



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

From left, West Potomac Combatting Intolerance and U.S. History teacher Rob Kerr with Student Peace Award recipients Samapti Barua, Itiola Akingbola and Kylie McNulty, as well as West Potomac Latin teacher Robert Rigby.

Committed to Peacemaking

Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County reception honors activists and advocates.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Suraya Sadeed said hearing more than 20 stories of students promoting peace in and out of their schools made her believe “there is still hope for a brighter future.”

Sadeed is a native of Kabul, Afghanistan who made a new home in the United States in 1982, fleeing the aftermath of the Soviet invasion. She founded the non-government organization Help the Afghan Children and is author of “Forbidden Lessons in a Kabul Guesthouse.”

The former owner of a real estate company, Sadeed has risked dangerous situations to deliver humanitarian aid to women and children in war-torn Afghanistan. On Sunday, March 12, she addressed high school students from around Fairfax County being honored at the Student Peace Awards.

Sadeed spoke about the importance of promoting peace through education, as a preventative measure against bullying, hatred and violence later in life.

“The cost of providing peace education to 8 million children in Afghanistan is less,” she said, “than buying one military plane.”

The student peace awards are offered in all Fairfax County public high schools and some private schools. Schools choose their winners based on their work to promote peace as well as prevent causes of violence: poverty, discrimination and injustice.

Each of the individual or groups of students not only took action for peace, but did so with creative, entrepreneurial energy — founding clubs, organizing charity projects, leading training sessions or creating documentary films.

Fairfax County School Board chair Sandy Evans

said she was deeply impressed with the work of the students being honored at the Stacy Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax, from anti-bullying to human trafficking awareness to anti-genocide.

“Few goals are more important in the world today,” Evans said, “than promoting peace, acceptance, kindness and tolerance.”

Evans was joined in congratulating the students by fellow board members Ryan McElveen (at-large) and Dalia Palchik (Providence).

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors vice chairman and Mason District representative Penny Gross (D) read a letter of recognition from board chairman Sharon Bulova that thanked the students

SEE PEACE AWARDS, PAGE 6



Center, Mount Vernon senior Yosaph Boku helped create a program that teaches disadvantaged youth and adults in his community computer skills.

Thumbs-Up for Hospitality Outlook

Panelists at Northern Virginia Chamber Forum discuss state of hospitality under new administration.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE GAZETTE

The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce gathered some heavy hitters to offer their thoughts and answer questions from a standing-room-only audience at the “State of Hospitality Under the New Administration” symposium on March 6. While they weren’t forecasting a banner year, the panelists were cautiously optimistic about how the local industry would fare under the new administration.

❖ Barry Biggar, president and CEO of Visit Fairfax since 2008, with tenures in similar positions for Convention and Visitors bureaus in Texas, Kentucky, and Calgary, Canada.

❖ Mark Carrier, senior officer with D.C.-based B.F. Saul Hospitality Group, owners and operators of business class hotels, including the Hay-Adams. Carrier is also the current chairman of the American Hotel and Lodging Association, the advocacy voice for the industry.

❖ Chris Klauda, director of Destination Research for STR, the company that has been providing metrics, trend information and benchmarking for the industry

since 1985.

❖ Carroll Rheem, vice president, Research and Analytics for Brand USA, the public-private organization established by the Travel Promotion Act in 2010 to promote the United States as a premier travel destination.

THINGS HAVE BEEN LOOKING UP of late. While the economic woes that began in 2008 did

not hit the region as hard as they did other parts of the country, lodging had not begun experiencing any real return to pre-crash prosperity — until last year, according to Biggar and his panel colleagues.

“Revenue per occupied room (RevPar) was up 5 percent locally,

versus 3.2 percent nationally,” said B.F. Saul’s Carrier, who added that it “had been a while” since the region had outperformed the country in these statistics. Carrier placed the blame on sequestration and the effects of budget cuts and government shutdown threats for keeping the DMV’s hospitality sector depressed in comparison to other U.S. markets.

Biggar concurred. “Sequestration?” is a response he said he has frequently received when asking

“In some places, we use local voices to push our message that the U.S. is still a great place to come to.”

— Carroll Rheem, vice president, Research and Analytics for Brand USA

SEE HOSPITALITY, PAGE 10

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Nurse Hopefuls Receive Fatzinger Scholarships

In memory of Harriet H. Fatzinger.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

You don't just become a nurse, it's something you have in your heart. That was the message from Andrew B Cornell, Sr., interim provost of the NVCC medical education campus, speaking at the Harriet H. Fatzinger Nursing Memorial Scholarship Luncheon held March 8 at the Mount Vernon Inn restaurant on George Washington's estate.

While pursuing education was a primary reason for the lunch gathering, "there's a difference between knowing something and being something."

This year's scholarship awardees, both men, demonstrated their connection to the service profession. Cameroon native Maxime Djabang Lakouji is a combat medic with the 299th Engineer Company in the U.S. Army Reserve and plans to go into medicine by way of nursing. Patrick Smith has spent nearly the last 10 years working with Fire & Rescue and EMS but wants to



The Rev. Lydia Rodriguez Colón of Wesley United Methodist Church in Alexandria delivered an invocation at the luncheon, praising "so many good things still happening" in a world plagued by so much negativity.

become more involved with patient care as a nurse practitioner.

"This is a chance of moving forward," Lakouji said. "Life isn't always as you planned. You need help along the way, help to reach your objectives. This [scholarship] is life-changing."

Smith said that 10 years ago, he would've



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Dr. Glenn Fatzinger (left) and Andrew B Cornell, Sr., (right) interim provost of the NVCC medical education campus, present Patrick Smith and Maxime Djabang Lakouji scholarships for pursuing their education to become nurses.

had no idea this is the direction his life would be going. But after he took an exam to become an emergency medical technician, he fell in love with the work, particularly forming relationships with patients.

"I want to advocate for people who can't, or don't know that they should, advocate for themselves," he said.

The scholarships are awarded in memory of Harriet Fatzinger, whose late husband Dr. Glenn Fatzinger said came to nursing herself late, as a mid-career change.

Fatzinger, a Mount Vernon resident, adjunct professor at Northern Virginia Community College and active member of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, said his wife was a candy stripper and then enrolled in a 24-month nursing program at the Northern Virginia Community College Annandale campus.

"The next time you visit a hospital," Fatzinger told the room of scholarship foundation supporters, "one of these could be the nurse you see. Helping others, it's what it's all about."

The Rev. Lydia Rodriguez Colón of Wesley United Methodist Church in Alexandria delivered an invocation at the luncheon, praising "so many good things still happening" in a world plagued by so much negativity.

"This is a celebration of a life," Rodriguez Colón said, and of students becoming peacemakers and healers.

For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation to the Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation, visit www.nvcc.edu/foundation.

Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Hears Route 1 Update

Public information meeting scheduled for April 18.

Widening of Route 1 over three miles between Jeff Todd Way and Napper Road is still in the preliminary design phase. Construction on the estimated \$215 million project is expected to begin in 2023 and take two years to complete.

Members of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce received an update on the project from Virginia Department of Transportation representatives at their regular Business Breakfast on March 9.

Though design is being worked on, the widening project will expand the roadway from four to six lanes, give walkers and bikers "accommodations" on either side of the highway, and integrate median space for future Bus Rapid Transit.

Several chamber members expressed concern about how the widening would impact businesses with frontage or signage along the highway.

The VDOT representatives said some properties may need to be relocated for utility and other easements, but that there would be great care taken to try to find other properties with appropriate features for those losing their location.

Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) asked if it would be possible to simply move the center line of the new roadway to avoid having to relocate established businesses. VDOT said they would try to make small shifts, but reiterated the design is still very preliminary.

They encouraged everyone to attend a public information meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 18, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, at 8515 Old Mt Vernon Road in Alexandria.

For more information, visit www.virginiadot.org/richmondhighway.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Members of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce received an update on the widening of Route 1 from Jeff Todd Way to Napper Road from Virginia Department of Transportation representatives at their regular Business Breakfast on March 9.

Recruiting for New West Potomac Principal Begins

West Potomac High School parents and community members can attend a March 20 meeting regarding the process for selecting a new principal, Region 3 assistant superintendent Terry Dade announced.

This comes after the resignation of former principal of four years Alex Case last month. Case and assistant principal Michelle Lytle

were both on administrative leave Feb. 13.

Lytle remains on leave. Fairfax County Public Schools has offered no explanation for why either administrator left the school, though Case said he looked forward to spending more time with his family and working in the community.

Retired principal Dale Rumberger has been serving as interim principal at West

Potomac since Feb. 21.

Dade is also soliciting written input from parents and community members, "regarding the skills, experience, and leadership characteristics needed for West Potomac High School," he said.

"You might also address any challenges or issues that a new principal will need to address," Dade wrote.

Feedback can be emailed to mrparker@fcps.edu, or mailed physically to Michael Parker at Human Resources, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042-1203 by Friday, March 31.

The March 20 meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. at West Potomac High School, located at 6500 Quander Road in Alexandria.

— TIM PETERSON

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First Taste of the Working World

Teen Job Fairs begin this weekend.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said his first job working at a pool over the summer formed a lot of his work ethic.

"First jobs are critical," he said. "I learned what a job was, what working for a living was. We need to provide the opportunity to do that for our kids."

Beginning this weekend will be the third year of teen job fairs for young people in Fairfax County. In 2015, Herrity and Pat Malone came up with the idea to host a fair, meeting an unmet need by bringing together employers and young job-seekers together in a single location to meet face-to-face.

Malone, who lives in the Kingstowne area of Alexandria, said a first job can set the foundation for where you want to go in life.

"Where your mindset is," Malone said, "What you have some energy to wake up for in the morning, to get started, to do for the day, to conduct your life."

Whether young people stay with the job for a long time or move on to something else, the experiences in a first, or even second or third job, are meaningful in building career skills.

"It's working together with a team of people, working with the public," said Malone. "You want to do a good job, and use it as a springboard."

Nancy-jo Manney, president of the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, which is a co-sponsor of the job fair being held April 1 at West Springfield High School, said the fairs are also extremely valuable for businesses to attend.

Getting a diverse group of young potential employ-

ees together in one room is much more effective than placing ads in the newspaper or online, Manney said. It's also free for them to attend, and gives them access to potential workers who are local to their business locations.

"If your company has part-time positions, and or is looking to hire summer employees in Fairfax County," Manney said, "it's a no-brainer to attend."

The first teen job fair in 2015 was held at West Springfield and brought in around 350 students who met with employers and filled out job applications. Last year, the fair expanded to Chantilly High School.

Just at Chantilly, they added a workshop for helping job applicants write and build a resume. With the success of that program, it's being added to all four locations of the 2017 job fair. At each location, there will be two such seminars.

So far this year, Herrity said at least 700 teens are pre-registered across the four job fairs, which also include dates at Oakton High School and South County High School. Pre-registration online isn't a job application and isn't any type of commitment; it just connects the teen with fair updates and re-

sources, and gives employers an idea of how many people to expect.

For teens attending the fair, Manney said first impressions are important, so dress professionally.

It doesn't have to be a suit and tie, or dress, but teens should have on clean, dress clothing: no saggy pants or short tops or skirts.

Though not every employer at the fair will be looking to interview and hire people that day, "It's that visual that people are going to remember," Manney said.

Herrity expects at least 40 employers at each of the job fairs, offering not just part-time or summer employment, but also full-time, after school, internships and volunteer opportunities.

For more information and to register either as a student or a business, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfair.htm.

2017 Teen Job Fair Dates

♦ **Saturday, March 18**, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road in Chantilly.
Co-sponsored by Supervisor Kathy Smith, Chantilly HS STEM Academy, and Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

♦ **Saturday, March 18**, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road in Vienna.
Co-sponsored by Supervisor Linda Smyth and Oakton HS Marketing Department

♦ **Saturday, April 1**, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road in West Springfield.
Co-sponsored by West Springfield HS Student Government Association and Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

♦ **Saturday, April 29**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road in Lorton.
Co-sponsored by Supervisor Dan Storck, South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, South County Federation, and South County Secondary School

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Bridgette Degnan, of Alexandria, a third-year anthropology and economics double major with a minor in statistical analysis of social behavior, has received an undergraduate research award at the University of Virginia.

Ben Thomas, of Alexandria, a second-year economics and mathematics double major, has received an undergraduate research award at the University of Virginia.

Daniel Ryan, who has been accepted to Lynchburg College, was one of more than 100 students competing for scholarships through completion of an essay writing contest and interviews with Lynchburg College faculty and staff members. Daniel is the son of Michelle

and Timothy Ryan, of Alexandria.

Adam K. Klemm, of Alexandria, earned a Master of Science in geological engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (Rolla, Miss.).

Alexandria residents **Bruce W. Grimes**, **Sherwin Clarke**, **Sarah Burley**, and **Alexandra L. Werner Winslow** earned degrees at Boston University in September 2016.

Amanda Humbertson, of Alexandria, was named to the Chancellor's List at Troy University in Alabama.

Aliyah Toler, of Alexandria, earned endowed scholarships at Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio, this fall. Toler, a graduate of National Collegiate Preparatory Public Charter High School majoring in com-

munication studies, earned the J. Everton & Mary Louise Houston Scholarship and the Marion & Frank Mueller Scholarship.

Bridgewater College freshman **Emma Daw**, of Alexandria, has been named the ODAC Swimmer of the Week after setting five school records in her first two collegiate dual meets. Daw set school records in all five of her individual events over two days last week for the Eagles.

Susquehanna University student **Heather Pearson**, of Alexandria, is studying at the University of Nicosia this fall in Cyprus. Pearson is 2014 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School.

This fall, Bishop Ireton Graduate **Heather Pearson** was inducted into Earth Sciences Honor Society at Susquehanna University.



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Student Peace Awards Honor Advocates

FROM PAGE 1

for their commitment to peacemaking. All the students have come together, Gross read from Bulova's letter, "in one goal, strengthening peace and unity."

Del. Kenneth Plum (D-36) joined the other elected officials in congratulating the award-winners.

The 2017 Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County winners are as follows, bios according to the event program:

Ethan Mirani, junior at the Cedar Lane School in Vienna

Mirani was a member of the school's Anti-Bullying Committee for two years and worked to grow the group as well as plan activities and keep things organized.

Jasmine Howard, senior at Centreville High School

Howard organized members of the Centreville Key Club to sell 240 wristbands from Guatemala, made out of leather and pieces of coconut shell with colored string, raising \$1,700 in sales and donations that went back to the wristband artisans and disadvantaged foreign youth.

Shaan Chudasama, senior at Chantilly High School

Chudasama co-founded and is vice president of Young at Art, a non-profit organization using art-related activities to improve the quality of life of seniors, less fortunate children and veterans. With his sister, the other co-founder, they've partnered with the Special Olympics and Sunrise Assisted Living.

Vanessas Mae Avendano, senior at Falls Church High School

Avendano is vice president of Falls Church's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender club and also founded Falls Church High School United, a group of clubs united to spread peace and acceptance. The group has produced a series of videos dealing with anti-bullying and giving respect.

Sabah Munshi, senior at Hayfield Secondary School

Munshi helped organize a project called Walking for Water and raised both awareness of the world's water crisis and more than \$2,000 for the Tap Project by UNICEF. She has also volunteered at Virginia Hospital Center in the renal unit.

Surabhi Khanal, senior at Herndon High School

Khanal has been a member of the Herndon Leo Club and founded MedLove, Inc, a non-profit organization with the mission of helping rescue women in the United States and abroad who are human trafficking victims. Through the Key Club, Khanal and other students also organized a benefit gala to raise awareness of local trafficking and \$3,000 for combatting HIV and AIDS in her native Nepal.

Naba Khan and Shafia Tala, juniors at King Abdullah Academy in Herndon

Khan and Talat founded the organization Women of the World (WOW) to promote women's rights and help women struggling with homelessness, hunger, oppression or



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Center, Young women in the Blossoming Beauties program at Quander Road School work on both becoming more well-rounded and confident, as well as carrying out school and community projects together.

abuse. Some of their projects include opening a sewing institute in Nalgona, India and fundraisers involving the whole student body.

Jamie Hunstad, senior at Lake Braddock Secondary School

Hunstad set up a Special Olympics program at Lake Braddock, starting with a basketball team and adding track and field. She coaches both teams, and also helped the Rachel's Challenge program find a presence at her school. Rachel's Challenge deals with stomping out bullying and promoting tolerance and inclusion.

Donya Momenian and Chrissie Ivanova, seniors at Langley High School

The two seniors co-founded a chapter of the Girl Up Club at Langley, growing it from two to 30 members who meet bi-monthly. The national and international club empowers young women in education, fundraising, advocacy and service, as well as runs development programs in Guatemala, India, Liberia, Malawi, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Naomi Soquar, senior at Robert E. Lee High School

Soquar helped found a chapter of the Amnesty International Club at Lee — she currently serves as its president. She led club members and volunteers in writing letters against human rights violations, which in one case contributed to two political prisoners in the Democratic Republic of Congo being released. Soquar also serves with Girls Learn International, the Capital Area Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity.

Sean Doyle, senior at James Madison High School

A member of Madison's Amnesty International Club Doyle is coordinating activism with others on such issues as abolishing the death penalty, reducing gun violence and police brutality, and convincing the Vienna Town Council to make Vienna a "I Welcome Refugees" town.

Aidan Kemp, senior at George C Marshall High School

Kemp is the lead senior mentor for the Marshall Freshman Transition program and does community service work through St. Thomas Episcopal Church in McLean.

Josh Leong and Sam Gollob, juniors at McLean High School

The two juniors created a 10-minute film documenting the struggles of Herman Wainggai, a human rights advocate from West Papua who escape political imprisonment by taking a boat to Australia. "Herman Wainggai: A Hidden Genocide" premiered at the Garifuna Indigenous Film Festival in Los Angeles in April, 2016.

Yosaph Boku, senior at Mount Vernon High School

Boku helped create a program that teaches disadvantaged youth and adults in his community computer skills. The senior also gives groups of counselors feedback, suggestions for encouraging more minority students to take advantage of advanced courses.

Roza Al Barznji, senior at Mountain View Alternative High School

Al Barznji came to the United States three years ago as a refugee from Northern Iraq, and works to help her classmates understand her Kurdish heritage using photography. She's also published seven stories about her own journey becoming a Kurdish American, the people of Syria and refugees in American communities, as well as made a documentary about American Thanksgiving traditions.

Members of Blossoming Beauties at Quander Road School

Young women in the Blossoming Beauties program work on both becoming more well-rounded and confident, as well as carrying out school and community projects together. In 2016, the group raised money for Bethany House shelter for female victims of domestic abuse; they've also also produced fleece blankets for New Hope Housing and their mission to end homelessness. In 2017, Blossoming Beauties is collaborating with A Space of Her

Own to target and support fifth grade girls avoiding delinquency.

Narjes Bencheikh, senior at South County High School

The South County senior helped co-found a Muslim Student Association and International Club at her school. The 50-person Muslim Student Association carries out role-playing exercises and discusses issues encountered in the community.

Emily Lockwood, senior at South Lakes High School

Lockwood mentors freshmen transitioning to high school and coaches track for children with special needs. For a school assignment, she worked with the

Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., to find primary and secondary sources looking at improving state and societal relations in Myanmar (Burma).

Maiss Mohamed and Deema Alharthi, juniors at JEB Stuart High School

The Stuart juniors revitalized their school's Model United Nations Club and have become active with Students in Training for Advocacy and Responsibility. They also participate in Key Club, Girls Up and Interact, and volunteer with groups including the Virginia Coalition of Latino Organization.

Members of TJ Minds Matter, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

The student-led group offers support for handling stress and disappointment, and provides resources for learning how to engage with someone in a crisis and non-crisis situation. TJ Minds Matter hosted a Mental Wellness Week in January this year, including days dedicated to random acts of kindness and stomping out stigma (surrounding mental illness).

Students with Combatting Intolerance at West Potomac High School

The Fairfax County class Combatting Intolerance was created in 2015 — West Potomac teacher Robert Kerr molds the curriculum around social justice topics, racism, sexism, welcoming immigrant and refugee students, and advocating for the rights of lesbian, gay, transgender and asexual students, staff and other people in the community. The 22-member class raises money to support small local non-profits and sponsored a school-wide Diversity Week.

Rodney Wrice, senior, and Audrey Wever, junior, West Springfield High School

Friends Wrice and Wever started a kindness campaign using candy bars and sticky notes to encourage positive messaging around the time of the 2016 Presidential election.



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OPINION

Stop Bullying Federal Workers

BY U.S. REP. DON BEYER (D-8) AND
U.S. REP. GERRY CONNOLLY (D-11)

Republicans hold control of all three branches of government, and therefore have a responsibility to lead the civil service that employs millions of Americans, and every American relies upon for myriad services. The overwhelming majority of federal workers are hardworking people who devote themselves to public service. They secure borders, keep food safe, advance scientific and medical research, deliver our mail, and provide care to many of us, including our veterans.

Republican leaders have repaid this service with repeated attacks.

In 2013, they shut down the government as a political stunt, and came hours away from doing it again in 2015 at the Department of Homeland Security. They enacted the Budget Control Act, which ultimately led to Sequestration, cutting the budget of every federal agency with the surgical precision of a meat-ax.

But since Republicans acquired total control over government, their treatment of federal workers has been beyond the pale.

On the first day of the new Congress, House Republicans passed a rules package over our loud objections containing a reinstatement of the Holman Rule, which would potentially allow Congress to engage in political retribution against federal workers by reducing any given employee's salary to \$1. Only three Republicans opposed the measure on the floor, none from Virginia or Maryland.

The Holman Rule was especially troubling in light of the new administration's so-called "enemies list" of employees who had worked



Beyer



Connolly

on specific policy areas for the Obama Administration, such as climate policy.

As one of his first actions, President Trump announced a hiring freeze for federal workers. This is terrible policy and a mindless approach to management that dodges hard decisions.

The Government Accountability Office studied past hiring freezes and found them "not effective." The government is more likely to rely on overtime and contract work, which often costs taxpayers more. Meanwhile, tens of thousands of Americans have total uncertainty in their professional lives. Agencies are unable to make efficient, long term plans, driving up costs and hurting morale. Over time, Americans trying to manage social security benefits, travel in airports, or secure healthcare will see the impact of this freeze when benefits are not mailed or airport security lines move much more slowly.

Two other classes of citizen are hit particularly hard: people with disabilities and veterans.

In 2015, due to Obama Administration initiatives, 19 percent of the federal government's new hires were people with disabilities. The federal government has hired

109,000 people with disabilities in the past five years.

Veterans stand to be among those hardest hit by the hiring freeze. The Veterans Administration is one of the largest federal employers, but is also significantly understaffed. Delivering the care promised to those who served in the armed forces depends on having effective staff to deliver that care.

Over 30 percent of the civilian federal workforce is made up of veterans, a number which has grown consistently as agencies prioritized hiring vets. Many of the positions held vacant by the hiring freeze would have gone to vets, and the progress we have made on veteran unemployment will be halted.

Contrary to this administration's claims, the federal workforce is dwindling as a share of the population. And 85 percent of federal workers are located outside the beltway. It is also aging, and over a third of the current feds will be eligible for retirement by September. Federal workers have been treated as a piggy bank by Congress for years now, their pay raises delayed or denied, they've been furloughed and had their benefits cut. Now their morale is hit by politicians who make them a political punching bag. A bill just proposed in Congress would make all federal workers "at-will" employees, exposing them to political retribution and punishment by a hostile administration without recourse.

The federal workforce is not, as Mr. Trump has said, a "swamp." It is a group of committed Americans who serve us, and they deserve better from Congress. The Republican Party has total control over the levers of government. Will any of its leaders have the decency or the courage to fight for the civil service which serves us all?

COMMENTARY

What Happens to Uninsured Virginians?

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

With the recent release of what is looking to be a detrimental and ill-planned Republican healthcare bill, and with major GOP candidates for Governor endorsing an irresponsible Medicaid block grant, Virginians are once again paying for the legislature's ongoing failure to expand Medicaid.

Both President Trump and the GOP in Congress promise to drastically change many of the health programs upon which millions of Americans rely. In addition to their plans to "repeal and replace" the successful Affordable Care Act (ACA) where an average of 34,445 Virginians per congressional district gained insurance from the Marketplace, there are threats to Medicaid and Medicare.

As your delegate to Richmond, I will do everything in my power at the state level to both prevent cuts to existing programs and promote needed improvements.

Even Virginia's GOP budget-committee leaders recognize a block grant of Medicaid funds

would expose the Commonwealth to hundreds of millions, perhaps billions, of dollars in health care costs that the federal government would no longer share with the state.

The proposed block grant would lock in Medicaid funds to states at their current rates. The irony of this proposal is that it would prove relatively harmless to the states that expanded Medicaid under Obamacare and punish the red states that did not.

That is because the states that expanded Medicaid have benefited from a healthier population, decreasing their costs over time, whereas states like Virginia that failed to expand Medicaid saw a compounding 6.5 percent increase in Medicaid expenditures through 2012 and 16 percent annual Medicaid cost increase since 2012, as more sick people find their way onto our Medicaid roles with the requirement they have health insurance and their inability to qualify for ACA subsidies until they reach the federal poverty level.

About one million Virginians rely on Medicaid. Children, pregnant women, parents, seniors and people with disabilities are the primary beneficiaries of our Medicaid program.

Despite the size and cost, Virginia's program is very restrictive and we rank only 47th in the country for per capita Medicaid spending.

In fact, we cannot legally spend any less on our program without violating requirements of the Social Security Act.

Upending the traditional 90:10 federal and state cost-sharing agreement, a Medicaid block grant would save federal dollars but push the expenses over to the state and require the General Assembly to raise your state taxes as your federal taxes would likely remain the same.

Block grants or "per capita caps" shift costs to states and hampers our ability to improve programs or respond to changing demographics, economic circumstances and medical innovations.

Because of Virginia's restrictive eligibility and refusal to expand Medicaid, the state would be seriously harmed if the federal government enacted the proposed restructures.

Experience suggests the most predictable result of merging social programs into broad block grants is substantial erosion in funding over time, with negative consequences on efforts to assist the people most in need.

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OPINION

The Sound of Heaven Touching Earth

BY KEARY KINCANNON
RISING HOPE MISSION CHURCH

Mark 1:14-15 — Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Anyone who knows the work of contemporary Gospel singer William McDowell, knows he has a way of lifting the gathered congregation to such heights of praise you can feel heaven and earth touch! One of my favorites of his songs is called "Spirit Break Out." The lyrics are simple and repeat themselves in a building crescendo of praise.

He starts by singing:

Our father, all of heaven roars your name,

Sing louder; let this place erupt with praise

Can you hear it, the sound of heaven touching earth!

The sound of heaven touching earth!

Then the song moves to a plea: Spirit Break out, Break our Walls down

Spirit break out, Heaven come down

Finally the song ends with: King Jesus, you're the name we're lifting high

Your glory, shaking up the earth and skies,

Revival, we wanna see your kingdom here

We wanna see your kingdom here.

I cannot remember a time where I have wanted to see God's kingdom here more than I do now.

On the morning of Feb. 8, seven or eight Latino men left our hypothermia shelter — a shelter that operates through the combined efforts of Ventures in Community,



Keary Kincannon speaks at the March 4 Vigil for the Immigrant & the Homeless.

New Hope Housing and Rising Hope Mission Church. As soon as the men got across the street, ICE agents swooped in on them and pounced on them.

And I pray, Lord have mercy. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We wanna see your kingdom here!

Congresswoman Linda Sanchez (chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus) recently met with the acting director of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) concerning the recent removals and the scope and breadth of the new executive order. She said the takeaway from that meeting is that under the new executive order the universe of people that are priority for removal is greatly expanded and now all are at risk. ICE told her that we can and should expect many more arrests and removals this year.

And I pray, Lord have mercy. Thy kingdom come,

SEE THE SOUND, PAGE 16

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Industry Experts Optimistic About State of Hospitality

FROM PAGE 1

peers around the country if the mandated budget cuts had affected hospitality in their localities. In 2013, when the rest of the nation was beginning to rise from the downturn, the negative impact of sequestration meant that all industry sectors and economic drivers in this region couldn't keep pace.

In addition to the increases in RevPar in 2016, occupancy rates have also been on the rise: "71.3 percent in Fairfax County are the latest figures for last year, 'again, something we haven't enjoyed for a while,'" said Biggar.

Being a "company town" can also have its benefits, as well as its disadvantages. Carrier and Biggar both saw opportunities in the proposed funding increases for the military. Those benefits may be more largely felt in the southern part of the states, if monies are allocated to building new naval vessels and equipment, but increased support services in Northern Virginia could also translate into additional room nights for local lodging establishments.

The overall positive outlook of the panel members came with some concerns and cautions of challenges by the industry experts.

Brand USA's Rheem noted that airline bookings, an important measuring tool used



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE GAZETTE

Jim Corcoran, (far left) CEO of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, moderates a panel of industry experts at the "State of Hospitality under the New Administration" forum.

to predict lodging trends, were down significantly since the start of the year.

"Vacation travel is a lot about emotion," said Rheem. Travel bans and the perception of cultural divides can create an atmosphere of personal insecurity, and "security always ranks at the top of travel surveys," added Biggar.

Rheem has found in her research that travellers from Canada and Europe, "and, to no one's real surprise, Mexico seem to view the new administration the most nega-

tively." More discretionary travellers from those places indicate that they will wait and see how things shape up before visiting the United States, as opposed to Chinese and other Asian travellers for whom politics seem less of a factor in their travel decisions. "In some places, we use local voices to push our message that the U.S. is still a great place to come to," said Rheem.

Biggar held up an article from a newspaper in Canada that suggested its citizens also wait, "maybe as long as four years. The

Grand Canyon and Disney World will still be there."

Brand USA has also found that currency rates are playing a big role in travellers' choices. For other than political reasons, many Canadians and others are choosing Mexico for their sunshine holidays. "Why not?" remarked Rheem. "Mexico is 30-40 percent cheaper, the U.S. 20-30 percent more expensive right now."

BUDGET AND POLICY uncertainties add to the concerns that hoteliers and other Northern Virginia businesses have when trying to assess the impact of the new administration on the regional economy. Reports that major cuts to agencies and programs like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Federal Emergency Management System, and even the Coast Guard, as the President seeks ways to pay for the promised protective wall along the country's southern border, have all local business on high alert.

Still, when asked by event moderator Jim Corcoran, the CEO of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, if they voted "positive or negative" for the 2017 hospitality outlook, all four of the panelists ultimately gave their thumbs-up.

"Of course, it's early days," said Biggar, "but in the long run, Trump knows our business. He is all about trade. This could be a positive."

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ART



Azita Mashayekhi's exhibit, "Extraordinary Ordinary, A Photography Medley," at the Montebello Condominiums Community Center/Café.

Her First Solo Exhibit

Mashayekhi presents "Extraordinary Ordinary, A Photography Medley."

Artist Azita Mashayekhi is inviting the Alexandria community and beyond to her photography exhibit at the Montebello Condominiums Community Center/Café, through March 17, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. She can be present, by appointment, in the evenings.

She has been exhibiting in the Washington area since late 2014 at galleries and at various events, including at Montebello group shows. This is her first solo exhibit.

She states: "The name of the show, 'Extraordinary Ordinary, A Photography Medley,' is derived from the fact that I take most of my photos of seemingly ordinary things and sights that surround us in daily life, yet they seem extraordinary when photographed, close-up or at certain angles or lighting. Medley refers to the mix of styles (abstract and realist), and the variety of materials that I have used for printing.

"I have taken photography classes but what has especially influenced my style is the abstract painting classes I took at the Art League in Alexandria. "My background in the sciences has also reinforced my curiosity and desire to experiment with styles and materials. I have explored printing my photos on new materials, such as metal (aluminum), plex-glass (acrylic), canvas, paper (framed, standout), wood, and glass."

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SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 18

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Practice Makes Perfect

Local educators share strategies for getting children to practice music.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When Linda Gulyn's son reached high school age and asked to quit his clarinet lessons, the Arlington mother of four declined his request.

"My son Timmy is an excellent clarinet player. The philosophy I've established in my house is that music is part of your overall education like science or math, so you can't just quit," said Gulyn, saxophonist, former music teacher and professor of psychology at Marymount University.

During the month of March, which is designated as Music in our Schools Month, educators highlight the benefits of quality music education programs. Part of a music education is practice, encouraging that in children can be daunting for some parents.

For children who play a musical instrument, regular practice is not only a path toward proficiency, it helps establish discipline that is useful in other areas of one life's.

This habit, however, must be established purposefully says John Kilkenny, assistant professor of music at George Mason University. "Treat practice time like a part of

child's daily routine," he said. "They have to have a consistent time for practice. For example, they come home from school each day, have a snack and practice for 30 minutes."

One key to keeping children motivated to practice is setting goals, be they long-term or for the current practice session.

"Goal-oriented practice for younger kids, like a recital to work toward, for example is a good motivator," said Kilkenny. "The biggest thing is consistency, practicing at or near the same time every day just like everything else they do so that it becomes part of their routine."

For practice sessions to be effective, they must be organized and purposeful. This is another area where goal setting can be useful says, Ann McCoy, who teaches piano and violin in her Bethesda, Md. home. "Maybe a goal for a child who is working on a particularly dif-

ficult piece of music could be to spend their practice time perfecting three or four measures," she said. "Rather than focusing on practicing for a set amount of time, they could practice until the can play the three measures perfectly and then they're finished for the day. That is more effective than saying sitting for 30 minutes without accomplishing something specific."

Adding a light-hearted element to practice, which can be seen by some children as laborious, also encourages students to practice. "There should be some sense that playing the instrument is supposed to be fun and students should ... have some flexibility beyond a rigid experiences,"

said Kilkenny. "It shouldn't feel like it's a negative experience."

For parents who have trouble getting a child to start a practice session, McCoy recommends trying different times of the day.

"For example, I had one mother who had screaming matches with her children to get them to practice after they'd finished their homework in the evening," she said. "She changed their practice time to the mornings after breakfast, but before they left for school. That made a huge difference in their willingness to practice because they were rested and in a better mood."

Parents should be realistic about their child's temperament and musical talent said Gulyn.

"A child is only going to enjoy playing an instrument if they're good at it and parents have to be realistic about that," said Gulyn. "Music isn't easy for everyone."

Choosing a teacher who is a good fit for one's child can have an effect on their desire to practice. "Ask around for recommendations, but find a teacher who inspires their students," said Gulyn.

"It's important to make sure the teacher is somebody who is credentialed and has degrees in music and also that they're continuing to be engaged professionally as teachers and performers," added Kilkenny. "Usually in terms of choosing a teacher, parents and children should have an opportunity to try a sample private lesson."

"Treat practice time like a part of a child's daily routine. They have a consistent time for practice."

— John Kilkenny,
George Mason University



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Chantilly High School
Saturday, March 18
10 am to 12 pm

Co-sponsored by Supervisor Kathy Smith, Chantilly HS STEM Academy, and Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

Oakton High School
Saturday, March 18
1 pm to 3 pm

Co-sponsored by Supervisor Linda Smyth and Oakton HS Marketing Department

West Springfield High School
Saturday, April 1
12 pm to 2 pm

Co-sponsored by West Springfield HS Student Government and Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce

South County Secondary School
Saturday, April 29
11 am to 1 pm

Co-sponsored by Supervisor Dan Storck, South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, South County Federation, and South County Secondary School

To register as an employer or student, or for more information, please visit
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfair.htm

ENTERTAINMENT

Local Filmmakers at Bethesda Film Fest

Films include art of painting with wax, history of collard greens, and a doctor walking the line of his own morality.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

The fifth-annual Bethesda Film Fest will take place on Friday and Saturday, March 17-18, and will feature five short documentaries made by local filmmakers. The same five documentary films will be shown at each of three screenings, which feature filmmakers from Virginia, Maryland or Washington, D.C., and each screening is followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. They will be held at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., in downtown Bethesda. The cost is \$10.

The films, which are under 20 minutes each, include: “Charlie & Sam” by Ben Powell and Taylor Powell of Falls Church; “The Culture of Collards” by Vanina Harel of Washington, D.C., and Aditi Desai of Arlington; “Encaustic” by Joe Dzikiewicz of Alexandria and Jaclyn O’Laughlin of Arlington; “Frogman” by Tyler Trumbo of Richmond; and “The Sandman” by Lauren Knapp of Alexandria.

Filmmaker Jaclyn O’Laughlin of Arlington created the five-minute film, “Encaustic,” with Joe Dzikiewicz of Alexandria about a small community of artists that practice the ancient art of encaustic painting, which is painting with melted wax. This art form dates back to the Egyptian times

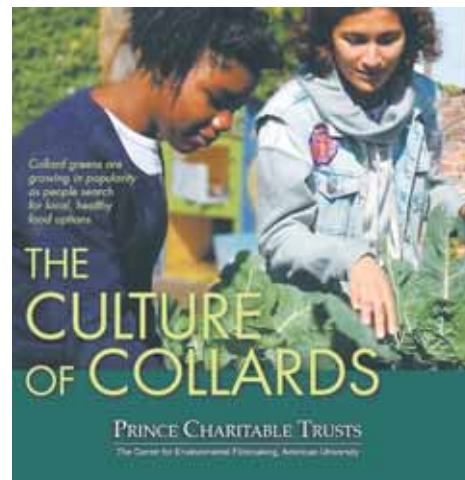
and had a resurgence in the 1950s with artist Jasper Johns.

“My filmmaking partner Joe and I competed in a timed competition through Docs In Progress in Silver Spring, Md., and we only had two days to make our documentary. It was challenging to find a subject matter for our film within a tight timeframe and individuals who would agree to be interviewed on such short notice,” said O’Laughlin.

“The stars really aligned for us and we found some amazing encaustic artists who agreed to be filmed, and the subject matter was also visually appealing and really perfect for a five-minute film,” she said.

Dzikiewicz added: “The big challenge in making this film was filming four interviews and B-roll or background shots on Friday and Saturday and then doing all the editing on Sunday.”

Lauren Knapp of Alexandria made the 19-minute film, “The Sandman,” which explores the issue of capital punishment from the perspective of medicine. She said at the center of the film is Dr. Carlo Musso, who has been helping the state of Georgia execute inmates by lethal injection since 2003, adding that the medical community strongly opposes the use of medicine for executions. Yet, she says, most states practicing lethal injection require a physician presence. In exchange, they offer a cloak of anonymity.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

“The Culture of Collards” by Vanina Harel of Washington, D.C., and Aditi Desai of Arlington.

Her film explores Musso’s own moral equivocation and justification for providing “end of life care” within the correctional environment, while personally opposing capital punishment.

“Because of the controversial nature of the job, most participating health care professionals remain anonymous,” she said. “And so it was difficult to find the names of individuals participating — let alone someone interested in actually talking with me.”

Vanina Harel of Washington, D.C., made the nine-minute film, “The Culture of Collards,” with Aditi Desai of Arlington about collards greens, which were brought to the American South with the slave trade, and represent a critical aspect of African-American cultural history.

“This project was particularly interesting



“Encaustic” by Jaclyn O’Laughlin of Arlington and Joe Dzikiewicz of Alexandria.



“The Sandman” by Lauren Knapp of Alexandria.

because it combined the topics of food security, sustainable farming, and culture. We also had three different locations and characters with different activities,” she said. “The biggest challenge was to figure out how to intertwine the three in a successful way in such a short amount of time.”

❖ ❖ ❖

The hours of the Bethesda Film Fest are at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 17; and at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 18. It is produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District. For details, visit www.bethesda.org.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery.

Through March 19 at Torpedo Factory, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. Cosmic Sights and Sounds, comes as the winter night sky’s grand collection of brilliant stars begins to give way to the vernal equinox. This show will also highlight the work of featured artists Carol Bodin, Mickey Kunkle, and Lynda Prioleau. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum’s Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the curator” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of

Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Pick-Up Hockey.

Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/ or call 703-768-3224 for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 16

Chamber After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch, 5 Cameron St. Networking event. Members \$10, non-members \$25, members at the door \$25. Visit www.alexchamber.com/ for more.

Author Claudia Kalb. 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St. An award-winning journalist will deliver “Inside the Minds of History’s Great Personalities with a French Twist” talk and have her latest book, the New York Times bestseller “Andy Warhol was a Hoarder.” \$5. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

Vanessa Carlton in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Part of a 20-date solo tour. \$110. Visit birchmere.com.

FRIDAY/MARCH 17

Spring Garden Kickoff. 1:30-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603

Green Spring Road. Learn tips for the lawn and garden from Master Gardeners including best practices for selecting plants and starting seedlings. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2901896101 or call 703-642-5173 for more.

Opening Reception. 6:30-9 p.m. at the Principle Gallery, 208 King St. For Principle Gallery with Kevin Fitzgerald. Visit www.principlegallery.com/alexandria for more.

St. Patrick’s Day Free Rides. Free Lyft rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout Alexandria. Visit www.soberride.com for more.

MARCH 17-19

Cherry Blossom Monuments

Cruise. Departing at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. from the waterfront at Cameron and Union streets. View and listen to the history of the monuments, memorials and bridges on the Potomac River and see the cherry blossoms. \$30 round-trip for adults on weekends; \$17 roundtrip for adults on weekdays; \$16 round-trip for children under 12 on weekends; \$10 round-trip for children under 12 on weekdays. Visit VisitAlexandriaVA.com/spring or call 703-684-0580 for more.

MARCH 17-18

Local Documentaries. Screenings at

various times at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Local filmmakers include Ben Powell and Taylor Powell, Falls Church, with film “Charlie & Sam,” Vanina Harel and Aditi Desai, Arlington, with film “The Culture of Collards,” Joe Dzikiewicz and Jaclyn O’Laughlin from Arlington and Alexandria with film “Encaustic,” and Lauren Knapp of Alexandria, with “The Sandman.” \$10. Visit www.bethesda.org or call 301-215-6660 for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Advocacy Workshop. 1-4 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to effectively use the voice to create change by speaking up for the environment. Visit audubonva.org/contact-stacey for more information.

Author Discusses Historic

Furniture. 2 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Hal Stuart, author of Virginia Sectional Furniture 1800-1860, compares two of 19th century Virginia’s most successful furniture makers – James Green of Alexandria and African-American entrepreneur Thomas Day. \$5 in advance, \$7 the day of the program. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789 for more.

Silent Auction. 5:30-8 p.m. at The Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square. Benefit for the Alexandria Symphony. Reception and silent auction at 6 p.m., dinner, dancing

and auction at 8 p.m. Call 703-888-0367 or email annarusi@live.com for more.

Country-Western Dance. 6-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association is sponsoring the dance. \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941.

Tom Rush in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com.

MARCH 18-19

Women of Civil War Alexandria Tour. 11 a.m. Tour starts at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Presented by the National Women’s History Museum. \$15. Call 703-461-1920 or visit www.nwhm.org/get-involved/events/walking-tours.

SUNDAY/MARCH 19

Understanding America in the Trump Era. 10 a.m.-noon at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. This event features Robert Siegel senior correspondent and host of “All Things Considered,” and Dante Chinni, journalist and author. Call 703-370-9400 for more.

DEADLINE MARCH 19

2017 Open Exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory, 201 N. Union St.

ENTERTAINMENT

Pipeline Playwrights' Next Reading

"The Men My Mother Loved" at MetroStage.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

Pipeline Playwrights will present its next reading of the world premiere play, "The Men My Mother Loved," by Soo-Jin Lee on Monday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. at MetroStage in Alexandria. In the play, a vacation to Korea turns a mother-daughter relationship into an exploration of why it's worth reuniting with ex-boyfriends. Through family, food, and former lovers, Jang-Mi, a 54-year-old Korean immigrant woman, drags her Korean American daughter, Sun Young, through life's most important lessons — who to love, how to love, who to kiss, and who to marry.

"This is a tale about your average immigrant mother who wants to teach her Korean-American daughter life lessons about love and marriage," said playwright Soo-Jin Lee, who spent eight years working on the play. "It is culturally specific but my hope as a playwright is to expose and reinforce to those already familiar with this, that even



Soo-Jin Lee

though we may speak different languages and were possibly raised in different cultures, human relationships are eerily the same."

She wanted to show how one mother uses men as a vehicle to admire and possibly

even worship herself. "Because most of our present world is still a patriarchal society, women are stereotypically seen as the weaker half, the nurturers, or the martyrs," she said. As a 54-year-old, the mother in the story is empowered in the affairs of love and relationships, she said. "She is trying to pass this baton of fierceness and fearlessness to love to her daughter, but how willing is the daughter to listen and learn from her mother's past?"

Lee said she wants people to walk away from the play learning something or feeling something new for the Korean immigrant/Korean American experience. "Some audience members may know the culture intimately because they were raised in it. Others may hardly know anything about it," she said.

The reading will be directed by Flordelino Lagundino and will feature these Asian-American actors: Tuyet Pham, Regina Aquino Smith, Jennifer Knight, Stan Kang, Steve Lee, Al Twanmo, and Amy Hard.

Lagundino said he's hoping that audiences go away having laughed, and nodded in agreement that they see something about themselves in the play. "This is whether you come from an Asian-American background or from whatever ethnicity you identify as. Soo-Jin's play is a story about family and love and how we find ourselves when we are put in unfamiliar situations. It is about self-discovery, and the importance of following your own path," he said.

Kang plays Kyung Tae, the mayor of Koje Island and one of the men that Jang Mi loved. "She is the one who got away and he still loves her despite all of the time distance between them," he said. One of his challenges was to try to make Kyung Tae remain a sympathetic character despite his infidelity to his wife, he added.

Smith plays the role of Jang Mi, who is both a matriarch and a young woman as the story is told from different places in time through her life. "She's a life-force that is full of love yet still longing for something more and has been since the day she was born," she said.

"The biggest challenge is being true to the

character regardless of what age she is in any given scene," she said. "The heart of Jang Min is always the same, but her objectives and understanding of the world around her changes from scene to scene. So, the key is finding that heart and letting it drive her actions."

Hard plays the role of Sun Young, the daughter who gets the opportunity to travel with mom back to Korea for a mix of fun and obligation. "She is a young Korean-American woman dealing with her own questions regarding tradition, expectations, loyalty, privacy, culture — and how they shape (intentionally, naturally, accidentally) her relationships," she said.

She said the show will have Asian-Americans connecting on many levels — "what we share, what we disagree with, what makes us so different," she said. "I hope it makes people question, laugh, talk to family in a deeper way — or respect why they cannot, and gasp at Soo-Jin's vulnerable and raw honesty in sharing her story."

The first reading of "The Men My Mother Loved" by Soo-Jin Lee will be held on Monday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St., Alexandria. After the reading, enjoy Korean food and refreshments and informal conversation with the playwright and actors. See www.facebook.com/events/247702042346106/.



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Mount Vernon Gazette

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online

SENIOR LIVING

This expanded pullout section will include stories focusing on enhanced lifestyle for seniors among Connection readers and their families, including spiritual, physical, mental and financial well-being. Target the neighborhoods of the top suburban communities with the highest home values, incomes and spending power with many mature adults exploring their many opportunities. Showcase your products and services in this special pullout section with the award-winning Connection Newspapers print and digital media.

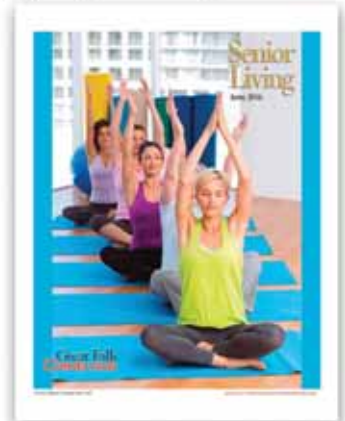
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ENTERTAINMENT

Blending Entertainment with Dinner

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

This week's cold snap may have shaken most of the cherry blossoms loose, but the month-long celebration of the United States' friendship with Japan continues apace. Beginning March 15, the National Park Service's Cherry Blossom Festival launched to celebrate all things Japanese. Here are three Japanese steakhouses to visit for a celebratory taste — and with the right grill master, a great show with dinner.

Sumo, 2016 Eisenhower Ave.

It's easy to speed past Sumo, tucked in the middle of a strip of restaurants across from the Patent and Trademark Office. But come dinnertime, take a few minutes to pull in and grab a seat at one of the restaurant's hibachi tables — you'll be glad you did.

The menu sports a plethora of hibachi entrees, ranging from a vegetable-only meal to a "lover's dinner for two" with steak, chicken, lobster and shrimp. Between these extremes await two dozen choices based on your taste (and budget) for the evening. No matter your selection, you'll be treated to soup, salad, and a shrimp appetizer, as well as fried rice and noodles with your meal. Bottom line: Bring your appetite; there's a lot of food to consume, and it's all worthy of your time.

Tokyo Japanese Steak House, 66 Canal Center Plaza

Tokyo Japanese Steak House — or "TJSH" on much of its branding — wins the award for Most Hidden



Tucked away facing the Potomac River, Tokyo Japanese Steak House is a hidden gem.

Restaurant in Alexandria by far. Tucked away on the first floor of Canal Center, facing the Potomac River, you've got to know of this hibachi's existence to ever stumble upon it. But take the time to venture to this more corporate corner of Old Town — good things await you.

Like many of its competitors, TJSH has a non-hibachi menu filled with teriyaki and the like, it's best to scan right down to the teppanyaki section and choose from an array of entrees to be cooked right in front of you. From chicken and shrimp to steak and lobster, scallops to a vegetarian option, you'll find a great many options to choose from. And a trip to Tokyo Japanese can easily be a family affair; the restaurant has several choices on its kids' menu for younger diners.

Samurai Hibachi and Sushi Bar, 4603 Duke St.

Residents of Cameron Station or Alexandria's West End needn't venture all the way to Old Town to get their hibachi fix. Located in the Shops of Foxchase, Samurai Hibachi hits the spot quite nicely. With an array of hibachi tables and an extensive teppanyaki menu, you're sure to find both a seat and a good meal.

Especially of note are Samurai's lunch specials, which ring in from \$9 (vegetable) to \$15 (steak and shrimp). Since visiting a hibachi is entertainment with a meal, the prices can tend to hike up, but taking advantage of the lunchtime offering will bring the budget back down to baseline.

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

CALENDAR

Open call for proposals for a solo exhibition in the summer of 2017. The individual or group associated with the chosen proposal will receive a solo exhibition in Target Gallery from July 13–Sept. 3. The artist(s) will also receive a \$1,000 stipend. Call 703-746-4590 or visit torpedofactory.org/target for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 21

Megan Beyer Lecture. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Discussion with Megan Beyer, an arts and gender equality advocate, and journalist. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Documenting 20th Century Lives. 1-3 p.m. at at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Historian Zack Wilske talks about historical records available through the Genealogy Program of the US Citizenship and Immigration Services and the National Archives. Free. Visit www.mvgenalogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

MARCH 21-26

Spring Book Sale. 4-8:30 p.m. at Charles E. Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. \$3 or less, unless specifically marked: hardbacks, paperbacks, children's books and audio-visual items. All genres. \$1 day on Sunday, March 26. Visit www.beatleyfriends.org or call 703-746-1702 for more.

MARCH 21-APRIL 23

3-Dimensional Views Artshow. Various times at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. This show will also highlight the work of three featured artists: Emma Bednar, Gayle Roehm, and Emma Thompson. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartgallery.com or call 703-548-0935 for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 22

WWI Airman Experiences. 7 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. "Lecture-A Great War Veteran with a Love of History," focusing on Lloyd Diehl Schaeffer, an airman of the Great War. Free for Alexandria Historical Society members, \$5 for non-members. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994 for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 23

Greendale Women's Golf League. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre Drive. The Greendale Women's Golf Association is an 18-hole league that plays once a week on Thursday mornings at the Greendale Golf Course on Telegraph Road. The league is open to experienced golfers of all abilities. Join the information session to discuss the upcoming golf season. Call 703-399-6496 or visit gwgl.wordpress.com for more.

Kasey Chambers in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt.

Vernon Ave. Seth Walker opens. Visit www.birchmere.com or sethwalker.com/ for more.

MARCH 24-APRIL 16

Water Taxi to National Mall. Departing at 11:10 a.m., 1:35 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. from the waterfront at Cameron and Union streets. Potomac Riverboat Company offers a 30-minute direct water taxi to the National Mall in Washington, D.C. to access events of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, including the Blossom Kite Festival. \$28 round-trip for adults, \$16 one-way for adults; \$16 round-trip for children under 12; \$8 one-way for children under 12. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/water-taxi/national-mall/ or call 703-684-0580 for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 24

Women of Civil War Alexandria Tour. 11 a.m. Tour starts at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Presented by the National Women's History Museum. \$15. Call 703-461-1920 or visit www.nwhm.org/get-involved/events/walking-tours.
Photographer Lecture. 7-9 p.m. Gallery at Convergence, 1081 N. Quaker Lane. Nina Tisara's photographic series: "Converging Paths and United in the Spirit," and "Witnessing Worship: Connecting through the lens of faith," will run March 17 to June 17. Call 703-998-6260 for more.



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The Sound of Heaven Touching Earth

FROM PAGE 9

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We wanna see your kingdom here!

Tuesday word leaked that President Trump's address to Congress would offer a compromise on Immigration Reform. But we soon discovered that his "Merit Based" immigration proposal is code for "cream of the crop only." If you are like us and already have an education, established businesses and skills, then you have merit. There was no recognition that those who come with nothing, are fleeing a life of poverty or even violence, can come to our great land and build a life of merit.

And I pray, Lord have mercy. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We wanna see your kingdom here!

On Wednesday, Daniella Vargas, a 22-year-old dreamer, was arrested after a press conference where she was telling the story of how her father and brother were arrested on their way to work. As a family they have been in the United States for 15 years, working hard and creating a productive life for themselves; contributing to the community. Daniella is in school to become a math professor. But because the family overstayed their 90 day Visa Waiver 15 years ago, ICE announced they are now pursuing immediate deportation without a court hearing or bond.

And I pray, Lord have mercy. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We wanna see your kingdom here!

When Jesus started his ministry he started it saying: *"The Time has come; the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the Good News!"*

Jesus is telling us that this is the time! Don't wait! Act Now! Another world is possible! *The Kingdom of God is at hand*, it is within reach, in our grasp. But we have to repent and believe the Good News to receive it. To repent means to reorient our values. Turn away from the self-serving values of the world and toward the inclusive

love of God.

God offers transformation to all. The Good News is that another world is possible. But we must act upon it, accept God's love, grace, and mercy in our lives; recognize God loves everyone — no exceptions, and start living God's love, grace, and mercy towards all.

When the son of God is telling us that "Another world is possible" we need to listen. And instead of acting in fear of each other, start figuring out how to work with each other to make it happen.

Our life together in the United States is not a "Zero Sum Game." Jesus teaches us that if we seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness then all we need and more will be added to us. Another world is possible. In the words of the Gospel singer William McDowell, *"Can you hear it, the sound of heaven touching earth?"*

There are enough of us from all faith traditions that understand love unites, while greed, hate and exclusivity divides. There are enough of us who understand the kind of world God created and the kind of world God wants. We want to see his kingdom here. Thy kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

The time has come, the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the Good news.

To repent and believe the good news means we have to start living it and acting on it now. There is no time to waste. Don't agonize, organize.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

When I was asked to join a prayer vigil and press conference at ICE Regional headquarters, I did it to stand up as a witness to the truth of God's love for all. Yet I was not sure I wanted to take this to another level. When I arrived I was encouraged to take this action because my District Superintendent (who I report to) was there to support and encourage me.

And again I was encouraged and emboldened because an old friend and mentor, Jim Wallis, from Sojourners magazine, a progressive Christian voice for spiritual renewal and social justice, was there



U.S. Rep. Don Beyer, the Rev. Kearney Kincannon and Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam

to encourage me to speak boldly for God.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

Later that afternoon my Bishop called to say, *"Well done good and faithful servant."* She too encouraged and lent her support. It is important that we support one another in standing for righteousness. Today she contacted me to lend her support and encouragement before our prayer vigil.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

Governor McAuliffe, Senators Kaine and Warner, have all issued letters asking Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly to explain what's going on with the ICE Raids. Governor McAuliffe asked "why are they detaining Virginia residents without cause or allegations of specific criminal activity?" Kaine and Warner have issued statements that they are not getting satisfactory answers.

Senator Warner invited me to be his guest at President Trump's first address to Congress. Seventeen other members of Congress invited others to the speech who are either undocumented, dreamers, or immigration advocates, as a way of saying Trump's vision of America is not our vision.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

Congressman Don Beyer, Senator Tim Kaine, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, and Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham and a host of our local elected officials show up at a press conference at Rising Hope to say we will not stand for this kind of treatment toward immigrants.

Can you hear it? The Sound of heaven touching earth!

On Wednesday the Chicago Catholic Cardinal tells his priests if federal immigration authorities knock on the doors of their parishes without a warrant, priests should turn them away and call the archdiocese's lawyers.

On Thursday the Cardinal from the Archdiocese of Washington issued a statement that the church's values compel it to oppose the deportation of people already living in the United States.

The Rev. Jeff Mickle, the United Methodist District Superintendent for the Alexandria District, issued a letter to Methodist clergy quoting Christian activist Jim Wallis, *"If the choice is between honoring a president's campaign promise or honoring the commands of Jesus, the Church has no choice but to follow Jesus, even if it leads us to stand up against the actions of the government."*

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

Today! Look around you. Look at you here; hundreds coming out today on a very cold day to show support to the immigrant in our community. Saying we stand with you. We pray for you. We will work for your safety and the safety of our community. We are one. We welcome you in our community.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

Another World is possible but we have to repent and believe the Good News. We have to live it. We have to act on it. We cannot take it for granted. The time to organize is now. The Kingdom of God is at hand.

Can you hear it? The sound of heaven touching earth!

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6:30 pm Vigil Mass
(en Español)

Sunday:
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(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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EMPLOYMENT

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY



Mrs. Mary "Jean" Baker (Wade) passed away peacefully at ManorCare in Alexandria, VA, on Monday, March 6, 2017, at the age of 85. She is preceded in death by her husband, Edward Baker, also of Alexandria, and her brother, Walter L. Wade, of CA. Jean is survived by her brother, Richard S. "Dick" Wade and his wife, Margaret "Betty" Wade of Manassas, VA, as well as two nieces, Ann Hornsby of CA, and Wanda Keith of FL, and two nephews, Richard E. Wade and Jonathan O. Wade of Manassas, VA. Jean was born on August 28, 1931, in Alexandria, VA, to Calvin and Mary Wade. She graduated from Mount Vernon High School. Jean worked as the Administrative Assistant to the General at Fort Belvoir for the US Army. Jean was a long time resident of the Mt. Vernon area in Fairfax County. She was an excellent communicator and writer. She enjoyed writing letters to her family and friends. A graveside service is scheduled for Saturday, March 11, 2017, at 10:00 AM. The Reverend Thomas A. Castle will officiate the ceremony at Pohick Episcopal Church in Lorton, VA. Friends are invited to attend and celebrate Jean's life with her family. In lieu of flowers, please send donations in her memory to Pohick Episcopal Church.

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-Ethiopian Proverb

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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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

AN ORDINANCE making supplemental appropriations for the support of the Alexandria City Public Schools for fiscal year 2017.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the adoption of supplemental appropriations for the operation of the Alexandria City Public Schools in fiscal year 2017.

AN ORDINANCE to amend Section 2-4-116 of Article P (Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS) of Chapter 4 (Committees, Boards and Commissions) of Title 2 (General Government) of the City of Alexandria Code.

The proposed ordinance would remove members from entities that no longer exist or work on HIV/AIDS issues in Northern Virginia, as well as adding more at-large citizen members to the Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 9-301 (REVIEW REQUIRED) under Section 9-300 (SIGNS WITHIN THE OLD AND HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA, PARKER-GRAY AND 100 YEAR OLD BUILDING DISTRICT) of Article IX (SIGNS) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2016-0008.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of Text Amendment No. 2016-0008 to update and revise sign regulations in historic districts.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following Saturday.

JACKIEM. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

Light tomorrow with today!
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 17-02-05

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking responses from qualified Offerors interested in Project Management (PM) Services for the New West End Elementary School.

Sealed Responses with the notation RFP# 17-02-05 Project Management Services for West End Elementary, will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, April 10, 2017. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Responses appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFQ documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the RFQ from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing>, after registration on the Vendor Self Service system.

All questions must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., on April 3, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

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

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFQ and/or reject any or all applications and to waive any informalities in any response.

Sharon T. Lewis M.P.S., CPPB, VCO
Director of Procurement & General Services

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HELP WANTED

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The Fairfax Station/Clifton/
Lorton Connection
Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette
Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
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-Theodore
Roosevelt

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 11

holiday service project. Register and learn more at
<http://britepaths.org>. Contact 703-273-8829 or
hpassist@britepaths.org.

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center** in Alexandria is
hosting a one-time Repair Cafe event on May 6,
10 a.m.-2 p.m. All types of handy volunteers are
needed. Instructors are needed for the following
classes: basic art with a focus on acrylic
painting, basic woodworking, Italian and
ballroom dance. They also need a piano
instructor, and a garden helper. Meals on
Wheels drivers, substitute drivers, and co-
ordinators are needed for routes throughout
the county. Much of the coordination can be
completed via phone and computer. Call 703-
324-5406, email
VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or visit
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/
volunteer-solutions.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm).

THURSDAY/MARCH 16

Legal Issues for Small Businesses. 8:30-10
a.m. at Holiday Inn & Suites, 6055 Richmond
Highway. New to business? An experienced
hand? Don't get bogged down by contracts,
intellectual property questions, to incorporate or
not, and volatile partners. Join SFDC as we kick-
off the 2017 Business Roundtable Speaker Series
season with attorneys Jennifer Schiffer and
Jennifer Elgin, from Bean Kinney & Korman P.C.
Visit sfdc.org to register.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Lions Membership Drive. 11 a.m. in the St.
Louis School Cafeteria, 2907 Popkins Lane. The
Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club will be
having a membership information meeting.
Learn about the Lions: who they are and the
projects they support in the community and
worldwide. Email mvelions@yahoo.com, visit
www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/mountvernonelc/,
or call 703-960-4973.

THURSDAY/MARCH 23

Volunteer Orientation. Don't pass up the
chance to work side-by-side with county
archeologists and historians in both the field and
in the lab. Join the corps of volunteers working
with the Fairfax County Archaeological Research
Team (CART). Prospective archaeology
volunteers are asked to attend an Archaeology
New Volunteer Orientation prior to applying for
lab or field volunteer positions. Register by
clicking on the link under Volunteering at
cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/help-us/.

Groundbreaking Ceremony. 10 a.m. near the
entrance to Huntington Park, located at the end
of Liberty Drive, near the Arlington Terrace
intersection (5601 Liberty Drive). The Fairfax
County Department of Public Works and
Environmental Services will hold a
groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of
construction on the Huntington Levee. A new
levee and pumping station will protect the
Huntington community from catastrophic
flooding.

Chamber Networking Event. 5:30-7:30 p.m.,
at Embassy Suites, 8100 Loisdale Road,
Springfield. Free for Chamber members and
their guests, \$25 for others. Contact Mount
Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce at 703-360-
6925 or visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org.

DEADLINE APRIL 1

Football Scholarships. The National Capital
Region Chapter of the National Football
Foundation is accepting nominations for five
\$1000 scholarships to high school senior scholar
athletes who played high school football.
Nominees are evaluated on academic and
athletic excellence, as well as contributions to
their school and community. Nomination
packets have been mailed to each high school
head coach in the National Capital Region. Visit
www.footballfoundation.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 6

2017 Economic Outlook Summit. 8-11:30
a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort
Hunt Road. The summit is hosted in partnership
between Southeast Fairfax Development
Corporation and the Mount Vernon-Lee
Chamber of Commerce, and is one of the
premier economic forums in Fairfax County.
Individual admission is \$35. Visit [mtvernon-
lee-chamber.chambermaster.com/events/details/
economic-outlook-2017-2704](http://mtvernon-lee-chamber.chambermaster.com/events/details/economic-outlook-2017-2704).

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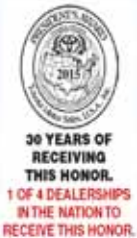
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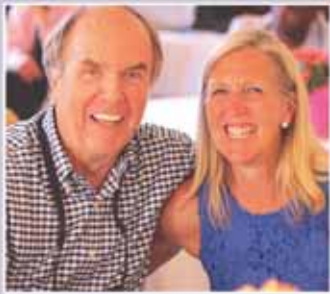
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River Views!



Classic brick colonial in prime location on large lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac. Just steps from the private marina for the exclusive use of the Mount Vernon on the Potomac residents. Special features include: large room sizes, spacious custom kitchen, expansive master suite with river views, finished lower level with full bath & walk out, oversized 2 car garage, dramatic deck with view of river.



8401 Fort Hunt Rd.

Fabulous Waynewood!

Spacious Home with many significant updates in premier Waynewood location. Numerous special features include: 4 BR's including ex-

panded Master Suite with luxury bath, home freshly painted throughout and newly finished hardwood floors, true oversize side load two car garage. Expansive custom deck overlooks fenced rear yard. Great opportunity!



4325 Adrienne Dr.

\$615,000

Fabulous Southwood!

Spacious colonial with three finished levels on excellent condition with substantial up-

dates throughout. Features include: 4/5 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths, updated kitchen & baths, Family room off kitchen with beautiful stone fireplace, thermal replacement windows, hardwood floors, & 2 car garage. Gorgeous setting on large corner lot. Great value!



5427 Grist Mill Woods Way
\$899,000

4601 Cornwallis Ct.
\$475,000



9027 McNair Dr.
\$585,000

Fabulous Home!

Spacious grounds and updated home in pristine condition on half acre lot. Features include: open floor plan, updated

kitchen, hardwood floors, thermal windows, fireplace, custom screened porch with cathedral ceiling overlooks private rear grounds. Surrounded by Country Club grounds and beautiful 75 acre Grist Mill Park!



4221 Dandridge Terr
\$598,500

Beautifully Updated!

Priced to sell - fabulously updated home in Southwood, one of the area's premier communities. Features include: 4 BR's, 2.5 updated baths, stunning Chef's kitchen open to family room with stone fireplace, hardwood floors, and side load 2 car garage, custom deck overlooks fenced rear yard. Nothing like it for under \$600,000!



9419 Mt. Vernon Cir
\$998,500



4301 Adrienne Dr.
\$609,900



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!



9221 Patton Blvd.
\$795,000

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