

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

FEBRUARY 2, 2023



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The SuperKids Pediatric Dentistry office is open accepting patients. Dr. Ben Liu, center, cuts the ribbon on this beautiful new children's dental clinic.



Larry Newman, center, and Supervisor Dan Storck, cut the ribbon to open the new Only Bathrooms showroom on Sherwood Hall Lane.

Mount Vernon Sees Openings of New Businesses

BY DAVID GRIFFIN
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

This past January alone saw three new businesses celebrate their grand openings in Mount Vernon: Only Bathrooms, SuperKids Pediatric Dentistry and LIGHT by Alexandria Electric.

On Jan. 10, Only Bathrooms owner and Northern Virginia native Larry Newman, with the help of Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck, cut the ribbon for their newest showroom located at 7906 Andrus Road.

Only Bathrooms is a local, family-owned residential bathroom remodeling company specializing in, you guessed it, only bathrooms. As with many of the grand openings, guests enjoyed special hors d'oeuvres as they explored the many bathroom fixtures and finishes on display. See more at [onlybath-](http://onlybathrooms.net)

rooms.net.

Two days later and less than a mile away, SuperKids Pediatric Dentistry opened their fifth office. In addition to Mount Vernon, SuperKids is also located in Alexandria, Sterling, Rockville and Potomac. Originally from Chapel Hill, NC, founder and Pediatric Dentist Dr. Ben Liu received his Doctorate in Dental Surgery from Columbia University plus a two-year program in pediatric dentistry at New York University, before settling into the DC metro area in 2013.

Dr. Liu carefully crafted the office of SuperKids Pediatric Dentistry to help put anxious children at ease, parents to feel comfortable, and for "the experience from start to finish to be surprisingly amazing."

This statement rings true, as one only has to walk through the office to notice the bright orange, white and blue walls surrounding the modern dentistry equipment.



Tammy Finnell, Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber Board of Directors, presents the membership plaque to Kevin and Elizabeth Collins as they open LIGHT by Alexandria Electric.

Currently accepting new patients at the Mount Vernon office, which you can learn more about at www.superkidsdentistry.com.

For those looking to update their home with new lighting, LIGHT by Alexandria Electric had their grand opening on Jan. 18. Located in the Belle View Shopping Center, Kevin

and Elizabeth Collins wanted to open a store with local roots and a community focus.

Inside their impressive showroom you'll find dozens of brands and hundreds of styles for every room of the house, whether you are looking for wall fixtures, ceiling fans, lamps, outdoor lighting

or something else. The friendly staff are knowledgeable in the residential and commercial lighting industry and will help explain wiring and installation.

Their blog, www.lightbyaeblog.com, contains buying guides, styles, trends and plenty of information on choosing the right light for each of your rooms.

It can be exciting and reassuring to see new businesses opening in the area and speaks to the overall economic confidence and growth.

New businesses aren't the only changes in Mount Vernon. The newly branded Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce will have their monthly business breakfast on Feb. 9, when they will have a presentation focusing on major transportation projects in the area including the Richmond Highway widening, Frontier Drive extension and the Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).

Detectives: Possibly Justifiable Homicide

A teenage juvenile fatally stabbed his mother's boyfriend to stop him from assaulting her, according to Fairfax County police reports.

At 9:58 p.m. Monday, Jan. 30, officers responded to a stabbing in an apartment in the 7900 block of Janna Lee Avenue in Mount Vernon. The juvenile teenager called police to report he stabbed his mother's boyfriend to stop him from assaulting her. When officers arrived, they found Marcus Roberson, 32, of Washington DC, suffering stab wounds to the upper body. Roberson was taken to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced

deceased.

Preliminarily, detectives from FCPD Major Crime Bureau and Crime Scene Section determined Roberson was visiting the address when a verbal argument escalated into an assault. The juvenile teenager reported he stabbed Roberson to stop the assault. There were three other children inside the apartment that were unharmed. The woman was treated at the scene for injuries not considered life threatening.

Last night, after interviewing the juvenile teenager, he was released to his mother and has not been charged. Detectives continue to conduct interviews

and process evidence recovered from the scene to determine the circumstances that led up to the fatal stabbing. Detectives are investigating the possibility this is a justifiable homicide. Detectives will consult with the Office of the Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney to determine if charges will be filed at a later date.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will conduct an autopsy in the coming days to determine the cause and manner of death.

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is asked to call the Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 2.

Stuff the Bus, Feed Hungry Families

Stuff the Bus happens around Fairfax County and is an important event for area nonprofits to restock depleted food pantries to keep feeding hungry people. You can donate food and/or make cash contributions.

Stuff the Bus Mount Vernon District

Saturday, Feb. 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mount Vernon Shoppers,
7660 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22306
Benefitting United Community,
<https://unitedcommunity.org/>

Stuff the Bus Kingstowne, Franconia District

Saturday, Feb. 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kingstowne Walmart, 5885 Kingstowne Blvd.,
Alexandria, VA 22315
Benefitting Koinonia, <http://www.koinoniacares.org/>

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com

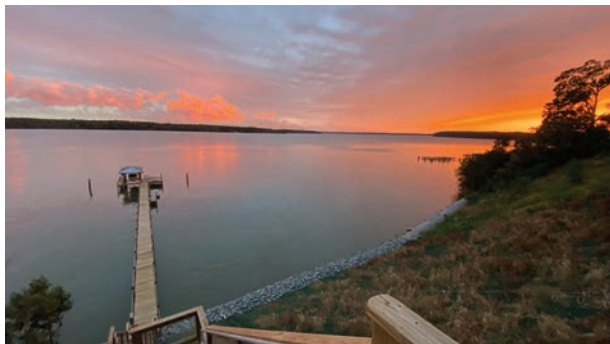
#WeAreAlexandria



Belle Rive | \$3,499,000

This stately and expanded Cape Cod was completely remodeled from top to bottom in 2017 and has breathtaking views of the Potomac River. The main level offers formal living and dining rooms, a gourmet kitchen and adjacent family room, large screened-in porch, and a primary en-suite bedroom. There is a delightful flagstone patio off the porch that overlooks a sprawling yard and a secondary brick patio with a built-in firepit. Stairs from the backyard lead down to a 275-foot pier with a dock and boathouse with lift. 4001 Belle Rive Terrace

Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658
www.tracybdunn.com



Old Town | \$1,765,000

With abundant sunlight from the south-facing balcony and primary bedroom, this 2-bedroom, 2-bath unit offers gorgeous views of the Potomac River. Delight in the convenience of single-level living at Robinson Landing! 310 Strand Street #301

Shirley Mattam-Male 571.220.9481
Ann McClure 301.367.5098



Old Town | \$1,595,000

This 1770s Georgian home was modest to begin with, but as the needs of various owners changed the house was expanded. Today its just under 3,000 finished SF with 3/4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and 2 gardens which provide abundant natural light. 304 N Pitt Street

Peter Crouch 703.244.4024
Katie Crouch 703.447.1345



Old Town Village | \$1,410,000

Fabulous 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath townhome offers light-filled rooms, hardwood floors, private office/library, handsome millwork and 2 gas fireplaces. Open chef's kitchen adjoins the breakfast area and family room. Attached 2-car garage. 1235 Roundhouse Lane

Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
www.BabsBeckwith.com



Beverley Hills | \$1,050,000

Updated 5-bedroom, 3-bath located on a quiet street that ends in a cul-de-sac. This light-filled home has it all – two fireplaces, multiple living spaces and even a downstairs kitchen. Dining room French doors open to a large screened-in porch. 3309 Carolina Place

Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



Tannery Yard | \$949,900

Brick, 4-level, 3-bedroom with loft, 2.5-bath end unit townhome tucked in the perfect courtyard. Living room with fireplace & a wonderful chef's kitchen with French doors to slate patio & garden. Assigned parking space. www.HayesWoodHomes.com. 529 S Saint Asaph St

Chris Hayes 703.944.7737
Gordon Wood 703.447.6138



Dumfries | \$789,000

Impeccable 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home with main level primary suite, vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace, & 2-car garage home in the amenity rich Potomac Shores community. Built in 2021 with loads of upgrades throughout. 1826 Thunderbolt Road

Heidi Burkhardt 703.217.6009
www.RealtorHeidiB.com



National Harbor | \$369,000

\$3K SELLER CREDIT AT CLOSING! Premium 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo in a gorgeous, contemporary community with luxury amenities including front desk security, fitness studio, outdoor pool, and courtyard. 1 assigned garage space. 145 Riverhaven Drive #460

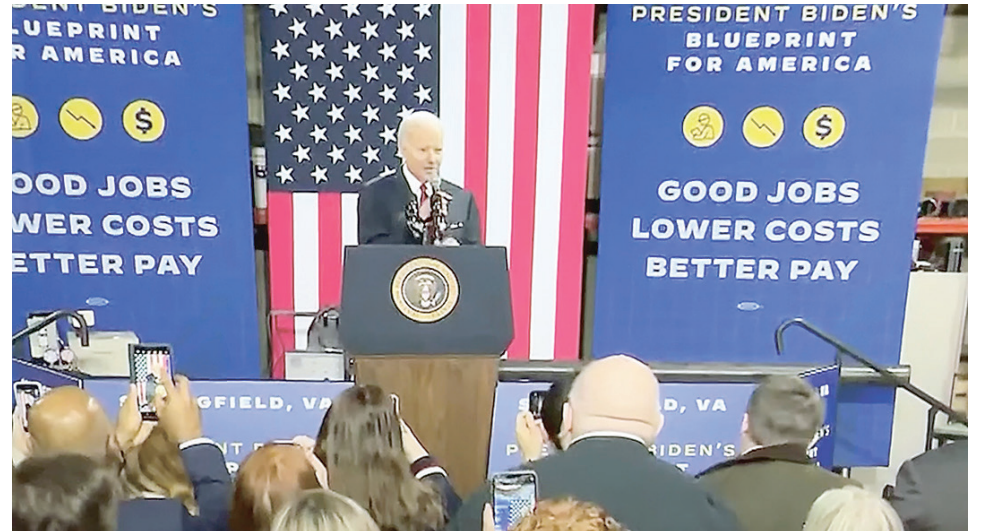
Jillian Keck Hogan 703.971.7655
www.JillianKeckHogan.com

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com





President Joe Biden moves through a crowd of invited guests to address Steamfitters Union Local 602 in Springfield



SCREENSHOTS PBS

President Joe Biden chose the Springfield union warehouse to delivery his speech on economic plan success indicators and plans going forward

Biden Delivers Speech on Economy in Springfield

Speaks to Springfield members of Steamfitters Union Local 602.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE GAZETTE

Springfield had a visit last Thursday from President Joe Biden. The visit was announced a few days prior at a White House Press briefing, for an undisclosed Springfield location. Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre shared that Biden chose our nearby suburb to deliver a major speech on the economy to steamfitter union workers who had benefited from his economic plan, following the good news of a 2.9 percent economic expansion in the last quarter.

In his speech, Biden shared recent evidence that his economic plan is working. He touted “a record of over 11 million jobs created, the two strongest years of job growth in history, 750,000 manufacturing jobs created, the lowest unemployment rate in 50 years, the best two years for small business applications on record, with annual inflation falling and wages rising over the last six months.”

He contrasted those successes and his plan to build the economy “from the bottom up and the middle out” with Congressional Republican plans. Biden described the GOP plans as “fiscally demented” to include, cutting Social Security and Medicare, which Republicans deny; and to establish a 30 percent national sales tax to replace income tax. Republicans filed that tax bill, dubbed the ‘Fair Tax Act’, earlier this month, which Biden predicted would increase taxes on working families, taxing everything, including homes, cars, food, rent, and clothes. Saying that even the House Speaker who brought the bill to the floor has said he’s not sure he’s for it now.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



The President was upbeat about economic signs saying, “We have more work to do but we’re on the right track. Families can breathe a bit easier.”

Often referring to his middle class upbringing, Biden expressed the need to protect the economic gains evidenced in rising wages and declining inflation. He observed that for decades the middle class was hollowed out by jobs sent overseas. Trickle-down economics didn’t trickle down to those with backgrounds like his father, who struggled to find work and then sold used cars, he said. “The wealthy still do well when the middle class does,” he said. He decried efforts from ‘Maga Republicans’ in Congress to hold America’s economy hostage, particularly by “having us default on American debt.”

Biden highlighted efforts under his American Rescue Plan, under which 230 million Americans are fully vaccinated against

COVID-19 and its economic stimulus providing needed local funds. Under his Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, last year 700,000 major construction projects including highways, tunnels and broadband were undertaken in cities of all sizes. Biden added the projects will provide jobs both for those with and without college educations.

Noting the U.S. has the highest prescription drug prices in the world, the President pledged to capitalize on the federal research contributed to drug manufacturers with additional caps on drug prices. The Inflation Reduction Act caps monthly costs for insulin at \$35 for Medicare Part D beneficiaries. Biden said he will try again for a broader application of insulin cost caps for all insulin users this year.

Steamfitters UA Local #602 represents the Journeymen, Apprentices and Helpers,



PHOTO COURTESY TIM SIMMONS

Invited guests include U.S. Rep. Don Beyer and several member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including Chairman Jeff McKay, center, standing.



PHOTO COURTESY TIM SIMMONS

Biden supporter Tim Simmons with Supervisor Rodney Lusk (Franconia) await entry into the building as invited guests of the President. Simmons found the President’s speech “enlightening and rousing.”

who work in the Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration and Process Piping Industry in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area.

OBITUARY

Warden Foley

WWII veteran, Living Legend dies at 95.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Gadsby's Tavern stands today as the cornerstone of Historic Alexandria and showcases the city's historic significance dating back to the Founding Fathers of our nation.

But at the turn of the 20th century, it was a dilapidated building slated for imminent demolition until a group of World War I veterans from American Legion Post 24 stepped in to purchase the Gadsby's Tavern buildings as a memorial to the war dead and to establish a home for Post 24.

As veterans of WWII returned home, they took up the mantle of preserving Gadsby's Tavern with a young Warden Foley fast becoming a leader among his fellow veterans. Through the decades he did considerable maintenance on the site using his engineering prowess and was there to open the building for historic tours.

In 1972, when significant Federal funding became available, Gadsby's Tavern and the City Hotel buildings and furnishings were offered to the City of Alexandria as a gift from American Legion Post 24, with Foley and fellow WWII veteran Bill McNamara having led the efforts at preservation for a quarter century.

On Dec. 12, 2022, Foley died peacefully at his Alexandria home. He was 95.

"There is something about WWII Veterans ... their drive, optimism, persistence, inspiration to keep going, and above all their patriotism," said Henry Dorton, a past commander of American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria. "And Warden Foley was no exception. He continued to serve his community, state and nation for three-quarters of a century after his military service in the Pacific."

Harry Warden Foley was born Jan. 25, 1927, in Berryville, Va. He spent his Navy service in the Pacific Theater on the Marianas Islands and with the Seabees on Saipan.

Known affectionately as Mr. Fix-it and Mr. Young Man, Foley was a life member for 75 years of the American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria, a charter member of VFW Post 9760 in Berryville, and a life member of Moose Lodge 948, in Charles Town, W.Va. He served as a Commander of Post 24 and was serving on the Post 24 Executive Board at the time of his death.

In 2015, Foley was presented with the Distinguished Patriot Award by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce in their Salute to Veterans program. Along with McNamara, Foley was named a Living Legend of Alexandria in 2016 for his efforts in preserving Gadsby's Tavern, a meeting place for patriots of the American Revolution including George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

"What a sad day for America," said friend Bob Sussan. "Warden Foley was a true patriot, from his military service to his service



Warden Foley, a World War II veteran and a Living Legend of Alexandria, died Dec. 12 at the age of 95.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON

Warden Foley, right, and Bill McNamara were named Living Legends of Alexandria in 2016 for their efforts to preserve Gadsby's Tavern.

"What a sad day for America. Warden Foley was a true patriot."

— Bob Sussan

Foley is survived by his wife of 58 years, Harriett Foley; children Glenn Foley, Wayne Foley, and Beth Steffen (Tim); and grandchildren Daniel Foley (Katie), Bryker Hicks, and Jenna Foley. He is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews and his family of fellow veterans.

A memorial was held Dec. 15 at Jefferson Funeral Chapel with interment Dec. 16 at Green Hill Cemetery in Berryville. Contributions may be made to The American Legion Post 24, P.O. Box 402, Alexandria, VA 22313; Capital Caring Health, 3180 Fairview Park

Drive Suite 500, Falls Church, VA 22042; or VFW Post 9760, 425 S Buckmarsh Street, Berryville, VA 22611.

"Warden can never be replaced," said Dorton. "God Bless American patriots like Warden Foley."



Warden Foley, second from left, celebrates his 95th birthday Jan. 25, 2022. With him are fellow American Legion Post 24 past presidents Jim Glassman, Doug Gurka and Henry Dorton.



Harry Warden Foley and Walter Neil Rutherford, Jr. VFW Post 9760 Honor Guard 1952

Warden Foley, left, as part of the VFW Post 9760 Honor Guard in 1952.

MOUNT VERNON NEWS BRIEFS

Dog Found Chained To Fence and Shot

Animal Protection Police continue to investigate a dog found chained to a fence and shot.

At 3:35 a.m. officers responded to the area of Bedford Terrace and Beekman Place for a dog chained to a fence. Officers found the dog and discovered he had been shot. The chain was immediately removed, and the dog was taken to a nearby veterinarian's office. The dog remains with the veterinarian receiving further care. The dog is believed to be an adult male, Staffordshire terrier.

Officers determined a community member called for police earlier in the evening after hearing a dog barking and a single gunshot. Officers searched the area but did not find anything suspicious.

Detectives are asking anyone who lives in the area to please review any surveillance footage they may have and to contact us about this case to please call our Animal Protection Police Officers at fcpdanimalprotection@fairfaxcounty.gov. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

Low Cost Pet Clinics

Dates: Feb. 19, April 23, May 28, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Dec. 3

All clinics are held 9 a.m. - 12 p.m..

Services are first come, first served. The clinic is limited to the first 150 pets in line. We recommend arriving early; the line will be cut off after 150 pets.

There is NO pre-registration or appointment required - all paperwork will be completed at each clinic.

Cash only - no check or credit card - and payment is due at the time of service, \$20 for each service; Rabies Vaccination: \$20; Distemper Vaccination: \$20; Microchip: \$20

Dogs and cats may be vaccinated at the clinics.

Dogs must be on fixed (not flexi/extendable) leashes; cats must be in carriers.

Dog licenses may be purchased onsite in the Animal Shelter.

In order to receive a 3-year rabies vaccination and/or 1- or 3-year distemper vaccination, proof of prior vaccinations are required and paper or electronic copies must be presented at the clinic. No prior medical records are needed for microchips, 1-year rabies vaccinations, or initial 28-day distemper vaccinations.

Pets will be vaccinated in a secure room at the clinic location. Pets will remain with owners in line. Once a pet has been checked in, a staff member will bring the pet to be vaccinated and/or microchipped and will return the pet to the owner once the vaccines and/or microchip has been administered.

It's Not Too Late: Vaccinate Your Child Against the Flu

Each year, millions of children get sick, thousands of children are hospitalized, and some children die from the flu.

Flu vaccines offer the best defense against flu and its potentially serious complications.

FLU UPDATE FOR 2023

Among children up to 17 years, influenza-like illness activity in Fairfax County remains higher than usual. While visits to emergency departments and urgent care centers for flu-like illnesses are lower than they were in the late fall, pediatric flu activity is still above average and respiratory illnesses continue to circulate in the community.

Influenza-like illnesses include fever with cough and/or sore throat. Flu symptoms can also include runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches and fatigue. Children may also have

vomiting or diarrhea when sick with flu.

The Virginia Department of Health has reported four influenza-associated pediatric deaths during the 2022-23 flu season, so far, all among children ages 5 – 12 years.

As of Jan. 7, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates about 57% of children ages 6 months – 17 years in Virginia are vaccinated for influenza for this flu season. These estimates are similar to the vaccination rates in children in Virginia during the same time frame last year.

CHILDREN WHO ARE AT HIGHER RISK

Complications from flu among children can include pneumonia, dehydration, worsening of long-term medical problems like asthma or heart disease, brain dysfunction,

SEE IT'S NOT TOO LATE, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

A vibrant community enriched and supported by strong businesses

The Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce was created by combining the former Mount Vernon Lee Chamber and the Greater Springfield Chamber into a new regional chamber of commerce. Joining forces expands our reach, offers a stronger support network for businesses, a greater voice to our members and more opportunity for all. The future is bright for a united chamber of commerce working to strengthen our community.



Mount Vernon ★ Springfield
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

f @MtVSChamber @MtVSChamber
in Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce

www.MountVernonSpringfield.com

Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

36th Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting

Join us in person or virtually to learn why we are "The One"!

Saturday, February 11, 2023

7:45 a.m. – Exhibit Hall Open

9:30 a.m. – Speakers, Q&A's and Virtual Tour

Mount Vernon High School

8515 Old Mount Vernon Road

Live on Channel 16, Facebook

More details: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon

Join Supervisor Dan Storck for the 36th Annual Town Meeting! Meet your Supervisor and many County, state and federal leaders. 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 tour" of the changing Mount Vernon District from Huntington to Lorton.

Speakers: Board of Supervisors Chairman **Jeff McKay**, County Executive **Bryan Hill**, County Police Chief **Kevin Davis**, Mount Vernon District School Board Member **Karen Corbett Sanders**, Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent **Dr. Michelle Reid**, Special Guest Congressmen **Gerry Connolly** and remarks by Congressman **Don Beyer**.

For more information, call the Mount Vernon District Office at 703-780-7518, TTY 711, visit the office at 2511 Parkers Lane, or send your questions/comments to mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov.



To request reasonable ADA accommodations or language translation services, call the Mount Vernon District Office, 703-780-7518 or TTY 711 on or before 2/4/23.

MTVERNON@FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV
WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/MOUNTVERNON

Connect with TEAM MVD and your Mount Vernon neighbors at the 36th Annual Town Meeting! #ConnectMVD



Putting the General in the General Laws and Technology Committee

BY SEN. ADAM P. EBBIN

As the General Assembly nears the midway point of the Legislative Session, committee dockets balloon with oft-amended bills on some of the more substantial and complicated issues of the session. Members and interest groups, searching for consensus, known as “peace in the valley” in General Assembly parlance, are coming to final agreements, or pushing forward against opposition in committee. As the Chairman of the Senate General Laws and Technology Committee, I have the opportunity to set committee dockets and work with stakeholders on varied issues before they come before the committee as a whole. This week has been especially interesting as we tackle the issues of Virginia’s gaming industry, affordable housing access, workforce development, and even the naming of an official Virginia State pony (the proposed icon is the Chincoteague pony).

Since Virginia made its first foray into expanded options for gaming several years ago, we have seen a drastic increase in the size and diversity of our gaming industry. While these forms of gaming have already generated a great deal of economic development and revenue for the state, there have been concerning trends in increased gambling addiction, and unclear effects on lower income and young Virginians. While there are benefits to the gaming industry, I do not believe that we should view it as a panacea. I was glad to see two proposals which would have dramatically expanded the industry – one to place a casino in northern Virginia, and one to permanently authorize and allow the expanded placement of slot machines in restaurants and convenience stores – struck from the committee docket.

Over the course of the session



Ebbin

the committee has taken up proposals to alter the state’s regulations on our building code inspectors, and removing licensing requirements for landscape architects, geologists, interior designers, and auctioneers, among others – part of a push by the Governor to arbitrarily reduce regulations by 25% over his term. We have tackled a number of proposals to further reduce the likelihood of Virginians being evicted or denied housing, a long time priority of mine. The committee has also reviewed a proposal to create television production grant funds to incentivize more production of streaming and cable shows like Dopesick. There has also been a significant focus on the treatment of our veterans, and creating pathways for novel treatments of PTSD such as hyperbaric oxygen therapy. During the first week of session, we passed legislation to require the Department of Emer-

gency Management to stand up a comprehensive emergency heat response plan in order to more adequately protect Virginians most vulnerable residents – the infirm, elderly, and homeless, from major heat events, and more recently, passed legislation expanding our local government advisory boards to meet virtually, improving citizen participation and diversity in membership by lowering the barriers to attend and be a member of these committees.

In the coming week we will complete our work on these diverse topics, as well as delving into state procurement, regulations for construction contracts, and even proposals from Governor Youngkin to ban the use of TikTok on state devices – truly putting the “general” in General Laws. I look forward to finishing the work of the Senate, and welcoming a new and equally diverse set of bills to my committee from my House colleagues in the coming weeks.

It is my continued honor to serve the 30th District.

Important Bills Are Moving in the State Legislature

BY SEN. SCOTT SUROVELL (D-36)

After three weeks into this General Assembly session, many of my bills are moving through committees or have been approved by the Senate and sent to the House of Delegates.

Stronger Consumer Protections

The regulation of monopoly utilities is one of the most complex topics for crafting good policy. Virginia’s two investor-owned utilities, Dominion Power and Appalachian Power, have combined revenues of nearly \$20 billion from their customers. That is nearly half the state’s \$43.5 billion in General Fund revenues, but unfortunately, the legislature invests very little time supervising this spending by Virginia’s residents and businesses.

Over the last decade, criticism of utility policy-making has risen, especially in compressed, 45 to 60-day sessions during which time there is limited public input. The Division of Legislative Services provides us an attorney who is prohibited from giving policy advice, leaving us to educate ourselves as best we can and largely dependent on stakeholder lobbyists and interest groups for policy analysis or other information. Working through the facts, noise and conflict is often very

difficult. There has to be a better way.

This is why I introduced legislation to reinvigorate the Utility Regulation Commission that was created in 2003 to oversee utility policy. It has only met a handful of times in the last ten years and has no staff. My legislation would require the commission to conduct regular meetings, conduct independent studies, review potential legislative options, receive annual reports from our utility regulators and have seven professional staffers. Conservation advocates argue this could become the most important energy policy measure introduced in this session. The Senate Commerce and Labor Committee unanimously approved the bill this week. It will be reviewed in the Finance Committee this week before moving on to the full Senate.

The Virginia Comptroller recently reinterpreted an exemption in the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and began withholding the names of government employees using government credit cards. With the support of the Virginia Open Government Coalition, I have introduced a bill to require names to be disclosed. Two Senate com-



Surovell

mittees passed the bill and the full Senate will consider it this week.

Accepting All of Us

Earlier this year, Gov. Glenn Youngkin issued guidance to schools addressing parental notification of books that contain potentially obscene material used in educational settings. However, his guidance used a definition from a state law that prohibits the sale or loan of obscene books to children that labels any depiction of homosexuality as “sexual conduct,” even a book just depicts a gay couple eating dinner or playing golf. This statutory language reflects ancient prejudices that sought to dehumanize gay Virginians as deviants instead of normal human beings. The Senate passed my legislation to remove any depiction of homosexuality from the Code of Virginia on a bipartisan vote.

On a bipartisan vote, the Senate also passed my bill to expand the “Lemon Law” to Virginia’s small businesses so that manufacturers will be required to deal with defective work trucks or passenger vans.

More College Scholarships

In the early 1990s, Congress authorized states to create tax-de-

ferred college savings plans which are now called “529 Plans.” Virginia was one of the first states in America to create a plan. The state partnered with American Funds and now has the most assets under management in America today. Ninety-four percent of participants in the mutual fund-style component of the plan are residents of other states.

Last year, Virginia’s independent auditor, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) studied Virginia’s 529 Plan with independent actuaries and determined that the plan had a \$1.6 billion actuarial surplus that could be available for appropriation. Forty percent of these funds came largely from out-of-state investors and sixty percent derives from unspent revenues in Virginia’s Prepaid Tuition Plan. I introduced legislation to create a new endowment to be funded by this surplus which would eventually generate about 2,500 full scholarships per year to Pell Grant-eligible Virginia college students. A Senate committee will hold a hearing, the first level of consideration, this week.

Please complete my constituent survey at www.scottsurovell.org/survey. As always, send me an email at scott@scottsurovell.org to share your views and suggestions or for constituent services.

NEWS DEPARTMENT: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Mary Kimm
Editor and Publisher
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Mercia Hobson
Staff Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore, Glenda Booth
Contributing Writers

ADVERTISING: For advertising information sales@connectionnewspapers.com 703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Helen Walutes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9410
hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper



Bunnyman Brewery To Open at Workhouse

Business model hopes to attract customers for art and local brew.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION

In local Bunnyman Bridge lore, legend has it that the actual Bunnyman was being transported from the Lorton Prison to a nearby insane asylum, so it's only fitting that a new brewery for the Workhouse Arts Center will be called the Bunnyman Brewery when it opens later this year.

Sam Gray opened the first Bunnyman Brewery in the Burke area in 2021 and is planning the second in one of the former prison buildings in Lorton. Gray and business partner Eric Barrett are working with Fairfax County to get their paperwork done by Feb. 1.

All the interior adjustments on the old prison building have yet to be done, but one design element they want to include is artwork from the Workhouse Arts Center on the walls. It will be for sale there. "We're going to work with the Workhouse Art Center to showcase art," he said.

Gray grew up in the area, listening to tales of the Bunnyman from way back when, and he's working with local artist Jenny Leggett to get the logo and marketing material down for the Lorton location. Leggett is Barrett's sister-in-law.

David Avis is another local artist that's helping with the effort.



The Bunnyman logo.

When the building work starts, they hope to incorporate materials from the old prison, although they haven't got any specifics on that part. "I'll take what I can scavenge," he said.

Gray started his career working with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department as a station commander. He lives in Clifton on the same road that the Bunnyman Bridge is located, but he plays down the bridge. There's been a lot of attention at the bridge, and the local homeowners are not happy when it attracts a crowd. Especially when high school teens come to scare their girlfriends, which happens sometimes around Halloween.

Jack Ohman and Mitch Pilchuk are the brewers at the current location and initial-



The Bunnyman Brewery atmosphere in Burke.

ly, the beer will be shipped down to Lorton. "We're upgrading the tanks right now," Gray said.

Bunnyman Lore

On the brewery website, the complete 'urban legend' of the bunnyman story is laid out. It took place in the early 1900s when an asylum for the insane (language only to be used in a horror story) closed and while the patients were being transferred. One escaped and lived along the railroad tracks, eating bunnies. Then he somehow got a bunny suit, and hunted down two children and killed them. He hung the bodies from the Bunnyman Bridge, they say.

A local archivist named Brian A. Conley set out to prove or disprove this story, and found there was never an asylum in Clifton or two murders like that, so it seemed like a closed case.

Then in 1970, Robert Bennett and his fiancée reported they were attacked by a man in a bunny suit when they were sitting in a car on the 5400 block of Guinea Road. They called the police but no one was ever caught and no bunny suit ever found. But the legend lives on.

There is a complete line of t-shirts, hoodies and hats available at the Bunnyman Brewery in the Burke and on their website. <https://bunnymanbrewing.com/>

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.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

Interested in becoming a foster parent? There is always a need for caring foster parents looking to open their homes to foster youth. Get in touch to learn more. Visit fcsvanow@gmail.com or www.FCSVA.org. Or call 703-817-9890.

LOOKING FOR SOFTBALL PLAYERS

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. They play most Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna from May-July and September-October. For more information, visit the web site www.goldengirls.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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.

It's Not Too Late: Vaccinate Your Child Against the Flu

FROM PAGE 5

sinus issues, and ear infections.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), children with certain health conditions may be at higher risk of infection or complications from flu. Examples of chronic conditions include chronic lung or heart problems, diabetes, kidney disease, cystic fibrosis, COPD and asthma, anemia, cancer, weakened immune systems, and seizure disorder.

Children younger than 5 years old are also at higher risk of flu-related hospitalizations. And while healthy children 5 years and older are not at a higher risk, they can spread flu to family members who are at higher risk.

FLU PREVENTION

In children, annual flu vaccinations reduce flu illnesses, doctor's visits, missed school days, and flu-related hospitalization. It is important for chil-

dren ages 6 month and older to be vaccinated to protect against infection and severe illness.

Babies under 6 months are too young to be vaccinated, so the best ways to protect these children are for family members and caregivers to get vaccinated and for mothers to get vaccinated while pregnant. Vaccination during pregnancy has been shown to protect babies from flu infection for several months after birth.

The flu virus is constantly changing so getting an annual flu vaccine is recommended. Flu vaccines change each year to try to match the strains that are circulating.

While the best time to get the vaccine is in the early fall, it's not too late if your child has not yet been vaccinated. It's not too late for the adults in your household either. Getting the vaccine any time the flu virus is spreading provides some protection against serious illness. Visit the Fairfax County Health Department website to find locations that offer the flu vaccine.

In addition to vaccination, other everyday prevention actions you can take to prevent the spread of flu (and other respiratory viruses) include:

Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow when you cough and sneeze

Washing your hands often with soap and water

Avoiding touching your face to stop from exposing yourself to germs on your hands

Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces

Avoiding contact with others who are sick or if you get flu symptoms.

"We also encourage you to wear a high-quality, well-fitting mask to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses," CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said. "CDC continues to recommend masking for anyone choosing to travel by plane, train, bus or other form of public transportation, or for anyone who may be immunocompromised or increased risk of severe disease,"

Walensky said during a call with reporters in December.

IF YOUR CHILD GETS THE FLU

For most children with mild illness, treatment for influenza includes rest, fluids, and over-the-counter medicines for fever. Children with fever-causing illnesses like influenza should not be given aspirin, as this may cause a rare but serious complication called Reye's syndrome.

Prescription antiviral drugs are available and can reduce the severity of illness. Talk with your child's healthcare provider about whether your child should take antiviral drugs if they become sick with flu. Antibiotics do not treat influenza.

Familiarize yourself with emergency warning signs. If your child experiences any emergency warning signs, go to the emergency room. You should also consult your medical provider for any other symptom that is severe or concerning. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/highrisk/children.htm#warning-signs>

Thalea String Quartet



ALEXANDRIA symphony orchestra
22-23 season

Haydn, Mozart & Barber Adagio
Banner

SAT. FEB 11, 2023 - 7:30 P.M.
SUN. FEB 12, 2023 - 3:00 P.M.

Montgomery: Banner
Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante
(American Premiere)
Barber: Adagio for Strings
Haydn: Symphony No. 104 in D major "London"

Adult: \$20-\$89 Student: \$15 Youth: \$5
(703) 548-0885 alexsym.org

APPETITE

5 Dates to Circle in February

BY HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

February may be short on days, but it's packed with things to do. From brewery birthdays to Valentine's (and Galentine's) events to drag brunch, here are some of the month's best bets.

Port City Brewing's Twelfth Anniversary Celebration, Feb. 3

Has it been a dozen years already since Port City opened its doors? To celebrate, the brewery is bringing back its beloved Colossal Two, an imperial smoked porter. The Two first debuted to celebrate the brewery's second anniversary – a decade later, its popularity hasn't waned. Along with the Colossal Two release, Port City is celebrating with a weekend of music and food trucks beginning Friday night and proceeding through Saturday. 3950 Wheeler Ave.

The Lost Girls Drag Brunch at Lost Boy Cider, Feb. 5

Join the Lost Girls and Millie Meringue for a drag brunch at Lost Boy Cider and kick off the day with some festive flair. Enjoy the morning sans unlimited brunch for \$15 (your ticket gets you one complimentary cider), or go for the gusto with a \$25 unlimited brunch from Whiskey and Oyster, featuring scrambled eggs, potatoes, bacon, sausage, grits and more. 317 Hooffs Run Drive. 10 a.m.-noon.

Valentine's Day Celebration With Wine and Chocolate Pairing at Mount Purnon, Feb. 12

Before the Super Bowl kicks off later in the evening, why not take your beloved out for some chocolate, wine – and cat time? Mount Purnon knows just how to get to the heart of the matter with its pairing event. Enjoy some specially curated treats and then cuddle with your new favorite felines. 109 S. Alfred St. Noon-6 p.m. \$20 for wine and chocolate; \$40 for wine, chocolate and an hour with the cats.

Taylor Swift Night at Hen Quarter, Feb. 13

Where are our Swifties at? Hen Quarter is kicking off a week celebrating love with its "Galentine's"-inspired evening devoted to T-Swift herself. Sip on Taylor-themed cocktails like London Boy and The Archer, settle down to a three-course meal and then groove all night to all of Taylor Swift's hits. 801 King St. 5-10 p.m. \$45.

Beer-Themed Trivia Night at Del Ray Pizzeria, Feb. 26

Think you know a thing or two about frosty brews? Try your skill at Del Ray Pizzeria's beer-themed trivia night and put your knowledge to the test. Order up some piping-hot pies – and maybe a beer or two, for homework, of course – and may the best team win. 2218 Mount Vernon Ave. 5-8 p.m.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Alexandria Gazette Packet
Mount Vernon Gazette
Potomac ALMANAC

ATTRACT NEW CUSTOMERS IN 2023

Turn to the Connection Newspapers digital and print advertising options to reach customers in your community!

- Email Blasts
- Digital Billboards
- Front Page Shoutout
- Social Media
- Sponsored Content
- SEO Enhancements

For Advertising: Call 703.778.9431 or Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com

**Same Company, Same Employees,
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



Free Estimates 703-999-2929

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

CALENDAR

JAN. 12-FEB. 5

“In and Between.” At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Reception: Sunday, January 15, 4 - 6 p.m. Artist Talk: Sunday, February 5, 2 p.m. In and Between is an all-sculpture show, featuring floor and wall-mounted art as well as site-specific installations that take advantage of the gallery's unique light-filled space. Eight artists were invited to explore the concept of a threshold. In architecture, thresholds can connect spaces in deliberate and inventive ways, but they are often mere afterthoughts resolved by things like a simple door. Featuring: Lynda Andrews-Barry, Jacqui Crocetta, Pierre Davis, Zofie King, Kirsty Little, Sarah Stefana Smith, Ira Tattelman, and Gloria Chapa Vasquez.

JAN. 22 TO APRIL 3

NOVA Plein Air Art Exhibit. At River Farm, 7931 East Blvd. Drive, Alexandria. Nova Plein Air Artists (NPPA) will be presenting “Celebrations of the Land, Inspired by River Farm,” an art exhibit of over 50 paintings inspired by nature. Opening reception on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1 - 3 p.m. Additional receptions will be held from 1 - 3 p.m. on February 12 and March 12. Many of the paintings were created onsite at River Farm, and all are available to purchase. Receptions are free and open to the public.

FEB. 1 TO MARCH 15

“Mount Vernon” At Nepenthe Gallery. Hollin Hall Shopping Center, 7918 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Nepenthe Gallery, in partnership with Mount Vernon estate and Woodlawn mansion, presents a special “Mount Vernon” exhibit from February 1st through March 15th. This exhibit has been organized in conjunction with Mount Vernon's national birthday celebration of George Washington and Woodlawn's 60th Annual Needlepoint Show. Woodlawn was once part of George Washington's original extensive Mount Vernon estate.

This “Mount Vernon” exhibit will showcase an important work by Thomas Sully – his 19th century “Athenaeum Portrait of George Washington.” Other original works by Pamela Patrick White, Bryant White, Gwen Bragg, Debbie Dartez and Renée C. Gage will be included and for sale, as well as several original works by Pamela and Bryant White that will be on loan by local collectors for display in the exhibit. There will also be giclée prints available for sale of important works from the Mount Vernon estate collection.

Nepenthe will host six Thursday night “ART+WINE+CHEESE” events related to this exhibit:

February 2nd: Thomas Sully's “Athenaeum Portrait of George Washington.” Patty Owens, Curator of Nepenthe Gallery and former docent at the National Gallery of Art, will lead a discussion of the artist, the portrait and its significance.

February 9th: Important Paintings from Mount Vernon. Adam Erby, Curator at Mount Vernon, and Patty Owens, Nepenthe Curator, will present a lecture on selected significant paintings from Mount Vernon.

February 16th: White Historic Art. Painters and Historians, Pamela Patrick White and Bryant White, of White Historic Art will discuss several of their original, historical American 18th century-based paintings and the stories and context behind them. Their presentation will include several of their original works on loan for this exhibit by private collectors Janice and Dick Crosby, and Neysa and Dan Chandler.

February 23rd: Interesting facts about Mt. Vernon and Whiskey Tasting. Steve Bashore, Distiller, Miller and Historian, will lead guests through a Whiskey Tasting and describe the process that still takes place today at Mt. Vernon. Jim Woods, historical interpreter at Mount Vernon, will share stories and information about George Washington's home and property.

March 2nd: Scenes from Mount Vernon. Alexandria based watercolorist and juried artist, Gwendolyn (“Gwen”) Bragg, is an art instructor

at both the Art League School in Alexandria and the Workhouse Art Center in Lorton. Gwen will display and discuss many of her watercolor paintings from Mount Vernon.

March 9th: Nelly's Needlers Needlework Group. Established in 1975 to help preserve Woodlawn, the group was named after Martha Washington's granddaughter, Eleanor (“Nelly”) Parke Custis, who was raised at Mount Vernon, later lived at Woodlawn, and learned her needlework skills from her cherished grandmother. Nelly's Needlers will be at Nepenthe Gallery to display works from their 60th Annual Needlepoint Show and discuss their organization and needlepointing as an art form.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 1

World of Extreme Diving. 7-8 p.m. Online. “The Unseen World of Extreme Diving” (Free Zoom Talk). Join technical diving enthusiast Matt Hanson as he describes typically unseen environments in scuba, including diving under ice or deeper than 130 feet. The talk will be online through the Zoom platform. Registered participants will be sent the connection information via email one day in advance



The Alexandria Boutique Warehouse Sale will take place Feb. 4-5, 2023 in Old Town Alexandria.

and approximately one hour before the talk. You may attend on a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Register by 6pm on February 1 to receive the connection info. Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/programs/#event=unseen-extreme-diving>

FRIDAY/FEB. 3

The Hot Lanes. 8 p.m. At Sherwood Community Center (City of Fairfax Town Hall Series, Chocolate Lovers Festival) featuring “A Taste of Swing”, Fairfax. (Free, Indoors). The Hot Lanes is delighted to return to the City of Fairfax's Old Town Hall Concert Series for the 2022-23 season after a pandemic-inducing cancellation. Features popular, romantic standards and originals that all will appreciate.

FEB. 3-25

“The Unseen” Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. “The Unseen” exhibit reveals what we typically cannot see: what is hidden, microscopic, imagined, or dreamed. Join the artists for the opening reception: Friday, Feb 3, 2023 from 7-9 p.m. Gallery hours are Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. The gallery is closed the last Sunday of the month (February 26, 2023). Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/exhibits/#event=unseen>

SATURDAY/FEB. 4

Washington Gardener Seed Exchange. 12:30-

4:30 p.m. (Adults) Washington Gardener Magazine is co-hosting the annual seed exchange at Green Spring Gardens with lectures and a face-to-face seed swap. Bring your extra seeds to swap and leave with a bag full of seeds, new garden friends, and expert planting advice. \$15 for verified Friends of Green Spring members and Washington Gardener subscribers (use code C1E.0IPQ); \$20 for guests (use code C1E.8Z4K). Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173.

SATURDAY/FEB. 4

Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

off retail prices. The hours will vary by store. Participating businesses will also have QR code spots where shoppers can download the sale map and plot out their shopping plans or favorite spots to visit. For a full list of Alexandria Warehouse Sale participating businesses, visit www.AlexandriaWarehouseSale.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 5

Winter Lecture - A History of Hedges. 1:30-2:30 p.m. (Adults) Hedges—high and low—have been in our gardens for over 2,000 years and are part of our cultural heritage. Explore the fascinating history of hedges, from rural hedgerows to classic garden design features with Green Spring Historian Debbie Waugh. Consider their practical, ecological and ornamental value and what they can tell us about the people who planted them. View spectacular hedges from around the world, reflecting myriad purposes and styles, and hear about Green Spring's own historic hedge. This program will be held in person. \$12 per person. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes> or call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173. Code RO5.FV0M.

MONDAY/FEB. 6

Storytime in the Reading Garden: Black Authors and Illustrators. 11 to 11:30 a.m. At the Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Bring your little one to Beatley Central Library's beautiful outdoor Reading Garden for stories, songs and movement. Children ages 0-5 are welcome with an adult. Please dress for the weather. Yoga mats are available to sit on. Stop by the Children's Desk for a ticket for entry, available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sign up to receive cancellation notices in the event of inclement weather.

TUESDAY/FEB. 7

Life Drawing Session. 7-9 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Drop in and practice life drawing. Bring your supplies and join us at the gallery to draw or paint our nude model. All skill levels are welcome. Traditional drawing media (such as pencils, pens, and charcoal) are welcome, and pastels, watercolor and ink are permissible. Please do not bring acrylics or oil paints. We don't supply easels - only plenty of chairs - but you are welcome to bring your own easel if you want to use one. Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/programs/life-drawing/#event=life-drawing-2023>

TUESDAY/FEB. 7

Ford Evening Book Talk: The Permanent Resident: Excavations and Explorations of George Washington's Life. At George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Mount Vernon. Hear from renowned author and historian Philip Levy about his new book, an archaeological history that uncovers the physical remains of the major sites where George Washington lived and visited.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Creative Book Club. 10 a.m. to noon. At Del Ray Artisans gallery in the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. The Creative Book Club discusses readings to help you stay inspired and motivated for your creative practice. The first book for 2023 is “The Secret Lives of Color” by Kassia St. Clair. Visit <https://delrayartisans.org/programs/book-club/>

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Salon at the Statehouse. 6:30-10 p.m. At 415 Prince Street Alexandria. Enjoy a warm evening of conversation and festivities on a cold winter's night at the historic home of NVFAA board member Ashley Wilson and her husband George. Enjoy drinks, dinner, and a talk by John H. Sprinkle, Jr. Ph.D., Adjunct

1300 TABLES! Buy! Sell! Trade! VPN

NATION'S GUN SHOW

FEBRUARY 3, 4 & 5

Dulles Expo

4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly, VA 20151

FRI: 3-8 | SAT: 9-5 | SUN: 10-5

Huge Selection, Low Prices, Expert Dealers!

\$1 Off One Adult Admission

540-951-1344 | www.TheNationsGunShow.com | www.ShowmastersGunShows.com

LeafFilter

GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

BEFORE LeafFilter AFTER LeafFilter

THE NATION'S #1 GUTTER GUARD

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

20% OFF + 10% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE* SENIORS & MILITARY!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

USA **Promo Code: 285**

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-614-6667**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. 2The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Farmington, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registrations: C127230 License# 559544 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2102212986 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 2106212946 License# MHIC111225 Registrations: 176447 License# 423930 Registrations: IR731804 License# 50145 License# 408623 Registrations: 131402953900 Registrations: R-19114 License# 216234 Registrations: P4067963 License# 41354 License# 7656 DGPL #10763656-5501 License# 423330 License# 2105163445 License# LEAFHOME2022 License# WV056912

Prince Edward County Public Schools

We're Hiring Apply Today

Current Vacancies

Special Education Teachers	Special Education Paraprofessionals
Early Childhood Special	High School Biology Teachers
Education Teacher	Elementary Music Teacher

Anticipated Vacancies for 2023-2024

Athletic Director • Elementary School Teachers

Middle School Adaptive Teacher

High School Assistant Principal

High School Teaching Positions (Art, Band, Yearbook, English, and Reading Specialist)

Special Education Teachers

Early Childhood Special Education Teacher

Special Education Paraprofessionals • Middle School Nurse

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

<http://www.pecps.k12.va.us/>

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Employment

Truckload Carriers Association (TCA) is looking for a full-time professional, organized and customer service focused sales person to help us take our membership numbers to the next level. Individual will manage membership sales, renewals & outreach, customer service, database administration, reporting and other functions. TCA's membership consists of for-hire carriers, service providers and CDL schools.

A four-year degree and at least two years of experience in a sales and/or customer service role is preferred. This is an on-site work from office full time position. If interested, please send cover letter, resume and salary requirements to ZGambill@Truckload.org. We are conveniently located in Old Town Alexandria (steps from the Metro). Visit our website at www.truckload.org.

Salary: \$65,000.00 - \$100,000.00+ per year

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY

\$1000 OFF* AND **No Payments & No Interest for 18 Months****

Military & Senior Discounts Available

OFFER EXPIRES 3/30/2023

BCI BATH & SHOWER **CALL NOW! (844) 945-1631**

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 3/30/2023. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic Inc.

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

GENERAC

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE

CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE

(844) 947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* - A \$695 Value!

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

Associate Professor, Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation who will discuss Restoration and Reconstruction: Virginians lay the Foundation for a Post-Slavery Commonwealth.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Transport Yourself to the Tropics. 1-2:30 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Take part in a Garden Terrarium Workshop. Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn provides information on this versatile genus and teaches you techniques for creating the perfect terrarium. A terrarium, plants, soil and care instructions are provided. This workshop is appropriate for those 16 and older; the cost is \$40 per person and \$30 for supplies.

SUNDAY/FEB. 12

DelRay Urban Sketchers. 1-3 p.m. At St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Urban Sketchers operates on a drop-in basis and meets at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub in Del Ray. Bring your supplies and join them outside at the cafe. Visit <https://delrayartists.org/programs/sketchbooking/>

THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com. Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or www.Birchmere.com.

FEBRUARY

Thu. 2: Brian Courtney Wilson w/ Victory Boyd \$35.00

Fri. 3: Will Downing \$79.50 SOLD OUT!

Sat. 4: Will Downing \$79.50 SOLD OUT!

Sun. 5: Daryl Davis Presents: Thanks For The Memories 2022! \$39.50

Tue. 7: Macy Gray \$59.50

Wed. 8: Mike Stern Band w/ Dennis Chambers, Gary Grainger, Bob Franceschini, Leni Stern \$45.

Thu. 9: Corey Smith \$39.50

Fri. 10: the Mountain Goats (Duo) w/ Lilly Hiatt \$49.50 SOLD OUT!

Sat. 11: BURLESQUE-A-PADES In Loveland starring Angie Pontani, The Maine Attraction, Mr. Gorgeous, Bebe Bardeaux, Carly Harvey, Tequila Honeybee & live music by Brian Newman Band! \$35.00

Mon. 13: Eric Roberson (2nd Night Added!) \$69.50

Tue. 14: Eric Roberson \$69.50 SOLD OUT!

Thu. 16: Gaelic Storm \$45.00

Fri. 17: Matt Nathanson w/ Stephen Kellogg \$69.50 SOLD OUT!

Sat. 18: Matt Nathanson w/ Stephen Kellogg \$69.50 SOLD OUT!

Mon. 20: Keb' Mo' w/ Anthony D'Amato \$95.00

Tue. 21: Keb' Mo' w/ Anthony D'Amato \$95.00

Thu. 23: FOREVER TINA: The World's #1 Salute to Tina Turner! \$39.50

Fri. 24: Richard Thompson (Solo Acoustic) \$79.50

Sat. 25: Richard Thompson (Solo Acoustic) \$79.50

Sun. 26: DOC AT 100: A TRIBUTE TO DOC WATSON featuring Ted Olson, T. Michael Coleman, Jack Lawrence, Wayne Henderson, Jack Hinshelwood \$45.00

Mon. 27: Lalah Hathaway \$99.50

Tue. 28: Lalah Hathaway \$99.50

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



ARTIST RENDERING

The new complex will fit nicely into the surrounding community.

Bulldozers Roll for New Government Complex in Franconia

When completed, there will be several entities in one location.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

Construction began this month on the Franconia Governmental Center and Kingstowne Regional Library Project at the corner of Beulah Street and Kingstowne Boulevard in southern Fairfax County.

When the project is completed in 2025, it will house the Franconia Police Station, the Franconia District Supervisor's Office and the Franconia Museum. These facilities are now in an outdated building on Franconia Road. According to Fairfax County, the facility is undersized, mechanical and structural systems are outdated, parking is insufficient and the fueling station is located within the secure perimeter thereby disallowing access to it by county vehicles other than those used by the police. The new combined facility will provide a safe, convenient environment for the residents of the Kingstowne area to gather and have access to county services in one central location, the county said.

Franconia District Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D) looks forward to the new facility. "The current Franconia Governmental Center no longer provides the adequate facilities needed for our police officers, Franconia Museum, my staff, and most importantly, our residents.

I'm excited that our District will have a new facility with a library, which the community will be proud to visit. In addition, the updated facility will provide the modern amenities our officers, seniors, and other



It's a location with several access points.

public servants deserve," Lusk said.

This new combined facility will be approximately 90,000 square feet with better parking and access. The 28,000-square-foot Police Station and the 4,200-square-foot Franconia District Supervisor's Office will share a space with the Franconia Museum and a 7,200 square-foot Active Adult Center. It will also have a new Childcare Center for infants to pre-kindergarten children and the Kingstowne Community Library will be expanded to a Regional Library. The current Kingstowne Library is in a bottom level space in the shopping center where Beulah Street meets Telegraph Road.

The total project cost estimate for the consolidated facility including the two associated parking garages is \$79.5 million. Funding for the Franconia Police Station, to include the Franconia District Supervisor Office and the Franconia Museum, was approved in the 2015 Public Safety Bond Referendum. Funding for the library, to include the Active Adult Center, was approved in the 2020 Library Bond referendum.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL	ELECTRICAL
K & D ELECTRIC	
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting	Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Ceiling Fans	Office 703-335-0654
Phone/CATV	Mobile 703-499-0522
Computer Network Cabling	Mobile 703-499-0522
Service Upgrades	Mobile 703-499-0522
Hot Tubs, etc...	lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Landscape Drainage	Landscape Drainage

ProDrainage
A JES Services, Inc Company
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987
703-772-0500 www.ProDrainage.com
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE

We Need Your Help Again

We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers
THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Potomac Almanac
Mount Vernon Gazette
CENTRE VIEW

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all our Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers.

All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk.

The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now ominous clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

Visit connectionnewspapers.com or <https://www.gofundme.com/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac
1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

Been There Done That, Unfortunately



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Over the course of these many cancer years (diagnosed late Feb. 09), a recurring theme has been that various friends are regularly surprised that I'm still alive. These are friends who are either outside my local loop or who are geographically out of sight but not out of mind. Typically, what happens is I'll receive a random-type check-in call from these friends who, understanding the seriousness of my condition are often hesitant to even make this call for fear of the inevitable: yours truly not picking up because yours truly is no longer truly yours; and when I answer the phone, they are happily surprised and generally say so.

Then there's another group of friends, some of whom are out of town, who are regularly in touch. So much so that they're up to date on my health status and may even know my scan schedule. Understanding as they do, 'the seriousness of my condition,' two things happen: when they call and I don't pick up, they get nervous that I've more than fallen and can't get up (that I've slipped off my slope and have been admitted to a hospital)/are too sick to even pick up the phone, as happened when I called my brother during what turned out to be his final week, or if they receive a call from me at an uncharacteristic/atypical time, they also get nervous when they see my name on their phone.

A parallel occurrence is that when this same category of friends calls, and I don't pick up, they usually leave a message requesting an immediate call back – to confirm that I'm still alive or leave a message with normal urgency likewise requesting a call back, but in an unassuming-type tone anticipating that Kenny is still alive. Their tone is without too much fear that I've passed. What often happens with these callers, who aren't particularly anxious in their message, is that they become increasingly anxious in the minutes, hours and sometimes days during which I neglect to call them back. Nevertheless, with these callers I know I need to call them back, if even for just a second (almost literally) and assure them I'm perfectly fine, just busy with life. It's not exactly pressure on me, but I do appreciate and feel the weight of their concern/fear.

I know firsthand what these non-required are feeling since I've gone through the identical experience. A few years ago, I reconnected with a lifelong friend (dating back to elementary school) who googled me and stumbled upon some of my cancer columns. It quickly became apparent to her that she and I had both been diagnosed with similar sounding stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer. Soon thereafter, she tracked me down over the phone and we began to share our stories. Unfortunately for Suzanne, she was having far more difficulty that I was (and we had at times been on the identical chemotherapy). Since she lived in Barnstable (on "the Cape of Cod," to quote Radar O'Reilly from the television program M*A*S*H) our only method of communication was the phone (computers certainly were available but, given the seriousness of our respective situations, a computer exchange felt wholly inadequate). I would call at a time she had suggested would be convenient (she was in pain/major discomfort), she would pick up – until she didn't. I would leave a message asking for a call-back/status. This went on for a week or so and naturally, I grew increasingly anxious, and it was reflected in the content of my voice mail: hope you're okay, empathizing with her challenges, no need to call back/call anytime/just thinking of you, et cetera. After receiving no reply for 10 days or so (I didn't know her address or land line), I decided to google her. That's when I saw and read her obituary. Given her date of death as listed in the agit type, Suzanne had indeed died during the time when I had been calling. As they say: that left a mark.

Knowing full well then what my friends might be experiencing/thinking when they call and I don't answer, or I don't call back in a timely manner, or call at odd times, I am now the call-back king. Not that I can really prevent this situation from arising one day when I am unable to call them back – for all the predictable reasons. Therefore, I am committed as I can be to answer all calls from the Kenny-verse. Moreover, I hope to fulfill this commitment for many years yet to come.

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



CHRIS WHITE
FAMILY REAL ESTATE
OF LONG & FOSTER
*Leading the Area in Real Estate **SOLD!!!!***

How's the Real Estate Market?

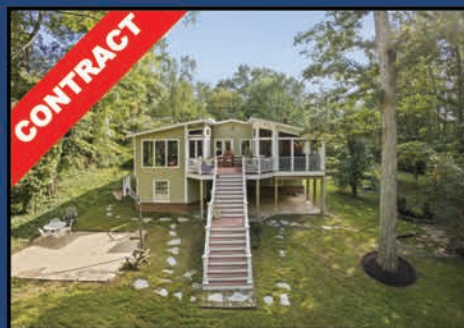
We're glad you asked.
If you're planning to sell in 2023, now is
the time to start planning. Contact us for
a custom assessment of your home!



5305 Remington Dr \$699,000



9222 Presidential Dr \$675,900



4108 Sulgrave Dr \$949,000



8901 McNair Ct \$975,000



8912 Captains Row \$1,275,000



3702 Carriage House \$975,000



3606 South PI \$1,025,000



9421 Old Mt Vernon Rd \$850,000

92 homes SOLD in 2022!

LONG & FOSTER
REAL ESTATE

Forbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIES

703.283.9028

www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com

Alexandria/Old Town Historic ~ 110 N. Royal St. 3rd Floor Alexandria, VA 22314

BEST OF
WASHINGTONIAN
TOP PRODUCING AGENT 2015-2022