

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JANUARY 23, 2014



PHOTO BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

In Performance

During Cabaret Night at West Potomac High School on Jan. 15, Jessica Niles performed "Per Pieta." She is studying vocal performance and opera in Juilliard's Pre-College program.

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 3.

Into the Budget Fray

Bulova highlights accomplishments, challenges in annual address.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE GAZETTE

Despite the lingering impact of an anemic economy, and the regional ripple effects of federal sequestration, Fairfax County residents will see some concrete signs of progress this year.

That message was delivered by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, who cast a mostly positive light on the county's future during a media screening of her televised annual State of the County address

SEE BUDGET FRAY, PAGE 19



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova hosted a media screening of her annual State of the County address on Wednesday, Jan. 15. Residents can view the address on YouTube at <http://youtu.be/YzeaC3K-wiY>

Retail Worries

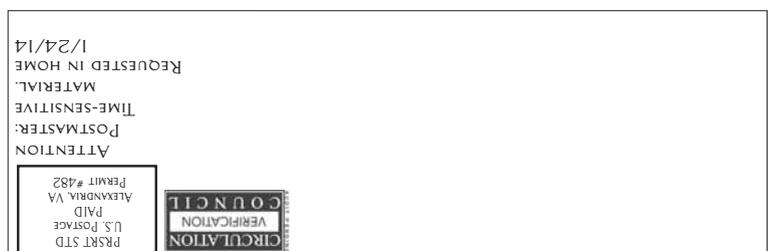
October numbers artificially inflated; holiday numbers could spell trouble.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

The partial government shutdown was more than an October surprise during the race for governor. Newly available statistics from the Virginia Department of Taxation show the month was also an unexpected boost to sales tax revenues across the commonwealth.

Fairfax County, for example, recorded a 15.5 percent spike in sales tax revenue in October 2013 compared to October 2012. But state and local officials says that's because several major department stores neglected to increase their sales tax rate to reflect the new regional tax for transportation when the new fiscal year began in

SEE SALES TAX, PAGE 21





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The original part of this gracious home dates from 1870. Excellent entertaining space. Spacious kitchen opens into the adjoining family room with access to the fenced patio. One off-street parking space. The second floor offers 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, den, and 3 skylights. MLS# AX8252045

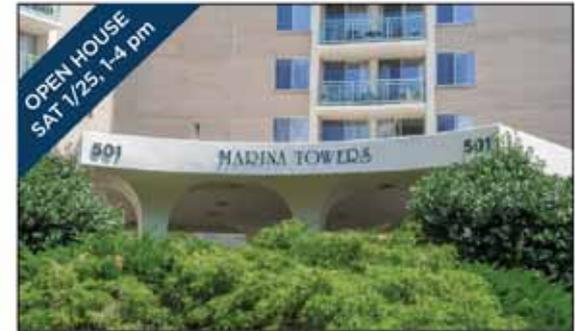
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Cabaret Night at West Potomac

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

Friends and family filled the Springbank Auditorium Stage for the West Potomac Choral Department's Cabaret Night on Jan. 15. It was a night filled with solos and collaborations such as Emma Harris (left), Sanou Diallo, and Pablo O'Connell performing "Ho Hey."



William Havranek chose "Somewhere" from West Side Story, telling the audience that song brings hope to people who listen to it. He is also a member of the Virginia Honors Choir.



Fiona Penn, who is also a dancer, delighted everyone with her performance of "Somewhere That's Green."



Aanya Jhaveri, a 7th grader from Sandburg Middle School, chose "I've Got the Sun in the Morning" during her performance as a guest of the Choral Department.



Pablo O'Connell accompanied several performers, on guitar, as well as taking the stage to sing "Golden Lady."



Tegan Wilson delivered a soulful performance of "Heavy."

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Woodworker Benjamin Leatham

Work on Display

Local woodworker participates in Sugarloaf Crafts Festival.

BY SENITRA T. MCCOMBS
THE CONNECTION

Alexandria woodworker Benjamin Leatham will be among the more than 250 jury selected artists showcasing their works at the Sugarloaf Crafts Festival from Jan. 24-26 at Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly.

"I've been doing it [Sugarloaf Festival] for a couple of years. And I was always impressed by the artists. I was very excited about it. It's a great show," he said.

The theme of Leatham's booth is handcrafted gourmet kitchen tools such as crepe tool sets, serving spoons and French rolling pens.

Although he has several specialties, he primarily focuses on creating "utensils, sculptural cutting boards and salad bowls."

"I grew up on a farm in western Maryland and I've been in love with food all of my life. I've worked in Hyatt restaurants for about 15 years," he said.

Leatham believes his knowledge of cooking and kitchen tools gives his creations one edge over his competitors: functionality and durability.

One project he is particularly proud of is renovating his small spatula after three generations of use.

"A lot of people when they make a spatula the thing they neglect most is that front edge. I've always had that sharp edge but now visually and ergonomically it's beautiful. It's really in its final evolution," he said.

Most of his inspiration for his works comes from nature.

In designing his cutting boards, he focuses on the grain and flow of the wood in connection to the board's shape.

"I'm not particularly a fan of straight lines or square edges, a lot of my stuff is biomorphic. It's very sculptural and flowing. It's very ergonomic so that the handle fits the palm of your hand whether your right handed or left handed," Leatham said.

Another aspect of Leatham's cookware is that he only uses "exotic domestic woods" such as maple, cherry and walnut.

Moreover, he uses sustainable or recyclable trees that have been cut down due to the weather or by power line companies for all of his bowl collections.

"... one of the things that sets my products apart is the high durability and low upkeep required by the customer is very little compared to what they would get from other products," he said.

Leatham grew up in the wood

SEE WOOKWORKER, PAGE 4

Local Woodworker Participates in Crafts Festival

FROM PAGE 3

working industry. Watching his father, who was a custom homes builder, first sparked his interest in the industry.

He continued to hone his wood working skills on the side after he enlisted in the Navy. Once he resettled in the Maryland/Northern Virginia area he worked with an architectural mill work company for six years which he credits for helping him ad-

vance his wood working skills.

Outside of his main hobby of woodwork- ing, he loves fishing and being out in na- ture.

He has a BA in biology and a minor in education.

The Sugarloaf Crafts Festival, formerly Sugarloaf Mountain Works, was founded by Deann and George Verdier in 1975. It was created with the mission of providing a "low-overhead marketplace where artists

and craftspeople could sell their unique crea- tions direct to craftlovers." In 1976, the first Sugarloaf Crafts Festival was held in Gaithersburg, Md. with 200 artisans.

This year's festival will be held over three days (Friday, Jan. 24 and Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Adult admission is \$8 online and \$10 at the door, and free for children under 12. Admission is good for all three days of the

festival. Free parking is available on site.

Unlike other craft shows, shoppers can speak directly to the actual artists instead of salespeople. And they can also watch live demonstrations where they can see the crea- tions evolve from ideas to completion.

For more information on the Sugarloaf Festival, show previews, ex- hibitor lists and admission discounts, go to www.sugarloafcrafs.com or call 800-210-9900.

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Led by Music Teacher Lianne LaFleur, 3rd-6th grade students played several songs to welcome new Principal Dr. Maureen Marshall.

Reception for New Principal

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE



On behalf of the PTA, President Sara Jefferies presented Dr. Maureen Marshall with a welcome gift.



Guests were invited to enjoy baked treats as part of the reception. All of the table decorations were made by students in Art Class.



Students perform for their new principal.



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Church Delegation Advocates for Responsible Gun Laws

Mount Vernon Unitarians meet with legislators on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

A delegation of 26 adults and two children from Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, led by member Laura Castro and the Rev. Kate Walker participated in the Day of Vigil and Advocacy for Responsible Gun Laws along with advocates from throughout the state on Martin Luther King Day in Richmond.

"It's time for us to speak up," Walker said. "We will not be silent while some of our legislators erode the safety of the public with dangerous legislation that serves to protect false individual rights at the expense of our community safety. We will not be silent, and we will speak with action. Those legislators who support action such as universal background checks need to know we have their backs."

Castro, a member of Moms Demand Action, said that after the rally, the MVUC group split into three to talk with senators and house of delegates' members on com-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A delegation from Mount Vernon Unitarian Church holds its banner "Standing on the Side of Live" on the grounds of the state capitol before visiting legislators to promote responsible gun legislation as part of a statewide effort on the Martin Luther King holiday.

mittees that will be considering gun legislation this session.

"We think the tide is changing," she said. "We want our communities to be safe. We are not trying to take everyone's guns away; we see this as a public safety issue."

Last spring, MVUC passed a congregational resolution on gun legislation advocating for measures that deter and prevent the indiscriminate purchase of firearms for the use of violence against people who live in the United States; provide safe havens

for people threatened by gun violence; fund studies on the causes of gun violence; and support universal background checks for the purchase of firearms. For the past three Sundays, Walker's sermons have focused on gun violence.

Piercing the Marble Virginia Supreme Court opens recordings to public.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Members of the Virginia Supreme Court have a New Year's Resolution—become more transparent.

Starting this year, members of the public will finally have access to audio recordings of oral arguments. The recordings were once public, but installation of new recording equipment in January 2008 changed that. Because the new microphones were so powerful, justices were concerned that sidebar conversations between justices might be audible.

"That was a lame excuse," said Del. Dave

Albo (R-42). "I'm glad they decided to change this without the General Assembly passing legislation to make it happen."

As it turns out, legislation was already in the works when the justices changed the policy. Wise County Clerk of Court Jack Kennedy approached Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) about introducing legislation requiring the court to release audio recording of oral arguments. Draft language for House Bill 1018 said audio records of Supreme Court oral arguments "shall be made publicly available in electronic format without fee within a reasonable time after oral arguments take place."

"I'm a Democrat and he's a Republican,"

said Kennedy, who lives in Kilgore's district. "But transparency should not be a partisan issue."

THE LACK OF TRANSPARENCY in Virginia has been a problem for many years, and the commonwealth has recently gained a reputation as a place that is hostile to open government. In 2012, the State Integrity Investigation ranked and graded each of the 50 states on government accountability, transparency and corruption. Virginia got an F, largely because police agencies deny access to basic documents. This week, Richmond-based Open Law Virginia issued its own state-by-state guide comparing public

availability of online documents. Virginia got a C minus, largely because many documents and files are difficult for members of the public to access.

"Access to live and recorded oral arguments creates opportunities for civic education and public engagement," the report concludes. "And even many judges have recognized, in part based on experience, that it is time to bring video coverage to appellate courtrooms routinely."

When the court's policy of denying public access became public last year, leaders at the Supreme Court initially decided to

SEE SUPREME COURT. PAGE 21

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OPINION

Extend Health Coverage in Virginia

General Assembly should not block coverage for as many as 400,000 uninsured.

Standing on what is essentially scorched earth, Republicans in the Virginia General Assembly have condemned hundreds of thousands of poor Virginians to living without health coverage even though it would be fully funded by Federal money for the next three years, and with Virginia paying 10 percent after five years.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe has pledged to do everything he can to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and we encourage him to use every creative option available to make that happen. In Ohio, the governor found a legal way to accept the Medicaid funds despite objections from the General Assembly, for example.

Earlier this week, McAuliffe included an

amendment to the FY2014 caboose budget bill authorizing the Governor to act in the event that the Medicaid Reform Innovation and Reform Commission (MIRC) fails to decide whether or not to accept federal funding to cover up to 400,000 uninsured Virginians through Medicaid by the end of the current legislative session.

Business groups and chambers of commerce around Virginia, including the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, support accepting the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia under the Affordable Care Act. One persuasive factor for the business community: The expansion would create an estimated 30,000 jobs. Hospitals support expanding Medicaid which would offset many of the costs of caring for uninsured populations.

It isn't as if there is no health care cost for the uninsured now. Right now, they access health care when they are very sick by going to an emergency room or other clinics, where providers spread the cost of care around. This is inefficient, expensive and unhealthy, including for those of us who do have health insurance. It means unvaccinated and/or sick

people are going to work and going about their daily lives putting themselves and others at risk.

As of January 2014, in Virginia, Medicaid eligibility for adults without disability is limited to parents with incomes below 51 percent of poverty, or about \$11,900 a year for a family of four, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Adults without dependent children remain ineligible regardless of their income.

The General Assembly should not be able to block coverage for as many as 400,000 Virginians basically out of spite. The established excuse, that the Feds can't afford it and can't be counted on to pay the money, doesn't hold water in Virginia, which receives more Federal dollars per capita than any other state but Alaska. If legislators are so concerned about Federal ability to pay, you might expect to see them refusing transportation money, for example, or to turn the possible FBI headquarters away, or thousands of other ways that Federal dollars make their way into Virginia.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

Hybrid Tax Repeal On Its Way

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

The General Assembly is now in full swing with action on major bills starting to move through.

The first bill I introduced was the repeal of the \$64/year tax on hybrid vehicles – HB4. In the last few days, the Senate approved the repeal of the Hybrid Tax. A vote by the full house comes later this week.



RICHMOND
REPORT

The Hybrid Tax was passed as a very small part of last year's transportation legislation. Senator Adam Ebbin and I led

a petition drive that collected over 7,500 signatures demanding repeal. Governor McAuliffe supports repeal and it appears that this will move through with little opposition. I am pleased that common sense has carried the day.

I have also continued to work on continued funding for the process of reinventing U.S. 1. At our Northern Virginia delegation meeting, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that the new Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is Charles Kilpatrick. Mr. Kilpatrick is a 1983 graduate of Mt. Vernon High School and also attended Walt Whitman Intermediate School and Washington Mill Elementary after growing up off Old Mill Road. I had a great conversation with him this week and he is very aware of U.S. 1's challenges.

My legislation has started to move. Seven bills I introduced were copied and reintroduced by Republican members. That is usually a good sign that they will pass. The most important was my legislation to repeal the Hybrid Tax. Also, three of my ethics bills were reintroduced

by Republicans, a court efficiency bill I have introduced five years in a row was taken, and legislation to exempt non-domiciled Marines and Coast Guard from jury service was taken as well (the Army, Navy and Air Force are already exempt).

Most importantly, my legislation to require every school system to adopt a plan to provide computers and broadband to every child by July 1, 2017 was given to a freshman Republican from Virginia Beach. Nearly every school system in the Commonwealth is transitioning to electronic textbooks. We cannot meet our constitutional mandate to education children and provide free textbooks to low income students if we do not also provide them with the tools to use these new technologies. This legislation is gaining bipartisan support and I am hopeful it will pass.

I also had several bills that were killed this week. My legislation to remove Virginia's 1975-era statutory ban on gay marriage died on 5-4 subcommittee vote this week with two Republican members crossing over to opposing killing my legislation. I am pleased that bipartisan support has started to emerge on nondiscrimination and marriage equality issues this session.

I also introduced legislation to raise Virginia's \$200 threshold between misdemeanor and felony property crimes for the fourth time in five years. Virginia has the lowest misdemeanor-felony threshold in the U.S. It has not changed since 1980. The statewide prosecutors' association support the bill along with other law enforcement groups and other citizen groups because too many crimes are charged as felonies which take significantly more time to process. It was opposed by retailers like Walmart and Target and was tabled on a unanimous vote — even though similar legislation passes the State Senate routinely.

Mount Vernon Gazette

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Steven Mauren
Editor, 703-778-9415
smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

Michael Lee Pope
Reporter, 703-615-0960
mpope@connectionnewspapers.com
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Jeanne Theismann
703-778-9436
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Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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Michelle Mitchell 703-587-2140



Carlyle Towers Condo \$1,125,000
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One of a kind! Fabulous 3BR/2.5BA w/ 35' terrace + curved sun-room! Eat-in kit. Gar park. Bookcases, moldings, etc.
www.CTC1804.com for pics.
Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



Old Town \$975,000
218 Fairfax Street N, Alexandria, VA 22314
Irresistible 2BR/2.5BA historic 1846 vintage townhouse with updated kitchen & bathrooms, 5 fireplaces, charming sunny & bright family room, private walled patio garden.
Greg Doherty 703-408-5068



Collingwood Springs \$955,000
8212 Collingwood Court, Alexandria, VA 22308
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac, this beautiful 4BR/3.5BA colonial offers 3,700 sq ft of luxury living. Fabulous 1st fl FR with fp, fully finished lower level + 2CG.
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



Braddock Heights \$895,000
2505 Central Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22302
Only a short stroll to George Mason Elementary School, this lovely 4BR/3.5BA brick colonial offers 1st fl kitch/family addition opening into fabulous outdoor entertaining area.
Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



Hensley Estate \$840,000
8203 Hensley Court, Alexandria, VA 22308
Lovely 4BR Colonial on cul-de-sac. Completely updated. Gourmet kitchen, formal dining room. Family room w/fireplace, library, & sunroom. Wooden deck and patio. Huge garage.
Robert Woods 703-244-8726



Braddock Lofts \$778,900
712 N. Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
Stunning loft style townhome w/3220 sq ft of living space, luxury finishes, patio, rooftop terrace & 2 car parking. Blocks to Metro, restaurants & shops of Old Town.
The York Group 703-409-3377



Riverside Gardens \$639,900
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Karen Leonard 703.328.7041



Huntington At Mt Vernon \$419,900
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Tucked away townhome w/4BR/3.5BA w/new windows, doors, carpet, remodeled kitchen, hardwoods, 3 finished levels and w/o to fenced patio. Stratford Elem. Great Value!
Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



Bucknell Manor \$385,000
6927 Quander Road, Alexandria, VA 22307
Fresh paint & refinished floors great you in this move-in ready Cape Cod, convenient to Old Town and an easy commute to downtown DC up the GW Parkway, & a mile from the metro.
Tom Rickert 703-447-7901



Alexandria | 703.518.8300
cbmove.com



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9410 Coral Ln
\$649,500
**Yacht Haven-
 Near River!**
 A truly spectacular updated property! Personal residence of interior designer

provides custom detail and level of finishes rarely found in this price range. Features include open floor plan, chef's kit, 3 luxury baths, 4-5BR and the most amazing oversized 2 car garage you'll ever find! Easy walk to Mt. Vernon Yacht Club. Unique opportunity to acquire home with top of the line custom features. **OPEN SUN 1/26, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Forest Haven; R-Dolphin; R-Coral.**



1503 River Farm Dr
\$1,295,000
**Grand Colonial Minutes
 from Old Town!**
 Best price for estate caliber residence in highly sought after GW Pky area! Special

home custom designed to capitalize on its park like setting and seasonal River views. Special features include 3 finished levels, w/o LL, 5BR with dual master suites, library, sunroom, open kitchen to family room, expansive glass walls, multi-deck and amazing 4 car garage. Combo of size, features & location add up to a truly unique value! **OPEN SUN 1/26, 1-4! GW Pky S; R-River Farm Dr.**



8428 Old Mount Vernon Rd
\$859,000
**Large Home-
 Totally Updated!**
 One of a kind compound consisting of a luxurious 5645 sq ft home and a totally remodeled and updated 2BR

cottage. Ideal situation for home office or extended family. New home has everything including 6BR, 7BA, custom kitchen open to family room, large living and dining rooms, main level study, stunning master suite, finished lower level and 3 car garage. Most house & lot for \$\$ in Mt. Vernon! **OPEN SUN 1/26, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; R-Old Mount Vernon Road.**



8520 Highland Lane
\$479,000
**New Home at
 Unprecedented Price!**
 Must see to believe! Priced \$220K+ below the next lowest priced new SFH in FFX Co. Brand new home

by leading custom builder intended for family member but circumstances changed. Result-unique opportunity to acquire top quality new SFH for less than townhouse or used home. Dramatic open interior, luxury kitchen and baths, screen porch, two car garage, stone and stucco exterior. Unique opportunity!



4325 Adrienne Dr
\$598,950
Southwood Gem!
 Gorgeous home and grounds, fabulous 4BR Colonial in pristine condition with many major updates including

expanded gourmet kitchen w/custom cabinetry, silestone counters, stainless appliances and large breakfast area. Other features : hwd floors, family room with fireplace, thermal windows and two car garage. Beautiful grounds with brick walk, stone patio & magnificent landscaping. Nothing like it for under \$600,000!



9009 Captains Row
\$665,000
Great Opportunity!
 Stately columned residence in prime location on prestigious Captains Row at exceptionally competitive price! Large 5BR, 3BA

home with many significant updated items. Special features: updated kitchen with stainless appliances, granite counters, custom trim detail, stained hardwood floors, master with updated bath, 2 fireplaces, gas heat & hot water. Oversize 2 car garage and custom 2 level deck. Priced to sell!



9305 Allwood Ct
\$519,500
**Stunning Value-
 Huge Potential!**
 Spacious home with two car garage on quiet cu-de -sac in prime Mt Vernon location! Features include

3 finished levels, open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings, hwd flrs, updatd kitchen and large bedrooms. Check the comps-nothing provides the combination of house and lot size in this premier location for close to this price!



1938 Shiver Dr
\$625,000
Totally Updated!
 Truly updated! Truly stunning home in prime "close-in" location! Fab features include columned front portico, bright-open floor plan, gourmet kit with

custom white cabinets, SS appli, gas cooktop, soapstone countertop & large island. Other features include "Pella" replacement windows, hardwood floors, 2 FPs, 3 full baths, & gorgeous professionally landscaped grounds. All the work has been-just move in & enjoy!

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 HUGE PRICE CUT - best in Waywood - for updated/ move-in ready 3L home with large family room addition. 3BR/2BA, finished

basement, 2 FP, beautiful lot with deck and pergola! Walk to schools.

D'Antonio Realty Group
www.waywoodrealtors.com
Elke, Liz and Anita
 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633



\$ 244,900
Alexandria
"FANTASTIC"

A 2BR/2BA condo in a great community close-in to Alexandria & DC. Unit is on main level - no stairs! Enter unit to be greeted by French doors leading to

huge living room, bright Sunroom/Dining room and airy kitchen. Large bedrooms surpass expectations; each bedroom has its own bath. Full-size WD. Beautiful commute to Ft Belvoir, Alexandria & DC along GW Pky.
 See details at www.7518Snowpea-R.com
Catherine L. Parker 703.627.5688



\$ 162,000
Woodbridge
"STARTER HOME ..."

or an investment opportunity. Looking for offers! 2BR/2.5BA. All big ticket items have been replaced within the past 5 years: heat pump, hot water heater, windows and roof. Perfect location with easy access to I-95, US Rte 1, shopping and restaurants at Potomac Mills. Tenant occupied, but can move if sold. Call for showings.

Elfie Biankini 703.593.2634



OPEN SUNDAY 1- 4!
\$ 339,900
Alexandria
8733 FORT HUNT RD

Large renovated and move-in ready garage home in Plymouth Haven! Beautiful family room addition with skylights, formal living and

dining rooms, huge leveled and fenced lot (0.5 acre)! Must see! Don't miss this one.
 D'Antonio Realty Group
www.waywoodrealtors.com
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 202.460.1809 or 703.967.7633



\$ 775,000
Alexandria City
"LOCATION"

Spacious 4BR/4BA split level has over 3,000 sq ft, wood floors, main level au-pair/in-law suite with private entrance, family room with fireplace off kitchen, full

walk-out lower level and incredible storage. Home has been lovely maintained and awaits your updates. Walk to MacArthur School! Open by appointment.
Ann Z. Logsdon 703.568.8433
Emily Capelli 703.472.1282



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 242,000
Alex. / Montebello
5903 MT EAGLE #812

Huge 1BR has the square footage of a two bedroom. Open layout, new carpet and paint. Enclosed balcony with fabulous views

and light. Resort amenities: indoor/outdoor pools, tennis, bowling alley, billiards, gym, shuttle to Metro and more!
Pat Tierney 703.850.5630
Mary Taylor 703.785.5619



\$ 479,000
Alexandria
"OUTDOOR SPACE"

An inviting home in a wonderful neighborhood - Townes at Cameron Parke. 3BR/2.5BA TH on 4 levels with a one car garage. Tasteful design touches

include crown molding, wood floors in living and bedrooms, vaulted ceiling in master, ceramic tile in baths and gas fireplace in family room. Lower level bath rough-in. Wonderful deck plus a patio. 1 mile+ to Metro.
Ben Grouby 703.362.2891



\$ 510,000
Alexandria
**"COMPLETELY
 RENOVATED &
 UPDATED"**

Gorgeously updated 2 level, 3BR/2BA rambler in Bellewood-Seminary Valley! New kitchen cabinets, appliances and granite; refinished hardwoods thru-out; updated baths; finished Lower level with 9 ft ceilings and double paned replacement windows. New high efficiency HVAC, 200 amp service. 1/3 acre fenced lot.

Sean Satkus 703.731.8086



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Officer Involved in Shooting Cleared

On Tuesday, Jan. 21, Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh has informed Colonel Edwin C. Roessler Jr., chief of the Fairfax County Police Department, that he finds no basis for criminal liability on the part of the officer who discharged his weapon in the fatal shooting of James Bryant on Oct. 30, 2013 at 9155 Richmond Highway. PFC Mohammed Oluwa, who is assigned to the Mount

Vernon District Station, will be returned to his patrol duties after having been assigned administrative duties since the incident. The Police Department's Internal Affairs Bureau will conduct an administrative investigation in accordance with the police department's General Orders. Bryant, 28, a resident at the Eleanor Kennedy Shelter, began assaulting other residents at the shelter, according to police. Two officers responded. They encountered Bryant who assaulted an officer

and wrestled away his baton. During this altercation, Bryant assaulted the second officer with the baton. Officers employed multiple levels of non-deadly force to try to end the assault. These attempts to control Bryant failed to stop his violent actions. The victim officer, previously struck by the baton, discharged his service weapon to stop an additional assault by Bryant. The officers then rendered aid until medical personnel arrived.

The following criminal incidents were reported by the Mount Vernon District Police Station.

PEEPING, 7900 block of Janna Lee Avenue, Jan. 20, 7:15 p.m. A resident looked out the window and saw a man looking into the room. The suspect fled prior to police arrival. The suspect was described as male and about 5 feet 4 inches tall.

LARCENIES:

- ❖ 7000 block of Green Spring Lane, property from vehicle
- ❖ Ladson Lane/Richmond Highway, cell phone from location
- ❖ 1600 block of Noral Place, jewelry from residence
- ❖ 6200 block of North Kings Highway, merchandise from business

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At Sentara Medical Group, we're committed to providing Northern Virginia residents with the highest quality healthcare services. That's why we're pleased to introduce Sentara Neurology Specialists, located on the Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center campus in Woodbridge.

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Neurology

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- Residency in Neurology - University of South Alabama Medical Center
- Fellowship in Clinical Neurophysiology - Vanderbilt University



Tha "Thomas" T. U, MD
Neurology

- MD - University of Medicine in Yangon, Myanmar
- Residency in Neurology - University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- Mini-Fellowship in Stroke and Headache - University of South Alabama Medical Center

Request an appointment today!

NEWS



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Choirs from 10 churches in the Route 1 corridor combined for the final song “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” at the Ventures in Community 19th annual Choir Festival for Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday Sunday night, Jan. 19, at Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

Churches Join in MLK Concert

To honor the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. 10 choirs from churches along Route 1 staged the 19th Annual Ventures in Community Choir Festival celebrating the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday night, Jan. 19, at Good Shepherd Catholic Church on Mount Vernon Highway.

The concert was attended by a couple hundred people. Highlights included a recitation of King’s “I Have a Dream” speech by Willie Parker of Woodlawn United Methodist Church and the singing of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” by the massed choir with the audience joining in on the chorus.

The Rev. Keary Kincannon, of Rising Hope Methodist Church, which runs a hypothermia shelter with the help of volunteer s from other churches, spoke about the needs of the impoverished and homeless along the Route 1 corridor to be assisted with food, shelter, jobs, and counseling to be brought into what King described as the “beloved community.” He noted work being done by various churches in VIC and called for more participation to meet the need.

Fr. Thomas Ferguson of Good Shepherd welcomed the choirs and the audience and the Rev. Tuck Bowerfind and the Rev. Ketlen Solak of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church gave the opening prayer. Each choir presented a song appropriate to the Martin Luther King holiday and the audience joined in on



Mark Zimmerman, choir director of the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, leads his choir in “Words of Lincoln” from Chronicles of Blue and Gray, accompanied by Dr. Yee Von Ng at the MLK Day Choir Festival at Good Shepherd Catholic Church Sunday.

“Lift Every Voice and Sing,” “America the Beautiful,” and “We Shall Overcome.”

Participating choirs included:

- ❖ Metropolitan Washington Baha’i Chorale
- ❖ Bethany Lutheran Church
- ❖ Bethany Lutheran Church African Immigrant Ministry
- ❖ Bethlehem Baptist Church, Men of Bethlehem
- ❖ Good Shepherd Catholic Church
- ❖ Heritage Presbyterian Church and Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church combined choir
- ❖ Mount Vernon Unitarian Church
- ❖ Rising Hope Methodist Mission Church
- ❖ St. Luke’s Episcopal Church
- ❖ Faith United Methodist Church and Woodlawn United Methodist Church combined choir.

FREE REMODELING & DESIGN SEMINARS!

Sat., Jan. 25th — 10am-2pm
Snow Date: Feb. 1 - please call to confirm!

Where: 5795 B Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015
(behind the Kohl’s shopping center)

Thinking of remodeling? This event is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of free expert advice with no obligation. Learn about the hot topics you should consider when remodeling.

Saturday’s Seminars:

- Kitchen and Bath Trends
- Apples to Apples - *Thinking Your Project Through? How Do You Compare?*
- Reinventing Your Home for Today’s Lifestyle

*Seminars run from 10am-Noon.
Lunch to follow.
Please arrive at 9:45am for check-in.*

Seating is limited!

RSVP: info@sundesigninc.com or call Sabrina at 703.425.5588



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St. Louis Catholic School

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, Jan. 26 & Tuesday, Jan. 28
9:00 am—1:00 pm

- Half-day Preschool Program
 - Full-day Kindergarten-8th Grade
 - Above average scores on standardized tests
 - Extended Day Program (before and after school)
 - Excellent Certified Staff and Faculty
 - Caring and Nurturing Environment
 - Conveniently located off of Route 1 (near Beacon Mall)
 - Discounted tuition rates for Catholic active duty military
- 2014-15 applications now being accepted for K-8th Grade
Preschool registration February 3-6 by priority**

2901 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22306
703-768-7732
www.stlouisschool.org

ENTERTAINMENT

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

Theater Performance. Aldersgate Church Community Theater presents Disney's "Beauty and the Beast, Jr." The show runs Jan. 17-26. \$10-\$12. Visit acctonline.org.

Art Exhibit. See "No Room For Doubt," abstract works on wood, canvas and paper by Kristen Hayes through Jan. 26 at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Free. Visit nvfaa.org or 703-548-0035.

Art Exhibit. Artist John Gascot of Studio 4, 218 N. Lee St., suite 101, creates an art exhibit to honor the life journeys of transgender individuals. It will be on display through January. Gallery hours are Thursday-Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Visit www.studio4oldtown.com for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Primary Colors" art exhibit from Jan. 3-Feb. 2 at The Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists use the three primary colors without mixing them. Free. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Theater Performance. See "The Ballad of the Red Knight" by Red Knight Productions at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane. Runs Jan. 24 through Feb. 8. Performances are Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. For tickets visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

Art Exhibit. The results of the latest art challenge issued by Artistic Artifacts, "Mixed Media Metallics," will be exhibited Jan. 18-Feb. 8. Many of the entries are included in a silent auction benefitting Food for Others. On display at Artistic Artifacts, 4750 Eisenhower Ave. Admission is one non-perishable food item, which will be donated to Food for Others. Visit www.ArtisticArtifacts.com/metallics for more.

Art Exhibit. See a solo photographic exhibit "Darkness Visible" by Timothy Hyde at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Runs Jan. 7 through Feb. 16. Hyde's photography examines the mysteries hidden in the shadows. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Theater Performance. Arts on the Horizon presents "Under the Canopy," a 20-minute interactive, nonverbal show for children up to age 4. Performances are Feb. 12-14, 16, 17, 19-21, 23 at 10:30 a.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. \$5/person. Visit www.artsonthehorizon.org for tickets. They can be purchased at the door.

Celebrate Black History Month. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 1-28 at Mount Vernon Estate. In observance of Black History Month, George Washington's Mount Vernon highlights the lives and contributions of the slaves who built and operated the plantation home of George and Martha Washington. A wreathlaying and presentation occurs daily at the slave memorial site throughout the month of February. Black History Month activities are included in admission: adults, \$18; senior citizens, \$17; children age 6-11, when accompanied by an adult, \$9; and children under age 5, free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Art Exhibit. See "Reincarnations" art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features art from salvaged items, art from encyclopedias and more. Free. Runs Feb. 7 through March 2. Visit

www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Frances Gallardo: Meteorology" Jan. 18 through March 2 at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Songs of the Shore," archival inkjet prints by Chantilly resident Peter Toth in the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beaugard St. Runs Feb. 7 through March 16. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html for more.

Theater Performance. See "Ella Fitzgerald: First Lady of Song" at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St., from Jan. 23-March 16. Performances are Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets may be ordered by calling 1-800-494-8497 or online at boxofficetickets.com. For group sales and information call the theatre at 703-548-9044. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria Exhibition. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., through Sunday, March 23. This exhibit traces life in Alexandria following Virginia's decision to secede from the Union in May 1861. The Lyceum is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Suggested admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org or call 703-746-4994.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Metro Club After-School Program. From Sept. 9-June 2014, the Metropolitan School of Arts presents an after-school program for grades 1-6. The program is located at both the Lorton studio at Workhouse Arts Center, 9517 Workhouse Way and in Alexandria at 5775 Barclay Drive. Programs will focus on the arts, including music, dance, theatre, yoga and academics, as well as designated homework time. The program will run Mondays, 1-6 p.m., and Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 p.m. Tuition runs from \$130-150. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Just drop-in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint our 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.

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

Intro to Machine Sewing for Children. Saturday, Jan. 18 from 10 a.m.-noon at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Learn the basics of a sewing machine and beginning sewing skills. \$35. Visit <http://www.artatthecenter.org/registration.htm> to register.

Quilting for Children. A six-week machine quilting class on Saturdays, Jan. 25-March 1 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. \$180. Kits are available for purchase. For children ages 8 and up. Visit <http://www.artatthecenter.org/registration.htm> to register.

Winter Sewing Classes. A six-week introduction to machine sewing on Thursday, Jan. 23-March 6 or



Freda Payne portrays Ella Fitzgerald in the MetroStage production of "Ella," playing now through March 16.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

'Ella' Opens at MetroStage

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN
METROSTAGE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"Ella Fitzgerald: First Lady of Song" opens this week at MetroStage. It is the story of young Ella literally dancing in the streets and winning a talent contest at the Apollo Theatre when she was 15 years old. She headlined with Chick Webb and his Orchestra at the Savoy Ballroom, performed Live at the Cote D'Azur and so much more. She discovered that she could "scat" and mastered a new art form called "bebop." It is a fascinating journey of a legendary artist.

NOTES FROM THE PRODUCER

MetroStage has a certain fondness for female singers, particularly ones with interesting backgrounds and great distinctive voices. You might recall past seasons when you experienced Mahalia, Alberta Hunter, Billy Holiday, Mabel Mercer, Sarah Vaughan and Pearl Bailey. And now for the next eight weeks: Ella Fitzgerald.

Not only is the story of Ella being performed on our stage but it is being played by the legendary artist and performer Freda Payne. Since 1970 Freda has been performing on stages around the world but will always be associated with her '70s hit "Band of Gold."

Saturdays, Jan. 25-March 1 at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. \$200. For children ages 8 and up. Visit <http://www.artatthecenter.org/registration.htm> to register.

Dance Classes. Metropolitan School of the Arts, 5775 Barclay Drive, #4, will hold adult classes starting in February. Ten percent of the fees will be donated to American Heart Association. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org or 703-339-0444 for a schedule.

THROUGH SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Alexandria Restaurant Week. A prix-fixe three-course dinner or dinner for two will be offered at 50 Alexandria restaurants throughout the city. Visit www.visitalexandriava.com or 703-746-3301.

According to director Maurice Hines, Freda has the voice that is closest to Ella's, and of all the singers today, it is Freda who most closely embodies Ella's unique vocal quality.

Helping Ella tell her story on stage will be her cousin and traveling companion Georgiana. Georgiana will be played by Roz White, a well-known favorite of MetroStage fans. There is also the very interesting story of her manager Norman Granz. Granz systematically began to desegregate performing venues so that Ella could perform in them and actually founded Live at the Philharmonic. Norman is being played by Tom Wiggin, an Alexandrian who has returned after 10 years in daytime television playing the role of Kirk Anderson in "As the World Turns," along with Broadway and regional credits as well. Wynonna Smith completes the cast as young Ella and younger sister Frances.

And, of course, a MetroStage production would not be complete without William Knowles playing piano and conducting our renowned musicians playing drums, bass, trumpet and sax.

See you at the Savoy.

"Ella" is playing now through March 16 at MetroStage. For tickets or more information call 703-548-9044 or visit www.metrostage.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 24

Theater Performance. 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. See "Peter Pan and Wendy," recommended for all ages. \$10/person at wphspeterpan.brownpapertickets.com or at the door.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School. See the drama department stage Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$5/ACPS employees, students and seniors; \$10/adult.

SATURDAY/JAN. 25

A Royal Feline Adoption Event. 1 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Cats that have been cared for by King Street Cat volunteers will be looking for their

forever home. Visit <http://kingstreetcats.org/> for more.

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Penelope's Pesky Pen," inspired by a children's book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. or 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. See "Peter Pan and Wendy," recommended for all ages. \$10/person at wphspeterpan.brownpapertickets.com or at the door.

Dance Performance. 7 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "The Trickster," a multidisciplinary work in collaboration with percussionist Tom Teasley. \$20/person. Visit

ENTERTAINMENT

www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Annual Dinner. 7 p.m. at Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St. The Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys & Girls Club will recognize community leaders. Former Redskin Joe Theismann will be in attendance as honorary chair. \$100/person and includes dinner, dancing and silent auction. All proceeds benefit the club. Visit www.2014bgcdinner.eventbrite.com or 703-549-3077.

Lecture and Bourbon Tasting. 7 p.m. at Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, 614 Oronoco St. Hear about Revolutionary War hero and governor of Virginia, Gen. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee and his son Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. A tasting of bourbons will be available after the lecture. \$7/lecture; \$15/tasting or \$20/both. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org/ for more.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Manhattans featuring Gerald Alston and Blue Lovett will perform. \$45. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

Civil War Ball. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and event from 8-11 p.m. in Gadsby's Tavern Ballroom, 138 N. Royal St. Features dancing, live music, desserts. Period attire or after-five wear. Reservations recommended. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242 for tickets.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School. See the drama department stage Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$5/ACPS employees, students and seniors; \$10/adult.

SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Dance Performance. 2 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Jane Franklin Dance performs "Penelope's Pesky Pen," inspired by a children's book by Frank Dormer. \$10-\$15/person. Visit www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.

Theater Performance. 2 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. See "Peter Pan and Wendy," recommended for all ages. \$10/person at wphspeterpan.brownpapertickets.com or at the door.

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Eat period-inspired delicacies while enjoying tea and American Heritage Chocolate. A historic guest will be visiting. \$35/person and is all inclusive. Reservations required, shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

MONDAY/JAN. 27

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Robin Zander of Cheap Trick will perform a solo concert. \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500 for tickets.

Music Performance. Alexandria's Fuse Box will perform at Jammin' Java, 227 E. Maple Ave., Vienna. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m. \$10/advance; \$13/door. All ages welcome. Visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 28

Wax Museum Event. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Louis Catholic School, 201 Popkins Lane. The Wax Museum is an annual event at St. Louis Catholic School that prompts the fifth grade students to learn more about an important person in history or modern society. Students dress as the person and "strike a pose" and a sticker is placed on their shoulder to

Winter Warmer Teas At Gadsby's Tavern

Enjoy the warmth and hospitality of Gadsby's Tavern during the Winter Warmer Teas. Teas held on Sundays, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, and March 9, 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant, 138 North Royal Street. Sip a special blend of tea from Gadsby's Tavern Museum, "take" a cup of American Heritage Chocolate, and eat period-inspired delicacies, both sweet and savory, with your 21st-century friends. Each tea features a different historic guest who will be visiting during the tea. Historic Guests include: Hannah Fairfax Washington (Jan. 26), Martha Washington (Feb. 9) and 20th-century preservationist Rebecca Ramsay Reese (March 9)

Tea is \$35 per person all inclusive and reservations are required. To make reservations and purchase tickets, call 703-746-4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov. Ticket also includes a tour at 2:15 or 2:45 prior to the tea. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

represent an "on" button. Once their button is pushed, students come alive to present their project. Free. Enter through the main office.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 29

Performance. 7 p.m. at Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St. The Virginia Opera will perform. Free. Reservations requested, www.vaopera.org or 1-866-OPERA.VA (866-673-7282).

"Change for Change" Benefit.

During the girls' basketball game at 5:45 p.m. or the boys' game at 7:30 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6600 Quander Road, change can be dropped into a bucket representing West Potomac High School or visiting Mount Vernon High School. The rival buckets will be available throughout the doubleheader to see which school comes out on top with the most change. Money from the "Change for Change" project will go to the countywide non-profit Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County and its Youth Council, working to keep youth and young adults safe and drug free. Dollar bills and checks will also be accepted.

FRIDAY/JAN. 31

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Bottle Rockets will perform with Marshall Crenshaw. \$27.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for tickets.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School. See the drama department stage Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$5/ACPS employees, students and seniors; \$10/adult.

SATURDAY/FEB. 1

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. James McMurtry will perform. \$29.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Warehouse Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Browse high-end boutique merchandise during the 9th annual Old Town Boutique District Warehouse Sale. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com or facebook.com/ALXWarehouseSale for more.

Special Tours and Demonstrations.

1-4 p.m. at Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 S. Fairfax St. Discover items from poison bottles to dragon's blood and find out how they were used and if they worked. There will also be demonstrations. Recommended for children in 3rd grade and older. \$6/person. Reservations recommended. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3852.

Country-Western Dance Lessons.

Lessons at 6:30 p.m., dancing from 7:30-10 p.m. at Lincolnia Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. Couples and singles can dance to music by a DJ. \$10/NVCWDA; \$12/non-member; \$5/children under 18. Visit www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941 for more.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School. See the drama department stage Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." \$5/ACPS employees, students and seniors; \$10/adult.

TUESDAY/FEB. 4

Special Tour. 1:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Take a special tour of the new Fred W. Smith National Library for the study of George Washington. Included in admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Discussion Series. 6-8 p.m. at Morrison House, 116 S Alfred St. Catherine Hollan on the "Growing American Silver Market" has been rescheduled from January. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/morrison/ for more.

Arts Extravaganza: An Evening of Fine and Performing Arts.

7 p.m. at West Potomac High School Springbank Arts Center, 6500 Quander Road. All ages can enjoy "Tuesday Night Live," a parody of "Saturday Night Live," browse art exhibits and create with clay, paint and more. There will also be music and competitions and more. Free.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 5

Dance Workshop and Book Signing. 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Metropolitan School of the Art's Alexandria studio, 5775 Barclay Drive. Middle and high school students can enjoy a workshop by Tim Federle, a Broadway choreographer. \$50/open to advanced dance, theatre and music students. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org to register.

THURSDAY/FEB. 6

Lecture. 7-8:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. "How France Embraced and Rejected American Values." Free, donations accepted. Visit www.alexandriacaen.wordpress.com for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 7

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m. see "Reincarnations" art exhibit at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features art from salvaged items, art from encyclopedias and more. Free. Runs Feb. 7 through March 2. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

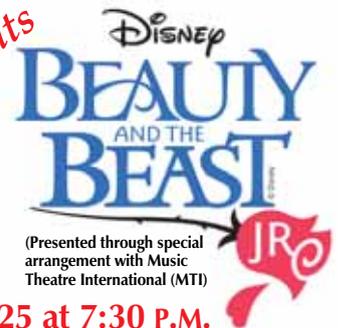
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January 19, 20, 25, 26 at 2:00 P.M.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Boys & Girls Club Awards Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Carlyle Club in Alexandria Saturday Jan. 25, 7 p.m. The event recognizes community leaders who have made contributions to the youth of the Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys & Girls Club. Through the awards, their achievements and dedication to enduring opportunities for success are celebrated. Former Redskin Joe Theismann will be in attendance as honorary chair. The Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Boys & Girls Club has been serving youth in the city of Alexandria for more than 77 years. All proceeds from the dinner and silent auction go directly to providing positive after-school and summer experiences for area boys and girls. Tickets are \$100 each and the evening will include dinner, dancing, and an open bar. In addition, there will be a selection of silent auction items to bid on. Business attire. Contact cmerica@bgcgw.org or 703-549-3077 or www.2014bgcdinner.eventbrite.com



Joe Theismann

the entries from "Mixed Media Metallics." Proceeds benefit Food for Others. On display at Artistic Artifacts, 4750 Eisenhower Ave. Admission is one non-perishable food item, which will be donated to Food for Others. Visit www.ArtisticArtifacts.com/metallics for more.

Teen Production. 7:30 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. See MVCCT's production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing." \$12. Visit mvcct.org for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 9

Valentine Card-Making Party. Noon-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans in the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free, but a donation for a make-and-take card is requested. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

Winter Warmer Tea. 3-4:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Eat period-inspired delicacies while enjoying tea and American Heritage Chocolate. A historic guest will be visiting. \$35/person and is all inclusive. Reservations required, shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

Teen Production. 3 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. See MVCCT's production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing." \$12. Visit mvcct.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 12

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. Gino Vannelli will perform at Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. \$59.50. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. meet Chantilly resident Peter Toth, artist of "Songs of the Shore," archival inkjet prints in the Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, of the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 8

Barnes & Noble Bookfair. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Potomac Yard, 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway. Support Jefferson-Houston PTA while enjoying student performances, book readings and crafts. Visit bn.com/bookfairs and enter ID #11271368 if you would like to support the school

online.
Swordsmen's Rendezvous. Noon-4 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern, 138 N. Royal St. Enjoy a re-enactment of 18th-century swordplay, displays, discussions and more. Includes audience participation. \$6/person. Reservations required, shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

Civil War Recruiting Day. 1-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Meet soldiers and civilians of the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Company K. There will be demonstrations and information about how to become a re-enactor. Free. Snow day is Feb. 22. Visit www.fortward.org or 703-746-4848.

Closing Reception and Silent Auction. 3-8 p.m. bid on some of

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Mount Vernon
Gazette

Save the Date
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Benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington,
Fairfax County Region

Into the Budget Fray

FROM PAGE 1
on Wednesday, Jan. 15.

In addition to the completion of Phase 1 of the Silver Line in Tysons, motorists can expect to see congestion eased through a number of state-funded transportation projects, including the new I-95 Express Lanes that will tie into the Beltway Express lanes at Edsall Road.

Residents can also look forward to the revitalization and redevelopment of older commercial and industrial areas throughout the county, including the \$250 million transformation of Springfield Mall into the Springfield Town Center in the fall of 2014.

The newly-renovated mall will include the addition of roughly 700,000 square feet of retail, restaurants, a food court and a state-of-the-art movie theater. The 20-foot-tall brown numbers that indicated the mall's six main entrances — a hallmark of the 1970s-era mall — will be replaced with one central grand entranceway.

Bulova also praised the Economic Development Authority and Visit Fairfax for boosting tourism and facilitating the selection of Fairfax County as the host of the 2015 World Police and Fire Games, the world's second largest athletic competition after the summer Olympics. The event is expected to generate more than \$100 million in tourism revenue for the county.

The 30-minute State of the County video, 10 minutes longer than last year's production, highlights many county achievements in the past year — such as the county's low crime rate and a 26 percent reduction since 2007 in the number of people counted as homeless. It also features three of the county's new leaders: newly-elected Sheriff Stacey Kincaid, the county's first female sheriff; Police Chief Edwin Roessler and Karen Garza, the new superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools.

In the video, Garza said one of her top priorities is "to listen and learn what our community expects of its schools."

"One of our big projects this year is that we enlisted the help of a broad-based community committee to develop the Portrait of a Graduate — which will detail what our community expects an FCPS student to know and be to do upon graduating from our system," Garza said.

Garza also addressed the ongoing challenge of funding a school system with a current enrollment of 184,600 students, making FCPS larger than the school systems of eight states and the District of Columbia.

"As you know, FCPS is facing some challenges as well," Garza said in the video. "We have grown by more than 15,000 students in the last five years and our required expenditures for items like employee benefits have continued to increase. At the same time, revenues have not increased enough to cover expenditures."

In fiscal year 2014, 53 percent of the county's general fund budget was transferred to Fairfax County Public Schools, a sum of roughly \$1.9 billion.

School officials recently unveiled a \$2.5 billion budget, asking for a 5.7 percent increase, or nearly \$98 million more in county funding. Under the proposed budget, class sizes will increase at all grade levels and about 730 staff positions will be cut.

After the screening, Bulova emphasized that while education continues to be the board's "highest priority" and the community's "greatest investment," there will likely be a significant gap between what school officials are asking for in their budget, and how much the board is prepared to give.

"The schools won't get everything they asked for," Bulova said. "The school board will have to roll up their sleeves and so will supervisors."

When asked how close the board is prepared to get to the 5.7 percent request, Bulova said that a 2 percent increase — or \$33 million — is a more realistic number.

In an effort to bridge that gap, supervisors have made state education funding the county's top legislative priority for this year's General Assembly session.

"This is our education year, our number one ask and priority from legislators is to get the full funding of \$33 million," Bulova said.

Although Fairfax County is not facing the "doomsday budgets" of the mid-1990s, a projected budget shortfall of \$25 million this fiscal year, coupled with the accelerating growth and financial needs of Fairfax

County Public Schools will present the Board of Supervisors with choices and challenges.

"Once again, it will not be an easy budget year," Bulova said. "Ac-

tions or lack of action at the federal level has impacted commercial and sales tax revenue, making it more difficult for the county to recover from the downturn."

Bulova said the county's advertised budget for fiscal year 2015 will be released for public comment next month. The county will host a number of public hearings, community forums and town meetings to give residents the opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. In late April, the board officially adopts the budget.

"Every budget tells a story," Bulova said. "We'll look for efficiencies and savings and opportunity for savings, but it won't be easy. The low-hanging fruit has already been picked."

In spite of the challenges, Bulova said she believes the board has consistently been able to strike a balance that has kept taxes affordable while delivering high quality services to residents.

"We remain committed to work with the community to maintain excellence in the face of our challenges," she said.

"The school board will have to roll up their sleeves and so will supervisors."

— Sharon Bulova

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SPORTS

Mount Vernon Girls' Basketball Showing Improvement

Majors have won 4 of 5, including victory over Oakton.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Fourth-year Mount Vernon girls' basketball head coach Courtney Coffey has had some talented teams during his time with the Majors, but for one reason or another, some of those teams have fallen short of their potential.

Last season, Mount Vernon had at least five future college athletes on its roster and produced a record of 22-3, but the Majors lost in the Northern Region quarterfinals.

This season, Mount Vernon is less talented after the graduation of Kelly Loftus, Taylor Dunham and Tiffany Webster. However, after dropping its season-opener to Centreville, 60-32, the Majors have been climbing toward their potential.

Mount Vernon defeated Forest Park 49-38 on Jan. 18, improving its record to 9-3. The Majors have won three straight and four of their last five, including a 64-59 victory

against perennial power Oakton on Jan. 9.

"I think [there has] been a huge difference from this team and my teams in the past," Coffey said. "My teams in the past have generally started strong and we've tended to fizzle out. We've reached our peak too early. This team is [the opposite]."

Mount Vernon has faced three of the top teams in the region. The Majors opened the season with a lopsided loss to Centreville, when Mount Vernon was without the services of senior point guard DJ JeanPierre, who sat out with a concussion. The Majors also lost to Edison 62-39 on Jan. 10. The Eagles pulled away late after JeanPierre fouled out.

One day prior to the Edison loss, however, Mount Vernon picked up a confidence-building win over Oakton, a program that prior to last season had given the Majors fits.

"It was huge," Coffey said. "We always felt like we could compete with anybody."

JeanPierre, senior guard Chanel Shannon and senior forward Samantha Porter have been standouts for Mount Vernon. JeanPierre, a senior transfer, is averaging 13 points per game. Shannon had 21 points and seven assists during the win against Oakton.

Porter, a Christopher Newport commit, is



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon girls' basketball coach Courtney Coffey said senior forward Samantha Porter has been "playing out of her mind."

averaging 14 points and nine rebounds. She finished with 21 points and 10 rebounds against Forest Park and garnered attention from Division I coaches, Coffey said.

"Samantha Porter has been out of control," Coffey said. "She's been playing out

of her mind."

Mount Vernon will host Washington-Lee at 7:45 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 23.

The game was originally scheduled for Tuesday, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

OPINION

State Budget Considerations Begin

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

Last week, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran of Virginia's 8th District announced he would not seek re-election. For 23 years he has ably represented the progressive values of the people of Northern Virginia. He has been an advocate for our environment, a fighter for equality and a strong champion of universal health



care. Northern Virginia is a better place to live and work because of his leadership. I am proud to have been represented by him in Congress, and to have represented him in Richmond.

RICHMOND REPORT

After his many decades of service to our community, I wish him a long and happy retirement.

On Thursday, I presented 12 budget requests to the Senate Finance Committee. One amendment would fund three new forensic scientist positions in order to reduce the backlog in processing sexual assault evidence kits.

These kits collect DNA evidence used to document, investigate, and prosecute cases of sexual assault. Another important budget amendment I submitted would improve the tax refund process by again allowing Virginians to receive their refund via paper check as well as via direct deposit.

Currently, the only refund options are direct deposit or plastic debit cards, the latter of which were fraught with fees and not consumer-friendly. I am pleased to report my accompanying bill SB27 to make this change has passed committee and is expected

to pass the full Senate this week. I am also seeking funds to provide support services to as many as 6,800 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are on waiting lists for services through an Individual and Family Support Program. Many of these people have been waiting several years for assistance, and this amendment would provide these families much-needed financial flexibility to purchase medical supplies, supplements, respite care and related services.

I am also happy that my bill to repeal the illogical hybrid vehicle tax has advanced through committee and is on its way to passage. I am encouraged by the strong bipartisan support it has received thus far and am optimistic this tax will be fully repealed.

Please join me at upcoming Town Hall Meetings:

- * Mt. Vernon: Jan. 25, 11-12:30 at Mount Vernon Government Center (2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria) with Del. Scott Surovell and Sen. Toddy Puller.

- * Lee District: Feb. 1, 10-12, Kingstowne Thompson Center (6090 Kingstowne Village Parkway, Alexandria) with Del. Mark Sickles, Sen. George Barker and Sen. Toddy Puller.

- * Alexandria/Arlington: Feb. 15, 10-12, Charles Houston Recreation Center (905 Wythe Street, Alexandria) with Del. Rob Krupicka.

If you're in Richmond between now and March 8, please stop by my office and see me. You can also email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov or call 804-698-7530 with your thoughts on legislation or state-related matters. I am active on Facebook and Twitter (@AdamEbbin) and more information is available at www.AdamEbbin.com, where I encourage you to sign up for my email updates.

It is an honor to represent the citizens of the 30th Senate District.

LETTER

FROM PAGE 10

Historically, the reduction of acreage of Dyke Marsh occurred, in significant part, in a legal fashion through dredging of soil and gravel, some of which was used to facilitate development of Reagan National Airport and the Pentagon. While, perhaps, local governments weren't as aware then as they are now of the environmental advantages provided by wetlands and marshes, it is doubtful anyone would say development of the airport and Pentagon were not meritorious projects. Is the reason proposals are made to fill almost a half-square-mile of the Potomac River at all related to the desires of environmental activists who, as a matter of principle, want to recreate Dyke Marsh to its configuration in the 1930s? If so, one must ask whether the money spent on such a venture could be better spent elsewhere to benefit the environment in a more cost-effective way, particularly given the current state of the economy?

Last year, in response to claims from environmentalists that Dyke Marsh is the only marsh of its kind in our area, I submitted to the Gazette, on a weekly basis, photographs of other prominent marshes similar in nature and scope to Dyke Marsh including those in Broad Creek, in Little Hunting Creek, on Mason Neck, in the Occoquan River, and in

Mattawoman Creek. The main difference between these marshes and Dyke Marsh is that Dyke Marsh is within a federal park, whereas the others are within state-owned lands. This difference has allowed politics to be used in appropriating \$25 million in federal money, otherwise known as our tax money, for the purpose of restoring Dyke Marsh.

One must ask wouldn't it be more cost-effective to use some of the money appropriated to stop further erosion of Dyke Marsh and perhaps fill a few acres of the Potomac River in the process and then return the remainder of the appropriated funds back to the states to be used to preserve other wetlands and marshes such as those identified above? The potentially adverse consequences resulting from adding huge amounts of fill into the Potomac River outweigh, in my view, whatever advantages might accrue.

I haven't even yet mentioned the potentially adverse consequences to adjacent properties downstream as well as the Belle Haven Marina which is a valuable recreational resource to our community and must not be threatened by the dreams of environmentalists to take us back to the 1930s in the name of principle.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Sales Tax Error Artificially Inflates October Revenue

FROM PAGE 1

July. So the October numbers represent the backlog of uncollected revenues.

Which retailers flubbed their taxes?

"That's proprietary information, so we can't say," said Marcia Wilds, revenue and economic analysis coordinator with the Fairfax County Department of Management and Budget. "They're big."

The revenue corrections came at a key time for local governments, a month that many expected to be particularly bleak. Many government workers and contractors were out of work in October, when local governments became concerned that spending habits might reflect a sense of uncertainty about the future. Now budget officials across Northern Virginia are worried about what kind of sales tax revenue they'll collect from the holiday season.

"The sales tax will be back with holiday sales," said Stephen Fuller, director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. "Over the year there will only a minor weakening."

BUDGET OFFICIALS are not so sure. As local governments across the region prepare for the first round of budgeting next month, a sense of uncertainty looms over the revenue projections and spending priorities. Part of that is the unemployment rate, which

remains at about 6 percent across Virginia. That means consumers may hold back on consumption based spending, which would mean lower revenues for local governments on retail sales and restaurant meals.

"If revenues continue to decline, it may be necessary to make up any additional shortfalls with expenditure reductions," wrote Alexandria City Manager Rashad Young in a memorandum to City Council members this month.

The concerns are larger than retail sales. One of the potential problems on the horizon is transient occupancy tax revenues. In Alexandria, for example, the hotel occupancy rate fell from 76.1 percent in October 2012 to 72.4 percent in October 2013. In Arlington, hotel occupancy tax revenues fell 15 percent in November compared to the previous year and 18 percent in December compared to the previous year.

"Am I worried? Yes," acknowledged Arlington Budget Director Richard Stevenson. "But that's what budget directors do. We worry."

EXPERTS WHO FOLLOW local government revenues say jurisdictions are worried for two reasons. The first is the lack of continuity on the part of the federal government. When the shutdown was happening, nobody knew how long it would last or when it would end. That led families to cut back

their spending habits and cast a wary eye toward the future.

"That, obviously, is scary," said Frank Shafroth, director of the Center for State and Local Government at George Mason University. "It means for a family that you always have to leave something aside instead of using it at a local restaurant, store or other facility."

A second reason for worry is that the uncertainty is far from over. The budget agreement reached between Congress and the president is good through September, leaving open the possibility of yet another battle about bankruptcy and insolvency. That leaves open a sense of doubt for long-term contracts involving everything from bridges and fighter planes to satellite and veterans hospitals.

"With the Federal Highway Trust Fund expected to be insolvent by next year," said Shafroth, "a key partner in the regional Washington economy is becoming an uncertain one."

THE NEXT FEW months will detail the extent of the economic damage created by sequester and shutdown. Will the numbers track with expectations? Or will they fall well below the budgets local leaders voted for last spring? That has local governments worried and prepared to make reductions if necessary. Then again, they also don't want to make spending reduction that are unnecessary and potentially damaging.

month	Alexandria	Arlington	Fairfax
July, 2012	\$2,095,566.17	\$3,209,203.92	\$13,721,734.05
July, 2013	\$2,131,996.31	\$3,035,747.37	\$13,659,947.01
difference	\$36,430.14	-\$173,456.55	-\$61,787.04
percent change	1.74%	-5.40%	-0.45%
August, 2012	\$2,140,318.83	\$3,319,659.04	\$14,475,843.20
August, 2013	\$2,026,859.07	\$3,037,107.38	\$13,530,731.80
difference	-\$113,459.76	-\$282,551.66	-\$945,111.40
percent change	-5.30%	-8.51%	-6.53%
September, 2012	\$2,183,674.38	\$3,285,824.25	\$13,581,370.46
September, 2013	\$2,103,012.61	\$3,067,027.71	\$13,521,411.87
difference	-\$80,661.77	-\$218,796.54	-\$59,958.59
percent change	-3.69%	-6.66%	-0.44%
October, 2012	\$2,027,158.90	\$3,178,335.39	\$13,614,131.71
October, 2013	\$2,208,159.20	\$3,661,773.43	\$15,728,025.92
difference	\$181,000.30	\$483,438.04	\$2,113,894.21
percent change	8.93%	15.21%	15.53%
November, 2012	\$2,078,264.35	\$3,301,839.75	\$14,234,067.26
November, 2013	\$2,062,527.46	\$3,218,338.10	\$13,908,035.89
difference	-\$15,736.89	-\$83,501.65	-\$326,031.37
percent change	-0.76%	-2.53%	-2.29%

"What you don't want to do is make cuts that if we recover enough we didn't need to make," said Laura Triggs, finance director with the city of Alexandria. "But by law, if it continues to be low then yes I have to cut back on expenditures."

Part of the problem is revenue growth not meeting expectations. Even if local governments

see an increase in revenue from sales tax revenue, failure to meet expectations could spell trouble for balancing the books in the current fiscal year. And that means even more headaches for trying to predict the future in fiscal year 2015.

"Normally our sales tax is increasing at a larger extent than it is right now," said Wilds.

Virginia Supreme Court Makes Audio Recordings Public

FROM PAGE 7

defend the policy. In a written statement explaining the lack of transparency, director of legislative and public relations for the Office of Executive Secretary Katya Herndon said new technology was to blame.

"The new digital recording equipment is more sensitive so that the recordings now include any confidential comments any justice makes to another justice during the oral argument," said Herndon last June. "Accordingly, the recordings, which are for the internal use of the justices, are no longer

made available to the public."

Since that time, a number of media outlets have reported on the lack of transparency. And legislators began drafting bills to force the court to open up. Now, the court has decided to change course — at least for oral arguments moving forward. Advocates

for open government say it's a victory for the public.

"We can't have secret courts," said Ginger Stanley, executive director of the Virginia Press Association. "The public has a right to hear these audio records. That's how democracy works."

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OBITUARY

Frances Bliss Simmons

Frances Bliss Simmons, 89, of Alexandria, died peacefully on November 13, 2013, at Mount Vernon Hospital surrounded by her family. Mrs. Simmons is preceded in death by her husband, BGen Edwin H. Simmons, USMC. She is survived by her children, Edwin Simmons, Jr., Clarke Simmons, Bliss Simmons Robinson, and Courtney Simmons Elwood; and 5 grandchildren.

A service will be held at Fort Myer Post Chapel on January 23, 2014, at 3pm, followed by interment at Arlington National Cemetery and a reception at the Ft. Myer's Officers' Club. The arrangements are under the direction of Cunningham Turch Funeral Home, Alexandria, VA.

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OBITUARY

William Dixon Robertson, Jr.

COLUMBIA - William Dixon Robertson, Jr., 87, died Friday, January 17, 2014, following a brief illness. Funeral services will be held eleven o'clock in the morning, Wednesday, January 22, at Washington Street United Methodist Church. Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. The family will receive friends from five until seven Tuesday afternoon, January 21, at Dunbar Funeral Home, Devine Street.

Admiral Robertson was born in Lexington, North Carolina, on August 27, 1926, to the late William D. and Mary Norman Hargrave Robertson. He enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve on December 11, 1943, and under the V-12 Program attended the University of South Carolina at Columbia. He entered the United States Naval Academy on appointment from his native state in 1944. He graduated with the class of 1948 on June 6, 1947, and was commissioned Ensign. His selection for the rank of Rear Admiral was approved by the President on January 30, 1974.

Admiral Robertson was a proud destroyer officer. He served in USS VESOLE (DDR-878); USS MULLANEY (DD-528); and USS WEEKS (DD-701). He was Executive Officer under Elmo "Bud" Zumwalt's command of USS DEWEY (DLG-14). He attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Washington, DC, in Intelligence and Russian Language; and served as Assistant Naval Attaché at the American Embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; operations officer to Destroyer Squadron THIRTY; instructor for the Naval ROTC Unit at the University of South Carolina; Head of Maritime Intelligence Branch, Office of Naval Intelligence; and Head of the Strategic Warfare Group, Systems Analysis Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-96). He was commanding officer of USS WATTS (DD-567); USS RAMSEY (DEG-2); and USS WAINWRIGHT (DLG-28). From August 1974 until his retirement in June 1979, he served as deputy, then Vice Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

Admiral Robertson attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and received a Master of Science in Administration from the George Washington University, Washington, DC. He was awarded the Bronze Star medal with Combat "V" for "meritorious service during combat operations against the enemy" during the Viet Nam War; the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal, and Joint Service Commendation Medal. He also wore the American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal with bronze star; Vietnam Service Medal with bronze star; and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device.

Admiral Robertson was active in his church and with his children's activities wherever his family was stationed. Upon returning to Columbia, he immediately became involved with Washington Street United Methodist Church. He served as Chair of the church's Foundation and he and his wife worked with Meals on Wheels. He was a member of the Columbia chapter of the US Naval Academy Alumni Association; the Saint Andrews Society of the City of Columbia; Forest Lake Club; the Quadrille Club; and a former member of the Caprician Club.

Admiral Robertson is survived by his wife of 61 years, Frances Tuttle "Tut" Robertson, of Columbia; son, William Dixon Robertson III (Allison), of Columbia; daughter, Frances Robertson Butler (Barre), of Charleston; sister, Sassy Shull, of Columbia; grandchildren, Frances Lee Butler Bressan (John) of Charleston; William Barre McLeod Butler of Columbia; and Allison Bethea Robertson of Columbia; three wonderful nieces; and a grand-niece and many grand-nephews and cousins whom he cherished.

Memorials may be made to Washington Street United Methodist Church Foundation, Wounded Warrior Project, or a charity of your choice.

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-Thomas A. Edison

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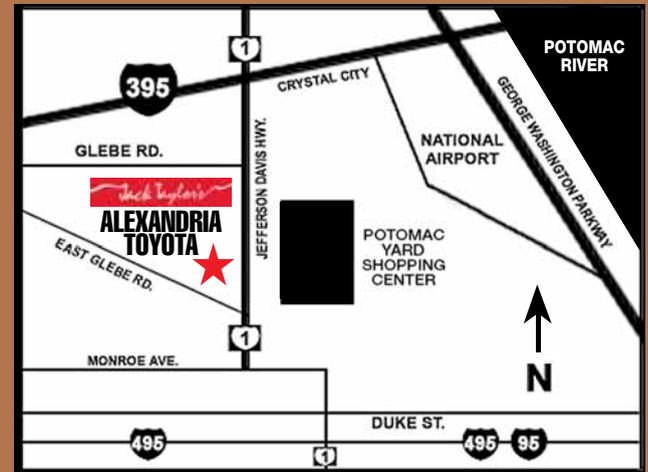
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Let's Go Places



<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$5⁰⁰ OFF</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BRAKE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$79⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">PADS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINTER DETAIL SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$119⁹⁵</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DETAIL SPECIALS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$39⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Wash & Vacuum</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$139⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Hand wash, wax & interior cleaning</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$295⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Full premium detail</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$129⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Does not apply to hybrid batteries.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">VARIABLE DISCOUNT</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">\$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">\$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">\$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">\$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">\$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 Or more</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$1⁰⁰</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION. PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Service & Parts Dept. Hours:</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Includes: Inspect tires, brakes, wipers, lights, belts & hoses & fluid levels.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$89⁹⁵</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">PREVENT UNEVEN WEAR</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12% OFF ANY FACTORY RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WINTER MAINTENANCE PACKAGE SPECIAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: large; color: red;">\$59⁹⁵</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of oil, tire rotation, tire tread inspection, set proper tire pressure, battery check (with print-out), inspect brakes, inspect drive belts, check & top off all fluids and check engine coolant/antifreeze.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WE WILL MEET OR BEAT ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FREE QUICK ALIGNMENT CHECK</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">We will take the guess work out. Stop paying for alignments you don't need.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">ADJUSTMENTS, \$89.95</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/14. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.</p>	

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA / SCION

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA/SCION
3750 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY. | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305
1-866-616-8420 | ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM
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