

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

AUGUST 24, 2017

NOVA Hosts Eclipse Viewing Party

A “huge scientific phenomenon.”

By MARILYN CAMPBELL

Several minutes before Solar Eclipse 2017 reached its peak, a band of storm clouds floated over the sun, and a collective groan of disappointment swelled among the crowd of people who'd gathered at Northern Virginia Community College's (NOVA) Annandale campus to watch the eclipse during the school's NOVA Eclipse Mania 2017 event.

“So disappointing,” said Bethesda resident Jill Caporale, one of the event organizers and an associate professor of biology and natural sciences at NOVA.

As thunder rolled and the sky turned grey, the crowd moved to a large screen television that had been set up under a tent to watch a NASA's live feed of the eclipse.

“The eclipse is still happening, but we can't see it here,” said Caporale, as she began taking down the educational eclipse displays that had lined a courtyard on campus.

“This is so disappointing,” said

Julie Fitzpatrick who lives in Arlington. “I've been looking forward to this for weeks.”

Earlier in the afternoon, eclipse enthusiasts young, old and in-between, gathered in the courtyard for activities instruction on the proper use of eclipse glasses, a telescope presentation, a live feed from NASA, a demonstration of pinhole viewers and an art demonstration.

“I took astronomy last year in high school, so I knew that this was going to be a special eclipse,” said NOVA freshman Gucci Marwah of Fairfax. “I've

seen an eclipse in India, but never in the U.S.”

Faculty scientists from the school's math, science, and engineering division were present to answer questions and offer safety suggestions.

“The students are all so enthusiastic,” said Vienna resident Ritu Kansal, a chemistry professor at NOVA. “So many students coming up and looking at the NASA posters. They want to learn. The whole point [of the event] is to get them excited about this huge scientific

“The whole point [of the event] is to get them excited about this huge scientific phenomenon that is happening today.”

— Ritu Kansal



Meditation sessions were part of NOVA's Eclipse Mania 2017, including this one with Nicolette LePalme of Alexandria, Grace Cooney of Falls Church, Hannah Park of McLean and Sai Pethe of Vienna. Meditation club, faculty advisor and biology professor, Paul Fitzgerald of Reston.

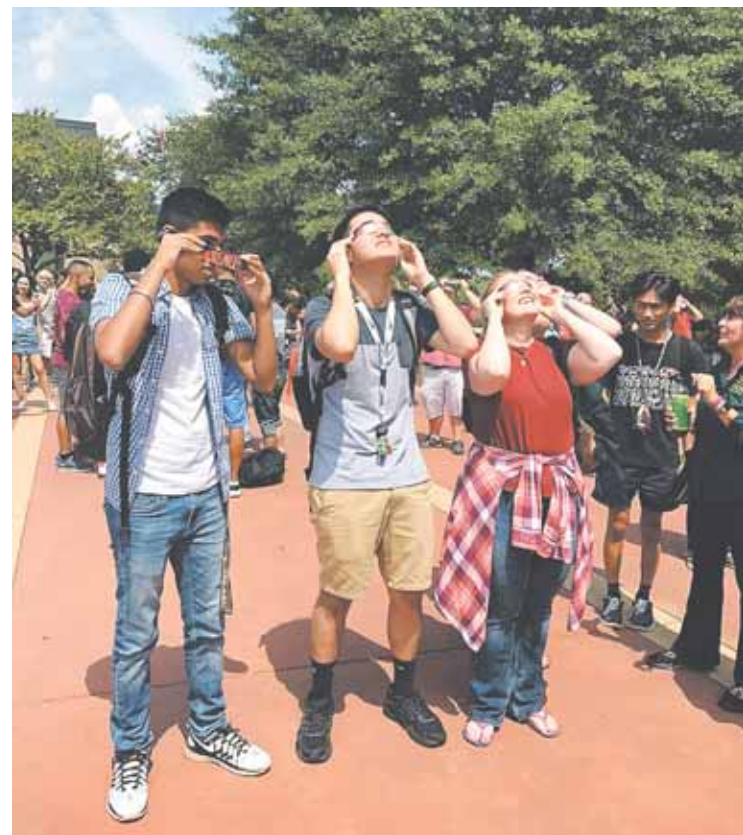
phenomenon that is happening today.”

“This was an effort by the whole school, not just the science division, but also history and art,” said Caporale as she pointed to colored chalk drawings of the solar system that were created jointly by the science and art divisions.

There were also outdoor meditation sessions led by NOVA's Meditation Club. “It's a symbolic of getting over the hump, the dark passing over the light and a fresh start,” said Nicolette LePalme, club president and resident of Alexandria.



NOVA's Eclipse Mania 2017 included a live feed from NASA.



Students used solar eclipse glasses during NOVA Eclipse Mania 2017 on the school's Annandale campus.

PHOTOS BY MARILYN CAMPBELL



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www.LisaGroover.com

OPEN SUN 8/27, 2-4



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OPEN SUN 8/27, 2-4



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PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE GAZETTE

Volunteers at the Back-to-School Brigade, part of Operation Homefront at the Springfield Hilton Hotel on Saturday, Aug. 19.



The line for tattoos at the Back-to-School Brigade, part of Operation Homefront at the Springfield Hilton Hotel on Saturday, Aug. 19.

Families Receive Backpacks in Back-to-School Brigade

About 750 local military families were part of 300,000 to receive school supplies nationwide.

About 750 local military families received backpacks and school supplies as part of the Back-to-School Brigade, part of Operation Homefront, at the Springfield Hilton Hotel on Saturday, Aug. 19, in Springfield. It's part of a nationwide event that gives 300,000 school backpacks to students across the country.

Children who belong to military installations like Fort Belvoir and Quantico who are in elementary, middle, and high school could select a colorful backpack stuffed with about 12 items ranging from paper to color pencils, pens, rulers, scissors, etc.

"We do understand that it costs a lot of money now to get these school supplies and we're providing these backpacks to take the stress off of these families who are serving our nation," said Ashley Baxter, area manager of Operation Homefront.

She added, "It's a nationwide event and we are giving military family members the essentials they need for having a successful school year."

"We did this program last year and it was a huge benefit to our girls," said Kristen Schoeneck of Fort Belvoir. "We have five, almost six girls and it provides school supplies to us. We might not be able to afford it otherwise or maybe not be able to get all the things they necessarily need, so it's a huge help."

Of the 750 people who attended, the range of recipients includes families of military officers, National Guard, enlisted, active and inactive reserves.

— STEVE HIBBARD



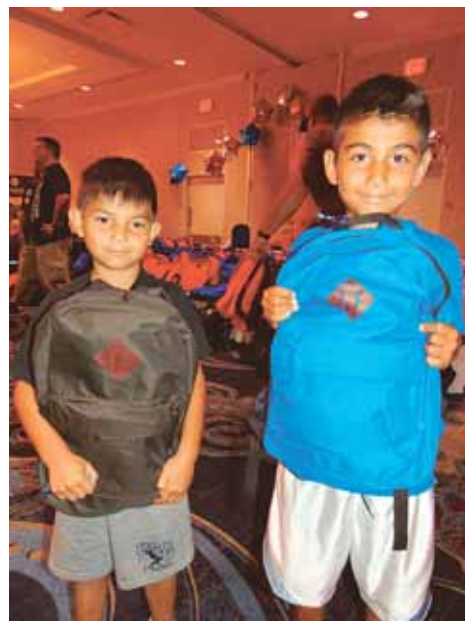
Takeisha Moment with her son Sean, 15, of Alexandria, with his new backpack.



The Anderson family of Quantico with their new backpacks: Aubree, 9, Alexis, 7, and Autumn, 4.



Katherine Miner, 8, of Fairfax, is dressed as Flash with other characters during the Back-to-School Brigade, part of Operation Homefront at the Springfield Hilton Hotel on Saturday, Aug. 19.



The Hernandez family of Fairfax: Leo, 7, and Adrian, 5, with their new backpacks.



The Knutson family of Stafford: Dylann, 6, and Tyler, 10, with their new backpacks.

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Old Town \$1,799,000
214 S. Lee Street. Fabulous renovation and expansion of this historic 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath residence in the S.E. quadrant of town. Over 2600 sq. ft. of living space on 3 levels with high end finishes and quality craftsmanship throughout. Handsome moldings, custom built-ins, original heart of pine floors, 2 gas fireplaces and 2 balconies including 1 with a river view. Deep fenced yard with extensive hardscape.
Christine Garner 703/587/4855



Old Town \$1,595,000
207 Gibbon St. Totally renovated 4 bedroom (all upper), 4 bath historic brick home in the desirable S.E. quadrant of town! Open floor plan with gourmet kitchen, fireplaces in the living room, dining room and Master suite. Finished lower level with 9' ceilings, private entry and full bath. Original hardwood floors on 3 levels, beautiful moldings and built-ins. Fenced back yard with patio, brick outbuilding with electric and alley access. Just steps from Lee St. park!
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NEW LISTING
Annandale \$1,195,000
8206C Hillcrest Rd. Custom built home situated on private 3 house cul-de-sac, yet near major commuter routes. Conservation easement on 2 sides provides secluded, natural setting. Entertaining is easy with 9'+ ceilings, an open floor plan and a deck backing to woods. Live comfortably in an immaculate home with service contracts protecting major systems. Three finished levels with in-law suite on walk out level. Generous room sizes/storage options. No HOA dues to live in this unique home-what are you waiting for?
Joni & Greg Koons 703-209-7277



PRICE REDUCTION

Old Town \$999,900
615 South Royal St. Spacious detached brick home with over 3,000 sq. ft. of living space and 2 off street parking spaces in the S.E. quadrant of town! Three finished levels with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, living room with fireplace and French doors to large fenced yard with flagstone patio.
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Old Town \$959,900
422 Euille Street. Beautiful Move-in Ready 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath brick front townhouse with a 2 car attached garage. Located in a quiet courtyard just a few blocks from the waterfront and historic King St. Open floor plan with tall ceilings, handsome moldings and wainscoting in the dining room. Eat-in kitchen with granite counters and island and lower level family room with gas fireplace. Two bedrooms and 2 full baths on the upper level including the Master suite with luxury en suite bath. Third level bedroom with en suite bath, den/office and a rooftop deck!
Christine Garner 703.587.4855



NEW LISTING
Old Town \$885,000
706 Fitzhugh Way. Sensational brick home in Old Town Greens, close to shops, restaurants & transportation. Enjoy life on 3 levels with beautiful moldings, designer accents, 3BRS, 2full + 2 half baths. 2 car GARAGE!
Diann Hicks Carlson 703-628-2440



JUST LISTED!

Alexandria \$634,900
906 Juniper Place. Coming Soon! Beautiful 4 bed/3 bath home with updated kitchen and baths. Relax or entertain in the private backyard/patio. 4th bedroom is perfect in-law suite. Close to shopping, & 395. Welcome Home!
Fran Slade 904.476.2691



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Del Ray \$589,000
2404 East Randolph Ave. Enjoy 1 level living in this charming 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick home. Beautifully updated with an open floor plan, wood floors and replacement windows throughout. Kitchen with granite counters and natural Maple cabinetry with adjoining dining room. Three nice size bedrooms each with ceiling fans with lights. Fully fenced yard with stone patio surrounded by perennial gardens. Blocks to shops and restaurants and 1.4 miles to Braddock Metro.
Christine Garner 703.587.4855



NEW LISTING
Falls Church Fairfax County \$568,500
7317 Brad Street. Move-in ready Mid Century Modern 3 level Split SFH in Raymondale. 1794 sf. Inside Beltway. 4 BRs & 3 BAs. Open floor plan. Natural light. Updated Kit & BAs. SS appls. Granite countertops. Walkout lower level includes Master Suite, Living & Family room addition with full BA. Wood-burning FPL. SGDs to covered porch & outdoor deck. Private lot backs to parkland. Landscaped. New Roof. Freshly painted. Hardwood floors. Close to 495 & commuting routes plus trendy Mosaic District. Home warranty included.
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Alexandria/Montebello \$289,900
5902 Mount Eagle Dr # 201. This is a must see, in resort-like Montebello, minutes from Old Town! Two private master bedroom suites, near elevator. The gourmet cook will enjoy the recently renovated kitchen. Charming sun drenched enclosed balcony. New HVAC & freshly painted. Amenities include new fitness center (2016), shuttle bus, tennis, indoor & outdoor pools, bowling, restaurant, and many different clubs; pet-friendly, too!
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Leslie Rodriguez 703.400.3010



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Alexandria \$240,000
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Julie F. Hall 703.786.3634

Alexandria/Old Town Office | 703-549-8700

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CRIME

One Injured After Shooting

A man is recovering after being shot multiple times on Monday, Aug. 21. The victim was walking in the 8000 block of Janna Lee Avenue around 10 p.m. when witnesses report hearing shots being fired. According to police, a white vehicle, possibly an Infinity, was seen leaving the area immediately following the shots.

Mount Vernon District officers responded and rendered aid to the victim who was taken to an area hospital. Twenty-one shell casings were found on the

ground in the surrounding area.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Detective Wallace at 703-619-4308, or the Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131. You can also submit a tip anonymously through Crime Solvers electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637). Anonymous Tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100-\$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest.

CRIME REPORT

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

SEXUAL BATTERY/ABDUCTION/ARREST: 6600 block of Beddoo Street, Aug. 20 around 10 p.m. A woman was followed and sexually assaulted by a stranger after getting off a bus. She was able to push him off and run away. Yesterday evening, the suspect was spotted in the 3100 block of Sherwood Hall Lane and was positively identified as the person responsible for Sunday night's attack. A 22-year-old man from Lorton was arrested and charged with abduction, sexual battery, and indecent exposure. He is being held without bond at the Adult Detention Center.

CARJACKING WITH APPREHENSION: 3000 block of Furman Lane, Aug. 19 around 12:15 a.m. The victim was walking from her car when she was approached by two men. The men grabbed the victim, pushed her to her knees, and the suspects demanded money. The suspects took the victim's car keys and wallet, then left in her vehicle. A short time later a 19-year-old and a 17-year-old, both of District Heights, Md. were taken into custody.

COMMERCIAL ROBBERY WITH APPREHENSION: 6946 South Kings Highway, Aug. 20 around 2:30 a.m. a 39-year-old man went into the 7-Eleven on South Kings Highway and appeared to make a purchase. When the clerk went to ring up the item, he jumped over the counter and began to take the money from the register and left in a getaway car parked outside. Not long after the robbery the suspect and a 56-year-old getaway driver were taken into custody. Both are from Washington D.C.

BURGLARY OF AN OCCUPIED DWELLING: 4200 block of Corcoran Street, Aug. 17 around 4:15 a.m. Police responded to the report of a man who had entered the victim's home. When the victim approached him, the suspect fled. He was last seen in a dark-colored four-door sedan driving toward Ashboro Drive. The suspect was described as black, around 5 feet 9 inches tall with a muscular build, wearing a black ski hat and black pants.

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY: 2801 Beacon Hill Road (Hybla Valley Nursery), between 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 15 and 8:15 a.m. Aug. 16. The business was broken into and an undisclosed amount of money was taken.

BURGLARY OF AN OCCUPIED DWELLING: 5200 block of Cedar Road, Aug. 16 around 10:15 p.m. Residents noticed a motion light had been activated and when they went to investigate, they found a person standing in their television room. The residents called 9-1-1 and the suspect left.

CARJACKING/BURGLARY/STOLEN AUTO/ARREST: 8800 block of Richmond Highway, Aug. 13 around 5:45 p.m. A 53-year-old woman was sitting in her car when a man entered the front passenger seat and displayed a weapon. She exited the vehicle and the

man drove off in her car. He crashed it a short distance away near Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and Forest Haven Drive. After abandoning that vehicle, the suspect then broke into a home in the 4600 block of Tarpon Lane and took a number of items, including keys to another vehicle, after confronting the owner. He took off in that car and abandoned it in the 4500 block of Neptune Drive before fleeing on foot and being apprehended by officers. A 34-year-old man from North Carolina was arrested and charged with two counts of carjacking, and the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY: 5700 Telegraph Road, between 11:30 p.m. Aug. 13 and 4:30 a.m. Aug. 14. Someone broke into the gas station and stole merchandise.

AUG. 22 LARCENIES
8300 block of Hunter Murphy Circle,

wallet from vehicle
2500 block of Parkers Lane, gun from vehicle
8400 block of Richmond Highway, wallet from business
3800 block of Roxbury Court, credit cards from vehicles
STOLEN VEHICLES
4200 block of Fielding Street, 1999 Toyota Camry

AUG. 21 LARCENIES
8800 block of Black Alder Drive, wallet from vehicle
8400 block of Cherry Valley Lane, bicycles from residence
3100 block of McGeorge Terrace, wallet from vehicle
8800 block of Menard Court, driver's license from vehicle
8600 block of Mount Vernon Highway, wallets from vehicles

SEE CRIME, PAGE 17

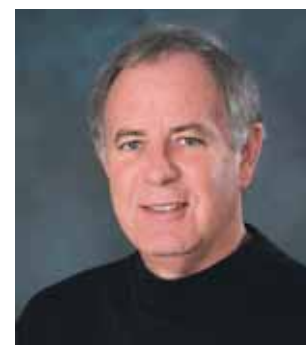
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Mt. Vernon is Rex's hometown. He moved here in 1960 when his father, an Air Force pilot, was stationed at the Pentagon. Rex also became a pilot, graduating from the Air Force Academy and flying for 20 years with the Air Force and Eastern Airlines.

Rex returned to his roots in Mt. Vernon where he and his wife, Doris, raised their four children, and where Rex embarked on a second career in Real Estate.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403- 5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Mobile DMV. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sherwood Hall Library. Two programs, DMV Connect and DMV 2 GO, will provide full DMV service to the Route 1 area. At the Sherwood Hall service centers, customers can apply or renew their ID cards, drivers licenses, take road and knowledge tests, apply for special ID cards, get copies of their driving records, obtain vehicle titles, license plates, decals and transcripts, order disabled parking placards or plates, purchase an EZ-Pass transponder and more. A full list of services is available at www.dmv.virginia.gov.

THURSDAY/AUG. 24

Networking Event. 5:30-7 p.m. at Cedar Knoll, 9030 Lucia Lane, Fort Hunt. Alexandria Chamber's Business After Hours event is the perfect way to wind down from a hectic work



FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT PHOTO

A Safer Home

Fire Station 11, Penn Daw, B-Shift was out in the community on Saturday, Aug. 12, as part of its Safety In Our Community program, conducting a home safety evaluation for interested families. After surveying the interior of one home, crews noticed they did not have any working smoke alarms. They also had gas appliances in the home but no carbon monoxide (CO) detector. The crew ended up installing two smoke alarms and one CO detector. The family was so grateful for this service that they insisted the crew join them for a meal.

day. Network at one of Alexandria's prime venues over drinks and small bites. For this BAH, we will be linking up with the Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce to expand member circles even farther. Registration includes a complimentary beverage and bites. Members, \$10; non-members, \$25; members at the door, \$25. Register

at web.alexchamber.com/events.

THROUGH AUG. 25

Summer Lunches. The Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Food and Nutrition Services will be hosting the FEEDS (Food for Every Child to Eat During Summer) BBQ program, a USDA-funded program is free to all

children 18 years and under and \$2 for adults. There is no registration involved, and open to everyone. Meal service will be provided at the following sites Monday-Friday, 11:30-1 p.m. No service on July 3 and 4. In the Mount Vernon area, FEEDS is offered at the following schools:

- ❖ Bren Mar Park Elementary, 6344 Beryl Road
- ❖ Hybla Valley Elementary, 3415 Lockheed Blvd.
- ❖ Mount Vernon Woods Elementary, 4015 Fielding St.
- ❖ Riverside Elementary, 8410 Old Mount Vernon Road

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. The flea market features: furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, antique & vintage items, crafts, dolls, household items, hobby items, tapestries, clothes, CDs and DVDs. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

Exceptional Military Families

Summit. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.) at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mt. Vernon Road, Entrance 4 or Entrance 6. Learn more about the many resources and opportunities for military families of students with special needs in Fairfax County Public Schools. Visit the exhibit hall with exhibitors from military organizations, community partners and a host of Fairfax County Public School offices. Learn more at www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center. Visit www.fcps.edu/index.php/node/28279 to register.

SEPT. 29-30

Fall Children's Consignment Sale.

9 a.m.-8 p.m., at Cameron United Methodist Church, 3130 Franconia Road. Some items are half price on Saturday. To become a seller, email: CUMC.CCS@gmail.com, or visit www.cameron-umc.org/.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Line Dance Instructor needed for the Gum Springs Senior Program once a week on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Volunteer Solutions, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

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

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 donaaldrea@aol.com.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 16

Driver Robbed at Gunpoint

A Fort Washington, Md, man is facing charges after an investigation revealed he used his car to stop another driver and then rob them at gunpoint.

Officers were called to the 6000 block of Farrington Avenue in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County around 11 a.m. Aug. 15 when a caller reported that he had been robbed at gunpoint. The man said that a silver Honda pulled across the road in front of him. The driver of the Honda got out and started toward him. The vic-

tim got out of his car to find out what was going on, that's when says the driver of the Honda pulled out a handgun and a knife while making threats and demanding money. The victim handed over an undisclosed amount of cash and then returned to his car to call police. He was not injured.

Officers located the Honda a short distance away, with the suspect inside. He was arrested and taken to the Adult Detention Center where he was charged with armed robbery and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.



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Rosemont
307 W Glendale Ave, Alexandria VA Spacious and stately Rosemont Tudor with character & convenience near Old Town. Original features blend seamlessly with new updates, chef's kitchen, detached garage, office above. \$1,595,000 The York Group (703) 409-3377 <http://bit.ly/2oYea9x>



Old Town Alexandria
121 Queen Street, Alexandria VA LOCATION! LOCATION! Just steps to the Potomac River, Old Town shops/ restaurants. GARAGE Walk In Level Family Room, Living Room w/9'+ ceiling looks out to private patio. Eat In Kitchen + separate DR, Excellent southern light, 2BR 2.5BA Attic potential expansion! Move In Condition! \$1,100,000 Jolee Rubin (703) 548-0697 <http://bit.ly/2tyXwNx>



Just Listed!! • Whisperwood
8952 Mountain Ash Ct, Springfield VA Hip Roofed Classic Center Hall Colonial With Over 5000 Sq Ft Finished--2 Story Foyer +Family Room--Sun Room Walks Out Heavily Treed Yard--Gourmet Kit \$799,950 Steve Deleyiannis (703) 966-6062 [Http://Bit.ly/2Whfrhz](http://Bit.ly/2Whfrhz)



PRICE REDUCED! • Marina Towers
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6. RealtyONEGroup	\$15.2 Billion	44,182
7. Alain Pine Realtors	\$11.1 Billion	7,666
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OPINION

Expand Medicaid Now

It's too late to get back the \$10 billion Virginia turned down, but not too late to gain coverage for 400,000 and boost the economy.

Virginia's General Assembly has refused to accept one of the key provisions of the Affordable Care Act, expansion of Medicaid at almost no cost to Virginia that could have covered 400,000 uninsured Virginians and would have brought more than \$10 billion into the state. It has also cost lives.

EDITORIAL

Ironically, the failed efforts to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act included changes to Medicaid that would have penalized states, like Virginia, that did not expand Medicaid, permanently reducing federal funding.

"In all of the bills proposed in the House and Senate to repeal the ACA, none of them left the non-expansion states better off," said Gov. Terry McAuliffe on Monday, Aug. 21, in calling again for Virginia to expand Medicaid, al-

most entirely paid for by the federal government.

"I have called for Virginia to expand Medicaid for three and a half years now. In that time, we have forever forfeited a whopping \$10.4 billion of our federal tax dollars," McAuliffe said. "We have missed an opportunity to cover 400,000 low-income Virginians."

More than 140,000 residents of Fairfax County have no health insurance. More than 40,000 residents of Arlington and Alexandria have no health insurance. That's more than 12 percent of the people who live in one of the wealthiest areas in the nation.

A Harvard Medical School study determined that the decision by 25 states to reject the expansion of Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act would result in between 7,115 and 17,104 more deaths than had all states opted in. In Virginia, the number of

deaths due to failure to expand Medicaid: between 266 and 987.

Refusing to accept federal funds to provide healthcare to uninsured Virginians makes no more sense than declining federal funds for transportation or education.

In Virginia, 102,000 uninsured people with a mental illness or substance use disorder could qualify for coverage if Medicaid were expanded under the Affordable Care Act.

As Virginia wrestles with heroin and opioid addiction, expanding Medicaid would allow for expanding treatment programs. One of the big obstacles to helping people who are fighting addiction is the availability of treatment when it is most needed. More people die of opioid overdoses in Virginia than in vehicle crashes.

It is beyond cruel that an ideologically driven General Assembly can turn away health care for so many. It's beyond understanding why the General Assembly would turn down billions of dollars in direct health care dollars, plus the tremendous boost to the economy and jobs that federal investment would generate.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Governor's Perspective

Remarks by Gov. Terry McAuliffe to General Assembly money committees Aug. 21, 2017:

I have called for Virginia to expand Medicaid for three and a half years now. In that time, we have forever forfeited a whopping \$10.4 billion of our federal tax dollars.

We have missed an opportunity to cover 400,000 low-income Virginians.

Thirty-one states from across the political spectrum have expanded Medicaid. This isn't a political issue. These are people's lives.

I believe in the radical notion that health care shouldn't be a privilege for the rich. And in the wealthiest nation in the world, one medical event shouldn't send a family into financial ruin.

Just a few weeks ago, I went to the Remote Area Medical Clinic in Wise for the fourth time as governor. I want to thank Dr. O'Bannon for providing his services at the clinic.

There, you will see the stark reality of what it means to lack access to affordable health care. People were waiting in the ani-

mal pens, separated by bed sheet "curtains" to get the only medical care they'd have this year. Many of them slept overnight in the parking lot just to get a spot in line.

I met a woman who pulled me aside to tell me that the clinic literally saved her life by catching her cancer in time. Another man had been driving for a year without proper eyeglasses. Yet another told me that, at 39 years old, he visited the dentist for the first time ever that day. Sadly, he was too late, and needed all of his teeth pulled.

These folks should get the exact same level of care that you or I do.

That's why I will be including Medicaid expansion once again in my biennial budget proposal this year.

And even if you don't believe that the ACA is here for good, let me also remind you that in all of the bills proposed in the House and Senate to repeal the ACA, none of them left the non-expansion states better off. In fact, in one of the proposals, non-expansion states would cover costs for the expansion states for the next five years.

So, I ask you this: Are you willing to let Virginia be block granted or capped at our cur-

rent Medicaid levels? Are you willing to risk losing out on expansion dollars forever? And are you willing to hamper our state finances by turning away these federal dollars, given the uncertainty we face?

I ask you these questions in earnest, and I hope we can find a workable solution together.

I have formally invited General Assembly leadership to meet with my team to start this process as soon as possible so that, perhaps, consensus can be reached in the budget development process.

I welcome your input and I remind you that I have consistently supported a business-like approach that allows us to bring this money back at no cost to Virginia. If you pursue expansion the way I've presented it to you, it could save the state hundreds of millions of dollars.

Further, it could protect us from the potential negative financial impacts of future federal caps on the Medicaid program.

It's not too late. There's still more than \$2 billion a year on the table that we can benefit from, and I hope we can agree on an approach to do the right thing.

If You Are Not Outraged You Are Not Paying Attention

By Rev. Dr. Keary Kincannon

"If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention." This was Heather Heyers last Facebook Post. Heather is the 32 year-old paralegal, with a passion for social justice, who, participating in the counter protest in Charlottesville was run down and murdered. Nineteen others were injured in an act of

COMMENTARY

terrorism for which white supremacist Alex Fields has been charged. Yet on two separate occasions President Trump makes clear that he believes and blames many sides for the violence. If you're not outraged, you're not paying attention.

Republican Sen. Lindsay Graham from South Carolina spoke out saying, "Mr. President, I encourage you to try to bring us together as a nation after this horrific

event in Charlottesville. Your words are dividing Americans, not healing them." Graham continued saying, "Through his statements yesterday, President Trump took a step backward by again suggesting there is moral equivalency between the white supremacist neo-Nazis and KKK members who attended the Charlottesville rally and people like [Heather] Heyer. I, along with many others, do not en-

SEE ARE YOU OUTRAGED, PAGE 12

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LETTERS

Illusion of Non-partisanship

To the Editor:

It is important for Mount Vernon residents to vote in the special election occurring next Tuesday. The issue is election to an at-large seat on the County School Board that was vacated when a Republican-endorsed School Board member resigned and moved out of our area. The sample ballot may be viewed at this link: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/sample_ballot/aug2017_special_sb_yellow.pdf

As usual, the sample ballot displays no political affiliations for the candidates, keeping up the illusion that the School Board is "non-partisan." Of course, this is a fiction as the dominant majority of the board is endorsed by the local Democratic Party. There are four candidates for this seat, but my political expert sources say that the contest is truly between the two candidates who appear on the sample ballots handed out at polling places by the local Democratic and Republican parties. The Democrat-endorsed candidate is Karen A. Keys-Gamarra while the Republican-endorsed candidate is

Chris S. Grisafe.

Chris Grisafe is a Coast Guard veteran who has served on several local committees serving the County School Board including their School Bonds Committee, Superintendent's Business Advisory Committee and Adult Education Advisory Committee. He advocates fiscal responsibility, reduced class sizes and smart improvements in the teacher compensation package (salary and pension).

In the wake of the School Board's decision last month to rename J.E.B. Stuart High School at an estimated cost to taxpayers of up to \$1 million, Ms. Keys-Gamarra is on record as supporting that decision as well as favoring renaming W.T. Woodson High School and Robert E. Lee High School. However, she stated: "I am not on record as saying that we need to take Fairfax County's funds to pay for that." Mr. Grisafe is on record as opposing the way the decision to rename J.E.B. Stuart High School was carried out, stating that the School Board failed to follow their own regulation for changing school names and that the process undertaken was not

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 18



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Focusing on Business Climate

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

This week, I wanted to give an economic report card highlighting the progress we've made in the Commonwealth of Virginia for 2017.

Last year, 2016 general fund revenue collections were \$268.9 million below our official forecast, which required that we reforecast general fund revenues for the 2016-18 biennium. The revised forecast

lowered our anticipated collections for the biennium by \$1.2 billion from what was originally estimated in the enacted budget.

This situation posed a major challenge to our fiscal well-being. The General Assembly passed this balanced budget in the face of a significant revenue shortfall.

The General Assembly and the Governor were able to refocus and tighten up our economic development efforts and incentives so that they will be more effective and accountable, while increasing funding and improving programs that address mental health.

Gov. McAuliffe also restored pay increases for our hard-working state employees, law enforcement personnel at the state and local level, constitutional officers, higher education faculty, and public school teachers.

This year, we had a surplus in our general fund revenue collections and the Virginia economy continues to expand, with some of our higher-paying job sectors showing solid growth.

For fiscal year 2017, total general fund collections, excluding transfers, exceeded the official forecast by \$134.1 million. After we factor in end-of-the-year transfers to the general fund from other sources, we ended fiscal year 2017 with an additional \$2.5 million, bringing the total to \$136.6 million above our budget assumptions for general fund resources.

Strong growth in payroll withholding and corporate income tax collections drove the surplus.

Most of the surplus revenue will go to expand Virginia's cash reserves in the event of a future economic downturn. Given where we are at, further actions to build up cash reserves and protect our AAA bond rating are paramount among the budget issues we will face going forward.

Given the level of federal and economic uncertainty, any effort to build up liquidity and cash reserves is a wise course of action as there is no clear idea of what will govern national fiscal policy after Oct. 1, 2017.

The Governor has stated he will pursue Standards of Quality in education spending and Medicaid Expansion for inclusion

SEE BUSINESS, PAGE 16

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OPINION

Are You Outraged?

FROM PAGE 8

dorse this moral equivalency."

Another Graham, Franklin Graham, eldest son of Billy Graham, spoke out in support of the President agreeing that the blame for the violence in Charlottesville should lie on many sides. Graham says, "... they want to blame President Donald J. Trump for everything. Really, this boils down to evil in people's hearts. Satan is behind it all. He wants division, he wants unrest, he wants violence and hatred. He's the enemy of peace and unity. I denounce bigotry and racism of every form, be it black, white or any other. My prayer is that our nation will come together. We are stronger together, and our answers lie in turning to God," Graham added.

As a pastor I have no problem with theologically identifying Satan as behind the violence in Charlottesville. And every good Christian knows we are all sinners. But please, Mr. Graham, sometimes the evil in our hearts manifests itself in the world. Sometimes evil walks the streets and we must stand up to it and say "No!" The President's refusal to lay blame squarely on the evil that invaded Charlottesville has only emboldened that evil. David Duke, former KKK leader and participant in this White Supremacist rally, said their rally represents the "Fulfillment of Donald Trump's promise."

Mr. Graham, by encouraging the President in such a weak condemnation of the evil that marched in Charlottesville you are deflecting the President from condemning evil, from seeking repentance and you are even hindering his own salvation. And Mr. Graham, you are also deflecting the nation, especially those evangelicals that follow you, from identifying and resisting evil when it manifests in our presence. On judgement day you will have to answer for the souls that did not enter into the Kingdom because you gave them an excuse to stay lukewarm.

In the Church our baptismal vows included a promise to renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin and to accept the freedom and power God gives to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

What more are we waiting for before we will stand up and live into our baptismal vows? A battalion of Nazis, KKK, white supremacists were walking down our streets! Many were in paramilitary uniforms carrying loaded weapons, including assault rifles and chanting "Jews will not replace us," "blood and soil" and "Sieg Heil" as they passed by a synagogue.

Nazi flags, Confederate flags and other symbols of white supremacy were carried everywhere. The

groups organizing this rally to protest removing Robert E Lee's statue were very public about their white supremacist agenda. Many interviewed made it clear that they want a "White Nation" cleared of minorities and people of color. This is pure evil.

The President of the United States has the gall to say the violence that may have come from the resistance to this evil is equally to blame. Then he only steps into it deeper, when he says there were many good people on both sides. No Mr. President. There may be good people who oppose the removal of the statue but any good people who may have turned out in for that cause would have left in a heartbeat as soon as they saw the grotesque gathering of Nazis, KKK and White Supremacists.

Many of my clergy colleagues were present for the counter protest. They boldly proclaimed the Gospel of Christ. They counted the cost and willingly entered the conflict with a presence of deep abiding love. Saturday morning they marched silently through the city, wearing stoles and clergy collars. They walked past many white supremacists and paramilitary armed with assault rifles.

What unfolded was dramatic in its opposition. Insults and threats were hurled at these ministers as they knelt on the curb along the edge of Emancipation Park. The white supremacists were clearly trying to anger and engage the clergy in a response. But response they received only pointed out how different the Gospel of love is to the hate the supremacists spewed. The clergy chanted "love has, love has, love has already won." Then their witnessing broke into a spontaneous rendition of "This Little Light of Mine, I'm Gonna Let it Shine."

There are times when our belief in what is good calls us to take a risk, step up and step out, identifying ourselves as opposing and resisting evil. If you are not outraged you are not paying attention.

The writer is the pastor at Rising Hope Mission Church, a United Methodist Congregation.

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. 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

Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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ENTERTAINMENT

MetroStage Presents 'Wizard of Hip'

Comic journey of Afro Jo, an “everyman,” as he travels to adulthood.

BY STEVE HIBBARD

MetroStage in Alexandria is presenting “Wizard of Hip (Or When in Doubt Slam Dunk),” which runs through Sept. 17.

The story is a non-stop comic journey of Afro Jo, an African American “everyman,” as he travels from adolescence to adulthood in search of the ultimate state of “hip,” a place of comfort and peace in an ever-confusing and changing world. It’s a fast-paced journey crossing bounds of race, class, and gender.

After touring in 30 cities across the U.S. and an off-Broadway run in the 1990s, “Wizard of Hip” returns almost 30 years later — a little grayer, older, and wiser, but still crackling with the revelatory journey that made it an audience favorite more than two decades ago. The show has help from two back-up singers, Kanysha Williams and Jasmine Eileen Coles, and original music by William Knowles on keys and Greg Holloway on drums.

Playing the title role of Afro Jo is Thomas W. Jones II, who describes his character as a kind of everyman trying to find the Great Oz and the answer to hipness. He juggles “how to negotiate that fine line between curfews and peer pressure looking for his own personal nirvana,” he said. “Looking for the Great McDonald in a burger-and-fries existence.”

Jones, who wrote, directed, and performs the piece, said his biggest challenge is sustaining the necessary stamina required for a show that’s fast-paced and highly ener-

getic.

“Tom Jones has contributed a remarkable body of work to MetroStage since 2001 as a writer, lyricist, director, and choreographer, so we thought it was time to showcase him as the amazing actor that he is,” said MetroStage’s Producing Artistic Director Carolyn Griffin.

She asked him about his solo show, “Wizard of Hip,” which he had performed at Studio Theatre in 1992, ending up Off-Broadway for an extended run.

“So we decided to open our season with it, but that we would add more music and give him two lovely ‘hip’ backup singers who we named ‘the Lady Doo Wops,’” she said.

She added: “It is great to have this high-energy, movement-oriented, music-obsessed (that is only a slight exaggeration) artist performing on our stage. I think our audiences will really enjoy this coming-of-age story, which apparently is timeless.”

“We have found the story he told in the ’90s, when he was considerably younger, still resonates today as relevant and universal, crossing all races, ages, genders, so that we expect everyone will be smiling with recognition and appreciation for the journey he has taken in search of ‘hipness.’ Seriously, wouldn’t we all like to be a little more hip?” she said.

Jasmine Eileen Coles said her role as a Lady Doo Wop is an energized, fun and supporting one that moves through different characters, environments, and time and space that helps explore the meaning of hip through the lens of Thomas Jones.

“Playing this role stretches me as an artist because the show moves so quickly it is



In “Wizard of Hip,” Kanysha Williams, Thomas W. Jones II, and Jasmine Eileen Coles.

PHOTO BY
CHRIS BANKS

important to stay present and it is also important not to take focus. Navigating such a delicate balance has been thrilling,” she said.

Kanysha Williams said she too has the task of representing many different people in Afro Jo’s life. “You may see me as an elderly woman, a basketball player, a school girl, etc. I am assisting the lead character in his storytelling, and in doing so, my ‘character’ helps to illustrate ideas and move the plot along,” she said.

She said her biggest challenge is being flexible. “In this show, we have to constantly flow from one idea to the next, one character to another, and it’s been an exciting challenge for me to authentically portray these different people,” she said.

At MetroStage, Jones has a large resume of work, having written and directed “Harlem Rose,” “Three Sistahs,” “Two

Queens One Castle,” “Bricktop,” “Cool Papa’s Party,” “Pearl Bailey ... by request,” “Ladies Swing the Blues,” “Bessie’ Blues,” “Shake Loose,” “Uprising,” and “Blackberry Daze.” He also directed “The Gin Game,” “Anne & Emmett,” and “Gee’s Bend,” for which he received a Helen Hayes nomination. This is the first time he will be performing on MetroStage.

Performing on stage at MetroStage is “Wizard of Hip” on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., through Sept. 17. Tickets are \$55-\$60 with student and active military discounts available. For ticket reservations, call the theatre at 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org. For information and group sales, call 703-548-9044. MetroStage is located at 1201 North Royal St. in North Old Town Alexandria.

CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Artwork Inspired by Nature

Exhibit. Various times through Aug. 31 at Huntley Meadows Park Nature Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Local artist-photographer Nina Tisara will share some of her mosaic work in an exhibit entitled “Inspired by Nature.” Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Oil Paintings by Patricia Uchello. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Aug. 31 at the River Farm, 7931 East Blvd. Free. Call 703-768-6983 or visit www.patriciauchello.com.

Costumes of Mercy Street. Through Sept. 1, at The Lyceum: Alexandria’s History Museum, 201 S. Washington St. To learn more about The Lyceum, visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-746-4994.

Ceramics Exhibition. Various times through Sept. 3 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Exhibit called “Flexibility in Clay: Gymnastics and Gyration.” Call

Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org.

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum Relics.

Various times through Labor Day at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn the history of the museum, the purchase and see the original woodwork. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Wizard of Hip. Various times through Sept. 17 at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St. Featuring Thomas W. Jones II as he journeys from adolescence to adulthood as Afro Jo with original music by William Knowles and two back-up singers. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

Alexandrians Fight The Great War.

Various times through Nov. 11 at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. This exhibit shares some of the stories of Alexandrians during the war and their more active participation in the American war effort after April 1917. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm.

Student Art Exhibit. Various times through Sept. 15 at the National Art Education Association (NAEA) gallery, 901 Prince St. NAEA is exhibiting artwork from across the country created by students who are members of the National Art Honor Society (NAHS/high school students) and the National Junior Art Honor Society (NJAHS/middle school students). Call 800-299-8321 or 703-860-8000 or email info@arteducators.org.

All the President’s Pups. Saturdays 10 a.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. All the President’s Pups Walking Tour, along the way, learn about George Washington’s love for dogs, his dogs’ unusual names, and his efforts to improve the quality of his hunting dogs through breeding. \$7. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday’s near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke St. near Motley Fool.

ENTERTAINMENT

The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Summer Theatre Camps. Through Aug. 25, various times at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Preschool-8th graders can learn acting, musical theatre, dancing, improv, Shakespeare, film making. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778.

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.

The Harmony Heritage Singers (Mount Vernon Chapter of Barbershop Harmony Society), a daytime, a cappella, Chorus, rehearses on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, monthly, at Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Newcomers welcome for fun or to book for a performance. Visit www.HHSingers.org, or call Bruce at 703-352-5271.

THROUGH AUG. 27

Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week. Area restaurants offer \$35 for a three-course dinner or \$35 dinner for two; select locations offering lunch from \$10-20/person. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301.

THURSDAY/AUG. 24

Historian Lecture. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meredith Barber is a local historian and student at William and Mary. Through research at the National Archives, she discovered previously unknown Athenaeum history during the Civil War including its employment as a logistics center by the Union Army. \$5, free for NVFAA members. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Features furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, etc. Refreshments will also be on sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.

Ballyshaners Irish Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 1A Prince St. A celebration Irish history and culture in Alexandria, and a fundraiser for the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Visit www.ballyshaners.org/festival/.

Garden Terrarium Workshop. 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn provides information on this genus and teaches techniques for creating a terrarium. \$38 plus supplies. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 26-27

Begonia Show and Sale. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Show sponsored



“Life of the Universe” by Nahid Navab

Art Exhibits

Exhibitions “Zip Infinity,” a series of acrylic paintings by artist Maremi Andreozzi and “The Time of No Time” by Nahid Navab will be on display through Sept. 17 at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive.

by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

even enjoy some of the crops in the dead of winter. Visit mgnv.org or call 703-228-6414.

TUESDAY/AUG. 29

Who’s Eating your Veggies? 6-8 p.m. at the Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St. Learn to identify and treat the pests in your edible garden through organic and cultural practices in this hands-on program. All levels of experience are welcome. Please bring samples from your own garden. This program is free and no advance registration is required. Call the Nature Center at 703-746-5559.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 2

Celebrate Honeybee Day. 10 a.m.-noon at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Meet a beekeeper, see inside a beehive, learn a bee dance, do a bee scavenger hunt, learn how bees are important to the food supply and get tips on how to help honeybees. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 7:36 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan in “When Harry Met Sally.” Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

SEPT. 7-OCT. 1

“Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Various times at The Art League 105 North Union St. Printmaker M. Alexander (Alex) Gray illuminates forgotten local history through the images in his exhibit, “Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Gray, a lifelong Virginian, wants to bring these lesser-known, historic sites back into the public eye. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org.

torpedofactory@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4570.

MONDAY/SEPT. 11

Yoga for Gardeners I. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class features a gentle introduction to the vinyasa method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Class held indoors. \$123/person for 11 lessons. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 426 2401 or call 703-642-5173.

Garden Sprouts: Nature

Playgroup. 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschoolers learn through nature-themed toys and puzzles while parents meet other playgroup parents one Monday a month. September’s theme is “Pollinators Everywhere.” Adult must accompany registered child. \$6/child. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring using code 290 401 2701 or call 703-642-5173.

Using Native Plants. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Curious about tried and true garden performers? Want to attract birds to your yard? All this and more will be covered as we walk through different native plants and how to use them to create beautiful and sustainable home landscaping. Free and open to the public. Registration is requested at ALXnativeplants.eventbrite.com. Email AlexandriaBeautification@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 14

Gardening Excursion. 7 a.m.-7 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, Pennsylvania is a blend of art and horticulture. Trip includes motor coach, entrance, guided tour, and lunch. \$124. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-941-7987.

Meet the Artist Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at The Art League 105 North Union St. Printmaker M. Alexander (Alex) Gray illuminates forgotten local history through the images in his exhibit, “Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Gray, a lifelong Virginian, wants to bring these lesser-known, historic sites back into the public eye. Call 703-683-1780 or visit www.theartleague.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

History By The Glass. Various times at Gadsby’s Tavern, 134 North Royal St. Enjoy drinks at the tavern, which historically served a wide variety of beverages, and learn about the history behind them. \$50 for drinks and hors d’oeuvres. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

SEPT. 16-17

Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 480 King St. King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad. Featuring live music, and interactive art activities, as well as The Art League’s Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser. Visit www.artfestival.com/festivals/alexandria-king-street-art-festival.

Crafts at Carlyle. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Children will be able to create their own piece of art at Carlyle House to take home. Children will get the chance to paint their own version of a floorcloth, a popular

ENTERTAINMENT

3 Spots Perfect for Football Viewing

BY HOPE NELSON

In the hot, sticky weather Alexandria has been enduring of late, the signs of impending autumn are easy to miss. But one sure signal is no further away than your television set: Pro and college football are back. From preseason NFL matchups to the university head-to-head battles that start this weekend, the games are plentiful, and finding a good place to watch them is a necessity.

Southside 815, 815 S. Washington St.

The venerable Southside 815 is one of Old Town's worst-kept secrets when it comes to sports viewing. But while you may not enjoy an intimate, solitary view of your favorite game, the more is indeed the merrier, right? And with Southside's 13 televisions, you're sure to get a glimpse of the game you're there for.

APPETITE

Whatever you decide to order for a main course, be sure to pick up a Boardinghouse Breadbasket for you and your compatriots. A blend of cornbread, biscuits, and other rolls, the breadbasket is Southern comfort food at its best. For an entrée, keep the Southern theme going with some gumbo, blackened catfish, or a vegetable plate with down-home classics like collard greens succotash.

Mason Social, 728 N. Henry St.

The bar at Mason Social just looks like it is ready for sports viewing, any time of the year. And it doesn't disappoint. While there is a proper dining room at Mason Social, your best bet for football-watching is indeed the bar, which has a plethora of cocktail and beer options — as well as its own menu — for your viewing (and eating) pleasure.

Order up some carnitas nachos to share — topped with carnitas, jalapenos, pepperjack cheese and all the fixins, they're a party pleaser. (Vegetarians will find good luck ordering these without the meat — the end result is still a hit.) Thirsty? Mason Social maintains a host of rotating craft-beer selections, along with some old standards from Port City, Flying Dog, and other local breweries. If you're looking to toast to a winning team — or to drown your sorrows — with something a little harder, you could do worse than the Parker Gray, a rye-based concoction mixed with vermouth and bitters.

Mackie's, 907 King St.

Mackie's is a lesson in duality. Walk through the bar into the dining room for a hearty dinner, and you'll find a more classic steakhouse experience. But if taking in a game is what you're after, darken the door to the foyer-style bar and stay put. The TVs will offer up a selection of games depending on the day's matchups, and the ambience (and menu) will keep you in place until long after the two-minute warning.

Order up a basket of fries — seasoned jerk-style, Cajun, or with Old Bay — and some Caprese bites to share among friends, and then turn your attention to the drink menu. All your friends are here, from Lagunitas to Founders, as well as local DuClaw and Port City. Looking for something a little heartier to go with your brew? Mackie's offers up a burger that makes sure you know you're at a steakhouse; for something off the beaten path, try the Bulgogi hoagie, a Korean-inspired ribeye sandwich.

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

CALENDAR

18th Century floor covering. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 17

Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m. at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St. Featuring The Vibe Collective: Afro-Cuban-Latin Jazz. \$20 donation. Call 267-463-7936.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 19

Researching Aviation Pioneers. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Mary Lipsey talks about researching biographical information about aviation pioneer Dr. William Wallace Whitney Christmas of Clifton. Free. Call 703-768-4101 or visit www.mvgenalogy.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Gardening Film Screening. 2-4 p.m., at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Karyl Evans screens her new documentary film about the career and life of 20th century landscape gardener Beatrix Farrand, who designed dozens of gardens. \$20. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-941-7987.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Fisher Art Gallery NOVA, Alexandria Campus, 4915 East Campus Drive. Michael Rossi, guest conductor. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/.

Summer Sunset Movies in Mount Vernon

The Mount Vernon Rec Center at 2017 Belle View Boulevard will be the location for family-friendly movies throughout the summer. Twice a month, from 7-11 p.m., movies will start at sunset. The movie schedule is as follows:

♦ Aug. 25 - "Beauty and the Beast"

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Michael Rossi, guest conductor. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Alexandria Seaport Foundation Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 Prince St. Community festival celebrating the mission and programs of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation featuring live music, wooden boat display, Anything that Floats race, children's activities, nautical activities, beer/wine and local food. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org.
Mansion House Whiskey Tasting. 7-9 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Local historian, Rich Gillespie, will share stories of the Civil War in Virginia and guide the whiskey tasting journey. \$100. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

TUESDAY/OCT. 3

Yoga on the Magnolia Terrace. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Join yoga instructor Barbara Douglass for vinyasa flow yoga on Carlyle House's Magnolia Terrace, every Tuesday in October. Please bring water, a towel, and yoga mat. Classes are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 classes. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.nvrpa.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Saturday Cinema at Carlyle. 6:41 p.m. on John Carlyle Square, 300 John Carlyle St. Featuring Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds." Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Members Support Party. 7-9 p.m., at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association invites members and friends to join us for La Vie en Rose, a French evening in the Athenaeum Gallery. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

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PEOPLE



One Race, Two Team Records

Everyone likes to see a record-breaking relay swim. The crowd at Waynewood Pool for Saturday's A meet against Fox Mill Estates was rewarded for enduring the hot and humid morning. The Boys 13-14 100 Meter Medley Relay was an exciting one with Waynewood coming in slightly ahead of Fox Mill Estates, but once the times were posted, cheers erupted from all the spectators as both teams had bested their pool records. Matthew Morris, Alexander Micheli, Hain Henderson and Aidan Lansburgh won the event with a time 59.78, about a quarter of a second faster than the Waynewood Record set in 2000. The Fox Mill Estates Team of Kyle Diederich, Thomas Carney, Joe Zeher and Tommy Allison swam 100.53, pushing themselves and their opponents by swimming 3 hundredths of a second faster than their own team's 1999 record.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

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.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just

have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax County needs **volunteers to drive older adults** to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Gum Springs Senior Program** in Alexandria is looking for a Line Dance Instructor.

For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Kingstowne Center for Active Adults** in Alexandria needs Instructors for the following classes: Country-Western Line Dance, Hula Hoop and African Style Dance. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center in Alexandria** needs instructors for

the following classes: Basic Woodworking, Italian and Ballroom Dance. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** in Alexandria needs front desk volunteers and patient Card Players. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Advisory Board of the Joe and Fredona Gartlan Center** for mental health is looking for volunteers. The board meets the second Tuesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. at Gartlan Center 8119 Holland Road.

United Community Ministries seeks volunteers to act as food pantry assistants, basic needs counselors, youth tutors and mentors, office admin/data entry, community outreach, ESL teachers and co-teachers, and teacher aides. Visit www.ucmagency.org/volunteer-at-ucm.html.

Hollin Hall Senior Center is looking for a DJ ballroom and dance instructor. The Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Bailey Griffin, daughter of Kim Griffin of Alexandria and Ken Griffin of McLean, graduated with high honors from Saint Mary's School in Raleigh, N.C. on May 21.

Darwin Barker has been named principal of Sandburg Middle School, effective July 20. Barker most recently served as assistant principal of Jackson Middle School, and has 18 years of experience as an educator. He taught at Lanier Middle School prior to becoming an administrator, and at a middle school in Newport News.

Barker earned his Bachelor of Arts in biology from Hampton University and Master of Arts in education from the University of Phoenix. He has a Virginia professional license in administration and supervision for grades K-12 and earned his education specialist credential in educational leadership from Old Dominion University.

Alyssa Monteleon graduated from Western New England University (Springfield, Mass.) with a Master of Laws in Elder Law and Estate Planning on Sunday, May 21.

Claude Cage Atkins, Ann Elizabeth Barletta, Colin Francis Gregory, Samantha Margaret Kathry Murphy and Alexa M. White of Alexandria were named to dean's list at Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.) for the spring 2017 semester:

Tommy Cheung, of Alexandria, graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, N.Y.) with a BS in computing and information technologies.

Andrew Christian, of Alexandria, graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, N.Y.) with an MS in computing security.

Anne Washington, of Alexandria, recently completed an internship in Namibia, participating in wildlife observation and data collection at several national parks and refuges. She is a fisheries, wildlife and conservation biology major at N.C. State where she will be entering her senior year in the fall. She is a 2014 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School.

Thomas Washington, of Alexandria, completed his freshman year as a computer science major at George Mason University, earning dean's list honors both semesters. He is a 2016 graduate of Bishop Ireton High School.

The top students in each academic department at Randolph-Macon Academy (Front Royal, Va.) were awarded for their excellence throughout the 2016-17 school year.

❖ **Khalila Karefa-Kargbo**, of Alexandria, a sophomore at R-MA, received the French II Outstanding Performance Certificate. Khalila is the daughter of Karefa Kargbo of Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Emerica Karefa-Kargbo of McLean. Khalila also received the Fiction Award for her submission to the 2017 edition of the Academy's literary magazine, "Letters."

❖ **Victoria Catalina Voellm**, of Alexandria, a junior at R-MA, received the AP U.S. History and Honors Spanish III Outstanding Performance Certificates. Victoria is the daughter of Michael and Rowena E. Voellm of Alexandria.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

STAR Award

Noorjahan Sheikh receives STAR award from Jeanie Odenthal of Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Chapter J on June 15, 2017 at Mount Vernon High School. Sheikh has been accepted and will attend Virginia Commonwealth University where she has plans to study biology this fall. The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship is a \$2,500 scholarship based on excellence in leadership, extracurricular activities, community service, academics and potential for future success. The program is open to young women who are citizens or legal permanent residents of the United States or Canada and who are graduating high school seniors at the time of application.

Patrick Benson, of Alexandria, graduated from Marquette University (Milwaukee, Wis.) with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering.

Emily Gaietto, of Alexandria, graduated from Marquette University (Milwaukee, Wis.) with a Bachelor of Science in biological sciences.

Robert O'Connell, of Alexandria, who is studying networking and systems administration, made the dean's list for the 2017 spring semester at Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, N.Y.).

Osmel Morales Aguilera, of Alexandria, graduated from The University of Akron (Ohio) earning a Bachelor of Arts in political science.

Caitlin Gillard, of Alexandria, earned dean's list honors for the spring 2017 semester at Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia, Pa.).

Hannah Rowell, of Alexandria, graduated from High Point University (High Point, N.C.).

Blake Pohanka, of Alexandria, graduated from High Point University (High Point, N.C.).

Patrick Sansone, of Alexandria, who will be attending University of Notre

Dame, received a Andrews Federal Credit Union 2017 scholarship at its 69th annual meeting.

Cam Pyle, of Alexandria, grade 12, graduated from Mercersburg Academy (Mercersburg, Pa.), where he was named a commended scholar during the spring term. He plans to attend Dickinson College.

OPINION

Business

FROM PAGE 11

in his outgoing (his final) budget. We've kept our eye on our goal of building a new Virginia economy every day.

That means creating a busi-

ness climate that attracts good-paying jobs in 21st century industries, and strengthening our state revenues so we can reinvest in programs that prepare our workers for these high-level jobs. Focusing

on that mission is key to lowering our economic dependence on the federal government and will provide stability as we face the highs and lows of future economic cycles.

CRIME

FROM PAGE 5

6200 block of Richmond Highway, cash from business
6200 block of Richmond Highway, purse from business
6300 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
6600 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7400 block of Richmond Highway, liquor from business
7800 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7900 block of Richmond Highway, cooler from vehicle
8200 block of Richmond Highway, beer from business
3100 block of South Gate Drive, property from residence
6600 block of South Kings Highway, wallet from business
1900 block of Stirrup Lane, cell phone and charger from business
3400 block of Woodland Lane, wallets from vehicles
STOLEN VEHICLES
2000 block of Huntington Avenue, 2014 Dodge Caravan

AUG. 18 LARCENIES
8400 block of Blankenship Street, license plate from vehicle
6200 block of Richmond Highway, cash from business

AUG. 17 LARCENIES
7100 block of Fairchild Drive, property from vehicle
8400 block of Frye Road, merchandise from business
2300 block of Huntington Avenue, merchandise from business

AUG. 16 LARCENIES
8100 block of Fordson Road, wallet from vehicle
6800 block of Richmond Highway, wallet from vehicle
7300 block of Richmond Highway, cell phones from business
8400 block of Sky View Drive, wallet from vehicle

AUG. 15 LARCENIES
7900 block of Richmond Highway, cell phone from business
8200 block of Russell Road, merchandise from business

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Mount Vernon At Home is a non-profit organization that relies on volunteers to assist older adults aging in place in their homes. Volunteers are needed for local transportation to medical and personal appointments, errands, and grocery store trips; light handyman chores, home technology and more. No minimum number of volunteer hours required. Call Mount Vernon At Home 703-303-4060 or e-mail info@mountvernonathome.org or visit www.mountvernonathome.org for more.

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center is looking for social companions for participants on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. and front desk volunteers on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-noon and 3:30-4:30 p.m. Located at 8350 Richmond Highway. Call 703-324-5406 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

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Two, Hopefully for Won



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Being diagnosed with cancer; then having cancer/living with cancer, is like having a second job. A job that unlike many, requires and/or imposes a 'round the clock-type 24/7 adherence to protocol, policy, procedure, presumptions and principle. To live not like you're dying takes more than scoffing at a country music song that twangs an alternative vision. Believing in what routines you're following and any lifestyle changes you've made allows (I didn't say enables) a cancer survivor to thrive under the most difficult and demanding of circumstances.

Unfortunately for those reading this column looking for answers/guarantees, there aren't any other than: if you abuse the privilege of post-cancer-diagnosis survival, the ends will likely justify the means; meaning, you are responsible for your own actions and "inactions." The prognosis one is given at diagnosis is a reasonably thought out prediction. However, as grim as those words sound and seem at that moment, that prediction is not cast in stone. I'm living proof of that. The words you hear are based on the past. Your ensuing treatment is more about the present and future and what you decide to do living forward. Being open and unassuming, and by 'unassuming' I mean: not taking anything for granted, presuming facts not in evidence, considering that which has happened to somebody else – either good or bad, could happen to you and of course, asking as many questions in as many ways as necessary to get the answers you need, will help you co-exist with this terrible burden. Being diagnosed with a heretofore "terminal" disease presents one with innumerable challenges but not the slim pickin's (choices not the actor) of yesteryear.

Integrating/assimilating all of the facts, fiction and philosophy into one's daily cancer conundrum is a task often complicated by one's day job/intention to remain on that job. The thinking being, at least in my mind/experience: living as normal a life as possible and staying as true to one's usual and customary self as well as to one's wishes, desires, hopes, prayers, etc., will enable (not 'allow' this time) you potentially to live longer and prosper more and trek "where no man has gone before." For us cancer survivors/patients, where we hope to 'trek' is beyond the prognosis given to us by our oncologist.

I can boast of such an accomplishment, but I'd rather write it quietly and consistently as encouragement to others similarly diagnosed and "prognosed" than brag about it loudly. However, the changes/choices I've made might not suit another's personality. I regularly receive suggestions about additional anti-cancer pursuits. Some I embrace, some I don't. Some are conventional (Western), some are alternative (Non-Western). Many sound reasonable and "integratable" into my lifestyle. Many others don't. But given that my life is at stake, how can a suggestion's incompatibility with my personality matter? We're talking life versus premature death here; not sit-down Italian versus take-out Chinese. And though food certainly matters, it is of course to no comparison to living versus dying. Still, I don't always say "yes."

This is the yin and yang of my life and probably the lives of many other survivors of serious/terminal-type diseases. I want to feel like I'm winning. But I'm deathly afraid of losing.

Moreover, I want to live my life as normally as possible, but not if it has adverse consequence. And how would I know anyway? Symptoms can be misleading and scans are quarterly. And though I remain positive about my very negative circumstances, occasionally the reality of those circumstances interfere with that normalcy. When that happens, I usually put pen to paper and try to write myself out of it.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

transparent, not inclusive and unnecessarily divisive. He is correct on all fronts.

I suggest supporting the School Board's illusion of non-partisanship and electing an at-large School Board member who will help balance out the political views of the current School Board. Vote for Chris Grisafe.

H. Jay Spiegel
 Mount Vernon

Retain Memorials

To the Editor:

My great grandfather, Elmore Breckenridge Crump, died as a Union soldier in the waning days of the Civil War. His younger brother, William, was already dead on the Confederate side. They were Kentuckians.

My ancestor is buried under a simple stone at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery south of St. Louis. His brother, who died as a Union prisoner at Camp Douglas, Chicago, was first buried at Soldiers Field. His family apparently paid for his exhumation and his remains were shipped to Paris, Kentucky, where they lie, along with those of some of his comrades, grouped around a monument to their service.

After the war, my grandfather and his younger brother were raised in a Union military orphanage while their mother and her infant daughter lived with relatives nearby.

It took three generations for my family to recover from that war.

I have been a resident of Fairfax County for more than 40 years, during which I have passed innumerable times past the monument to Confederate soldiers at the intersection of Prince and Washington streets. It is a simple rendering of an unarmed soldier, his arms crossed, his head bowed and his hat in his hand, facing southward. The inscription reads "Erected to the memory of the Confederate dead of Alexandria Va. by their surviving comrades, May 24th, 1889." Known as the "Appomattox Statue," it symbolizes the defeat of the Confederacy and commemorates the death of those who fought for it. As such, it seems to me quite appropriate.

On Sept. 17, 2016, however, the Alexandria City Council voted to evict the statue from its historic location to the lawn of an adjacent historical museum. Fortunately, in my view, state law prohibits that. It is my hope that local politicians will abandon their politically-correct efforts and let the dead and their memorial lie in peace.

J. Griffin Crump
 Alexandria

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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Super Value! Spacious 5 bedroom home in prime Mt. Vernon location at remarkably reasonable price! Home in absolutely pristine condition with numerous features including: 5 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, open floor plan, hardwood floors, thermal windows, gas cooking/heat/hot water, sun room and garage. Fabulous opportunity!



**8307 Crown Court Rd.
\$729,900**

Spectacular 5 Bedroom, 5 Bath home featuring large room sizes, soaring cathedral ceilings, and oversize two car garage. Large deck overlooks truly stunning backyard scene with custom pool, spa and extensive hardscaping. Vacation at home in setting that resembles luxury upscale resort!



**9210 Cherrytree Dr.
\$625,000**

Fabulous home in premier Mt. Vernon neighborhood. Exceptionally spacious 5 BR, 3 BA home with bright, open floor plan. Major updated include: roof, windows, HVAC, Kitchen & more. Features inc Chef's kitchen w/ gas cooking, beautiful stained hardwood floors, upgraded trim including custom wood handrail, sunroom, and custom deck overlooking grounds adjoining wooded area.



**7617 Range Rd.
\$639,000**

Spacious 3 level home on gorgeous large fenced lot in prime close-in location. Many features include: bright open floor plan, updated thermal windows, hardwood floors, four large bedrooms, distinctive stone front, huge level back yard, large storage out building, and two car garage. Fabulous property in prime location for very reasonable price!



**4403 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy..
\$899,000**

3 new luxury homes by Wakefield Homes! This Radford Model provides all the new home bells & whistles at a remarkably reasonable price! Open floor plan enhanced by high ceilings and large windows. Great setting just down the road from Mt. Vernon Estate. FREE finished basement rec room w/ bath & \$10,000 seller credit* for limited time! Visit our website for more info on this build & project! www.mtvernonpark2.com



**8306 Centerbrook Pl.
\$845,000**

**4008 Adrienne Dr.
\$515,000**



**1205 Falster Rd.
\$649,500**

**2303 Cavendish Dr.
\$569,000**



**9504 Lynnhall Pl.
\$1,099,000**

**3711 Great Neck Ct.
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Mount Vernon Gazette

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2017-2018



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SERVING THE COMMUNITY

United Community Ministries (UCM)

7511 Fordson Road. Founded in 1969 as a grassroots movement to assist low-income families and individuals living along the Route One Corridor, UCM provides four different housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center to help prepare people for moving forward with their jobs. Call 703-768-7106 or visit www.ucmagency.org.

Progreso Literacy And Citizenship Center

A program of United Community Ministries, Progreso empowers immigrants to improve the quality of their lives and of their communities through education, immigration services, and leadership development. Visit www.ucmagency.org/progreso-center-for-literacy-citizenship.html.

Christian Relief Services

8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 900. Incorporated in 1985, in Virginia, through partnership with 14 agencies, Christian Relief Services offers up to 24 months of transitional housing, case management and supportive services for homeless people.

Around the country, operates the affordable housing units. Call 703-317-9086 or visit www.christianrelief.org.

Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services

8305-17B Richmond Highway. The goal of Good Shepherd, created in 1974, is to help bring an end to homelessness while promoting the self-sufficiency of homeless individuals with programs in counseling, grant services and housing location assistance.

Call 703-768-9494 or visit www.goodhousing.org.

New Hope Housing

Founded in 1977, New Hope Housing is an award-winning nonprofit agency in Northern Virginia committed to finding creative and lasting solutions to end the cycle of homelessness by offering homeless men, women, and children the services they need to change their lives and succeed. Each year, New Hope Housing serves more than 1,500 people in outreach, shelter, and housing programs. Call 703-799-2293 or www.newhopehousing.org to volunteer or learn more.

Mount Vernon Rotary Club

The club works to provide educational scholarships, educate the next generation to motivate them to pursue world peace, and to simply care about human needs and be willing to take steps to help meet them. Visit www.localrotaryclub.com/MountVernonVirginiaRotaryClub.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area

5901 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Aims to help youth become confident, civic-minded, responsible adults through programs focused on education/career development, health and life skills, leadership, the arts, sports and recreation, and mentoring. Call 703-304-8631 or visit www.bgcgw.org/fairfax

Mount Vernon At Home

2501 Sherwood Lane. Looking for a way to make a difference in the Mount Vernon community? Consider Mount Vernon At Home, a non-profit organization that relies on volunteer time and talent to assist older adults to age in place in their homes. Its volunteers provide extra help that makes aging in place easier for seniors in their own neighborhoods.

Volunteers are needed for local transportation to medical and personal appointments, errands, and grocery store trips; light handyman chores and home technology to name just a few. No minimum number of volunteer hours are required.

Contact Mount Vernon At Home at 703-303-4060, email info@mountvernonathome.org or visit www.mountvernonathome.org to learn more.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Route 1: A Transit Story Problems and solutions to Mount Vernon's Route 1 woes.

BY VERNON MILES
THE GAZETTE

Route 1 is the heart of Mount Vernon. It runs right through the center of the area, all of the streets and commercial areas more or less connected to it. But it is clogged. The Metro stops at Huntington, and public transit south of there is limited. Those traveling south almost always need to do so by car, but in some places the six-lane highway narrows to four lanes. It's not a roadway in a healthy condition.

But that's starting to change. The Embark Richmond Highway initiative is a series of on-going projects and proposals to fix transit along Route 1. Some projects like highway widening are already in process, others like an extension of the Metro line are still in the early conceptual stages.

Del. Paul Krizek said there are three main challenges on Route 1. The first challenge is that narrowing to four lanes through Mount Vernon.

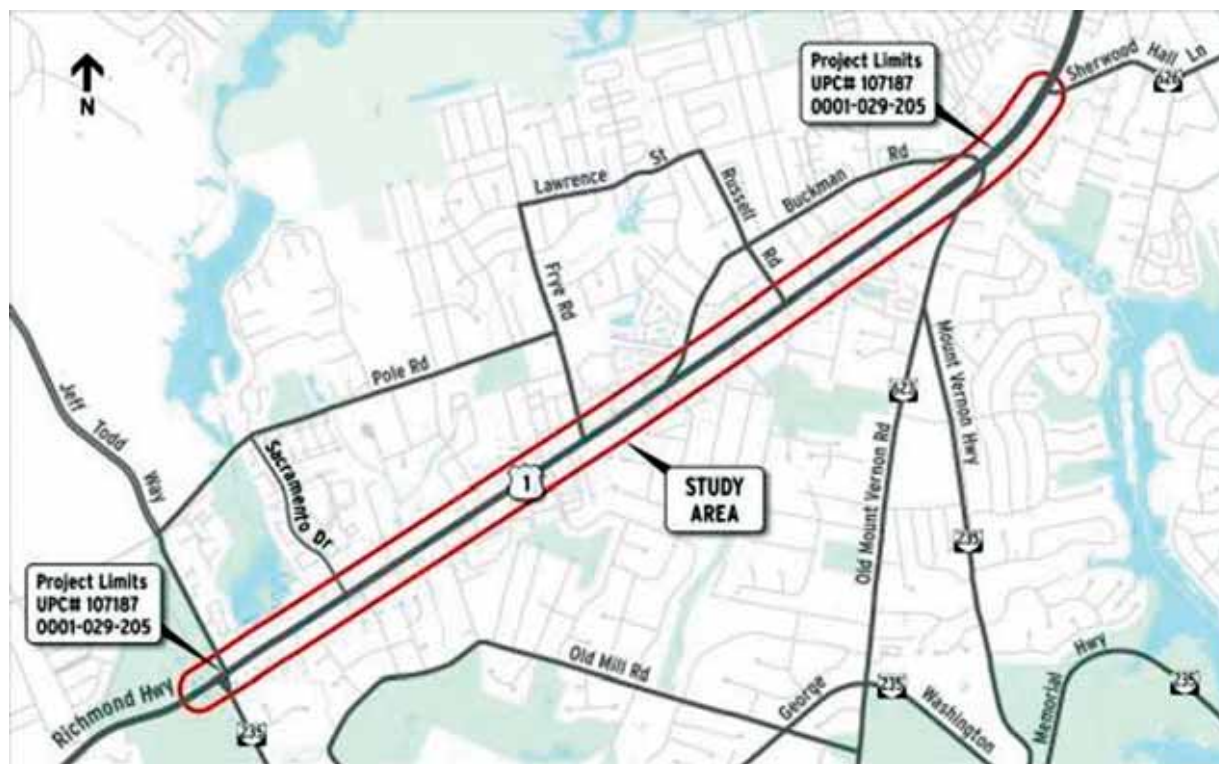
"That issue, which is fundamental to keeping traffic flowing, is being addressed with the new road widening, called the Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements Project," said Krizek.

Construction began on street widening in June 2013. On Aug. 4, 2017, officials celebrated the completion of a widening of Route 1 between Jeff Todd Way and Telegraph Road, the first stage of widening along Route 1. But the next stage is three miles of widening north of Jeff Todd Way, up to Napper Road near the border with Alexandria.

"That issue, which is fundamental to keeping traffic flowing is being addressed with the new road widening, called the Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements Project, a \$200 million plus project slated to break ground in early 2023," said Krizek.

The second major challenge for Route 1 is the limited options for north-south travel except the George Washington Parkway, which Krizek notes is not built for commuter travel and doesn't extend south of Mount Vernon. So Route 1 is one of the only options for travel in Virginia south of D.C.

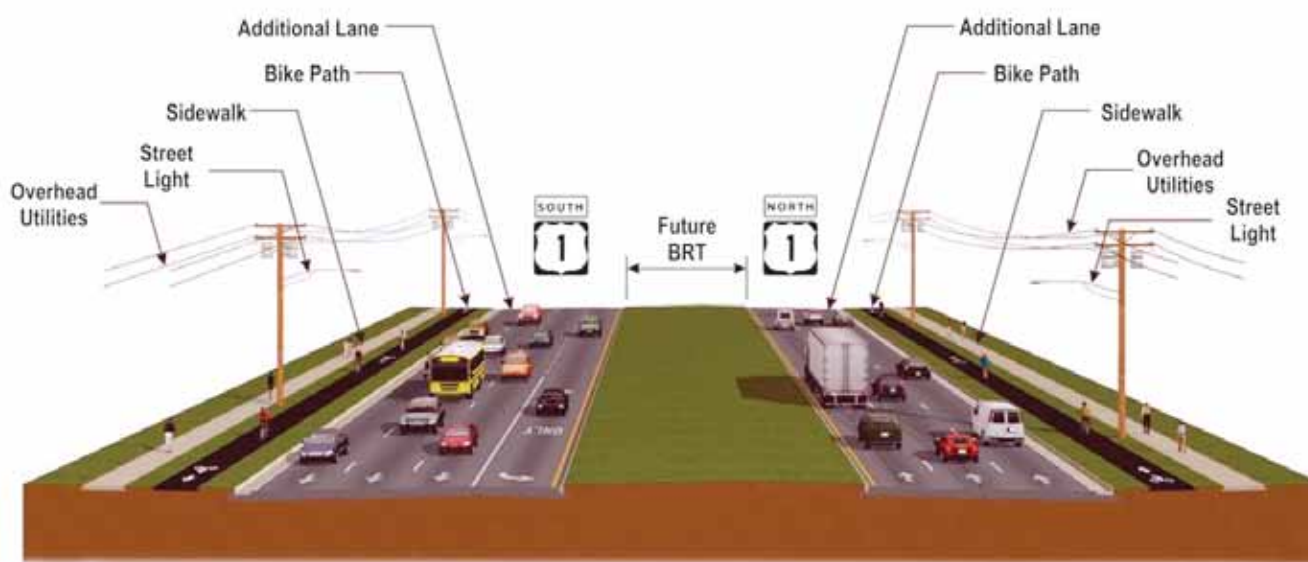
The third challenge is Ft. Belvoir, an army



Map of proposed widening.



Typical Section



Proposed "superstreet" — a widened highway with a built in divider for future Bus Rapid Transit development.

base in Fairfax with more workers than the Pentagon. According to Krizek, almost all of the gates into the base are off of Route 1.

"Our community is very convenient for those that work on the base, but many base workers commute from Maryland and other communities outside of ours. Congestion and travel phone apps/GPS have pushed too many commuters to cut through our secondary roads such as Old Mount Vernon Road, Fort Hunt and Sherwood Hall Lane, and, as I mentioned, the GW Parkway."

These multi-layered problems are going to take multi-layered solutions. According to Krizek, one of the major milestones was

in 2015 when state Sen. Linda Todd Puller and then-Delegate Scott Surovell were able to get funding for the Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis study. The study recommended implementation of a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system to be built through, a three-mile extension of the yellow line, widening the road and adding bicycle and pedestrian accessible travel.

But according to now state Senator Surovell, these improvements rely on \$2 billion in infrastructure funding from a combination of sources, half of which is expected to come from federal sources, particularly from the Federal Transit

Administration's New Starts program. This was zeroed out in the Trump administration's proposed budget, but Surovell said he's not concerned.

"No one is taking that seriously," said Surovell. "I don't even think Republicans are taking it seriously. The Federal [Government] is going to need to fund infrastructure."

Even without the yellow line extension, the widening, new bike lanes, new sidewalks, and a cleared space for later BRT implementation is estimated to cost \$215 million, of which only \$25 million has been allocated.

"The biggest obstacle is always about where we find the money," said Krizek. "We must compete with many regional infrastructure requests."

Of the plans for improving transit along Route 1, the extension of the yellow line seems like the most remote."

The Metro is currently facing a series of challenges related to poor maintenance and funding difficulties, but Surovell said the Metro will eventually work past those and will begin to expand again. His vision is a yellow line that extends from Huntington down to Occoquan.

"I campaigned on getting the yellow line extended down Route 1," said Surovell. "[The Metro extension] is 10-15 years from now. We can't stop planning because of current [limitations]. In 10-15 years, the Route 1 corridor is going to look like the Arlington Metro corridor. How we do that while preserving the affordable housing is another challenge here over the next six months. And in the

longer term, we need to make Mount Vernon a community that is attracting families and jobs." Public hearings on the Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements are scheduled for mid-2018. Final design is expected in late 2018 with Right of Way acquisition and utility undergrounding in 2019. If the project is funded and everything goes smoothly, construction on the highway improvements is expected to begin in 2023 for completion in 2026.

"Route 1 is the key to everything," said Surovell. "Retail, housing, development: it all starts with Route 1."

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

About the Mount Vernon Gazette

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Mount Vernon Gazette's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we report on the character of your community, we include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

In 2016 alone, Connection papers won dozens of awards, including the top Virginia Press award — for Integrity and Community Service, for our coverage of police reform and related issues.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an email. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book,

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started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include

when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The Mount Vernon Gazette is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

CONTACT

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— MARY KIMM

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Welcome to the Mount Vernon District

BY DAN STORCK
 MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

Welcome to the best place to live, work and play in Fairfax County! I look forward to meeting you at my office or in our community. I am confident that you will agree that our scenic beauty, diversity, history, hospitality and civic activism along with our great schools and vast opportunities for cultural enrichment are unique in the world. Mark your calendar for two community events – the second annual Tour de Mount Vernon on Nov. 4 and the 31st annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting on Feb. 3, 2018.

In Mount Vernon, we are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, recreational opportunities, historical sites and community events to enjoy. So start your day with a round of golf, horseback riding, kayaking, tennis, or a walk in a tree-lined park or neighborhood; enjoy brunch at our more than one hundred local eateries; boat, bike, or walk to one of our many heritage sites and then relax at a craft brewery; to round out your evening, you can see a local play, musical or concert. Here are some of my favorite places to visit:

❖ George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens: One of the nation's most visited historic sites, with lush gardens and grounds, intriguing museum galleries, immersive programs, and first-rate dining and shopping options. Hop on a bike and ride on the nearly 18 miles long and fully paved Mount Vernon Trail that follows the Potomac River's Virginia shoreline. You can



The Mount Vernon District Supervisor's Office: Office Manager, Donna Slaymaker; Intern, Betsy Slaymaker; Supervisor Dan Storck; Chief of Staff, Christine Morin; Staff Aide, Allison Miessler; and Staff Aide, Tae Choi.

also enjoy the nearby Distillery and Gristmill. (www.mountvernon.org)

❖ Gunston Hall: The home built for George Mason IV, the author of the Bill of Rights, located on Mason Neck near a state park, regional park, and federally protected land. The mansion and museum provide history and context to colonial Virginia and revolutionary America. (gunstonhall.org)

❖ Woodlawn & Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House: Operated on the same historic grounds by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, visitors are encouraged to explore the contrasting architectural and historic backgrounds of these two unique homes. (woodlawnpopeleighey.org/)

home/) The site is also home to the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture offering demonstration gardens used to teach people how to farm and enjoy agriculture. (www.Arcadiafood.org)

❖ Workhouse Arts Center: In addition to over 150 of the region's finest artist workspaces, art classes, exhibits by national and international artists, exciting comedy or musical performances, this nationally recognized former correctional facility explains the key role the area played in turning the tide to secure a woman's right to vote. (www.workhousearts.org)

❖ And many, many more: Potomac River marina; county recreation centers with in-

door swimming, a fitness center and ice rink; off-leash dog parks; farmers markets; "Liberty", a historical, adaptively renovated residential community; a "Top Ten" public golf course; and the 2019 opening of The National Museum of the United States Army which will tell the stories of the 30 million men and women who have served in the army since 1775.

We are a community of the past, present, and future where you can grow, play, and work. We host hundreds of small and large growing businesses, many recently renovated schools, and the Fort Belvoir Army Base with more than double the employees of the Pentagon. Taking care of your health can also be accomplished locally at our two major hospital centers — Inova Mount Vernon and the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.

Please stop by my office located at 2511 Parkers Lane, Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursday evenings until 7:30 p.m. The second Saturday of each month, I have additional hours at the Lorton Library from 9-11:30 a.m. and at my office from 12:30-3 p.m. You can contact us at 703-780-7518 or MtVernon@FairfaxCounty.gov. Visit our website www.FairfaxCounty.gov/mountvernon to sign-up for our regular Mount Vernon Advisor newsletter for the latest of what's happening in the community.

Again, I welcome you to the Mount Vernon community – a destination - and sincerely hope you enjoy living in the finest district in Fairfax County. It is an honor and privilege to serve you.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Belle Haven Marina at sunrise.

The Joys of Living Here

BY JANE R. GANDEE

It is easy to take for granted the beauty of the Potomac, the stunning mansions of George Washington and George Mason as we go about our daily lives in the Mount Vernon District. An area where you can still see grazing horses and Metro stops, the mighty garrisons of Fort Belvoir and quaint shops. We live and work on an iconic Route 1 that served as the main destination corridor from Maine to the Florida Keys for generations. Our area provides an opportunity to drive by the White House on a Saturday afternoon and see one of our many professional sports teams play the next day.

The Mount Vernon area provides the historic backdrop for our rich history, a country struggling to be born; with the hopeful belief that this nation would become and remain a place where the people would never again be subject to the whims of a ruling class.

Mount Vernon still holds the charm of sleepy neighborhoods, flowering trees and Friday night football games. Yet, it is a short drive away from a brand new outlet mall and a state of the art MGM Hotel and Casino. You can see a world renowned art collection, the skeletal remains of T-Rex, the amazing accomplishments of the space program, and drive by the beautiful monuments of Lincoln, Jefferson, and Washington and be home that evening grilling on your patio for dinner. Some of the best and most renowned restaurants in the country are at our choosing. A major international airport is in our backyard with two others close by.

On any given day, you can look to the Potomac and see sail boats, dinner cruises, sightseeing tours, fisherman and yes even ocean liners. The rich history of our neighboring Old Town Alexandria dates back to the 1600s with the remaining vestiges of the cultural and economic signs of an old seaport town.

We have a vibrant business community, an active Chamber of Commerce, involved neighborhood citizen groups, a diverse offering of churches, private schools, and a devoted network of nonprofits who



Fort Belvoir celebrates the U.S. Army birthday.

work diligently to make sure those in need receive a helping hand. We are making great progress in improving our transportation infrastructure so that living in beautiful Mount Vernon may be a reality for those who find work in our neighboring economic areas.

The Mount Vernon area is a wonderful place to live and raise children, where the opportunities for education, service and entertainment abound.

Gandee is the owner, along with her husband Greg, of ServiceMaster NCR located right off the Route 1 corridor in Alexandria. She also serves as the chairman of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

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Area Interstates Have Toll Lane Options

**Latest addition,
395 Express Lanes,
are scheduled to be
opened in 2019.**

BY MIKE SALMON

The introduction of the “express lanes,” on area highways have made tolls commonplace for anyone driving in the Northern Virginia area. These lanes on I-95, I-495, and I-395 are outfitted with overhead sensors instead of booths, and everything is done with the E-Z Pass or the E-Z Pass Flex which has a feature for high occupancy vehicles (HOV) to avoid the tolls by carpooling. The variable toll amount is calculated by traffic levels at that time, and this price is reflected on the overhead digital signs.

On I-495, commonly known as the Capital Beltway, the 495 Express Lanes stretch 11 miles from Springfield in the south to a point just past the Dulles Toll Road in the McLean area. These are two lanes in each direction that are in operation 24-hours a day.

The 95 Express Lanes stretch 29 miles from Alexandria inside the beltway, south to Route 610 in Stafford County. These lanes are “reversible,” meaning they are heading northbound in the morning,

and southbound in the afternoon and evenings during the week, and almost entirely southbound on the weekend.

The 395 Express Lanes are a continuation of these lanes inside the beltway, ending at the Potomac River. This project is just getting underway, and are scheduled to be opened in 2019. For now, the northern stretch of HOV lanes is still operating under the old rules, that requires a minimum of three passengers during rush hours, and open to anyone during non-rush hours.

In December this year, I-66 inside the beltway, from Arlington to Falls Church, will be a tolled facility but only on the eastbound lanes in the morning and westbound lanes in the afternoons. It will be toll-free for vehicles with at least two passengers for now, but that HOV requirement will change to HOV-3 in a few years when the I-66 express lanes outside the beltway open in 2022. In addition, the Virginia Department of Transportation is adding an additional lane on the eastbound side only, from the Dulles Access Road to Fairfax Drive, a distance of four miles.

On I-66 outside the beltway, officials are building one lane in each direction for 22 miles from Vienna to Gainesville, and there will be two express lanes on each side, similar to I-495. This project, priced at \$2.3 billion, is expected to be done in 2022.

The Dulles Access Road and the Dulles Greenway are toll facilities also but the access road still takes change as well as the E-Z Pass, and neither road has an HOV exception.



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON

This toll gantry in Arlington is not in use yet, and is currently being tested.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE GAZETTE



17 Mile Bike Trail

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It registers voters and provides them with unbiased information about the voting process, issues of interest, and elections. It encourages active participation of citizens by holding candidate forums, so

they can meet and ask questions of the candidates who are running for office.

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area conducts studies of important community issues, has monthly meetings during which members discuss these issues, and uses education and advocacy to influence local public policy in the interest of the public. To learn more about this organization or to join, go to www.lwv-fairfax.org.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



To cut costs, some of the plants were raised from seeds.



In April, the sprouts soaked up the spring sunshine before being transplanted to the garden in May.



The strawberries were the first to be caged for varmint protection, and the first to be eaten.



In July, tomatoes appeared, although this first batch was eaten by something.



In late August, the tomatoes were BLT sandwich-bound.

Learning, Sweating, and Reaping What You Sow

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

It looked easy when I leaned over the fence of a local community garden last year, mentally planning my own garden with several types of tomatoes, corn, beans and a couple of cucumber vines overwhelming the fence, weighted down with “cukes,” that would soon be in my salad. The unseen battle with weeds, bugs, a family of groundhogs and other furry creatures that munch plants down to the nub are part of the deal too, but didn’t dampen the spirit of my community garden. My first year this year will be a learning experience for next year’s garden, and years after that.

The Fairfax County community gardens are available through the park service for \$125 a year. On the county website, I read the long list of rules for this project, and then found a plot that is relatively close to my house and got on the waiting list for one to be available. I was finally matched up with a 20x30 foot plot in the Grist Mill Park near Mount

Vernon that would soon be my home away from home for the duration of the summer. In January, the plot was nothing but weeds and grass that was about 3 feet tall. After hours of hacking away, I discovered that there were six beds underneath that would be perfect for my plan. I read books, watched videos on YouTube, talked with other gardeners and came up with a loose plan that wouldn’t cost me too much.

March came around, and I researched the planting process that began with soaking seeds in wet paper towels, putting them in a pitch black closet for a few weeks, then to empty egg cartons and biodegradable pots, and then to the garden. May 1 is the preferred date for the freeze line, and off I went with my shovel and seedlings. Disappointment set in later in May when I dis-

covered my corn stalks nibbled off to the dirt, and the same with my zucchini, sunflowers and 20 tomatoes that were still green. Chatter around the garden pointed the blame at the family of groundhogs that lived in the barn. So out came the chicken wire and soon every plant left had a cage over it.

During the summer, I watched the weather, the holes in the fence, and the



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON

From the community garden at Grist Mill Park in the Mount Vernon area, the barn creates a farming atmosphere.

birds that were tough to defend against. The strawberries were the first to get picked for us to eat, followed by a few blueberries, and then tomatoes. The peppers, which I had grown from seed, along with the cucumbers, didn’t come until later in August, but were good to eat as well. The two beds that went without plants became a mass of weeds in a matter of weeks, and it was soon discovered that a layer of newspaper with mulch on top was a good way to fight the weeds, although some in the garden did use weed killer, a practice frowned on by the die hard gardeners.

This fall, when the tomatoes are dried and shriveled, and the weeds have died down, next year’s plan will come together and the work will start all over again. I can hardly wait.

To get your own garden, go to the Fairfax County website, (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/plots.htm), find a location near your residence and get on the waiting list. Similar to the whole gardening experience, this takes patience as well, and then a certain level of commitment when taking over a plot.

Fairfax County Park Garden Plot Locations

- Baron Cameron**, 11300 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston – 32 plots
- Broyhill Crest Park**, 7128 Murray Lane, Annandale – 15 plots
- Eakin Community Park**, 8515 Tobin Road, Fairfax – 20 plots
- Franconia Park**, 6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield – 86 plots
- George Mason Park**, 9700 Braddock Road, Fairfax – 46 plots
- Grist Mill Park**, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria – 45 plots
- Lewinsville Park**, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean – 142 plots
- Nottoway Park**, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna – 128 plots
- Bo White Gardens (Pine Ridge Park)**, 3401 Woodburn Road, Annandale – 156 plots



When first taking over Plot 29 at the Grist Mill Park community garden, the weeds ruled.



Under the weeds, there were raised beds.



This community garden continues to thrive into late summer.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County: 'Work Hard, Play Hard'

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Welcome to Fairfax County, one of the greatest places in the nation to live, work, play and raise a family. Fairfax County is home to a thriving business community, vibrant entertainment and shopping destinations, a world class university, beautiful parks and a diverse population of engaged residents. Whether you are a long time resident or new to the county, I hope you'll take some time to visit some of our most popular spots and enjoy what Fairfax County has to offer.

Tysons Corner Center, Fair Oaks Mall, Reston Town Center, Fairfax Corner, Springfield Town Center and the Mosaic District are great places to shop, eat and spend time with friends. For cultural destinations, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts and the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton are some of my favorites. For fresh air and exercise, I recommend our extensive network of trails, parks and RECenters.

While there are a lot of fun things to do in Fairfax County, our community is notorious for our "work hard, play hard" ethic. Time Magazine has described us as the epicenter of the Washington region's job boom



and one of the great economic success stories of our time. Fairfax County is home to nine Fortune 500 company headquarters, approximately 9,000 tech businesses and over 116 million square feet of

office space. Fairfax County has one of the best public school systems nationwide with a graduation rate of nearly 93 percent. Fairfax County Public Schools is the third largest employer in Virginia and the 10th largest school system in the country with more than 189,000 students. After high school graduation, George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College are located just down the road for affordable higher education opportunities in many different subject fields. Our business-friendly economy offers a wide array of impressive career opportunities for both our older and younger residents.

On the local government level, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is constantly hard at work to ensure quality public services for our residents. Our 10-member Board of Supervisors strives to maintain positive community engagement, while strategically planning for the future with land use and infrastructure decisions.

Some recent Fairfax County accomplish-

ments include updating many of our police policies, establishing a Diversion First program for people with mental illness who become involved with law enforcement, and successfully extending Metrorail to Tysons and Reston. Phase 2 of Metro's Silver Line is currently under construction and will extend all the way to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun County.

Fairfax County offers opportunity and quality services for residents of all ages. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with their diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. In Fairfax County, we believe we must all do our part to set a posi-

tive tone of acceptance, inclusiveness and kindness.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by Fairfax County residents. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or give my office a call at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening in your new community. I also encourage you to visit fairfaxcounty.gov and fxva.com to see what Fairfax County has to offer you and your family every season and every day. Welcome to your new home.

Service for Seniors Who Want to Serve

RSVP is the region's largest volunteer network for people 55 and older, providing individualized support to seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria.

RSVP offers opportunities for volunteers including providing rides, support and meals to older neighbors, assisting local veterans in need and helping prepare communities for disasters. RSVP also recruits volunteers for community

events throughout the year.

RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to group projects and social gatherings with other RSVP volunteers.

To sign up for an upcoming RSVP orientation email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403- 5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

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—Colonel Philip (Phil) J. Saulnier, USA, Retired and Judith (Judy) Saulnier, Residents at The Fairfax for 3.5 Years

"There are many reasons that we moved to The Fairfax. The beautiful and spacious grounds, the activities, medical care, not having to cook anymore... The Fairfax is like a cruise ship—you have everything available to you. Most important was the true financial value of the LifeCare program as well as the potential tax advantages available to us. It was the smartest lifestyle and financial decision we ever made."

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PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN THE AREA

PHOTOS BY MARK MOGLE.
FEATURING GREAT FALLS NATIONAL PARK
MAP BY LAURENCE FOONG AND DESIGN BY JEAN CARD

National Parks

GF Great Falls National Park

9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean
www.nps.gov/grfa
Great Falls Park is open daily from 7 a.m. until dark. The Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily, spring through fall seasons. Picnic, hike along the Potomac River. Swimming and wading in the Potomac are prohibited.

GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

www.nps.gov/gwmp
703-289-2500
The GW Parkway includes more than 25 sites, ranging from historic homes to wildlife preserves. Join a ranger for a free program or explore sites independently. Some park sites, including Turkey Run Park, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Great Falls Park, etc., close at dark. The Parkway itself remains open 24 hours a day to vehicle traffic.

WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

1551 Trap Road, Vienna
www.nps.gov/wotr/
The only national park dedicated to presenting the performing arts. From May through September, multiple amphitheaters in the park present musicals, dance, opera, jazz, and popular and country music. Explore the park without the crowds from October - April. The Barns at Wolf Trap offer indoor entertainment through the winter months.

State Park

MN Mason Neck State Park

7301 High Point Rd. Lorton
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/mas.shtml#
703-339-2385 or 703-339-2380 (visitor center)
masonneck@dcr.virginia.gov.
The park's visitor center was expanded in 2010 to include a new exhibit room, gift shop and meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park & Atlantis Waterpark

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/
www.atlantisbullrun.com/
703-631-0552
Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 through Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Hours vary. Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority family of Waterparks. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

CR Cameron Run Regional Park/Great Waves Waterpark

4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria
www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run/
www.greatwaveswaterpark.com/
703-960-0767
Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves Water Park. Catch a wave in the wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, play with friends in the shallow waters of the play

pool. The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course, a nine-station bathing cage, picnic shelters, and a special events pavilion.

CH Carlyle House Historic Park

121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park/
703-549-2997
The historic Carlyle House was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir, member of one of the most prestigious families in colonial Virginia. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquarters in 1755. On the National Register of Historic Places, Carlyle House is architecturally unique in Alexandria as the only stone, 18th-century Palladian-style house. Daily tours of the house, programs for schoolchildren, special events, exhibits and lectures explore the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria. The site may be rented in the evenings for private functions and weddings.

FH Fountainhead Regional Park

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/
703-250-9124
The observation deck of the Marina Building at Fountainhead commands a spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Summer activities include catfish tournaments, children's fishing tournament, paddleboat tours and more.

HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse

trails may be used without prior arrangement.

MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna
www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/
703-255-3631
This 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections is open year round and include walking trails, lakes, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wildflowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin.

OR Occoquan Regional Park

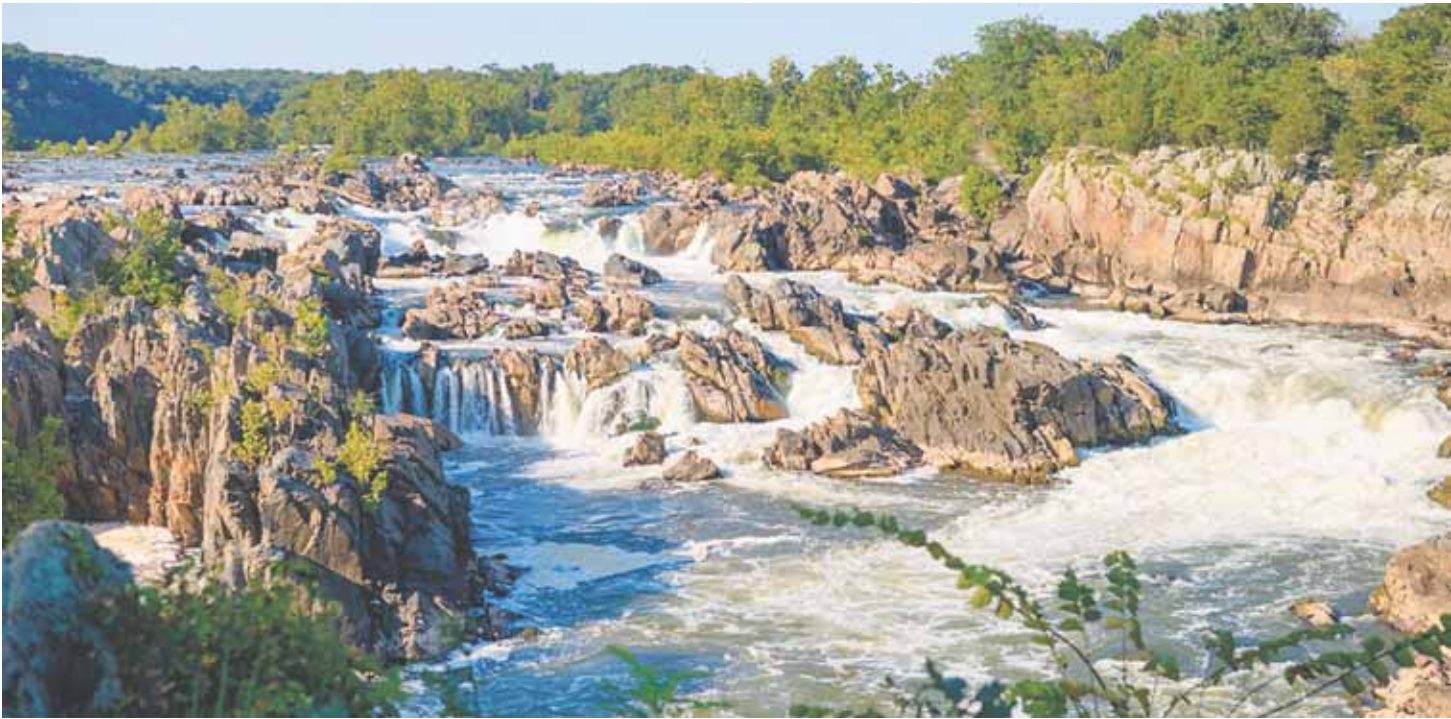
9751 Ox Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/
703-690-2121
This park offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Park lands, trails and associated waters are part of the Fairfax Cross-County Trail. Kayak rentals. One hour Tour Boat Rides on the Occoquan River to Belmont Bay and back. Offered Saturdays noon-5 p.m., Sunday 1-8 p.m., April 2 through Nov. 27. \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under, under age 4 are free.

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park & Pirates Cove Waterpark

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/
www.piratescovepohick.com
703-339-6102

Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River, 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. The park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on Mason Neck Peninsula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Pirates Cove Waterpark is located at Pohick Bay Regional Park. Visitors can cool off under the 300-gallon dumping bucket, fire the water cannons and splash down the waterslide or search for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach sand play area. Pirates Cove

Sources: National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Virginia State Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority. Map courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority. Designed & compiled by Jean Card and Laurence Foong. Photos by Renée Ruggles.



also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course
703-339-8585

This scenic golf course is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's practice facility features a driving range with practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. A full-service pro shop features an array of name-brand golf clubs, equipment and apparel. Other services include club making, custom club fitting, regripping, reshafting and tournament coordinating.

PO Potomac Overlook Regional Park & Nature Center

2845 Marcey Road, Arlington, VA 22207
www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook/
703-528-5406

On the Potomac Palisades in north Arlington, Potomac Overlook offers 70 acres of peaceful woodland, trails, educational gardens, a small picnic area and a Nature Center. The Nature Center features brand new exhibits called the "Energerium," offering visitors a fun and accessible way to learn energy basics and ways they can help create sustainable energy solutions. The Nature Center also houses live animals and natural history exhibits.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/
703-690-4392

The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

UH Upton Hill Regional Park & Ocean Dunes Waterpark

6060 Wilson Blvd., Arlington
www.nvrpa.org/park/upton_hill/
www.oceanduneswaterpark.com/
703-534-3437 or UptonHill@nvrpa.org
Upton Hill Regional Park offers visitors a wooded oasis in the heart of the most densely populated area of Northern Virginia. A large outdoor water-park complex is a sparkling attraction in this wooded, urban park, which straddles the boundary line between Arlington and Fairfax counties. The deluxe miniature golf course boasts one of the longest mini golf holes in the world; the batting cages include nine baseball and softball cages. The park is open every day for hiking, picnicking, playing on the playground and enjoying the outdoors. Located within Upton Hill Regional Park, Ocean Dunes is loaded with fun features for adults and children.

Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton
www.lortonarts.org
703-584-2900

The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing
883.4 acres, multiple resource park



CJP Clemyjontri Park

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean
fitness, picnic areas and playgrounds
18.6 acres, special purpose park

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

5040 Walney Road, Chantilly
baseball, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater, trails
650 acres, multiple resource park

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, open areas, playground
135.3 acres, multiple resource park

GSG Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria
Community Center, historic structure, biking/hiking trails, open areas, gardens
30.9 acres, special purpose park

HPP Hidden Pond Park

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
tennis (lit), nature center, amphitheater, hiking/nature trails, playground, fishing
25.6 acres, community park

HMP Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria
nature center, historic structure, biking/hiking/nature trails, observation tower, boardwalk
1444.8 acres, natural resource park

LAP Lake Accotink Park

7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
basketball, volleyball, minigolf, trails, picnic
448.1 acres, multiple resource park

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit), amphitheater, carousel, campground, tour boat, picnic shelters
479 acres, multiple resource park

FRA Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia
softball, soccer/football, tennis, basketball, volleyball, trails, treehouse, sprayground, accessible playground
138 acres, district park

MDP Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit/lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), shuffleboard, dog park, amphitheater, biking/hiking/fitness
121.2 acres, district park

NWP Nottoway Park

9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna
baseball (lit), soccer/football (lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), trails, picnic
90.9 acres, district park

RRP Riverbend Park

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
nature center, historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, picnic areas, craft room
411.2 acres, multiple resource park

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean
historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing
384.3 acres, natural resource park

SRD South Run District

7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield
baseball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

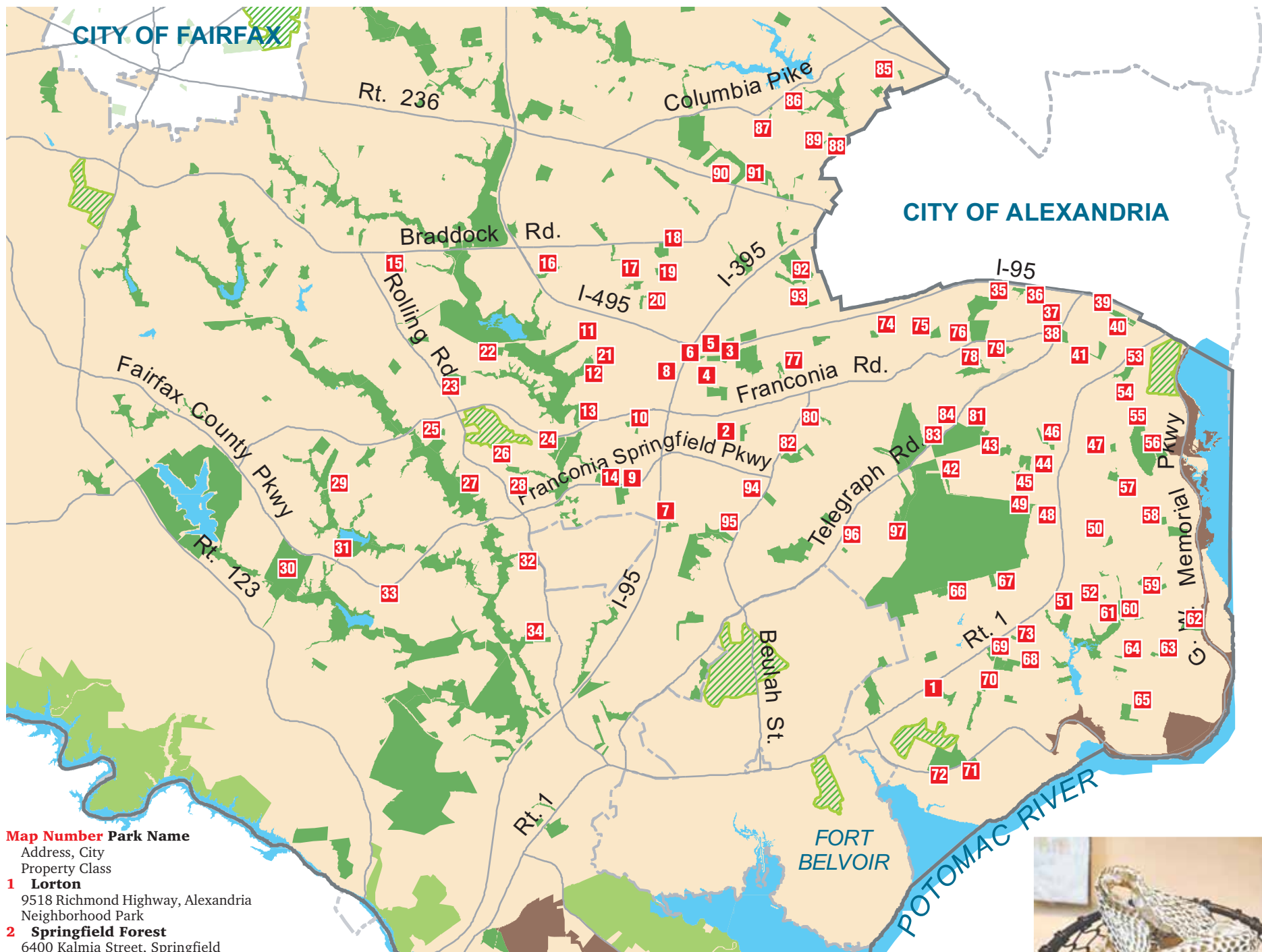
8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park



PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE SPRINGFIELD & MOUNT VERNON AREAS

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON
FEATURING HIDDEN POND NATURE CENTER
MAP BY LAWRENCE FOONG; DESIGN BY JEAN CARD



Map Number Park Name

Address, City
Property Class

- 1 Lorton**
9518 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
Neighborhood Park
- 2 Springfield Forest**
6400 Kalmia Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 3 Franconia**
6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 4 Lee High**
6501 Deepford Street, Springfield
Community Park
- 5 Monticello Woods**
6444 Northanna Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 6 Trailside**
6000 Trailside Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 7 Loisdale**
7419 Loisdale Road, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 8 Lynbrook**
6005 Augusta Drive, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 9 Hooes Road**
7233 Hooes Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 10 Springvale**
6508 Spring Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 11 Lake Accotink**
7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
Multiple Resource Park
- 12 Brookfield**
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 13 Byron Avenue**
6500 Byron Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 14 Hooes Road School Site**
7336 Hooes Road, Springfield

- 15 Kings Park**
8717 Trafalgar Ct., Springfield
Community Park
- 16 Flag Run**
7620 Elgar Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 17 Leewood**
7111 Woodland Drive, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Deerlick**
6821 Braddock Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 19 Edsall**
6845 Edsall Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 20 North Springfield**
7025 Leesville Boulevard, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 21 Royal Ridge**
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 22 Carrleigh Parkway**
8020 Carrleigh Prkwy, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 23 Cardinal Forest**
6121 Roxbury Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 24 Hunter Village**
7700 Jansen Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 25 Hidden Pond**
8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
Community Park

- 26 West Springfield**
6805 Caneel Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 27 West Springfield Village**
6910 Loudoun Lane, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 28 Rolling Forest**
7019 Flax Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 29 Cherry Run**
7001 Cottontail Court, Springfield
Neighborhood Park



Snakeskins found
around the park indicate
the snake population at
this wooded park.



A slider turtle are one of the species living in Hidden Pond.



At Hidden Pond Nature Center, a tree bows out over the still waters of the pond.

The pond is surrounded by a community so it is a natural refuge for birds in the area.

- 30 South Run District**
7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield District Park
- 31 Huntsman**
9150 Dorothy Lane, Springfield Community Park
- 32 Rolling Wood School Site**
7511 Chancellor Way, Springfield Community Park
- 33 Chapel Acres**
7900 Giles Street, Springfield Neighborhood Park
- 34 Saratoga**
8121 North Umlerland Rd, Springfield Community Park
- 35 Loftridge**
5549 Janelle Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 36 Burgundy**
5516 Norton Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 37 Heritage Hill**
5744 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 38 Jefferson Manor**
2909 Farmington Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 39 Huntington**
2121 Fairfax Terrace, Alexandria Community Park
- 40 Farrington Avenue**
2213 Farrington Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 41 Mt. Eagle**
5919 North Kings Highway, Alexandria Community Park
- 42 South Kings Forest**
4505 Lantern Place, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 43 Stoneybrooke**
3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 44 Groveton Heights**
3429 Clayborne Avenue, Alexandria Community Park
- 45 Huntley Historic**
6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria Natural Resource Park
- 46 Lenclair**
6625 Lenclair Street, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 47 Bucknell Manor**
2223 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 48 Hybla Valley**
3431 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

- 49 Huntley Meadows**
3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Natural Resource Park
- 50 Hollin Meadows**
7603 Elba Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 51 Martin Luther King Jr**
8115 Fordson Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 52 Stephen S. Foster Intermediate School Site**
2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 53 Belle Haven**
6036 Grove Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 54 Fort Willard Circle**
6625 Fort Willard Circle, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 55 Mount Vernon District**
2017 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria Multiple Resource Park
- 56 Westgrove**
6801 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 57 White Oaks**
7100 Devonshire Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 58 Gilbert S. McCutcheon**
7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 59 Hollin Hall School Site**
1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria

- Community Park
- 60 Kirk**
2206 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 61 Williamsburg Manor**
2213 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 62 Collingwood**
8200 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 63 Carl Sandburg School Site**
8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 64 Stratford Landing**
2301 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 65 Fort Hunt**
8822 Linton Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 66 Muddy Hole Farm**
7941 Kidd Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 67 Mount Vernon Woods**
4014 Fielding Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 68 George Washington**
8426 Old Mount Vernon Road Special Purpose Park
- 69 Walt Whitman School Site**
8333 Richmond Highway, Alexandria Community Park
- 70 Mount Zephyr**
8601 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria

- Neighborhood Park
- 71 Washington Mill**
4341 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria Community Park
- 72 Grist Mill**
4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria District Park
- 73 Vernon Heights**
8225 Central Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 74 Bush Hill**
5417a Waycross Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 75 Mark Twain**
5920 Larpin Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 76 Clermont School Site**
4100 Franconia Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 77 Franconia Forest**
6013 Bitternut Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 78 Ridgeview**
4111 Duvawn Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 79 Wilton Woods School Site**
3701 Franconia Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 80 Tara Village**
6417 Joyce Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 81 Virginia Hills School Site**

- 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 82 Manchester Lakes**
6775 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 83 Greendale Golf Course**
6700 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 84 Lee District**
6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia District Park
- 85 Dowden Terrace**
5616 Bradley Blvd., Alexandria Community Park
- 86 Glasgow**
3935 Arcadia Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 87 Parklawn**
6454 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 88 Glen Hills**
6090 Larstan Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 89 Heywood Glen**
6210 Larstan Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 90 Pinecrest Golf Course**
6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 91 Green Spring Gardens**
4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 92 Bren Mar**
6324 Edsall Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 93 Backlick Run**
5590 First Statesman Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 94 Beulah**
7119 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 95 Amberleigh**
7516 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 96 Hayfield**
7611 Hayfield Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 97 Wickford**
7331a Wickford Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park



In the nature center, a park volunteer handles a black rat snake.



How To Vote

Every year is election year in Virginia; mechanics and details of voting require attention to detail.

Absentee Voting in Person in Fairfax County

Voting early if you qualify is a good choice.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible: elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html

There are two ways to vote absentee, in-person and by mail. To do either, you should first check your voter registration status to make sure it is up-to-date. Then you will need to apply for an absentee ballot. Note: If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location (see locations below). Voting absentee by mail? Read below for the process of applying for your mail-in ballot.

You can now apply for an absentee ballot online with the state's new Citizen Portal. You will need your Social Security Number and information on your Virginia Driver's License to complete the application. Information is also provided on how to apply if you do not have a driver's license.

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has voter identification requirements, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university stu-

dent photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth.

Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

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

Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the

School Bonds On Ballot

There is a \$315 million public school bonds referendum on the Nov. 7 general election ballot. If approved by voters, the Fairfax County Public Schools' current plans to use this bond money are to:

- ❖ Plan and/or construct two new elementary schools, one in Fairfax/Oakton area and another in the Northwest county area.

- ❖ Relocate one modular building
- ❖ Plan additions at three existing high schools to add capacity at Madison, Stuart and West Potomac.

- ❖ Plan and/or construct renovations of 10 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools.

See www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/2017-school-bond-referendum.

Special Election

Aug. 29, 2017 Special Election, School Board At-Large

All county polling places will be open on Aug. 29 to fill a vacancy for member, School Board At-Large for the remainder of the present term of office which expires Dec. 31, 2019.

In-Person Absentee voting is underway until Aug. 26

- ❖ Aug 26: Final Day In-Person Absentee Voting

- ❖ Aug 29: Absentee Ballot Return Deadline, 7 p.m.

Four candidates are on the ballot:

Chris S. Grisafe
Sandra D. Allen
Karen A. Keys-Gamarra
Michael H. Owens

For more on the school board race, see www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jul/31/low-turnout-high-stakes-special-election-school-bo/

General Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7

On Election Day Polls are open from 6 a.m.-7 p.m., Nov. 7.

To determine whether eligible and registered to vote in this election, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at elections.virginia.gov/ or call Fairfax Elections office at 703-222-0776.

To vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6 a.m.-7 p.m. (General Election)

- ❖ Register/update address by: Monday, Oct. 16.

- ❖ Request absentee ballot by mail by: 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31.

- ❖ Vote early (in-person absentee ballot by appearing in person by 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4.

For more information on voting in Fairfax County:

Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711

Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725

Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

Public Schools Are Ready for Students' Return

KAREN CORBETT SANDERS
VICE CHAIR AND MT. VERNON DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD



It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Mount Vernon Magisterial District and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). When students in Alexandria, Lorton, Mount Vernon and Springfield attend school in the region, they can be assured that creating opportunities for their success is a top priority for our devoted principals, teachers, staff, and the greater community. We recognize that it is difficult for students to move homes and schools and are commit-

ted to providing a safe, nurturing environment for all of our students to succeed.

We know that in the classroom, on the field, on the stage, and in the community volunteering, our students demonstrate the best of what our country has to offer. As a community, Fairfax County Public Schools is always there to support these efforts. This past June's graduating seniors from Edison, Hayfield, Lee, Mount Vernon, South County and West Potomac High Schools were awarded over \$20 million in scholarships and are attending some of the best universities and conservatories in the country. Other outstanding graduates committed to military and civil service. Fields of study include the arts, engineering, sciences, and teaching. We encourage students to use the high school experience to explore their in-

terests by taking participating in the many clubs, sports, arts, academy, career, technical education classes, or volunteering in the community. These opportunities exist to develop and amplify the characteristics of our Portrait of a 21st Century Graduate: critical thinkers, collaborators, ethical decision makers and global citizens.

Fairfax County Public Schools is committed to ensuring that each child is known in their school by name, need, and interest. However, we need your help as educational partners to achieve this goal. When you register your child for school, please make sure that you introduce yourself to the principal, the front office staff, and if possible your child's teacher. We want to know who your child is and how we can best meet their needs in the classroom. Please continue this

engagement with your student's school by attending back to school night, school functions and joining the PTA or PTO.

Students are encouraged to pursue their passions in the arts, athletics, and academics. Inside and outside the classroom, adults throughout the community are committed to creating opportunities for your student. This is evident in the thousands of hours that community members volunteer in our schools, our athletic organizations, libraries, and organizations supporting children such as the Boys and Girl Scouts, the performing arts organizations, and church groups. I encourage you to volunteer with these organizations as well. If you are a business owner or executive, please consider partnering with our schools.

Warm wishes for a great school year.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

August 2017

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Features furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain, pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, etc. Refreshments will also be on sale. Admission is free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com.

Ballyshaners Irish Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 1A Prince St. A celebration Irish history and culture in Alexandria, and a fundraiser for the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Visit www.ballyshaners.org/festival/.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 26-27

Begonia Show and Sale. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Show sponsored by the Potomac branch of the American Begonia Society. Free. Call 703-642-5173 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

MONDAY/AUG. 28

7th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. 8 a.m. at Fort Belvoir Golf Club 8450 Beulah St., Fort Belvoir. Benefit for America's "Adopt A Soldier," an established nonprofit organization who has through grassroots volunteerism, donations, and partnerships; provides a positive impact to our nation's wounded, deployed service members, hospitalized military children, homeless veterans, veterans and their families. Email golftournament@americasadoptasoldier.org.

September 2017

FRIDAY/SEPT. 8

Patriot Day Golf Classic. 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. 4th Annual Patriot Day Golf Classic to benefit two veteran and wounded warrior organizations. Visit www.bellehavencc.com/golf/patriotday.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 16-17

Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at 480 King St. King Street from Washington Street to the waterfront is transformed into an outdoor art gallery with original artwork by more than 200 artists from the U.S. and abroad. Featuring live music, and interactive art activities, as well as The Art League's Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser. Visit www.artfestival.com/festivals/alexandria-king-street-art-festival.



On Independence Day, George Washington's Mount Vernon is the site of fireworks and festivities in honor of the first president.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Alexandria Seaport Foundation Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 Prince St. Community festival celebrating the mission and programs of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation featuring live music, wooden boat display, Anything that Floats race, children's activities, nautical activities, beer/wine and local food. Visit www.alexandriaseaport.org.

October 2017

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Arts on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Mount Vernon Ave., Del Ray. Art on the Avenue is a multi-cultural arts festival in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia. This festival is held on the first Saturday in October, rain or shine.

SATURDAY/OCT. 28

VolunteerFest. A region-wide day of community service helps nonprofits accomplish tasks they would not have time or resources to do on their own. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/volunteerfest.php.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY /OCT. 21-22

Fall Harvest Family Days. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Pioneer Farm in George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Celebrate the beginning of autumn with the family at Mount Vernon with activities including wagon rides, apple-roasting and a straw bale maze. The event is included with

purchase of admission to Mount Vernon; tickets are \$17 for adults, \$9 for children, \$16 for seniors and free for children 5 years and younger. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 29

Del Ray Halloween Parade. 2-4 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ave. All are welcome to march in the parade. Parade ends in a party at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center fields featuring live music, free refreshments, games, best costume awards, and more. Free. Visit www.visitdelray.com/halloween.

November 2017

TUESDAY/ NOV. 7

Election Day. General election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm.

SATURDAY/ NOV. 11

Mount Vernon Salutes Veterans. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Honored guests (veterans) are invited to place a flower at Washington's tomb, enjoy a concert by the Harmony Heritage Singers and the United States Air Force String Orchestra. Free for veterans and active duty military members, \$9-17 for everyone else. See www.mountvernon.org.

NOV. 10-19

Virginia Cider Week. 7-9:30 p.m. at

The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. In partnership with the Alexandria-Caen Sister Cities Committee, the Lyceum offers a cider tasting as part of Virginia Cider Week. Tickets are \$50-75. Visit www.show.alexandriava.gov/events.

FRIDAY/NOV. 24-SATURDAY/JAN. 5

Christmas in Mount Vernon. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees on the estate and festive greenery in the Mansion. Visit mountvernon.org.

December 2017

SATURDAY/DEC. 2

47th Annual Campagna Center Scottish Walk Parade. 11 a.m. Old Town Alexandria, the parade begins at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets. More than 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and drum bands, Scottish dancers, re-enactment groups, Scottie dogs, dignitaries and, of course, Santa Claus will march through the streets of Old Town. Visit www.campagnacenter.org/scottishwalkweekend/parade.

SUNDAY/DEC. 31

First Night Alexandria. Events take place throughout the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit www.firstnightalexandria.org.

March 2018

TUESDAY/MARCH 20

Persian New Year Celebration. The Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will include entertainment from musicians, dancers, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players. About 55 street vendors will be offering traditional and exotic foods, as well as jewelry, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. Visit www.nowruzfestival.org.

April 2018

Relay for Life. Fundraisers participate in all-night-long events to help those affected by cancer through the American Cancer Society. Visit www.relayforlife.org for specific events and details.

Historic Garden Week. This weeklong statewide event provides visitors an opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit vagardenweek.org.

June 2018

Vine on the Waterfront Festival.

Late June, 12-6 p.m. at Oronoco Park, 100 Madison St. Formerly known as the Alexandria Food & Wine Festival, the festival will expand to include both restaurants within Alexandria and other eateries throughout the region. The event is free to attend, but tickets are \$15 per area (food or wine), \$20 after June 18. Visit vineonthewaterfront.com.

July 2018

SUNDAY/JULY 1

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

An American Celebration. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Watch made-for-daytime fireworks shoot off over the Potomac River. Admission is \$9-20, free for children 0-5. Visit mountvernon.org.

August 2018

Ice Cream Making. Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Visit www.mountvernon.org/.

Youth Arts Festival. Early August, 1-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. This festival will showcase the talents of youth around the city and serve as a forum of expression for both visual and performing arts. Free. Call 703-549-7115 ext. 370.

Friendship Firehouse Festival. Mid-August, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Held at the historic Friendship Firehouse, the festival celebrates the special role firefighters have played throughout history, especially those of Friendship. The event will feature a collection of antique fire equipment and a display of modern fire trucks and apparatus. Other attractions include craft booths, food vendors and free birthday cake. Free. Visit www.friendshipfire.net.

The Alexandria Harmonizers and Howard Gospel Choir of Howard University Present



Rock My Soul - Celebrating Barbershop's Gospel Roots
Featuring Grammy Award Winners "The Fairfield Four"



October 13th 2017, 8:00PM 1st Congregational United Church of Christ, 945 G St NW, Washington DC, and
October 14th 2017, 2:00 PM Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Dr. Alexandria, VA
Tickets on sale beginning September 1st, 2017 at www.harmonizers.org

Are you interested in joining the East Coast's best and most exciting A Cappella male chorus?

Visit us on Tuesday nights from 7-10 PM at the Durant Arts Center
1605 Cameron St. Alexandria, VA 22314 or email info@harmonizers.org

The Alexandria Harmonizers, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the operational support it receives from the Commission for the Arts of Alexandria, Virginia. Partial funding for Rock My Soul is provided by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, and by the Barbershop Harmony Society, underwritten in part by Harmony Foundation International and its generous donors.



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Missing Out on Mount Vernon At Home?

BY BARBARA HUGHES SULLIVAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MOUNT VERNON AT HOME

Perhaps you have seen our sign when you visit Sherwood Regional Library or noticed Mount Vernon At Home brochures displayed in local businesses. If you don't belong to, volunteer for, or share information about Mount Vernon At Home, you are missing out on a unique experience in our community.

In 2007, a group of Mount Vernon neighbors and friends in their retirement years gathered to discuss their common goals of leading vibrant, engaged lives in their homes and communities here in the Mount Vernon area. With an eye to the future, our founders also wanted to create a network to provide the support they might need in

the future as they age in place. After much planning, Mount Vernon At Home, a volunteer-powered nonprofit "village," was born!

Ten years down the road Mount Vernon At Home has 160 members, 70 volunteers and offers a full array of activities and services. Our staff and volunteers take great pride in offering solutions to each call our office receives. Monthly event calendars are planned with many social, cultural and educational events for a variety of engaging activities.

Mount Vernon At Home is one of over 300 villages across the country developed by neighbors interested in redefining the aging experience, creating community connections, and helping older adults retain their independence with practical help.

As a nonprofit membership organization, Mount Vernon At Home volunteers assist our members with transportation to local

appointments; errands; grocery shopping; light handyman help in the home; technology problem-solving (printers, computers, smart TVs and cell phones, etc.); home organization and decluttering; friendly visits and much more. Through the generosity of our donors, financial assistance with annual membership fees is available for those with limited incomes that reside in the Mount Vernon At Home geographic boundaries.

Judy Rosen, one of Mount Vernon At Home's founding members, sums up the value of her Mount Vernon At Home membership: "Mount Vernon At Home has been a lifesaver for me. They take the place of my family who live too far away to help. Their handyman volunteers are terrific and if the job is too involved for a volunteer, office will refer me to a reliable preferred provider to get the job done. The happiest surprise for me, however, has been the so-

cial aspect. Mount Vernon At Home events are always stimulating and the best part is that I have met some very interesting people who I now call friends. Mount Vernon At Home continues to be one of my best investments."

Most of our members are very active. Some join for the activities and programs and others rely on dependable volunteer services to help them remain independent. Many see Mount Vernon At Home membership as "insurance" so that if they need extra help, we are just a phone call away.

Don't wait to get involved with this exciting nonprofit organization. Call our office today at 703-303-4060 or email us at info@mountvernonathome.com to join or volunteer. We welcome visitors at our office on the second floor of the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Check us out when come check out books.

Where to Give Locally: A few of the nonprofits in Fairfax County

* **United Community Ministries**, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306 assists low-income families and individuals living along the Route 1 Corridor, UCM provides four different housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center to help prepare people for moving forward with their jobs. Last year, for the holidays, donations of nearly 10,000 toys, books, games, clothing,

and other gifts ensured a joy-filled holiday for more than 1,200 children in 600 families. 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria VA 22306.

* **National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, 703-541-3063. www.capitalareafoodbank.org

* **Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services**, 8305-17B

Richmond Highway, PO Box 15096, Alexandria, VA, 22039. 703-768-9419, www.goodhousing.org/ The mission of Good Shepherd Housing (GSH) is to reduce homelessness, increase community support, and promote self-sufficiency. GSH housing manages more than 70 housing units.

* **Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area** operates clubs in two of the neediest

areas of the county, Culmore and Mount Vernon/Route 1 corridor.. www.bgcgw.org/fairfax

* **Christian Relief Services**, 8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 900, Alexandria, VA 22309, 703-317-9086, 703-317-9690 christianrelief.org/

* **Alice's Kids** (@aliceswillhelp) aliceskids.org P.O. Box 60, Mount Vernon, VA 22121 When a child is raised in poverty they suffer both

publicly and privately. When there is no food in the refrigerator, no electricity nor heat, these are hardships that they can keep hidden. When that same child can't afford to pay for the band field trip, a pair of glasses, a chorus outfit or a new pair of shoes, these are indignities that are evident to their classmates. Alice's Kids helps children from all over the Mount Vernon area in hopes of preserving the dignity of the child.



Everyone is welcome at St. Luke's
Please join us for
Homecoming Sunday, September 10
and learn about our programs
for children, teens, and adults.

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.
Sunday School and Adult Forum at 9 a.m.
Nursery Available from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. Luke's is a warm and nurturing church
where all are welcome, known, included and
loved and where relationships grow.

<http://www.saintlukeschurch.net>

Good Shepherd Catholic Church International Festival - Three Days of Celebration

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA 22309

Saturday, September 2

- **White Elephant Sale** – Early Bird Entry, 8:30 – 9:30 am, \$10 Regular Entry, 9:30 am – 4 pm, Free
- **5K Race and 1 Mile Fun Run** – Fun and fitness for a great cause! Sign up online today! Go to: gs-cc.org

Sunday, September 3

- Join us for Multicultural Mass (see schedule at gs-cc.org)

Monday, September 4 Festival Day!

- 11 am – 5 pm food, music, games, bingo, raffle, entertainment & more!
- Free admission
- Food and some activities require ticket purchase
- Parking & shuttle at Mt. Vernon HS.

No pets except service animals.

Win \$10,000! **Raffle** Tickets on Sale
at the Festival!

Net proceeds go to local charities.

Visit GS-CC.ORG for information.

