

Storck's Town Meeting Features 3D Flying Tour

Bulova and Storck dismiss creating Muslim registry.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Could there be a registry for Muslims in Fairfax County? Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova and supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) say no.

A week after protests at airports around the country following an Executive Order by President Donald Trump that blocked refugees and travelers from seven largely Muslim countries from entering the United States, the topic came up during a question-and-answer session at the 30th annual Mount Vernon town meeting on Feb. 4.

When asked if Fairfax County would begin such a registry, as Trump had discussed plans to do at a national level prior to his inauguration, Bulova responded, "I don't see Fairfax County doing that."

Bulova's answer was met with loud applause from the mostly full auditorium at Mount Vernon High School.

"We are a very diverse community," Bulova continued, "we celebrate diversity. People move here from all over the world — that has been our strength."

Storck added that embracing diversity "is the cornerstone for what our community believes."



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Speakers at the 30th annual Mount Vernon town meeting included Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon), Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8), County Executive Ed Long, representative from Ft. Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Holbrooke and Mount Vernon FCPS School Board member Karen Corbett Sanders.

County Executive Ed Long was among the other speakers, who addressed a looming budget shortfall for Fairfax County and said there needs to be more thinking around "ways that we tax and support government."

Mount Vernon representative to the Fairfax County Public Schools board Karen Corbett Sanders discussed FCPS' commitment to "a holistic approach to education," working to close a gap in achievement in part by partnering more with parents and guardians of students.

Corbett Sanders also referenced budget

difficulties: She said at the moment the school system is facing a shortfall for the FY 2018 budget of between \$43 and \$65 million, depending on the outcome of decisions being made at the current session of the Virginia General Assembly.

"It's a challenging budget year," she said, which "feels like our mantra since 2008."

Corbett Sanders said FCPS is struggling to keep up with an increase in population as well as costs associated with keeping teacher salaries competitive with surrounding jurisdictions.

"It's too easy to go to Alexandria and Ar-

lington," she said, "or relocate to Prince William."

While last year there was more of a contentious tone between School Board members and supervisors over the budget, Corbett Sanders praised the "funding partners at the county level," who "continue to be generous."

Instead, she encouraged constituents to weigh in with their state and federal politicians, who she said have fallen behind on their obligations to fully fund Fairfax County.

In other parts of Virginia, Corbett Sanders said, funding from the state and local government is each about 45 percent of operating budgets, with 10 percent from federal funding.

In Fairfax County, she said, they must receive 72 percent of budget funding from the county due to being underfunded relative to the rest of the Commonwealth from Richmond and Washington, D.C.

Storck continued the tradition of former Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D) of giving a "virtual tour" of current and upcoming changes to the district.

But rather than Hyland's virtual bus, Storck donned a white aviator's scarf and announced a three-dimensional flying tour.

Storck began the tour at George Washington's Mount Vernon, elevation and topography rapidly zooming in and out behind him.

At several spots along Richmond Highway, the 3D projection showed locations of

SEE STORCK, PAGE 5

Inside Police Diversity Training for Fairfax County

Commanders hear about openness, forgiveness, and professionalism.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

West Springfield District Police Commander Cpt. Gervais T. Reed said when police officers leave the profession, some are in good shape, others are bitter. In the course of carrying out their duty to protect and serve citizens, officers can be cursed at, assaulted and have projectiles hurled at them, he said.

That kind of backlash can wear a person down and stress them out, even make them feel victimized, Reed said. "But we have to forgive," he continued, "not take those things personally, to the ex-

tent that we can. We've got to be professional."

Heightened professionalism and forgiveness in law enforcement were part of the message delivered by Eric Broyles to a room full of Fairfax County police commanders, leaders from the Sheriff's Office and several other civilian leaders on Feb. 2.

Broyles is a Washington, D.C.-based attorney and co-author of the book "Encounters with Police: A Black Man's Guide to Survival." He said he wrote the book for a group of young men he was mentoring, preaching the concept of "comply now, contest later" in the event of a traffic stop or other interaction with police.

But speaking to the other side of that interaction, Broyles said he wanted to remind officers they "have a higher burden" when it comes to meeting with citizens. "They're the professionals," he said. "They have to raise the standard. It's socially unacceptable to have officers operate with racial innuendo."

Reed said he had already read Broyles' book, and that him coming to address the police commanders was a noble task. The author's statements about professionalism and forgiveness, Reed said, made the most impact, and are things he intends to take back to his station and share with his first line supervisor and other officers.

The commanders were receiving diversity training as part of a monthly meeting normally off-lim-

its to the public and media.

On this occasion, however, Chief of Police Edwin Roessler wanted to include eyes from the outside as he continues to "re-engineer" the force in terms of communication, transparency and accountability.

Roessler said diversity training is required by the Commonwealth of Virginia to be administered every two years, but at the bare minimum that involves a mere computer course.

"We have to change the culture

of policing," Roessler said, "this is about ethical leadership through engaging with the community."

To go above the requirement the day's training included three speakers, of which Broyles was third.

First was Geneviève Fine, board member of the Fairfax County Domestic Violence Prevention Policy and Coordinating Council. Though members of the media weren't able to see any of her pre-

SEE TRAINING, PAGE 5

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The Journey to the Other Side of the Street

Success occurs one-on-one.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE GAZETTE

Lavonne Williams and Michael Diffley sit sharing an afternoon cup of coffee remembering their journey. They recall the day they met in 2007. Williams said, "I was a homeless ex-offender, staying at the day shelter on Henry Street and sleeping on the streets at night. Mike pulled up in a truck and asked if anybody wanted to help him transfer mattresses donated from hotels to the furniture bank at ALIVE!"

Diffley added, "Like many other days I would look for the older black guys in their 50s because I knew they had been through a lot of stuff and I liked to listen to their stories. My comment to him was he won't be on the streets. His comment to me was he will come and help me move furniture."

Though they didn't realize it at the time, at that moment a bargain was struck.

Williams said, "Mike gave me a jump start on being able to find work." Diffley said, "You can roll the dice 40 times and the law of probability says you get snake eyes; you get a job. But an ex-offender rolls the dice 40 times and gets rejection and quits. They need people to take them on one-on-one, to roll up their sleeves." He points to Williams and back to himself. "This works," he said.

At the time Williams also panhandled in front of St. Joseph Catholic Church where Diffley is a parishioner. Many people that he calls his "regulars" were giving Williams money and when they asked him what do you want, he would say, "I want work."

Diffley said, "I got to know him better. I made it a point to talk to him. So many people pass by and don't even give the time of day to the homeless. Lavonne has a great personality." At the time Williams had some medical problems; he was a heavy smoker.

Williams added, "They stuck a little cord in my vein to scrape the extra plaque out."

Williams said when he met Diffley he had gotten "real tired" of living on the street. He slept in used car lots and went to businesses on King Street where trucks were unloading at 5 a.m. to earn \$20 just to get something to eat. He said it took him "a while to get the concept of his situation in its entirety. I was trying to live on both sides of the street at the same time. I have taken Mike through a couple of headaches and he hasn't given up on me."

Diffley explains that Williams was on probation and still smoking marijuana. "He thought he could beat the charge. That really hurt and he knew it. We had the walk around the block talk." Diffley said Williams was close to going back to jail and me saying to myself 'it's too hard for me to do anymore.' But I still remember it. I said, 'do you want to come over to my side of the street or not.' He said, 'I'm ready, Mike.'"

Diffley added, "To do what Williams did, that's not easy to do. All your friends are over there on that side of the street, your social network, your drug supply."

Williams said, "There are a lot of people who say they want to do something but to put their foot in it is an entirely different perspective. You would rather stay where you are and beef than to look for work." He thinks of Jamison who first got him involved in panhandling. "He is a perfect example. Jamison has been panhandling for years. He says he can make more money than working for anybody." But sometime Jamison will get tired and want to get off the street and sleep on the couch and connect with Diffley.

Williams had been released from Lorton Prison in 1997 and told not to have a D.C. address anymore so he woke up in the D.C. jail and walked to the Potomac Avenue Metro, got on the train and came to Alexandria. He said it's the biggest letdown because there are expectations that the gov-



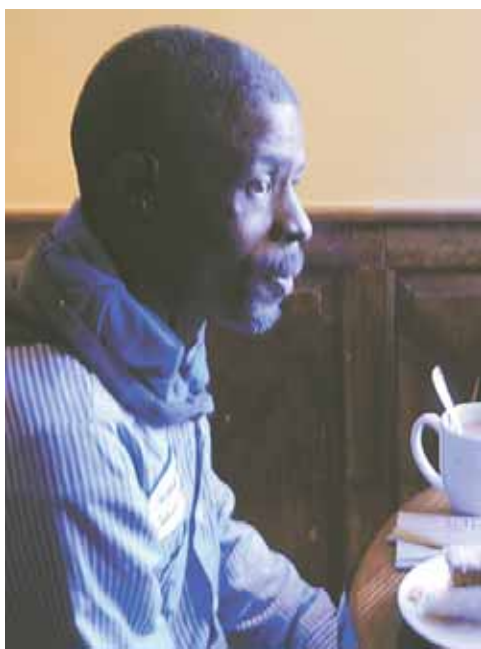
Lavonne Williams, formerly an ex-offender and homeless, remembers the day he met Michael Diffley. They began a journey together, sometimes up and down,

that has led Williams from the streets to a room and his own business, Alexandria Labor Co-Op.

ernment has programs to help you. "Back in the day when you went to the unemployment office they had a Rolodex that they would get out and talk to employers about ex-offenders. There was a tax credit for employers who hired an ex-offender. But," he added, "if you don't do one-on-one, sending us out is useless."

Diffley says there are programs to help write resumes but do they take someone to find a job? "No, they are too busy writing resumes and with their computers."

Williams says when you get out, "you got



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

Lavonne Williams points out he has taken Diffley through a couple of headaches but "he hasn't given up on me. We've gotten real close."



Michael Diffley, a former colonel in the Army and later a high school teacher in D.C., says ex-offenders and homeless need people to take them on one-on-one if they are going to make it.

30 days. The first two weeks people are glad to see you. Then it's 'what do you do all day? When I leave, you're here; when I come home, you're here.'" He was married at the time so had some family support. He lived with his wife and her family. But as time went by he wasn't comfortable with her family's illegal activities "so I took her and moved to New Jersey." Williams got a job "with a pretty good company" repairing computers, a skill he had learned in prison. His job performance was so satisfactory they wanted to hire him permanently. It was when he had to fill out an application that they discovered his prison background and decided he "wasn't clean enough. So they let me go."

Williams had been at Lorton for 11 years. "When I went in I knew what I did was wrong but it was based on a vendetta for my sister." He explains someone gave his sister a "hot shot," a dose of heroin and cocaine at the same time. Now her mind fluctuates from 12-years-old to her current 53 years "and me and my dad are the only ones she recognizes off the top." He says he went after the guy who did it.

He said being in jail was close to life on the street. At Lorton, except driving, he says they did everything they did on the outside, like hustling and selling drugs. "We had carry-out soul food, some dormitories had parties." He says the slightest thing was magnified in jail, "like if you said the wrong thing about somebody's visiting wife."

And there weren't many fistfights. "If you're coming at me, you're coming at me to kill me." Diffley's personal journey that led him to the street where he met Williams began when he was a colonel in the Army stationed in New Orleans in the early '90s. He was involved in the Little Brother

Part III

Concluding a three-part series focusing on prisoner reentry in Northern Virginia.

Program and "this was the first time I had interacted with folks on the other side of the street." He came back to D.C. for his last tour and looked for some way to get involved again. Since he had graduated from West Point, had two degrees from MIT and a Master of Business he decided he had the credentials to teach so got a position in the inner city. "The more I did, the more I got

hooked on social justice." As the 12 years of teaching went by, he fell in love with the youths who were trying so hard, sometimes without any parents. He became much more progressive. "I used to be a Republican." Now he wants to do the things that society is obligated to do.

Williams says he has a lot of blessings. "I have a program for low-income mothers." They help him sort food for ALIVE! in exchange for community service hours. He has recommended several homeless for employment and he loads up boxes of food that a police officer delivers to homeless on the street. "Lavonne has become quite a philanthropist," Diffley said.

With the help of Diffley, Williams has started his own business, Alexandria Labor co-op,

labor source for yard work, moving furniture, heavy cleaning inside and out, and other times when you need a helping hand on a project. Diffley said, "Williams is a hard worker. He once walked from D.C. to the ALIVE! Warehouse to meet his regular Saturday morning obligation. We worked to get him incorporated and so he got some focus."

Williams said, "You have to reset your mind from being a panhandler." He currently has regular clients and six employees. His goal for the future is to have a 50 percent self-sufficient business, with vehicles, tools, uniforms and an active payroll. He said when he upgraded from sleeping in used car lots to a couch, "I never understood what this upgrade could mean." Now he wants more.

Diffley helps subsidize his current room. "I'm in a room now with a private bath." He says he is on a ladder now that will continue to go up. "Mike and I have gotten so close. Going down is not in the equation."

"Mike gave me a jump start on being able to find work."

— Lavonne Williams

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Storck Provides Flying Tour

FROM PAGE 1

new developments and Bus Rapid Transit stations: plans to increase density along the highway and enact the multi-modal transportation initiative Embark.

For BRT, Storck said, "the key is public funding. The process is going on right now," with a Comprehensive Plan review.

"2017 is the year," for pushing forward with more of these transportation improvements, the supervisor said. "We need your involvement."

While airborne, Storck called up a sound effect of a jet aircraft engine. Somewhat playfully, he asked what that noise was.

"It's a sound we've been hearing too often," Storck said, referencing the controversial changed flight patterns for planes around Washington Reagan Na-

tional Airport that have angered Mount Vernon residents with homes near the new routes.

"It's been highly annoying to us," said Storck, who added that the most problematic have been departing flights, and that it is a Federal Aviation Administration issue.

Storck said he has heard most about the shuttered Quality Inn & Suites off Richmond Highway, which burned in April 2015 and has had little done to it since the flames were extinguished.

"It's a public nuisance now," Storck said, but followed by saying he learned the owner planned to apply for demolition permits this week. "I will be expediting that," he added.

The town meeting was streamed live, and is available to watch via Storck's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SupervisorDanStorck>.

A Look Inside Police Diversity Training

FROM PAGE 1

sensation, Fine said afterward that she spoke to the commanders about Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues, educating them about terminology, how to best approach a situation involving someone from the LGBT community and ideas for avoiding escalating a potentially violent situation.

Fine said there is some fear among LGBT individuals, especially in young people, of being outed to their parents through an interaction with police.

"You have to be careful how you take care of that case," Fine said.

During a question-and-answer period, Fine said officers asked her about the always controversial issue of transgender people using bathrooms of the sex with which they identify.

"If they're called to a bathroom," Fine said, "it's likely there's something else going on," and not transgender people causing the problem. Most just want to get in and get out as quickly as possible, she said.



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PEOPLE



Showing Support

Rising Hope Mission Church sent a delegation to Richmond on Feb. 2 to meet with state Sen. Scott Surovell and Del. Paul Krizek in support of bills that uphold the teachings of Christ to care for those in need. Primarily the delegation supports the Governor's budget proposals to expand mental health and substance services in Virginia; the need to expand its health care programs for low-income Virginians; restoring driver's licenses to those who are truly destitute without paying fines and fees and utilize other means such as community service; opposing the effort to reduce TANF (welfare) benefits to 12 months; and strengthening enforcement of wage theft by employers.



Qualifying Scores

Grayson Wheeler competed among the nation's top high school marksmen in the 2017 U.S. Army National Junior Air Rifle Championship held in Ft. Benning, Georgia on Jan. 28-29. Grayson, a senior at West Potomac High School, scored 575/600 points in a 60-shot standing competition on Saturday, and 585/600 on Sunday, which qualified for the final round. She finished 13th out of 68 in the overall competition. Grayson has also qualified to compete in this year's USA Shooting National Junior Olympic Championships held in April in the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs for both Smallbore and Precision Air Rifle. Her qualifying scores earned second place for Smallbore and third for Women's Air in the state of Virginia.

Scholar To Address Scouts

C.R. Gibbs will be the featured speaker for Boy Scout Troop 1906 Black History Month Program, Saturday, Feb. 25, from 9-11 a.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road, in its multi-purpose room. Gibbs' topic will be "Let Your Motto Be Resistance, Great Slave Revolts."



Gibbs is the author/co-author of six books and a frequent national and international lecturer on an array of historical topics. He has appeared several times on the History Channel, French and Belgian television, and he wrote, researched, and narrated "Sketches In Color," a 13-part companion series to the acclaimed PBS series, "The Civil War" for WHUT-TV, the Howard University television station.

The Smithsonian Institution's Anacostia Museum features Gibbs among its scholars at the museum's Online Academy website. He is also a D.C. Humanities Council scholar. In 1989, he founded the African History & Culture Lecture Series whose scholars continue to provide free presentations at libraries, churches, and other locations in the Washington-Baltimore area. In 1997, he led 26 people across the

African continent. He won the 2008 Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation in Public Education, given annually by the mayor of the District of Columbia.

In 2009, the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust honored Gibbs for his more than three decades of articles, exhibits, and presentations on the military heritage of African and African Americans. In 2011, he provided historical commentary for WUSA-TV, Channel 9's coverage of the dedication of the King Memorial. In February 2013, he also appeared in the PBS documentary, "Meet Me At Equality" on the 1963 March on Washington. That same year, he also spoke at the annual observance of International Emancipation Day in Toronto, Canada.

In 2014, Gibbs was a featured speaker at the National Civil War Project, a joint event sponsored by Arena Stage & George Washington University. Also last year, he was chosen one of the 50 most influential people in the city by the Washington Informer newspaper.

Gibbs is a frequent contributor to the Port of Harlem online magazine, www.portofharlem.net.

He resides in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Betty Gibbs.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

Brooke Barwick, of Alexandria, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.).

Kiran Easterbrook, of Alexandria, has earned a place on the dean's list at Dean College (Franklin, Mass.).

Victoria Catalina Voellm, of Alexandria, a junior at Randolph-Macon Academy (Front Royal, Va.), received the girls' varsity tennis Most Valuable Player Award.

Jarrod Denham, from Alexandria, made the dean's list at Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, Va.).

Adella Francis, of Alexandria, was named to the trustee's list at Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.).

Luanne Gutherie and **Lynne Houde**, of Alexandria, have been

named to the president's list in the fall 2016 semester at Champlain College (Burlington, Vt.).

John Quizon, of Alexandria, was named to the fall 2016 honor roll list at Spokane Falls Community College (Spokane, Wash.).

Benjamin Seth Myers, of Alexandria, graduated from Clemson University (Clemson, S.C.) with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology.

Eugenia Miller, of Alexandria, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at the University of the Cumberlands (Williamsburg, Ky.).

Perry Conner, of Alexandria, was awarded dean's list honors for the fall 2016 semester at St. Mary's College of Maryland (St. Mary's City, Md.).

Timothy Williams, of Alexandria, named to the president's list for the fall 2016 semester at James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.).

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First Amendment Is Alive and Well

BY RONALD GOLDFARB

“Congress shall make no law ... abridging ... the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

Having worked in D.C. and lived in Alexandria since 1961 when I came to work for Robert Kennedy in the Justice Department, I’ve experienced the First Amendment in real time action, by assembling and petitioning my government for redress of grievances.

In 1963 my wife and I stood near the Lincoln Memorial where Martin Luther King, Jr. pleaded to the world for civil rights for all people, and delivered his immortal “I Have a Dream” speech. About 250,000 people — black and white — peacefully gathered in the nation’s capital to plead for President Kennedy to provide 19 million Afro-American descendants the right to vote, travel, and work.

Fears abounded. The D.C. police and FBI were present on the streets. There were altogether over 8,000 guardians of the peace. The federal government and many businesses were closed. Hospitals canceled elective surgery so all beds would be available for riot-related emergencies. Jails were emptied to provide room for predicted arrests. Judges were on around-the-clock standby.

These precautions were not necessary. The assembly was non-violent. People arrived from all over the world and marched with dignity. Many swarmed around the Reflecting Pool in

a field of humanity that ran all the way to the Washington Monument.

On that day we listened to the greatest orator of his time pleading for racial justice, claiming that the time had come “to lift our nation from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood,” calling for “the fierce urgency of now,” then urged on by Mahalia Jackson, departed from his prepared text and segued into his immortal plea, “I have a dream,” that reverberates still in the hearts and minds of all decent people.

The New York Times called the event “the most impressive assembly for a redress of grievances in America’s history.” The Washington Post reported that the assembly was a happy combination of prayer meeting, picnic, and political rally, a crowd “united in a sense of brotherhood and common humanity.” The next year, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed.

Unfortunately, many of the social injustices deplored on that summer day in Washington, D.C., have not yet been overcome. But Aug. 28, 1963, was a seminal moment in American history. It demonstrated the power and dignity of democracy in action.

In 1971, the scene was more fractious when my wife and I joined Vietnam War protests on the streets of Washington D.C., a gathering which was rougher and more proactive than the 1963 event. We were gassed, with many others, near Dupont Circle by police overreacting to the noisy protests. Eventually the public demonstrations worked. The war was ended, too late, but it might not have ended when it did without these public protests. Crit-

ics of the war hastened the end of it, and resulted in a president leaving politics.

In 1986, my wife, daughter and two human rights activist friends, the late Pat Derian and Rose Styron and their daughters marched on a sunny day near Congress in a sea of women who came from across the country to support the ERA. But this time their pleas were not successful in terms of reaching the goal that gave rise to that march. But peace prevailed and eventually the goals they asserted then have been advanced in major ways.

On Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, an estimated half million Americans filled the streets of Washington, as did huge crowds in other cities in America and around the world to claim rights they felt were disparaged by the Trump campaign and election. The Saturday crowds far surpassed Friday’s relatively insignificant inaugural crowds. President Trump now argues about the relative size of his crowds — those applauding his election, and those crying out against it.

My children who attended here in D.C. and other locations reported a cheering good spirit, upbeat communal behavior, welcoming friendly law enforcement officials, filled bleachers, and an upbeat camaraderie.

Now what remains after people returned to their homes away from Washington, D.C. is the question: how does this experience change the future? Will the energy become harnessed into a movement that changes politics? We all ponder that question, bravo to the people who are trying.

we have the multilevel processes to ensure those changes are good for the community. It’s unlikely everybody is happy with every change.

Let’s not forget in all of this, the Bocks, two people who have provided this idyllic environment for nearly two decades for the community and have been faithful neighbors to the adjacent neighborhood and well as the broader community. We have been able to enjoy the presence of the farm without taking on all the intense labor involved. Are the Bocks not entitled to their choice now?

I encourage Supervisor Storck to show leadership and present the approved option 1 to the Board on Feb. 14, let the Bocks move on and let the community move on to the construction of this positive and needed development.

William Zaccagnino
Alexandria

nificantly beyond capacity; both would draw students from the townhouses. So the townhouses potentially create a school capacity problem.

Ultimately, option 1 is the only one that has gone through all the county processes needing only the approving vote by the Board of Supervisors. Option 2 and 3 would have to go through the long process of approvals that option 1 has already completed.

Senior housing serves the Mount Vernon district and the broader community best; the townhouses will just add more housing stock to the area, so much of which is priced out of reach to public servants and the general population along this corridor. Yes, it will change the view in the area, but I’ve seen many changes here in my 42 years in the area, some acceptable to me, and other distasteful. Changes happen in a community all the time;

Addressing Opioid Addiction

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

As this week is Crossover, the midpoint of our Legislative session, I wanted to share with you some good news. Our bipartisan efforts to address the opioid epidemic have led to some movement on the issue. In 2015, 880 Virginians died from opioid-

induced overdoses. Preliminary figures for 2016 indicate deaths have increased to 1,100. At more than three deaths per day, this is more than the total number of Virginians killed in auto accidents each year. The tragedy in this is that many people become addicted without even knowing it, and that addiction can lead to death. The House passed 17 bills, all of

SEE OPIOID, PAGE 19

COMMENTARY

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Move Forward On Option 1

To the Editor:

I’ve written to the Gazette previously about Bock Farm, and, like H. Jay Spiegel, I attended the information session on Jan. 26. It was a good meeting, but what was clear, and what has been clear all along is that a minority in the adjacent neighborhood has been given too much power by Supervisor Storck. These few neighbors want the townhouses (option 3), but ultimately they want to determine what is built on this corner of the current Bock Farm.

Initially, the neighbors expressed concern about increased traffic, an issue that was dispelled at the meeting; there is no appreciable difference between anticipated traffic from the planned senior housing and the townhouses. Traffic is a non-issue.

They expressed concern about increases in the school population, also dispelled at the meeting; the expansion of Stratford Landing Elementary School will accommodate any increase. Of course, it is important to note that the senior housing will by design not include persons of any public school age. The townhouses potentially will include not only two working parents but children from elementary through high school ages. Mr. Storck reported that Carl Sandburg Middle School is at capacity and West Potomac High School is sig-

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OPINION

Victory on Water Quality

BY SCOTT SUROVELL
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

The last week of January was especially busy as the General Assembly approached Feb. 7 – Crossover – the day we are required to complete all work on bills originating in our chamber. The bills saved for last usually involve the hardest issues to resolve.

Out of the 40 bills I introduced, 22 have passed the Senate or are poised for passage before Crossover.

Last week saw another victory for water quality. This session, I introduced three bills to help control water pollution caused by coal ash. One of my bills was reported by the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee over the objection of Dominion Power. The bill prohibits the issuance of any final permits until Dominion identifies and describes all water pollution occurring at coal ash ponds and demonstrate corrective measures, evaluate coal ash removal or “clean closure,” and demonstrate that leaving coal ash in place or “cap in place” will not put the community at risk during hurricanes, floods or other major weather events.

Also, the legislation also requires Dominion to evaluate options to recycle coal ash using new technologies and identify locations where recycling might work. Coal ash recycling is being used in Georgia, North and South Carolina to clean the environment and create jobs. Coal ash is used in concrete and we currently import significant amounts of coal ash into the United States from China. I am hopeful the bill will pass the full Senate next week.

On Sunday, the Senate Finance Committee announced its proposed amendments to the State Budget. The good news is that the committee found a way to fund two percent raises for teachers along with other state employees, and extra raises for court

clerks and especially our State Police. The House Budget does not include a pay raise for teachers so that is not guaranteed. The bad news is that my request for funding the next stage of construction at Widewater State Park was not funded, nor my request to fill two vacant but authorized Fairfax County judgeships.

COMMENTARY Several of my other bills passed the Senate this week. First, my legislation requiring 30-days’ notice before any tuition increase is voted on passed the Senate unanimously. The Senate also passed my bill making it easier to hold drunk driver’s liable for punitive damages in civil cases and legislation which requires community colleges and universities to publish lists of courses that are guaranteed to be given credit to transfer students. Many students take the wrong classes — this costs students more tuition and causes them to take up space at our four-year colleges that other students could fill when classes must be retaken.

The Senate also passed my legislation that creates and electronic government document authentication system. The Federal Government and other states have already taken steps to electronically authenticate government records. If implemented, this allows citizens to access official copies of official records — such as vital records, deeds, or government licenses — must faster and saves taxpayer dollars.

We will experience Crossover this week, debate on the State Budget and we will begin debate on bills from the House of Delegates.

Please come to my town halls on Saturday, Febr. 11 at 9 a.m. at Walt Whitman Intermediate School and 1 p.m. at Hayfield Elementary School. Also, please complete my constituent survey at www.scottsurovell.org/survey.

I look forward to your feedback and appreciate your input. It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

Moving through Crossover

BY ADAM P. EBBIN
STATE SENATOR (D-30)

On Tuesday, the General Assembly passed “Crossover,” the session halfway point by which each chamber must complete work on its own bills and begin considering legislation passed by the other body. The Senate has passed eight pieces of my legislation and we’ve secured some victories for progressive values. From advancing non-discrimination in public employment for the LGBT community, to promoting research in the emerging field of energy storage, I am confident these bills would move Virginia forward. We’ve faced some challenges as well. Nonetheless, I came to Richmond knowing working for criminal justice reform, equality for all Virginians and gun violence prevention, would be an uphill, but important battle. I also introduced legislation to make it easier to vote, promote good government, and cut red tape for small businesses.

We’ve made serious headway on marijuana reform this year. Currently, those charged with first time marijuana possession face a six month suspension of their driver’s license, in addition to fines, community service and other penalties, whether they were behind the wheel or not. This poses a serious threat to employment for many Virginians. With the support of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth’s Attorneys and the co-sponsorship of Sen. Bill Stanley

(R-Franklin County), the Senate passed a bill (38-2) I’ve been working on for several years that removes that mandatory suspension. But, we still have work to do. Nearly 80 percent of people in Virginia support marijuana decriminalization, according to a poll released this week by the Virginia Pilot newspaper.

COMMENTARY A bill I introduced to decriminalize marijuana was referred to the State Crime Commission for study, and I’m hopeful that the commission will see the benefits of moving in the direction of many other states.

My legislation to forbid discrimination against LGBT government employees in Virginia was once again passed by the Senate. Three of our last four governors have issued executive orders to protect state employees from discrimination on the basis of sexuality orientation, gender, and other protected classes. This bill would codify those protections and extend them to local government employees as well. Unfortunately, two pieces of legislation I introduced, which would have removed the outdated ban on same-sex marriages from the Virginia Code and Constitution, were referred to the Code Commission. The commission, which reviewed the same issue in 2016, sent legislation back to the General Assembly, stating it was our responsibility to act on these bills. We cannot allow this ping-pong game to continue. Failure to act on this legislation tells LGBT Virginians

SEE CROSSOVER, PAGE 19



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City House, Country House

Home offers sunny interior and bucolic surroundings.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

European craftsmanship, a free-flowing floor plan and light-filled rooms characterize a home that was designed according to the vision of a local jurist. Located in Alexandria's Braddock Heights community, the home, which sits on more than 1.3 acres, met the specifications of the late George M. Giammittorio, a former Alexandria Circuit Court judge.

"The home is sited on a bucolic lot in the heart of Alexandria," said Sue Goodhart, real estate agent, The Goodhart Group at McEneaney Associates. "Few homes still in the city have lots this size. It is very private."

At once grand and cozy, the home was designed with entertaining in mind. It boasts an expansive, sunny kitchen equipped with four ovens, an island and a breakfast room, which is warmed with a fireplace. An abundance of light streams in through floor-to-ceiling Palladian windows that offer a view of the home's manicured landscape.

The current homeowners "created the great room with a kitchen and open space ... and have prepared the home for sale by



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCEANEY ASSOCIATES
Floor-to-ceiling Palladian windows allow an abundance of light to stream into the kitchen this Alexandria home.

repainting and updating throughout," said Goodhart.

Those updates can also be found on the home's upper levels, which include a master suite and three additional bedrooms. A third level includes an open loft space, which Goodhart says is ideal for sleepovers for a family with children. On the home's ground level are a recreation room with

built-in storage and a second fireplace. It also includes an au pair suite with private entry and finished kitchen.

"Throughout the original house are touches of the handcrafted work created by artisans brought in by the judge from Italy," said Goodhart.

A multitude of bird species, include bald eagles, have been spotted on the property



A multitude of bird species, include bald eagles have been spotted on this property making it ideal for bird watching.

by its previous owners, making it an ideal setting for bird watching, says Goodhart. "It was a lovely family home but now the owners are downsizing as the children are grown and scattered around the country," she said.

Located at 2416 Ridge Road Drive, the home is on the market, listed for \$2,095,000.

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ENTERTAINMENT



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Final step: ladle sauce on mahi mahi.

Meet the Chef: Homero Escobar

Cajun specialties at RT's on Mount Vernon

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE GAZETTE

Homero Escobar juggles three pans on high heat on the front burners in the kitchen of RT's Restaurant on Mount Vernon. "I am making the sauce and the topping at the same time for the mahi mahi," he said.

IN THE KITCHEN

A 20-gallon pot of veal bones with celery, onion, carrots and parsley simmers on a back burner. "We use veal stock in most of the sauces. This will cook about 6-8 hours." Today Escobar is making the daily special "crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce." This kind of meuniere sauce is much different than the French. Today's recipe will make enough for 10 servings although usually he makes enough for 40-50 diners at one time.

Escobar drops 1/2 pound of tiny cubes of Andouille sausage into a saucepan with 1/2 cup of canola oil. "This will cook on a high burner for 3 minutes." While the Andouille is cooking, he starts working on the sauce on the adjacent burner.

Escobar pours 2 cups of 40 percent cream into a skillet with 1/2 cup of unsalted butter cut into two large chunks. He will reduce the cream down a little to let it thicken. As the cream comes to a boil, he said, "You can boil heavy cream but milk

will burn. A lot of people don't know that."

On the far burner Escobar prepares another part of the sauce in a separate saucepan. Later it will be added to the heavy cream. He adds one small-diced onion, 2 bay leaves, 1 small lemon peeled and a cup of Worcestershire sauce. He says he will reduce this to about 1/4 and that will take 5-10 minutes. "When Worcestershire is reduced, it becomes sweet," Escobar said. "This is real New Orleans, rich and spicy."

The mahi mahi is ready for the broiler. Escobar adds a little butter to an ovenproof oval dish and sprinkles the fish with Cajun spice. New Orleans cooking is known for its variety of spices, and this particular combination is salt and pepper, dried onion and garlic and cayenne. "The mahi mahi will sit under the broiler for 3-4 minutes and then finish off in the oven." As he watches the progress of each pan, Escobar pulls the sausage off the burner and lets it rest on the counter. He melts in two-thirds cup of grated Grana Padano Parmesan cheese and adds 1/2 cup of breadcrumbs into the sausage. "It's time to take out the mahi mahi and finish the dish."

In the meantime an order has come in for chicken gumbo. The lunch crowd has started to arrive. Escobar says that on weekdays they serve 40-50 for lunch but "on weekends it is crazy. It could be 150-170 for dinner. Nine skillets are stacked in the corner. "We use all eight burners at once."



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

Homero Escobar, executive chef at RT's Restaurant on Mount Vernon, has lined up his ingredients for the special of the day, "crusted mahi mahi with Creole meuniere sauce." He will juggle three burners as he makes two sauces to combine later and the Andouille topping at the same time.

He drains off a little of the butter in the dish with the fish and reaches for the Andouille topping which goes generously on top of the fish. "I use these julienne carrots as a garnish." Escobar opens the heavy oven door and slips the fish back in the oven at 500 degrees for another 3 minutes. It is time to add the cream to the Worcestershire combination. His assistant, Sandra

Membreno, hands him the large whisk to mix the two together in the pan. The sauce will now cook for another five or so minutes to let it reduce a little.

"The last thing is the cubed potatoes. I have cut these Idaho potatoes into large cubes and deep fried them." To finish them off, he sautéed them with a little canola oil for 1-2 minutes. "I will throw in a little scallion and Cajun spice." He flips the potatoes in the air to turn them over in the pan. "Now I'll arrange the potatoes in the center of the dish and top them with the mahi mahi." He places the julienned carrots on the side of the dish.

Escobar removes the sauce from the stove and strains the solids out into a bowl to discard later. "Now for the final step." He dips a two-ounce scoop into the sauce and pours the sauce artfully around the fish.

Escobar says his favorite dish at RT's is the chicken and Andouille gumbo. "The customers like the gumbo, too, and the gigantic shrimp with Jack Daniels cream. It's a signature dish at RT's and owner Ralph Davis says he can't reveal what is in it. Escobar has been at RT's since it opened in 1985. He came to America from Guatemala in 1981. "There I ate a lot of beans and corn and chicken with fresh chili peppers." He adds that he ate a lot of spicy food but not the same spices as the Cajun combination that enhances many of his dishes at RT's.

He says it was his dream to be a chef since he was a teenager. "My first job was working in a restaurant kitchen and I discovered I had a kitchen skill."

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

RockNBlades. Fridays in February 8:45-10:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Skating with music. \$12 admission includes rental skates.

Multiple Exposures Gallery.

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Through Feb. 12 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, #312, 105 North Union St. Colleen Henderson's A Study in Contrasts, and Sandy Lebrun-Evan's McDowell County, WVA. www.multipleexposuresgallery.com
"Sanctuary." Through Feb. 18 in the Commons Fireplace Alcove of Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Selected black and white photographs from Nina Tisara's "Sanctuary" series, shot in Huntley Meadows Park. A closing reception will be held on Feb. 18, 6:30-7:15 p.m., followed by a concert by Nova Chamber Orchestra beginning at 7:30

p.m. Email Nina Tisara at ninat@ninatisara.com or call 703-765-5950 for more.

Convergence Arts Initiative.

Through March 4, Fridays 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Gallery @ Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Highlights the artwork of students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, and St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School. Artists reception: Saturday, Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m. Email danabh@ourconvergence.org or call 703-998-6260 for more.

Ceramic Guild Show. Through March

5, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. "Customer Appreciation: Welcome to our World" Ceramic Guild show at Scope Gallery. Visit www.scopegallery.org, www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope or call 703-548-6288 for more.

China Photography Exhibit.

Through March 6, various hours at the Bisdorf Building, NVCC, 5000 Dawes Ave. "China in my Eyes" photography exhibit. Artists reception: Saturday, Feb. 11, noon. Visit www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/ or email JZelloe@aol.com for more.

Mixed Media Exhibit. Through March 14, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the St. George Gallery, 105 North Alfred St. Inspirational approaches in mixed media inhabit this art exhibit. Call 703-299-9495 or visit www.StGeorgeofEthiopia.com.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History. Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and



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ENTERTAINMENT



LEBRUN-EVANS PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Multiple Exposures Gallery

Multiple Exposures Gallery is on display through Feb. 12 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, #312, 105 North Union St. Featuring Colleen Henderson's A Study in Contrasts, and Sandy Lebrun-Evan's McDowell County, WVA. Artist reception is Jan. 14, 2-4 p.m. www.multipleexposuresgallery.com

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.

Pick-Up Hockey. Ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Mount Vernon Ice Skating, 2017 Belle View Blvd. Play hockey with other hockey buffs, hitting slap shots and learning puck handling skills that the pros use. Players must have full equipment. 16 and older. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mtvernon/ or call 703-768-3224 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 and Hospitals During the Civil War. Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

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

Who These Wounded Are: The Extraordinary Stories of the Mansion House Hospital exhibit. Ongoing, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays, noon-4 p.m. at the Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St.

Come see the site that inspired "Mercy Street," the new PBS' series inspired by real events that took place at Carlyle House. www.carlylehouse.org or call 703-549-2997

"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.

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

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

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

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

Dinner for the Washingtons. 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 p.m. Second Thursday of every month.

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ENTERTAINMENT



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The Alexandria Symphony

On Feb. 11-12, an All-Mozart Concert, 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E Campus Drive. The concert has a focus on musical masterpieces, led by five conductors, anchored by a classical "popular" favorite from the symphonic canon. \$20-\$80, \$5 youth and \$10 student with military, senior and group discounts available. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885 for more.

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.

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 AND WORKSHOPS

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

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 9

Fort Belvoir Update Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Col. Holbrooke will provide an update on planned improvements. \$25 for Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Members and Guests, \$35 Non-Chamber. Visit mtvernon-leechamber.org.

West End Business Association Happy Hour. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Los Tios Grill, 241 S. Van Dorn St. \$10. Visit www.alexandriaweba.com/ for more.

Author Charles Mills. 7 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Mills discusses his book "The Civil War Wedding," an entertaining look at the customs and superstitions of weddings during the Civil War era. RSVP at admin@nvfaa.org

Schoolyard Native Gardens. 7:30-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Matt Bright talks about schoolyard native gardens and what home gardeners can learn from them. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/ or call 703-642-5173 for more.

FEB. 10-12

Pet Adoption Weekend. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday at Pet Valu, Bradlee Shopping Center, 3652 King St. Support local animal shelters, dogs and cats for

adoption. Call 571-970-5878 for more.

FEB. 9-MARCH 19

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery. Torpedo Factory, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. Cosmic Sights and Sounds, comes as the winter night sky's grand collection of brilliant stars begins to give way to the vernal equinox. This show will also highlight the work of featured artists Carol Bodin, Mickey Kunkle, and Lynda Prioleau. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Beaches in the Coastal South. 11 a.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Andrew W. Kahrl discusses the history of southern beaches, and how they transitioned to luxury properties such as resorts and condominiums. Free. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

Toys at Historic Huntley. 1-2 p.m. at Historic Huntley, 6918 Harrison Lane. Travel back in time to explore old-fashioned toys and games. \$7. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park or call 703-768-2525 for more.

Artists' Reception. 2-4 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. Artists' reception for three exhibiting shows for artists Winston W. Harris, John M. Adams and Lonnie Pauls. Free.

AHA Benefit Concert. 3-5 p.m. at GW National Masonic Memorial Theater, 101 Callahan Drive. "Affairs of the Heart," a concert supporting the American Heart Association. \$30, \$25 for seniors/military; \$15 for youth; add \$5 for at-the-door tickets, \$75 for family four-pack. Visit www.sopranessence.org or call 571-348-4664.

Twig Snowflake Sale. 4 p.m. at The Twig Shop, 106 N. Columbus St. Everything on sale at this organization dedicated to providing financial aid, volunteer service and support to Inova Alexandria Hospital. Call 571-251-1717 or visit www.thetwig.org.

Nocturnal Animals. 5:15-7:15 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Look and listen for owls, beavers and other animals that are active at night. \$8. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/ or call 703-768-2525 for more.

All-Mozart Concert. 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 E Campus Drive. The concert has a focus on musical masterpieces, led by five conductors, anchored by a classical "popular" favorite from the symphonic canon. \$20-\$80, \$5 youth and \$10 student with military, senior and group discounts available. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885 for more.



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ENTERTAINMENT

EatsPlace Café Aims To Join Works of Art

The DC-based restaurant has “popped up” at the Torpedo Factory.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

Old Town’s Torpedo Factory is known for helping artists grow and develop — and sell — their craft. But beginning late last month, there’s another kind of incubator on the scene within the factory walls. EatsPlace, which bills itself as a “pop-upper” and restaurant incubator, has made itself right at home with a café for breakfast, lunch, or an early dinner.

“EatsPlace is all about building community and having events and happenings all around food, because food I really believe is a catalyst for other things — for getting people together,” said founder Katy Chang. “... When people get together and community forms, and neighbors start talking to each other ... amazing things happen.”

EatsPlace’s flagship space is situated in the Washington neighborhood of Petworth, and it’s there that the groundwork was laid for a more formalized café in Alexandria. The original location remains a space where new or visiting chefs can develop a presence — and a fanbase. In fact, foodies with deeper pockets can even elect to invest in up-and-coming chefs, Chang says.

“If you are really into the food scene, you can basically invest in an up and coming chef or an established chef from out of town,” Chang said. “... When they go to their own brick-and-mortar space, you can follow them to that.”

The EatsPlace Café concept in Alexandria is a bit different from the Petworth studio, Chang says. For

one, the menu will remain more consistent, shifting primarily with the season rather than more frequently with individual chefs.

“This concept is more self-contained ... it’s a café/marketplace. Since we are open in the daytime and have longer hours, we can have a whole retail section where we promote local foods from Virginia, of course, but Maryland and D.C. as well.”

Among some of the top retail selections: Virginia peanuts, naturally, as well as mushrooms from Good Sense Farm.

But the star of the café is, of course, the fresh foods available on the daily menu. Among the highlights: Three different variations on a grilled-cheese sandwich, including a kimchi grilled cheese, which is the most popular version, Chang says. Ingredients are sourced from local farmers, and along with the standard menu fare, there will be some signature dishes here and there.

“As far as the collaboration with our chefs, they’ll do a signature sandwich, but we’re going to try to keep the menu somewhat consistent,” she said, adding: “Which is not to say we won’t do a fondue night or something.”

Also on the upcoming docket: Demonstrations and classes, Chang says, including child-friendly classes. She’s finalizing the spring schedule now but hinted at the potential for a kimchi how-to demo or — for the adults — a beer-brewing class. Even when attendees don’t try again at home, Chang says, the demos help people “appreciate the craftsmanship” behind each technique.

Just a couple of weeks in, Chang has been pleased by the neighbors’ response.

“People have been so kind,” she said. “I always thank people for coming to visit us, but they thank us for opening!”

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

CALENDAR

SUNDAY/FEB. 12

Live Animal Lunchtime. noon-1 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Bring lunch to Huntley Meadows and dine with a special animal guest — a snake, turtle, or toad. Learn about the critter’s diet, adaptations and habitat through crafts and hands-on learning. \$7, dessert included. Call 703-768-2525 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/.

Gardening Author. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Marta McDowell shares the history of the White House gardens and signs her book, “All the Presidents’ Gardens” after the lecture. \$10. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ for more.

All-Mozart Concert. 3 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. The concert has a focus on musical masterpieces, led by five conductors, anchored by a classical “popular” favorite from the symphonic canon. \$20-\$80, \$5 youth and \$10 student with military, senior and group

discounts available. Visit www.alexsym.org or call 703-548-0885 for more.

MONDAY/FEB. 13

Anti-Valentine’s day kickboxing. 5-6:30 p.m. at iLoveKickboxing, 660 S. Pickett St. Shred Your Ex, a positive way to ditch the Valentine’s Day doldrums and get fit in the process. Free for members of iLoveKickboxing. Visit www.ilovekickboxing.com or call 571-429-4290.

Vegetable Gardening Lecture. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Vegetable Gardening Part 2: Planning and Preparation. Free. Email mgarlalex@gmail.com or call 703-228-6414 for more.

TUESDAY/FEB. 14

Submission Deadline. 2017 Needlework Show & Sale mail-in entries: Jan. 11-Feb. 14; walk-in entries: Feb. 12-14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Looking for needlework pieces that showcase many techniques in both traditional and contemporary designs. woodlawnevents@

savingplaces.org

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 15

Historical Gardens Lecture. 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The Alexandria/Mount Vernon Antiques Club will have Dean Norton, the horticulturist at George Washington’s Mount Vernon Plantation, speaking about the various authentic historical gardens at the Mount Vernon estate. Call 703-360-4979 for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 16

Business After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m. at The Wharf, 119 King St. Enjoy refreshments and hors d’oeuvres with the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce while networking with other business and nonprofit professionals. Members \$10, non-members \$25, and members at the door \$25. Visit web.alexchamber.com

U.S. Navy Band. 7:30 p.m. at the Schlesinger Concert Hall, NOVA, Alexandria Campus, 4915 East Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.navyband.navy.mil/ or call 202-433-4777 for more.




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ENTERTAINMENT

FEB. 17-18

Arlo Guthrie in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. \$110. Visit www.birchmere.com

FEB. 17-26

Winter Restaurant Week. Neighborhood restaurants throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and the West End. \$35 three-course dinner for one or \$35 dinner for two; select locations offering lunch from \$10-20/person. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com or call 703-746-3301 for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 18

Eco-Savvy Symposium. 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn why plant and animal life biodiversity is critical to a healthy ecosystem and what can be done to bring diversity to your own backyard. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

The Lee-Fendall House as Civil War Hospital. 10 a.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. "This Tide of Wounded" tour of the museum and grounds highlights the Lee-Fendall House's role as a hospital during the Civil War. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789 for more.

Historic Candy Story. 11 a.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Susan Benjamin is the founder of True Treats Candy, the nation's only historic candy company, and will highlight African American

history via the sugarcane industry. \$10. Call 703-746-4356 for more.

Experiences of Slavery. 2 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. "From Slavery to Freedom," this tour interprets the Lee-Fendall House from the perspective of its enslaved inhabitants, exploring the experiences of slavery in the city. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789 for more.

Photo Exhibit and Concert. 6:15 p.m. at Chapel of Mt Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. The Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra will play the music of Prokofiev, Grieg. There will be an open house for a black and white photographic series "Sanctuary" of Huntley Meadows Park, plus a preview of new mosaic art, both by Nina Tisara. Free. Email music@mvuc.org for more.

FEB. 18-19

Presidents Day Breakfast Sampler. 9 a.m.-noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Join "General Washington" for a sample of hoecakes prepared by Mount Vernon staff. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ or call 703-780-2000 for more.

Visit with George Washington. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Hwy. Mingle with costumed characters from George Washington's world, followed by an 18th-century dancing demonstration, birthday cake and wreath laying ceremony. Adults, \$20; children ages 6-11, \$10; and children under 5 free. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ or call 703-780-2000 for more.



Needlework

Needlework takes center stage at the Woodlawn Needlework Show and Sale at the Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Highway during the month of March. Visit woodlawnpopeleighey.org for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 19

Revolutionary War Reenactment. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Learn about a soldier's life, see authentic weaponry and uniforms from the Revolution. Watch an actual battle between British and Colonial troops. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/FortWard for more.

Top 10 Plants for the Garden. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Horticulturists Karen Rexrode and Keith Tomlinson of Meadowlark Gardens and Judy Zatsick discuss their favorites. \$10. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/ for more.

Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Concert. 3-5 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi playing Paderewski's Piano Concerto in A Minor, and Duke Ellington's The River. \$20; children 8 and under are free. Visit www.wmpamusic.org.

Barbershop Harmony Concert. 3 p.m. at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. The 30-member Harmony Heritage Singers present a concert of popular songs. Free. Call 703-765-4779 or email gronbrandt@gmail.com.

MONDAY/FEB. 20

George Washington's Birthday. 9

a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Celebrate the national observance of George Washington's Birthday by visiting his home and burial site free of charge on this day, and watch a variety of activities. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ or call 703-780-2000 for more.

Wreath Laying Ceremony. 11 a.m.-noon at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution, at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St. Join the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution as they host colonial military and civilians to honor the soldiers of the Revolution. Free. Visit VisitAlexandriaVA.com/GWbday for more.

George Washington Birthday Parade. 1 p.m. at at Fairfax St. and Gibbon St. Grand Marshal is retired Alexandria Police Chief Earl Cook. To march in the parade or volunteer, visit washingtonbirthday.com/parade/, email gwvolunteers@gmail.com or a text to 703-408-4483.

TUESDAY/FEB. 21

Winter Gardening Lecture. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Learn early season practices that will save you time, money and labor. Free. Email mgaralalex@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/FEB. 23

Starving the South. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Andrew F. Smith discusses his book "Starving the South: How the North Won the Civil War," and sign books. \$10. Call 703-746-4994, or visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

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PET Connection

Publishes: Feb 22, 2017 • Ads close: Wed, Feb 16, 2017

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets. Reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention.

The Pet Connection will publish on February 22, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 16. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Find more information about submissions online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

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OBITUARY

W. Jeff Knicely

W. Jeff Knicely, 59, of Alexandria, died at his home on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 following a recent illness.

He was born in Wabasha, Minn. on April 2, 1959 ... moving to Virginia in 1960 with his family. Jeff graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in Alexandria in 1977. After working most of his life in Alexandria, he was employed by the Master Roofing Company in Alexandria at the time of his death.

He is survived by his mother Anna Mae Knicely and brother Will Knicely both of Alexandria, as well as two nephews Jesse



Knicely of Bradstown, Ky. and Shane Eberly (Knicely) of Burke.

He was preceded in death by his father Wiley H. Knicely in 1982 and sister Jackie E. Knicely in 2002.

Jeff was very active as an auto mechanic and enjoyed fishing, hunting and antique cars.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 at the Commonwealth Baptist Church, 700 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. The family will receive guests at a reception immediately following the service in the lower level of the church.

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.

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Mount Vernon Legislative Town Hall. 9-11 a.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane. Senators Adam Ebbin (D-Alexandria) and Scott Surovell (D-Mount Vernon) and Del. Paul Krizek (D-Mount Vernon) will offer brief remarks, and the meeting will then be opened up to questions from the audience. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon for more information.

TUESDAY/FEB. 14

Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. Fairfax County's free Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group meets by phone to discuss experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. Register beforehand at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call 703-324-5484, TTY 711.

THURSDAY/FEB. 16

Lee District Bicycle Improvements. 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Groveton Elementary School cafeteria, 6900 Harrison Lane. Paving plans will be discussed. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/leedistrictbikelanes2017.htm for more.

Open House

Sunday, February 12th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

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Fostering Concentration

Wednesday, February 15th at 6:30 pm

Primary and Elementary guides will discuss and demonstrate how the Montessori classroom environment, lessons, and materials help develop focused concentration.

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ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 17-01-02

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for World Languages, K-2 Spanish Language Arts, & K-2 English Reading Textbooks for ACPS Schools.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 17-01-02 World Languages, K-2 Spanish Language Arts, & K-2 English Reading Textbooks will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 6, 2017. 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. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site.

No RFP may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (180) days after the opening of proposals except as may be set forth in the RFP.

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

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

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OBITUARY



Kitty Lou (Schafe) Kohnke, age 83, was born in Washington, D.C., and passed away on February 3, 2017. She graduated from George Washington High School in Alexandria, VA and married her childhood sweetheart. Kitty worked for the Department of the Army (HQDA) in the Pentagon as a Military Personnel Management Specialist (Compensation & Entitlements), and upon retirement was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for setting record achievements, establishing a pattern of excellence, exceptional character, and demonstrating distinguished courage throughout her career. She enjoyed serving in church, gardening and traveling in her retirement years. Kitty Lou is survived by her four children, Susan Ann Panajotov, John Robert Schafe, III, Mark Dayhoff Schafe and Dr. Glenn Eugene Schafe and her four granddaughters; Natalie Anne Henry, Alexandra Nicole Panajotov, Kaitlin Marie Schafe and Brooke Ann Schafe, and one great-grandson, Ethan James Schafe. The family will receive friends on Saturday, February 11th at 10am followed by a funeral service at 11am at St. John's Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA. Interment will be held immediately following the funeral at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Alexandria, VA.

Obituary

Mary Kay Spink, 80, a retired CIA administrative officer, passed away on February 3rd, 2017 in Arlington VA. She was a resident of Arlington for nearly 60 years. Mary Kay was born in South Bend, IN to Robert and Marjorie (Blakeman) Spink on February 29, 1936.

She was raised in St. Joseph, MI, and graduated from Purdue University in 1958. Mary Kay was recruited by the CIA while still in college, and moved to Washington D.C., after graduation. She served overseas in Khartoum (Sudan), Paris, London, and Vienna, as well as stateside in D.C. Mary Kay worked for the United States government for 28 years.

In retirement, she was active in the Georgetown Presbyterian Church. A member for nearly 50 years, she served as a deacon, an elder, and in many other capacities. She loved to help others, and especially enjoyed volunteering through her church as a sponsor for refugee families, taking them under her wing on their path to citizenship.

She volunteered for the Washington National Opera and the Arlington Voter Registration Office, giving countless hours of her time over 20 years. A life-long learner, she enjoyed taking courses through the Arlington Learning in Retirement Institute.

Mary Kay enjoyed traveling with her friends, and especially enjoyed singing. A one-time member of church choir, she also performed with a number of singing groups, including the Arlington Senior Singers Chorale.

Mary Kay was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Barbara (Daniel) Yoder, of Mark Center, OH. She is survived by her nephews, Jerald (Lois) Yoder of Hicksville, OH, Richard (Karen) Yoder, and Philip (Linda) Yoder, all of Mark Center OH, as well as 18 great-nieces and nephews, and 31 great-great nieces and nephews. Mary was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

A memorial service for family and friends to honor Mary Kay's life will be held on Saturday, February 11th, at Georgetown Presbyterian Church at 1:00 p.m. Interment will be in South Bend, IN, in a private ceremony.

Memorial contributions may be made to Georgetown Presbyterian Church.

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 17-01-07

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for Roof Replacement at Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy.

Sealed Bids with the notation ITB # 17-01-07, Roof Replacement at Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, Friday March 3, 2017. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions must be submitted before 3:00 p.m., February 24, 2017. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held on February 15, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the address listed above.

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

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
Senior Buyer

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.
-Theodore Roosevelt

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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.

Light tomorrow with today!
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

OBITUARY



Ruth T. Fenn, artist, educator, mother and wife, passed away on January 24, 2017 in Alexandria, VA. She was a long-time resident of Greenwich, CT, relocating to Alexandria in 2013 following the death of her beloved husband, Albert H. Fenn.

Ruth was born June 29, 1927 on Long Island to the late George F. Tansey, Sr. and Catherine Gibbons Tansey. Ruth's brother George Tansey Jr. and his wife Barbara preceded her in death. Her brother-in-law Roger Fenn and his wife Sandy and two of their children, Tammy Lu and Amy Beth also preceded her in death.

Ruth is survived by her children, Mark W. Fenn (married to Raffaella Marie Rizzo), Carey Fenn Moses (married to Michael Moses) and Michael R. Fenn, her brother-in-law Richard Fenn, two grandchildren, two great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

While living abroad in Paris, France and Florence, Italy, Ruth traveled extensively throughout Europe with her family and learned French and Italian. She continued her travels in retirement, taking river cruises in Russia and China, as well as a special trip to Ireland with her husband.

Ruth graduated from Parsons School of Design in New York, where she studied Costume Design and Illustration. She received an art degree from Accademia Di Belle Arti in Florence, Italy. Upon returning to the United States, she earned her Bachelor degree from the University of Bridgeport, CT and was an art teacher at Riverside and Parkway elementary schools.

Ruth began her career working for Bonwit Teller in New York City and did fashion illustrations for Carson Pirie Scotts & Co in Chicago. Her flair for fashion and design were evident throughout her life. Always visually inspired and creative, Ruth used patterns, color and various textures to create many different art forms.

During her lifetime, Ruth had one-woman art shows, exhibited her work at juried shows, and participated in group exhibitions of local art societies.

Ruth was a longtime active member of the Old Greenwich Arts Society, Alliance Francaise, Greenwich Library's Hurlbutt Gallery/ Flinn Gallery and the Greenwich Symphony Guild.

Funeral Services will be held at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Alexandria, VA on Friday, February 10, 2017. Online condolences can be made at www.EverlyWheatley.com.

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EMPLOYMENT

OPINION

Opioid

FROM PAGE 8

which are designed to address this problem without criminalizing people, in the absence of criminal activity, who become addicts.

I also worked closely with member of the Appropriations Committee to secure a 2.5 percent cost of living adjustment for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. While I asked initially for a 10 percent increase, I am glad the General Assembly realizes the need to do what it can despite a critical \$1.25 billion budget shortfall.

I continue to fight for increasing teacher salaries and providing more monies for K-12 in the budget. We will have a full floor debate on those issues later this week.

I am sorry to report that my bill to encourage recycling options for Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) failed to report out of committee. Despite having bipartisan support, my legislation fell victim to the reality of hectic scheduling, as 4 yes votes were absent from the hearing. While there was a motion to report the bill, the votes were 10-10 and it failed to progress. I will bring this legislation back next year.

I welcome your feedback as the session progresses. Please send me an email at delpkrizek@house.virginia.gov or come visit me in Richmond. It is an honor to serve you in Richmond and I look forward to visiting with you at one of my two town meetings on Feb. 11.

Crossover

FROM PAGE 9

that they are not equal, and that is not acceptable.

I'm continuing my efforts to advance sensible gun violence prevention. I introduced a bill that would've made it a crime for adults to allow children under five to handle guns. This failed to advance out of committee despite the fact that, just in the last year, more than 50 people were killed in the U.S. by toddlers handling firearms. Unfortunately, all bills that promote gun violence prevention continue to face unyielding opposition from by groups like the Virginia Citizens Defense League.

My agenda also includes a range of other topics. I advanced a bill through the Senate which saves a step for small businesses in obtaining their ABC licenses. In partnership with the Virginia Young Democrats, I also put forward legislation to mandate Family Life Education in all Virginia school divisions to reduce teen pregnancy.

Join me and other area legislators where we will provide an update on the 2017 legislative session and answer your questions.

❖ Mt. Vernon: Saturday, Feb. 11, 9:-11 a.m., Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, with Sen. Scott Surovell and Del. Paul Krizek.

In case of severe weather, check my Twitter feed (@AdamEbbin), AdamEbbin.com/TownMeetings, follow me on Facebook at www.Facebook/EbbinCampaign or call my office at 571-384-8957.

Mount Vernon medical practice is seeking a **Part-time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant** (18-24 hours per week). Candidate should have prior administrative experience preferably in the medical practice environment. Excellent communication and organizational skills required. Please email resume to mygutdoc@hotmail.com.

DaVita Inc. requires a **Social Worker** (SDO125) at Alexandria, VA responsible for providing support and information to patients and their families to maximize the psychosocial functioning and adjustment of the patient in end stage renal disease. Req MS in Social Work or rel field & 1 yr expe in the job or in a position performing similar job duties. Send resumes W/job code & Title to Debbie Cookman, 2321 West Morehead St., Charlotte, NC 28208.EOE.

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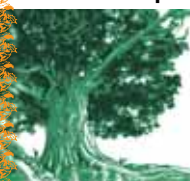
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-Theodore Roosevelt

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4214 Robertson Blvd

\$619,500

Super Spacious!

Exceptional opportunity. Remarkably reasonable price for 6

Bedroom, 3 Bath home in the Heart of Mt. Vernon. Features include: 3,400 sq ft living area, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, and oversize two car garage. Fabulous screen porch overlooks fenced rear yard. Truly special property!



4601 Cornwallis Ct.

\$475,000

VALUE!

Unique opportunity!

Three level home with rare detached two car garage for under \$500k! Home is in excellent, move in condition. Oversize two car garage has huge second level which creates many potential uses. Prime location on level half acre corner lot. Combination of features that can't be duplicated at this price!



1604 Baltimore Rd.

\$899,000

Unique Opportunity in Waynewood School area! Best price new construction in Ft. hunt area! Total renovation and addition totaling

approximately 3,500 sq ft of top quality construction. Features include: stunning open floor plan, high ceilings, 4/5 BR's, 3.5 Baths, luxury master suite, amazing chef's kitchen and two car garage. Patio & large fenced rear yard. Can't be duplicated close to this price! Super Value!



4403 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy

\$925,000

3 new luxury homes by Wakefield Homes! This Radford Model provides all the new home bells & whistles at a remarkably reasonable price!

Great setting just down the road from Mt. Vernon Estate. FREE finished basement rec room w/ bath & \$10,000 seller credit* for limited time! Visit our website at MTVERNONPARK2.COM for more info on this build & project!



9027 Mcnair Dr.

\$585,000

Fabulous Home!

Spacious grounds and updated home in pristine condition on half acre lot. Features include: open floor plan, updated

kitchen, hardwood floors, thermal windows, fireplace, custom screened porch with cathedral ceiling overlooks private rear grounds. Surrounded by Country Club grounds and beautiful 75 acre Grist Mill Park!



4221 Dandridge Terr

\$598,500

Beautifully Updated! Priced to sell - fabulously updated home in Southwood, one of the area's premier communities. Features include: 4 BR's, 2.5 updated baths, stunning Chef's kitchen open to family room with stone fireplace, hardwood floors, and side load 2 car garage, custom deck overlooks fenced rear yard. Nothing like it for under \$600,000!

20 Homes SOLD in the first 30 days of 2017!

We are on a record pace for 2017 with no signs of letting up. If you are interested in knowing the value of your home given these market conditions, call us at any time!

NOW is the time to call if you're considering selling!



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