Celebrating MLK Day with Music and Essays

A speech by Dr. Eric Williams, Curator of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, surrounded by music from six outstanding choirs and readings of three prize-winning local student essays made for an inspiring tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King on Saturday, Jan. 18, at Bethlehem Baptist Church.

The annual event was organized by Ventures in Community, a coalition of about 60 faith communities and nonprofits that support a hypothermia center and network on issues related to poverty in the area. The program was organized by Rev. Abe Smith, Pastor of First AME Baptist Church.

Dr. Williams noted that for the first time in history, humans have become the agent of our own destruction and said “Brothers and sisters, we are all we have. Let’s live our lives in peace, love, and justice.”

A quote from Dr. King — “If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way” — was the theme of a student essay contest for local high school students. The winner was Obinna Ekeaqwu of Mount Vernon High School, who wrote “Rev. King calls on us to keep our eyes open for moments to spread mercy and grace. He does not expect us to walk a million miles. He expects us to walk one. While that mile may seem insignificant to us, the effort can change somebody’s life.”

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

No Person Too Small

By Obinna Ekeaqwu

11th grade at Mount Vernon High School

First Place Essay. MLK Essay Contest 2020, sponsored by Ventures in Community

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. changed America by inspiring the disenfranchised.

Many blacks did not believe they could overcome racism. Such pessimism inadvertently helped Jim Crow laws, because blacks feared that reforms would lead to violent retaliation.

Dr. King, however, illustrated to ordinary citizens that they were not too small to create change. MLK challenges us to do good whenever we can, no matter the inconvenience. Even if the cause of a dilemma is out of our control, we can improve any situation.

Rev. King’s faith energized his activist mindset. In one of his sermons, King tells congregants that for “religion to be real and genuine[,] it must not only be something that men talk about[,] but something that men live about.”

King recognizes that some things are outside of humans’ control, as “God...guides the destiny of the universe.” Yet, he calls on us to follow God’s “inexorable moral law” in whatever way we can. Those who do not believe in a god are still asked to make the world a better place.

Rev. King laments that the goodwill of modern Christians is a “mere Sunday habit,” rather than a 24/7 instinct. Indeed, doing good is difficult outside the church because, according to MLK, “man’s quest for the divine is interrupted by the nagging movements of the demonic.” However, King excuses neither immoral action nor moral inaction.

He argues that “we are forever attempting to find some scapegoat on which we cast responsibility for our actions.” While King recognizes the consequences of negative circumstances on one’s life, he believes that “[our] personal response is...
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Closing All the Loopholes

By Michael Lee Pope
The Gazette

Democrats poised to impose new regulations on high-interest lenders.

Last month, in the aftermath of the 2020 Virginia legislative session, the state’s lawmaking body took a significant step toward regulating the high-interest lending industry. The General Assembly passed legislation that would cap interest rates on loans and impose new requirements on lenders, including those that operate online.

The legislation, which was introduced by Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy (D-2) and sponsored by several lawmakers from both parties, aims to address the issue of predatory lending, which has been a concern for consumers and lawmakers alike for years.

According to the Virginia Fair Housing Commission, the state’s largest lender, LoanMax, gave $150,000 to the state during the last election cycle, while other lenders, such as Online Lender Enova and Car-title lender LoanMax, gave $176,000 and $250,000, respectively. These contributions have raised concerns about the influence these companies have on state laws and regulations.

The new legislation would amend the Virginia Fair Lending Act, which was passed in 2018, to cap interest rates on loans at 264 percent. It would also require all lenders to get a Virginia license and register with the State Corporation Commission.

The legislation would also create new provisions for high-interest lenders, including those that operate online. It would require these lenders to disclose the maximum interest rate they can charge and require them to provide borrowers with information about the costs of their loans.

The legislation would also require lenders to provide borrowers with information about the costs of their loans.

Public Safety

Attempted Abduction in Belle Haven

Detectives from our Major Crimes Bureau are investigating an attempted abduction of a juvenile that occurred Jan. 21 between 4:15 and 5 p.m. in the 6600 block of Fort Hunt Road. A Belle View Elementary School student was walking on a sidewalk along Fort Hunt Road when a man approached from behind and picked the student up. The student was walking on a sidewalk along Fort Hunt Road when a man approached from behind and picked the student up.

The man who was not in a crosswalk. The man who was not in a crosswalk.

Attempted arrest Philip Spivey, of Falls Church, from the Major Crimes Bureau Child Abuse Squad arrested Philip Spivey, of Falls Church, from the Major Crimes Bureau Child Abuse Squad.

On Thursday, Jan. 16 at approximately 4:24 p.m., units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the Alexandria Fire Department were dispatched for a reported house fire in the 2500 block of Byrd Lane in the Fair Haven area of Fairfax County.

Unit arrived on-scene of a two-story, single family home with smoke showing. Crews quickly located a fire that was primarily within the walls on the first floor. The fire was rapidly extinguished. No civilian or firefighter injuries were reported.

Five occupants were home at the time of the fire. The occupants were alerted to the fire due to an odor of smoke. Smoke alarms activated as the occupants were exiting the house.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started in the void space behind the wall of the utility closet. The fire was caused by an electrical short.

Eight occupants have been displaced because of the fire. Red Cross assistance was offered and accepted. DAMAGES AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE ARE APPROXIMATELY $37,500.

FCPS Teacher Arrested for Indecent Liberties Against Child

A 57-year-old teacher is facing four felony charges of indecent liberties by a custodian for an inappropriate sexual relationship with a student at Justice High School. Detectives from the Major Crimes Bureau Child Abuse Squad arrested Philip Spivey, of Falls Church, today. Detectives began their investigation after it was learned that Spivey was having unlawful sexual contact with a student. Spivey is also employed as a private music teacher. He is currently being held at the county’s Adult Detention Center without bond.

Victim specialists from our Major Crimes Bureau Victim Services Division have been assigned to the case that the victim is receiving appropriate resources and assistance.

Detectives are seeking anyone who has information or who has surveillance images they believe are helpful or have information or who has surveillance images they believe are helpful.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact our Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543.

The 2nd pedestrian fatality in the county to date in 2020.
MLK Day with Music and Essays

From Page 1

teaches us that none of us is too powerless to make a difference."

The three top winners read their essays from the pulpit to enthusiastic applause: each received a cash prize. Second place went to Turner Bumbary of Thomas Jefferson High School, and third place to Victoria Laffitte of Mt Vernon High School. The essays were ranked by four members of the Ventures in Community steering committee, who did not know the author’s names. All students who submitted essays received a gift.

The Home School Chorus performed an inspirational piece that started with a young soloist singing about speaking out with one voice and added singers from the choir and the audience in sections changing the refrain to speaking out “with a million voices.”

The Mount Vernon Unitarian Church choir performed a complex original piece called “King for a Day” that asked audience members what they would do if they could be Dr. King for one day.

The program ended as always with the combined choirs and audience singing the famous abolitionist song “Battle Hymn of the Republic” directed by Mark Zimmerman, choir director of Mt. Vernon Unitarian.

Lee District Supervisor Rodney Lusk gave standing ovations at several points and met briefly with the essay winners.

No Person Too Small

From Page 1

the final determining factor in our lives."

When we avoid the right decision, we must take ownership of our dereliction.

In King’s Letter from a Birmingham Jail, he writes that “the ultimate tragedy... was not the brutality of the bad people, but the silence of the good people.” We all consider ourselves “good people,” so we should behave like so. When we encounter choices that juxtapose what is difficult with what is convenient, we must choose the difficult.

When we see the elderly struggling to carry something, we must offer to alleviate their burden.

When we see somebody at lunch sitting alone, we must offer them company.

When we see family members seized by addiction or sorrow, we must offer our support.

The blind eye we turn to suffering is replaced by the eye of the devil; he is always looking for opportunities to spread misery and evil.

Rev. King calls on us to keep our eyes open for moments to spread mercy and grace.

He does not expect us to walk a million miles. He expects us to walk one. While that mile may seem insignificant to us, the effort can change somebody’s life.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. teaches us that none of us is too powerless to make a difference.
The Junior Achievement students at Carl Sandburg Middle School in Mount Vernon are learning the concepts of savings, income, budgeting, investing, and the pros and cons of debit and credit.

The ABCs of Kids and Money

By Marilyn Campbell

Teaching children how to budget, save, and manage finances.

In an age when paying one’s mortgage can be done from a smartphone, money smarts is an important part of navigating life. From saving to buy the latest video game to learning how to budget an allowance, financial literacy is one of the most important lessons for children, say financial experts.

“It’s very important to teach tweens and teens about money,” said Steve Pilloff, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the School of Business at George Mason University. “For many kids, this is the first time they are making independent financial decisions, such as whether to save a birthday gift or spend it on a video game.”

In fact, Patti Senft, Manager of Program Engagement at Junior Achievement of Greater Washington, said kids need to manage their expenses and budget wisely now, so many options and financial decisions that have to be made.

“They are making critical decisions that they have never been given or allowed. Land Value 0.01 0043A). House on Property 4.128 acres zones R-2 for sale. Taxes 2 34.24 acres w/ house (Tax Map 101 01 0043) and 1.28 acre vacant land (1101 0401 0041). House on property sold “AS IS” and NO ACCESS given or allowed. Land Value only. Water, sewer, gas, electricity available. This land is adjacent to the houses on Halley Farm Ct.

While some parents might find starting a dialog daunting, it’s vital that parents have those conversations with their children, said Levine.

“Talk to your kids about money,” she said. “It’s important to distinguish between talk and teach. Parents who don’t know about money can hack out when they’re asked to teach their children about money; instead, talk to them and say, ‘Let’s learn about this together.’

The knowledge that the students learn through the Junior Achievement gives students the skills they need to manage their expenses and budget wisely for a successful future,” she said.

Helping children set financial goals, delay gratification, earn money and save it toward achieving those goals is one of the first steps that parents can take to teach smart money practices, said Pilloff. “The habits, and even more critically, the decision-making process children develop early on will influence the way they approach financial matters throughout their lives,” he said.

Students should be taught to make choices with the amount of money they have, suggests Senft. “It’s important to teach children to distinguish between what you need versus what you want,” she said. “It’s important to teach children of all ages about money. It’s never too soon to talk about the importance of savings.”

“It’s important because in any modern society, the one thing that people do almost every day is make money decisions, so knowing how to do it well is something that is going to be useful to every single one of us,” added Laura Levine, president and CEO of the Jump$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy. “Knowing how to manage money is something that all consumers need to do so it’s important that we teach that to our kids.”

In fact, learning to manage a budget is one of the basic skills that Levine encourages parents to teach.

“Years ago, finance was basic, but today there are so many options and financial decisions that have to be made,” she said. “Money is more self-directed than ever before. Finances are more complicated than ever before, so we need skills to manage it.”

When it comes to managing money, one of the best ways to teach is leading by example, says Levine. “Like with anything else, kids learn by what they see at home,” she said. “Even parents who haven’t made the best financial decisions in the past can resolve to do it now in the New Year.”

While some parents might find starting a dialog daunting, it’s vital that parents have those conversations with their children, said Levine.

“Talk to your kids about money,” she said. “It’s important to distinguish between talk and teach. Parents who don’t know about money can hack out when they’re asked to teach their children about money; instead, talk to them and say, ‘Let’s learn about this together.’

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Mount Vernon Gazette ● January 23-29, 2020 ● 5
Why I Support Repeal of So-called ‘Right-to-Work’

By Del. Paul Krizek

In the South worried that if unions brought working class white and black together, Jim Crow-era laws would be upended. The right-to-work movement spread throughout the south reaching Virginia in 1947 where it was enacted under then Governor Bill Tuck. Governor Tuck hated unions and loathed racial integration. When in 1946 the Virginia IBEW workers threatened to strike for better wages, Tuck referred to the union’s representatives as “evil leadership.” In response to striking coal miners in 1948, Tucker called unions “a deplorable form of gangsterism that will not be tolerated in Virginia.” He was also a signatory to the “Southern Manifesto” which opposed racial integration of public places; and later, when he was a Congressman he was vehemently against the Civil Rights Act of 1965.

Recent studies demonstrate the devastating impact of right-to-work laws on wages. A groundbreaking study from Princeton University argues one of the biggest factors in increasing income inequality is the decline in union membership. Princeton was able to study the effects of union membership while controlling for variables such as education, skill, and race. What the study found is that on average over the last 80 years, union workers make around 15-20 percent more than non-union workers in the same field. Indeed, a 2018 analysis from the Economic Policy Institute found that the hourly wage of men in right-to-work states is $18.25, compared with $20.78 in non-right-to-work states, a difference of nearly 14 percent. The pattern of lower wages is even more pronounced for women and people of color. Right-to-work laws have a disproportionate impact on minorities because of their greater rates of work in unionized industries. Eliminating right-to-work in Virginia is a major step to racial and economic justice. We now have the opportunity to address this outdated and racist law that is out of step with the values of a 21st century Virginia. It’s time to repeal it. I will be voting for HB 153.

Virginia Legislature Moves Quickly on Equal Rights, Gun Violence Prevention

By Sen. Scott Surovell

The second week of the General Assembly Session put us at the center of American history. We moved several long-delayed, legislative priorities.

On Wednesday, both the Senate and the House passed resolutions to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment to make Virginia the 38th and final state to ratify the Constitu-
tional amendment. The Senate has passed the resolution at least six times in past years, but the House of Delegates has never approved it. Ratification will hopefully bring Virginia into line with 37 other states and the District of Columbia.

Today’s resolutions also join the movement to reframe Virginia’s one handgun per month law. This became law in 1993 and Virginia became the primary source for most guns confiscated from criminal activity in New York City. The legislature repealed it in 2012 after a sustained campaign by the National Rifle Association. Under the current law, people who possess Virginia concealed weapons permits would be exempt from the law.

We also passed legislation requiring the seller of all firearms to undergo a criminal background check. Today, people making all purchases from federally-licensed firearm dealers must undergo these checks, but individuals who are unable to purchase or possess firearms, such as felons or people convicted of domestic assault can illegally purchase firearms by purchasing them from private individuals. The original legislation also applied to firearms transfers with some exceptions, but several members of our caucus were concerned we would unintentionally criminalize some hunting activities so we removed that provision.

The Senate also approved my bill to give local governments more authority over firearms and combined it with four other bills. The final bill would allow local governments to prohibit firearms in public buildings, public parks and at locally-permitted events if restrictions are properly posted. This was a major priority for me as the after the violent events in Charlottesville and men carrying AR-15 rifles at the Alexandria Farmers Market “to educate the public about their Second Amendment rights.” Virginia already authorizes localities to regulate firearms in some circumstances, so I did not see this as a major extension of existing law.

The Judiciary Committee passed a so-called “red flag” legislation. The bill that the Senate will vote on this week allows a magistrate to enter an order requiring people to surrender their guns if it is shown that they are a threat to themselves or other persons because of their firearms. No order can be issued without a law enforcement investigation and individual may be given a chance to voluntarily surrender their weapons before law enforcement can involuntarily seize them. The law also provides for a second hearing for the person to contest the allegation after full discovery. I expect the Senate to pass this bill soon. The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee passed my legislation prohibiting duck hunting blinds on Little Hunting Creek, Great Hunting Creek and Dugoe Creek. My bill to create a Public Defender’s Office in Prince William County passed out of committee unanimously.

The Senate Health and Education Committee approved my bill to prohibit providing “conversion therapy” to minors, along with my bill to eliminate the terms “husband” and “wife” from our divorce law to be replaced with the word “spouse.”

I have posted my 2020 Constituent Survey online at http://scotturovell.org/2020-constituent-survey/. Please complete it so I can hear from you about important issues this session, my legislation or anything else you’d like to communicate.

You can also reach me at scott@scotturovell.org.
Opinion

Year of the Woman

By Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon District)

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020! TEAM MVD (Mount Vernon District) and I are designating this year the "Year of the Woman." Here in the Mount Vernon District, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote and the passage of the 19th Amendment with the opening of the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center and the Turning Point Suffragists Memorial at Occoquan Regional Park. At the state level, the Virginia General Assembly appointed Del. Eileen Filler-Corn as the first female leader of the House of Delegates in 400 years and just became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). As a result, the Year of the Woman has started off strong! We Can Do It! — as Rosie the Riveter showed us.

Strong women throughout history have shown us the power of perseverance and we will explore and celebrate this throughout the year. The Lucy Burns Museum celebrating the suffragists and 100 years of prison history will open on Jan. 25, with the grand opening on May 9. In February, we will celebrate African American History month.

One of the seldom told stories of the women’s suffragist movement is of the African American women also who picketed the White House. March will bring Women’s History month and we will see how the US Congress will act on ratifying the ERA. Then, on Aug. 26, we will dedicate the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. And, this is just a sampling of what the Year of the Woman will look like.

The Mount Vernon District is fortunate to be home to so much storied history and we look forward to celebrating it throughout the year. Across the country, this major milestone of our democracy will be celebrated by female-focused commemorations and many visitors will come to see these national recognitions happening right here in our backyard.

To learn more about all of this, see Year of the Woman, Page 9.

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Hate Cannot Drive Out Hate

Turner Bumbary
Thomas Jefferson High School

Second Place Essay, MLK Essay Contest 2020, sponsored by Ventures in Community

“Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.” These words, spoken by Martin Luther King Jr. during his acceptance of the Nobel Peace Prize, helped give this country a glimmer of hope through the injustices of segregation, oppression, and racism.

His message advocates for people to take small actions of justice to rid their communities of hate.

I recently came to understand the meaning of Martin Luther King Jr.’s words after the school shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School. Rather than fostering hate, our community rallied around one another with love. It felt like we had the support of Martin Luther King on our side, as we walked out of class to protest our nation’s epidemic of gun violence and mass shootings. Our school walkout paralleled the civil rights marches Martin Luther King organized more than a half-century ago, showing his mission still resonates with some people today.

My greatest goal in life is to use my future positions of leadership and expertise to support other students in my community. For example, I am a student mentor for the LIFE Program, which is an organization that teaches students STEM through hands-on activities. Our program serves aspiring students at local Title I schools and hopes to strengthen the community by mitigating the education and achievement gaps.

Through my involvement in student government, peer mentorship programs, and educational policy I have already seen myself begin to implement small fragments of my goal. But with your support, I know we can give all students the opportunity they deserve.

Although MLK is no longer here, his message does not have to die. I urge YOU to become the change you wish to see in the world by reshaping your communities through compassion and love. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

In our lives, we constantly encounter prejudice and injustices, but we must have the courage to use our inner light and faith in the lord to drive out the darkness. As Dr. King said, “Even if we cannot do great things, we can do small things in a great way.”

I encourage all of you to reach out to members of your community and to become the light that guides them. Our actions do not have to be large and grandiose, but rather a simple act of kindness can go a long way.

For example, if you were to help three people, and those three people each helped three more, by ten cycles you would have served more than 50,000 people.

Although I am proud of all the progress Martin Luther King Jr. made, it is our duty to continue his mission and to fight against new issues that plague our country.

Please join me in my mission to create change and reshape our communities.

Essays
Essays


By Victoria Laffitte
Mt. Vernon High School

Third Place Essay, MLK Essay Contest 2020, sponsored by Ventures in Community

As we all know, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has many great quotes, but the quote, “If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way,” is one of his greatest.

In my research on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I was curious to find out what exactly motivated this particular quote. I learned that most, if not all, of Dr. King’s quotes were related to the civil rights movement.

The goal of the civil rights movement was to achieve one great idea and that was equal rights for all. Also I learned that equality would not have been achieved without smaller individual contributions from prominent leaders and lesser known individuals.

During the Civil Rights era, black people were no longer slaves, but were still treated unfairly. This type of treatment mainly occurred in the southern states.

Inequality was often seen on signs and in different facilities. Often you would see “For Whites” or “For Colored” signs on things like water fountains, restrooms, or in segregated schools and restaurants.

I believe that Dr. King’s passion and desire for change for equality is what sparked this great quote. A prime example of a small thing was when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man. Rosa Parks may have felt that what she did was small, but it resulted in a great thing!

When I look at some of the things I have done such as volunteering at the church’s food bank, bringing joy to the elderly at the nursing home, and providing tutoring to my peers, all seem small. But I have realized that although they may be small, I did them all in a great way.

To me this quote also means: Do not be discouraged if you don’t accomplish your biggest goal at first. Start by doing small steps that can help lead you toward your major goal.

I know that I will eventually reach my goal step by step no matter how small the steps are, I will keep working toward it. Doing small things can go a long way.

Not many people have or will make a large impact on the world but if we all at least do what we can, no matter how small it is and it is a positive step it’s a “small” step in the right direction.

I have learned more about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s tremendous contributions to our nation and how we all have benefited from his legacy.

We all should make the little or small things we do matter as much as the big things. With that said, I cannot imagine Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., doing small things, only great things!

Year of the Woman

From Page 7

and our community, join me for the 33rd Annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020, from 7:45 a.m. – noon at Mount Vernon High School. Have your questions answered, learn about issues important to you, connect with County agencies and service providers and mingle with your neighbors.

The highlight of the morning will be taking a “virtual flying tour” of the District and meeting your new County Board Chairman Jeff McKay. If you’re lucky, you may even meet a Suffragist while you are there. You should all be receiving our annual Advisor mailer in the coming days. I would love to hear if you receive it and your suggestions to make it better.

Contact our office with your feedback at mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-780-7518.

Welcome to the new decade! Bring it on 2020!

Lucy Burns Museum Opening Video – https://youtu.be/smY5Mn05SN4
3 Restaurants and Cafes Opening in the New Year

By Hope Nelson

A new year naturally leads to new restaurants on the horizon, and Alexandria has new arrivals coming in droves. From a beloved regional Thai eatery to a former familiar restaurant to the city’s first cat café, the first few months of 2020 look to be exciting indeed. Here are three openings to look forward to in the months to come.

Sisters Thai, 530 First St.
The newest outpost of Sisters Thai, which currently calls two locations in the Mosaic District and Fairfax home, is looking shape at 530 First Street in North Old Town. Originally slated to open by the end of January, Sisters is now eyeing a March opening. Sisters’ menu is known for its cozy “living room” feel, making customers right at home among cute tables and enticing décor. Its food, too, is at once traditional and innovative Thai cuisine, complete with rich curries and plenty of takes on Thai street food as well.

Mount Purnpuron Cat Café and Wine Bar, 60 S. Alfred St.
Alexandria’s first cat café continues its march toward a grand opening. The café, which will call 109 S. Alfred Street home, is awaiting its permit hearing; the hearing that was scheduled for January was canceled due to snow, so owners Kristin Cowan and Adam Patterson must wait until February to have their day in the spotlight. This delay pushes Mount Purnpuron’s schedule opening back to late March or early April, Patterson said. Once it’s up and running, the café will serve food and drink — including wine — and will, as the concept implies, have adoptable cats in residence waiting for permanent homes.

Hank & Mitzi’s, 600 Montgomery St.
The former Hank’s Pasta Bar is promising a new look and attitude when Hank & Mitzi’s opens in the space at 600 Montgomery Street. Restaurateur Jamie Leeds will honor the Popeye legend with an Italian-American menu that includes pasta, pizza, and more. The menu is expected to include a saucer and flatbread to carry-out? Accompany the meal with a fine glass of wine, a rosé inspired by the color of the day. The restaurant will celebrate its opening on April 19, 2020.

Washington Library, 6414 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society presents: “The Demographic History of the Mount Vernon Area: 1940-2010.” The U.S. Census has been conducted every 10 years since 1790 and this year they will participate in the 24th decennial census. Around 1940, the Mount Vernon area began to evolve from predominantly rural to suburban. Using color graphics, this presentation will reveal interesting information regarding the characteristics and origins of the people living in the community. They will show trends in population growth, labor force, housing status, and educational levels over the last 70 years with specific details from 1940 on four communities in the Mt. Vernon area: Belle Haven, New Alexandria, Gum Springs and Springbank.

Entertainment

The cast of ACCT’s production of Disney’s “Frozen Jr.” (from left to right): Bill Barnes (Hans), Mary Margaret Bargery (Anna), Patricia Villareal Navaez (Elsa), Andrew Tankersley (Sven), Brett Medley (Kristoff), and Jack St. Pierre (Olaf).

Photo by Howard Sordo/The Gazette

Now thru Jan. 26, At Aldergate Church Community Theater (ACCT), 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, the show expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. Showtimes are Friday, Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. Visit the website: http://acctonline.org/

The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28.

Student Art Exhibit

Feb. 7 to March 28, At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28 for its fifth year. 2020’s experience will feature over 90 Alexandria high school students representing six high schools including public, private, and independent spanning over 10 different mediums of art. Returning for 2020’s collaborative event are students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, St. Stephen’s St. Agnes School, Commonwealth Academy, and The Howard Gardner School. Artwork Reception: Friday, February 21st, 2020. 7 – 9 p.m.

Mount Vernon Historical Presentation.

JAN. 10 TO DEC. 9, 2020
Life Drawing Sessions. At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Looking for a chance to hone your figure drawing skills? Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for just this purpose. Just drop in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint the live models. Fee ranges from $8-$12. All skill levels are welcome. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/life-drawing

THURSDAY/Jan. 23
Mount Vernon Historical Presentation. 7-9 p.m. At Martha Washington Library, 6414 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society presents: “The Demographic History of the Mount Vernon Area: 1940-2010.” Around 1940, the Mount Vernon area began to evolve from predominantly rural to suburban. Using color graphics, this presentation will reveal interesting information regarding the characteristics and origins of the people living in the community. They will show trends in population growth, labor force, housing status, and educational levels over the last 70 years with specific details from 1940 on four communities in the Mt. Vernon area: Belle Haven, New Alexandria, Gum Springs and Springbank.

Civil War at Carlyle House. 7 p.m. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Through images, letters, and diaries, Andrea Tracey, Executive Director of the Carlyle House, explores the histories of the nurses, doctors, stewards, soldiers and Alexandria residents who found themselves at the Carlyle House property and the Mansion House Hotel in what was known as the Manassas House Hospital during the Civil War. Discover how both the Carlyle House and the Hotel building were utilized during this tumultuous time in Alexandria and the nation's history. Tickets $15 or $10 Athenaeum Members. Friends of Fort Ward are invited to the Carlyle House. Visit the website: nvfaa.org

FRIDAY/JAN. 24
Garden Talk: Easy Houseplants to Grow. 1:30-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) No need to wait for spring to get your hands back in the ground. You can enjoy beautiful flowering and foliage plants right now, inside your house. Experienced houseplant providers will provide you with all the know-how you will need to successfully keep and care for your houseplants. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkevents (code F36.A05D) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

SATURDAY/Jan. 25
Innovation Day Workshop. 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At USPTO’s Madison Building, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria. The National Inventors Hall of Fame and the United States Patent and Trademark Office invite local teachers and school district officials to attend an “Innovation Day” professional development workshop focused on inquiry-based learning and invention education. Highlights designed to raise awareness of the importance of early exposure to innovation education and invention, include hands-on sessions where attendees explore NIHF’s Camp Invention pedagogy first hand, gaining access to instructional strategies that promote exposure to innovation education. To register for this free workshop, email Mike Sandridge at nsandridge@invent.org. Visit invent.org/educators/camp-invention.

Watercolor Workshop: Sketchbook Journal. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) No need to wait for spring to get your hands back in the ground. You can enjoy beautiful flowering and foliage plants right now, inside your house. Experienced houseplant providers will provide you with all the know-how you will need to successfully keep and care for your houseplants. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parkevents (code F36.A05D) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

See Calendar, Page 11

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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

FROM PAGE 10

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria / (16-Adult) Learn to bind your own sketchbook or journal using watercolor paper and other papers. Prepare and decorate pages with collages, paints, stamps and stencils. Each book will be unique and a reflection of you. $94 per person (plus a supply fee of $15 payable to instructor that includes everything you will need for this class). Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/partakes (code C658564) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

Tasting Program: Burns Night Scotch Tasting, 4-6 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria / (21-Adult) Celebrate Scotland’s national poet, Robert Burns, with a special Scotch whisky tasting. Learn about Scotland’s water of life and enjoy samples from each Scotch-producing region. Discover Burns Night supper traditions and raise a glass to Scotland’s favorite dish: the haggis! Delicious Scottish accompaniments will be served. $45 per person. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/partakes (code A1A81F0) or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

NOW THRU JAN. 26

Alexandria Winter Restaurant Week. To be held in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and Eisenhower, and the West End. For 10 days and two weekends, 70 restaurants in Alexandria, will offer a $35 three-course dinner for one. Some restaurants will also offer lunch menus at $15 or $22 per person in addition to the dinner specials. Brunch lovers can enjoy brunch menus for $15 or $22 per person at more than a dozen restaurants. New participants include Augie’s Mussel House & Beer Garden, The Study at Morrison House, Rus Uz – Alexandria and Mai Thai. Returning participants include Columbia Firehouse, Del Ray Café, Jackson 20, The Majestic, Sunday In Saigon, Theismann’s Restaurant and Urbano 116. Restaurants with lunch offerings include Bastille Brasserie & Bar, Hummingbird, Mason Social, Tequila & Taco and Yunnan by Potomac Noodle House. Restaurants with brunch menus include Café 44, Clyde’s at Mark Center, Sonoma Cellar and Vasso’s Mediterranean Bistro. Guests will find a book of menus on www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com.

SUNDAY, JAN. 26

Winter Lecture: Bunny Mellon’s Oak Spring Gardens. 1:30-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. See Calendar. Page 12

The Yale Whiffenpoofs will perform on Friday, Feb. 7 at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Yale Whiffenpoofs Perform

Friday/Feb., 7:30 p.m. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. The Alexandria Harmonizers present the Yale Whiffenpoofs. The group, now with women, is the world’s oldest collegiate a cappella ensemble and celebrated for its excellence. The award-winning Harmonizer chorus, now in its 72nd year, will also perform. Cost is $30. Visit the website: www.harmonizers.org.
The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is presenting "A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder" from now through Feb. 8, 2020. The story centers on a distant heir to a family fortune who sets out to speed up his inheritance with a plot of succession by using a great deal of charm and a dash of murder. This Tony Award-winning musical comedy is a murderous romp filled with lighthearted laughs and show-stopping performances. The show is based on the book and lyrics by Robert L. Freedman and music and lyrics by Steven Lutvak.

Director Frank D. Shotts II said when he first saw this production on Broadway in 2014, he knew this musical was the perfect fit for LTA and its audience. "It’s fun, Gilbert-and-Sullivan-esque style, sophisticated wit, and who does it and how plot are types of shows our audiences like. ‘A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder’ offer all in one nice package!” said Shotts, who is now in his 30th year of directing for LTA.

He added: “This play is offered up for pure fun and enjoyment. I hope the audience appreciates its almost comedic of manners humor and story-telling; good people behaving badly.”

Producer Mary Beth Smith Tooney said: “I am producing ‘A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder’ because I fell in love with the show when I saw it at the Kennedy Center. The quick-paced comedy intrigued me as well as the premise. Also, working again with my fellow WATCH and LTA award-winning team of Frank D. Shotts II, Director; Christopher A. Tomasoni, Music Director; and Stefani Sittig, Choreographer, is great! We have an outstanding cast and crew working on this complex show. I want the audience to laugh, enjoy the show and be entertained.”

Katie Weigl plays the role of Sibella, one of the love interests for Monty (played by the charming Drew Goins). “Sibella is egocentric, superficial and vain, yet so blissfully unaware of her own faults that you can’t bring yourself to hate her. Her sense of entitlement and infallibility is ultimately her downfall. She’s laughable, yet relatable on some level. I think that’s true of all the characters in this show,” she said.

“I think speaking with a British accent has been more of a challenge than any of us anticipated! You’d be surprised how many ways you can pronounce the letter ‘W.’ We have a dialect coach who has been boundlessly patient with us.”

Allison Meyer plays the role of Woman I, which consists of many characters. “I play the Tour Guide, the Pub Owner’s Wife, Mrs. Petwbew, Phoebe’s Maid, a Newsboy, Mrs. Petbew, Selina Chard, and many more,” she said.

As far as audience takeaways, she added: “I hope audiences have a great time! This musical is witty, has beautiful music, and it really transports audiences to an unbelievable world. I hope they walk away with a smile and a tune in their heads!”

Jordan Peyer is playing Man I, which consists of multiple roles including small-town farmer Tom Copple and musical Dr. Pettibone. He said: “‘Gentleman’s Guide’ has a large cast of characters played by a comparatively small number of actors, so the major challenge for me has been stepping into the shoes of each character both convincingly and in rapid succession.”

Chuck Dluhy is playing nine different roles which are all members of the D’Ysquith family — an aristocratic clan in Edwardian England. “They include men, women, young and old such as an elderly inebriated clergyman, a muscular health nut, a closeted country squire, a benefactor of ‘a certain age,’ and a flamboyantly bad actress. This is not a spoiler since the plot is revealed early in the play that all my characters will be murdered!” he said.

Keirlynn Jones is playing the role of Miss Evangeline Barley, a Floradora chorus girl who has a secret fling with Asquith D’Ysquith. She is a ditsy, giggly character who runs off to a remote location until her and Asquith D’Ysquith drown while ice skating on a frozen lake (that Monty cuts a hole in, killing them). Asquith D’Ysquith drown while ice skating on a frozen lake (that Monty cuts a hole in, killing them). The scene is quite fun — from the floating body to Monty playing the violin. “I hope the audience sees the wit and irony of the show: ‘GGLAM’ makes fun of the upper class in a way that makes you fall in love with a murderer — it takes the white male privilege to a whole new level.”

LTA is presenting “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” from now through Feb. 8, 2020. Show times are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are $29-$34. The venue is located at 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA. Visit the website: www.thelittletheatre.com.

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**CALENDAR**

- **SATURDAY, JAN. 25**
  - **8 p.m. At The Athenaenum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria.** Enjoy the Swing Gurus, a gypsy jazz band that plays Belgian/French gypsy guitar and Django Reinhardt’s world-famous tunes as well as pieces of the American Songbook. In other words, the music always swings and the melodies always come unclouded. You are welcome to hum along or tap a foot and dance. Cost is $20. Visit the website: nvsfaa.org

- **SUNDAY, FEB. 2**
  - **10 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 5201 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.** Bring your children to the Alexandria Black History Museum for cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce history and promote diversity. The Museum Educator will be reading The Undeleted written by author Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Kadir Nelson. All ages are welcome, but most suitable for children 3-6 years old. Admission is $3 per person. Tickets are available online at alexandriava.gov/shop. Call 703-746-4356 or visit alexandriava.gov/blackhistory.

**A Few Homicides and Some Music**

LTA Stages “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder” by Steve Hibbard

**ENTERTAINMENT**

Drew Goins as Monty and Kristen Jepperson as Miss Shingle in the production of “A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder.”

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**FILL YOUR CART WITH FOOD FIGHTERS.**

In the Kingdom of Alexandria, we work hard to help our neighbors, our families and our communities to live healthier lives. This session with practical tips and strategies and have a chance to plan your trip and offer assistance to your menu. Though disease, and Cancer. Join in a lively discussion on disease fighting foods and ways to reduce sugar, fat, and salt in your daily diet. You’ll leave this session with practical tips and strategies and have a chance to sample items you will want to incorporate into your menu.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 28**

- **7 p.m. at Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria.** Bring your children to the Alexandria Black History Museum for cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce history and promote diversity. The Museum Educator will be reading The Undeleted written by author Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Kadir Nelson. All ages are welcome, but most suitable for children 3-6 years old. Admission is $3 per person. Tickets are available online at alexandriava.gov/shop. Call 703-746-4356 or visit alexandriava.gov/blackhistory.

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**FIGHTING POVERTY, FIGHTING HUNGER.**

**SATURDAY, FEB. 1**

- **10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 5201 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.** Selection of over 20,000 gently used children’s books, fiction, nonfiction, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, $1 for hardbacks, 50 cents for large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional. **Storytime with Young Historians.**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 31**

- **Travel Tech. 10:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. At Ellen Cloddge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria.** Before you explore the world, see what websites and travel apps are available to help you plan your next trip. In the class we will examine free apps and websites that can be used to plan your trip and offer assistance during your stay away. Please feel free to bring your device to follow along. Registration is preferred.

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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 31**

- **7-8:30 p.m. At the Walter Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, Alexandria.** Learn how to fill your cart and plan your menu to prevent Heart Disease, Type 2 Diabetes, and Cancer. Join in a lively discussion on disease fighting foods and ways to reduce sugar, fat, and salt in your daily diet. You’ll leave this session with practical tips and strategies and have a chance to sample items you will want to incorporate into your menu.

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**SATURDAY, JAN. 30**

- **10 a.m. – 12 p.m. At Ellen Cloddge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road, Alexandria.** Bring your children to the Alexandria Black History Museum for cultural stories and creative craft activities that introduce history and promote diversity. The Museum Educator will be reading The Undeleted written by author Kwame Alexander and illustrated by Kadir Nelson. All ages are welcome, but most suitable for children 3-6 years old. Admission is $3 per person. Tickets are available online at alexandriava.gov/shop. Call 703-746-4356 or visit alexandriava.gov/blackhistory.

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**FRIDAY, JANUARY 31**

- **12-4 p.m. At 6837 Corder Lane, Lorton.** Learn how your neighbors are modifying their homes for a better quality of life. Bring family and friends together in a way that fits your lifestyle. Create open, private, and specialized spaces for all to enjoy comfortably. Presented by Sun Design, an Architectural Design-Build firm. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignLine.com.

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**WASHINGTON GARDENER SEED EXCHANGE. 12:30-4:30 p.m. At Great Falls, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.** Washington Gardener Magazine is hosting the 15th annual seed exchange at Green Spring Gardens with lectures, face-to-face seed swap, and more. Bring your extra seeds to swap and leave with a bag full of seeds from new garden friends, and expert plant advising. Verified Friends members pay $7; non-members pay $15 (code C1E.4043), other guests $20 (code C1E.3800). Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parksakes or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-360-4000.
Roger Lee Amore, Jr., of Alexandria, Virginia, passed away on January 11, 2023, at Inova Fairfax Hospital, after a long battle with heart disease.

Roger was surrounded by his family who loved him deeply — his wife of 59 years, Debra Bray, and his children Ryan Amore, Carolyn Amore, and Devon Amore. Roger is also survived by his daughters-in-law Nina Arculan (Ryan) and Alexandria Simpson (Devon), his sister Patricia Megale, her brother-in-law Joseph Megale, and their four sons and families, as well as his brother-in-law Tim Bray, sister-in-law Kathy Bray, and their three children and families.

Born September 15, 1963, in Roanoke, Virginia, Roger is the son of Mary Elizabeth Rigle and Roger Lee Amore, Sr. He graduated from Jefferson High School in Roanoke, where he played football and baseball. Roger graduated from the College of William and Mary in 1985, where he was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, and went on to attend William and Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law, graduating in 1988. Roger was a Captain in the United States Army from 1985-1986 and a member of the Army Reserves from 1987-1993.

Roger was a highly respected and experienced lawyer in Northern Virginia, where he practiced law for over 50 years. After beginning his career as a prosecutor in Alexandria and rising to the position of Deputy Commonwealth Attorney, he then went into private practice in 1974 in Old Town Alexandria. Roger's private practice was primarily focused in personal injury litigation and estate planning. Roger was a skilled litigator and successfully tried many cases throughout Northern Virginia. He handled significant litigation in areas of medical malpractice, wrongful death, defamation, business relations, and clergy sexual abuse.

Roger was selected as a Virginia Super Lawyer in 2006 and 2007 and as a District of Columbia Super Lawyer in 2007 and 2008. He was a member of Outstanding Lawyers in America since 2002 and the Million Dollar Advocates Forum since 1997, and held an AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Roger is a former President of the Alexandria Bar Association, served as a member and former chairman of the Virginia State Bar Fourth District Committee on lawyer discipline. Roger loved his work because it afforded him the opportunity to work hard and help people in need.

In addition to sharing a loving marriage for nearly four decades, Roger has been in practice with his wife Debra at their firm, Amore & Bray PC, for the past 30 years.

Roger was heavily involved in his church and in the community. He served pro bono as legal counsel for Alternatives United Methodist Church, chaired the "Not Too Far From Home" fund to support individuals in the community, and served on the board of the Virginia United Methodist Foundation and the Josephine D. Daniels Foundation. A lover of music and art, he sang in the Alternatives 'Men of Note' choir. For many years, Roger also coached his children's sports teams, including Gunston and Alexandria soccer and Fort Hunt baseball and basketball.

By far, Roger's proudest accomplishment was his family. He was a doting husband and father, and adored by his wife and children. Roger instilled in his children the values of kindness, gratitude, compassion, respect, laughter, and hard work. A man of great integrity and faith, he inspired his children by his actions every single day. He believed laughter was the key to everything in life — he was a wonderful storyteller and always self-deprecating.

Roger was an avid sportsman who enjoyed being outdoors and running, skiing, playing golf, going to the gym, and playing endless hours of sports with his children. A lover of the natural world and all animals, Roger was the sole caretaker of all the family dogs over the years — Sasha, Ditto, and Sparkey, as well as Molly who survives him. He knew we will be so happy to be reunited in heaven with Sasha and Ditto... Sparkey less so.

Always a true Southern gentleman and a genuinely kind and gentle man, Roger made everyone feel at ease in his presence. Roger will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but his legacy will live on in the good deeds and lives of those who loved him.

Services to celebrate his life will be officiated by Reverend Dennis Perry and held at Alberton United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Virginia, on Friday, January 24th at 1 pm. Interment at Arlington National Cemetery will occur at a later date.

Mount Vernon Gazette ❣ January 23-29, 2020 ❣ 13
Treat One.
Get Two.

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I’m sure you regular readers are waiting with bated breath for the confirmation of my updated health status. Unfortunately, for the moment anyway, we’re still waiting for a definitive answer. Though the needle biopsy of my “Adam’s Apple” tumor did indeed confirm thyroid cancer, stage 2, no such confirmation or clarification of the origin was made, or whether it’s been thyroid cancer that I’ve been living with all these years, instead of non small cell lung cancer, stage 4 or not. However, there is a path forward. Surgery to remove my thyroid gland, along with my “Adam’s Apple” tumor, and possibly a lymph node is in the planning stage. As such, scheduled for next Friday is an appointment with a head and neck surgeon to discuss the possibility of my oncologist getting excited about as opposed to so far is that the surgery is usually outpatient, arrive in the morning and leave that afternoon. I’ll be bringing my dry cleaning. Apparently, this is the next step “on the road to find out” (Cat Stevens).

If I am able to have that same evening, I’ve been told by my endocrinologist that the recovery period is approximately two weeks. At present I don’t have the exact details of what “recovery” exactly means. If all goes according to the pre-surgical actually discussing the procedure with the surgeon consultation, a few weeks after the procedure, I will revisit my endocrinologist to have radiopaque calcium administered somewhere inside my body, I will be scanned by a machine looking exclusively for thyroid cancer. This will confirm, if in fact, I understand the process correctly, whether the tumors in my lungs are thyroid or lung cancer.

In the interim, I am to continue with my immunotherapy (“I.O.”) and any other appointments, scans, etc. I recall something that my oncologist said about my lung cancer tumors during his latest phone call. He said that my tumors never really acted the way he anticipated, as if they weren’t small cell lung cancer at all. And sure enough, some of them, as confirmed by the first of my recent two biopsies were thyroid cancer. As I’ve been joking, this is what my oncologist gets excited about as opposed to what yours truly would get excited about: a World Series Championship. And also, as he said, thyroid tumors are more treatable, with more choices and better outcomes - which is exciting for me.

OKAY. So I have thyroid cancer and it’s more treatable. Wonderful news. But do I have lung cancer? If so, where’s the future in that? Is it somehow no longer a “terminal” disease because “I’ve outlived my original fate” or do you have two year’s prognosis? Will I now be treated for thyroid cancer only to die of lung cancer? Moreover, am I now going to go through the thyroid twice, in two medical suites, for two different malignancies, one for each cancer? Have these multiple biopsies simply determined that the doctors were actually right - both cancers - and I’m just the unfortunate patient to be so wronged?

For 10 or so years until last January, I was treated for lung cancer - with chemotherapy. However, this past January, the Adam’s Apple tumor appeared and we switched to immunotherapy. The reason for the change: the lung cancer had spread, according to my oncologist. Now, a year later, the story/diagnosis has changed, thanks to my most recent biopsy. The tumor wasn’t lung cancer that had spread; it was thyroid cancer that had spread. I didn’t even know I had thyroid cancer. Now you’re telling me it’s spread? How lucky am I? Two cancers for the price of one. I guess this will make health insurance more affordable, sort of like buying in bulk at Costco.

The big question: did my lung cancer treatment inadvertently or event my thyroid cancer from manifesting/metastasizing or did in non-diagnosis allow it to grow unimpeded and now present this quite unexpected unanticipated complication? Explain though it may to my oncologist why I have’ve succumbed to my original disease, it doesn’t quite explain to me what the hell is going on and why.

Kenny Laurie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.
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1/31/20.
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FEATURED LISTINGS!

3 Level Entry Foyer!

Stunning Potomac River Views!
4296 Neitzey PI | $1,776,000

4 Level Entry Foyer, Grand Room Sizes, Elegant Interior Finishes, Elevator, Truly breathtaking master suite with dramatic river view, and 4 ½ bse private offices. Nothing was spared in creating this unique one of a kind masterpiece.

4 Finished Levels!

4116 Ferry Landing Rd | $878,500

Incredible row processor! Truly stunning property! Almost 6,000 square feet of living area, 5 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms, formal dining room, living room, family room, home office, recreation room, and a 3 car garage. This home has been completely updated with brand new kitchen and bathrooms, new hardwood floors, and new carpet. The home is move-in ready and is perfect for entertaining large groups of friends and family.

Natural Wonderland!

8335 Brambley Ln | $749,500

a spacious updated home on absolutely gorgeous lot here grounds. Open floor plan and site is huge. Bonus living in the backyard with plenty of space to entertain. The home is move-in ready and is perfect for entertaining large groups of friends and family.

71 Homes SOLD in 2019!

WHAT’S YOUR HOME WORTH?

Are you considering selling in 2020 or curious about current market conditions? Now is the time to contact us for a no obligation consultation.

Frequently asked questions include:

“Why sell now?”

“When is the best time to put a house on the market?”

“What repairs and updates make sense and which do not?”

Put our expertise to work for you, call us today!

703.283.9028

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