

# Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

DECEMBER 19, 2019

## Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue

**4,000 toys collected in annual toy drive.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE GAZETTE

Christmas arrived early for more than 300 children from local Head Start programs as they picked out toys and visited with Santa during the annual Fairfax County Fire and Rescue annual toy drive distribution day Dec. 12 at Penn Daw Fire Station 11. "This was our best year," said Deputy Chief Willie Bailey, who founded the Firefighters and Friends toy drive 20 years ago. "We gave away over 4,000 toys and had nearly 300 preschool kids stop by on buses to select their toys in person."

Close to 80 volunteers were on hand to help with the distribution, including firefighter Dave Saunders as Santa and 18 Caring Angels Therapy Dogs and their handlers. Volunteers escorted each child throughout the station as they selected two toys and two books.

"Prior to getting back on the



**Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Deputy Chief Willie Bailey, third from right, and founder of the annual toy drive, poses with volunteers from the DC Field office of the FBI.**

bus the children also visited with Santa and the Caring Angels Therapy Dogs," Bailey added. "After the preschoolers left, representatives of schools, shelters and nonprofits from around the region picked up toys for their particular organization."

Sponsors and supporters included: Apple Federal Credit Union; Savittiere Foundation; Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax; Local 2068; Fire & Rescue Retirement Association; Jack Taylor Toyota; Promax Realtors; Union Street Public House Restaurant; Medocracy, Inc.; Nationwide

Credit Corporation; Caring Angels Therapy Dogs; FBI, DC Field Office; Rotary Club of Tysons Corner; Walmart (Store #2258); InspireLit; Caring Angels Therapy Dogs; Democratic Women of Clifton & Northern Va.; Kelly's Irish Times; Fairfax County Police Department; and Fairfax County Sheriff's Office.

"So many organizations came together today to make this a wonderful event not only for the kids but also for the volunteers," Bailey said.

SEE ANNUAL TOY, PAGE 4



**Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Deputy Chief Willie Bailey, left, gives instructions to volunteers from the Senators Little League 12 and Under baseball team.**



**Volunteers from the Senators Little League 12 and Under Baseball Team from Charles County, Md., pose for a photo during the Firefighters and Friends annual toy distribution Dec. 12 at Fire Station 11.**

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/THE GAZETTE

## Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Recognizes the Best

**Awards ceremony at Mount Vernon Country Club ends the chamber's year.**

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

In the middle of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Awards, all the speeches and awards pictures stopped for the impromptu ugly holiday sweater competition, which gave way to a few jokes and chuckles amongst the tightly knit group. That's the spirit that makes the chamber what it is, embracing and supporting the companies in Mount Vernon and the surrounding area.

After the sweater winner, who was judged by the applause level, all eyes turned to Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) who was named the Chamber Citizen of the Year.

McKay is actually the outgoing



**Outgoing chamber president Stan Koussis and Supervisor Jeff McKay.**

supervisor, and was recently elected as the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, where he'll take the reins in January after being sworn in on Monday, Dec. 16. He didn't forget his life in Lee District where he grew up and worked for years, promising lots for the south county area.

"Great things coming to south county in the next four years," McKay said at the podium. "We're

going to invest \$1 billion for Embark, I guarantee you that's going to happen," he said.

McKay's award capped off the chamber's "Best in Business Excellence," awards where companies and people all over the Lee-Mount Vernon area were recognized for achievements. The rising star award was given to two people this year; Dr. Joseph Stoltz of  
SEE MOUNT VERNON, PAGE 5

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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Equal Housing Opportunity

Retiring members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors: John Cook, Cathy Hudgins, Sharon Bulova and Linda Smyth at the Dec. 3, 2019 Board of Supervisors Meeting.



## Leaving on a High Note: 31 Year Joy Ride

Sharon Bulova retires.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE GAZETTE

At the end of December 2019, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sharon S. Bulova ends 31 years of service to the County, 21 years as the Braddock District Supervisor and 10 years as Chairman of the Board. During her last month in service, Chairman Bulova continued to lead the locality of 1.1 million people and also shared her heartfelt thanks to constituents, staff and others.

"It has been a great ride," Bulova said on Dec. 3, when she chaired her last Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meeting. "I have loved the relationships that we have had among my colleagues on the Board and our county staff. ... We are all in the trenches together, making things happen together. We don't always agree on things, and yet we are able to come together and work things out. ... Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you and previous boards."

Bulova presided over the meeting that began at 9:34 a.m. that day and adjourned, eleven hours later at 8:41 p.m. "I love local government, even on days like this. You have to love people, love human nature. We manage change, which is not easy. Things can be emotional, but it is people coming together and participating in the process of governing (that) is so critical. I think we do that well in Fairfax County," she said.

Highlights of Board actions taken at the Dec. 3 meeting under the gavel of Chairman Bulova:

- ❖ Adopted the 2020 Legislative Program for the Virginia General Assembly, Approval of the County's 116th Congress Federal Legislative Strategy and Principals;

- ❖ Received reports from various councils including the Racial Equity Stakeholder Council and a presentation by the Environmental Quality Advisory Council;

- ❖ Approved projects submitted for the FY 2026 Regional Surface Transportation Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Federal Funding Through the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority;

- ❖ Approved a Construction Administration Agreement between Fairfax County and the Town of Herndon for the Herndon Metrorail Station Access

Management Study Project (Dranesville District).

Nearing the end of the meeting, Bulova thanked her staff over the years, her current staff and staff that served her since she was first elected as the Annandale District Supervisor, which later was named the Braddock district. Bulova recognized the services of the outgoing Board of Supervisor members, Braddock Supervisor John Cook (R), Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth (D) and Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D).

During Chairman Bulova's last days in service, the tables turned. Supervisors, as well as members of the Virginia General Assembly and leaders of neighboring jurisdictions in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Region set about to recognize and thank Bulova for her distinguished and extraordinary service, at the Dec. 3 Board of Supervisors meeting and Bulova's Dec. 9 retirement reception held at the Fairfax County Government Center.

On behalf of the Board, Mason Supervisor Penelope A. Gross (D) presented a Resolution for the Chairman at the Dec. 3 meeting. The resolution recognized Bulova's service representing Fairfax County on multiple fronts including the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; as founding member, "I would say, godmother," Gross said, of the Virginia Railway Express; founder of several community groups such as Faith Communities in Action and Communities of Trust; and sponsor for groups on key County initiatives such as the Diversion First, Stakeholders Group, the Fairfax County Private Sector Energy Task Force, the Governing Board for the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness and more.

"She will be remembered for distinguished public service and achievement, love for history and the arts, and excellent doodling skills," said Gross. "Be it resolved the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on behalf of all residents does hereby thank Sharon for her extraordinary service on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors," said Gross. The motion carried unanimously.

As the meeting was about to adjourn, Bulova forecast what is on the horizon for Fairfax County. "I think we're (heading) toward a beautiful future," she said referencing the new 2020 Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to be led by current Lee District Supervisor and Chair-elect, Jeff McKay.

### VIEWPOINTS

## 'She's Always Been a Gold Standard'

Community leaders on Sharon Bulova.

### Phyllis J. Randall

Phyllis J. Randall, Chair of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors: "I want to thank Chairman Bulova for her many years of service, but also more personally being a guide and mentor to me during my first term as Chair of Loudoun County. She passed the baton to me, and it's my intention to make her proud."



### Bryan Hill

Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive: "I wish her all the best in retirement, and she should be happy never to receive another phone call from me with bad news as it will always be good news going forward. And thank you for the opportunity to run Fairfax County."



### Gregory Scott

Gregory Scott, director of Information Technologies Fairfax County: "I'd like to thank her for all the support she's given Information Technologies over the years and helping us to continue to be innovative in the way we deliver services to constituents in Fairfax County."



### Jay Dorsey

Jay Dorsey: "Simply put, she's one of a kind. I've seen my share of elected officials who exert leadership and display of power that comes with their position. I have not seen an individual with her responsibilities that treats every single resident of Fairfax County like she does."



### Cathy Hudgins

Retiring Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins: "I think she had the ability to have a calming approach to dealing with some of the most difficult issues as if there is none. She has a very even personality."



SEE VIEWPOINT, PAGE 8





Caring Angels Therapy Dogs were on hand at the Firefighters and Friends toy distribution Dec. 12 at Fire Station 11.



Firefighter Dave Saunders as Santa visits with children at the annual Fairfax County Fire and Rescue annual toy drive distribution Dec. 12 at Fire Station 11 in Penn Daw.



A World Bank employee prepares to hand out toys at the annual Fire and Rescue toy distribution Dec. 12 at Fire Station 11.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/THE GAZETTE

# Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Annual Toy Drive

FROM PAGE 1

“We had staff from the local schools telling us that some families were deciding whether to pay a bill, purchase food for the household, or buy gifts for the kids. Hope-

fully today we were able to take some of the pressure off of those families and make that decision a little easier.”

Bailey added that this year’s event had its largest turnout of volunteers as the need

to serve families throughout the region continues to grow.

“I have been asked for so many years why I do this,” Bailey said. “All I can say is that I learned to give not because I had much but

because I know exactly how it feels to have nothing.

The best gift I have received for the past 20 Christmas’s is watching the smiles on these kids’ faces.”



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thank you for your support  
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*Happy Holidays & Best Wishes  
for an incredible 2020 to you,  
your families and friends.  
Looking forward to continuing our  
association in the New Year!*

**Martha Deal 703.622.6797**  
**ALEXANDRIA**  
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**Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264**  
**ALEXANDRIA / New Alexandria \$ 769,000**  
Completely Renovated - Stunning - Sun-drenched Home nestled on a lovely cul-de-sac. An exquisite crisp white kitchen, stainless appliances, granite and subway tile backsplash with French doors to relaxing backyard. 1st floor bedroom, bath and office. 2nd level huge master, laundry, hall bath + 2 bedrooms. LOCATION!



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# Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber

FROM PAGE 1

George Washington's Mount Vernon, and Travis Clarke. Mark Murray was named the new chamber president for 2020; Links 2 Freedom was named the non-profit of the year; Harmony Animal Hospital was named the new business of the year and the best of excellence award was Links 2 Freedom.

Several other elected officials were at the event, including Del. Paul Krizek (D-44), Del. Mark Sickles (D-43), Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon), McKay and a representative from Rep. Don Beyer's (D-8) office.

"It's a nice way for the community to recognize community business leaders doing a super job," said Krizek.

## Moving On Up

The 2019 chamber president Stan Koussis started out the event noting that Virginia is ranked as the best state for doing business, up from their ranking of eighth in 2014.

"That is because of all the work that is done throughout the state," he said. "As business leaders and managers, we're part of a larger ecosystem," he added.

Supervisor McKay noted the achievements that were implemented in Lee District to "help promote and build our community," including the work at Huntley Meadows Park, putting in Jeff Todd Way and attracting the Transportation Security Administration, coming to a new building near the Franconia-

Springfield Metro Station. McKay was accompanied by his wife and parents.

## Supervisor Jeff McKay Chamber Citizen

Supervisor Jeff McKay is the 2019 Chamber Citizen of the Year. Jeff has been a Chamber member since he was elected as Lee District Supervisor. He has been a great friend and

supporter to the business community. Recognize Jeff as he becomes chairman of the

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

## Springfield Town Center is Large Business of the Year

Springfield Town Center is the centerpiece of Lee District revitalization and one of the most valuable properties in Fairfax County. It is a regional shopping destination and home to stores, restaurants, and entertainment.

## 2019 Distinguished Businesses

Springfield Town Center

De Lune Corp.

Belle Haven Marina

Links 2 Freedom

Harmony Animal Hospital

## Rising Stars

Travis Clarke, Burke & Herbert Bank

Dr. Joseph Stoltz, George Washington's Mount Vernon



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4 pm (in Church & Creedon Hall)

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9 am

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**Alex/Mt. Zephyr \$476,000**  
**8541 Mt. Zephyr Dr.**

Great price for this lovely two level solid all-brick home with garage on 1/3 acre in Mt. Vernon community. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths. Renovated eat-in kitchen, spacious and open, with sliding glass doors to private backyard. Charming front living room with ample

windows, and wood burning fireplace with white, colonial style mantel. Spacious lower level has finished family room w/ 2nd fireplace and a bonus workroom. Conveniently located near Ft. Belvoir (10 mins), GW Parkway and Potomac River, Old Town Alexandria, Pentagon, and D.C.



**Alex/Oxford \$1,149,900**  
**4201 Kimbreelee Court**

Spectacular all-brick colonial home w/2 car garage on a cul-de-sac in exclusive Mt. Vernon waterfront community of Oxford.

Partial water views and a beautiful multi-tiered deck. Five bedrooms & 4.5 baths. Grand 2 story foyer entryway. Large eat-in kitchen w/ numerous upgrades & double butler pantry. Formal living & dining rooms. Family room

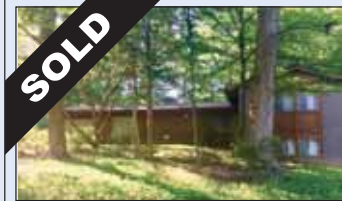
off kitchen w/brick fireplace. Library on main level w/built-in bookcases. 4 bedrooms & 3 baths on upper level, huge master suite w/large luxurious bath. Fully finished lower level w/5th bedroom & full bath, exercise, tv, & game rooms. Newly refinished hardwood floors. Recent updates include new roof (2019), new windows (2019), new deck (2018) High-end kitchen appliances (Wolf double oven; Subzero refrigerator). Main & lower level HVAC replace 2016. Backyard fence (16). It's a wonderful home!



**Alex/Riverside Estates \$580,000**  
**8508 Cherry Valley Lane**

Prestigious Riverside Estate's Large & Popular Concord Model - 5BRs, 3BAs - 2 Car Garage w/many upgrades: Brand new double pane windows in 2019, New HVAC & HWH in 2018, beautiful upgraded kitchen in 2007. Refinished hwd floors, bright sky lights in both the

kitchen & hall bath. 20 year old roof w/30 year shingles. A beautiful & sturdy deck looks over a lovely landscaped & fenced-in backyard. This is a gem, priced well & will sell fast.



**Alex/Wessynton \$527,500**  
**3102 Cunningham Drive**

Investors or Homeowners who want to build sweat equity: here it is! Solid bones but needs a total make over. Popular model (The Meadow) in sought after water oriented Wessynton community of contemporary homes. 4 bedrooms, 3 Baths, large kitchen, separate dining

room, living room with fireplace. Master suite. Family Room w/fireplace. Lots of storage and workspace in basement. Amenities include tennis courts, community swimming pool, walking paths, and boat ramp on Little Hunting Creek which flows to the Potomac River. A half mile to Mount Vernon Estate and the George Washington Parkway.



**Alex/Engleside \$1,300,000**  
**8734 Lukens Lane**

4.128 acres zones R-2 for sale. There are 2 lots: 4/0 acres w/house (Tax Map 1101 01 0043) and .128 acre vacant land (1101 01 0043A). House on Property sold "AS IS" and NO ACCESS given or allowed. Land Value only. Water, sewer, gas, electricity

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**Alex/Pembroke Village \$220,000**  
**4395 Pembroke Village Drive**

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# OPINION

# Merry Christmas

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

The pages of the Gazette (including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Mount Vernon Gazette, the Potomac Almanac and the Centre View) have been full of holiday spirit, beginning before Thanksgiving. Help for the needy, holiday parades, Santa and more Santa; tree lightings, stories of giving, the Nutcracker.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, with the promise of redemption.

It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed the hungry and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to invite and welcome strangers; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

## Matthew 7:12:

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.”

## Matthew 25:35-40:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or

needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

**SO SHARE** the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David.) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

“And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and

on earth peace, good will toward men.

“And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Editor's Note About the Rest of 2019

This is our last regular edition of 2019. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Issue, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. You'll be able to find this online while you wait for the print edition at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/) Scroll down to Children's.

Our next regular edition will publish Jan. 8, 2020, with deadline for content and advertising of Jan. 3 (late ads accepted).

In the meantime you can email the editors at [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com). You can reach sales/marketing/advertising at [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com).

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## EDITORIAL

## Give Locally

Many local nonprofits are reporting a significant drop in contributions this year. To some, the decrease constitutes an existential threat. Not only will they be unable to meet their goals for helping others, but some might not be able to keep their doors open.

This comes as the need is increasing, as the White House cuts food stamps, as more people go hungry.

This is a perfect time to give, give a little more than you have in the past.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks.

There are people going hungry here, people who need help, organizations that will help, but can only help with the resources they have.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season, for humans in need, for animals in need, for an environment in need. Here are a few ideas.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Families face uncertainty and need; nonprofits face drop in contributions.

### Where to Give Locally

- ❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact [nfo@alnv.org](mailto:nfo@alnv.org) or visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org)
- ❖ **Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area** operates clubs in two of the neediest areas of the county, Culmore, Mount Vernon/ Route 1 corridor, and Chantilly, focusing on character and academic success. <https://www.bgcgw.org/club-page/fairfax-county-region-our-impact/>
- ❖ **Britepaths** Britepaths is working to assist 500 Fairfax County area families who might otherwise go without holiday meals and gifts for their children. Sponsor a family or donate to provide a family with a holiday meal and/or gifts for their children. [Britepaths.org](http://Britepaths.org) <https://britepaths.org/our-programs/holiday-program>

- ❖ **Centreville Immigration Forum**, a safe, organized center where residents and contractors can negotiate work arrangements with day laborers. Centreville Square Shopping Center, 5944 Centreville Crest Ln, Centreville, VA 20121. Phone: (703) 543-6272 website: [www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org](http://www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org) and email [contact@theCIFva.org](mailto:contact@theCIFva.org)
- ❖ **Committee for Helping Others (CHO)**, Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Coming up, holiday bike drive. 703-281-7614, [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com)
- ❖ **Community Foundation of Northern Virginia** [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org) The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia works to respond to critical need and seed innovation in our region. Your gift helps us make grants in our focus areas of interest while also bringing a spotlight on the benefits of community philanthropists [www.cfnova.org/for-donors/donate-now](http://www.cfnova.org/for-donors/donate-now)
- ❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org).

SEE GIVE FOR LOCAL IMPACT, PAGE 13

## Mount Vernon Gazette

[www.MountVernonGazette.com](http://www.MountVernonGazette.com)

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VISIT ALEXANDRIA

**Waterskiing Santa!**

**Don't Miss the Waterskiing Santa Show**

**O**n Christmas Eve, next Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 1 p.m., the Waterskiing Santa Show will occur in the Potomac River on the Alexandria Waterfront. This will be the 34th year of this wonderful show which includes numerous acts including flipping waterskiers, characters like Frosty The Snowman, the Grinch and others and, finally, Santa Claus skiing by with his full complement of reindeer. The best viewing will be on the waterfront between Oronoco Street and Duke Street. The current weather prediction includes no pre-

cipitation. Typically, thousands of people view the show and it is always exciting and enjoyable. There is no charge to watch the show and an amusing pre-show featuring the Grinch begins at 12:45 p.m.

For more information, visit the website at [www.waterskiingsanta.com](http://www.waterskiingsanta.com).

After the show, there is plenty to do in Alexandria from shopping and eating to observing the beauty of this historic city. Merry Christmas to all my Christian friends.

**Jay Spiegel**  
Mount Vernon

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**HOLIDAY SPECIALS THRU DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup>**

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# 'I Enjoy Serving the Community'

**Q&A with Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova two weeks before she retires.**

**Q:** What action taken during the Dec. 3 Board Meeting was most meaningful to you, and why?

**A:** Recognizing my outgoing colleagues. I have worked closely with Supervisor Cook, Supervisor Hudgins, and Supervisor Smyth, and I can speak to their dedication and commitment to both their districts and Fairfax County at-large. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them over these many years and am happy to see them recognized for their service.

**Q:** What motivated you to serve as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; over time, did your reasons to serve change as you sought reelection?

**A:** My reason for serving as Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Braddock District Supervisor before that has always been the same: I enjoy serving our community. Through ups and downs, I get great satisfaction working on constituents' concerns and issues.



**Sharon Bulova**

that touched your heart most deeply and why it did.

**A:** I regularly attend the Sheriff's Department Back-to-School "Shop with the Sheriff" event at the Target Store in Burke. Through the generosity of local business and the Sheriff's Department, elementary school-aged children residing in homeless shelters are treated to a shopping spree at Target. I always give welcoming remarks outside of Target to the children, who have been paired up

with Sheriff Deputies. After this event in 2010, I received a handwritten letter from the mother of one of the children. She described how excited she was when "a big yellow school bus" pulled up to the shelter where she was residing. A smiling Sheriff's deputy escorted her daughter, Angelica, to the bus to have lunch and to go shopping. The daughter returned ecstatic with new clothes, shoes, and school supplies. The mother thanked Fairfax County and me for caring so much and for "making her day." It is a wonderful letter. I have kept it and take it out to read every once in a while. I am looking at it now.

## Fairfax County— Looking Back

**Q:** Describe a challenging time and how you guided others toward a solution. How did you re-access the situation and modify plans, acts, or approaches going forward?

**A:** The most challenging time of my Chairmanship was the police shooting of John B. Geer in 2015. It was an awful event that severely impacted trust in our local government. To develop changes in our response to critical incidents, I created the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and Diversion First, two of the most meaningful initiatives of my career. The Police adopted new policies, with a focus on "the sanctity of life," de-escalation, and transparency when responding to critical incidents. I hope these initiatives continue to promote community trust, transparency and safety well into the future.

**Q:** Your most memorable experience as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

**A:** There really are too many to describe. Establishing the VRE Commuter Rail system and helping it develop into a popular, successful service; the creation of Faith Communities in Action, where houses of worship work in partnership with our local government to address community challenges; the extension of the Silver Line Metrorail into Tysons and Reston; navigating the Great Recession in a way that brought the community to the table to help identify strategies for adjusting to vastly reduced revenues.

I consider One Fairfax to be the most impactful initiative our Board has adopted during my time as Chairman. It is a joint social and racial equity policy that commits the County to intentionally consider equity when making policies. When the County is making policy decisions, we must make sure that all our residents have access to opportunities that will help them to succeed. I am extremely proud of this initiative and look forward to seeing its positive effects throughout the years to come.

**Q:** Name the one item you received over the years,

## Fairfax County— Looking Forward

**Q:** What skills and leadership style did you bring to the role of Chairman, and do you see such present in the incoming Supervisors and Chairman-elect Jeff McKay?

**A:** As Chairman, I believe it is essential to listen and to be open to collaboration. Jeff McKay has demonstrated those skills as Lee District Supervisor and as Chair of the County's Budget Committee.

**Q:** About traffic: How would you like to see the new Board mitigate the concern or replace the current solution?

**A:** The ultimate answer to traffic congestion lies in better land use planning and development. Transit-oriented, compact and walkable new development takes the pressure off congested roads and highways. Unfortunately, I won't be in office to see the completion of Phase II of the Silver Line to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun County, but I look forward to seeing the new Board bring this transformational project to fruition.

**Q:** If the County received a \$1 million grant to use any way it wanted, what would you like to see done with the money?

**A:** Early childhood education.

## Retirement

**Q:** The first day you are no longer Chairman (after you sleep in), what are you going to do that morning? What about the weeks and months that follow?

**A:** The first day I am no longer Chairman, I will go for a jog as I always do before spending a relaxing day with my husband. In the following months, I plan to visit with my grandchildren on the west coast and to spend some time in France with my sisters and daughter.

After that, I have always wanted to write the history of the VRE. It is a great story, full of funny stories and interesting characters. I will finally have time to do that.

# Community Leaders on Bulova

**Gerry W. Hyland**

Former Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry W. Hyland (D): "Our Chairman has been a loving leader of all, our consistent, loving leader of the Board of Supervisors. Her presence has been an inspiration. Sharon has left her fingerprints, footprints and heart print all over the landscape of Fairfax County. We are so much better because of her efforts."



**State Sen. Chap Peterson (D-34)**

State Senator Chap Peterson (D-34), presenting the Virginia State Senate Proclamation: "She's always been a gold standard in terms of service. What I admire most is her self-effacing personality."



**Del. Mark Keam (D-35)**

Del. Mark Keam (D-35), presenting the Virginia House of Delegates Proclamation: "She's always put the community ahead of herself."



**Lisa Sales**

Chairman Fairfax County Commission for Women & VAratifyERA Leadership Team Lisa Sales: "Chairman Bulova has led with a steady hand, kind heart, and always with a focus on strengthening community, which everyone knows. What she might not know is how she has impacted girls and women in the County and how we look to her for examples of leadership for what is good and what is right; we watch her and look to emulate her class."



**Shyamali Roy Hauth**

Shyamali Roy Hauth, EVP, Outreach Virginia Equal Rights Coalition: "I admire Sharon Bulova's compassion in leadership. Her contributions to Fairfax County will live on."







Kat Radley



Rahmein Mostafavi is a comedy producer who attended McLean High School.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Comedians Featured at the Workhouse on New Year's Eve

Includes Bishop Ireton alumna Kat Radley, who is now a writer on the Daily Show in New York City.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE GAZETTE

**T**hey do it all at the Workhouse Art Center in Lorton, and coming soon on New Year's Eve is stand-up comedy, featuring local talents Kat Radley and Rahmein Mostafavi.

Radley is an alum from Bishop Ireton in Alexandria, and Mostafavi from McLean High School. Radley is coming in from her home in New York, and loves the Workhouse space for her brand of stand-up, which focuses on life in general.

"A lot of my material comes from personal stories, either about my family, dating, partying too much in my twenties ... and last week," she said. "Also observations about society."

Both are billed under the Comedy and Productions of Rahmein Mostafavi, a company with local roots that's been performing at the Workhouse for the past seven years, as well as other venues in the area. "I bring it wherever you need it, your basement," he says on his website. Mostafavi grew up in McLean and majored in theater at George Mason University before opening his production company. He puts on shows at the Ragtime in Arlington, and the DC Improv as well. He first met Radley through college friends, and has worked with her several times since.

"Comedy is a great," Rahmein said. "We try to be as topical as possible, the best



Kat Radley's stand-up comedy includes observations on everyday life.

### Rahmein Presents

**NEW YEARS EVE** with Daily Show Writer, Kat Radley  
Tuesday, Dec. 31, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Rd, Lorton

comedians leave you thinking about it," he said. Topics include his parents, news, or partying in their twenties. "I'll try to work it into my set if it's topical," he said.

When Radley is not doing stand-up, she is a staff writer for the Daily Show in New York City. Jon Stewart was the main figure on Daily Show, but the host is now Trevor Noah, who worked his way up from a writing position, like Radley, to host. She's been featured at the Emmy Awards and in the Hollywood Reporter too.

Radley is a big fan of Conan O'Brien, as well as Amy Schumer, Tig Notaro, and Mike Birbiglia. "I think they are really solid joke

writers," she said. And for Conan O'Brien, "I could watch him talk to office furniture and find it hilarious," she said.

The notion that the Workhouse was formerly a prison works with Radley too. "I think it is great they were able to repurpose it as a place for the community to enjoy. It can be hard to find good art and performance venues, so they are much needed, especially outside of large cities," Radley said. There is a line in comedy though, and some of it revolves around the "F Bomb," which doesn't show its face too much at the Workhouse. Rahmein admitted that their comedy is for adults, but didn't want to put an "R" rating on it. "People that drop the F bomb for no reason, that's what people fear," he said.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that two fireworks displays will take place as part of a public event, Christmas Illuminations, at George Washington's Mount Vernon on the following dates:  
Friday, December 20 between 8:00 p.m. and 8:30pm. (15 minutes)  
Saturday, December 21 between 8:00 p.m. and 8:30pm. (15 minutes)

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association thanks you for your tolerance and apologizes for any disruption. To receive Mount Vernon fireworks notifications via e-mail, write to [Events@MountVernon.org](mailto:Events@MountVernon.org)

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# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

## 7 Must-Try Restaurants for New Year's Eve

BY HOPE NELSON

From a down-home Chinese takeout theme to several Roaring '20s-themed soirees across town, there are a multitude of ways (and price points) to celebrate New Year's Eve out on the town. Have a look at a baker's half-dozen options.

### Great Gatsby-Themed Soiree at Café 44

Dust off your best top hat and tails for Café 44's party, which hews to F. Scott Fitzgerald's famous book "The Great Gatsby" while celebrating both yesteryear and what's to come next. Nosh on the likes of oysters Rockefeller and prime rib while enjoying Prohibition-themed cocktails and bubbly. 44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 401. 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. \$110 to \$300.

### Celebrate With Lebanese Flair at Zikrayet

This New Year's Eve event has been taking place for a decade, and Zikrayet shows no signs of slowing down with it.

Musicians Roni Asmar and Robert Mrad will entertain partygoers throughout the evening as guests



Evening Star Cafe is offering a four-course dinner for New Year's Eve.

feast on a multicourse meal. 2006 Eisenhower Ave. 8:30 p.m.-2 a.m. \$125.

### Toast the Town at Mason Social

North Old Town's Mason Social will host a good old-fashioned social hour (or two, or three) for New Year's Eve. Food and drink specials will persist all night, and complimentary Champagne will be poured up close to the Magic Hour. 728 N. Henry St. 9 p.m.-2

a.m. \$95.

### Sip Wine and Munch on a Midnight Breakfast Buffet at Sonoma Cellar

A \$65 wristband nets you all the wine and beer you can (responsibly) enjoy at King Street's Sonoma Cellar. Pair your beverages with the eatery's full dinner menu and chat the night away with friends. And once the clock strikes midnight, rekindle your appetite for a Midnight-Thirty Breakfast Buffet.

207 King St. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. \$30 to \$85.

### Roaring '20s Party at Village Brauhaus

Kick off the 2020s with a throwback to last century's version. Bring your best flapper dress or vintage suit and enter into Village Brauhaus' costume contest. A little nervous about your entry into the proceedings? The open bar will probably help that. 710 King St. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$30 to \$100.

### House Party at Rustico

On the last day of the year, Rustico's regular menu will be supplanted for the evening by a relaxed, Chinese-takeout vibe. With the likes of kimchi fried rice, General Tso's chicken, pot-stickers and vegetable lo mein on offer, guests can settle in and enjoy the evening among friends old and new. Wash it all down with themed cocktails and get ready to toast to a new decade. 827 Slaters Lane. 7 p.m.-2 a.m.

### Wolf Down a Four-Course Meal at Evening Star Café

Evening Star Café is pulling out all the stops for a proper New Year's Eve feast. With four courses (each including a vegetarian option), guests certainly won't leave hungry.

Feast your way through black trumpet caviar, beef tartare, scallops over salsify, and chocolate sponge cake – to name just one possible pairing. Each course actually has several options from which to choose. 2000 Mount Vernon Ave. 5:30 p.m.-2 a.m. \$75 per person; \$35 for wine pairing.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at [www.kitchenrecessionista.com](http://www.kitchenrecessionista.com). Email her any time at [hope@kitchenrecessionista.com](mailto:hope@kitchenrecessionista.com).

## CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

### ONGOING

#### Creature Comforts Art Exhibit.

Now thru Jan. 26, 2020. At VCA Alexandria, 2660 Duke Street, Alexandria. The "Creature Comforts" art exhibit at VCA Alexandria through the Gallery Without Walls program features artwork of the animals in our lives by Del Ray Artisans members. Showcasing animals that lift and fill our hearts is a popular theme at VCA Alexandria and coincides with the winter holiday season in which creature comforts of all types are appreciated. Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww](http://DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits/gww)

nonverbal production captures the magic of making new friends and sharing ideas to accomplish big goals. The show was written and directed by Arts on the Horizon members Natalie Cutcher and Amanda Forstrom, was created for an audience of children ages 2-5. Show times are Dec. 19, and 20 at 10:30 a.m.; Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for children and adults and can be purchased online at <http://www.artsonthehorizon.org> or at the door on the day of the performance.

### NOW THRU DEC. 22

**DRA Holiday Market.** The Market is Dec. 20-22. Hours are Friday 6-9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans Holiday Market offers handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. The artists are presenting a variety of media, including botanical drawings, fiber/textiles, glass, jewelry, mixed media, mosaics, painting, paper crafting, photography, pottery/ceramics, sculpture, watercolor, wood turning, and more. Different artists each weekend. Free admission. Visit the website: [DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2019](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/holiday-market-2019)

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

**T.C. Williams Winter Concert.** 7:30 p.m. At T.C. Williams High School auditorium, 3330 King Street, Alexandria. This is the 10-Year



Hold On! Demitasse to Tumbler at Scope Gallery at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria.

### Hold On! Demitasse to Tumbler

Dec. 30-Feb. 2, 2020, At Scope Gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union Street, Studio 19, Alexandria. Your morning coffee will be all the more pleasurable in an artistic, individually crafted work from a local (DMV) artist. Choices include a cup depicting elements of the natural world by Shirley Gromen or a mug inspired by the color of the ocean by Klaudia Levin. Left-handed? Hiromi Minemura has designed a mug just for lefties, some accompanied with a saucer and spoon. Tea time in the afternoon? Use Elizabeth Greene's lidded tea mug to keep the tea from spilling on the way back to your desk. Sushi for carry-out? Accompany the meal with Ana Cavalanti's beautifully embossed set of saki bottle and saki cups. If espresso is your "cup of tea," you'll relish Scott Kaye's handmade, 2 1/2-inch-tall cups with a subtle Shino glaze. And need just a little sip of something before bed? Roni Polisar's wood-fired 'Sip Cups' would be perfect. These are just a sampling of works available this month. So hoist a piece of art this new year while imbibing your favorite beverage. Visit [www.scopegallery.org](http://www.scopegallery.org), [www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope).

anniversary of Theodore Thorpe as the T.C. Williams High School choir teacher and director. Alumni and current choirs will share the stage. Cost is \$20/adults; \$10/students; kids under 12 free.

### DEC. 20-21

#### Christmas Illuminations at Mount

**Vernon.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. Join Mount Vernon for an evening of family-friendly fun and fireworks choreographed to holiday music. Before the fireworks begin around 8 p.m., take a stroll through the estate while being serenaded by local choirs and visit with re-enactors from the First Virginia Regiment. Martha Washington will also be on site to greet holiday guests. Watch colonial artisans demonstrate the 18th-century process of creating chocolate and visit with Aladdin the camel on the 12-acre field. Keep toasty by warming up by a bonfire, enjoying some hot chocolate or cider. Admission: \$36 adult/\$26 youth with mansion tour; \$30 adult/\$20 youth without mansion tour. [mountvernon.org/illuminations](http://mountvernon.org/illuminations)

### SATURDAY/DEC. 11

**Puppet Show.** 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. At Oswald Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$6. Featuring the Silly Goose and Val Holiday Extravaganza. Val

## Holidays and Christmas

### NOW THRU DEC. 21

**"Squeakers & Mr. Gumdrop."** At the Lab Theatre at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. One snowy morning, Mr. Gumdrop prepares for his annual holiday party. When an unexpected and curious mouse appears, Mr. Gumdrop's routine is thrown for a loop. Can these two wildly different characters work together to get the holiday preparations done in time? This



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT



**The Majestic Executive Chef Ulysses Cabahug chooses 6 diver scallops**



**Shallots deep fried golden brown.**



**Cabernet poached Anjou pears added to skillet.**



**Mixed mushrooms deglazed with white Chablis.**

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE



**Customer favorite diver scallops with celery root puree, wild mushrooms, pine nuts, crispy shallots.**

# Meet Chef Ulysses Cabahug at The Majestic

BY SHIRLEY RUHE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**E**xecutive Chef Ulysses Cabahug at The Majestic Cafe on King Street lines up six diver scallops and pats them dry on both sides to get a good sear. “Now is when the magic begins.”

“These are as fresh as it gets from a premium seafood vendor in Ocean City.” He says, “they call these day boat scallops because they are only harvested in small quantities in small boats and come straight here; they are never on ice which can water log the scallop.”

Cabahug turns the heat to high under a cast iron pan and squirts in about one and a half ounces of a high-smoke-point oil (a mixture

of 90 percent canola oil and 10 percent extra-virgin olive oil). Just enough to cover the surface of the pan. “You want it to be smoking before adding the scallops.”

He seasons the scallops with Kosher salt on one side. “That’s the trick. I cook them one-and-a-half to two minutes on one side only.” This allows the scallop to get a really nice crust but not get dry inside. Cabahug swirls the oil around the pan to prevent the scallops from sticking and then places them side-by-side in the skillet. “See this is the kind of crust you want.”

Placing the scallops on a small plate to let them rest for a bit, he then turns to the thinly sliced shallots that have been soaking in buttermilk for a few hours. Cabahug tosses the shallots into a large alu-

minum bowl in a flour mixture with paprika, blackening seasoning, Old Bay and salt and pepper. Then into a wire basket. He plunges the basket into a vat of soybean and canola oil about a minute until they turn “a golden color. Just 10 more seconds and then onto a towel to drain.”

The mushroom blend is next with about three ounces of a mixture of hen-of-the-woods, shiitake and cremini mushrooms sautéed in a hot skillet with oil until they soften and release their water. Again he sprinkles on a little Kosher salt. Flames shoot high as he deglazes the mushrooms with a little white Chablis cooking wine and tosses the mushrooms. Finally he adds several bite-size pieces of cabernet-poached Anjou pears to the skillet.

Cabahug pulls out a container

of pureed celery root, which he has previously prepared by peeling the celery root and rough chopping. “Then I simmered it in heavy cream and butter with shallots and garlic to add flavor. Then I add grated Manchego cheese and pureed it in a Vitamix blender.”

The assembly of the final dish begins with a smear of celery root puree across the large plate. He artfully places the scallops on the plate in a zigzag pattern. “Now I’ll put the pieces of red pear next to the scallops for a contrast in color.”

The mushrooms form the next layer with the crispy shallots arranged on the top and a smattering of pine nuts. Cabahug picks up a plastic squirt bottle. He dots house-made fig balsamic on top of the scallops. “Finally I’ll sprinkle on chopped chives.” Cabahug says this is the customer favorite “and my

favorite, too with the contrast in flavors and textures.” He says he invented this recipe after discovering the best scallops available.

Cabahug says he became a chef because “I love to eat.” He says his grandma, his mom and his dad were all good cooks. “I poked my head into the pot to see what was stirring. I always had these pots in front of me.” He says he would say his favorite dish at home in the Philippines was bone marrow soup. “I wanted to know how long do you simmer it to get all of the flavor out of the pot. What are the techniques?”

“I learned the key to it is taking your time. I use the same strategy in everything I make, no shortcuts.”

“My grandma always told me ‘you love to eat so you have to cook. No one is going to cook for you all the time.’”



# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

returns for a fast-paced, humorous musical treat celebrating snow, jingle bells, elves, Santa, reindeer and more. Enjoy a family afternoon out with music, ventriloquism, comedy, dancing, singing, and 100% audience participation.

**Celebrate the Season.** 4-6:30 p.m. At Schlesinger Concert Hall, 4915 E. Campus Drive, Alexandria. The 80-man award winning Alexandria Harmonizers chorus invites you to a festive evening of holiday favorites including Jingle Bells, Sleigh Ride, Little Drummer Boy and their own version of The 12 Days of Christmas. Cost is \$35. Visit the website: [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org)

**Country-Western Dance.** At Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss Street, Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance. Lessons, 6-7 p.m. Open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Trial memberships available at door for member level entry fee. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit [www.nvcwda.org](http://www.nvcwda.org)

**SUNDAY/DEC. 22**

**MIN~Contemporary Flute and Guitar Duo.** 2 p.m. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. MIN~Contemporary Flute and Guitar Duo makes its highly-anticipated winter season return to the Athenaeum with a varied program that includes many beloved holiday classics. Flutist Saï

Kamalidiin and guitarist extraordinaire Rick Peralta comprise one of the few remaining, regularly performing, professional flute and guitar (chamber music) duos in this part of the country. With their 15 year legacy of musical excellence, the repertoire of MIN consists of music of the baroque, ballads, bossa novas, blues, Broadway and beyond.

**S.O.M.E. Benefit Recital.** 3-4:30 p.m. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria. An afternoon of violin and cello music to benefit So Others Might Eat (SOME). Tickets \$20. Featuring international artists Rachelle Hunt, violin; and Katie Tertell, cello. The program will include works by Beethoven, Mozart, Handel-Halvorsen, and new work by Mark Boden (UK). Tickets available on Eventbrite. Suggested donation \$20. [www.eventbrite.com/e/some-benefit-recital-tickets-75172225149?aff=eprfsaved](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/some-benefit-recital-tickets-75172225149?aff=eprfsaved)

**TUESDAY/DEC. 24**

**Candlelight Communion Service.** 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King Street, Alexandria. The community is invited to close out Christmas Eve with a Candlelight Communion Service with music will be led by the King Street Brass Quintet and Combined Choirs. We will share communion, worship together, and end with lighting candles and singing Silent Night. Free. Visit the website: [www.fairlingtonumc.org](http://www.fairlingtonumc.org)

**Waterskiing Santa.** 1 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront. Now in its 34th year, this favorite D.C.-area Christmas Eve event returns to Old Town Alexandria. Gather along historic Alexandria's Potomac River



PHOTO BY CHRISTY PRZYSTAWICK

**The Family Bell Service will take place Dec. 24 at Fairlington United Methodist Church in Alexandria.**

## Family Bell Service

Tuesday/Dec. 24, 5-5:45 p.m. At Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King Street, Alexandria. The community is invited to celebrate Christmas Eve with a service is comfortable for all ages and includes carol singing, the Christmas story, and bell ringing. Bring a jingle bell to ring. Free. [fairlingtonumc.org/](http://fairlingtonumc.org/)

waterfront for a spectacular show by Waterskiing Santa and his merry crew. The prime viewing area is Waterfront Park (1 King St. and 1A Prince St.), with more great views from the Alexandria City Marina (O Cameron St.), Founders Park (351 N. Union St.), and Point Lumley Park (1 Duke St.). Come early to see the pre-

show (on jet skis). Visit the website: [waterskiingsanta.com](http://waterskiingsanta.com)

**Family Bell Service.** 5-5:45 p.m. At Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King Street, Alexandria. The community is invited to celebrate Christmas Eve with a service is comfortable for all ages and includes carol singing, the Christmas

story, and bell ringing. Bring a jingle bell to ring. Free. Visit the website: <https://fairlingtonumc.org/>

**TUESDAY/DEC. 31**

**First Night Alexandria.** 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. At venues throughout Old Town Alexandria. This 25th Anniversary Celebration is the largest New Year's Eve party in the D.C. region that is safe and fun for the entire family and culminates with a fantastic fireworks finale over the Potomac River at midnight. Kids Carnivals: 6 to 9 p.m. at four warm indoor venues in Old Town, Del Ray and the West End. Live Entertainment: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at warm indoor venues throughout Old Town Alexandria. Rockin' on the River: 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Waterfront Park, 1 King St., Alexandria. Midnight fireworks: Potomac River at the foot of King St., Alexandria. All Access Admission: \$25 through November 30, 2019; \$30 December 1-30, 2019; \$35 December 31, 2019; Kids Carnival is \$5 for children ages 2-12 and free for parents and infants. Call 703-963-3755 or visit [firstnightalexandria.org](http://firstnightalexandria.org).

**JAN. 7 TO FEB. 9**

**"Repetitions."** At Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio 29, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Repeated patterns, repeated themes, repeated textures and repeated colors all lead to interesting and exciting pieces. Themed work will be eligible for recognition by the jurors. Non-themed work will also be exhibited. Visit the website: [www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com](http://www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com)



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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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## Where to Give for Local impact

FROM PAGE 6

- Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org). Contact Nate King, Donations and Drives Coordinator, at 571-323-9569.
- ❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in efforts to end homelessness in Fairfax County. FACETS is always in need of donations and volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. Donations will be accepted at FACETS' main office (10700 Page Avenue, Building B, Fairfax VA 22030) between 9am – 5pm. Contact Haylee Davis at [hdavis@facetscares.org](mailto:hdavis@facetscares.org). 703-865-4251 or [volunteer@facetscares.org](mailto:volunteer@facetscares.org). [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org). 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030
  - ❖ **Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter**. Each year, nearly 5,000 pets, including cats, dogs, small mammals, reptiles and livestock, come to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter funds important needs throughout the Shelter such as behavioral training and dental or medical care beyond what the shelter's budget can provide. [generalinfo@ffcas.org](mailto:generalinfo@ffcas.org) 571-212-9858 [www.ffcas.org/](http://www.ffcas.org/)
  - ❖ **Friends of Guest House Northern Virginia** offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who want to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House offers the only program for women of its kind in Northern Virginia. One East Luray Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301-2025, 703-549-8072, [info@friendsofguesthouse.org](mailto:info@friendsofguesthouse.org), [friendsofguesthouse.org/](http://friendsofguesthouse.org/)
  - ❖ **Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia** transforms the lives of lower-income families in need by providing affordable homeownership opportunities in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax and Falls Church. Learn more at [www.habitatnova.org](http://www.habitatnova.org).
  - ❖ **Homestretch**, to empower homeless parents with children to attain permanent housing and self-sufficiency by giving them the skills, knowledge and hope they need to become productive participants in the community. Since 1990 Homestretch has helped over 2,000 families achieve permanent housing and self-sufficiency. 303 South Maple Ave, Suite 400, Falls Church, VA 22046 Phone: 703-237-2035 [homestretchva.org](http://homestretchva.org)
  - ❖ **NAMI Northern Virginia** (National Alliance on Mental Illness) works to raise awareness and provide education, advocacy, and support programs for people living with mental illness, families, students, educators, law enforcement, and the public throughout our neighborhoods. Many excellent programs. NAMI Northern Virginia serves Fairfax, Falls Church, Arlington, Alexandria, and Loudoun [www.nami-northernvirginia.org/](http://www.nami-northernvirginia.org/) **HelpLine: (571)458.7310, Email: [info@nami-nova.org](mailto:info@nami-nova.org)**
  - ❖ **National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, (571) 482-4770 . [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org)
  - ❖ **Neighborhood Health**, 6677 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22306. The organization partners

- with its patients to treat the whole person through medical, behavioral health and dental programs. It has 10 clinics throughout Arlington and Fairfax counties. Participating with all insurance including commercial, Medicare, and Medicaid, 703-535-5568, [www.neighborhoodhealthva.org](http://www.neighborhoodhealthva.org)
- ❖ **New Hope Housing**, ends homelessness in Northern Virginia by providing housing, offering hope, and building community. We currently offer various Housing Programs, and Support Services. 8407E Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22309 [www.newhopehousing.org/how-to-help/donate/](http://www.newhopehousing.org/how-to-help/donate/)
  - ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. The organization provides the essential building blocks for financial, emotional and physical well-being, serving as leaders and innovators for the Northern Virginia community. Every year, it empowers 35,000 individuals to achieve self-sufficiency. [www.nvfv.org](http://www.nvfv.org) Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite, Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124. 571-748-2500
  - ❖ **OAR** rebuilds lives and breaks the cycle of crime with opportunities, alternatives, and resources for offenders and their families to create a safer community. 10640 Page Ave., Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-246-3033. OAR needs volunteers and financial donations. [oarnova.org/donate](http://oarnova.org/donate)
  - ❖ **Our Neighbor's Child (ONC)** volunteers are preparing for delivery of holiday gifts for children from financially struggling families in western Fairfax County – predominantly in Centreville and Chantilly. [www.ourneighborschild.org/](http://www.ourneighborschild.org/)
  - ❖ **Pathway Homes** providing non-time-limited housing and supportive services to adults with serious mental illness and co-occurring disabilities in Northern Virginia. Founded in 1980, Pathways currently serves more than 400 adults in community-based homes in Northern Virginia. [www.pathwayhomes.org](http://www.pathwayhomes.org)
  - ❖ **Potomac Riverkeeper Network** works to protect the public's right to clean water in our rivers and streams; to stop pollution to promote safe drinking water; to protect healthy river habitats; and to enhance public use and enjoyment. 3070 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007. (202) 888-2037 [www.potomacriverkeepernetwork.org](http://www.potomacriverkeepernetwork.org)
  - ❖ **Potomac River Conservancy**, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 805, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301.608.1188 [potomac.org](http://potomac.org), seeks to improve the Potomac River's water quality by building an impassioned base of river advocates to impart change at the local level.
  - ❖ **PRS**, Inc. is a non profit providing mental health, crisis intervention and suicide prevention services in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. Seeking to change and save lives in our community by empowering hope, safety, recovery, wellness, independence and community integration.. PRS also provides crisis counseling and connection to supports CRISISLINK When crisis calls, we answer 24/7 Call: 800-273-TALK [8255] Text: "CONNECT" to 85511
  - ❖ **Rebuilding Together** Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church (Rebuilding Together-AFF) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that makes critical repairs at no charge for low-income homeowners and nonprofit organizations. Our volunteers make homes safe and healthy, and they help seniors age in place. Since 1988 we have repaired 2,273 homes and non-profit residential facilities in our area and mobilized 69,081 volunteers to do the work. We believe in safe homes and communities for everyone. 10723 Main Street, #135, Fairfax, VA

22030; Phone: 703-528-1999 <https://rebuildingtogether-aff.org/>

- ❖ **Second Story** — Second Story (formerly Alternative House) provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. [second-story.org](http://second-story.org).
- ❖ **SHARE** of McLean, celebrating its 50th anniversary, is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff. We are supported by donations from local religious congregations, community organizations and individuals. Our food and clothing room is housed in space donated by the McLean Baptist Church. Our year round and seasonal programs include family emergency financial assistance, food pantry, used clothing room, recycled furniture, back-to-school supplies and refurbished laptop computers. During the holidays, we also provide our neighbors in need with grocery cards and gifts. Main Message Center: (703) 229-1414 [info@shareofmclean.org](mailto:info@shareofmclean.org) Mail: Share, Inc. P.O. Box 210 McLean, VA 22101 Food and Clothing Room: McLean Baptist Church 1367 Chain Bridge Road McLean, VA 22101 [www.shareofmclean.org](http://www.shareofmclean.org)
- ❖ **Shelter House** provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to promote self-sufficiency for homeless families and victims of domestic violence in Fairfax County. It is our mission to get families back into stable housing in order to provide them the opportunity to continue their journey to self-sufficiency. [www.shelterhouse.org](http://www.shelterhouse.org)
- ❖ **Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna** providing services, personal enrichment, volunteer opportunities for adults 50 and over. Currently serving 3,000-plus mature adults in the region. 703-281-0538, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org)
- ❖ **Tahirih Justice Center**, 703-575-0070, [www.tahirih.org](http://www.tahirih.org), Legal services, public policy advocacy, and education for immigrant women and girls.
- ❖ **TAPS, Tragedy Assistance Program** for Survivors, 3033 Wilson Blvd., Third Floor, Arlington, VA 22201, Call 24/7 800-959-TAPS (8277) The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors offers compassionate care and resources to all those grieving the loss of a military loved one. Make a donation to support surviving military families and loved ones. You can also make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one. [www.taps.org/donate](http://www.taps.org/donate)
- ❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization focused on how to enlighten, excite, and educate children about how they can experience the true joy that comes from helping those in need. [www.touchingheart.com](http://www.touchingheart.com), 703-901-7355.
- ❖ **United Community**, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306 assists low-income families and individuals living along the Route 1 Corridor, UC provides housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center. Make a Financial Contribution to support the Holiday Gift Room 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria VA 22306. [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org) Donations of cash/checks and gift cards are also welcome.
- ❖ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** — 4511 Daly Drive, Suite J, Chantilly, VA 20151 in Chantilly. email Assistant Food Pantry Manager/Volunteer Coordinator Debbie Culbertson at [dculbertson@wfcma.org](mailto:dculbertson@wfcma.org) and put Holiday Food in the subject line. [wfcma.org/](http://wfcma.org/)

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## Catharsis



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Having re-read what I wrote in last week's column: "Still Processing," I can't say it made me feel a whole lot better than when I wrote it. Granted, it was a column that had to be written given my self-indulgent tendencies (that I fight against constantly) and the possible crossroads that I may be entering. Nevertheless, if part of the underlying reason why I take up this space every week is to vent and share, as a means, hopefully not to a premature end, I suppose there was stress released there. But the subject matter was so third-rail-ish that even though I've tried to avoid it, I feel adversely affected by the experience.

The subject to which I so ambiguously refer is my own death. Aside from not wanting it to happen, if I don't plan in advance for it having happened, the chaos that will ensue and envelop my wife, Dina, is both unfair and inconsiderate. You see, in our relationship, she's been the social director and I've been the business manager. To quote my late father: "and neither the twain shall meet except on the twack." If I were indeed to predecease my wife, a fairly distinct possibility, not only would there be no twain, there would be no "twack" as well. There would only be trouble, and that's "trouble" with a capital "T."

It's not so much that there are complications lurking, so far as I understand them: there are no children, no blended family, no special needs situations, no multi-layered business entanglements, no offshore anything (heck, there's very little onshore), our home and bank accounts are jointly owned, no financial thresholds exceeded, no delinquencies and few liabilities; really not much out of the ordinary. However, I get that ordinary is in the eye of the surviving beholder, which is likely not to be me. Therefore, if I want to contribute to my wife's quality of life after I've departed dearly (and to her peace of mind now, quite frankly), apparently a road map of sorts is in the offing. (And believe me, none of this is about control; it's more about initiative.)

I guess there's something in me that feels I need to get it out on paper so that I might act on it in person. Maybe writing about such a grim task minimizes its grimness, sort of like dipping your toe in the water before you jump? Maybe thinking and writing about the anxiety I'm feeling concerning what my wife will have to do after I've died is kind of a mental ice breaker. Not that I'm getting into any details here, it's more of a broad brush, to once again quote my brother, Richard, about the need for consideration and fairness. The underlying problem is that getting into all this after I'm-dead stuff seems and feels incredibly negative. And I try to ignore negativity. In fact, it may very well have been my positivity which has kept me alive all these live-long days.

I'm sure I'm rationalizing (maybe more like "irrationalizing"), as an excuse for not doing what needs to be done, but I've always been good at that. In addition, I keep coming back to it's my life; I'm the one with "the cancer," to quote "Forrest, Forrest Gump," describing his mother's cause of death, as a means of justifying my stubbornness/unwillingness to make certain arrangements. I mean, when you think of it, having cancer is a heck of an excuse. And though I've rarely used it as one, I've always felt it. And with respect to planning for a future I don't have, I have to blame the cancer. It makes you do and think things you might not otherwise do and think. It's not as if anyone is ever prepared for a cancer/serious health diagnosis. Quite the opposite in fact. As such, you either learn to roll with the punches or get knocked down by them.

This recent/current experience hasn't knocked me down or out exactly, but it has made me a little wobbly emotionally, and reminded me just how insidious cancer can be. Once again, and for the first time in years, I seem to be at greater risk than ever. I suppose with risk comes opportunities. Having my tumors "typed" and in turn treated with specific/targeted medicine seems to be present just such an opportunity; exactly what the doctor ordered, literally.

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

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### THURSDAY/DEC. 19

**Children's Holiday Party.** Alexandria Domestic Violence Program (DVP) invites more than 60 families to attend a Children's Holiday Party. Dinner is provided and families participate in activities such as arts and crafts, face painting, Frosty Follies and singing holiday songs. Children also get a special visit from Santa Claus. You can participate in this year's event by contributing gift cards or new toys. For more information or to donate, email Magdalia Martinez at [magdalia.martinez@alexandriava.gov](mailto:magdalia.martinez@alexandriava.gov). Visit [alexandriava.gov/DomesticViolence](http://alexandriava.gov/DomesticViolence) or [alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence](http://alexandriava.gov/SexualViolence).

**Groundbreaking Ceremony for Potomac Yard Metro.** 2-3 p.m. At the future location of the station's northwest entrance (3601 Potomac Ave., Alexandria). The City of Alexandria will hold a public groundbreaking ceremony for the new Potomac Yard Metrorail Station. The announcement of the groundbreaking ceremony follows issuance of a permit on Nov. 15 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the federal Clean Water Act. The permit followed an extensive evaluation process, including a public comment period and consideration of conservation, economics, aesthetics, environmental protection, cultural values, energy needs, and safety. This was the final permit required under the Joint Permit Application process with the Corps and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. The Virginia State Water Control Board unanimously approved the state permit in September. Visit [alexandriava.gov/PotomacYardMetro](http://alexandriava.gov/PotomacYardMetro).

### LEE DISTRICT PLAYGROUND RENOVATION TO BEGIN

The Fairfax County Park Authority will soon begin work to install a new playground and shade structure at Lee District ReCenter located at 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. The contractor, Southern Asphalt and GameTime, will be mobilizing on site shortly with active construction activities beginning in mid-November. This project includes the demolition and removal of the existing playground and shade structure, installation of new playground equipment and shade structure, sidewalk improvements and related site work. Active construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of March 2020. The project is funded by bond funds and proffers and has a budget of \$260,000. For details, contact the Project Manager, Kelly Davis at [kelly.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:kelly.davis@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-8609.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Assistance League of Northern Virginia,** a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at [gronbiz@aol.com](mailto:gronbiz@aol.com) or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at [lynnieb517@verizon.net](mailto:lynnieb517@verizon.net).

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

**RSVP,** a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit [www.rsvpnova.org](http://www.rsvpnova.org).



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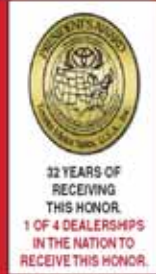
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**OIL & FILTER CHANGE**

**\$24<sup>95</sup>**

NON-SYNTHETIC

**\$34<sup>95</sup>**

SYNTHETIC

**Includes:** Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil\*, inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

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# CHRIS WHITE

**73 Homes SOLD in 2018!**

*Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White!*

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**9227 Allwood Dr  
\$598,500**

Absolutely pristine condition - all the work has been done! Ready for you to move-in! Numerous special features: updated kitchen with granite countertops, bright wood cabinets, & stainless appliances. Updated baths, great room with cathedral ceiling and fireplace, extensive recessed lighting, hardwood floors & covered parking. Magnificent setting on fenced half acre lot nestled in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Nothing like it in this price range!

**GREAT VALUE!**



**9346 Mt. Vernon Circle  
\$850,000**

Unique three level colonial with stately columned front portico, reminiscent of the neighboring Mt. Vernon Estate. The interior presents exceptionally large room sizes and excellent floor plan. Amazing opportunity to customize to make this home truly your own! Additional special features include: gorgeous stained hardwood floors, "Marvin" replacement windows, 2 fireplaces, newer gas heat and hot water heater, true oversize two car garage, large deck off family room overlooks private rear grounds. Walk to nearby marina & community waterfront area. Mt. Vernon on the Potomac is the only community in the area with these facilities for the exclusive use of its residence!

**RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY!**



**9335 Brambly Ln  
\$749,500**

Spacious updated home on absolutely gorgeous .80 acre grounds. Open floor plan and large windows capitalize on surrounding natural beauty and privacy provided by its magnificent setting. The home has been substantially updated and its special features include: large room sizes, replacement thermal windows, hardwood floors, elegant trim detail, upgraded master suite, and Kitchen with granite counter tops, stainless appliances, and gas cooking. True oversize 2 car garage. Custom brick & stone patios/walk ways to enhance the beautiful private natural setting. Amazing home and grounds locate at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac for exceptionally attractive price!

**HUGE LOT!**



**4116 Ferry Landing Rd  
\$878,500**

Incredible new price! Truly stunning property! Almost 5,000 luxuriously finished square feet built in 2011 by Brookfield Homes. This "Waverly Model" contains virtually every modern amenity and is loaded with custom upgrades. Special features include: 4 finished levels, spectacular open floor plan, high ceilings, custom Chef's kitchen, upgraded trim details, hardwood floors, 6 Bedrooms with huge master suite, finished lower level with bedroom, full bath, fireplace, bar and walk out stairs. No expense was spared on exterior landscaping with custom deck & stone patio with fireplace as well as children's playground. Combination of size, custom features and prime location impossible to duplicate for under \$1 Million. One of a kind opportunity!

**VIRTUALLY NEW!**



**4112 Ferry Landing Rd  
\$833,900**

Absolutely the most house for the money in prime Mt. Vernon location! Exceptionally spacious approx 5,000 sq ft colonial at end of quiet line in the heart of Mt. Vernon. This home was custom built in 2003 for its only owner and is loaded with upgraded items and amenities. Special features include: dramatic 2 story entry foyer, open floor plan with spacious kitchen/family room combination, spectacular bright main level sun room, 4 BR's and 3 full baths on upper level, huge finished lower level with rec room, guest room, and full bath. Amazing outdoor scene includes: private back yard with oversize custom stone patio & hot tub. Unique combination of size, custom features, & location compare favorably to properties selling for substantially more!

**SO MUCH SPACE!**



**4296 Neitzey Pl  
\$1,776,000**

Truly spectacular estate in premier setting near the river in prestigious Oxford on the Potomac. Custom home capitalizes on its location with soaring high ceilings, glass walls and multi-level decks designed to capture sweeping views of the river & adjoining wooded areas. Special features include: multi-story entry foyer, grand room sizes, elegant interior finishes, elevator, truly breathtaking master suite with dramatic river views, and his & hers private baths. Nothing was spared in creating this unique, one of a kind masterpiece!

**POTOMAC RIVER VIEWS!**



**4329 Tarpon Ln  
\$635,000**

One of Yacht Haven Estates most admired properties is now available! Absolutely gorgeous home and grounds widely regarded as one of the communities most meticulously maintained properties! Features include: gorgeous hardwood floors, thermal replacement windows, heat, hot water, fireplace, and cooking are all natural gas. Recently installed vinyl siding and exterior doors including garage door. Custom 2 tier deck with access from Master Bedroom and main level lead to brick patio overlooking magnificent large rear grounds. Gigantic rear yard with shed is a gardeners dream. Rare opportunity to find such a meticulously maintained turn key home!

**YACHT HAVEN!**



**4401 Ferry Landing Rd  
\$568,950**

Most house for the \$ in fabulous Yacht Haven Estates! Classic Mid-Century charm. Features: open floor plan, large room sizes and expansive walls of glass to bring the natural beauty of the grounds to every corner of he home. Exceptionally spacious with two full finished levels, 4 BR's, 3 Full BA's, 2 FP's, all glass thermal replacement windows, gorgeous .5 acre lot, walk to river and MV Yacht Club

**ONE LEVEL LIVING!**



**4313 Neptune Dr  
\$645,000**

Character abounds in this fabulous new Yacht Haven listing. Premier setting on beautifully landscaped half acre grounds in the heart of one of Mt. Vernon's leading water front communities. The home has been lovingly maintained by long term owner and has many significant updates including replacement thermal windows. Other special features include: gorgeous refinished hardwood floors on two main levels, large sun room and screen porch, master bedroom with private balcony, finished basement, attractive front porch, and garage parking. Amazing outdoor scene with large screen porch and oversize deck overlooking beautiful private grounds. Walk to nearby Mt. Vernon Yacht Club.

**CONTRACT IN 1ST WEEKEND!**



**3717 Carriage House Ct  
\$889,000**

Uniquely spectacular property in prestigious Riverwood community. One of the area's premier communities, bordering Mt. Vernon Estate on one side and the Potomac river on the other! No expense spared in updating & expanding the residence resulting in an incredibly dramatic property! Major additions include a truly spectacular great room featuring soaring cathedral ceiling, 6 sky lights, floor to ceiling "Andersen" windows, gas fireplace, and custom 8 ft "Andersen" glass doors. Other special features include: sun room, family room off kitchen, four large bedrooms on upper level, finished lower level, and true oversize 2 car garage. Stunning 37 x 25 ft custom deck overlooks beautifully manicured grounds. A truly special property!

**RIVERWOOD GEM!**



**4749 Neptune Dr  
\$995,000**

Significant price adjustment! A true estate caliber property! Spacious custom home nestled on beautifully manicured 3/4 acre grounds near river in prestigious Yacht Haven Estates! Home was carefully crafted with extensive covered verandas and elevated decks to capitalize on the privacy and serenity provided by gorgeous large wooded and lush environment. The home's special featured include: 3 beautifully finished levels, 5 Bedrooms, stately living and dining rooms, large family room with fireplace, and stunning custom chef's kitchen. Numerous glass doors lead from major rooms to outside verandas. Ideal for entertaining! Lot is large enough to accommodate spacious custom pool + extensive grassy area. Unique property providing character & graciousness that would be very difficult to

**INCREDIBLE GROUNDS!**



**9316 Old Mansion Rd  
\$950,000**

Totally unique location. One of the few area properties that provides direct Potomac river views. Enjoy the same sweeping river views that George Washington did from Mt. Vernon Estate which is just upriver from this special property! Other special features include: beautifully manicured grounds backing to private parkland with community path leading to river. The home is an attractive three level colonial featuring 3 levels, 4 bedrooms on upper level, bright white kitchen, two car garage, walk out lower level and large deck providing elevated private views of woods and river. A true natural wonderland!

**POTOMAC RIVER VIEWS!**



**CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028**

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