v. Doe* (1982) that the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment prohibits denying a free public education to immigrant children based on their or their parents' legal status.

Our local police officers work hard every day to keep our residents safe and build trust with the community. We believe in community policing where residents are not afraid to call law enforcement if their safety is at risk or to report information critical to resolving an investigation. We do not ask, nor do we have the resources for, our police officers to become immigration officials. Any immigration efforts on the local level above and beyond our current cooperation with ICE would compete with police officers' responsibility for community policing and law enforcement.

Additional immigration efforts would also compete with fiscal resources against other

county programs. While we always support maintaining safe communities, we will also not risk our core values of respect for all people and community policing.

Fairfax County has spent the past two years developing and implementing very thoughtful recommendations of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission to increase police transparency, modify use of force policies, and improve communication between our police department and the residents they serve. The Fairfax County Communities of Trust Committee has also been hard at work for two years encouraging community dialogue and building relationships between public safety and residents.

Be assured, I will be vigilant to any future policy changes that could negatively affect our community and all the progress we have made. Our diversity makes our community great. We will continue to be a community that is inclusive and respectful to all people, because that is the lifeblood of Fairfax County.

Easing Election Fears

Local therapists say acknowledging, reassuring are keys to easing anxiety.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

On the morning after what was possibly the most adversarial election in recent history, psychologist Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D. felt an urge to send a text message to her two teenaged children.

"[The election] is a reminder that we are better together and have to be vigilant at fighting fear and spreading love and truth," she wrote. "I'm certain that the one thing we can do to remove fear is replace it with familiarity. When you get to stand with others different than you we realize we have more in common than not."

Lorente, who has a private practice and is a professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria, and other local therapists say that the recent election has brought a spike in clients. People throughout the area are asking for

help dealing with the resulting emotional issues.

In fact, a recent American Psychological Association Survey showed that 52 percent of American adults reported that the 2016 election was a very or somewhat significant source of stress. Therapists say that much of the rhetoric during the campaign sparked a sense of fear and panic, particularly children.

"Everyone who has come in this past week has talked about fear," said Lorente. "Children talking about fears about what is going to happen next, about what might happen to their parents."

During the election season, many parents discussed the candidates with their children, including the differences in protections, policies, social progress and, particularly unique to this election, inappropriate behavior, said child psychologist Stacie B. Isenberg, Psy.D. "In the wake of a result unanticipated by many, children are left feel-

ing confused and ungrounded," she said. "When their parents themselves feel blindsided and upset, children can feel insecure, sad, and scared."

Children are influenced significantly by their parents' reactions to major events, advised Linda Guly, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Don't involve your kids in your own fears," she said. "Keep things normal. Acknowledge the emotion, but don't dwell on it. Assure your child that you are there for them and will always care for him or her."

Parents and caregivers can help by trying to manage their own emotions out of sight of their children, at least while their feelings are still raw. Isenberg advises that once parents are able to do that, it is important that they have discussions with their children, at the level that makes sense for their ages. "Younger children need to feel safe and be assured that things will be OK," she

said. "If age and understanding allow, parents can discuss governmental systems such as checks and balances, while keeping any of their own concerns about such systems to themselves."

For parents with teenagers, Isenberg says "an honest conversation about their shared concerns is appropriate, as well as an emphasis on taking one day at a time and fighting the urge to catastrophize further outcomes."

As with any impactful and uncontrollable event, emphasizing what one does actually control is helpful. "Parents can focus on ways that children can make an extra effort to be kind and supportive to others, from offering kind words, to looking to include others in activities, to volunteering and showing community support," said Isenberg.

"It's easy to go to the dichotomy of separation and an 'us vs. them' rhetoric, but in the end we're all connected," said Lorente.

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COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

Good Shepherd Catholic Church Mass Schedule

Saturday:
5:00 pm Vigil Mass
6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)

Sunday:
7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter and Children's Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm

Monday-Saturday:
9:00 am Mass (Rosary at 8:30 am)

En Español:
Monday, 6:30 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm; First Friday, 7:30 pm

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SHARING



PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. STEPHEN'S AND ST. AGNES SCHOOL

On the day before Thanksgiving 2015, students at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School make sandwiches for the homeless.

Thinking Beyond Serving Meals

Experts advise finding age-appropriate ways for children to give back.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

During this season of giving thanks, opportunities for expressions of gratitude can seem ubiquitous. It's also a good opportunity to demonstrate philanthropy for children, from food and toy drives to serving hot meals in soup kitchens.

"Charitable organizations rely on the incredible support of volunteers who dedicate time and provide supplies," particularly at this time of year, said Yvonne Esipila, volunteer and outreach coordinator for Interfaith Works, a nonprofit organization that serves the homeless and the poor. "Without volunteers we would not be able to offer many of the services that are performed or delivered daily."

Youth volunteerism can be complicated, however, when it comes to matching skills and abilities with opportunities and interests. For example, feeding the homeless might seem like an ideal way to give children a real-world view of those in need. However, hot stoves and sharp knives can pose dangers to young children. The key is finding the right fit before committing.

"We have a variety of opportunities for our ever-increasing diverse pool of volunteers," said Esipila.

An example of children volunteering for the same cause, but with different skill levels, is a kindergarten through eighth grade, effort by students at Norwood School in Potomac, Md., to support Manna Food Center. Leanne Gill, a spokeswoman for the school, says all students can donate healthy food items, but that older students get more involved.

"A group of our eighth graders visits the Manna warehouse ... to help sort through and organize food donations," said Gill.

Older children are often better suited to participate in food preparation efforts without the need for close supervision. For example, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School

(SSSAS) in Alexandria holds an annual tradition the day before Thanksgiving called Saintsgiving. High school students volunteer to make sandwiches for the clients of Martha's Table, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that provides meals to low-income and homeless residents of the region.

"Last year we had a record turnout, and our volunteers made 4,600 sandwiches in just one hour," said Mandi Sapp, communications coordinator at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

When children are too young for solo food preparation, Esipila recommends that families make food together and bring it to shelters.

"Great opportunities [include] ... making bagged lunches at home as a family activity, wrapping them and taking them to our shelters," said Esipila. "They can even include a small encouraging note."

They also need more than food. Providing social opportunities for the homeless people, who might not otherwise have them is a much-needed volunteer service appropriate for families with children of all ages, added Esipila. "Creating crafts with or playing Bingo with or planning and hosting a birthday party for the homeless are always appreciated."

Charities also need basic supplies like soap, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, which many homeless people desperately need, added Esipila. "Consider holding a mini-drive to collect these items," she said. "We also welcome other creative ideas that volunteers may have. My goal is to inspire a lifetime of service."

Sometimes giving means bringing joy. Sapp cites a volunteer effort by fourth grade students at the SSSAS that brings smiles to the faces of sick children. For the past 23 years, students have baked cookies, cakes, brownies and other treats at home and brought them to school for a bake sale. Proceeds are used to purchase toys for patients and their siblings at Children's National Medical Center in D.C.

Fairfax Water

PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATES AND PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2016, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges and the 2017 Annual Budget. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2017, include the following:

1. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$10,240 to \$16,020.
2. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,150 to \$1,240†.
3. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$10.10 to \$12.20†.
4. An increase in the Base Commodity Charge from \$2.68 to \$2.81 per 1,000 gallons of water.
5. A decrease in the Turn-Off / Turn-On Charge from \$52 to \$44.
6. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge.
7. An increase in the Overhead Charge for Labor from 104% to 105%.
8. A decrease in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$46 to \$35.

Revenues are expected to be \$171.3 million in 2017. Water sales are expected to provide \$149.2 million. Approximately \$22.1 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-- \$1,000s --	
	2016	2017
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$ 53,877	\$ 55,808
Power and Utilities	10,417	10,572
Chemicals	6,342	7,566
Purchased Water	4,512	5,576
Supplies and Materials	5,173	5,248
Insurance	1,176	1,201
Fuel	567	625
Postage	632	654
Contractual Services	10,473	10,671
Professional Services	748	910
Other	2,305	2,484
Subtotal	96,222	101,315
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,616)	(9,305)
Total	\$ 86,606	\$ 92,010

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$41,129,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$25,733,000

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our website at www.fairfaxwater.org/rates. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, to be included in the record of the public hearing.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

Art Exhibit: "H2O/Waterworks."

Through Nov. 27, 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.

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.

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 torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope

November Artist Showcase.

Through Nov. 30 at Broadway Gallery Fine Art and Custom Framing, 5641-B General Washington Drive, featuring the abstract and wildlife art of local artist, Buck Nelligan. Email bev@broadwaygalleries.net.

"Sound of Butterfly" Art Exhibit.

Through Dec. 4, 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 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.

Convergence: "Various Small Fires."

Through Dec. 17, 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 for more.

"Raising: Motherhood in Modernity."

Through Dec. 18, gallery hours at The Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Holiday Market

Mosaic Jewelry by Nancy Kline is featured at the 21st Annual Fine Art & Fine Craft Holiday Market at Del Ray Artisans, each weekend in December leading up to Christmas. The Holiday Market is at Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Market hours are: Fridays 6-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016.

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.

116 King Holiday Pop-Up. Through Dec. 31, at 116 King St. The shop will feature 28 upscale fashion and lifestyle brands, including 13 brands under the umbrella of The Skinny Dip, a fashion collective founded by Sara Rossi and Taylor Ivey, as well as 15 additional brands with products ranging from women's apparel and jewelry to men's clothing, children's items and other gifts. Sponsored by the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership. www.116king.com

Art Exhibit: Color Disorder.

Through Jan. 8 at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Katie Baines and Amy Chan's acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print work on display. Sat., Nov. 13, 4-6 p.m. is opening reception. 703-548-0035, nvfaa.org.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery:

"Geometry Glitz." Through Jan. 8, 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.

Through Jan. 8, 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

cherylanne.colton@alexandriava.gov

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.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History.

Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit.

Ongoing at the Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/fortward for more.

Alexandria's Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War.

Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS

drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

"Ancient Art of Movement."

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

Flamenco Show.

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

French Movie Night.

Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and 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.leeendallhouse.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.

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.alexandriaarchaeology.org.

CAMPS, CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

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. 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.

Thanksgiving Day Service at Historic Pohick Episcopal Church.

9 a.m. at Pohick Episcopal

ENTERTAINMENT

Church, 9301 Richmond Highway.
www.pohick.org or call 703-339-6572.

FRIDAY/NOV. 25

Tree Lighting Ceremony. 6-8 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. At this official kickoff to the holiday season, the city tree is lit on Market Square and a welcome by the town crier, the mayor and other city officials, a visit by Santa and holiday performances. 703-746-4343 or alexandriava.gov

Black Friday. 50 boutiques kick off the holiday shopping season with deals on merchandise, including home décor, chic fashions, gourmet food, toys and gifts for dogs. The City of Alexandria is offering free parking at parking meters as an incentive for shoppers on Black Friday. Store offers vary, with some boutiques opening at 6 a.m. and offering discounts throughout the day. VisitAlexandriaVA.com/blackfriday.

NOV. 25-JAN. 6

Mount Vernon Holiday Tours. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Tour the Mansion, watch historic chocolate-making demonstrations, and meet Aladdin the Camel. Join daily "Camel Talks" and learn more about the rare animals at George Washington's home during the holiday season. Hear from costumed friends and family of the Washingtons tell stories of Christmas traditions of the past. Mount Vernon is open every day of the year, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

Holiday Ornament Making. 9 a.m.-4



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Holiday Market

Stephen Lally's pottery will be featured at Del Ray Artisan's Holiday Market. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016.

p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. On select weekends, make a Mount Vernon holiday wooden ornament. For children ages 5-10, accompanied by an adult. Included in admission. Supplies limited. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

Holiday Teddy Bear Teas. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. On select weekends, bring a favorite stuffed animal friend to have "tea" with "Lady Washington." This special experience will also include a hands-on seasonal activity.

For ages 4-11, accompanied by an adult. Refreshments provided. \$5 in addition to general admission. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 25-26

Mount Vernon By Candlelight. 8 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Character-guided tours of the first and second floors of the Mansion, 18th-century dancing and fireside caroling. Learn more about



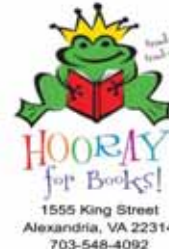
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Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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Mount Vernon Gazette

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Holiday Market

Fabric aprons by Jen Athanas, Jen-A-Fusion Fashion Accessories are one of the features at The Holiday Market is at Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016.

holiday traditions in 18th-century Virginia. Rain or shine. \$24 adult; \$16 youth (ages 2-11). 703-799-5203, www.mountvernon.org.

simple exercises, this workshop will explore opening and nourishing the sacred energy centers of the body. 703-360-4220

SATURDAYS/NOV. 26-DEC. 24

Random Acts of Holiday Cheer. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Throughout Alexandria, random Acts of Holiday Cheer will delight holiday shoppers with surprise giveaways from the Elf Prize Patrol, pop-up musical performances through the Alexandria Arts Alliance, and hands-on activities at the Mobile Art Lab.

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.

Small Business Saturday. The Chamber purchased special bags to be filled with take-aways, maps of participating businesses, coupons, and other items from Chamber members. Provide gift cards to be placed in random bags or take away items for all bags. Bags will be given away at the Market Square in Old Town and the Holy Cow! In Del Ray. sbolouri@alexchamber.com

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.

TUESDAY/NOV. 29

Giving Tuesday at the United Community Ministries. Food Pantry, 7511 Fordson Road. "Be Part of the Heart" to support UCM. info@ucmagency.org or 703-768-7106.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 30

Body Prayer with Cheryl Sabo. 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Coming out of the Eastern tradition of yoga, through healing music and

THURSDAY/DEC. 1

Steep Canyon Rangers Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Bluegrass sounds of The Rangers can be heard as the play songs off their new album "Radio," produced by the Dobro virtuoso Jerry Douglas of Alison Krauss and Union Station. Visit www.birchmere.com.

2016 Mary Thonen Richmond Highway Beautification Awards. 4:30-7 p.m. at the TownePlace Suites, 8632 Woodlawn Court. Awards held in conjunction with the grand opening of the TownePlace Suites in Woodlawn. Visit www.sfdc.org.

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 \$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.

DEC. 2-17

The Little Theatre of Alexandria's "A Christmas Carol." Various times at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. A return of the classic by Charles Dickens featuring Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserly Victorian humbug. 703-683-0496 or www.thelittletheatre.com

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 2-3 46th Annual Scottish Christmas

A Pie for All Seasons

Need a pie for the holidays? Happy Tart has you covered.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

The holidays conjure many mental images — a large turkey on the table, for instance, or your grandmother's beloved sweet-potato casserole. But when it comes to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all of the social events in between, there's one menu item that can't be missed — pie. Whether pumpkin, or pecan, or apple, or cherry, pies complete the feast.

But if you're up to your eyeballs in side dishes and haven't the time to commit to making pies, you've got an escape capsule: Happy Tart in Del Ray.

The bakery — and its sister location in Falls Church — does a booming business over the month between Thanksgiving and Christmas, owner and executive chef Emma Cech says.

"It's crazy!" Cech said. "Our sales probably double during the holidays, especially for Thanksgiving; we do lots and lots and lots and lots of pies."

And customers find themselves in the holiday spirit with a few favorites, one of which is a pump-

kin praline pie.

The pumpkin praline is "the pie for those who can't decide," Cech said. "It's pumpkin pie on the bottom layered with a pecan pie on the top."

But Happy Tart doesn't stop its business at Thanksgiving. The Christmas season also brings with it an abundance of orders, and Cech stands at the ready with a passel of holiday favorites, from stolen to buche de Noel to a multitude of Christmas cookies to gluten-free gingerbread-house kits.

Once the holidays have subsided, Happy Tart's Del Ray location will shut its doors for several months for a makeover, changing its face from a retail store to a café with several dozen seats. If all goes as planned, the bakery will reopen in April and will resemble the Falls Church location in terms of setup.

But first, Cech and her team must work their way through the holidays. The deadline for Thanksgiving orders expired last Sunday, "but we always make extras," Cech said, to sell in the store up to the holiday.

Although Cech says "it's nice to put your feet up on Thanksgiving Day" and take a break from pie-making, in terms of her own Thanksgiving feast

this year, there's no rest for the weary. Cech will have 14 to 18 family guests of her own for the holiday, she said. But at least she'll have plenty of pie. The flavor of the day?

"Whatever we've got left!" she laughed.

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

If You Go

Happy Tart, 2307A Mount Vernon Ave.

Hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.

Try This: The apple sour cream pie, created with local apples, is a Thanksgiving top seller. "Once the gold rush apples come into season, that's the only apple we use," owner Emma Cech says. "We bake those in a sour cream custard ... and then top it with a streusel. It's just the most delicious pie ever."

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 sale information, go visit www.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. Ticket prices range from \$26.50 to \$30 and can be purchased online at www.metropolitanarts.org.

Holiday Bliss Techniques. 11 a.m. at Alexandria Library, Duncan Branch, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Mara Benner, founder of Four Directions Wellness which is affiliated with the GW Center for Integrative Medicine, will offer an opportunity for Del Ray residents and others to take a breath

and relax. 703-746-1781.

17th Annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights.

5:30 p.m. at the Waterfront at the foot of Cameron Street near the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria's harbor lights up as dozens of illuminated boats cruise the Potomac River at the waterfront. Panel of judges will award prizes in a dozen categories including Best in Show, Thinking Outside the Christmas Box, and Hardest Souls. Tommy McFly of 94.7 Fresh FM is the parade announcer. Free event. 703-746-3301

Holiday on the Avenue in Del Ray.

6 p.m. at Pat Miller Neighborhood Square, at Mount Vernon and E. Oxford avenues. Holiday tree lighting, Santa Claus and a Christmas tree decorating contest. Community will be collecting items such as canned goods, nonperishable foods, and diapers for Carpenter's Shelter.

American Arabesque: A Celebration of Culture.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Foty Fusion, the Huda Asfour Quartet, and Ramy Adly are among the local Arab American professional musicians performing at the inaugural festival — with a debut performance by the Arab Jazz Collective. 703-746-5565, cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov or www.alexandriava.gov/Arts.

Carlyle House open house. noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park 121 N. Fairfax St. The museum will be open and docents will be available to answer questions about

the house and the collection while guests tour at their own pace. Free. 703-549-2997

Women in the Anglican

Communion: Women Leading Theological Education. 8:30 a.m. at Addison Academic Center, Virginia Theological Seminary, 3737 Seminary Road. \$10 <https://women-anglican-communion.eventbrite.com>.

Mt. Vernon High School Holiday Market.

9 a.m.-2 p.m. at 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. Shop indoors from over 30 vendors. Free admission. ptsaholidayfest@gmail.com.

Artistic Artifacts Annual Open House.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 4750 Eisenhower Ave. New and vintage fiber art and mixed media supplies. There will be product demonstrations, make and take activities, as well as fiber and mixed media art for sale by 15 local artists at the Holiday Market. 703-823-0202 or www.artisticartifacts.com

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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. Contact Louise Wilson at louise@fairlingtonumc.org, or 703-671-4057

MONDAY/DEC. 5

Pianist George Winston. 7:30 p.m. The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets are \$39.50. Collecting contributions for the canned food drive to benefit the Carpenter's Shelter. www.birchmere.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 6

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Ends 2016. 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road. Chamber meets to wrap up 2016 and give a sneak peek at 2017, Tom and David Gardner of The Motley Fool as speakers. Tickets are \$45 for members and \$55 for non-members.

Fountains Open House. 5-8 p.m. at Fountains Day Spa, 422 S. Washington St. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres, stock up on Guinot products, try out a complimentary spa service, and watch live demos of our most popular treatments. Lauren Wallace, 703-549-1990 or lauren@fountainsdayspa.com

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 7

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society's A Christmas Carol. 8-9:15 p.m. at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Reception at 7 p.m. Appetizers and sweets, beverages including a champagne punch, free photo opportunities with Father Christmas. 703-549-6242 or www.gadsbystavernmuseum.us/

THURSDAY/DEC. 8

A Life France-Amerique: Reflections of a New American Citizen. 7-9 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Ave. Guy Sorman will discuss his experiences as a new American citizen and his life and career in France and the United States from his latest book, "J'aurais voulu être Français." \$5 suggested donation at the door. Wine and dessert reception to follow. <https://franceamerique.eventbrite.com>

Second Thursday Art Night at Torpedo Factory Art Center. 7-8 p.m. at 105 N Union St. Featuring open artist studios to explore your shopping options, artist talks, and Jane Franklin Dance featured in small dances throughout the building, concluding with a performance of "Fightin' Words" performed to bluegrass fiddle. <http://torpedofactory.org/> 703.933.1111 or www.janefranklin.com

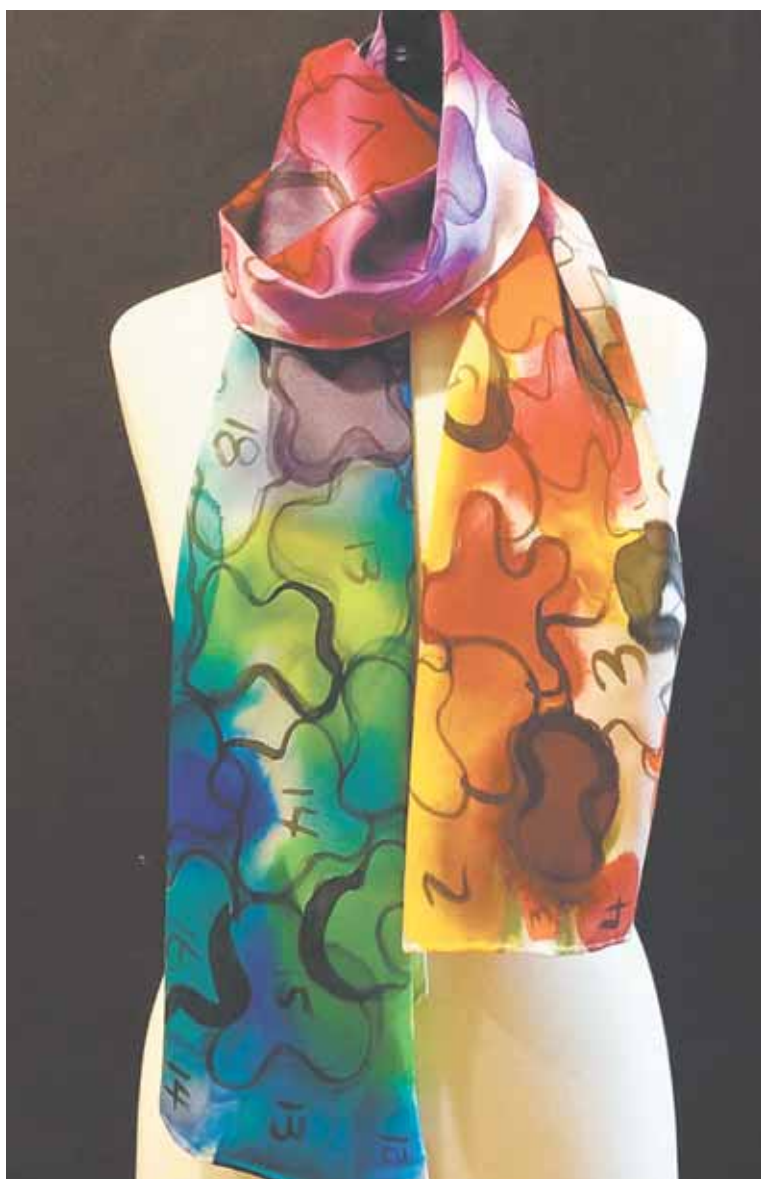
DEC. 8-JAN. 8

Fully Committed Comedy Show. various times at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St. Tom Story does 40 characters. Call 703-548-9044 www.metrostage.org .

FRIDAY/DEC. 9

The Migration Project: Performance and Art. 7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. The Migration Project explores stories of relocation. Featuring Jane Franklin Dance-Emily Crews, Carrie Monger, Matthew Rock, Amy Scaringe, Brynna Shank, Rebecca Weiss, and Visual art by Rosemary Feit Covey and Dawn Whitmore.

The Honky Tonk Holiday Show. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun and special guest



Holiday Market

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Hand-painted silk charmeuse scarf by Alanna Graboyes is available at the Holiday Market at the Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center on the first three December weekends, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2016.

Commander Cody
www.Birchmere.com

DEC.8-JAN. 8

"Fully Committed" at MetroStage. Various times at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Tom Story plays a restaurant reservationist, juggling phones, personalities and pandemonium with the dexterity of a Cirque du Soleil contortionist. \$55-\$60 703-548-9044 www.metrostage.org

DEC. 9-19

Concerts at Saint Luke's. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. Natascia Diaz, a two-time Helen Hayes award winner, will present a Cabaret evening with Pianist Darius Smith the music of Jacques Brel, Kander and Ebb, John Becchino and others. Tickets purchased at the door: \$20 adult, \$15 senior, free for students 18 and under. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net/events.

SATURDAY/DEC.10

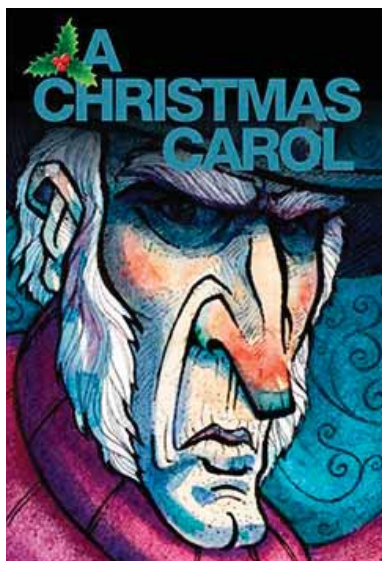
Civil War Christmas in Camp. noon-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Learn how Christmas was observed during the Civil War. \$2 suggested donation per person; \$5 per family. 703-746-4848 or

www.alexandriava.gov/fortward
Historic Alexandria Candlelight Tours. 4-9 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Travel through centuries of local history as you learn more about Alexandria during the holiday season at Carlyle House, Gadsby's Tavern Museum and the Lee-Fendall House. \$25 adults; \$20 seniors (65 years and older) and active military; \$5 children (ages 6-17). 703-746-4242 or shop.alexandriava.gov

Friendship Firehouse Ornament Decorating Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Decorate and take home ornaments inspired by firefighting. For children ages 4-10, and their caregivers. No registration required. 703-746-4994 or www.alexandriava.gov/friendshipfirehouse


Ribbon Cutting. 5 p.m. at Del Ray Towers complex, 3116 Mt. Vernon Ave. Ribbon Cutting for one of Del Ray's newest businesses, Dental Excellence. 703-216-8597

Case Remodeling Seminars. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Case Mosaic Tile Showroom, 821 S. Pickett St. Case Design/Remodeling experts will give insight into the latest trends and different levels of kitchen and bath remodeling, as well as project timeframes and budgeting. <http://www.casedesign.com/seminars-events/> celeste.henry@mokimedia.com



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Capitol Steps Benefit for UCM Raises Over \$75,000

The Capitol Steps Benefit for UCM raised more than \$75,000 on Nov. 13 in the Madison Auditorium at the US Patent & Trademark Office. The DC-based musical political satire troupe, The Capitol Steps, performed their bi-partisan show to a sold-out crowd of more than 350 community members.

The performance included new skits that poked fun at the presidential candidates, former Presidents, and Supreme Court Justices.

"I look forward to this performance each year. It's a fun event to support a cause we can all rally around," said Elin Bohn, president of The Friends of UCM.

The event welcomed the presence of state Sen. Scott Surovell, State Delegate Paul Krizek, and Fairfax County School Board Member Karen Corbett Sanders (Mount Vernon District). Event sponsors included Title Sponsor Doug and Eileen Kennett, Diamond Sponsor AT&T, and Gold Sponsor Elaine Kolish and David FitzGerald. The complete list of sponsors is available at ucmagency.org/CapitolSteps. Since its inception, The Friends of UCM have raised more than \$2.4 million for UCM.

Proceeds from the event enable UCM to continue providing quality services, including early childhood development, emergency food and

rental assistance, ESL literacy and citizenship preparedness, and youth leadership development. This year's performance marked the 25th annual benefit for UCM.

For more information, visit ucmagency.org.



Capitol Steps performed to a sold-out crowd at the 2016 benefit for UCM on Nov. 13.



From left: State Sen. Scott Surovell, Rick Genuario of The Genuario Companies, and Del. Paul Krizek enjoy the performance.

From left are Elin Bohn, president of The Friends of UCM, with Capitol Steps Benefit event co-chairs Maureen McGuire-Kuletz, Sandy Doyle, and Judy Cahill.



Suspect in Arson Sought

As the investigation into the arson and malicious wounding from Saturday, Nov. 19 continues, detectives are still looking for the suspect, Lewis Edward Reeder. Detectives are asking for the public's assistance in locating a green, 2001 Ford Taurus, four-door; Virginia license plates VPW1915 might be displayed on the car. If seen, do not approach it. Call 911 immediately and provide the location.



Reeder

Detectives obtained an arrest warrant for Reeder, wanted for allegedly setting a woman on fire in the Alexandria section of Fairfax County. At about 1:40 a.m., police and fire units responded to a home in the

4900 block of Keeler Court for the report of a house fire and a disorderly man. Firefighters put out the fire and discovered a 64-year-old woman who had been badly burned. It appears the couple got into an argument and the suspect, of the same address, set the victim on fire. Fire investigators, working alongside FCPD detectives, are working to determine exactly how the suspect did that. The victim was taken to a hospital and her injuries are believed to be life-threatening. Anyone with additional information is asked to contact Detective Needels at 571-221-8131 or contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-8477, or by email at www.fairfaxcountycrimesolvers.org, or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637, or call the Fairfax County Police Department at 703-691-2131.

CRIME

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

ROBBERY: 8400 block of Frye Road (7-Eleven), Nov. 18, around 6:30 a.m. A 58-year-old woman was getting money from an ATM machine at a convenience store. She left the store and was walking toward the street when a man grabbed her from behind. Her wallet fell to the ground and another man took it. Both suspects fled the area on foot. The victim did not require medical attention. The first suspect was described as Hispanic, approximately 5 feet 6 inches tall, wearing a purple

jacket. The other suspect was black, approximately 6 feet tall, with a thin build, wearing a black jacket.

ROBBERY: South Kings Highway/Chimney Wood Court, Nov. 18, around 7:15 p.m. A man reported that while walking along the street he was approached by three men. The suspects displayed a handgun, threatened the victim and assaulted him. They took cash from him and fled in a van. The victim did not require medical attention. All the suspects were described as Hispanic, approximately 30 to 40 years old, wearing construction clothing.



Honoring Veterans

More than 750 students at Waynewood Elementary School gathered in front of the school to honor veterans as part of a Veterans Day celebration. Many military parents came to the ceremony in uniform.

PHOTO BY ANN WOODARD

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-10-15

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide a Special Education Evaluation, IEP, and Management System.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-10-15 Special Education Evaluation, IEP, and Management System will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, December 15, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php>

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

Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
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The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

SPORTS



PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

Junior Tanner Jones filled in for injured senior Mark Ellis at quarterback.

Wolverines Fall Short in Playoffs

The West Potomac football team traveled to Madison on Friday, Nov. 18, to take on the second ranked Warhawks in a second round playoff game. The Wolverines took a 14-7 lead into half time on a Justin Annan run and a touchdown pass from Tanner Jones (who was filling in for senior QB Mark

Ellis) to Branden Linseby.

With the help of their running back Landan Thomas, Madison took the lead in the 4th quarter and, in spite of several chances, the Wolverine attack could not score and the final score was 21-14.

The 2016 Wolverines finished their season with a 9-3 record.



Running back Justine Annan led the Wolverine attack with 82 yards and 1 touchdown.

PEOPLE NOTES

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

Mount Vernon selected 17 leading history scholars from around the world to receive fully-funded research fellowships at the Fred W. National Library for the study of George Washington, his life and founding era. Two of the 2016-17 Mount Vernon fellows are Ph.D. candidates from the University of Virginia: **David T. Flaherty** and **Scott C. Miller**.

In October, Boy Scout Troop 888 recognized 10 of its members as having earned the rank of Eagle Scout during the 12 months from fall 2015 to fall 2016. The new Eagle Scouts are **Erick Roach**, **Chris Jones**, **Carter Engvall**, **Ian Schurr**, **Alex Wells**, **Tom Boswell**, **Hayden McCloud**, **Nick Hogan**, **John Boswell**, and **Dominic Mancini**. Troop 888 is sponsored by Heritage Presbyterian Church on Fort Hunt Road.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot between Nov. 1 to Dec. 2, 2016 to elect the President-Elect, three seats on the Board of Directors, and two seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 5, 2017. Information about proxy ballots is available at www.asco.org/election. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting to be held on Dec. 6, 2016, 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22314. Members with questions can email ascoelection@asco.org or call 571-483-1316.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler 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 INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 16-11-05

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for HVAC (Auditorium) Roof Top Unit Replacement at George Washington Middle School.

Sealed Bids with the notation **ITB # 16-11-05, George Washington Middle School HVAC Replacement** will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Thursday January 12, 2017. 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 703-619-8140, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions must be submitted before 3:00 p.m., January 2, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held on December 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at

1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620 Room 610-2 Alexandria, VA 22314

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.

Francine Morris
Buyer

21 Announcements

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**5427 Grist Mill
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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!



**9419 Mt. Vernon
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\$998,500**

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Great
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in Mt.
Vernon on
the
Potomac!



One time opportunity to acquire true estate caliber property in Mt Vernon on the Potomac- the only community in the area with a private marina for the exclusive use of its' residents. Imposing residence with many custom touches including open foyer with double curved stairway, custom white brick exterior, high ceilings and spacious room sizes. Columned veranda overlooks pool.



**Mount Vernon
Park II
Great Location!**



**4401, 4403, 4405 Mt.
Vernon Memorial Hwy**

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

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

NEW PRICE!

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



**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!



**8400 Riverside Rd.
\$795,000
Stunning renovation!**

Only 7 days on market!

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!



**3808 Washington
Woods Dr.
Absolute Perfection**

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.



**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

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A Visitor's View of Alexandria

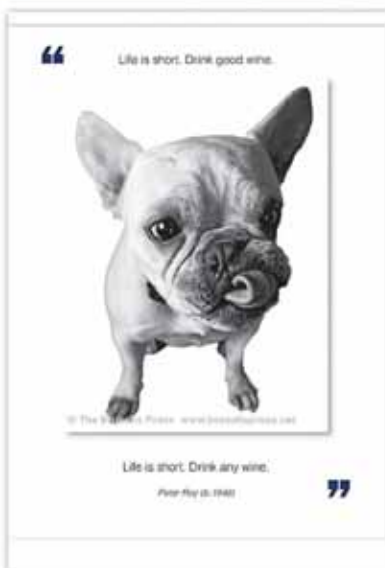
Born and raised in a small town on the Hudson just above New York City, Private Robert Knox Sneden enlisted in the Union army with the 40th New York's topographical engineers and wound up posted to virtually every major scene of fighting during the Civil War, including Brandy Station, where his capture in 1863 by Mosby's irregulars led to a prison stint at Andersonville.

As artistically prolific as he was peripatetic, Sneden sketched and mapped everywhere he went. At his first posting, in Alexandria, he was assigned to Gen. Samuel Heintzelman's III Corps staff at Fort Lyon, now the elevated site of Metro's Huntington Station. From that hilltop aerie, Sneden busily sketched and mapped the city and its immediate surroundings as the defenses of Washington were taking shape.

The map above was drawn in September 1862 and found in Sneden's pocket sketchbook. It depicts an Old Town veined with stockades to

protect its dual railroad hubs and vital roundhouse. A major battery at over-scaled Jones Point covers the Potomac River. Forts Lyon and Ellsworth (on Shuter's Hill) monitor Duke Street, the city's main east-west thoroughfare. To the south, across the stone causeway built in 1810 where Richmond Highway now crosses Hunting Creek, lay *terra incognita*. Intelligence identified the marshland just below Hunting Creek as a den of swamp-dwelling secessionists; Sneden likely avoided it altogether. That may be why he made this particular map's several errors, misidentifying all of the major roads south of Old Town and mistaking Quaker-owned Walnut Tree Farm—later named Wellington Villa and now known as River Farm, just three miles below Alexandria—for George Mason's Gunston Hall, actually located another dozen miles downriver on Mason Neck.

This and other maps and drawings can be found in "Rare & Historic Maps & Views of Mount Vernon, 1760 to 1910," a special exhibit and sale at The Virginia Florist, through January 1, 2016.



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