

Rorschach Politics

Candidates for governor present inkblots on issues from health of the economy to the value of Confederate statues.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

The campaign for governor is a bit like a Rorschach test as the candidates close in on the final stretch toward Election Day. Democrat Ralph Northam and Republican Ed Gillespie are presenting a series of inkblots to voters about everything from the health of the economy to the value of Confederate statues.

How voters feel about President Donald Trump and the Affordable Care Act may end up playing more of a role deciding the fate of the election than all the carefully crafted policy proposals and press releases.

"The critiques that one is leveling at the other that aren't policy oriented are designed to undermine the opponent's base but also energize their own base," said Quentin Kidd, professor at Christopher Newport University. "But while they do have to play politics and critique each other, they've got to talk about policy, and they've got to talk about the things they would do to solve problems and make life better for Virginians."

Polls show Northam holding a steady but slight lead since March, the last time Gillespie was leading in a statewide poll of voters. One of the most recent polls was conducted by the University of Mary Washington earlier this month, which shows Northam edging out a 5 percent win over his rival — a lead that's so slight it was within the margin of error. Polls have Northam crushing



PHOTOS COURTESY: WASHINGTON POST

Virginia gubernatorial candidates, Republican Ed Gillespie and Democrat Ralph Northam, debate Tuesday evening, Sept. 19, at the Capital One headquarters in McLean.

Gillespie in vote-rich Northern Virginia. But they also show Gillespie leading among independent voters and holding strong in conservative parts of the state.

"You see a lot of undecided voters, which means both campaigns have a lot of work to do between now and November," said Stephen Farnsworth, professor at the University of Mary Washington. "When you take out the portions of the electorate who will reflexively vote for a Democrat or a Republican, you are left with people who are going to be motivated by community-level issues."

THE DEBATE, sponsored by the

Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, and moderated by Chuck Todd of NBC's "Meet the Press," was held at Capital One headquarters in McLean on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Panelists included Julie Carey, NBC4; Aaron Gilchrist, NBC4; and Mark J. Rozell, George Mason University. The debate was notable for its civility on all sides.

Gillespie rattled off a series of data points about sluggish job growth and stories of people leaving Virginia to move to other states. His solution to the perceived weakness is a 10 percent reduction in the individual income tax rate, a proposal that would cost more than \$1 billion over the next five years.

"We have tended to put a lot of focus on what I call whale hunting — trying to get a Fortune 100 company to move lock stock and barrel into Virginia," said Gillespie after the debate. "And I'm all for it. We need to make a run at Amazon, and we're going to. But that can't be the singular focus of our economic development agenda and vision."

Northam criticized Gillespie's plan as a tax cut for the wealthy, a

proposal that would blow a billion-dollar size hole in the budget and crowd out spending for roads and schools. Instead, he said he would like to continue on the path of current Gov. Terry McAuliffe's "New Virginia Economy," emphasizing

"You see a lot of undecided voters, which means both campaigns have a lot of work to do between now and November."

— Stephen Farnsworth,
professor at the University of Mary Washington

lowering the unemployment rate and a series of corporations that have moved their headquarters to the commonwealth. During one point in the debate, Northam turned to Gillespie and said all his trash-talking about the Virginia economy could prevent Amazon from setting up shop in Virginia.

"Right now, Ed, we are having negotiations with Amazon — 50,000 jobs," Northam said to Gillespie. "Amazon doesn't want to hear from people like you, especially if you want to be the next governor, that we are doing poorly in Virginia."

CONFEDERATE STATUES are creating an emotional flashpoint in the campaign, a disagreement between the candidates highlighted by the violent clashes that erupted in Charlottesville after white supremacists marched across the campus of the University of Virginia chanting Nazi slogans and holding tiki torches. Gillespie said the statues should stay in place with some added context, and he called for adding a statue of Virginia's first black governor to the state Capitol. Northam said local communities should be able to determine what they want to do with their statues, although he added he wants to see them in a museum.

"I think what is important is to talk about some of the statues that aren't built of bronze, the inequities that we still have in our society," said Northam during the debate. "Inequities in access to health care. Inequities in access to voting rights. Inequities that we have in education."

Views of the Affordable Care Act are also expected to play an important dividing line in the election. Northam has been consistent in his support for expanding Medicaid, criticizing Republicans for undermining a system that has expanded health insurance to millions of Americans who previously had no coverage. Gillespie has been consistently critical of the landmark achievement of former President Barack Obama, although he was noncommittal. SEE RORSCHACH, PAGE 10



Republican Ed Gillespie speaks at Tuesday's debate.

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Tour tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 on September 23rd. Tickets are available for purchase on-line and at the Ramsay House Visitor Center. For more information, please visit www.thetwig.org.

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Fort Hunt Elementary School students participate in last weekend's Back to School Picnic and Bike Rodeo.

PHOTOS BY FLORENCE NEWMAN

Students Gather for Bike Rodeo and Picnic

Fort Hunt Elementary School students and family members learned bike safety tips at last weekend's Back to School Picnic and Bike Rodeo. Students rode around through different obstacle courses and families picnicked in the school yard.

In addition, the FHES immersion department and the PTA

launched a new Family Ambassador Program linking families who have participated in the immersion program for at least two years to support those families who are joining the Fort Hunt community from another base school to participate in the immersion program as well as families that are simply just new to the community.



Bethany and Forrest Vanderbilt and Melanie Froemke



Lisa Petrone, Allison Verich and Tracey Kohler



Elizabeth Rees and Shannon Crisp

Supervisor Storck To Lead Familiarity Tour

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck will lead an educational hike down the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail this Saturday, Sept. 23. The mile-long hike will serve to showcase the Woodlawn Historic District's outdoor activities and historic landmarks and educate those in attendance about the history of the area, as well as the connections between these landmarks, natural areas and trail routes.

With the help of local historians and trail planners, the Familiarity Tour takes participants on tours of the Woodlawn

Estate, the Pope-Leighey House and the Arcadia Farm. The hike includes a free tour of George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill. Those who register beforehand will be able to attend free tours of the Woodlawn Estate, the Pope-Leighey House and George Washington's Mount Vernon.

The tour starts at the Woodlawn parking lot, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, at 10 a.m. For registration, visit www.novaregion.org/forms.aspx?FID=112.

— JAMES MIESSLER



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN/THE GAZETTE

A-maize-ing

Wayneood Elementary School students Jack Dahm, 9, Joel Simpson, 9, and Alex Foes, 8, hold up their favorite gourmet popcorn outside of the Lowe's home improvement store Sept. 16 during a fundraising drive for Cub Scout Pack 1504. Cub Scouts will be selling Trail's End popcorn at the Lowe's Richmond Highway location each weekend through the end of October to raise money for local Scouting activities and programs.

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Old Town \$1,595,000

207 Gibbon St. Masterful restoration of this 4 bedroom (all upper), 4 bath historic property in the S.E. quadrant of town steps from Lee Street Park! Gourmet kitchen, 3 fireplaces, original hardwood floors, handsome moldings and built-ins. Two bedroom suites including the Master bedroom with a fireplace. Finished lower level with 9' ceilings, 4th full bath and private front entry. Georgetown patio, alley access and brick shed with electricity.

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JUST SOLD

Alexandria \$1,575,000
308 South Lee Street. Sold pre-market, this charming farm house, circa 1920, in the heart of Old Town offers parking, large rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and the most wonderful front porch.

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Alexandria \$1,200,000
4010 Franconia Road. Beautiful 4 column house WITH LAND This house has 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. But then there is MORE- the swimming pool and POOL house which includes a kitchen and full bath. PLUS a carriage house with 2 car garage and one bedroom apartment with its own washer/dryer. AND a huge barn with parking for 4 cars and finished upper level, perfect for watching football games!

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Alexandria \$499,999
7006 Colgate Dr. This lovely cape cod located between Old Town, Alexandria and Mt. Vernon is MOVE IN READY and a must see. Refinished hardwood floors welcome you when you enter the main floor, which houses the master bedroom, a 2nd bedroom, a renovated full bathroom with marble tub enclosure, dining room, new high-end washer and dryer, a renovated eat-in kitchen with new appliances in 2016, an office and a gorgeous sunroom on the back of the house. Upstairs there is another fully renovated full bathroom and two additional bedrooms. The back yard is fenced in with an awesome play set that will convey if the buyer wishes. HOME WARRANTY INCLUDED. 1800 sq.ft.

Angelique Andrae 703.501.6935



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria/Jefferson Manor \$397,500
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First Open 10/1 1-4

Alexandria/Montebello \$249,900
5904 Mount Eagle Dr 102. Spacious & bright, updated condo in resort-like Montebello, just 2 lights from Old Town Alexandria. Enclosed & private balcony w/ tranquil treed views from 2.5 levels above ground; new paint, carpet, doors & lighting; updated kitchen & bath. Loads of closets plus separate storage space and reserved GARAGE parking, too! First-floor convenience, so no elevator needed; next to community center.

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PHOTOS BY PRISCILLA KOSTICK

The ITFDC office, managerial, and childcare specialist staff.

Infant/Toddler Appreciation Luncheon

34th Annual Infant Toddler Family Day Care Provider Appreciation Celebration honors childcare workers.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

Seventy-five people were honored at the 34th Annual Infant Toddler Family Day Care Provider Appreciation Celebration on Sunday, Sept. 17, at Dunya Banquet and Restaurant in Alexandria.

Infant Toddler Family Day Care is a nonprofit organization that provides childcare resources and referral services to 320 families (serving 350 children) in Northern Virginia, including the counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and the City of Alexandria.

It screens daycare providers by doing background checks, criminal history checks, reference checks and home evaluations, which is a safety inspection to find the best people to do the job of caring for children. It works with children ages 6 weeks to 14, or up to 18 with special needs. They recruit, screen, train, approve, and monitor the providers.

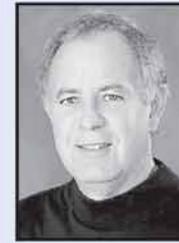
Thirty percent of the 120 early childcare educators have either the Infant Toddler Certificate from Northern Virginia Community College or the Child Development Associates credential. They come from 28 different countries and speak 15 languages. Many of them arrive in the U.S. as immigrants/refugees and have benefited from the Workforce Development program.

The organization is a network of professional childcare educators with a commitment to the principle that learning begins at birth. Since it started in



The ITFDC management team with Phyllis Cassell, founder of ITFDC, Event planner Malia Anderson, Lisa Farinholt-O'Brien, the director of Workforce Development, and Wynne Busman, executive director.

1983, it has supported the emotional, social, and intellectual development of infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children in safe, nur-
SEE APPRECIATION, PAGE 22



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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.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Tour the Woodlawn Historic District. 10 a.m.-noon at the Woodlawn Estate, 9000 Richmond Highway. Join Supervisor Dan Storck, local historians and trail planners in a one-mile walk that includes interpretation at Woodlawn Estate, Arcadia Farm, and Pope-Leighey House and a free tour of the George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill. Visit www.novaregion.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 28

Business Roundtable Speaker Series. 8:30-10 a.m. at Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 6055 Richmond Highway. Visit www.sfdc.org/f.

SEPT. 29-30

Fall Children's Consignment Sale.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Commemoration

The George Washington Chapter of the Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, commemorated the 230th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution at historic Pohick Episcopal Church in Lorton on Sept. 17. Pohick Church was the parish church of General George Washington and George Mason. The Rev. Thomas Costa (left), portraying Parson Massey, the rector of Pohick during Washington's time, read the Preamble to the Constitution and gave a benediction. George Washington SAR Chapter President Paul Walden (right) gave a brief history on the Constitution and its relevance to some of today's affairs.

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/.

Mount Vernon Lee Chamber's October Business Breakfast. Competing in the November election, Justin Fairfax, Democrat, and Jill Vogel, Republican, will share their vision for the future of Virginia with the business community. \$25 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-Chamber. Register at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org or call 703-360-6925.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12

Chamber Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Meet the two candidates for Virginia Lieutenant Governor at

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Voting Every Year, But Always Critical

League of Women Voters provides forums to learn about the candidates.

Every year is Election Year in Virginia, and each year the election matters. This year, all the members of the Virginia House of Delegates are up for reelection, along with statewide races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

So many things are at stake. The deadline to register to vote in the General Election on Nov. 7, or update an existing registration, is Monday, Oct. 16.

EDITORIAL

Of the 30 incumbents in the Virginia House of Delegates who are running unopposed, 11 are in Northern Virginia: Mark Keam (D-35); Ken Plum (D-36); David Bulova (D-37); Vivian Watts (D-39); Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41); Mark Sickles (D-43); Paul Krizek (D-44); Mark Levine (D-45); Charmiele Herring (D-46); Patrick Hope (D-47); and Rip Sullivan (D-48).

Marcus Simon (D-53) faces no Republican challenger, but will face Mike Casey, an Independent.

In Northern Virginia, there is only one open seat, the 42nd, vacated by Dave Albo (R) who says he can't afford to continue dedicate so much time to the legislature at the expense of his law practice. Kathy Tran (D) faces Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R).

Other contested races: Kathleen Murphy (D-34) faces Cheryl Buford (R). Kaye Kory (D-38) faces Paul Haring (R). Tim Hugo (R-40) faces

Donte Turner (D). Alfonso Lopez (D-49) faces Adam Roosevelt (R). Jim LeMunyon (R-67) faces Karrie Delaney (D). Jennifer Boysko (D-86) faces Linda Schulz (R). The local Connection newspaper to each of these races has covered or will write about each contested race; you can find the stories on our website.

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) will hold both in-person and televised forums for the public to learn about the candidates who are running for election to the Virginia House of Delegates.

❖ Thursday, Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. at Providence Community Center: 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. Invited candidates: Mark L. Keam (D), David L. Bulova (D), Eileen Filler-Corn (D), Kathy K.L. Tran (D), Lolita I. Mancheno-Smoak (R), Marcus B. Simon (D), and Mike S. Casey (I).

❖ Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School, Lecture Hall: 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Invited candidates: L. Kaye Kory (D), Paul B. Haring (R), Vivian E. Watts (D), Mark D. Sickles (D), Paul E. Krizek (D), Mark H. Levine (D), Alfonso H. Lopez (D), and Adam Roosevelt (R).

❖ Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Sully Government Center: 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Invited candidates: Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum (D), David L. Bulova (D), Donte T. Tanner (D), Timothy D. "Tim" Hugo (R), Karrie K. Delaney (D), James M. "Jim" LeMunyon (R), Jennifer R. Boysko (D), and Linda C. Schulz

(R).

The remaining televised forum at Fairfax County Public Access are on Channel 10 or livestreamed on YouTube "Inside Scoop Livestream." The public can submit questions by email to theinsidescooptv@gmail.com or call 571-749-1142 between 7-8:30 p.m. Tune in on:

❖ Monday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.: Invited candidates: Kathleen J. Murphy (D), Cheryl A. Buford (R), Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum (D), Donte T. Tanner (D), Timothy D. "Tim" Hugo (R), R.C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr. (D), Karrie K. Delaney (D), James M. "Jim" LeMunyon (R), Jennifer R. Boysko (D), and Linda C. Schulz (R).

Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires, Current Attempt

Because the current effort in the Senate to vote on "repeal and replace" for the Affordable Care Act is, if anything, worse than the previous attempts in substance, I hope that you will read my previous editorial from June. <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/>

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Airplane Noise Over Mount Vernon

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK
AND STATE SEN. ADAM EBBIN

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) just released a report on noise complaints coming from Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) in 2016. According to the noise report, DCA received 9,094 complaints from Virginia. The majority of individuals submitted only one complaint. The Alexandria portion of Fairfax County accounted for 6,473 of Virginia's 9,094 total complaints. There are just too many planes flying over our homes, too often, at too low an altitude.

COMMENTARY

Because of a change in FAA regulations nationwide called "NextGen" to modernize air traffic routing and use GPS to streamline flight paths, extreme noise is concentrated over a single community rather than being distributed over a larger area, as was done previously with radar. Now, when planes make their westbound turn from the Potomac they are no longer turning anywhere from Belle Haven to Fort Hunt, but mostly concentrated directly over Villamay and Marlan Forest and then pass over Mason Hill, Hollin Hills, Kirkside, Bucknell and Gum Springs before getting to high enough an altitude as not to matter as much. While residents elsewhere now are experiencing some relief, the folks in these neighborhoods are under an incessant and constant virtual highway in the sky of planes taking off from DCA whenever

the winds support a south flow takeoff (which is about half the time). We have been involved with a dedicated group of our constituents, concerned citizens living under the concentrated flight path whose quality of life is severely impacted, who have come together as the South Flow Alliance, and have worked closely with the Metro Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) and the FAA to address this problem. The good news is that we have made significant progress over the last year.

We are grateful for the cooperation from the FAA and their willingness to adjust south flow departure flight patterns and altitudes. This would not be happening were it not for the hard work of the South Flow Alliance, with support from our congressman, Don Beyer, our local supervisor, Dan Storck, and state Sen. Scott Surovell, and two years of working towards a solution to what is for many of us unbearable airplane generated noise, often very early in the morning or late at night.

The FAA initiated what is called the ".41 process" for developing a new south flow departure procedure based on the Alliance's recommendation to move the GPS waypoints to the center of the Potomac River. Additionally, the FAA has already completed one technical forum in August and will have another one in September and October, after which they will present a new south flow departure procedure to the MWAA Working Group on Oct. 27. The MWAA Working Group and the FAA will review and fine-tune the new procedure and the

FAA will also complete some flight testing and assessments between November 2017 - March 2018. In April 2018, the new procedure will be finalized and the FAA will then proceed to conduct public and elected official outreach. We anticipate that the new procedure will be implemented November 2018.

The second part of the noise problem in our districts is approach/arrival noise associated with flights to Runway 01. Unfortunately the FAA is not yet addressing arrival noise in the three technical sessions mentioned above. However, the MWAA Working Group requested the FAA provide us an assessment of what is possible to alleviate the noise from arrivals as well as a schedule to make that happen.

The consensus plan from the MWAA working group is quite detailed, but in a nutshell it would increase the altitude planes are flying at and push them toward the center of the Potomac. It is our continued honor to serve Mount Vernon residents in the General Assembly.

Follow us at: PaulKrizek.com, [facebook.com/KrizekForVirginia](https://www.facebook.com/KrizekForVirginia), [@EbbinCampaign](https://www.facebook.com/EbbinCampaign), [@AdamEbbin](https://www.facebook.com/AdamEbbin)

LETTERS

Get Involved With GrandInvolve

To the Editor:

This past weekend we celebrated the 38th

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

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Rorschach Test

FROM PAGE 1

mittal when asked about his view of the reform proposal currently working its way through Congress.

"I'm not endorsing or opposing any specific legislation that is being talked about right now. I haven't had a chance to read it," said Gillespie after the debate, adding that Virginia should not be punished for declining to expand Medicaid.

"But as a principle I've been consistent in this regard, and that is where I am today."

PERHAPS NOTHING looms as large over this election as Donald Trump. The president has become a lightning rod of opposition and a rallying cry for people who feel marginalized. Virginia was the only Southern state Trump lost, and polls show that he remains unpopular here. Gillespie has been trying to distance himself from the president by opposing some of his budget proposals and declining to answer questions about whether he'll ask Trump to campaign for him in Virginia.

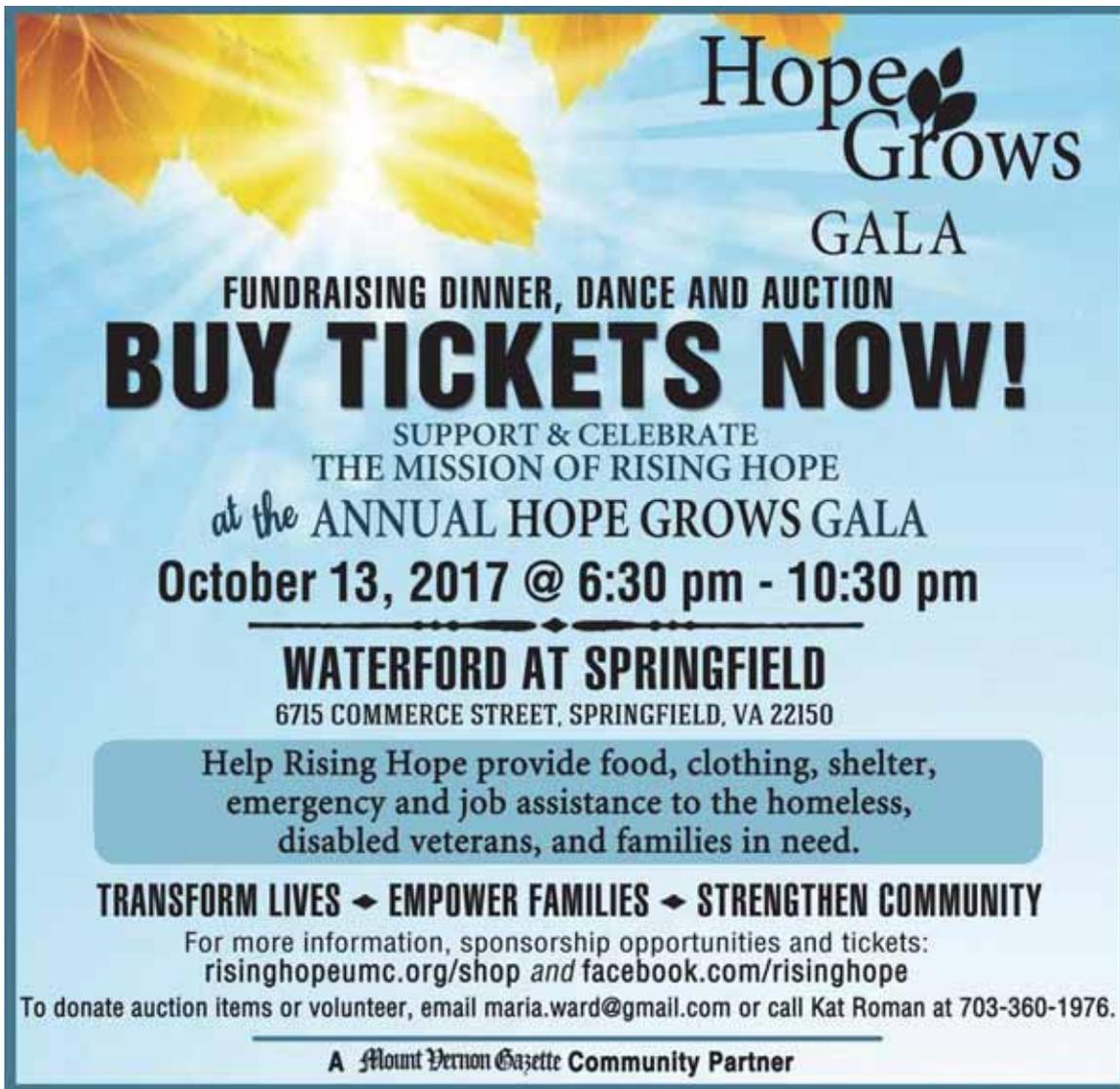
"Probably the biggest thing being hung around Ed's neck is the

Trump administration," said Republican strategist Dan Scandling. "But depending where you are in the state determines how much of a weight that is. If you're downstate, that's not a problem. If you're up here in Northern Virginia, it's a potential problem."

Democrat Hillary Clinton won Virginia with 50 percent of the vote, with Trump at 44 percent. Many of those presidential year voters might not show up in an odd year-election, when the electorate tends to be older and whiter. For Democrats, the goal heading into Election Day is to run up the numbers in Northern Virginia and overwhelm Republicans in parts of the state that still support Trump. For Republicans, the challenge is find some kind of way of embracing Trump voters without alienating independents who might feel conflicted about the president.

"I think what's really going to drive the election is President Trump," said Democratic strategist Ben Tribbett.

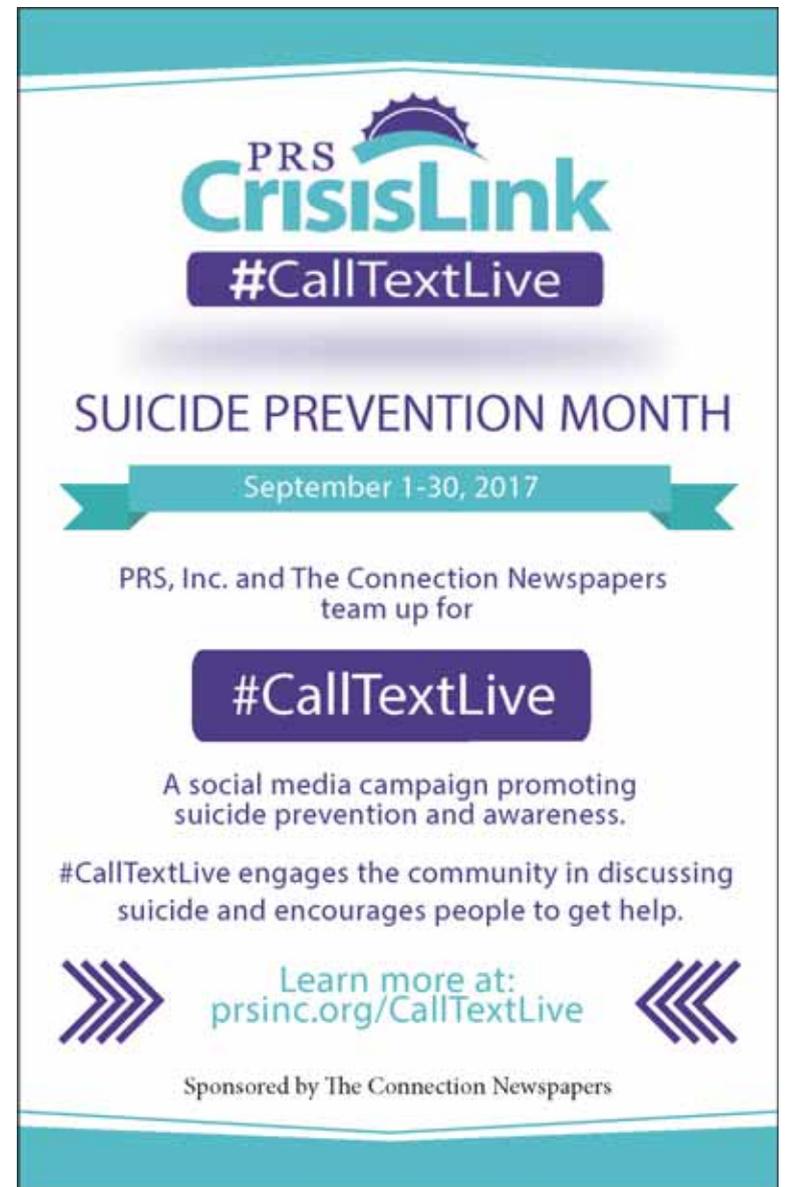
"A lot of voters are going to vote either for or against Ed Gillespie based on how they feel about Donald Trump."



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West Potomac RB Daiimon Cleveland #8 runs for a first down late in the third quarter as he is tackled by Chantilly LB Jake DiLandro #15.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING



West Potomac RB Waddell Dailey #23 runs into the end zone untouched to score West Potomac's third touchdown of the game and give them a 20-14 lead with 7:47 left in the third quarter.

West Potomac WR De Andre Webb #2 runs downfield with Chantilly LB Jake DiLandro #15 trying to bring him down.



Wolverines Claw Chargers

The West Potomac Wolverines won on the road and beat the Chantilly Chargers 35-24 on Friday, Sept. 15 to improve to 3-1 on the season. West Potomac has a bye week this week and will play their next game away against the Centreville Wildcats on Thursday, Sept. 28.

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Long & Foster Old Town Historic District Office 703.683.0400
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New Year, New Teacher

How to identify effective teachers.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As a new school year got underway this month, Sebla Tobin, a family therapist in Rockville, Md., noticed an uptick in the number of her patients who are parents, expressing concern about the teachers their children had been assigned.

“So many parents are leery of new teachers or teachers who are young,” she said. “I encourage them to give the teacher a chance before passing judgment and marching into the principal’s office to ask for a different teacher. Just because a teacher graduated from college last spring doesn’t mean that they won’t be effective. And a teacher who’s been in the classroom for 20 years may be jaded and grumpy.”

Teacher effectiveness is a concern among parents as the school year gets underway, says Tobin, and she points to research which shows how teachers can affect

student achievement. A 2011 study from Harvard and Columbia universities showed a link between effective teachers and stu-

dents who were more likely to attend college, have lower teenage pregnancy rates and other positive outcomes. So what qualities constitute an effective teacher?

Effective teachers are knowledgeable of the subjects they are teaching, says Pamela Garner, Ph.D. professor of Childhood Studies at George Mason University. “Effective teachers are able to transfer that knowledge to students who have different comprehension levels,” she said.

Creating a classroom environment that is safe for student learning is also important, adds Garner. “Overall, effective teachers work hard to create a positive classroom climate which is characterized by providing opportunities for student input in decision making and support for individual differences,” she said.

“An effective teacher motivates students to want to learn.”

— Jessica Lewis, Ed.D.,
Marymount University

Setting high expectations for all students, but realizing that students have a variety of abilities, is an important factor,

believes Jessica Lewis, Ed.D., professor of education at Marymount University. “For some students getting a C is like a medal of



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

A positive classroom helps welcome students back to school is an important factor in student learning, says Pamela Garner, Ph.D. of George Mason University.

honor and that’s OK,” said Lewis. “Students want to do well and be pushed, but pushed with support. Knowing that a teacher un-

derstands the student and their abilities sends a positive message that the teacher is on their side when it comes to learning.”

A teacher who is able to demonstrate genuine concern for students is necessary to create an effective learning environment, adds Lewis. “Parents often say ‘I want a teacher who knows their content,’ but I always go back to ‘does the teacher care?’ If a teacher doesn’t care, then they’re not going to be effective. An effective teacher motivates students to want to learn.”

An ability to form a strong relationship with students is another characteristic that Lewis believes is important. “The more rapidly the teachers can get to know the individual students and things they enjoy like their hobbies, the sports they like, the sooner that teacher can see that students are real little people behind those names,” she said. “As a teacher you have to put the heart first and policy second. What factors are going on at home that can throw the student for a loop. If you have a caring adult to say, ‘Hey do you want to talk about it?’ that can make a big difference.”

An effective teacher accepts students for and where they are, adds Lewis. “Students can learn more from a teacher when the teacher shows that they care,” she said.

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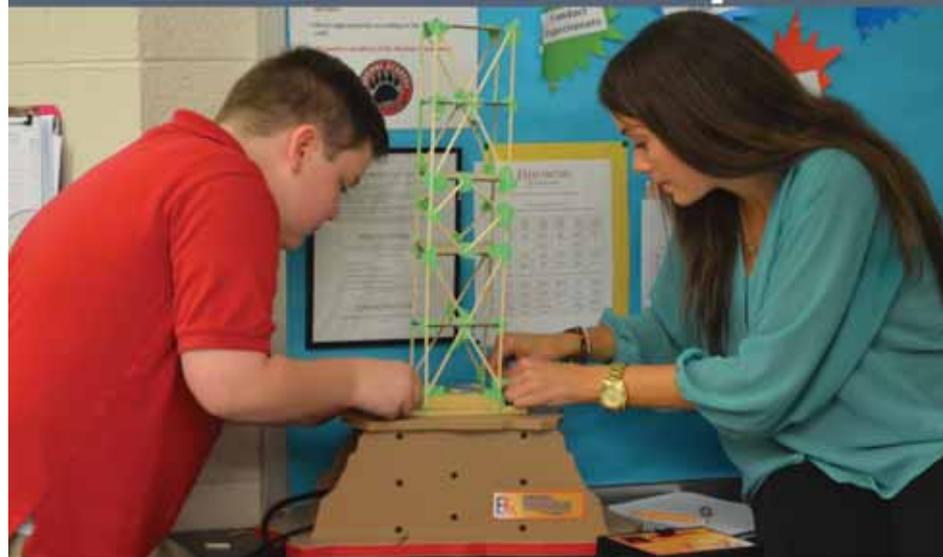
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

anniversary of National Grandparents Day. Grandparents Day was created with the purpose of honoring grandparents, and to help children recognize the strength, wisdom and resilience that can be learned from older generations.

The Mount Vernon District has the highest concentration of seniors aging in place in all of Fairfax County and our community embraces this opportunity and is evidenced by the success of community organizations such as Mount Vernon at Home and the Hollin Hall Senior Center. Our students, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and community music ensembles are often found volunteering with at these organizations.

GrandInvolve began in 2014 when a group of 16 volunteers met and began a pilot program at Crestwood Elementary School with the goal to work together for the benefit of the community by building intergenerational relationships. In just a few short years, GrandInvolve has taken this very important concept of building up our communities by involving grandparents in the lives of younger people, and they now support over 108 volunteers at six schools with 3,016 hours of classroom service time just last year.

GrandInvolve is planning expansion into all Title 1 schools in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts during the 2017-2018 school year. We encourage seniors in the community to consider this wonderful opportunity and hope you are inspired to visit their website for more information. <https://www.grandinvolve.org/volunteer-with-us/>

unteer-with-us/

Dan Storck

Mount Vernon District Supervisor

Karen Corbett Sanders

Mount Vernon District School Board

Representative

How Widening Happened

To the Editor:

Last week's article, "Woodlawn Stables Relocation Update," suggests there may still be misunderstanding about the relationship of Fort Belvoir's BRAC realignment to the Route 1 widening and the move of the stables. Fact is the only thing BRAC or Belvoir had to do with it is that the post's new hospital provided the impetus for U.S. Rep. Jim Moran to get funds needed for the long-planned project.

Need for the widening was not brought about by BRAC's realignment of Fort Belvoir. Plans for widening the road had been on the books for nearly 20 years at the time BRAC came about. VDOT had detailed plans drawn up, and had held a number of public meetings about it. (See www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt1.asp) For whatever reason, however, neither the state nor the county were ever able to fund the project. Moran, along with the Maryland delegation, was able to go

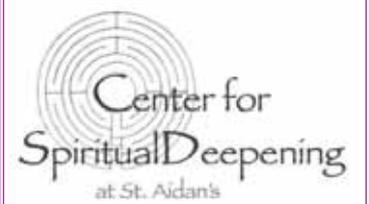
to their colleagues in Congress and make the case that road improvements around Belvoir and Bethesda were critical to ensuring our Wounded Warriors and military beneficiaries

could get to the military medical facilities as conveniently as possible. Congress appropriated \$300 million to DoD, \$180 million of which was used to widen Route 1 from Telegraph Road to Jeff Todd Way.

The widening was done largely according to VDOT's long-prepared plans, including the entire stretch that cuts across Belvoir. The only real deviation from those plans occurs north of the post, near the Baptist church, where the new alignment was curved south, across the land occupied by the stables. That entire issue was solely between the stables and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The NTHP owns the land where the stables were. For reasons only coincidentally related to the road widening, the NTHP had opted not to renew the stable lease. That alone is what "forced" the stables to move. You would need to ask the NTHP, VDOT, and, the Mount Vernon supervisor why things happened the way they did with that part of the Route 1 widening.

Again, please understand the post had no interest in how that part of the road was aligned since it is completely off the installation. The widening could just as easily have been made along the road's original alignment straight to Jeff Todd Way with no impact on Belvoir's mission or on how people get onto or off the post. I'll re-emphasize, too, that had it not been for the BRAC realignment of Belvoir (specifically the new hospital), the community's long-needed widening might never have happened.

Don Carr
Woodbridge



Many Paths: More Than One Way Home

September 27, 7:30 - 9:00 pm

The Reverend John Baker

In our time, we have come to recognize the diversity of ways in which people relate to and understand the world around them.

It is helpful and reassuring to know that we are not all supposed to see things the same way. Our spiritual lives, too, involve a rich diversity in how we sense and respond to the divine presence. Our spiritual gifts may include doubt, awe, love of questions, trust, skepticism, belief, and intuition, just to name a few.

Join us for our first presentation of the program year, as we cast a wide net and invite all sorts of "spiritual" folk to celebrate and strengthen what works best for each of us in our approach to the Great Mystery.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

“Aqueduct: Stone Ruins in Maryland & Virginia.” Various times through Oct. 1 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.

Local Artists Exhibit. Through Oct. 3, various times at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. Patricia Miller Uchello, award-winning artist and Alexandria resident for over 30 years, is showing 86 floral paintings in oil on canvas. Call 703-768-5700.

Artists Exhibit. Various times through Oct. 31 in the Fireplace Alcove, Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Dolly Rowe’s hooked artworks called “Painting in Wool and Silk” will be on display. Contact dollyrowe73@yahoo.com.

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.

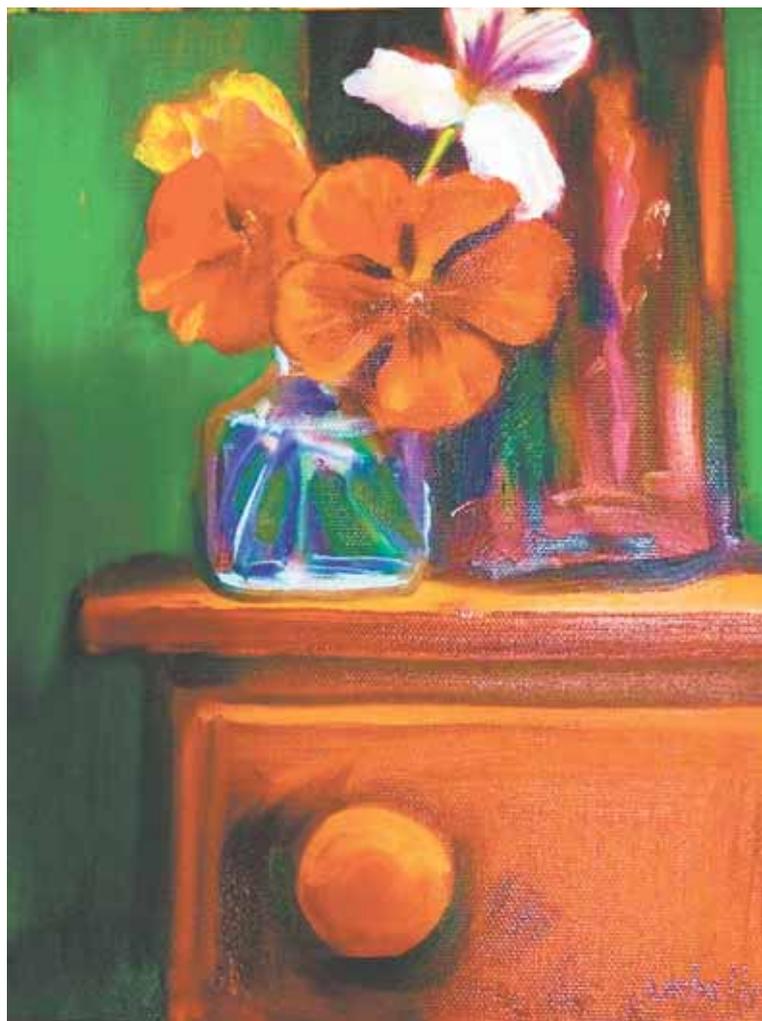
Mount Vernon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 14. Fresh local food, artisan crafts. Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mtvernonmkt.htm.

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.

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

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

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/



PHOTOS BY SHIRL WALLEY

Art Exhibit

Local artist’s exhibit is on display through Oct. 3 at River Farm, 7931 East Boulevard Drive. Patricia Miller Uchello, award-winning artist and Alexandria resident for over 30 years, is showing 86 floral paintings in oil on canvas. Call 703-768-5700 for more.

www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997

Color Disorder Exhibit. Ongoing, Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A joint exhibition of artists Katie Baines and Amy Chan who use diverse painting materials such as acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print to build energized abstract paintings. www.nfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria’s citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leeendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina’s, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink

coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

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

Dinner for the Washingtons. 11 a.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. \$7 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 www.nfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

The Monday Morning Birdwalk takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, requires no reservation and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park’s entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

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

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

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. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the

www.mtvernon.org or call 703-768-3224.

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

Alexandria’s Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama “Mercy Street,” with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who

served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum.

Shield of Earth: Defending the Heart of the Union exhibit. Ongoing, museum hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. -5 p.m., Sundays, noon-5 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Highlights of the exhibition include military passes issued by Provost Marshal’s Office, construction tools, and original photographs of some of Washington’s defenders. 703-746-4848 or www.forward.org.

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit. Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. Come see the site that inspired “Mercy Street,” the new PBS’ series inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House.



Photo Exhibit

Young girl with family, Beulah Baptist Church, 1985, is part of the photo-documentary studies of worship in Alexandria by Nina Tisara, who will be on hand Thursday, Sept. 28 at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road.

PHOTO BY NINA TISARA

ENTERTAINMENT

3 Ways to Celebrate Oktoberfest

BY HOPE NELSON

Oktoberfest — that annual beer-and-food festival native to Munich, Germany, and now celebrated worldwide — officially kicked off on Sept. 16 and stretches to Oct. 3. But don't fret: You haven't missed the celebration just yet. Here are some ways to celebrate (and lift a glass) without having to dust off your passport first.

Topgolf

Stein-Hoisting Competition, Sept. 29

Burn off some of those beer calories by holding a full liter beer stein steady — and win a prize in the process. Topgolf Alexandria is hosting what it bills as “the go-to sporting event of Oktoberfest” on Sept. 29. Participants will aim to hold their arm straight out from their body and keep the stein perfectly still; once their elbow bends or a drop of beer spills, they're out of luck. Winners receive Topgolf gift cards. 6625 S. Van Dorn St. Free; registration 6-8 p.m.

Immanuel Oktoberfest Celebration, Oct. 1

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School host their

“biggest event of the year” on Sunday, Oct. 1 — a family-friendly Oktoberfest celebration complete with German cuisine, live music, and, of course, a biergarten for the adults. From noon to 3 p.m., bring your dancing shoes and your appetite and get ready to celebrate the best Germany has to offer. 1801 Russell Road. \$12 for adults (\$15 after Sept. 25); \$5 for youth; kids 4 and under free. Noon-3 p.m.

Port City Brewing

Oktoberfest Outdoor Party, Oct. 7

Food trucks and games complement the amply flowing beer at Port City's outdoor celebration. Take a taste of the brewery's Oktoberfest beer (or any other offering — you can't go wrong with a Colossal or the Optimal Wit, no matter the season) and pick up some grub from one of the food trucks on site. Tired of the usual beer suspects? Port City's new Rauch Marzen — a German smoked lager — and its annual edition of Long Black Veil will also be ripe for the tasting. Free admission (beer and food incur a cost). Noon-9 p.m.; tour at 3 p.m.

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

CALENDAR

day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

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

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

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.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 21

Four Women, Four Stories. 7 p.m. at Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Cheryl White Mason, Ruth Walkup, Solveig Eggerz and Joyce Morgan Young tell their story about human culture and more. Visit alexlibraryva.org.

SEPT. 21-24

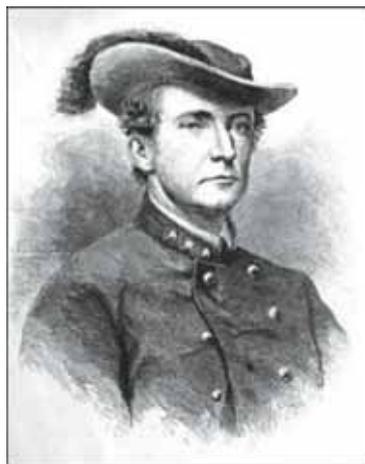
Old Town Boutique District Shop and Stroll. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at various boutiques throughout Old Town. Browse and shop, collect stamps at each location to be entered in a grand prize drawing that includes \$1,000 worth of gift cards. Visit oldtownboutiquedistrict.com.

SEPT. 21-OCT. 15

Fall 2017 Native Plant Sale. at the Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave. The Department of

History

Local author and tour guide Don Hakenson will be discussing “Gray Ghost” Col. John Mosby’s attempted abduction in Alexandria of pro-Union Virginia Restoration Gov. Francis Pierpont at the first Civil War Round Table, 7-9 p.m. at Washington Street United Methodist Church, 109 S Washington St. New monthly Civil War Round Table featuring talks by local historians has formed. Free. Email mtooley@their.org for more.



Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities is offering a native plant sale to help grow Alexandria's tree canopy and undergrowth. Call 703-746-5559 or visit www.alexandriava.gov.

SEPT. 22-OCT. 1

Cinderella, The New Musical. Various times at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. An Infinity Stage production. \$15-35 online, \$20-\$40 at the door. Visit www.InfinityStage.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. Refreshments will also be on sale. Admission is Free. Visit mountvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more info.

Kayak Cleanup on Hunting Creek. 9 a.m.-noon at the Old Stone Bridge off the George Washington Parkway. Bring a canoe or kayak to help clean up the Hunting Creek tidal wetlands and shoreline in Alexandria just upstream from the Old Stone Bridge off the George Washington Parkway.

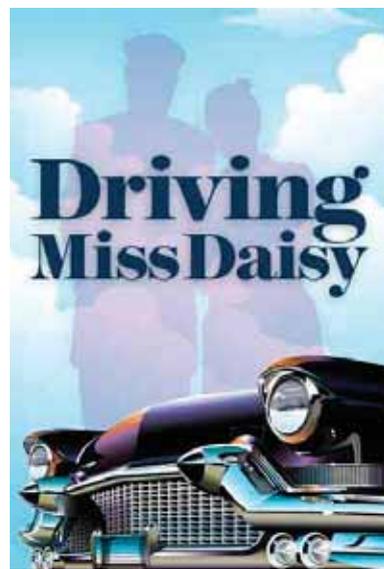
Email rhilyer@nvct.org, or call 703-354-5093.

Mayor on the Corner. 10-11:30 a.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Join Mayor Allison Silberberg for her monthly meet and greet. Free. Visit www.allison Silberberg.com.

Woodlawn Historic District Tour. 10 a.m. at the Woodlawn Mansion, 9000 Richmond Highway. Join Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck local historians and trail planners in a one-mile walk that includes interpretation at Woodlawn Estate, Arcadia Farm, and Pope-Leighey House and a free tour of the George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill. Visit www.novaregion.org.

Historic Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. get tickets at Ramsey House Visitor Center, 221 King St. Visit eight homes in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. All proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Visit www.thetwig.org.

Firefighting History Walking Tour. 1-2:30 p.m. at the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 Alfred St. Explore Alexandria's firefighting history on the “Blazing a Trail: Alexandria's Firefighting History”



This Pulitzer Prize-winning play spans a complex 25-year relationship to show that friendships are found in even the most unlikely circumstances.

SHOW DATES:
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www.thelittletheatre.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that a brief fireworks display will take place as part of a private event at George Washington's Mount Vernon on the following date:

Saturday, September 23,
between 9:30 p.m. and 9:50 p.m. (3 minutes)

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association thanks you for your tolerance and apologizes for any disruption. To receive Mount Vernon fireworks notifications via e-mail, write to:
Events@MountVernon.org.

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ENTERTAINMENT

tour. Visit www.alexandrava.gov/friendshipfirehouse.

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.

A Talk with Don Hakenson. 3 p.m. at Ivy Hill Cemetery, 2823 King St. Don Hakenson presents the Civil War in Virginia and tells of the soldiers buried at Ivy Hill. \$5. Call 301-395-9541 or 703-549-7413.

River Farm Gala. 6-10 p.m. at the River Farm, 7931 E. Boulevard Drive. The event's theme of "America's Garden Legacy: From Sea to Shining Sea" highlights horticulture's contributions to the beauty and prosperity of our country. Visit www.ahsgardening.org/gala or contact AHS Director of Development and Engagement, Susan Klejst at 703-768-5700, ext. 127 or sklejst@ahsgardening.org.

Bourbon in the Basement. 7-9:30 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. Fundraiser to restore the foundation and commemorate the Lee-Fendall House's Prohibition-era history. \$50. Call 202-215-1250.

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/.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

U.S. Navy Concert Band. 1:30 p.m. in The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Chamber music recital series will feature traditional and contemporary music. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

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.

Masonic Concert. 7 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Peter Mayer plus Jerry Breesee are in concert. \$15/18. Visit www.focusmusic.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 25

What's in That Alley?. 6:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Inventorying Old Town Alexandria's Historic Alley Network, presentation. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 26

Science for Teenage Homeschoolers. 4-6 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Older scientists, 12- to-14 years, can jump into hands-on field work studying natural sciences. This group will look at aquatic ecosystems, soil, biodiversity and wetlands. This class meets for six sessions. \$106. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/.

Italy Trip Information Meeting. 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Carr Workplaces, 500 Montgomery St., Suite 400. Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is planning a 2018 trip. Visit web.alexchamber.com.

Film Screening. 7 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Director Matt Spangler, filmmaker and writer, discusses his film "Forgotten Warriors of the Empire." E-mail black.history@alexandriava.gov, or call 703-746-4356.



Cinderella

Anna Maria Shockey stars in Cinderella, The New Musical, Sept. 22-Oct. 1 at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. An Infinity Stage production. \$15-35 online, \$20-\$40 at the door. Visit www.InfinityStage.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 27

Hump Day Fall Happy Hour Series. 5-8 p.m. at the Courthouse Square Park, 400 Courthouse Square. Celebrate getting over the work week hump, the next few Wednesdays through Oct. 11. Call 703-746-5559 or visit www.alexandriava.gov.

Spiritual Discussion. 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Many Paths: More Than One Way Home. Rev. John Baker. Free. Visit www.stadainsepiscopal.com.

Fish Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Join City Historian Dan Lee for a discussion on the role of fish in Alexandria's history, from prehistoric times to the 21st Century. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum or call 703-838-4994.

Jesse Cook Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Mansion Illuminated by Light Art. 8-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Swiss light artist, Gerry Hofstetter, has a light show on the west side of George Washington's Mansion. Visit www.mountvernon.org/lightart.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 28

"Twisted Masterpieces." 6-9pm at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Del Ray Artisans host silent auction of 2D and 3D artwork and live auction of furniture. \$25. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/twisted-masterpieces.

Artists Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road. Nina Tisara

will discuss her photo-documentary studies of worship in Alexandria. Email KKincannon@aldersgate.net.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 29

Georgetown Saxatones. 7 p.m. in The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Proceeds to benefit the Saxatones' preferred charity the John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. \$15/\$10 members. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Mummies in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Funk rock band "Here Come the Mummies," in concert. Visit www.birchmere.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Film and Discussion. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St, Alexandria. In the 23-minute film, Sam Ford, local television reporter, talks about being a descendant of Africans owned by Native Americans. \$5. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/BlackHistory.

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.

Write Like a Woman Workshop. 1:30-3:30 p.m. in The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. A networking workshop with KaNikki Jakarta for women writers that uplifts and inspires through writing. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

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.

SATURDAY/OCT. 2

Floral Workshop. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Professional floral designer Betty Ann Galway, you learn tips and tricks of the trade to apply to your floral arrangements at home, and Halloween designs. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-642-5173.

OktoberFest. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Benefit for The Campagna Center and the New Neighbors Program. Visit www.portcitybrewing.com/.

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.

THURSDAY/OCT. 5

Essential Oil Workshop. noon-1 p.m. at Caring Acupuncture, 2111 Eisenhower Ave., Suite 402. Free class — Essential Skin Care: How to Nourish and Maintain Healthy, Beautiful Skin with doTerra Essential Oils. Email jennamdaniel@gmail.com or call 479-426-2525.

Swan Lake Ballet. 7:30 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 East Campus Drive. The first time the Russian Grand Ballet has ever performed in Virginia. Visit www.RussianGrandBallet.com.

OCT. 6-8

21st Annual Fall Wine Festival and Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy. Meet "George and Martha Washington" on the Mansion's piazza. Guests experience an evening tour of the Washingtons' home and are invited to visit the basement where he stored his wine. Call 703-780-2000 or visit www.MountVernon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Mount Vernon's Blue Room Reopens. 7-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. The Blue Room in the Mount Vernon Mansion will reopen marking the completion of a major seven-month restoration. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

OCT. 6-14

Alexandria Live Music Week. Various times at venues throughout the City of Alexandria. Over 50 venues and more than 175 artists are set to perform over the course of the nine days. Visit www.alexandrialive.com.

OCT. 6-21

Drumming with Dishes on Stage. Various times at Arts on the Horizon, The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. A children's story about a girl and her imaginary friend, who discover they can use ordinary kitchen objects to make extraordinary music together. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Art on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray. More than 300 artists such as jewelers to silversmith and beaders, woodworkers, pottery makers, soap crafters, glass makers, unique painters, sculptures, and fabric artists, and musicians. Visit www.artontheavenue.org.

Port City Oktoberfest Party. noon-9 p.m. at Port City, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Call 703-778-0874 or visit www.PortCityBrewing.com/the-brewery/events.

Oktoberfest. 3-7 p.m. St. Aidan's Episcopal Church and Day School, 8531 Riverside Road. German food such as knockwurst, bratwurst, potato salad; sides, beer and cold drinks, live Oompa band, bake sale, children's games, petting zoo, moon bounce. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com or call 703-360-4220.

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.

SUNDAY/OCT. 8

Museum Geek Tour. noon-1 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105 S. Fairfax St. Basement tour. Call 703-746-3852 or visit alexandriava.gov/apothecary.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12

Fashion Show and Luncheon. 10 a.m. at the Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road. The Yacht Haven Garden Club is presenting their 34th annual Fashion Show and Luncheon, "Floral Fantasy." Proceeds will go to several agricultural projects. For further information and tickets contact: Kathy Ichter, Ichter@verizon.net or call 703-780-8700

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Drawing Workshop. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Artist and instructor Caroline Hottenstein shows how to use pen and ink, watercolor, graphite and colored pencils to capture and highlight details in insect illustration. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-642-5173.

Watershed Cleanup Day. 9-11:30 a.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Opportunity for individuals, students, families, scouts and other community groups to be part of this year's International Coastal Cleanup. Help clear the earth's arteries by collecting tires, bed springs, bottles, cans and other debris from your local waterways. Visit bit.ly/FCPAwatershedClean.

Touch-A-Truck. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane. An interactive event that allows children to see, touch, and explore their favorite big trucks and heavy machinery, as well as to meet the personnel who protect, serve, & build the Alexandria community. \$5, children under 2 are free. Visit www.FortHuntPreschool.com.

Scottish Heritage Day. noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Scottish music, dancing, and fashion as well as tours of the Carlyle House. Call 703-549-2997 or visit www.CarlyleHouse.org.

Painting in the Park. noon-4 p.m. at John Carlyle Square in the Carlyle District of Alexandria. 300 John Carlyle St. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaVA.gov/CarlyleFun

Outlandish Event. 1-4 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105 S. Fairfax St. Tour the historic apothecary and learn about a

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ENTERTAINMENT

few of the herbal medicines featured in Diana Gabaldon's "Outlander" series of novels from cascara to dauco seeds. \$18. Call 703-746-3852 or visit alexandriava.gov/shop.

Long Black Veil Happy Hour. 6-9 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Enjoy Port City beverages. \$25. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov/events.aspx.

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.

OCT. 14-15

42nd Annual Virginia Wine Festival. noon-6 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Wine tasting from many Virginia wineries. \$35-65. Call 202-244-3700 or visit www.virginiawinefest.com.

DEADLINE OCT. 15

Photo Contest. Submit photos taken in the city with the theme "Support the well-being of Alexandria's residents by ensuring access to a variety of quality recreation, park and cultural experiences." Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation for more information.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

Walk to Bust Cancer. 8 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park, 8999 Fort Hunt Road. National Breast Center Foundation's Walk to Bust Cancer to increase awareness and celebrate survivorship. Email Martha Carucci at Martha.carucci@nationalbreastcenter.org

or visit www.walktobustcancer.org.
Free Speech Forum. 7 p.m. at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Visit www.wmal.com/freespeechforum/ or www.birchmere.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

Mega Bazaar/Craft Fair. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Over 30 crafters, silent auction, bake sale, and door prizes. Call 703-765-4573.

Bicentenary of the Birth of Baha'u'llah. 3-6 p.m. in the Madison Auditorium of the Patent and Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. 200th anniversary of the birth of Baha'u'llah, the Founder of the Baha'i Faith. Visit alexandriavabahais.org/bicentennial/.

OCT. 24-DEC. 19

Watercolor Exhibit. Various times at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. See "Nature from Three Points of View", the work of Jan Burns, Madeleine Chen, and Shari MacFarlane, at the Horticulture Center. Sunday, Oct. 29 is the Artists Reception. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring or call 703-642-5173.

THURSDAY/OCT. 26

Meet the Author. 8:15-11 a.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Author Beth Kanter discusses "The Happy Healthy Nonprofit: Strategies for Impact without Burnout," that will help steer your organization away from burnout while boosting all-around performance. Call 703-683-2007.



Live Music

Mummies in Concert, Friday, Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. Punk band "Here Come the Mummies," in concert. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Film and Discussion. 7-9 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. "Breathe in the Roots," film tells the story of Ty Christen Joseph, a young African-American English teacher, who takes a spiritual journey of discovery from

Addis Ababa to Lalibela in Ethiopia. Following the film, Indrias G. Kassaye, the film's writer, photographer, and producer leads a discussion. \$10. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/BlackHistory.

SUNDAY/OCT. 29

Meet the Authors. 2-5 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Robert Siegel, host of NPR's "All Things Considered." \$25. Visit www.bethelhebrew.org.

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

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9/11 HEROES RUN

TRAVIS MANION FOUNDATION



The Alexandria 9/11 Heroes Run Committee - Travis Manion Foundation (TMF) would like to thank our Sponsors and Partners for their support of the 3rd Annual Alexandria 9/11 Heroes Run/Walk 5K held Saturday, September 9, 2017. Your support of TMF's Mission to **"Honor the Fallen by Challenging the Living"** and to answer 1st Lt. Travis Manion's motto, **"If Not Me, Then Who..."** resulted in a Community event attended by over 1,500 people from across the Washington, DC metro area. **THANK YOU!!**

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PEOPLE

In Competitive Mode at Senior Olympics Skills Competition

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/
THE GAZETTE

Senior Olympics' Football and Frisbee Throw and Softball Hit and Throw events were held at Wakefield District Park in Annandale on Wednesday, Sept. 13.



Doug Hastings from Alexandria hit the softball 189 feet to earn a silver medal in the 65-69 age group.



Barry Shelkin from Alexandria, with his son Paul Shelkin standing by his side, throws the football in the 85-89 age group.



Doug Hastings from Alexandria lunges forward with raised arms in the standing long jump in the 65-69 age group.

Field Events

The Senior Olympics' Field Events were held at Falls Church High School on Sunday, Sept. 17.



Maureen Pan from Alexandria warms up before completion begins in the discus in the 50-54 age group.

Legals

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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



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Talking the Walk



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Our long, local, overnight nightmare is almost over. By the date this column publishes: Sept. 20, 2017, I will, for the first time in nearly nine weeks, not had to have snaked down in the dark, our "turny-twisty" and narrow 150-year-old staircase to walk from the upstairs master bedroom to the downstairs and only usable commode. Though the renovation of this upstairs bathroom is not entirely complete nor ready for primetime (it is mostly usable as the water is now running and flushing), the demolition/renovation process apparently must go on/adhere to a schedule so, on Tuesday, Sept. 19 the downstairs bathroom, with all its fully functioning amenities will come under the sledge hammer – among other tools, and provide no further use until on or about Oct. 24.

This heretofore ("Good Will Hunting") logistical challenge has not presented too many difficulties for my wife, Dina. But given that I'm a male of a certain age, quite the opposite has been true for me. Once or twice and occasionally even more per overnight depending upon how late and how much I've had to eat or drink before bedtime, I'll need to visit the bathroom to attend to some very personal business. To be clear, the 'challenge' to which I refer is getting to the bathroom, not starting and/or finishing what I intended once I get there. Moreover, when the task at hand has been completed, of course I need to retrace my steps – usually in the dark, and walk back upstairs. Though not nearly as difficult as walking downstairs; nevertheless, at the time I am going down and back up, in the middle of the night, my vision might not so readily acclimate and my balance is, let's just say: inconsistent, especially when trying to avoid the miscellaneous bathroom-remodeling boxes staged in the living room on the very route I must travel.

Needless to say, having this nightly nonsense come to an end is most definitely a column worth writing. Not necessarily to self-indulge anymore than usual but more so to amuse you regular readers and possibly even prepare you for your own in-home renovation. And considering that this renovation is our first – and we have minimal experience with these matters, I thought it useful to write it forward and perhaps share a less-than-obvious impact of taking the one-and-only-on-the-same-floor bathroom out of service. Sinks, mirrors and shower/tub issues notwithstanding, all of which can be withstood and endured with the reorientation to the downstairs bathroom, the commode issue, considering its unpredictability, naturally trumps all other real or imagined difficulties.

Though the upstairs bathroom is incomplete and lacking multiple finishing elements, its transformation so far is incredible – to our eyes. I'll spare you any details because that really would be self-indulgent and not at all the point of this column. But the two months or so it will have taken for the upstairs bathroom to become operational again and the nightly effect it's had on me appears to have been worth the wait.

As concerns the downstairs bathroom, we are now ready, willing and able to integrate its destruction into our routine. Given that it is more of a powder room than a master-type bathroom – though it will include a shower-only enclosure, no longer will it be my twice-nightly destination. In addition, I am looking forward to its transformation because the interim process will not prevent me from going anywhere I regularly go nor inconveniencing my wife, Dina, when she readies for work in the morning.

Monitoring its progress will be more of a curiosity than a calamity, since, in my mind, there will be no sense of urgency about the pace of this project as there had been with the upstairs bathroom because my bathroom access will not be affected in the least. And in the most, I am extraordinarily grateful – and relieved.

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

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NEWS

Appreciation

FROM PAGE 5

turing high-quality childcare environments.

The nonprofit has 12 people on its Governing Board of Directors and was co-founded by Phyllis Cassell and Ileene Hoffman in 1983. Cassel, 88, of Annandale, retired from the business 16 years ago. "I loved working with the children and teaching the adults, and I loved the training. We had eight classes. I wrote the manual at the time and was certified in CPR," she said.

In the early days, she taught 40-hour classes in professionalism, safety in the homes, social development, emotional development, intellectual development, physical development, nutrition, first aid and CPR. "They had to pass in order to become a provider," she said.

Event planner Malia Anderson of Chantilly has been part of the Infant/Toddler management team for 30 years in various roles. "The purpose of the event is to show providers how much they are appreciated by having a luncheon in their honor and to emphasize to them the important part they play in making Infant/Toddler a successful program," she said. "It's a program that's very dear to my heart."

Lisa Farinholt-O'Brien, the director of Workforce Development, said Infant/Toddler screens and monitors providers as well as gives training and referrals. They work with immigrant families that are interested in starting their own childcare business.

"We have a licensing process they go through, taking them through home inspections for safety and training classes. Once they get approved, we assist them with marketing their childcare and we refer families to them," she said. "Once a person starts doing daycare, they have monthly visits. Staff members work with them to keep their homes safe and to provide an educational environment for the children. We do annual training with the providers and handle the billing and bookkeeping for them."

Provider Freida Steele of Springfield, who is originally from India, has been with Infant/Toddler for four and a half years. She says she loves working with the children. "It gives me an opportunity to teach and to learn from them. They give me the opportunity to learn from them so that I can provide better services to the little ones in my care."

Provider Shaista Laiq of Fairfax is originally from Pakistan and has been with Infant/Toddler for 18 years and in daycare for 26 years. "They provide all the training and all the paperwork. I feel like I'm working for a company. I am in this business because I love the kids," she said.

Provider Farzana Jabeen of Fairfax is originally from Pakistan and has been with Infant/Toddler for 10 years. She provides care to five children, ages 3 months to 3 years. "I took the classes and I learned how to take care of the kids; they give us good classes. I also teach sign language to infants; I use sign language for the kids. I enjoy it so much," she said.

To learn more, visit www.itfdc.com or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/InfantToddlerFamilyDayCare.

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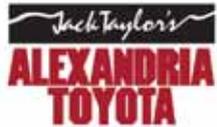
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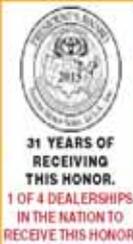
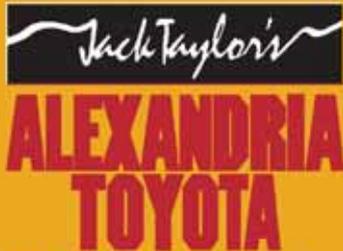
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