



SHELLEY CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Looking for a Home

Sabi is ready for adoption at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. See story and more photos, page 5.

Compromise ...

“... rather than over my dead body.”

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Tuesday, Feb. 16 marked “crossover,” the milestone during the current session of the Virginia General Assembly session in Richmond where bills passed by the House of Delegates move to the Senate for debate and either approval or rejection, and vice versa.

While many are just beginning their time in the alternate governing body, some fast-tracked bills such as Del. Eileen Filler-Corn’s (D-41) “Return to Learn” bill, that would establish protocols for children who’ve battled cancer to reintegrate back into school, have already passed both houses and landed on the desk of Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D). McAuliffe then can choose to sign, veto or send the bill back with notes.

Filler-Corn has brought forward similar bills previously for establishing guidelines for students with concussions returning to the classroom. For this new iteration, “We had a group of stakeholders, some educators, education consultants come together,” she said, “and said we really do need some-

thing like this.”

Reflecting on this session at its midpoint, Del. David Bulova (D-37) said a strong theme of several hotly contested bills “has come down to state versus local control.”

Bulova gave two examples, including Senate Bill 549, which constricts localities’ options with regards to rezoning proffers, as well as one that would put regulatory framework around the social lodging business Airbnb. “They want to basically trump the ability of localities to further regulate these businesses,” Bulova said. “But it’s easier to be managed at one level — instead of by states, by counties. When something goes wrong” with a local customer’s experience, Bulova continued, “they’re not going to go to a state legislator.”

Other legislators are impressed with some of the compromises and progress the two bodies have been able to make, despite the party line.

Del. Vivian Watts (D-39) is optimistic about the resolution that was reached concerning I-66, including widening the Dulles Access Road to Ballston to relieve the

SEE LEGISLATORS, PAGE 3

Fairfax County Schools to Close March 1 for Super Tuesday

Concerns about parking and traffic, as well as new guidance from the Virginia Department of Education caused the Fairfax County School Board to reconsider closing schools for the March 1 Presidential primaries.

In October 2015, the Board decided to open schools two hours late in order to accommodate voting and still preserve a day of school.

“Best-laid plans,” Chairman Pat Hynes said at the Board’s Feb. 18 business meeting. “Here we are in

February, looking at it again.”

Hynes explained as part of her motion that night to close schools that the Board has been hearing increasing concerns from the community “of the likely turnout on primary day. We see what’s happened in other parts of the country.”

Hynes said the concern isn’t so much for safety within the schools, but traffic associated with potentially greater than expected voter turnout.

SEE FAIRFAX COUNTY, PAGE 3

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Warwick Village
\$539,000

Del Ray fun is at your feet in this 3-bedroom, 2-bath Warwick Village townhouse. One terrific feature of this home is the walk-out basement off the downstairs rec room. The open floor plan includes an updated kitchen, perfect for chefs who entertain. It's on one of the neighborhood's most desired streets. 227 Guthrie Avenue

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703.868.5676
www.LizLuke.com



PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

Celebrating His 284th Birthday

George Washington's 284th birthday was on Feb. 22. To honor the day, Mount Vernon Estate welcomed visitors with free admission and a day filled with special activities. George Washington walked the grounds, speaking with visitors. He posed for a picture with this group of homeschool families.



Lisa Howell, who has patriots in her family tree, and Lt. Colonel Timothy R. Stoy (U.S. Army, Ret.) were selected to have the honor of placing a wreath inside the Tomb.



A strolling musician, playing a fife, made Mary League's day by stopping to play a song for her. She was visiting the estate with her son, Steven League.

León Rodriguez, director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, swears in 50 new citizens, during a special Naturalization Ceremony. They came from 42 different countries and included five members of the Armed Forces and 9 military spouses.



Legislators Reflect

FROM PAGE 1

major bottleneck there. The plan would make it more integrated with bus and other rapid transit, include dynamic tolling based on the time of day and direction of commute.

"We're all going to look back on this in 10 years, and think regionally, things move better," Watts said. "It's 'Compromise, compromise, compromise,' rather than 'Over my dead body.' Additionally, Del. Mark Sickles (D-43) said the General Assembly has been able to make less partisan moves to "claw back from the cuts we made prior to the recession." Some of those include allocations for Dulles Airport and maintaining the United Airlines hub, capital equipment and expenditures at the new Inova Center for Personalized Health, as well as \$7 million of additional funding for Fairfax County Public Schools, which is looking at a \$68 million difference between the budget adopted by the School Board and the county budget proposed last week by County Executive Edward Long. "It's going to help, a lot," Sickles said, "but not going to get to the bottom line, at least what the school system is looking for."

Gone, But Not Forgotten

Representatives highlight significant bills that have already "died" or may not move beyond the second round.

Del. Paul Krizek (D-44)

House Bill 623 died in the Commerce and Labor Committee, and called for raising the minimum wage beyond the federal mandate to \$10.10 per hour, effective July 1, 2016. Krizek's plan exempted small businesses (with fewer than 15 employees) as well as employees younger than 25. "I don't think people working a 40-hour work week should be forced to accept public assistance or charity to survive," Krizek said. "And that's what's happening, especially in northern Virginia."

Del. Mark Sickles (D-43)

House Bill 1029 was intended to give grants for facilitating teaching "critical languages" currently in high demand at the U.S. State Department and other international organizations. It would've helped set up classrooms and find the harder to locate teachers for Russian, Arabic, Hindi and several other languages not traditionally taught in school.

"I really fell in love with this bill, Sickles said. "You shouldn't fall in love with your bills. There are bonuses and incentives in all our foreign policy agencies if you can speak one of the languages that are hard to find. I thought this was a no-brainer as far as a jobs bill, economic development bill. I'm going to keep working on that."



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fairfax County School Board Chairman Pat Hynes made the motion to close schools on Super Tuesday in March.

Fairfax County Schools to Close March 1 for Super Tuesday

FROM PAGE 1

According to a release from the school system, 167 school buildings are repurposed for polling, including 124 elementary schools.

In addition, Hynes said the state Department of Education has just released new guidance allowing schools to take a student holiday on March 1 and count it as hours taken from inclement weather hours.

"We don't have to add it as a school day later in the year," said Hynes. "That makes it easier to make this change in the calendar."

At-large Board member Ryan McElveen asked for clarification regarding whether after-school

and evening activities would be affected by the change.

School Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza confirmed that the School Age Child Care program would run as scheduled on the day, and that evening activities would continue if it was possible to accommodate them.

Principals are identifying those activities and will communicate those with their school communities.

All members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Springfield District representative Elizabeth Schultz who abstained.

— TIM PETERSON

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Alexandria/Fairlington Towne \$389,900
3819 Jason Ave. Gleaming hardwoods & tons of light. Upgraded kitchen – granite & pass-thru to dining. Updated Baths w/new lights, mirrors, floor, paint, fixtures. Fresh & newly painted. Cute backyard. Cul-de-sac location. Easy walk to Starbucks & shopping. Quick bus to Pentagon/King St. Metro. Low condo fee.
Julie F. Hall 703-786-3634



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Alexandria \$595,000
400 Madison St. Condo #709. 2 BR, 2 BA, with an 81-ft. balcony from all rooms for outdoor living and grilling. SEW views of Potomac River, Old Town and Masonic Temple. 2 parking spaces, extra storage, 24/7 concierge, steps to Metro, King St.
Lib Willey 703-362-7206



Alexandria \$899,000
6812 Smithway Dr. Custom-built colonial, Six bedroom, five full and one half bathroom, Brazilian cherry floors, high ceilings, recessed lights, crown moldings, 3,160 sq ft, on double sized lot, shed. Conveniently located close to all major routes, G.W. Pkwy, shops, library, schools. Home Warranty. Decorator allowance for painting or painted prior to closing.
Elvira Jakovac 571-405-8058



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Alexandria \$765,000

728 Catts Tavern. Now Vacant. ** MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION ** End Town Home. 4 Levels, 3 Bedrooms, Wood Floors on Entire Main Level. Separate Dining Room with Tray Ceiling, Plantation Shutters, Crown Molding, Soaring Vaulted Ceiling in Master bedroom with 4th level Loft, Walk-in Closet, Entry level office. Country Kitchen (19 x 18), Deck for Grilling, Fireplace. 2-car Garage, lighted Tennis Courts and Pool.
Gary Chute 703-371-9926



OPEN SUNDAY

Alexandria \$679,000
4009 David Lane. Totally remodeled single family home on cul-de-sac backing to wooded area. Enjoy outdoor space from a spacious front porch, kitchen area deck and family room patio. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and suite with separate entrance. Island kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Hardwood on all three levels. 2 fireplaces and several walk-in closets. Easy commute to D.C., Shirlington, Mark Center and Old Town Alexandria. A perfect 10+
Mary Smith 703-626-9207



JUST LISTED

Alexandria/Parkfairfax \$316,250
3526 Gunston Road. Wonderfully updated 2 bedroom, one bath End unit Madison model. Home boasts an open, renovated kitchen with SS appliances, exotic granite countertops and tile backsplash. Also featured is an updated bath with beautiful tile, enclosed shower, and custom sink/vanity.
Jennifir Birtwhistle 703-835-1256



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NEW TO THE MARKET

Alexandria South \$499,500
8324 Cooper St. Open floor plan accented with fresh paint, hardwoods, new flooring & custom trim work creates an inviting home. Retreat to an enlarged master suite while guests use their own private lower level in-law suite with walkout. A "man cave" with granite bar & fireplace is perfect for game days. New fencing, screened porch plus fire pit. Convenient location near Ft. Belvoir & major commuting routes. Call for a private tour today!
Greg Koons 703-209-7678 • Joni Koons 703-209-7277



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Alexandria \$489,999
6706 Oak Drive. Adorable Cape Cod on 1/2 acre in Fairfax County. 4 bedrooms. Fireplace. Freshly painted, new carpet. Close to Metro, Ft. Belvoir, Old Town, D.C., National Harbor.
Michelle Zelsman 202-390-8714



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

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Alexandria \$504,900
1705 Trenton Drive. Lovely 3+ bedroom, 2 bath on two levels in Hollin Hall Village; quiet, tree-lined street; basement has been completely remodeled with new bath; 4-season sun porch and large fully fenced yard. Hurry!
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Alexandria/Belle Haven \$1,199,900
6002 Grove Drive. Stunning home in popular Belle Haven! Renovated and expanded and ready for new owner to simply move in! Enjoy 4 spacious bedrooms, cedar closet, his/hers master closet and bath. Relax in the private gardens or cool off this summer in the resting pool. 3 minutes to Old Town, G.W. Pkwy, shopping/dining. Welcome Home!
Fran Slade 904-476-2691



OLD TOWN

Heart of Old Town \$759,900
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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria \$549,900
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PET GAZETTE



SHELLEY CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Benny



PHOTO BY ALISON SATINOFF

Bonnie



PHOTO BY EVAN OWENS

Goober



SHELLEY CASTLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Herman



PHOTO BY ALISON SATINOFF

Samantha and Theodore



DIRTY PAW PHOTOGRAPHY

Tawny

Ready for Adoption

Some of the animals currently up for adoption at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

Microchips Save Pets' Lives

BY EDWARD WRIGHT
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA VOLUNTEER

Penelope had been missing for over a year, but this winter, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) returned the cat to her owner, all thanks to a microchip. Penelope's story is not unique: The shelter uses microchips to help reunite lost pet with their families on a regular basis. The AWLA encourages all pet owners to ensure their pets wear collars and ID tags in addition to having microchips with current information on file with the microchip company.

According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, each year 7.6 million pets enter shelters and less than 12 percent are returned to their homes. Fortunately, pet microchips are a cheap and effective solution: Most cost less than \$50 and can be quickly implanted by a veterinarian with a simple injection.

Microchips are approximately the size of a grain of rice and are placed under the skin near an animal's shoulder. Each chip has its own unique identification code that is read by a hand-held scanner. The chip has no internal power source, so it will function for the duration of the animal's life without need for

replacement, though microchips may migrate from the site where they were initially implanted. Like a credit card, the chip does not actively transmit; instead, a radio-frequency identification (RFID) scanner emits a low-frequency radio wave that generates a return signal from the chip, providing the pet's ID code.

Pet owners who are uncertain if their animals have microchips can take their pets to a veterinarian to be scanned. If their pet has been chipped, www.petmicrochiplookup.com can help find the name and contact information of the microchip company using their pets' microchip ID code. Pet owners will then need to contact the microchip company to register their pet's chip or update their information. For more information on microchip brands and the implantation procedure, pet owners should contact their veterinarian.

All dogs, cats, rabbits and ferrets from the AWLA are microchipped prior to adoption at no additional fee.

The AWLA will be scanning dogs at its Walk for Alexandria's Animals on May 1 to check for microchips and to see if they have migrated. The Walk will also feature a fun game involving microchips. Register for the Walk at AlexandriaAnimals.org/walk.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Countywide Transit Network.
6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Mount Eagle Elementary School Cafeteria, 6116 N. Kings Highway. Fairfax County

Department of Transportation will present recommendations from the Countywide Transit Network Study for the types of transit systems needed to accommodate future population and employment growth throughout Fairfax County. The meeting will be conducted in an open-house format with a brief presentation at 7 p.m. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/2050transitstudy/.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Documentary Screening. 7 p.m. in the Chapel of the Mount Vernon

Unitarian Church, 1900 Windmill Lane. An Emmy Award winning 90-minute documentary, "Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time," on the life and principles of Aldo Leopold, author of "Sand County Almanac" and one of the principal conservationists/environmentalists of the 20th century, will be shown. Light refreshments are served at 7 pm and the film begins at 7:30. Free, open to all. See a preview www.greenfiremovie.com. Contact Carl Lohmann at Monday/March 7



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Alex./Riverside Estates \$569,000 • 8316 Orange Ct.
Wonderfully updated new listing – 5BR, 3BA Split w/2 car garage, spectacular stained & screened back porch perfect for entertaining. Beautiful hwd floors, updated kitchen w/hdwd, corian counter tops & a bump-out breakfast area. Updated baths w/jetted tub in hall bath. Lower level offers large family rm w/gas fireplace, 3rd bath & 5th bedrm. This is the complete package. 5mins to Ft. Belvoir (S) – 15 mins to Old Town Alex, (N).



Alex./Riverside Estates \$519,000 8504 Wagon Wheel Road
Totally updated 5 BR, 3 BA Split – Updates: Kitchen w/Silestone, ceramic tile, SS, baths, furnace, A/C, HWH, replacement DBL pane windows, roof, 6-panel interior doors, refinished Hdwd floors, freshly painted interior. Large carport & shed plus stunning, large, fenced backyard. Ft. Belvoir 5 mins (S) & Old Town Alex, 15 mins (N). Phenomenal Value!



Alex./Wessynton \$679,900 3301 Wessynton Way
Beautiful Contemporary Split on one of Wessynton's premiere lots backing to over 10 acres of pristine forest, teeming w/wildlife and spectacular views. Roof, furnace, A/C, HWH, double pane windows replaced. Great, Great Value at this price. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Alexandria. Community pool, boat ramp and walking trails.



Alex./Mt. Vernon Hills \$549,900 8620 Curtis Avenue
Total renovation of this beautiful 5 BR, 3 BA Split – 2015: New Roof & Exterior Painted – 2016: New Kitchen, Baths Updated, DBL Pane Windows, Hardwood Flrs, Carpeting & Interior Painted – Large .31 acre lot with new privacy fence – 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir – 12 minutes to Old Town Alexandria – Walk to MVHS – GREAT BUY!



Alex./Kirk \$524,900 8112 Karl Road
Stunning & meticulous 4 level split. Totally updated: Kitchen, baths, windows (DBL pane), roof, furnace, AC, HWH – Beautiful hwd floors just refinished on main & upper levels. Windows in kitchen & dining rm offer spectacular views of a large, fenced, yard backing to woods – Stunning! 6-panel interior doors & lovely slate & stone walkways accentuate both interior & exterior. Waynewood Elementary – This is a 10!



Alex./Stratford Landing • \$529,900 2403 Cavendish Drive
Lovely 3 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial bursting w/charm – wood flrs under quality carpeting on main & upper levels. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/beautiful oak cabinets & Corian counters – upgraded baths. Family rm & den along with workshop/utility rm on lower level. Tons of storage in both floored attics w/pull-down stairs. Lovely screened porch/carport overlooks a deck & beautifully landscaped & fenced bkdy. Quality home for an attractive price – minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S) & Old Town, Alex (N).



Alex./Hollin Hall Village \$469,000 7924 Jackson Road
1300 sq. ft. Hollin Hall rambler is an oasis for NATURE LOVERS: perennials abound in the front yard & a huge Koi pond, green house & raised garden beds in the backyard. Beautiful upscale renovated kitchen. Newly refinished hardwood floors & interior painting. 2 baths & 2 bedrooms, but 3rd bedroom could be easily configured from part of the large Family Rm addition. Walk-in closet. Newer HVAC, replacement windows, new hot water heater. WAYNEWOOD ELEMENTARY.

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PET GAZETTE



PHOTO BY ANN VERNON

Marla

Leading the fast break, Marla, age six months, is training with local volunteers for Guiding Eyes for the Blind to work as a Guide Dog for a blind master. The pup enjoyed a weekend break with Ann Vernon in Mount Vernon while Springfield resident Sharyn Cain tended to Vernon's pup in training, Parsely, a yellow lab, during a training phase called puppy swap where the pups experience different environments as they progress toward certification as a guide dog. Visit guidingeyes.org for more information about the accredited nonprofit group that seeks more volunteers to provide guide dogs for free to people with vision loss, as well as service dogs to children with autism.

Eric Miller and Lola watch TV in the evenings together. Lola is a 3-year-old mini lop rabbit. Rabbits make excellent pets and they are intelligent and friendly. They bond with their owners and are quite affectionate.



Broad-Winged Hawk

I have selected several photos of my "pet" Broad-Winged Hawk that I have been feeding every morning (except during breeding season) for the past 4 to 5 years. He appears about 8 to 10 a.m. in my backyard trees each morning. I call him and then feed him on a 4x4 post at the gate near the back door. He flies down from the tree as soon as I place the small amount of ground beef on a small tray on the post, as I stand beside it. I usually feed him two helpings and he hangs around in the nearby tree for an hour or two before leaving for the day. He does not appear for 2 to 3 months during his spring breeding season.

— BOB BARRY,
WAYNEWOOD



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Mount Vernon Gazette

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8632 Winthrop Drive

Remodeled craftsman on 1/2 acre features 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, & open floor plan joining living room, dining room, & kitchen. Spacious deck overlooks picturesque backyard.



COLLINGWOOD ESTATES \$999,000

1228 Falster Road

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WOODLAND PARK \$997,775

3217 Woodland Lane

Contemporary waterfront home on 3/4 acres, 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and over 3,300 square feet with large windows throughout. Separate apartment and 2-car garage.



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

COLLINGWOOD \$898,000

8402 Morey Lane

Fully renovated home with few steps for transitional easy living. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths. Attached artist studio/guest suite with separate entrance. Oversized 2-car garage & fenced backyard.



BELLE HAVEN \$1,495,000

2107 Windsor Road

Sprawling, elegant colonial. Spacious kitchen with breakfast & sitting rooms, master suite on main & upper levels, 3 additional bedrooms, formal living room, rec room, den/library, and more.



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

STRATFORD LANDING \$725,000

8915 Captains Row

Expansive home on corner lot near Potomac River. 6 bedrooms, 3 baths. Newly renovated kitchen, large rec room, & living room with fireplace. New deck, patio, & fenced backyard.



MOUNT VERNON \$950,000

4202 Kimbree Court

Updated brick colonial located on cul-de-sac in waterfront community. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. Gourmet eat-in kitchen, private office, formal living & dining rooms, 3 fireplaces, & 2-car garage.



GROVETON WOODS \$379,000

7057 Huntley Run Place

One of a kind end-unit townhouse features large windows, 3-stop elevator, 2 spacious master suites with full baths, open living and dining area, gourmet kitchen, and 1-car garage.



WELLINGTON \$929,000

8016 West Boulevard Drive

Gorgeous new construction with 5 bedrooms and 4.5 baths. Open-concept kitchen, breakfast room, & family room, formal living & dining rooms, & finished lower level with in-law suite.



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OPINION

Bad Bills General Assembly has potential to do lots of damage in a short period.

From pressing for use of a barbaric form of execution, the electric chair, to codifying discrimination, to stripping localities of the major tool for ensuring infrastructure is in place for new development, to hiding more and more critical public information from the public, the Virginia General Assembly is poised to do harm to the Commonwealth. (We'll look at good bills in a future editorial.)

Here are bills that have passed either the House or Senate by crossover, and important bills that were killed, in no particular order. This is by no means a complete list.

HB815, Electric Chair, passed the House 62-33, brings back the electric chair, providing that if lethal injection is not available as a method of execution, electrocution shall be used instead and vice versa.

SB552 creates secret police departments, and moves in exactly the wrong direction. Provides that the names and training records of law-enforcement officers and fire marshals shall be considered personnel records and excluded from mandatory disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Passed 25-15.

SB549/HB770 on Proffers, uses a megaton bomb to tie localities' use of proffers to help pay for infrastructure needs with new development when what was needed was a study of flyswatters to address specific limited

abuses.

HB773/SB41 - Codifies discrimination, prevents the state government from taking any action against a person or organization that discriminates based on a sincerely held religious belief that marriage is or should be recognized as the union of one man and one woman.

Sanctuary bills: SB705 Makes "sanctuary cities" liable for "full amount of any personal injury or property damage caused by an illegal alien within such locality." SB270 The General Assembly shall reduce state funding to the extent permitted by state and federal law to any locality found to be a "sanctuary city."

Senate killed several bills on title loan oversight, even after investigative reporting showed interest charges exceeding 200 percent, bait and switch tactics and many poor Virginians losing their cars.

HB 2 - No "right to breathe." Requires the Department of Environmental Quality to receive approval from the General Assembly for a state implementation plan to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants prior to submitting the plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

HB 1090 - Defunds Planned Parenthood

HB 143 allows high proof grain alcohol sales.

HB 560 - Makes it more difficult to convict someone of brandishing a firearm by requir-

ing proof that a person pointing, holding or brandishing a firearm or similar weapons had the intent to induce fear in the mind of another.

HB 766 - Allows any protective order to be used as a de facto concealed carry permit, without requiring the holder to receive any training in the safe handling of a firearm, or show any proficiency with a firearm. Advocates for victims of domestic violence say what is needed is to remove weapons from such situations.

Killed SB67, would have added discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity to the Virginia Fair Housing Law as an unlawful housing practice.

Killed SB12, would have prohibited discrimination in public employment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Killed bills that would have required notification of oil spills.

Outlawed living wage requirements for contractors of local government.

HB 4 Anti-union, proposed constitutional amendment putting Right to Work in the constitution.

HB 3 - Charter Schools Constitutional Amendment - removes local control over local schools and spending, doesn't belong in the constitution.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Hosting 6th Annual Amundson Institute

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

Recently, I recognized the sixth annual Amundson Institute scholars on the floor of the Capitol in Richmond. The Amundson Institute provides an educational opportunity for high school juniors and seniors who live in or attend a school located in the 44th district on the role of the Virginia state government and top government relations professionals. We had two students from Mount Vernon High School and two students from West Potomac participated in this year's program.

These young scholars watched the law-making process in action, attended a General Assembly session, met Governor McAuliffe, Secretary of the Commonwealth Levar Stoney, and toured both the Capitol building and the Executive Mansion.

I selected this year's participants based on their impressive qualifications and on their proposed individual research projects relating to an aspect of the legislative process about which they feel passionately. The 2016 Amundson Institute Scholars will present their projects in the spring.

I also want to give my sincerest thanks to this year's chaperone, Mike Damitz, who generously shared his time and enthusiasm with the students, demonstrating for them Sec. Stoney's lesson to the scholars on the importance of building relationships and network-

ing. Damitz was also pleased to learn Sec. Stoney attended James Madison University with his daughter.

Del. Amundson created the institute, called The Young Leaders Program, to introduce high school students in the Mount Vernon area to the Virginia State Government process back in 2000. Surovell continued the program and renamed it The Amundson Institute after her retirement, in honor of her commitment to educational opportunities for young leaders. The program includes funding for all transportation, meals, daytime activities and sleeping arrangements.

The program, sponsored in-part by Cox Communications, is an opportunity for young leaders to learn about legislative and public ser-

vice careers at the state level. The students enjoyed meeting with Barrett Storck, a representative from Cox to learn about his career with Cox. They also met with Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30), former Delegate and current director of business network Virginia Free Chris Saxman (R-20), former delegate Kris Amundson (D-44), and government affairs professionals from the Virginia Beer Wholesalers and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Virginia.

I am very proud of this year's students. Getting to know these bright young minds in the 44th District was a pleasure and I am thrilled at what the future will have in store for them, and for our community, as they become tomorrow's leaders.



From left are Jonathan Tucker, Saad Salman-Nahi, Del. Paul Krizek, Jabari Resper and Cameron Coleman.

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED

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A Connection Newspaper



LETTERS

Postal Service Response

To the Editor:

The Postal Service would like to respond to a customer's letter to the editor ["Mail Delivery Failures," The Gazette, Feb. 18], which we believe deserves acknowledgement.

Winter Storm Jonas' record snowfall did impact mail deliveries. Although we worked hard to correct service interruptions quickly, some isolated areas experienced more severe issues. We apologize for this lack of

service and are committed to better response times in the future.

The U.S. Postal Service considers the safety of our customers and employees a top priority. Immediately following the storm, road and weather conditions after daylight were not safe for postal operations.

Lack of clearance, visibility and the probability of icing presented high risk factors for our carriers and pedestrians in the roadways. Additionally, potential impacts to our vehicles would limit our ability to normalize operations and resume full service quickly. In an abundance of extreme caution, we instructed postal carriers to cease deliveries at dusk to keep them out of harm's way for the first few days following the storm. Postal employees will always make every reasonable, safe effort to deliver mail, but cannot when hazardous conditions exist.

The Postal Service's commitment to deliver mail is unwavering. Before, during and after any storm, the Postal Service will always do everything in its power to meet its promise to provide affordable, reliable service. We acknowledge and apologize that all service did not resume as it should have and are addressing to prevent reoccurrence.

Kristin Seaver

Capital Metro Area Vice President of Operations
U.S. Postal Service

Wrong Side Of the Issues

To the Editor:

Once more, this week, state Sen. Scott Surovell has demonstrated that he is out of the mainstream of even his fellow Democrats. The State Senate voted 34-6 to pass a Bill allowing all state judges and retired state judges to carry concealed handguns without requiring them to obtain a permit. Senator Surovell was one of the six who opposed the Bill. Since there are 19 Democratic Senators in the State Senate, he is decidedly in the minority of his own

political party on this issue.

In opposing the Bill, Senator Surovell said: "What concerns me about this bill is that it not only applies to current judges, but it also applies to retired judges. I don't think there's anything so special about the job that they ought to be able to carry for the rest of their lives just because at one point in time we gave them a robe." This quote is remarkable for a number of reasons starting with the fact that Senator Surovell is a trial lawyer who frequently appears before people wearing robes. He is fully aware that those robed individuals often sentence criminals to jail. He is also aware that when they are doing so, their identity is clearly shown on a placard visible from the bench.

The fact that a judge has retired does not change the fact that he or she sentenced criminals to jail terms when he or she was an active judge. It is not unheard of for criminals to finish their jail terms and start looking for the judge who sent them to jail or prison. Senator Surovell's opposition to this Bill strikes me as both foolish and mean-spirited. However, this is not surprising. Senator Surovell, when he was a state delegate, opposed requiring Court clerks to conceal the identities of concealed carry permittees. He also opposed giving citizens civil immunity when they defend themselves against intruders into their homes.

I am not a psychiatrist so I cannot credibly analyze Senator Surovell's motivations for these seemingly mean-spirited decisions as a representative of the citizenry. I can only say that my gut reaction is he is on the wrong side of these issues and can only be held accountable by the constituents who elected him.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

BULLETIN BOARD

THROUGH FEB. 29

Application Deadline. Doctors Jimani Mwendo and Mike Nguyen and the team at Neibauer Dental Care – Fort Belvoir, 8626 Richmond Hwy, are giving away a free smile makeover to one lucky candidate as part of My Free Smile. Candidates can apply by going to www.MyFreeSmile.org and submitting their story and a photo of their smile. Call 703-554-3500 for more.

Donate Working Electronics. Avoid the disposal fee and help homeless Fairfax County youth by donating working laptops or tablets at 5400 Shawnee Road, Suite 110, Alexandria (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.) or during business hours at the Lee District Supervisor's office, 6121 Franconia Road or the Mount Vernon District Supervisor's office, 2511 Parkers Lane. Volunteers needed. Visit americasadoptasoldier.org, email contact@americasadoptasoldier.org or call 703-278-3718. Monetary donations accepted through PayPal.

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Monday-Saturday:
9:00 am Mass
En Español: Monday, 6:30 pm; Thursday, 7:30 pm;

First Friday, 7:30 pm
Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesday: 6:00 pm; Thursday: 7:00 pm; First Friday: following 9:00 am Mass & 7:00 pm

Confession:
Wednesday, 6:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 am, 4:00 pm
En Español:
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2015 BEST OF PRINCE WILLIAM

Electronic Textbooks and Other Bills

By Scott Surovell
State Senator (D-36)

As we pass the mid-point of this General Assembly session, many bills are moving. After a 30-minute debate, the Senate approved my bill prohibiting the use of electronic textbooks in public schools without a plan to provide school broadband and digital devices to every student required to use an electronic textbook.

Virginia's constitution requires that every child receive a free textbook. On the floor, I argued that without home computers, electronic textbooks create a two-tiered education system for the haves and the have-nots. Senators Adam Ebbin and George Barker joined me in stressing that even Northern Virginia's schools have significant low-income student populations who face disadvantages in the classroom without their own devices. The bill now moves to the House of Delegates.

Also, the Senate passed, 39 to 1 my legislation to reverse recent anti-sunshine Virginia Supreme Court rulings. Last year, the Court held that if one sentence of a government document is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the government can withhold an entire document instead of simply redacting the sentence. My legislation requires disclosure to the public of the text of the document that is not redacted.

Additionally, the Court held that government officials' decisions to withhold documents are entitled to "great weight." My legislation requires judges reviewing FOIA responses to look at government officials' decisions in an unbiased manner. The House of

Delegates passed identical legislation 99-0 and it will be on the Governor's desk by the end of the week.

Around 100 people attended our town hall meetings this weekend in the Mount Vernon and Lee areas of Fairfax County. The number one concern raised was public school funding. Governor Terry McAuliffe's proposed budget has \$58 million in new funding for Fairfax County and since 2010, Virginia has increased funding to Fairfax County Public Schools by 48 percent or \$208 million. During that same period, Fairfax County has only increased local funds by 15 percent.

There is no question that part of the current state public school funding formula hurts areas like Fairfax County because it does not consider English-language learners, poverty, or disabilities. Legislative fixes have been explored, but the vast majority of legislators do not support the changes because it would take hundreds of millions of dollars from high poverty schools and transfer them to wealthy school systems. They cannot vote to cut funds from their school systems, jurisdictions that typically pay teachers \$35-45,000 per year, while ours pay teachers \$55-77,000 per year. Bringing fairness to this funding formula will likely only happen pursuant to litigation, and the short and medium-term solutions to school funding are at the local level, through approaches like a local meals tax.

We also heard concerns about Potomac River oil spills and coal ash pollution, skyrocketing college tuition, protecting women's reproductive rights and strengthening mental health services. People voiced support for driver's licenses for undocumented Virginians and anger about voting restrictions.

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Karen Leonard 703-328-7041 MLS # AX9561713



Manors at Mount Vernon 8307 Centerbrook Place, Alexandria VA
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Alexandria South 2719 Woodlawn Trail, Alexandria VA
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The Woodlands 8129 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA
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MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE ❖ FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 2, 2016 ❖ 11



ENTERTAINMENT

Port City Playhouse Stages 'Fool for Love'

Play is a exploration of pleasures, perils and consequences of sexual chemistry.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

Sam Shepard's "Fool for Love" will be staged by Port City Playhouse from Feb. 26 to March 12 in Alexandria. The play follows former sweethearts Eddie and May as they meet in a shabby motel room somewhere in the desert Southwest for a volatile reunion, while a mysterious Old Man observes and comments on the action. It is a raucous exploration of the pleasures, perils and consequences of sexual chemistry. The play was a finalist for the 1984 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Producer Mary Beth Smith-Toomey said she wanted to produce "Fool for Love" because Sam Shepard is a favorite playwright of hers. "He writes thought-provoking pieces that always get to the heart of a subject," she said. "And working with (Director) Jon Townson and this entire cast and staff has been a true privilege."

Melissa Dunlap plays the role of May, who comes from a dysfunctional family system and is trying her best not to repeat her parents' mistakes. "She is vulnerable and strong, she makes good choices and stupid mistakes, she's complex and flawed," she said.

She said even though the play is relatively short, it is jam packed with content. "No character nor any relationship is simple," she said. "It has been a challenge to find all those interesting pieces and bring them to life."

She added: "I hope the audience goes on the relentless ride with us, caught up in the action, the challenges and the questions that the characters wrestle with." After all, Sam Shepard's very first words after the title of the play are, "This play is to be performed relentlessly without a break."

Richard Fiske plays the role of the Old Man, who may or may not exist. "He sees much, remembers little and has opinions about everything. He treats both May and Eddie almost like a family," he said.



Ryan Sullivan stars as Eddie in "Fool for Love."

Some of the challenges in working on the piece were trying to develop a meaningful character with few words and no blocking while being on stage for the entire play, he said. "To provide hints about who the Old Man is and what the other characters mean to him (and he to them) without giving away the store."

He said he hopes the audience takes away that an internal monologue can be distracting, but it can provide insight if you listen. "The play also provides some insight, with the traditional Shepard themes, metaphors and symbols into the complexities of family relationships and how, without being careful, missteps from earlier generations can reverberate down the years."

Jeffrey Smith plays the role of Martin, the antagonist anti-anti-hero in the play. "Martin is really the only sane character on the stage and he is thrown into a very crazy and uncomfortable situation," he said. "He tries to hold his own, but Eddie (the protagonist), and in the end, Eddie and May and their situation, overwhelms his resolve. He stays to the bitter end, and is only saved from the situation because of the irrational

actions of the unseen Countess. I think of Martin as a sort of naive 'man' who although doesn't intend to save the Damsel in Distress, he is thrown into that situation and he tries to do right by May."

He said one challenge was figuring out how strong Martin's personality is and how much he would actually push back on Eddie's incessant taunting. "One interpretation of Martin is that he is only a little more than a simpleton that barely picks up on Eddie's jibes," he said. "But Jon directed me toward a fuller character who has his own story and, in fact, is a match for Eddie. This adds to the three-dimensionality of the play and increases the interest."

He added: "One thing I noticed is that the title is in the singular form. There are four players on stage; shouldn't it be 'Fools for Love?' Or is just one of the characters a fool for love? To me they are all fools for love, each in his or her own way. I want the



Melissa Dunlap stars as May in "Fool for Love."

audience to be reminded that love is a powerful, complicated force in our lives that may make us act in crazy ways, and for each of us it's a very personal, individual experience — an unavoidable experience."

"Fool for Love" by Sam Shepard is showing Feb. 26 and 27, and March 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12, at 8 p.m. Matinees are March 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18 and \$20. Port City Playhouse sits on the corner of Quaker and Crestwood Lanes in Alexandria. The address for the Lab at Convergence is 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.com.

CALENDAR

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

"Color and Shape." Through Feb. 28, gallery hours at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The Associates Gallery (TAG) February exhibit features two painters – Jill Finsen and Barbara Muth. Both Finsen and Muth paint moments made vivid through color and shape. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"All aBoard." Through Feb. 28, gallery hours at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

Eight board members, Ron Blank, Michele Reday Cook, Kim S. Joy, Stephen Lally, Marlin Lord, Elizabeth Guerry Mead, Kathy Turner and Joan Woodill, display their work. Free. Visit www.delrayartisans.org/show.

Art Exhibit: "Women Do It!"

Through Feb. 28 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. The National Women's Caucus for Art presents the "Women Do It" exhibit. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

"Shake Loose."

Through March 6, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. "Shake Loose" features music and lyrics by Thomas W. Jones II, William Hubbard and William Knowles. It features stories and songs from MetroStage productions including "Three Sistahs," "Cool Papa's Party,"

"Ladies Swing the Blues" and more. Tickets \$55-60. Call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

Art Exhibit: "Storytelling/Global Narratives."

Through March 13, gallery hours at Schlesinger Center's Fisher Gallery at Northern Virginia Community College's Alexandria Campus, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Part of the regional project "Al-Mutanabbi Street Starts Here DC 2016," a book, arts and cultural festival through March throughout the Washington, D.C. area. "Storytelling/Global Narratives" will commemorate the 2007 bombing of Baghdad's historic bookselling street and celebrate the free exchange of ideas and knowledge. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu for more.

"A Salute to Primary Colors."

Through March 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 9 p.m. on second Thursday of each month. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery

presents primary colors in all forms including as gifts, jewelry, sculpture, clothing, and wall pieces. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

"Wings from Chains."

Through March 13, gallery hours at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Artists consider the roles and responsibilities in society. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Solo Exhibit: Lynn Boggess.

Through March 15, gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Lynn Boggess paints landscapes from the West Virginian woods to Floridian seascapes with palette knives and cement trowels for texture. Free. Visit www.principlegallery.com for more.

Art Exhibit: "Partnerships."

Through May 15, business hours at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, 2660 Duke St. All artwork is available for purchase through Del

Ray Artisans. Artists are donating 20 percent of the purchase price of sold pieces in an equal split between Del Ray Artisans and the VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital's charity of choice, Veterans Moving Forward. Free. Call 703-751-2022 for more.

"Who The Wounded Are."

Through July 11 at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St. "Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital" is about people who lived and worked at this site in Alexandria and their real life stories that inspired the PBS show, "Mercy Street." Tickets are \$2-12. Visit www.carlylehouse.org for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History.

Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Goldsmith Gallery, the historical

ENTERTAINMENT

objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to “be the curator” and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum’s collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria’s history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

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

Alexandria’s Nurses & Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama “Mercy Street,” with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

Occupied City: Civil War Alexandria Self-Guided Tour. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. learn about the real history behind the show “Mercy Street” on this self-guided walking tour, which features significant Civil War Alexandria sites all within walking distance of The Lyceum, which was seized and used as a hospital during the war. Tickets are \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

“Ancient Art of Movement.” 1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations. First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffé & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen’s Cemetery. Through March, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen’s Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of

Alexandria’s citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and Coffee invites car enthusiasts to meet for coffee at Hollin Hall Shopping Center in front of Roseina’s, 1307 Shenandoah Road. Owners of classic cars, hot rods, exotic cars, motorcycles and more meet to share car stories and drink coffee. Group meets the first Sunday of every month. 8:30-11 a.m.

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

National Inventors Hall of Fame Exhibit. Through November at The National Inventors Hall of Fame-USPTO campus, 600 Dulany St. The exhibit features the stories of Inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame who served their country during World War II and returned home to help build the nation with their innovations. Free. Visit www.inventnow.org.

Dinner for the Washingtons. 12 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Second Thursday Music. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. 7 pm. Second Thursday of every month. Visit nvfaa.org to view concert calendar and listen to upcoming Second Thursday Music artists.

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

Art for Life. Third Thursday of every month. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Hyatt Regency Crystal City has partnered will the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

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

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share work, ideas, and questions at this free workshop held on the last Sunday of each month, except December. No reservations. Call 703-683-2205.

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

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

www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Center for Alexandria’s Children Gala. 7-10 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch, 5 Cameron St. This year’s theme is “boots & bling.” Enjoy custom signature cocktails, taco bar, raffle and live music. Tickets are \$150. Visit www.alexandriaskids.org for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

Charles Houston 2016 African American History Celebration. 11 a.m. at 901 Wythe St. The program agenda will highlight familial histories’ with the following narrative about their families: Mary Holmes and Carrie Davis, Pearl Turner and Catherine Ward, Teresa McGhee and Gertrude Murray, Veronica Pace and Vanessa Greene. Free. Call 703-746-5456 for more.

Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes and fun on the “Aqua Challenge” floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Tickets are \$4. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Kids Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Road. Doors close at 11:15, then everything is 50 percent off. No strollers allowed. Free. Email momsclubconsignment@gmail.com.

National Historic Landmark Unveiling. 10-11 a.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Followed by a special tour of the Memorial. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/GWbday.

Civil War Recruiting Day. 1-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Soldiers and civilians of the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Company K, will be on hand to talk about period clothing and equipment, present drill demonstrations, and explain the variety of roles that military and civilian interpreters can portray. Visitors can also inquire about how to join local reenactment units and learn what kind of clothing and equipment a novice reenactor requires. Admission is free. Visit www.fortward.org for more.

George Washington Symposium. 1-3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. The George Washington Symposium is held annually on Washington’s birthday to provide the public with research on the life of George Washington. This year’s theme is “From Relics to Repositories: Preserving George Washington’s Legacy Yesterday and Today.” Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/GWbday.

Tea with Lady Washington. 2-3 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join “Lady Washington” for an intimate fireside tea and conversation. Tickets are \$30



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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

MARCH

3/9/2016.....HomeLifeStyle Real Estate Pullout

3/16/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools

3/23/2016...Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

FCPS Spring Break 3/21-3/25

APRIL

4/6/2016.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout

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ENTERTAINMENT



“Thanks” (left) and “Old Film, New Film” ‘Contradictions’ Opens March 1

Working in the medium of encaustic (a wax-based paint) Julia Dzikiewicz paints, prints and constructs three-dimensional objects with bold colors embedding crystals, pearls or even metals. Her exhibit, “Contradictions” will hang at The Associates Gallery, 105 N. Union St., March 1-26. Also meet Dzikiewicz on March 6. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

for adults, \$20 for children. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Black History Month Quiz Competition and Celebration. 2-4 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The Alexandria Society for the Preservation of Black Heritage in partnership with the Alexandria Black History Museum will host a quiz competition. Free. Call 202-624-9082.

Tune Into Nature News. 4 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Get in-depth reporting out in the field about the latest eco-updates throughout Huntley’s habitats. \$7 for residents of Fairfax County, \$9 for non-residents. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Evening Woodcock Walk. 5:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Listen for the call of the male woodcock and hopefully see his courtship dance and flight. \$6 for residents of Fairfax County, \$8 for non-residents. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Washington Birthday Gala. 5:30-9:30 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. This black-tie event will feature entertainment and a formal banquet and presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award. Tickets are \$125. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/GWbday.

“Music is Magic.” 6 p.m. at The Westin Hotel, 400 Courthouse Square. “Music is Magic” is the theme for the 29th Annual Symphony Ball and Auction. The Ball, presented by the Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria (SOLA) supports fundraising efforts for the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Tickets start at \$200. Visit www.solaalexandria.org for more.

Documentary Screening. 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Watch a 90-minute documentary on the life and principles of Aldo Leopold, author of “Sand County Almanac” and conservationist/environmentalist. Free. Call 703-298-2176 for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 28

Live Animal Lunchtime. 12 p.m. at

Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Bring your lunch and dine with a special animal guest; a snake, turtle, or toad. Learn about their diet, adaptations, and habitat through crafts and hands-on learning for adults and children. Tickets are \$8 for residents of Fairfax County, \$10 for non-residents. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

“Seeds of Independence.” 1 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Culinary historian Leni Sorensen and members of the Mason Neck community give a program exploring African-American culinary tradition in Virginia and memories of food and fellowship in Mason Neck. Free, but donations accepted. Email historic@gunstonhall.org or call 703-550-9220.

Wonders of Science. 1-4 p.m. at the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Visit the Apothecary and discover curious objects, from poison bottles to dragon’s blood, find out how they were used and if they worked. During the tours, Project Enlightenment, McLean High School’s historical-reenactment society, will conduct 18th century scientific demonstrations. Tickets are \$6. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

“How Does Noise Affect Bird Communication?” 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Dr. David Luther, biology professor at George Mason University will discuss how biological and human-made noises, like traffic, affect acoustic communication of birds in urban areas. His talk will cover some bird species commonly seen at Dyke Marsh. Free. Call 703-765-3645 for more.

Walking With Washington Tour. 2-3:30 p.m. starting at Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King St. Visit George Washington’s hometown and view some of the sites connected to the General, such as where he filled his prescriptions or slept overnight before returning to Mount Vernon. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com.

Reception: Art League Student and Faculty Show. 2-4 p.m. at The Art League, 105 N. Union St.

Celebrate this exhibit which features faculty works alongside hundreds of paintings, drawings, printmaking, stained glass, jewelry, ceramics, pottery, fiber, mosaics, sculpture created by our student body. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

Live Fashion Shoot. 6-8 p.m. at St. George Gallery, 105 N. Alfred St. Attend a live fashion photoshoot by Troi Hansley of Lenses by Troi, featuring designs of Joan A. Sealey of Jo-Ann’s Atelier. Together the designers and fashion photographer wish to recognize and celebrate the creative, cultural and inspirational contributions of Africans and African-Americans. Free. Visit Call 703-299-9495 for more.

Anne Hills and Susan Greenbaum. 7 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Contemporary folk singers Anne Hills and Susan Greenbaum perform. Tickets are \$18, \$15 in advance and for Focus Music members. Visit www.focusmusic.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 1

Creative Exploration Open Studio. 10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple watercolor techniques and doodle designs with your child. Tickets are \$30 for parent/caregiver and child. Contact 703-944-4381 or info@metamorphosisaec.com, or visit www.metamorphosisaec.com/mama/classes.

Music at Mount Vernon. 7-9 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. “Music at Mount Vernon” is a three-part series designed to educate through music. Tickets are \$175 for all three events, \$125 for members and supporters. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

MARCH 1-26

Art Exhibit: “Contradictions.” Gallery hours at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Working in the medium of encaustic Julia Dzikiewicz paints, prints and constructs three-dimensional objects with bold colors embedding crystals, pearls or even metals. Free. Visit

www.torpedofactory.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 2

Book Discussion. 10:15-11:45 a.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. A discussion group for parents, grandparents, teachers, caregivers, and child advocates. Discuss “Children’s Imagination: Creativity Under Our Noses.” Free. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com.

“Winds and Ivory.” 7:30 p.m. at Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The musicians are members of the faculty of the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College. The program includes “Concerto No. 2 after Vivaldi” by J. S. Bach, arranged by Mordecai Rechtman; “Divertissement” by Albert Roussel; “Sextett” by Ludwig Thuille; “Calder’s Circus,” written in 2015 by New Jersey composer Robert S. Cohen; and “Arctic Circle” for wind quintet and piano, written in 2001 by British composer Cecilia McDowall. Free. Contact flutist Teresa Bowers atbowers@gettysburg.edu.

Swing Dance. 9-11 p.m. at Nick’s Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. The Colliders play classic rockabilly, blues, and honky-tonk. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

MARCH 2-31

Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition & Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Woodlawn Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway. The show will feature both contemporary and traditional needlework. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 3-6

2016 Biennial Ikebana Show. Gallery hours at The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. The Art League welcomes back the Washington, D.C., branch of The Sogetsu School for our 16th Biennial Ikebana Show. Recognized as a sculptural form of art, Ikebana is the art of Japanese flower arranging. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org for more

FRIDAY/MARCH 4

Art Reception: “March Melee.” 7-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Celebrate this exhibit inspired by Roald Dahl quote: “A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest [wo]men.” Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Beer Dinner with Yards Brewery. 7 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. History-inspired beers from Yards Brewery of Philadelphia get paired with a four-course meal. Tickets are \$85. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org for more.

MARCH 4-27

Art Exhibit: “March Melee.” 12-6 p.m. Thursday, 12-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Sunday at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. This exhibit features artists’ “boldest and wackiest art.” Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/shows.

SATURDAY/MARCH 5

Sanctuary Studio Art and Quiet Day. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Inspired by Taiye Salasi’s TED talk, “Where are You Local?” this event will reflect on how the day’s exploration of practice can inform opportunities for practice in our everyday lives. Free. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com.

Cooking with Tinky. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Williams-Sonoma Old Town, 825 S. Washington St. To celebrate maple month, writer/singer/TV personality Tinky Weisblat will cook from her “Pudding Hollow Cookbook.” Free. Visit www.tinkycooks.com.

Tea with Lady Washington. 2-3 p.m. at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Join “Lady Washington” for an intimate fireside tea and conversation. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for children. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Family Woodcock Walk. 5:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Listen for the call of the male woodcock and hopefully see his courtship dance and flight. \$6 for residents of Fairfax County, \$8 for non-residents. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 6

Meet the Artist: “Contradictions.” 6-8 p.m. at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Working in the medium of encaustic Julia Dzikiewicz paints, prints and constructs three-dimensional objects with bold colors embedding crystals, pearls or even metals. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 7

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 138 N. Royal St. Drink a special blend of tea or a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, eat period-inspired delicacies, with “Martha Washington.” During the tea, “Mrs. Washington” will be sharing stories from her life and visiting with each guest. Also take a tour at 2:15. Tea is \$35 per person, all inclusive, reservations are required. To make reservations call 703.746.4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

“Build a Beast” Textile Workshop. 6-9 p.m. at The Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Learn how to construct a fantasy creature from your own doodles. The workshop fee is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, plus a \$5 supply fee. Visit

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www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Lecture: Women of Alexandria. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. "Women of Alexandria, from Antebellum to the 20th Century" will depict the effect of the Civil War on the lives of Alexandria's women before, during, and after the war. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

MARCH 7-14

NOVA Restaurant Week. The Arlington Chamber of Commerce again partners with the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging, and Travel Association to present the 2016 Northern Virginia Restaurant Week. Visit www.rosslynva.org for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 8

Homeschool Day at Mount

Vernon. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. At the Pioneer Farm, watch costumed interpreters produce 18th-century goods as you learn about George Washington's innovative farming practices. Visit a reconstructed slave cabin, play colonial games, and see animals (such as horses, mules, sheep, and oxen). Free for children 5 and under, \$9 for homeschool students ages 6-18, \$10 for adults. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Creative Exploration Open Studio.

10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple watercolor techniques and doodle designs with your child. Tickets are \$30 for parent/caregiver and child. Contact 703-944-4381 or info@metamorphosisaec.com, or visit www.metamorphosisaec.com.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 9

Sanctuary Studio.

10:15-11:45 a.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Using drawing, watercolor, and collage materials, explore line, shape, and color as a meditative process. Free, but donations accepted. Visit www.staidanepiscopal.com.

Meet With a Professional

Organizer. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. A professional organizer will speak at the MOMS Club of Alexandria South monthly meeting. Children of all ages are welcome at the meeting. MOMS Club of Alexandria South serves at-home parents as well as parents who work part-time or have home-based businesses and who reside in zip codes 22303, 22306 and 22307. Free. Email Southalexmomms@yahoo.com.

CryBaby Art Studio. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Learn simple art techniques and exercise your creativity with your baby by your side. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 10

"Speak, Sister." 7:30 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Local actors will read from diaries and letters of women, Harriet Jacobs, Isabel Emerson and Anne Frobel, who lived in Alexandria during the Civil War, and bluegrass band Dead Men's Hollow will play songs of the Civil War. Tickets are \$20. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 11

Spaghetti Dinner. 5-8 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. St. Luke's Episcopal Church is holding a spaghetti dinner to support Rising Hope's Food Pantry and two other food programs in the community. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under, and \$30 for families. Call 703-298-5987 for more.

Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes on the "Aqua Challenge" floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Tickets are \$4. Visit www.shop.alexandriava.gov.

Ladies Night Out: Painting Van Gogh Style. 7-9:30 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Tickets are \$45. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com.

MARCH 11-APRIL 10

All City High School Visual Art Exhibition. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Convergence presents the "Alexandria City High School Art Exhibit," a joint effort between Bishop Ireton High School, Episcopal High School, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, and T.C. Williams High School. In an effort to recognize and encourage the creative pursuits of visual art students from across the city, art teachers from each of the four schools have collaborated. Free. Visit www.ourconvergence.org for more.



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West Potomac Boys Win Conference 7 Championship

Wolverines beat top seed West Springfield in final.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Shortly after his Wolverines defeated top seed West Springfield to win the Conference 7 championship on Sunday, West Potomac boys' basketball coach David Houston III climbed a ladder, cut down a net and later explained how his vision of a title started last season.

The early stages of the vision, however, weren't nearly as fun.

West Potomac finished the 2014-15 campaign with an 8-15 record, including 3-9 in the conference. The Wolverines' season ended with a loss to Lake Braddock in the opening round of the conference tournament.

Players took their lumps, but non-seniors gained valuable experience for the future.

This season, the Wolverines are dishing out lumps rather than taking them. On Feb. 21, West Potomac earned its 13th win in its last 15 games, beating West Springfield 61-57 in the Conference 7 tournament final at South County High School.

West Potomac, the tournament's No. 2 seed, led by as many as 19, when a 3-pointer by freshman Daryl Mackey, Jr. gave the Wolverines a 32-13 advantage with 2:35 remaining in the second quarter. West Springfield battled back and pulled within two when an Andrew Johnson bucket cut the West Potomac lead to 59-57 with 58 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter. West Springfield had a chance to tie or take the lead, but the Spartans were called for an offensive foul.

Mackey made a pair of free throws, extending the Wolverines' lead to four with 19.4 seconds remaining, and West Potomac



The West Potomac boys' basketball team won the Conference 7 championship on Feb. 21.

held on to win its first conference/district championship since 2010.

"We couldn't be here without the experience [of] playing last year and the only way to get the experience is to play," said Houston, who is in his 12th season as West Potomac head coach. "West Springfield, they beat us up last year, physically, just beat us up, so they were kind of our marker as to what we were looking for. They were a physical team. Lake Braddock was another team that physically just beat us up, so we knew we had to lift ... our conditioning had to be better, and I knew [some of] the kids were 15 years old last year, they just hadn't even started growing yet. I knew the guys that stuck it out, that didn't quit, that didn't transfer away, those guys would be the ones that could do it."

West Potomac guard Khalil Williams Diggins was a sophomore during last year's losing season. On Sunday, the first-team all-conference selection led the Wolverines with 19 points and earned tournament MVP honors.

"It feels great," Williams Diggins said

about winning the title.

Senior forward Jamie Sara is another player who experienced West Potomac's rough 2014-15 season. On Sunday, the two-time second-team all-conference selection scored 11 points and grabbed five rebounds.

"We knew that feeling after we lost [in the] first round last year," Sara said, "that we didn't want to have that same feeling this year."

One player who wasn't with the Wolverines last season is Mackey, whose strong freshman season continued with a 17-point performance against the Spartans.

"It took me awhile to get used to playing on the varsity level," Mackey said, "but I'd say by midway my ... teammates got me into the flow and brought me in as a player."

Mackey knocked down a trio of 3-pointers during Sunday's game and made a pair of clutch free throws in the final minute.

"I don't think he understands [pressure] yet, so I think that's probably the best thing," Houston said. "He's just playing. I told him Friday night, 'Just relax and play. If you're open, shoot it. Don't think too much.' For a



West Potomac junior guard Khalil Williams Diggins received Conference 7 tournament MVP honors.

while, I think he was thinking. He was a freshman, [experiencing] the wear-down of the season, but today he just relaxed and hit some big shots."

Williams Diggins said the Wolverines trusted their freshman teammate from the start of the season.

"He's a good player," Williams Diggins said, "and if he wasn't good, he wouldn't be on varsity."

Junior forwards Da'Jon Bellfield and Da'Juan Bellfield each grabbed six rebounds for West Potomac.

The Wolverines started the season 3-6, including 0-2 in conference play. Before the start of the 2016 portion of their schedule, Houston made an adjustment, adding Da'Juan Bellfield to a starting lineup of Williams Diggins, Mackey, Sara and Da'Jon Bellfield, and West Potomac got hot. The Wolverines closed the regular season by winning 10 of 12 and earning the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament.

"[It has been a] long year of hard work and a lot of guys, players and coaches, that put a lot of their time and effort and sacrificed for a vision that they weren't sure [about], but I knew we had the group of guys to do it, it's just we all had to get on the same page," Houston said. "I've never been around a group like this before, that they just listen, they play so hard. [There are] no complaints from anybody, no parent complaints. I've never been around anything like this."

West Potomac defeated Patriot 62-45 in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament on Tuesday. The Wolverines faced Robinson on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline.

West Potomac's Bayer Wins State Titles

West Potomac sophomore Cassidy Bayer was part of three state championships on Saturday.

Bayer won her second straight 200 IM state title, her second consecutive 100 butterfly state championship and helped the 200 medley relay finish first during the 6A state meet on Feb. 20 at George Mason University.

Bayer recorded All-American times in the 200 IM (1:59.59) and 100 butterfly (53.3). The 200 medley relay (Alexandria Puskar-Beckett, Holly Jansen, Bayer, Jenna Martin) also turned in an All-American time (1:45.46).

West Potomac sophomore Jansen placed second in the 200 IM with a time of 29.56 (All-American consideration).

The 200 free relay (Bayer, Martin, Puskar-Beckett, Jansen) finished runner-up with a

time of 1:37 (All-American consideration).

West Potomac finished fourth in the girls' team standings with 163 points. Robinson won the state title with a score of 212, followed by Oakton (171) and McLean (169).

The West Potomac boys' team finished 25th with a score of 21. Robinson won the state title (235), followed by Langley (190), Patriot (178) and McLean (161).

Mount Vernon's Fisher Sets Diving Record

Mount Vernon sophomore Hailey Fisher won the 6A state diving championship with a VHSL record score of 447.1 on Feb. 19 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.



West Potomac's Cassidy Bayer won the 200 IM state championship on Feb. 20 at George Mason University.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

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Obituary – Edna Keys Dove

Edna Keys Dove died on February 20th. She would have turned 100 on March 5th. She was born in Richmond, VA to Owen and Sallie Keys. She spent the next 55 years in Alexandria and later retired to Weems. She was predeceased by her husband of 59 years, Vernon T. Dove.

She is survived by two daughters and one son-in-law: Cathie and Braxton Allport and Margaret Lee. Also surviving are her four grandchildren: Britney (Chris) Thomson, Gabrielle Lee Barnes, Hannah Catherine (Kevin) Munro and H. Braxton Allport III (Nicole) and her ten great grandchildren: Kelsey, Sidney, Katey, Jake, Jenna, Jon Keeton, Claire, Angus, Avie and Rowan.

She was a member of Washington Street United Methodist Church in Alexandria and later Kilmarnock and Williamsburg United Methodist Churches. She volunteered at Alexandria Hospital, Historic Christ Church, Rappahannock Hospital and the American Red Cross.

The family appreciates the loving care from the staff and families of Spring Arbor, her home for the last 10 years, and the staff of At Home Care Hospice.

A memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Church in Williamsburg, on March 11 and 11 AM. Her ashes will be interred at Ivy Hill Cemetery in Alexandria in May.

Memorial donations may be made to Lancaster Public Library, PO Box 850, Kilmarnock, VA 22482; Historic Christ Church Foundation, 420 Christ Church Road, Weems, VA 22576; and Child Development Resources, PO Box 280, Norge, VA 23127

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LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the provision of section 4-1-16 of the code of the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Police Department located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304 is now in possession of unclaimed bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment, money, scooters, and other items. All persons having valid claim to the property should file a claim to the property with reasonable proof of ownership or the items will be sold, destroyed, converted or donated. For a complete listing go to <http://alexandriava.gov/police/> and contact the Police Property Section at (703) 746-6709.

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Please be advised that the Low Income Housing Waitlist for Creekside Village Apts. will CLOSE on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 5:00 pm. No applications will be accepted after that date and time.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed bids for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:

Invitation to Bid No. 00000588, Furnish and Install Bus Shelters (Re-bid)

ITB Opening Date and Time: March 21, 2016, 3 p.m., prevailing local time

Non-mandatory Pre-bid Conference: March 3, 2016, 10 a.m.; prevailing local time at Purchasing Division, 100 N. Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.

For general inquiries contact Darryl K. Jackson, CPPB, Contract Specialist III at 703.746.4298.

The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.

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CONSOLIDATED PLAN PUBLIC NOTICE

On Friday, March 25, 2016, the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will hold a public hearing on items relating to the Commonwealth of Virginia's administration of the Consolidated Action Plan 2016-2017 Action Plan.

The public hearing will be held at 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM in the 12th Floor North Conference Room of the Main Street Centre, 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. DHCD will be taking comments on the proposed 2016-2017 Action Plan including goals and objectives for housing and community development; the projected use of funding; the method for distributing \$7,034,121 in HOME Investment Partnership funds; \$2,754,274 in Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funds; \$745,593 in Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funds, and \$16,881,481 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Copies of the plan document may be requested by calling (804) 371-7100, (804) 371-7122, or (804) 371-7084 TDD. Persons requiring special accommodations should call (804) 371-7110. The Plan will appear on the agency's web site at <http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov> under "What's New."

The Department will receive written comments and testimony on the proposed 2016-2017 Action Plan through the close of business on April 15, 2016 at the following address:

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
Attention: Lyndsi Austin
Main Street Centre
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, Virginia 23219

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS and THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NUMBER 16-01-02

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools and the City of Alexandria, Virginia are seeking qualification proposals for Construction Manager at Risk Services for Patrick Henry PreK-8 School and Recreational Facility.

Sealed Qualification Proposals with the notation RFQ# 16-01-02 – CM@Risk Services PH, will be received in the Financial Services Department, Procurement Office, located at 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, MARCH 8, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFQ documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the RFQ from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services – Current Bids and Request for Proposals.

All questions should be submitted before 4:30 p.m., March 1, 2016. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

No RFQ may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFQ.

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFQ and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Sharon T. Lewis M.P.S., CPPB, VCO
Director of Procurement & General Services

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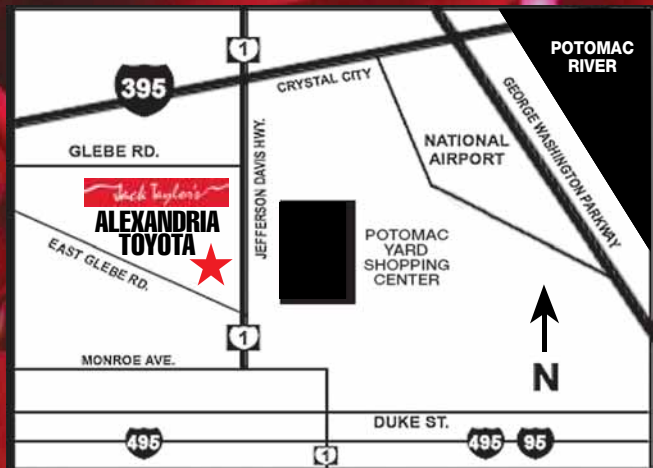
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NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**ROTATE & BALANCE
SPECIAL**

\$59.95

INCLUDES: Rotate and balance all 4 wheels and inspect brakes and tires.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

**15% OFF
ANY ACCESSORIES**

• Apparel • Window visors
• I-pad adaptors • All weather floor mats
• Toyota bedliners

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

**30000 MILES FACTORY
RECOMMENDED
SERVICE**

\$159.95

Synthetic \$10 More
INCLUDES: Change engine oil & filter (up to 5 qts), rotate tires, inspect wear and adjust pressure, measure brake pad thickness & rotor runout, replace cabin air filter (if equipped), replace engine air filter, reset maintenance reminder light (if applicable) and multi-point vehicle inspection.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA, VA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/16.

**WINTER
SAVINGS**



**New RAV4s, Priuses
Scion IMs and IAs**

**ALL ON SALE
LIKE NEVER BEFORE**

Winter is here and so are the SAVINGS!

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**WE ARE HERE
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**Let's
Go
Places**



CHRIS WHITE

*Planning to sell in 2016?
Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White!
Leading the Area in Real Estate. SOLD!!!*



2606 Woodlawn Trail
\$829,500

**Stunning Floor plan-
Main Level Master!**

Truly spectacular opportunity! Wakefield Homes custom built property is loaded with upgrades and options. Unique home featuring highly sought after first floor master suite, 3 fin. lvs, 4BRs, 3.5BAs, hdwd flrs, high ceilings and 2 car garage. Pristine move-in condition. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac, mins from Old Town. **OPEN SUN, 2/28, 1-4PM.** GW Pky S; R-Morningside, becomes Sherwood Hall; R-Davenport; L-Elba; L-Lisbon; L-Milway; L-Woodlawn Trail.



2512 Culpeper Rd
\$565,000

**Bright Open Floor
Plan. High Ceilings!**

One of Stratford's nicest models-contemporary with mid century modern flair.

Soaring cathedral ceilings, open floor plan and large windows bring light to every corner of the home. Numerous updates include kitchen, 3 baths, refinished hardwood floors, and thermal windows. Gas heat & hot water.



9019 Stratford Ln
\$567,900

**Steps from River — Just off
GW Parkway!**

One of area's premier settings! Spacious Rambler with uniquely attractive floor plan. Many fabulous features include hardwood floors, living room with wood burning brick fireplace, master with private bath on main level, large sunroom & covered parking. Large exterior deck overlooks private rear yard. Great home in prime location for reasonable price.



3163 Woodland Lane

\$950,000

Prime Waterfront—Acre Lot!

Minutes from Old Town, just off GW Parkway. Stunning custom home designed by two owner architects featuring delightful combination of classic Mt Vernon inspired exterior with spectacular open floor plan. Glass walls and meticulously planned siting capitalizes on water views provided by elevated lot. Custom two story dock with upper level deck, 182 ft frontage on Little Hunting Creek. Unique opportunity to acquire a prime close-in waterfront property with dock for under \$1,000,000! **OPEN SUN, 2/28, 1-4PM.** GW Pky S; sharp R at Estate; R-Woodland



2403 Stirrup Lane
\$569,000

**Updated
Contemporary!**

Gorgeous fenced lot, just one block from Stratford Elem.

Extensive updates throughout including brand new custom kitchen, 3 updated baths. Gorgeous hardwood floors, and total interior painting. Cathedral ceilings. Size, condition, location & price add up to best value in area.



8931 Fort Hunt Rd
\$719,000

**Prime Location—
Updated Throughout!**

Best value in prestigious Plymouth Haven! Fabulous updated 5BR home on magnificent half

acre lot. Prime location just across from Ft Hunt Park. Spacious home is loaded with upgrades and custom features. Stunning beautiful grounds with custom in-ground pool. Waynewood School. Adjoining property just sold for \$1.6. Other recent neighborhood sales \$1.5 - \$1.7. Super value.



8708 Plymouth Rd
\$1,499,000*

**Classic American Four
Square Design—*Special
Pre-Construction Price!**

Best of both worlds-classic American Four Square exterior combined with stunning modern floor plan and amenities. Numerous features include open floor

plan, high ceilings, top line kitchen and baths. Prime location on half acre level lot in popular Plymouth Haven. Pre-construction contract provides maximum opportunity to customize and discounted price!



8605 Cotswold Ct
\$669,000

Three Car Garage!

Owner has moved and wants immediate sale - result: the most home for the money in Fort Hunt area! Fabulous features

including rare three car garage, open floor plan, hardwood floors and sunroom. Recently updated roof and HVAC system. Large level lot fronts quiet cul-de-sac. Size, condition, location and price create truly unique opportunity!



9329 Mt Vernon Cir
\$1,099,000

**One of Area's Most
Admired Properties!**

Classic Georgian manor home crafted by legendary master builder, Eugene Cullinane to serve as

model for homes in upscale Mt Vernon on the Potomac neighborhood. Special home contains builder's trademark features including custom brickwork, elaborate plaster moldings, estate size rooms, stately 10' ceilings & imposing 13' wide foyer. Private marina access in area's leading waterfront community. True one of a kind property!



9119 Buckner Rd
\$598,922

**Character Abounds—
Backs to Parkland!**



9408 Brambly Lane
\$1,095,000
Builder's Showcase!



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028

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

Alexandria/Old Town Historic - 400 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

