

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

APRIL 7, 2022

Trees or Bikes? Along Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, trees get the short end of the stick.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

Construction to improve and link the Mount Vernon Bike Trail along the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway is in its early stages and to clear the way, a significant number of trees have been cut down along the road.

According to the project team, there is no plan to replant additional trees when the project is completed, a county spokesperson said.

It's all happening right outside Margaret Roy's front door, and when she first heard about the project from neighbors, she thought the trail was going in on the other side of the main road, not right across from her house. "We didn't realize they changed the plan," she said. Roy frequently walks her dog Kiera, an Irish Doodle, to the Mount Vernon Estate and back and sees the need for the trail. "It's obviously not safe," she said. The overall traffic is behind her decision to sell the house where she's lived since 2004. "Too much traffic," she said.

With the warm weather approaching, work is picking up on the trail extension with the goal to complete it by next year. On the eastern side, crews are working on the bicycle bridge across Dogue Creek near the Grist Mill historic site. A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new bridge in January and currently there is much work going on laying the bridge



A pile of felled trees on the side of Mount Vernon Memorial Highway.



Improving the drainage in this corridor is one of the steps in this project.

parapets to mount the beams across the creek.

Further west of the creek, ground clearing is continuing and a supply of water main pipes can be seen near Patton Avenue, just off the highway. This is material for the installation of the underground retention system along Mount Vernon Memorial Highway at Old Mill Road intersection to reduce stormwater runoff, project information says. East of Patton, crews are clearing the roadside near Old Bridge Road for the crossing reconstruction that is planned in that area.

Safe Biking

In addition to creating a safer passage for area cyclists, the projects' other goal is to complete missing segments of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail between Richmond Highway and Southwood Drive. The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail is a designated National Scenic Trail corridor spanning parts of the Mid-Atlantic and upper Southeastern regions of the United States that connects various trails and historic sites. This portion in Mount Vernon was a missing link of sorts.

New crosswalks are going in at several locations, and pedestrian safety measures will include the installation of a "Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon" at Southwood Drive.

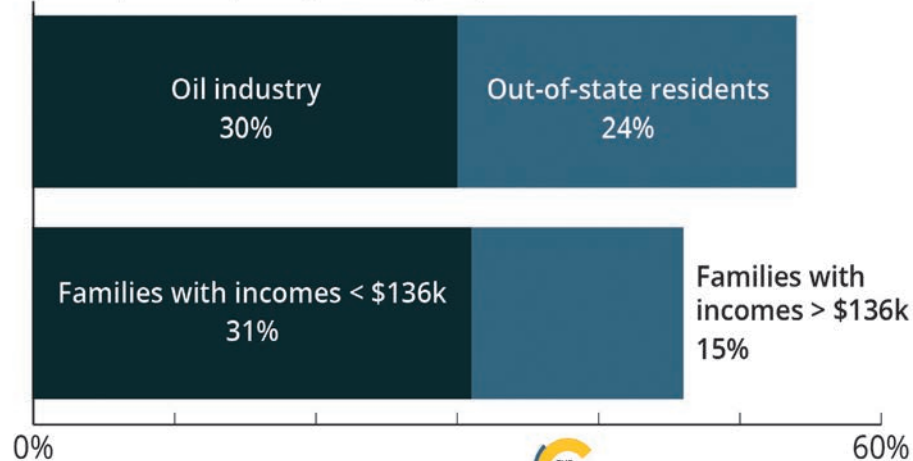
In addition, the installation of ADA curb ramps and bus stop improvements

SEE TREES OR BIKES?, PAGE 4

Off Target: Majority of "Savings" Flow to Oil Industry and People Outside of Virginia

54% of benefits under proposed three-month gas tax suspension will not reach Virginia families

Share of tax cuts flowing to each group



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, March 2022



Fossil Fuel Fiesta

Governor proposes gas-tax holiday, but will Virginians benefit?

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

A majority of savings from Gov. Glenn Youngkin's proposed three-month gas tax holiday would not go to Virginians according to data compiled by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy and the Commonwealth Institute. By looking at the experience of Illinois and Indiana, the groups determined that the oil industry and out-of-state drivers would drive into the sunset with a majority of the benefit. That would leave Virginians with an estimated 46 percent of the profits.

"If we get rid of the state retail gas tax, which is around 26 cents per gallon, the price

of gas would not automatically go down by 26 cents per gallon," said Chris Wodicka, a senior policy analyst at the Commonwealth Institute. "So that difference would effectively go to oil companies for them to add to their bottom line."

Rather than pass savings along to motorists, oil producers would end up raking in about a third of the profits. But that doesn't mean Virginia drivers will get to reap the rest of the benefits. Because Virginia is a tourist destination with three interstate highways, about a quarter of the remaining savings would be taken by people who don't live in Virginia.

"A significant slice of Virginia's gas tax isn't paid by Virginians in the first place. It's paid by tourists headed down to Williamsburg or Virginia Beach. It's paid by truckers headed up and down I-81, passing along their higher transportation costs to, in many cases, out-of-state residents."

A HISTORIC \$2.6 billion surplus created

SEE FOSSIL FUEL, PAGE 4

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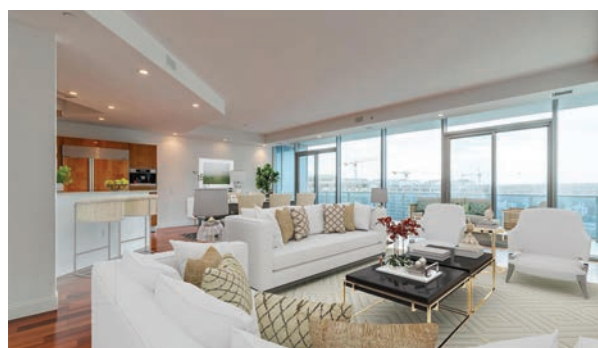
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Hometown Hero

Historic marker dedicated at Earl Lloyd boyhood home.



PHOTO COURTESY ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

Earl Lloyd, front row center, graduated from the segregated Parker-Gray High School in 1946. With him in front: Coach Louis Johnson, William "Red" Jackson, Rozier Ware, Horace Burton, Oliver Ellis and Henry Brooks. Back: Lee McCoy, Albert Burts, Robert "Tex" Matthews, Francis McGee, Louis Napper and Willie Rice.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Earl Lloyd, the first African American to play in the NBA, was honored April 2 with a state historical marker dedicated at the site of his boyhood home in Alexandria.

The historical marker was unveiled at 1020 Montgomery Street, just blocks from the site of the former Parker-Gray High School where Lloyd honed his craft.

"Today is a recognition of what Earl contributed to our society and to our world," said Dr. Frank Enty, a teammate of Lloyd's at West Virginia State University. "He made such significant contributions and few of us are able to do that. He made a mark."

In addition to Enty, speakers at the dedication included Mayor Justin Wilson, Alexandria Black History Museum Director Audrey Davis, Alexandria African American Hall of Fame Chairman Julian Haley and Lloyd's nephews Kevin Lloyd and Reginald Lloyd.

"Today is a big stepping stone for the younger generation," said Reginald Lloyd. "Young people today do not have the community leaders that we had growing up. The example my uncle set gives them something to look forward to and shows them that the future looks brighter."

Lloyd was born in Alexandria in 1928 and attended the segregated

Parker-Gray High School, now the site of the Charles Houston Recreation Center and home to the Alexandria African American Hall of Fame. At Parker-Gray, Lloyd played basketball and earned All-South Atlantic Conference honors three times and All-State Virginia Interscholastic Conference honors two times.

After graduating from Parker-Gray in 1946, he earned a scholarship to West Virginia State, where he led the team to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championships and made the Pittsburgh Courier's All-American team in 1949 and 1950.

After his graduation in 1950, Earl was drafted by the Washington Capitols, becoming one of four black players drafted to the NBA that year. He became the first African American player in an NBA game on Oct. 31, 1950. That milestone came days before other African American players made their debuts — "Chuck" Cooper on the Boston Celtics and Nat Clifton on the New York Knicks.

Lloyd's NBA career was interrupted by a two-year stint in the Army during the Korean War. He returned to the NBA in 1952 with the Syracuse Nationals, winning the NBA title game in 1955. With that victory, Lloyd and Jim Tucker were the first African Americans to win an NBA championship.

Lloyd retired as a player in 1960



JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Attendees listen to remarks from Audrey Davis, Director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, at the April 2 dedication of the historical marker at the Montgomery Street boyhood home of NBA great Earl Lloyd.



Dr. Frank Enty, a college teammate of NBA great Earl Lloyd, speaks to the audience at the April 2 dedication of the historical marker at Lloyd's Montgomery Street boyhood home.

and went on to become the first Black coach in the NBA. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003. He died in 2015.

A statue of Lloyd is on display at the Charles Houston Recreation Center. Enty was a featured speaker when the statue was unveiled in April of 2021, saying "This statue shows that someone coming from humble beginnings, from a segregated school in Alexandria, could

rise and become a notable figure in the history of athletics. It means that any youngster who has the ambition, the determination, the stick-to-itiveness can also rise to great heights. That is what the statue really represents."

Added Reginald Lloyd, who participated in the unveiling of the historical marker, "My uncle was the humblest human being I have ever met."

He was more than a great athlete, he was a great man."



Earl Lloyd nephews Reginald Lloyd, left, and Cornelius Lloyd, right, are joined by Derek Lymus in unveiling the historic marker at Lloyd's childhood home April 2 on Montgomery Street. Lloyd was the first African American to break the color barrier in the NBA in 1950.

Trees or Bikes?

FROM PAGE 1

will occur at several locations. At Grist Mill Park, the pedestrian crossing is being moved westward so pedestrians will cross Mount Vernon Memorial Highway before the park access road rather than after it, as it is

now.

The Mount Vernon Trail is approaching its 50th anniversary, and the Friends of the Mount Vernon Trail is planning a ceremony on April 16 at Daingerfield Island to celebrate the milestone.



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

In late March, there were lane closures on Mount Vernon Memorial Highway as work continues.

Poetry Month in Fairfax County

ArtsFairfax and more than 20 representatives associated with Fairfax arts and culture celebrate National Poetry Month this April when they share the work of contemporary American poets. Beginning with Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive, who reads “Crossing” by Jericho Brown, the ArtsFairfax initiative is part of Poetry Lives Here, a community service project by inaugural Fairfax Poet Laureate, Nicole Tong.

“My goal with Poetry Lives Here was to get people from all walks of life listening to each other while participating in literary arts in a personal way,” says Ms. Tong, who created the Twitter account @PoetryLivesHere to further engagement and amplify the voices and cultures of a diverse representation of living poets.

“Nicole’s Poetry Lives Here initiative, as well as her overall commitment to the Poet Laureate Program, aligns so perfectly with ArtsFairfax goals to inspire community-wide ex-

change of ideas, stories, and culture throughout the County,” adds Linda Sullivan, President & CEO of ArtsFairfax. “Through our Poet Laureate Program, we want to show Fairfax County residents that poetry is just as diverse and vibrant as the communities they represent.”

The Fairfax County Poet Laureate Program is designed to raise the visibility of poetry by supporting a leadership role for a local poet to engage new audiences and create opportunities for poetry to be shared throughout the County. The Poet Laureate Program is a two-year appointment that results in a community service project and an original poem inspired by the poet’s experience, among other outcomes. Applications for the next Fairfax County Poet Laureate will open this June.

About Poetry Lives Here

As the inaugural Fairfax County Poet Laureate, Nicole Tong created

Poetry Lives Here as a two-pronged approach to enliven local interest in contemporary poetry. In addition to the digital content created in celebration of National Poetry Month, Ms. Tong also partnered with George Mason University MFA poetry students to conduct a residency at the County’s Juvenile Detention Center. Together, these initiatives have raised Fairfax community awareness of living American poets and how they reflect the diversity of voices and cultures in this nation.

About ArtsFairfax

ArtsFairfax is the nonprofit designated as the local arts agency for Fairfax County. Dedicated to the belief that arts are essential to a thriving community, the ArtsFairfax mission is to expand support for and access to arts and culture opportunities for Fairfax County’s more than 1.2 million residents. By offering informational, financial, and programmatic services, ArtsFairfax promotes the role of arts and culture to deepen social engagement, create a sense of place, and fuel economic growth.

Reader Schedule:

APRIL 1

Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive — “Crossing” by Jericho Brown

WEEK OF APRIL 4

Luisa A. Igloria, Poet Laureate of Virginia — “Creed for the Drowned” by Luisa A. Igloria

Rick Davis, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, George Mason University

— “Emily Dickinson at the Poetry Slam” by Dan Vera

Roseanne A. Brown, New York Times Best-Selling Author — “There are No Unsacred Spaces” by Cynthia Manick

Sarah Scalet, National PTA Arts in Education Fellow — “The Best of It” by Kay Ryan

K. Lee, Dentist — “The Edges of Time” by Kay Ryan

WEEK OF APRIL 11

Allen Lynch, National Museum of the United States Army — “A Hero’s Welcome” by Robert Longley

Jessica Finley, Educator — “Night Bloom” by Crystal Williams

Andrew Savoia, Cellist — “Round 3” by Eloisa Amezcua

Jamika L. Helem, Counselor, Fairfax County Juvenile Detention Center — “We Host These Variables” by Jasmine Mans

Jessica Wallach, Photographer and Educator — “This is About a Body” by Laureen Summers

WEEK OF APRIL 18

KaNikki Jakarta, City of Alexandria Poet Laureate — “Poised and Posed” by KaNikki Jakarta

Rita Feinstein, Writopia Lab D.C. Regional Manager — “The Lushness of It” by Mary Szybist

Sushmita Mazumdar, Artist, Educator, and Commissioner, Virginia Commission for the Arts

— “Mountain Dew Commercial Disguised as a Love Poem” by Matthew Olzmann

Danielle Badra, Poet and Fairfax County Government Management Analyst and Technical Writer

— “The Phillips Collection” by Danielle Badra

Manuela Quintero Fehr, ArtsFairfax Digital Media and Outreach Manager — “Mambo” by Jaime Manrique

WEEK OF APRIL 25

Jessica Rapisarda, Woodlawn-Pope Leighey Fellow, NOVACC Professor, Poet — “Maker” by Jessica Rapisarda

Trini Rogando, 2022 ArtsFairfax Scholarship Winner, Scholastic Writing Gold Key Awardee

— “First-Gen Poet as Percussion Rehearsal” by Trini Rogando

Linda Sullivan, ArtsFairfax President & CEO — “Two Hands” by Kim Roberts

Shelly Hazel, ArtsFairfax Board Chair — “Toothbrush to the Bicycle Tire” by Sarah Kay

Nicole Tong, Fairfax Poet Laureate — “Theory for the Living” by Nicole Tong

Fossil Fuel Fiesta

FROM PAGE 1

a massive windfall for lawmakers, who are usually fighting over dwindling resources. This year, though, they got to fight over how to spend a giant pot of money. Republicans argued for tax cuts; Democrats pressed for services. Lawmakers left town last month without coming to an agreement, and then the governor suggested a three-month gas tax holiday.

“Virginians need tax relief and it’s time for the General Assembly to act on the multiple tax relief proposals,” said the governor in a written statement. “With gas prices and inflation squeezing families’ pocket books across Virginia and

the nation and with over \$1 billion in unanticipated revenue in our transportation fund, the General Assembly must act now.”

Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36) briefly tried a parliamentary move he hoped would have prevented lawmakers from considering any bill introduced by the governor during the special session. But after a consultation with Republican Lt. Gov. Winsome Sears, who has the power to rule the amendment out of order, Surovell abandoned his amendment to the procedural resolution. After lawmakers left town, Sen. Steve Newman (R-23) and Del. Tara Durant (R-28) introduced legislation on behalf of the

“Higher gas prices really hurt people, and people really notice it. It is so much more visible a tax than what’s withheld from your paycheck. As a result, politicians have to be acutely sensitive to gas prices.”

— Stephen Farnsworth, director of the Center for Leadership and Media Studies at the University of Mary Washington

governor to implement a three-month gas tax holiday.

“Higher gas prices really hurt people, and people really notice it. It is so much more visible a tax than what’s withheld from your paycheck,” said Stephen Farnsworth, director of the Center for

Leadership and Media Studies at the University of Mary Washington. “As a result, politicians have to be acutely sensitive to gas prices.”

THE ESTIMATED COST of the three-month gas tax holiday is \$437 million. The governor plans to pay

for the holiday using money from the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, which is expected to take in \$1 billion in unanticipated revenue. The bill seems poised to pass a Republican-controlled House, although Senate Democrats may end up rejecting the bill. Democrats say the Republican governor should not have called lawmakers back to Richmond when budget conferees had not yet reached a compromise.

“The governor thinks he’s still the co-CEO of a company — he’s not, he is the governor of the commonwealth of Virginia, and his glaring incompetence is beginning to harm Virginians,” said DPVA Spokesperson Gianni Snidle. “The governor is wasting taxpayer dollars to play political theater and it needs to stop.”

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PHOTO COURTESY OF FCPD

An example of the inside of a credit-card skimmer at a bank ATM.

If Something Doesn't Seem Right ...

How people may protect themselves from financial crimes.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

During the monthly meetings of the Sully District Police Station's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the guest speakers are often police officers who tell local residents about their jobs. Some also give information about how best to avoid becoming a victim of a crime.

Major Crimes Detective Satoria Reynolds works in the Financial Crimes Section. And at a recent CAC meeting, she discussed various scams and frauds being perpetrated and offered advice to people on how to protect themselves.

Starting with scams considered larceny by false pretense, she said they're accomplished by tricking and deceiving people. "Criminals convince you to pay them money – via gift cards, money orders, bank deposits and wire transfers – using false claims and deception," said Reynolds. "They contact you by phone, computer, email and mail."

She said the elderly can be easy targets because they are more likely to enjoy talking on the phone and less likely to be familiar with technology. However, she added, "I've dealt with tons of people who are extremely educated – and may even suspect they're being scammed – but still allowed a stranger remote access to their computers. The scammer tells them something's wrong with their connection or their computer has a virus, and they believe it. Or something pops up on your computer screen saying, 'You have a virus;'

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call this number."

Reynolds said spoofing "makes it appear that someone else is calling you. And if you get suspicious, they'll say, 'I'm a Christian; I'd never do something like that.' Or, 'I made a mistake and I'm afraid my boss will fire me if you don't do this.' They may even make it appear like they've deposited money in your bank account, but they haven't."

There are many common scams. For example, said Reynolds, "You'll get a notice by email or regular mail saying you owe money to the IRS. But you'll have to pay with green dot cards. They'll have you take photos of the cards to prove you bought them – and once they have the numbers, that's all they need."

People are also fooled by a caller saying their grandchild, niece, nephew, etc., is injured, kidnapped or in trouble and you have to send money. Or someone will call with a phone number that looks legitimate and say they're from the Sheriff's Office. In these cases, said Reynolds, "They'll say you owe money, or they have a warrant for your arrest, but you can settle it by sending them the payment."

Romance scams can originate from dating sites, online purchases or someone claiming to want to be Facebook friends. But, warned Reynolds, "They establish relationships over weeks, months or even years. And once they feel comfortable, they'll say, 'I'm in trouble and need you to send me money.'"

Or people will think they're buying a pet from someone and make

a down payment, but the pet never arrives. In another scam, said Reynolds, "The caller will say, 'You won the lottery, but you need to pay taxes or fees on it, in advance, before the money can be released to you.'"

In other scams, criminals divert money from other people's unemployment checks or tax refunds into their own bank accounts. Or, Reynolds said, "People will create ads about a real home for sale – and get the money for it – but it's someone else's house they sold, not theirs."

Credit-card skimming is also a huge problem. It can happen at places such as gas pumps, ATMs, restaurants and grocery stores. "With Bluetooth, criminals can access people's credit-card information from afar, without being seen," said the detective. She then showed slides of skimmer devices, pinhole cameras in them and overlays that can be placed on credit-card readers.

When the victim inserts the credit card into, e.g., an ATM, the magnetic-stripe information is skimmed, while a hidden camera records the PIN number. This information is then transferred to new, counterfeit credit cards so criminals can either sell them online or use that PIN number to make withdrawals for themselves.

And in the case of credit-card fraud, said Reynolds, "Once they have your credit-card numbers, they can use them without having the physical card. Criminals frequently purchase gift cards, money

SEE IF SOMETHING, PAGE 7



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\$719,900

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Mount Vernon Gazette



OPINION

The Devilish Details of Tax Cutting

DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

Cutting taxes is either the theme or a promise of most every political campaign. States that are doing well should give some of the taxpayers' money back to them. States that are struggling should cut taxes to stimulate the economy. Whatever the promise it is important to look behind the numbers to fully understand the impact of cutting taxes.

Virginia is no exception. Leading up to the 2021 election the Commonwealth had been named the best state for business two years in a row with tax policy being a major consideration to receive such a recognition. A "rainy day" fund was in place and additional reserves were being maintained to stave off any dips in revenues. Regardless of these facts, the winning candidate had promised in his campaign several tax cuts if elected. Among those were doubling the standard deduction on the income tax, eliminating the remaining



proportionate tax, suspending the gas tax, and providing a tax holiday for small businesses. During the campaign, then-candidate Glenn Youngkin floated the idea of eliminating the income tax. To his credit when he learned that it would wipe out around 70% of the state's general fund and bankrupt state government he quietly dropped that proposal. It's one of those details that must be considered when discussing tax policy and which voters need to carefully examine when they hear a "too good to be true" promise. The General Assembly has not been able to agree to a final budget for the next biennium

SEE PLUM, PAGE 7

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SEE PLUM, PAGE 7

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Lively School Libraries

If you entered a school library today, you might be surprised that it is not the quiet tomb of books you remember from your childhood. An average day includes class visits for primary school read-alouds while caring for live chickens, groups of middle school students playing quiet games of chess and rowdy games of UNO during lunch breaks, and high school students engaging in rigorous inquiry with a wealth of

resources to create high-tech products. School libraries offer a safe space for students to visit during their day. For some the library is a respite from the chaos of the cafeteria, for others it is a second home where they come for a moment to catch their breath or catch up with friends and yes, some still come for the books.

Libraries are the point of inquiry for asking and answering questions, an inclusive place for collabora-

orative learning, exploration, and engagement. Professional librarians teach students how to be digital citizens and navigate the fast changing information resources, as well as curate a collection of books that reflect the diverse identities of their students. School libraries are active engaging places that deserve to be celebrated and recognized for the gems that they are in our communities. This is a far cry from peddling dangerous materials as the book banning supporters

would like you to think occurs in libraries. Librarians pride themselves on the relationships built over years of contact with students and the goal of fostering lifelong learning that prepares students for college, career and community.

This April, please join in celebrating National School Library Month and thank a school librarian for offering our students more than just books in the library.

Caroline Jolly



U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA) said he intends to support Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court.

Virginia's U.S. Senators Meet with Judge Jackson

On Monday, Virginia's U.S. Senators meet separately with President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nominee, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson.

"I'm really excited to meet the Judge. I have voted for her twice, but a Supreme Court matter is different than any other, and it's the most serious of any of the nominations that we vote for," said Kaine. "What a wonderful opportunity to have a great discussion, and I'm really looking forward to it."

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA) said he intends to support

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court.

"Judge Jackson is a trailblazer and a highly-qualified jurist. Her wide-ranging endorsements – from conservative jurists, civil rights organizations, law enforcement groups, and through her previous bipartisan Senate confirmations – speak to her sterling credentials," Warner said. "Her confirmation would also take a long overdue step toward making the composition of the Supreme Court better reflect the people it represents by finally including a Black woman."



On Monday, April 4, Sen. Tim Kaine met with President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who would be the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court if confirmed.

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A Connection Newspaper



OPINION

The Devilish Details of Tax Cutting

FROM PAGE 6

with the issue of taxes being the main hang-up and the Governor not being able to justify his proposals against the details of taxes and where the money goes. Everyone I know opposes a tax on groceries, and that is why the General Assembly cut the grocery tax with the exception of one and a half cents for education and transportation. For many rural areas with a limited tax base, groceries and gasoline were about the only items that could be taxed to provide some funding for their schools and roads. If the decision is made to cut the gas tax the responsible thing to do is to make up the losses to the small localities with state general funds that are currently going to other programs.

Another detail about the proposed gasoline tax that must be considered is the analysis of the Institute on Taxation and Econom-

ic Policy (<https://itep.org/>) that shows that 30% of the projected savings would likely flow to oil producers rather than motorists. Less than 30% the analysis found would go to Virginia residents, with the remainder going to trucking companies that buy a lot of gas in the state and out-of-state tourists who visit the Commonwealth.

The same organization looked at the proposal to double the standard deduction on the income tax and found that it would not help many Virginia families whose income is already too low to be taxed. Only high-income earners who have the least need for a tax break would benefit from this proposal.

The devil is in the details as is the case in many proposals, and the Governor needs to consider those details and give the General Assembly the opportunity to pass a responsible budget.

If Something Doesn't Seem Right ...

FROM PAGE 5

orders or electronics that can be resold."

She also discussed check fraud, which involves stealing checks from the mail, vehicles or homes. Criminals then either alter the checks or use the victim's name, plus his or her account and routing numbers, to create fake checks.

"With check washing, criminals use a solvent to erase the check's details to allow them to be rewritten, usually to withdraw money from the victim's bank account," said Reynolds. "But if people use a gel pen, instead of a regular pen, the ink is harder to wash off."

She also advised people to use online banking; instead of mailing checks from home, destroy their canceled checks and review their bank statements for any suspicious checks they don't recognize. Reynolds noted, as well, that sometimes, "Criminals will have other people deposit the [fraudulent] check in someone else's bank account, making it difficult for police to know which person did which part of the crime."

Regarding identity theft, she said people should be wary of strangers asking them to verify their personal information. "Then they'll have it to use for their own financial gain," said Reynolds. Most valuable to criminals are the victim's name, Social Security number, birthdate, address, driver's license

number, bank-account numbers or cards, passwords, phone numbers and biometric data, such as fingerprints.

Reynolds said people can tell if they're victims by:

- ❖ Looking for unexplained charges, withdrawals or checks on their bank statements;
- ❖ Failing to receive bills/statements; mail may have been stolen or diverted by a fraudulent change of address;
- ❖ Receiving credit cards not applied for;
- ❖ Having a credit card denied; and/or
- ❖ Receiving bills or calls from debt collectors about things they didn't purchase.

In summary, said Reynolds, "Trust your instincts; if something doesn't seem right, it's probably not."

You can Google 'scams related to so-and-so company' before sending them money. Pull on [credit-card readers] to see if a skimmer pops off, and review your credit history to make sure others haven't opened up accounts in your name."

In Fairfax County, she said, financial-crime victims may file their police reports online at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/howdoi/financialcrimes>. And, she added, "We can give you a verification letter proving you're a victim and weren't part of the fraud."

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NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2022

Virginia Room is Fairfax Library System's Research Lab

Many family historical mysteries are uncovered here.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

There was a Russian defector that wrote a book about his journey to the United States, and a local archivist found his book at a thrift store, spurring an investigation that led to the Virginia Room in the main library. She uncovered more about the man. "He died in Springfield, a really bizarre story," said Chris Barbuschak, a research librarian in the Virginia Room who helped uncover the mystery. It was just one of the many historical gems unearthed in this important source on this region's history. "We drill a little deeper," Barbuschak said.

More recently, a woman came in to find information on her Revolutionary War ancestor, and it was a success. "We were able to find the pension record from 1814," Barbuschak said. "We get all kinds of stories like that."

All this local history is stored in one form or another in Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room, where the county maintains a collection of regional history and genealogy, as well as local and state government information and legal resources. Staff collect the historical records of the people, associations, events and places of Fairfax County, Virginia. There are maps, an extensive photographic archive, manuscript collections, local newspapers, and rare books. Recently they were able to digitize a newspaper called "The Fairfax Herald," and now have issues on microfilm from 1886-1964.

The Virginia Room is an open, second floor room in the library that looks kind of like a loft due



Ean Eschenburg researches family cemeteries for a documentary film.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



A view from the front desk shows the overhead directional signs.

to the fact that it is open to the first floor. There are sections for periodicals, microfilm and historical books. The room is decorated by historical signs hanging on the walls to give a real historic feel for the place, including Thelma's Ice Cream from Great Falls.

Although there is much that the user can access by themselves, going to the front desk and asking a specialist is usually the first step.

"Each one of us has our own expertise," Barbuschak said.

Much of the material is on the shelves, but they do have a rare book room, temperature controlled for fragile materials.

On an inquiry about family cemetery records, for instance, reference material had to be retrieved from the back room. "More of our special collection," Barbuschak said.



Restoring the Fairfax Herald is one of the more recent projects.



The first set of files in this drawer is "Myths and Legends," like the Bunyanman Bridge for example.

The Virginia Room is on the second floor of The City of Fairfax Regional Library.

10360 North Street
Fairfax, VA, 22030-2514

703-293-6227 option 6

TTY: 711

Send an email to va_room@fairfaxcounty.gov



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Lyn McKinney, branch manager at Sherwood Hall Library is recognized by William Conley, Mount Vernon Rotary Club member.

Mount Vernon Rotary Club Recognizes the Work of Sherwood Hall Library

BY MIKE SALMON
THE MOUNT VERNON
GAZETTE

The Mount Vernon Rotary Club recently recognized Sherwood Hall Library for being a significant part of the community for the past 50 years. Since 1972, Sherwood Hall Library has been active in the Mount Vernon community providing opportunities for book clubs, AARP tax support, Tai chi and recently virtual reality experiences through Traveling While Black. During the Covid crisis literally thousands of bags of books were put together and distributed to patrons, providing an essential link to normal life. That program continues.

In 2022 the emphasis is on literacy.

Throughout the year, the "library is celebrating literacy in all its forms. Each month, participants enjoy programs, activities, resources and materials for all ages advancing various literacies," the club said.

In March emphasis has been on sports with financial literacy following in April.

For their efforts, the Mount Vernon Rotary Club presented gift cards for Primo's Restaurant in Belle View to the Sherwood Hall Branch Manager and each member of the Library staff, thanking them for their service in the community.



Any copies needed require a credit card.



The authentic signs set the mood for historical research.

LIBRARY WEEK

Read And Feed

For several years, Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) has hosted a "Food for Fines" drive each fall as a way of facilitating food donations to our partner organization, Food for Others, which offers library cardholders a reduction on their fines.

As of Jan. 1, FCPL no longer charges overdue fines on most materials. To continue its partnership with Food for Others, FCPL is now hosting "Read and Feed" in April. Those who wish to give may simply drop off donations at any FCPL branch during its regular hours throughout the month of April.

Most needed items include: Oil; Cereal; Canned tomato products (crushed, peeled, diced, etc.), 4 oz. – 1 lb.; Canned meat (chicken, turkey, or seafood), 2 oz. – 15 oz.; Rice, 16 oz. packages; Spaghetti sauce, 14 oz. – 1 lb. (ideally in cans instead of glass); Canned fruit (packed in fruit juice instead of syrup) 11 oz. – 20 oz.; Dried or canned beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.); Pasta; Fruit juice (100% juice) 32 oz. – 64 oz.; New or clean reusable grocery bags; Can openers.

Food for Others is unable to accept donations of items that are expired, opened items, food that is not labeled, homemade items, cooked food, or toiletries

Celebrating Library Week With Pet Palaces


BY SUSAN LAUME
GAZETTE PACKETT

The American Library Association (ALA) says the best way to celebrate National Library Week, April 3 - 9 is to visit your local library. That's just what several area families did. Together attending Pohick Regional Library's Pet Palaces Program on April 3rd. Participants were invited to create a small dog, cat, or other small pet house from cardboard boxes and other materials. Librarian Sheila Shoup, who led the program, says it morphed from an earlier cat castles program to including small pets of all varieties. Of course, those pets were asked to wait at home to be surprised by delivery of the palaces after the event.

On-hand for animal testing, was therapy dog Max, a Yorkie, with his handler Nan Siemer. Siemer, a teacher, is experienced in child to dog interactions as the leader of

SEE CELEBRATING, PAGE 10

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Celebrating Librarians on Library Week

Pohick' Regional's Unsung Library Heroes.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Pohick Library branch manager, Andrew Pendergrass, says that National Library Week, April 3 - 9, could not have come at a better time this year. With the county's low Covid rate and relaxed restrictions (masks are now optional for patrons and staff), the library is beginning to open its programs again, as one would open the pages of a favorite book. The library also will return to its regular hours again on April 3, reopening on Sundays and Mondays.

This week is "to celebrate our nation's libraries, library workers' contributions and promote library use and support," states the American Library Association (ALA). Our local libraries became an oasis of entertainment and mental enrichment for citizens during the pandemic isolation period. Libraries, like Pohick with its 25 librarians and 12 pages, who sort and resolve books, made major changes to their operations to bring back access to books and other library materials. Libraries also provided a means for students without Wi-Fi access at home to get connected for lessons from closed schools. The efforts of the library system and librarians during those difficult times were a welcome relief to many.

Librarians were some of the unsung heroes of the pandemic response.

The theme for National Library Week 2022, "Connect with Your Library," promotes the idea that libraries are places to get connected to technology by using broadband, computers, and other resources. Libraries also offer opportunities to connect with media, programs, ideas, and classes — in addition to books. Pohick Regional Library, part of the Fairfax County library system, is planning a number of special programs to get connected as they notice higher numbers of customers returning. Says Pendergrass, "April is a special month with more in-person programming and a return of the very popular book sale."

Pendergrass highlights a few of April's upcoming programs. Beginning in the last days of March and carrying over to April 1st and 2nd is the Friends of Pohick Regional Library Book Sale; a popular event returning again after a two year hiatus.

Readers choose from a large selection of gently used books for children and adults.

Pop-up Story Time begins on April 7, 10:30 a.m. Participants enjoy 20 minute of outside relaxation on a blanket or chair while listening to a good story.

To create an opportunity for community sharing, the library's "Food for Fines" has morphed into a "Read N Feed" program after the elimination of overdue book fees. In the new program, throughout April, readers are invited to donate food and supplies and receive a tote bag, while supplies last.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/
THE CONNECTION



Loch Mitchell, 5 years old, Oakton, at the library to study anatomy, takes time out for a video game.



Pohick Regional Library, one of 22 libraries in the Fairfax County system, reopened in 2017 after closure for a two year, \$5 million renovation.



Celebrating Pohick librarians and pages: (seated) Shana Alterman, Atika Asadad, Matt Major, Davia Mertens, Karly Kremposky, Jasbir Kumar, Sara Meserve, Rebecca LaPlante; (back row) Sheila Cui, Kevin Stanton, Robin McEnerney, Jennifer McCullough, Jaana Williams, Andrew Pendergrass, Sunny Carito; (not pictured) JJ Dickinson, Darcee Huber, Beth Lee, Sheila Shoup, Jill Wright, Florence Whipple, Andrew Gentrup, Rene Royston, Bonnie Smith, Rand Alattar, Louise Albert-Yaffe, Melanie Alonzo, Raphaela Eleuterio, Israa Elhiralka, Sharon Hopkins, Nicole To, William To.

The "Make N Take" program for April highlights financial literacy month. Crafters will make and take home paper money after creating their own design and colors. No need to call in the Secret Service as the models used are unlikely to be mistaken for US currency. Another popular program with the younger set, "Read to a Dog", is expected to return soon. Check the library's event calendar for all program return dates and information. <https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar>

In the mid-1950s, research showed that Americans were

spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments. Not unlike the concerns about expanded use of electronic entertainment today, in the 1950's ALA was concerned that Americans were reading less, the ALA and the American Book Publishers formed a nonprofit citizens' organization called the National Book Committee in 1954. The committee's goals ranged from encouraging people to read in their "increasing leisure time," to improving incomes and health, and developing strong and happy family life. With the cooper-

ation of ALA and with help from the Advertising Council, the first National Library Week was observed in 1958 with the theme "Wake Up and Read."

What's the best way to celebrate national Library Week today? ALA urges, "Visit your library!". Whether you're visiting in person or virtually, libraries offer the opportunity to connect with new worlds through access to technology, multimedia content, and educational programs. You are urged to visit to see all they have to offer.

LIBRARY WEEK



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/
THE CONNECTION

Stella, 9, and Zeb, 6, home schooled, with their dad, built a palace with hamster-ready tunnels.



Max gives the Lee family dog palace, which honored him with his name over the door, a paws up rating.



Estela Mooney and Max prove Lolo's cat house is a palace that delivers smiles.

Celebrating Library Week With Pet Palaces

FROM PAGE 9

Kingstowne Library's past "read with a dog" program. It appeared Max was favorably impressed with all the construction efforts, although it's possible he was influenced by the ready availability of treats during each test. Those humans present were also impressed with the level of creativity and engineering prowess of kids, moms, and dads. This reporter is predicting the ready acceptance of all the palaces when they arrive home, even by those most particular of animals — housecats. What do you say, Lolo, Luna, and Cleo? Hamsters are likely still running the tubes and unavailable for comment.

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LIBRARY WEEK 2022

Friends of the Library

Library branches of the Fairfax County Public Library are aided by their Friends group. These individual groups support, assist and promote library activities for the local community. Every Friends group makes valuable contributions to the entire library, as well as their own branch.

Friends activities vary depending on the needs of the individual community. Most Friends groups hold book sales, and the proceeds are donated back to the library to help the library acquire books and equipment as well as sponsor programs and exhibits beyond the library's operating budget. You can become actively involved or simply have the satisfaction of supporting a worthwhile cause. Consider donating your used books to the library for sale during Friends' book sales.

Learn more about individual Friends groups on their web pages:

Access Services Advisory Group <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-access-services>

Friends of Burke Centre Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-burke-centre>

Friends of Centreville Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-centreville-regional>

Friends of Chantilly Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-chantilly-regional>

Friends of City of Fairfax Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-city-of-fairfax-regional>

Friends of Dolley Madison Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-dolley-madison>

Friends of George Mason Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-george-mason-regional>

Friends of Great Falls Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-great-falls>

Friends of Herndon Fortnightly Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-herndon-fortnightly>

Friends of Kings Park Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-kings-park>

Friends of Kingstowne Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-kingstowne>

Friends of Lorton Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-lorton>

Friends of Martha Washington Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-martha-washington>

Friends of Oakton Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-oakton>

Friends of Patrick Henry Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-patrick-henry>

Friends of Pohick Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-pohick-regional>

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Friends of Richard Byrd Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-richard-byrd>

Friends of Sherwood Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>

Friends of Thomas Jefferson Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-thomas-jefferson>

Friends of Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-tysons-pimmit-regional>

Friends of Virginia Room <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-virginia-room>

Friends of Woodrow Wilson Library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-woodrow-wilson>

BULLETIN BOARD

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

United Community (formerly UCM), 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, seeks volunteers for Food Pantry assistance, Early Learning Center teacher aides, basic needs counselors, youth tutors and mentors, office administration/data entry, and community outreach. Flexible hours and schedules. Opportunities for all ages to serve, including community service hours. More info at ucmagency.org/volunteer-opportunities or

email volunteer@ucmagency.org.

Operation Paws for Homes, a Virginia based 501(c)(3) organization seeks volunteers, especially to foster dogs. See www.ophrescue.org for information and all volunteer opportunities. Fairfax County's Community Services Board is seeking volunteer office assistants. Volunteers are needed to assist CSB staff with greeting guests, making reminder phone calls, data entry, filing, shredding, stocking shelves, and other duties as needed. Hours are flexible, but would be during normal business hours. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

THE CONNECTION

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Where to Eat Outside?

As spring's milder weather invites diners outside, Alexandria, offers plentiful al fresco options in Old Town, Del Ray and beyond.

Here are some of Alexandria's best outdoor dining spots:

❖ **Waterfront Wow Factor:** Let the Potomac River breeze ease you into the weekend at BARCA Pier & Wine Bar

and Ada's on the River, or raise a glass in the midst of the buzzing waterfront at Vola's Dockside Grill (check out Vola's Spring Oyster Festival this Saturday, April 2).

❖ **Riverside Lounges:** Gather your crew on the cozy couches outside Blackwall Hitch, or indulge in a seafood-infused brunch at Hummingbird.

❖ **Beloved Backyards and Patios:** Check out community favorites with creative al fresco spaces, including The Front Porch and The Back Yard at regionally acclaimed Evening Star Café. Explore the beer garden or Lena's Oasis outside Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza & Tap or Virtue Feed & Grain's laid-back patio.

❖ **Street-side People Watching:** Be transported to a French bistro outside Fontaine or watch the world go by on King Street at The Warehouse, Landini Brothers and Vaso's Mediterranean Grill.

❖ **High-Level Hideaways:** Order a cocktail (or mocktail) from Café 44's terrace bar with the Potomac River as your backdrop, or feel on top of the world at Daniel O'Connell's second floor patio above bustling lower King Street.

❖ **Buzzing Courtyards:** King & Rye's Cocktail Garden returns April 21 with stellar cocktails and a summer music series, while Sonoma



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❖ **Casual Beer Gardens:** Gather for happy hour at Augie's expansive beer garden, take the whole family to The Garden Del Ray or bring your four-legged friends to Hops N Shine's backyard in Arlandria.

❖ **Peaceful Parklets:** Grab a seat at Cheesetique's spacious "meadow" for a decadent grilled cheese or charcuterie board, or head to parklets in Carlyle to enjoy Tequila & Taco or Sweet Fire Donna's.

More information on the top spots to dine outside in Alexandria: The Best of Outdoor Dining in Alexandria, VA <https://blog.visitalexandriava.com/outdoor-dining/>

NEW EXHIBIT AT MOUNT VERNON

George Washington's Mount Vernon unveiled an expansive and inclusive new permanent exhibition, Mount Vernon: The Story of an American Icon. The exhibition traces the rich and complex history of Mount Vernon—not only the celebrated era of George and Martha Washington, but the lesser-known stories of the enslaved community, earlier and later generations of Washingtons, and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association (MVLA), which has preserved the property since 1860. The exhibition represents the largest reunion of original Mount Vernon objects since the dispersal of George and Martha Washington's estates in 1802.

NOW THRU MAY 5

Solo Art Exhibition. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Art & Framing, 694 N. St. Asaph St., Alexandria. Art & Framing will be home to the exhibition "Works from Nature's Jewel Tones: Paintings by Kathleen Callery. The show features 20 of Callery's works. The jewel tones found in nature have been the main inspiration for these paintings--Kathleen Callery.

NOW THRU APRIL 17

Forces Fleeting. At The Athenaeum Gallery, Alexandria. Opening Reception, Sunday, March 13, 4 — 6 p.m. Artist Talk, Saturday, April 9 at 2 p.m. Forces Fleeting is a mixed-media exhibition of new works by artists Nikki Brugnoli and Anne C. Smith, in the first joint installation by the two longtime friends and collaborators. In very different ways, both women explore the transformative power of landscape, with Brugnoli's gestural screenprint drawings on mylar and wood panels and Smith's dark pencil drawings on stained linen.

NOW THRU APRIL 30

Second Life Exhibit. 6 p.m. Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday; 9 p.m. Friday. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. The "Second Life" exhibit features art made with recycled materials. Workshops and events are also scheduled throughout the month. Details: delrayartisans.org/calendar/#event=second-life

NOW THRU JUNE 5

"SeeWorthy" Exhibit. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Studio #9, Alexandria. View ship construction through the eyes of maritime archaeologists in SeeWorthy, a new exhibit from Alexandria Archaeology highlighting the technology used to digitally reconstruct historic vessels. Recent development along the waterfront has led to significant discoveries by archaeologists, including the remains of four historic ships. These remnants have been laser scanned to create models showing what they would have looked like in the late 18th and early 19th

centuries.

NOW THRU MAY 1

Cherry Blossom Exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Art lovers are encouraged to stop by the Torpedo Factory Art Center throughout April to view floral art displayed on all three floors. Participating artists will display their most colorful spring and cherry-blossom-inspired works in their studios from Saturday, April 2 until Sunday, May 1. Torpedo Factory Art Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Masks are required for all visitors regardless of vaccination status. Visit torpedofactory.org.

NOW THRU JUNE 12

MVUC Greenhouse Plant Sale. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Weekends only. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. The Annual Spring Plant Sale at the MVUC Greenhouse opens April 2 and 3, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., weekends only. They have a variety of vegetables and flowers for sale again this year. Lots of regular and heirloom tomatoes and not-too-hot peppers (more than 20 different varieties) as well as some of your favorite perennials, annuals, and herbs. Visit the lovely, old greenhouse and buy some new plants for your spring garden.

THURSDAY/APRIL 7

Joseph Ellis: The Cause: The American Revolution and its Discontents 1773-1783. 7 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon. One of the most celebrated historians of the Revolutionary era brings personal stories to life in this landmark work. Cost: \$60 individual lecture/\$175 series. Discount for members. For more information and to register visit mountvernon.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 7

Outdoor Cello Concert. 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. At the Rectory on Princess Street, 711 Princess Street, Alexandria. After a breathtaking debut performance in the Secret Garden in April 2021, internationally renowned cellist Amit Peled and his 1695 instrument by the Italian master Giovanni Grancino make a return appearance for a program built around the passion, seduction, longing and despair of Beethoven and Brahms's hidden love affairs. Part of the Sounds of Hope & Harmony series. More details and tickets on the website: <https://www.classicalmovements.com/secret-gardenconcerts/>

APRIL 8-9

"Anastasia!" 7 p.m. At Bishop Ireton School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. The cast and crew of "Anastasia!" is thrilled to present this lush, imaginative musical about love, family and home to the Bishop Ireton community. It is the first musical from BI since the spring of 2019 (2020's production of

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

ENTERTAINMENT

National Concert Band of America 47th Season

May 1st, 2022 -
An American Journey

The National Concert Band of America will continue its season with a free concert entitled "An American Journey" on Sunday May 1st, at 3 pm, Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Rd., Alexandria, Va. To be directed by Principal Conductor Adrian Holton, the concert will capture the sounds of what it is like to be an American, from our triumphs to our tragedies.

The concert opens with two pieces by Julie Giroux and Roger Zare about Americans leading the charge in the space race. The band will feature two staples of the wind band repertoire by Samuel Barber and Peter Mennin that are emblematic of the progressive nature of the U.S. Armed Forces during the Second World War and America's post-war, mid-century prosperity.

The program will also feature Frank Ticheli's An American Elegy, written in memory of victims and survivors of the school shooting at Columbine High School in 1999.

This free must-see concert offers snapshots of our American History, particularly in the 20th century. See you on May 1st at 3 p.m.

For more information, please visit the website at www.national-concertband.org.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

"Freaky Friday" was unfortunately cancelled just one week before opening due to Covid-19 and there was no musical staged in 2021, also due to the pandemic).

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Storytime with the Black History Museum. 10:05 a.m. At the Reading Garden at Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Explore the history of Alexandria's local African American community through books, stories, and songs. Geared for children ages 3-8, but all are welcome at this outdoor event.

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

The "Grandest Congress": The French and Indian War in Alexandria. 12-4 p.m. At Carlyle House Historic Park, Alexandria. Spring, 1755: Major General Edward Braddock, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, landed in Alexandria on March 26th to assume command of all North American military forces. He lodged at the grandest dwelling in town, Carlyle House. While staying at Carlyle House, Braddock convened a meeting of five colonial governors. Among Braddock's

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Obituary



Rosalie Johnson Mow, age 92, passed away peacefully on March 6, 2022 at The Fairfax, Ft Belvoir, VA. Rosalie was born on August 21, 1929 in Denver, CO to parents John and Rosalie Johnson. She graduated from Colorado College in 1951 and married Douglas Farris Mow, a young Naval Academy graduate, that same year. They raised four children together and were married for 47 years until his death in 1998. Rosalie lived in Mt. Vernon, VA for 34 years, beginning in 1973, and worked for over 20 years as a Reading Specialist in the Alexandria City School System, administering reading programs that nurtured students into successful readers. Rosalie is survived by her four children: Douglas Mow Jr., Deborah Mainwaring, Laura Luther and Nancy Sherick; three grandchildren: Brian, Todd and Jeff Mainwaring; and 7 great grandchildren. A funeral service will be held at St James Episcopal Church, 5614 Old Mill Road, Alexandria VA at 11AM on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. A graveside burial service will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Legals

ABC LICENSE

PGJ ENTERPRISES LLC trading as JUANA SUPERMARKET, 5838 N KINGS HWY STE C, ALEXANDRIA, FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA. 22303-2025. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a WINE & Beer off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. PINO GIBSON JR, MANAGING MEMBER. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

CALENDAR

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Whew!

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Did you hear that exhale about 10:15 this morning, Friday, April 1? That was me/my reaction after I received a second call from my accountant. Which was in response to hearing what my 2021 tax bill was calculated to be. It was marginal to say the least and incredibly amazing/lucky to say the most. The last thing I need during all this cancer stuff/expense, is substantial taxes, penalty, and interest due the IRS. If there's any subject, short of being a "terminal" cancer patient, which strikes fear and anxiety into the hearts and minds of us living and breathing tax-paying citizens, it is receiving an unexpected and beyond-one's-ability-to-pay, previous year's tax bill.

If there's any arm longer than the IRS', I don't want to have anything to do with it. The IRS is bigger and stronger and way more connected – and funded, than any of my presumptive representatives/defenders would be. If there's any fatherly advice that still resonates nearly 17 years after my father's passing, it is his advice pertaining to tax collection by the government. He would say, if you owe them, pay them, something, anything, and don't ignore them. Moreover, he would summarize tax arrearage with the following advisory: "It's their money and they want it."

A child during the Depression and a self-employed businessman for most of his adult life, he was keenly aware of the IRS. Mostly he lived by his wits and tried to color between the lines. He respected the government, especially the tax-collecting authorities, and so far, as I recall, was never in default or the subject of a judgment/any legal proceedings. He managed to work all those years without incurring the wrath of the dedicated public servants who strive to collect every dollar due – for the public good of course.

So, when I received that second call from my accountant ("the left-handed gun" is his nickname; he's left-handed) to tell me the net damage after completing my federal and state tax 2021 returns, would be hundreds, not thousands, neither of which I have readily available, I was, to invoke Hubert Horatio Humphrey, the democratic candidate for President in 1968, "Pleased as punch." And to invoke anyone whoever survived a duel at 10 paces with pistols: I feel as if I dodged a bullet. (Not literally. The IRS has many weapons at their disposal, few however, if any, include guns/gun powder.) That dodge being legit thanks to my capable accountant (not me). As such, I look forward to paying my fair share this year to the IRS/state of Maryland and will try to quarterly-plan a bit more for the next tax year ending 12/31/22 so that the pressure I began to feel on Jan 1, 2022 could be mitigated by the responsible actions I take between now and this next year's filing deadline.

Granted, I've survived cancer going on 14 years, and have been extremely fortunate to have done so. However, an IRS audit would be another matter entirely, and one I'm not sure I'd survive, at least not with the same vim and vigor with which I've endured my cancer diagnosis.

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

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CALENDAR



The Carlyle Spring Camp will take place April 11-15 at Carlyle House Historic Park in Alexandria.

FROM PAGE 13

objectives was to secure funding for his upcoming campaign against the French. Carlyle called this gathering "the Grandest Congress ... ever known on the Continent." Visitors to the Carlyle House will experience Braddock's visit and the French and Indian War firsthand through costumed interpreters. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Potomac River Cleanup. 9-11 a.m. Join the Friends of Dyke Marsh and the National Park Service for the 34th annual Potomac River cleanup in support of the Alice Ferguson Foundation. They will conduct a trash cleanup along the Potomac River shoreline in Belle Haven Park and the Haul Road Trail. Check in at a registration table in Belle Haven Park near the south parking lot or at the entrance to the Haul Road Trail. They will provide gloves, tools and trash bags. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, long pants and sleeves, gloves and sun protection. More event details and registration are available via this link: <https://forms.office.com/g/BuDrx9y9EL>

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Easter Egg Hunt. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At various locations throughout Old Town Alexandria. Bring your own basket and bunny hop up and down King Street and select side streets. Explore the map to find participating retailers, where you'll get an Easter treat and discover interactive activities at select locations. More details to come at oldtownbusiness.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Rock Gardens and Crevice Gardens. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. (16-Adult) Green Spring's rock garden and crevice garden area is in its prime in spring. Judy Zatsick, vice president of the local chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society, shows you the essential elements of a beautiful rock garden. We'll tour Green Spring's rock garden for a peek at choice plants that make their home there. \$18 per person. Code CHU.NE8P. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Alexandria Wedding Showcase. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At The Alexandrian Hotel, 480 King Street, Alexandria. Ticket-holders will get the chance to talk one-on-one with more than 25 vendors including caterers, florists, photographers and more. Attendees will also be able to sample wedding cake and appetizers, visit a pop-up Wedding Showcase Lounge in The Alexandrian's brick courtyard, meet wedding planners, explore reception tablescapes and much more. Tickets for the wedding showcase are \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. VIP tickets, which include brunch with Durham before the showcase, are \$75 per person. Tickets are available at AlexandriaWeddingShowcase.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Cherry Blossom Jubilee. 12 to 3 p.m. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Celebrate the cherry blossoms during the height of D.C.'s National Cherry Blossom Festival. After Saturday's Cherry Blossom Parade in the District, stop by the heart of Alexandria the next day to enjoy cherry blossom-themed activities and other events. Kick off the celebrations at noon with a live performance by taiko drum group Nen Daiko on the waterfront side of the Art Center. Afterwards, view the Art Center-wide exhibition of cherry blossom-inspired works by resident artists and galleries while enjoying music and live art demonstrations from participating artists. Visit torpedofactory.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Stories in the Architecture. 2 p.m. At Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, Alexandria. Explore the history of the Lee-Fendall House through its architecture and visit parts of the house that are not regularly open to the public. See how changes in style and home technology have left their mark on the home, from when it was built in 1785 through the twentieth century. Advance ticket purchase is required as the tour is limited to 12 participants. Call 703-548-1789 or email contact@leefendallhouse.org.

APRIL 11-15

Carlyle Spring Camp. 9:30-11:30 a.m. At Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Discover your inner archaeologist and architect. Learn about archaeology and architecture. Cost: \$12 per child per day. Visit the website: <https://www.novaparks.com/parks/carlyle-house-historic-park/events/spring-break-camp-at-carlyle-archeology-architecture>

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

From A to Z: Arias to Zarzuela. 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. At The Rectory on Princess Street, 711 Princess Street, Alexandria. Judy Yannini, soprano, Emily Baltzer, piano co-presented with IN Series an artist fast on the rise, Mexican soprano Judy Yannini makes her Secret Garden debut in an incandescent program of selections from vibrant zarzuelas and beloved operas, presented in partnership with IN Series. Visit www.classicalmovements.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 19

Your Family Timeline. 1-3 p.m. Via Zoom. At 7701 Stone Wheat Court, Alexandria. Learn how to create a timeline to advance your family search from renowned professional genealogist, author, and teacher, Sharon Hodges. Hodges will present at the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society's April 19 meeting. Visit the website: <https://mvgenealogy.org/eventListings.php?nm=20#er534> Register via email at contact-us@mvgenealogy.org. Find out more about this free meeting and other MVGS activities at <https://mvgenealogy.org/eventListings.php?nm=20#er534>.

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