



PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

Randy Dittberner, a regional traffic engineer for VDOT, speaks at a public meeting about Sherwood Hall Lane repaving and re-striping on March 12.

Re-striping for Public Safety

Neighbors on Sherwood Hall Lane divided over solutions.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

In addition to repaving Sherwood Hall Lane from Route 1 to Fort Hunt Road, the Virginia Department of Transportation and Fairfax County Department of Transportation are looking to re-stripe this road to make it safer.

This plan for re-striping Sherwood Hall Lane was unveiled at a public meeting on March 12. Representatives from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation and VDOT were present to answer questions.

According to Seyed Nabavi of the Fairfax County Department Transportation, police have issued 340 tickets on Sherwood Hall Lane for illegal passing in the last three months.

Nabavi said re-striping the road to add a left turning lane will reduce speed and prevent illegal right passing that often occurs when cars are turning left.

The plan also includes on-road bike plans and decreased parking lanes.

The Fairfax County Comprehensive Transportation Plan and Bicycle Master Plan leave Sherwood Hall Lane as a two-lane road with on-road bike lanes.

"There were rumors that we were going to widen. That's not going to happen, but we do want



Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland speaks at a public meeting about Sherwood Hall Lane repaving and re-striping on March 12.

to play with the pavement marking to make it a little bit better," said Charlie Strunk, Fairfax County Department of Transportation bicycle coordinator.

Several Sherwood Hall Lane area residents, including Jack Pardue, said the re-striping will take away parking space and cause more speeding and traffic.

"I have nothing against bikers," Pardue said. "But this will destroy our property values."

According to Nabavi, however, parking along Sherwood Hall Lane is not highly utilized and the parking lanes are used for illegal passing on the right. Nabavi said the empty parking lanes were observed along Sherwood Hall Lane around 4 p.m. on weekdays.

Jeff Anderson of Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling attended the meeting in his role as an advocate for the organization's Safe Routes to School in Fairfax program.

"The community is asking for a crosswalk to get

SEE RE-STRIPING, PAGE 5

Integrating Health Care at Gartlan

Grand opening of Gartlan Health Care Center is March 27.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

Details

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE GARTLAN CENTER:

According to a 2006 study, people with a serious mental illness, on average, die 25 years earlier than the rest of the population.

The study, conducted by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, found that about 60 percent of these deaths were due to conditions like cardiovascular and pulmonary disease.

Colton Hand, the medical director of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, said it was this study that made people realize that a serious problem existed.

"For a lot of agencies, all of a sudden, people realized that it was significant and a public health disaster," Hand said.

Although the CSB has been integrating primary and behavioral health care services for some time, Hand said, a new co-located service at the Gartlan Center in southern Fairfax County allows for clients of CSB to receive primary and behavioral health care treatment at the same place.

"People with serious mental illnesses in particular are very reluctant to get care in a medical setting. They have many fears and apprehensions. People with substance use issues as well encounter stigma and discrimination by medical professionals and by support staff. I think the idea of bringing the care to the patients where they are — that's the innovation," said Mark McGovern, a professor of psychiatry and community and family medicine at Dartmouth

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- ❖ Access to dental care (coming in early 2014)

Medical School.

Neighborhood Health, Inc., a non-profit health care provider, is now providing primary care services at the Gartlan Center on Tuesdays and Fridays.

"They send over to us a primary care physician, a medical assistant, and an enrollment specialist. We have some nursing support and we have a health care integration specialist who helps coordinate all this," Hand said.

According to Laura Yager, CSB director of partnership and resource development, the Gartlan Center is unique because it is open to any client served by CSB.

"You don't have to have a specific diagnosis to get health care," Yager said.

Yager says that most of the models integrating primary and behavioral health care focus on just clients with a serious mental illness.

"We serve people with serious mental illness, but also people whose primary issue is substance abuse disorder, and also people who have intellectual disabilities," said Belinda Buescher, CSB communications director.

The Gartlan Health Care Center

SEE CSB, PAGE 4

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Remembering the Legacy of Harriet H. Fatzinger

Harriet H. Fatzinger Nursing Memorial Scholarship recipients honored at Fort Belvoir.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

The legacy of Harriet H. Fatzinger, an active citizen of the Mount Vernon area, was honored as the recipients the Harriet H. Fatzinger Nursing Memorial Scholarship were presented at a luncheon at Fort Belvoir on March 13.

Patrick Apple of Arlington and Afiya Felix of Centreville, both Northern Virginia Community College nursing students, are this year's recipients of the scholarship.

Harriet Fatzinger was a 1972 cum laude graduate of the nursing program at Northern Virginia Community College, and was a registered nurse.

Because of her many contributions to the Mount Vernon area and the rest of Northern Virginia, her family started an endowed scholarship in her name at the Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation in 2011.

"We were pleased to set up the scholarship, which is now over \$40,000 and growing to help students that are in need of a boost to get through the nursing program at NOVA," said Glenn Fatzinger, the husband of the late Harriet Fatzinger and one of the founders of the Northern Virginia Community College Education Foundation.

Harriet Fatzinger was involved in several activities in the Mount Vernon area. At



Glenn Fatzinger, the husband of Harriet Fatzinger, with Patrick Apple and Afiya Felix, recipients of the Harriet H. Fatzinger Nursing Memorial Scholarship, and Robert Templin, president of the Northern Virginia Community College, at the Harriet H. Fatzinger Nursing Memorial Scholarship luncheon at Fort Belvoir on March 13.

PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, in addition to being a sitting elder and chair of the Congregational Care Council, she established the Agape Reservoir Fellowship program, which helped those with special needs. She was a nurse at the Francis Scott Key School for special needs students in Franconia. Harriet also worked as a school secretary at Groveton Elementary School for

more than 13 years.

According her husband, Harriet Fatzinger always strove to help those who were less fortunate.

"We are really fortunate today to not only honor Harriet for the work she did as a nurse, but also to recognize the work she did for special needs people and helping others who are less fortunate than we are,"

Glenn Fatzinger said.

This year, Harriet Fatzinger's friends, family, and Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church members have raised over \$40,000 for the scholarship.

"This is really a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together to remember Harriet, to recognize a couple of



Harriet H. Fatzinger

young, budding scholars with very bright futures, and for you all to support one another in helping to remember Harriet," said Robert Templin, president of the Northern Virginia Community College.

Patrick Apple, one of the recipients of the scholarship, is a senior at Northern Virginia Community College. He plans on becoming a nurse practitioner.

"I hope to work in a family practice," Apple said.

The other scholarship recipient, Afiya Felix, is a junior at Northern Virginia Community College. She hopes to become a midwife.

"I have always wanted to be a nurse and help people when they're sick," Felix said.

Commission Defers Landfill Decision to April 3

Group to discuss a compromise is now underway.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

On March 13, the Fairfax County Planning Commission was set to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on whether EnviroSolutions should be permitted to continue dumping construction debris at their landfill in Lorton until 2040.

However, at that meeting, the Planning Commission deferred the decision to April 3 in order for a group to be established to discuss the issues at stake between those on both sides of the debate.

The motion to defer the application was made by Earl Flanagan, the planning commissioner for the Mount Vernon district.

Flanagan said that he attended a meeting of the South County Federation on March 11 in which 200 community members gathered to voice their opinions about the landfill.

Tim Sargeant, an at-large member of the Planning Commission, and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova were also in attendance and met to discuss the application.

"Chairman Bulova then announced that she and [Mount Vernon] Supervisor [Gerry] Hyland will form a group including community, staff and the applicant members, to investigate alternative solutions to the current application. Commissioner Sargeant and I agreed," Flanagan said at the meeting.

South County Federation president Nick Firth said he was called by Hyland and asked if he would be open to the possibility of finding a compromise to the application.

"I think this has gotten larger than anybody anticipated, and I think maybe at this point they are trying to look for a solution that is good for all," Firth said. "I don't know where this is going and I don't have any idea of what anyone is willing to talk about."

Firth said he hopes to find a solution to the current agreement, which requires closure of the landfill in 2019 and the construction of a park.

"The community did compromise. We compromised in 2006. Our last compromise is not being honored, not only by ESI, but also by the county Board of Supervisors," Firth said.

On March 13, the same day as the deci-



PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE GAZETTE

The future of the construction debris landfill in Lorton, owned by EnviroSolutions, is being discussed by community members and officials in Fairfax County.

sion to defer the application, Firth said he received pro-EnviroSolutions' flyers in his mailbox and has gotten more than 200 emails from community members who also received the flyers.

The record will remain open for written comments on the EnviroSolutions application.

According to Conrad Mehan, EnviroSolutions' director of government relations, the compromise group met for the first time on March 17.

"Sharon Bulova set this group up, and I think it's a very healthy exercise," Mehan said. "We're looking forward to trying to find some common ground with the opposition."

According to Troy Manos, Bulova's communications director, the group was set up to try to help both sides reach common ground.

"We may not come to any agreements, and if so, we'll agree to disagree," Mehan said.

CSB Integrates Primary and Behavioral Health Care at Gartlan Center

FROM PAGE 1

will also focus on wellness and quality of life, and will provide classes on certain health topics, such as tobacco use and positive exercise.

“We’re trying to set Gartlan up as a wellness center, to further reduce the stigma that can be asso-

ciated with having a disability,” said Joan Rogers, CSB organizational development and training director.

There are multiple reasons a major life expectancy disparity exists for those with serious mental illness or substance abuse problems, including health literacy, socio-economic status, residential

problems, transportation problems and financial and insurance problems.

Some also have difficulty navigating the health care system, Hand said: “I think the health care system has challenges working with folks that have serious mental illness or addiction. There’s still a serious stigma out there. When

you put all those together, there’s numerous barriers to getting that care.”

For CSB clients, the Gartlan Center will be a one-stop center for all of their medical needs, which Yager says will help to normalize their experience.

“We have people who haven’t been to a doctor for a long time

who may be afraid to go to a doctor. I don’t know anyone who likes to go and take their clothes off for an examination. So if we’re talking about people who have layers of inactivity with seeking medical care, we’re normalizing that experience for them by having a service that is right there where they are already comfortable getting services,” she said.

The integration at the Gartlan Center is operating without a grant, something Yager says is very rare. CSB clients who have a payor source can receive services at the Gartlan Center. Those without insurance are encouraged to check out the Health Department’s Community Health Care Network.

“We’re providing space and support to make this successful. They are providing medical care. We are two different organizations in one site working collaboratively to help people get health care,” Yager said.

CSB sees the Gartlan Center as a place that will bring a sense of community to the south county area.

“I’m picturing yoga classes and all kinds of things where the community is participating,” she said.

The community is encouraged to attend the grand opening of the Gartlan Health Care Center on March 27 from 10-11:30 a.m. RSVP by March 20 to Lara.Larson@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-7027.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

THURSDAY/MARCH 20

Public Information Meeting. 7-9 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School Cafeteria, 7630 Telegraph Road. A “Pardon Our Dust” meeting is a community update on the anticipated start of project construction, a review of the project milestone schedule, and information on public outreach programs pertaining to potential traffic changes during construction. The initial construction activities along Route 1 are scheduled to begin in late March/early April. Project team members will be available 30 minutes before and after the presentation. Visit <http://rte1ftbelvoir.com> for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 21

Touch Base with Teachers. 7:15-9:15 a.m. in the Michael F. Skinner Field House at Mount Vernon High Schools. MVHS parents and guardians can meet with their child’s teachers at the end of the third quarter interim period for mini-conferences lasting five minutes. School will begin three hours late. Contact James Oberndorf, assistant principal, at 703-619-3200.

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Paving for Sherwood Hall Lane from Route 1 to Fort Hunt Road is scheduled to begin this summer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Re-striping for Public Safety

FROM PAGE 1

across the street to Hollin Meadows Elementary School. Right now, there is no crosswalk there for the children, as well as the community to get to whatever they want to do," Anderson said. "There is a group of students who live within a mile of the school who are now bused to school."

Olivia Luby, a student at Hollin Meadows Elementary School, said it is impossible for her and her classmates to cross Sherwood Hall Lane to get to school.

"Sherwood Hall Lane is a very busy street. Lots of people like to cross it to get to school. That can be difficult for people to cross the street because of all the cars. We were wondering if you could help us get a crosswalk to help my classmates get to school safely and maybe even a speed bump if you're feeling generous," Luby said.

Speed bumps, however, are not available on Sherwood Hall Lane.

"Sherwood Hall is classified as a minor arterial street, and it is not eligible for speed humps," said Randy Dittberner, a regional traffic engineer for VDOT.

Deborah Reynolds, communications director of Potomac Pedalers, said that the group does three rides a week that pass through Sherwood Hall Lane.

"I commute on Sherwood Hall, so I know there are a lot of bikes. I really appreciate that there are going to be bike lanes put in on Sherwood Hall and I am very happy to see the Fairfax County bike master plan move forward," Reynolds said.

At his annual town hall meeting in February, Supervisor Gerry Hyland addressed the problems associated with Sherwood Hall Lane.

"We have an awful lot of passing on the right, which is not per-

mitted. What we're trying to do is look at this roadway to make it safer," Hyland said.

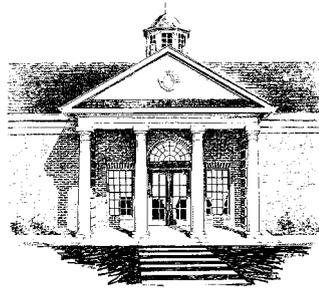
While some residents argued as to whether incidents along Sherwood Hall Lane have been common, John Pickett, a Mount Vernon resident, spoke up.

"Twenty-three months ago at noon on a crystal clear day, my wife had the audacity to walk

across Sherwood Hall Lane. She was run over by an SUV," Pickett said. "She was badly injured and missed three months of work."

Hyland suggested at the meeting that the original March 19 comment deadline on the plan be extended one week, and Fairfax County Department of Transportation Officials agreed with him. The final plan is due in April.

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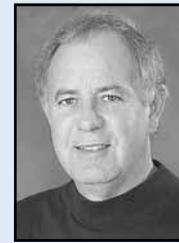
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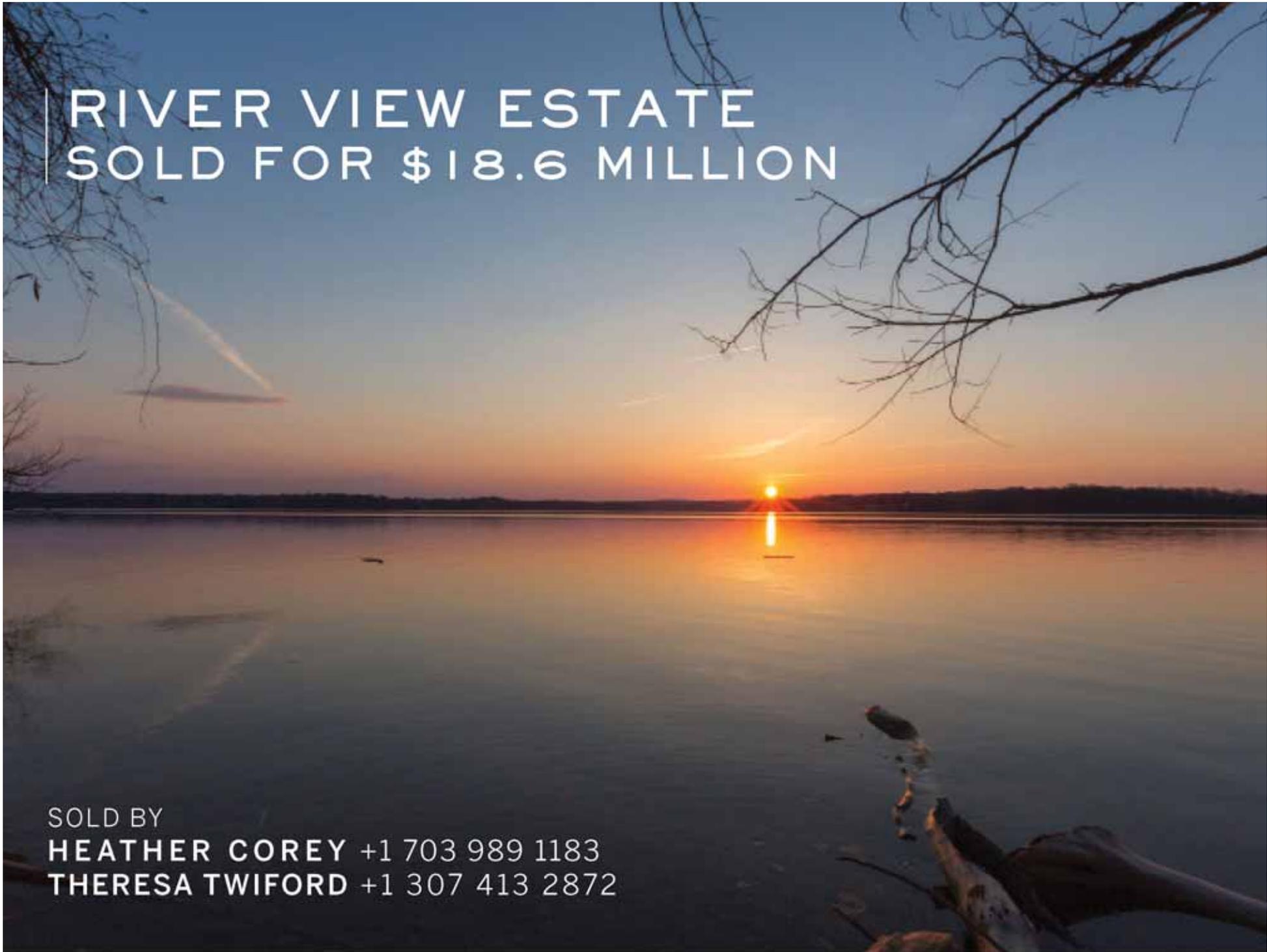
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OPINION

Income Gap Alive and Well

Statistics make life in the area sound idyllic, but many families are left out in the land of plenty.

Northern Virginia is a place of wonder and plenty. So says the New York Times this past week in, "Income Gap Meet the Longevity Gap," (March 15, 2014).

Fairfax County is cited as place whose residents "are among the longest-lived in the country," and compared to McDowell County, W.Va., where residents have one of the shortest life expectancies. In Fairfax, "men have an average life expectancy of 82 years and women, 85, about the same as in Sweden. In McDowell, the averages are 64 and 73, about the same as in Iraq."

If you are reading this, chances are that the Connection was delivered to your single family home in an affluent neighborhood. In fact, many of us do live in the Northern Virginia described in the New York Times. All it takes is money.

"In Fairfax, there are ample doctors, hospi-

tals, recreation centers, shops, restaurants, grocery stores, nursing homes and day care centers, with public and private entities providing cradle-to-grave services to prosperous communities."

But here is where the crack in the wall appears: "The jobs tend to be good jobs, providing health insurance and pensions, even if there is a growing low-wage work force of health aides, janitors, fast-food workers and the like."

In Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 49,000 of the 185,000 students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized or free meals. In Fairfax County, more than 100,000 people lack health insurance, including 35,000 who could be covered now at no cost to themselves or the state if they lived in West Virginia because West Virginia has embraced the expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, so its poorest residents do have access to health

care. Not so in Virginia.

In Northern Virginia, we have our own income gap, and likely our own longevity gap. In Northern Virginia, we have a health care crisis. In Northern Virginia, we do have an affordable housing crisis.

Tens of thousands of working poor people in Northern Virginia, families with at least one full time job, cannot afford to rent an apartment. Earnings of at least \$1,100 a week would be required to afford market rate rent in Fairfax County according to the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance. But the county's 50,000 retail workers, for example, average about \$635 a week according to the Virginia Employment Commission. The county's 40,000-plus food service workers average \$415 a week. Even the county's 38,000 local government employees average \$950 weekly, a stretch in this area.

To read the story in the New York Times, go to www.NYTimes.com and search "income gap."

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re-striping Would Improve Safety

To the Editor:

Re: Plan to re-stripe Sherwood Hall Lane to prevent it from appearing like a four lane highway.

As someone who enjoys walking I support this planned change. The existing striping makes walking across Sherwood Hall Lane as difficult as crossing a four-lane highway with no median. The proposed center turn lane, clearly marked bike lanes and narrower traffic lanes, will significantly improve the safety for those wishing to cross Sherwood Hall Lane on foot.

Robert Brubaker
Alexandria

Unacceptable For 2014

To the Editor:

The article on March 13 regarding extending and expanding the construction debris landfill at Lorton raises yet again the question of why Fairfax County is even considering revising the current deal, which calls for the landfill to cease operations in 2018.

A coat of green glitter on top is not sufficient reason to expand this dump.

Construction debris at ESI landfill — concrete and reinforcing rods — are 100% recyclable, after being separated, into more concrete and more steel reinforcing rods. Burying such material in 2014 is ludicrous.

Twenty four miles from ESI's dump is a business that recycles construction debris. It accepts an average of 500 tons of construction debris a day and recycles approximately 75 percent of it. That is 375 tons per day of wood, plastic,

concrete, and metals that are being recycled, rather than buried. This is what Fairfax County should use as a model, not expanding a landfill that is supposed to close in five years.

ESI's attempt to renegotiate its deal is an attempt to continue using stone-age technology (bury your trash), with a coating of green glitter on top. The green glitter is three windmills, a field of solar panels, and a small district heating project.

The proposal is a great deal for ESI. It is a terrible deal for Fairfax County. We can do better.

Jim Gearing
Alexandria

Test Road Re-striping First

To the Editor:

VDOT will soon repave Sherwood Hall Lane from end to end. The county has planned to restripe it for bicycle lanes, and would like to decrease accidents by narrowing the travel lanes and providing a bi-directional left turn lane where possible. Planners called a meeting at the police station on Parker's Lane to discuss it, and the discussion was animated and passionate.

Planners had very little data on speed, volume, accident frequency and location, current bicycle and pedestrian use, etc. While all of their ideas sound good to me, to many others they sounded unworkable, insufficient, counterproductive, or unfair.

Planner Seyed Nabavi said that once the lanes are striped, it would be 10 to 12 years before they could be changed. This is silly. Put down temporary paint, watch what happens for six months or a year, and make permanent what works and change what doesn't.

How much can it cost? And after all, we're talking matters of life and death here, as well as a more livable neighborhood. Let's take the time and resources to get it right.

Larry D. Huffman
Alexandria

Stop Higher Taxes Now

To the Editor:

Speak up now or face higher Fairfax County real estate taxes. After April 29, it will be too late because the Board of Supervisors is making final decisions on the FY 2015 budget that includes property tax rate.

By now you should have received the Fairfax County Department of Tax Administration (DTA) tax assessment notices for 2014. They show that assessments have increased over last year for most homeowners. According to county information, County-wide assessment values for 2014 have increased 6.54 percent and a typical household will see their real estate taxes increase by \$331.67 over last year. Of course some will pay more because their tax assessment increased more than for the average household and if the current tax rate of \$1.085 per \$100 of assessed value is not reduced. Also, the board has advertised an increase in the current rate of \$1.085 to \$1.105 per hundred of assessed value. If approved your taxes go even higher. None of this is fair to struggling homeowner taxpayers.

Last year the Board of Supervisors spent over \$10.2 million to give bonuses to regular merit and certain exempt employees regardless of merit in work performance. County employees make an average annual salary of \$68,000.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

Mount Vernon Gazette

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

That action is disgraceful because it rewarded work performance regardless of whether it excelled or not and that \$10.2 million plus should have been set aside to help pay for essential services without raising taxes as seems to be the Board of Supervisors practice. It is time to give struggling homeowner taxpayers some tax relief. I have proposed that the Board of Supervisors cut the current rate of \$1.085 per one hundred of assessed value so that homeowners don't pay one penny more this year for real estate taxes than last year.

To check your specific tax increase use the information from the tax notice you received.

Subtract the total assessed value for last year from the current assessed value, divide that result by 100, multiply the result by the tax rate of \$1.085 per 100 of assessed value and the result will be your tax increase if nothing is done by the board to reduce the tax rate.

Call or write your supervisor and demand that the tax rate be cut so there is no real estate tax increase. Call the Clerk of Board at 703-324-3151 for your supervisor's phone

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



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Please remove all paper from binders and binder clips.

NOTE: This event is **not** for medical service providers - it **does not** fulfill HIPAA requirements for document destruction.



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from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the
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Will Supervisors Honor Compact with the Community?

BY F. LOWELL CURTIS
FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE CHRONICLE
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A move by EnviroSolutions in South County, including Lorton and parts of Fairfax Station and Springfield, to extend the life of its construction debris landfill by 22 years and dramatically increase the facility's size has led to a growing controversy. The core issue is whether residents can trust the Board of Supervisors to honor and enforce the terms of a past agreement that was made between a corporation, the local community, and the Board of Supervisors.

In 2007 in a hotly contested vote, EnviroSolutions secured the support of the South County Federation, the organization of homeowner associations south of Fort

Belvoir, as well as the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, to increase the height of its Lorton landfill from 290 feet to 412 feet.

To secure that support, EnviroSolutions had to agree to three critical conditions: EnviroSolutions would build trails and a park on top of the new hill, that would become highest point in Fairfax County. It would plant thousands of trees and shrubs on the hill to ensure that the dump became a natural wooded hill. Finally, and most critically, it agreed to a date-certain closing of the landfill on Dec. 31, 2018.

In order to sell the extension proposal as something new, EnviroSolutions has come up with a clever, politically correct transformation of the dump. The company now describes it as a "Green Energy Plan." It proposes installing wind turbines, solar pan-

els, and producing geothermal energy. The reality of this proposal is that the amount of energy produced will be minor, and numerous caveats would enable the company to produce even less than it is promising.

In addition, bald eagles feed on the dump; there are 10 active nests four miles away on Mason Neck, and many more eagles over winter. Duke Energy recently paid \$1,000,000 in fines at two wind farms that killed 16 eagles. Under no circumstance should wind turbines be approved on this site.

At a March 11 community meeting, Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, apparently was taken aback by the overwhelming opposition to the EnviroSolutions application, which she has been strongly supporting. She described EnviroSolutions as "our corporate partner." Bulova has received \$32,000 in campaign contributions from

EnviroSolutions and its lobbyist, eight times more than the next supervisor.

When the Board of Supervisors approved EnviroSolutions' application to increase the landfill's height in 2007, South County residents believed that a compact had been negotiated between the company and the community and secured by the Board of Supervisors. If the Board of Supervisors fails to uphold its earlier decision, every homeowner association in Fairfax County should be concerned that agreements they make could be overturned by a well-financed developer.

This facility is simply an ugly dump unchanged by green energy window-dressing. Nothing in EnviroSolutions' new application justifies the Board of Supervisors violating its agreement to shut the landfill down on Dec. 31, 2018

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 9

number or tell the Clerk of the Board to pass on your call to your supervisor. Or, you can email the clerk to the board at ClerktotheBOS@FairfaxCounty.gov and ask the clerk to provide your views to all supervisors. Silence will embolden the supervisors to do nothing to alleviate the higher

taxes since they will probably assume that the taxpayers are not alarmed because they haven't made their views known. Don't let silence increase your taxes. After the board acts it will be too late. Call or write today and demand lower taxes.

Frank Medico
Mount Vernon

Negative Impacts

To the Editor:

Re: "Green Energy or Closed Landfill," March 13.

I wish EnviroSolutions' plans for the Lorton landfill meant Green Energy for Fairfax County. Unfor-

tunately and disappointingly, after vigorous research and investigation, the Mt. Vernon Council has learned that their proposal largely means increased methane pollution for our air, negative impacts on recycling construction and demolition debris (CDD), the likely killing of eagles, and the greening of ESI's wallets

Establishing vegetation on landfills is challenging. Effective planting requires careful plant selection, rigorous watering, clearing of invasive plants, and deer protectors on young trees. ESI has done a poor job of greening the landfill under current rules. Why would results be different under their new proposal?

When ESI received agreement to increase the landfill's height, it promised "no landfill expansion." The proposed 70-foot berm wall and ensuing landfilling will create a 40-acre, flat surface on the top of the landfill, in place of the 4 acres currently allowed. The new debris will be a 100-foot thick layer of methane-producing "frosting" on the sides of the landfill. It will result in the removal of three of the seven existing ponds, destroying habitat and vegetation.

The largely bare hillside is an unattractive southern gateway to Fairfax County now. Under the proposed changes, it probably will remain so for many years.

I support renewable, non-carbon source energy and the South County Federation. Along with the Mt. Vernon Council, I want Fairfax's initial effort to be carefully planned and executed, especially if it is a demonstration, leading the county toward a more carbon free, sustainable future. The proposed plan doesn't meet these goals.

Eleanor Quigley
Alexandria

Frustrating Focus

To the Editor:

I read with interest the recent commentary submitted by Del. Scott Surovell in the March 13-19 edition of the Mount Vernon Gazette. I was enlightened, frustrated and saddened by the 20 point commentary written by Delegate Surovell. While many of the 20 items Mr. Surovell discussed were noteworthy and reflected sound logic and value to Virginia citizens, several of the 20 items saddened and frustrated me.

In item 9 Mr. Surovell complained about not being successful in removing the Virginia ban on same sex marriage. In short why is our legislative time and money being wasted on such an issue? Gay marriage is offensive and in no way can legislative time and effort and resources be justified in dealing with nothing more than politically correct activity to please a few when so many other pressing issues face our state and our country.

In Mr. Surovell's item 15 he laments the defeat of the VA DREAM Act. This is another insulting waste of legislative effort to reward those who demand benefits from the taxpayer and yet they are neither legal or legitimate citizens of Virginia or the U.S. Not one cent in any way shape or form should be ever utilized to benefit those who are here illegally.

This issue goes way beyond any social impact and in and of itself renders Mr. Surovell's view that the value of the U.S. citizenship is an absolute "Zero."

These two issues reflect so negatively in my view of the state of affairs in our country today. Placing

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 17

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OPINION

Let's Be Fair about Route 1

BY DON CARR



As we're about to see the Route 1 widening project get underway, it's worth a review of what brought the need to widen the road in the first place. Contrary to what some of us are given to understand, Fort Belvoir's growth under the Base Realignment and Closure did not bring about the need to widen Route 1. It did, however, play a critical role in getting the project funded.

To understand the need for widening, one must go back 20 years, to a time when a previous BRAC moved the Army's historic Engineer Center & School to Missouri. That left a lot of people here in Fairfax County and Mount Vernon very concerned about what would become of Fort Belvoir, where the nation's combat engineers from World War II to Desert Storm had been trained. Everyone, including community leaders, wanted Fort Belvoir to be redeveloped, and to remain a vibrant economic engine. "The largest employer in Fairfax County" became the mantra still heard today.

Fort Belvoir has, indeed, transformed into the key strategic defense installation it is today. As a result, the post has a daytime workforce of 50,000 people. Only about 30,000 of them are at Main Post where consternation about Route 1 traffic is centered. The latest BRAC added only 3,400 jobs to Main Post — well within the 3,000-6,000 range of additional people whose traffic VDOT had said Main Post could absorb. The other 15,900 BRAC jobs went to Mark Center, Belvoir North, and Charlottesville. That dispersion was intentional, planned specifically to help mitigate traffic impacts.

Including its workforce traffic, the Main Post does get about 80,000 vehicles a day, Monday through Friday, through its six gates. Most of that is off-peak travel by business visitors, retirees visiting post, and people coming for hospital appointments. To address that, Fort Belvoir actively promotes alternate transit options to its workforce. The posts leaders and planners stay closely allied with community organizations like the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, Fairfax County Department of Transportation, and VDOT to identify issues and mitigations.

It is unreasonable to think only in terms of Fort Belvoir, however, in concern about traffic on Route 1. The area around post was itself not nearly as developed back when the Engineers left as it is today. Much of that growth can be tied at least indirectly to the post's growth and the desire of commercial enterprise to benefit from being near the post. As Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland said back then, "The development (of Fort Belvoir) provides a lot of incentive for private enterprise to come in. The county will get lots of economic opportunities."

Indeed it did, and, not just private enterprise, but, new houses, schools, and other facilities and services that make a commu-

nity home. The growth has been explosive. More to the point, it has brought so much more traffic to Route 1 than could ever be attributed to the post alone. Any grim view of the Army's contribution to Route 1 traffic fails to acknowledge the reality of development across the entire region.

Widening Route 1 fulfills a vision of what the community's leadership saw 20 years ago as the future growth of South County. The project is also the latest in a very long history of Army partnership with and contribution to the community to improve the road network here. As we look to the future, let's not forget the contributions of the past that make our present a little more livable.

- ❖ Army has spent millions of dollars in cash and in kind to complete two major segments of the Fairfax County Parkway (one between Route 1 and Telegraph Road, the other at EPG), making it possible now to travel virtually unimpeded from Mount Vernon to Dulles.

- ❖ Army also paid the complete cost of all environmental work and construction of two lanes of the new Mulligan Road, which is expected to be completed by June 14. Replacing the old 2-lane Woodlawn Road closed in 2001, the new road will restore convenient east-west access between Mount Vernon and Springfield.

- ❖ Fort Belvoir has contributed 20 acres of land to the widening project at no additional cost to the project. The land provides space for a median that will allow for future transit development along the corridor without the county or state having to buy any additional right-of-way.

Of course, the widening of Route 1 wouldn't be possible without the money to pay for it. Even though the intent was on the books for a long time, the project was never funded. Now it's possible, ironically enough, thanks to Fort Belvoir's new state-of-the-art hospital, and the efforts of US Rep. Jim Moran to step in and champion the need for the money. While he built his case on the need to ensure unencumbered access to the hospital by our Wounded Warriors and other beneficiaries, the entire community will benefit from this long-needed widening.

Don Carr is director of Public Affairs at Fort Belvoir

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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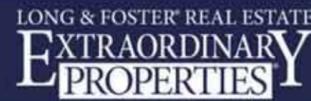
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Alexandria South
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4BR/2.5BA, 2 level rambler with huge lot! Kitchen has cathedral ceiling, skylights, Kraftmaid cabinets, SS and black appliances. Gorgeous hardwoods and new carpet. LL rec room with fireplace insert and built-ins. In-law/au-pair suite with separate entrance, BR/BA, den/kitchenette. Architectural shingle roof, replacement windows and oversized gutters. Patio, fenced back/side yard. Minutes to Ft Belvoir.

Brad Kintz 703.548.0888



\$ 249,000
Alexandria
"SPACIOUS"

2BR/2.5BA quiet condo overlooking the pool, tennis courts and green space. Facing SE, this unit maximizes sunlight, boasts warm wood floors, generous closet space and nice flow, W/D in unit plus garage parking. Sold as-is and awaiting your special touches. Fee includes most utilities. Easy commuting to Ft Belvoir, DC and Old Town.

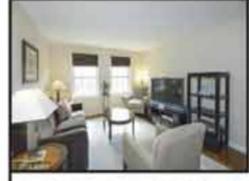
Michael Manuel 703.615.6317



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 749,900
Alex. / Waynewood
8617 CYRUS PL

One-of-a-kind property backing up to beautiful park and pool. Large renovated split level "Mayfield" model 4BR/2.5BA, formal dining and living rooms, living room fireplace, finished basement with built-ins/storage, modern open kitchen, walk-up attic.

Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809



\$ 249,000
Alex. / Belle View
"MOVE-IN READY"

Sunlit, top-floor 2BR/1BA unit with a stunning and fully remodeled bathroom with marble floors. Kitchen has granite counters and SSA. Unique office nook/closet.

Laundry and storage in building. Enjoy outdoor pool, basketball & tennis courts, and tot/lots. Short walk to shopping center, hike/bike path and the Potomac River. Minutes to Metro; Old Town, Airport, DC and 495.

Christine Vanderhyde 703.309.2829



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 345,000
Lorton
9452 JENERIO CT

Renovated 3BR townhouse with new kitchen cabinets, appliances, countertops, fresh paint, new carpet on upper bedroom level and new laminate in basement. Hardwoods on main level. Nice large patio. Assigned parking.

Brian Hong & Jerry Beamer 703.929.5764



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 519,000
Alexandria South
8320 FT HUNT RD

This large 3-4BR / 2.5BA home with a solarium addition will delight nature lovers! The lush garden provides views of nature and greenery from every window. Skylight, bay windows, warm hardwoods, separate DR. Freshly painted, replacement windows. LL family room with fireplace. Rec room addition. Fenced yard with patio and storage shed. New roof. Meticulously maintained.

Martha Deal 703.622.6797



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4!
\$ 265,000
Alex. / Belle View
6606 Boulevard View #A-1

Relax on your porch and enjoy Belle View's Spring blossoms! Looking for convenience and character? Move right into this 2BR/1BA COMPLETELY renovated condo and enjoy the easy commute, walkable dog-friendly neighborhood with shopping center, bike/hike trail to DC & Mt. Vernon and the beautiful outdoors.

Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264



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ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY LAURA MARSHALL



Greg Kenney and Ellie Milewski perform in The Mount Vernon Children's Community Theater production of "Once Upon a Mattress."



The Mount Vernon Children's Community Theater will present "Once Upon a Mattress" March 21-23 and 28-30 at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.mvcct.org.

Happily Ever After

MVCCT presents "Once Upon A Mattress."

It made Carol Burnett a star. It's a twist on a familiar fairy tale and is now a showcase for 47 young actors representing 30 area schools. Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairytale, "The Princess and the Pea," comes to the stage as a musical comedy in the Mount Vernon Children's Community Theater spring production "Once Upon a Mattress."

With considerable twists on the childhood fairytale, the musical opens in a very unhappy medieval kingdom being ruled by an evil queen and a mute and powerless king. The queen knows that she'll lose her power if her son marries and finds many creative methods of shuttling princess candidates quickly out the door. Adding to the tale of

how Princess Winnifred and Prince Dauntless meet and the tangled lives of the courtiers who very much want the prince to marry, are some very funny musical numbers, including "An Opening for a Princess," "I'm Shy" and "Spanish Panic."

Nominated for a Tony Award for Best Musical, "Once Upon a Mattress" is a timeless tale with a spin that is as fresh and funny as ever. The production is family-friendly and appropriate for most children. It's full of silliness, great characters, funny lyrics and even a father-son song that mimes a hilariously innocent tale of birds, bees and the stork. You don't want to miss out on this wonderful take on the classic "Princess and the Pea" that is perfect for a family night



Adrianna DeLorenzo and Aiden White in "Once Upon a Mattress," opening March 21 at The Mount Vernon Children's Community Theater.

out. Everyone loves a "happily ever after" story.

To further encourage budding young artists of all genres, MVCCT in partnership with Zinga Frozen Yogurt in Beacon Center

Mall, is hosting a "Princess and the Pea" coloring contest. Visit www.mvcct.org for more. Children under 18 have a chance to win a free ticket to the show and backstage tour to meet the cast.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Songwriter's Showcase. Every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at The Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. Features a different Songwriter's Association of Washington artist each week. Visit www.theoldtowntheater.com for tickets.

Art Exhibit. See "7th and H Streets, NW: The Hidden Refrain of Inner City DC" by Fred Zafran at Multiple Exposures Gallery, in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Runs Feb. 18-March 30. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com.

Exhibition Fundraiser. From March 8-23 at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. The exhibition features nearly 200 panels of artwork created by local artists. \$150/panel. The panels will be for sale and proceeds will benefit

March of Dimes and the Target Gallery's outreach programming. Visit www.torpedofactory.org for more.

Woodlawn Exhibit. See work of needlers from across the country, including objects created by First Ladies and First Family members, including items by Edith Roosevelt, Dolley Madison and Barbara Bush. The exhibit runs March 1-31 at Woodlawn, 9000 Richmond Highway. Hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday through Monday. Lunch is available from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. for a fee. Admission is \$10/adult; \$5/student. Visit www.woodlawnpopeleigh.org.

Art Exhibit. See photographer E.E. McCollum transform the figure in "The Cocoon Series" March 13 through April 7 in the Art League Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Through a series of black and white photographs, McCollum transforms the human figure by using nylon tubing to encase the body. Free. Visit

www.theartleague.org or 703-683-1780.

Art Exhibit. "ColorField" pays homage to the Washington Color School by encouraging Art League artists to revisit this method of abstract painting in which color is emphasized and form and surface are de-emphasized. The exhibit runs through April 7 in the Art League at The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Art Exhibit. See "REVOLUTION: Art and Technology" art exhibit from April 4-27 at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists explore their relationship with technology in computer-created art, digitally manipulated art, art made from electronic parts, mixed-media pieces expressing feelings about technology, and more. Hours are Thursdays noon-6 p.m.; Friday & Saturday noon-9 p.m.; Sunday noon-6 p.m. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for more.

Sculpture Exhibit. Friday, March 21-Sunday April 27 at Margaret W. and

Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, located in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. See Edmond Nassa's "Innermost Evocations." His website <http://edmondnassa.com/> showcases some of his work. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during performances. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

Art Exhibit. See "LOULOU DI Flower/To Flower" at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. The exhibit explores the natural process of flowering and its metaphorical context through object making and installation. Free. The exhibit runs March 20-May 4. Call 703-548-0035 or visit www.nvfaa.org.

Art Exhibit. See "Spirit of Place: Dyke Marsh," an exhibition of photography by Anthony Peritore and sculptural works by Megan Peritore from March 26 through May 18 in the Crossroads Gallery, located in Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, 3440 S. Jefferson

St., Falls Church. Free.

Attics and Alleys Tour. Tickets are now on sale for the Attics and Alleys tour, a three-hour walking tour featuring rarely seen spaces of four sites — the Lee-Fendall House, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, The Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum and Carlyle House. Tours will be offered Saturdays in May, 9 a.m.-noon. \$35/peron. Reservations required. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4242.

Art Exhibit. "Women Legends of Alexandria: 2007-2013" art exhibit will be on display at Prudential PenFed Realty, 300 N. Washington St., suite 100. The exhibit will showcase portraits from the Living Legends of Alexandria project with selected works from the Del Ray Artisans. Show runs March 3-June 27. Hours are Mondays-Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org for more.

New Exhibit. Mount Vernon invites visitors to explore George Washington's design for the grounds

ENTERTAINMENT

of his estate, through a new exhibition, "Gardens & Groves: George Washington's Landscape" at Mount Vernon through Jan. 12, 2016. Gardens & Groves is the first museum exhibition to focus specifically on Washington's landmark achievements as a landscape designer combining rarely-seen original documents, artwork, and books with period garden tools, landscape photography, and a scale model of the Mount Vernon estate. Included in admission \$18/adult; \$17/senior citizen; \$9/child age 6-11; children under 5 are free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

George Washington's Mount

Vernon has joined Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and James Madison's Montpelier to expand the "Presidents Passport," Virginia's premier presidential trail. As an added bonus to this year's program, visitors to the Alexandria Visitors Center at 221 King St. showing or purchasing a ticket to any of the three presidential estates will, upon request, receive for free Alexandria's "Key to the City" pass, which grants access into nine historic sites and museums in Alexandria - a \$26 added value. Learn more at PresPassport.Monticello.org.

Art Exhibit. See "Sit Down and Take a Stand: Samuel W. Tucker and the 1939 Alexandria Library Sit-In" at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The exhibit focuses on the life of famed civil rights attorney Samuel Wilber Tucker, and highlights the role of Robert Strange, who was a runner between the library and Tucker's office, keeping Tucker abreast of developments. The exhibit runs through August. Free. 703-746-4356.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Metro Club After-School Program.

Through June, 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.

SUMMER CAMP

Theater Camp. Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre will hold sessions starting June 30 to Aug. 22. There are two-week sessions with morning, afternoon or all day sessions, and one-week sessions that go all day. To register, visit www.mvctt.org.

CHERRY BLOSSOM FUN

Cherry Blossom Food Tour. On Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. and Saturdays at 2 p.m., take a guided

tour of Alexandria, exploring the architecture, while pausing in locally-owned eateries to sample cherry-centric dishes and learn about cherry blossom history. \$49/person. Runs March 22-April 12. Visit www.dcmetrofoodtours.com/cherry_blossom_food_tour.html for more.

Blossoms by Bike River Ride. On Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 1 p.m., enjoy a three-hour bike tour along the Mount Vernon Trail, into DC and around the tidal basin to see the blossoms up close. Runs March 22-April 13. \$40/person age 13 and older. Visit www.bikethestates.com/tours for reservations.

Cherry Blossom Boat Tour.

Departing Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. at Cameron and Union Streets. Take a boat cruise and view the blossoms along the river. Runs March 29-April 13. \$26/adult; \$14/child age 2-11. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/blossoms2014.php to register.

THURSDAY/MARCH 20

Reception. 6 p.m. at Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. "Meet the Legends" reception. \$45/by March 19; \$55/door. Register at meet-the-legends.eventbrite.com.

Anniversary Party. 6-9 p.m. at Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King Street, in Alexandria. The Arlington/Alexandria chapter of Holistic Moms network will celebrate five years with an anniversary party. Visit www.holisticmoms.org or www.holisticmomsaralex.blogspot.com.

CatJams: Music For A Cause. 8 p.m. at Franconia Moose Lodge 7701 Beulah St. Contributions will go towards expanding the current playground at the Nannie J. Lee Center, installing a cushioned play surface, extending ADA walkways around the park, and purchasing pieces of accessible play equipment. No Moose membership required, all welcome. Visit <http://lodge1076.moosepages.org/>.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. The United States Air Force Band will play music for the String Quartet. Free. Visit www.usafband.af.mil or 202-767-5658.

FRIDAY/MARCH 21

Community Dance. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Enjoy music by the Mount Vernon Swing Band. \$4. 703-765-4573 TTY: 711.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. See "Once Upon a Mattress." \$12. Visit mvctt.org for more.

NOVA Idol. 7 p.m., at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 North Beauregard St. Nine of NOVA's singing sensations will battle for the title of this year's NOVA Idol. Three high school student will compete in a separate division. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. with pre-show performances by the Texas Chainsaw Horns Band, NOVA's Favorite Dancer Jillian Muschler, and the Manassas Park High Cougar Drumline. Free, open to the public. Parking is free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/novaidol/ or call 703-933-5074.

SATURDAY/MARCH 22

Bus Tour on the Civil War Defenses of Washington. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., meet at Fort Ward, 4301 W. Braddock Road. The itinerary includes Forts Reno, DeRussy and Totten, and highlights Fort Stevens and Battleground National Cemetery. Pre-registration required, \$85/members of the Friends of Fort Ward;

\$100/non-member. Call the Museum at 703-746-4848 to register.

Reptiles Alive! Noon at the Old Town Theater, 815 1/2 King St. See snakes, crocodiles and more. Fun for the family. Visit www.theoldtowntheater.com for tickets and more.

Theater Performance. 6:30 p.m. See "The Foreigner" at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Proceeds benefit Empowers, Inc., an after-school program for at-risk children and youth of the area. Appropriate for children age 11 and older. \$12/online. Increased cost at the door. Buy tickets at showtix4u.com or 703-855-4444.

Cheesetopia Event. 2-5 p.m. at Balducci's Food Lover's Market, 600 Franklin St. Taste gourmet cheeses, enjoy demos, meet renowned tastemakers, a raffle and more. Free. Visit www.balduccis.com.

Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery, located in the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Reception for "Innermost Evocations" includes guest panel on collecting art with Jay Townsend and Mary Higgins. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/gallery.html.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. Hear music by Brahms, Bolcom and others. \$20/general; \$15/senior; \$10/student and teacher. 703-765-4342.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. See "Once Upon a Mattress." \$12. Visit mvctt.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 23

Theater Performance. See "The Foreigner" at 6:30 p.m. at Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Proceeds benefit Empowers, Inc., an after-school program for at-risk children and youth of the area. Appropriate for children age 11 and older. \$12/online. Increased cost at the door. Buy tickets at showtix4u.com or 703-855-4444.

Theater Performance. 3 p.m. at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. See "Once Upon a Mattress." \$12. Visit mvctt.org for more.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Meet some of the artists of "LOULOU DI Flower/To Flower." The exhibit explores the natural process of flowering and its entire metaphorical context through object making and installation. Free. Call 703-548-0035 or visit www.nvfaa.org.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 26

Author Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Stuart Butler will discuss his book "Defending the Old Dominion," about Virginia and its militia during the War of 1812. Free for Alexandria Historical Society members.

FRIDAY/MARCH 28

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. See "Once Upon a Mattress." \$12. Visit mvctt.org for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 29

Rummage Sale. 9 a.m.-noon at Fort Hunt Preschool grounds, 1909 Windmill Lane. Browse infants', children's and maternity clothes, books, games and furniture. Household items such as kitchenware, linens and decorations will also be on sale. All proceeds benefit the preschool. Visit www.forthuntpreschool.com/events.html for more.

Story Time. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S.



Please join Good Shepherd Housing for our
40th Anniversary Gala
on April 12, 2014
at The Westin Alexandria



Featuring Music, Dancing, Dinner, Cocktails and Auctions
Auction items include a trip to Disney, First-Class Airline tickets, beach houses, restaurant gift certificates, spa services, gift baskets and much, much more.

For more information, contact
703-768-9404
www.goodhousing.org

Good Shepherd Housing ensures that over 700 families in our community have stable homes and avoid homelessness. Our approach fosters client success through low-cost rental housing, cash grants for people in crisis and financial education to ensure a brighter future.

Special thanks to **Mount Vernon Gazette**



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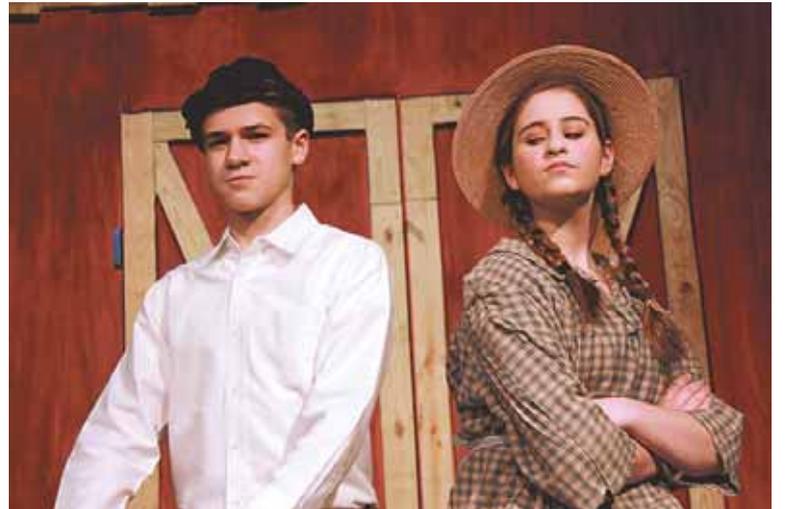
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ENTERTAINMENT

Delaney Keefe (Diana Barry) and Lucy Roberts (Anne Shirley), are “kindred spirits” and best friends in this adaptation of the L.M. Montgomery novel.



PHOTOS BY HOWARD SOOROS



James Woods (Gilbert Blythe) and Lucy Roberts (Anne Shirley) in one of their many standoffs



Teddy Gron (Matthew Cuthbert) and Barbara Hayes (Marilla Cuthbert) ponder what to do when they realize the orphanage sent them a girl instead of a boy.

‘Anne of Green Gables’ Opens Friday at ACCT

Aldersgate Church Community Theatre presents the Alexandria premiere of “Anne of Green Gables.” Relive all of the memorable events and characters from the in L.M. Montgomery’s enduring tale about an orphan, Anne Shirley — “Anne with an ‘e’” — who dreams big and leads with her heart. From her first encounter with Marilla, her austere guardian, to her graduation from Queen’s Academy, we experience all the tragedies and triumphs that mark Anne’s growth from adolescence to early adulthood: her friendship with Diana, her feuds with Gilbert, her adoration of Matthew, the mistaken wine bottle, the cake disaster, the broken leg, the scholastic achievements, and the saving of Green Gables. Whether the playgoer is an old “kindred spirit” of Anne’s or meeting her for the first time, audiences will fall in love with one of literature’s unforgettable characters.

The cast includes: Lucy Roberts (Anne Shirley), Barbara Hayes (Marilla Cuthbert), Teddy Gron (Matthew Cuthbert), with: James Woods (Gilbert Blythe), Delaney Keefe (Diana Barry), Brendan DeBie (Charlie Snow), Mike Walker (Station Master, Mr. Spencer), Ashley Amidon (Miss Stacy), Anna Johnson (Josie Pye), Emily Wilson (Ruby Gillis), Matthew Cheney (Moody MacPherson), Joy Gardiner (Mrs. Blewitt, Mrs. Berry), Melanie Bales (Rachel Lynde), and Erblin Nushi (Mr. Phillips).

Presented by Aldersgate Church Community Theatre. Running March 21-April 6, performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. For tickets, visit www.acctonline.org. Tickets are \$12 for youth and seniors, and \$15 for adults. ACCT is located at 1301 Collingwood Road, at the intersection of Fort Hunt and Collingwood roads.

CALENDAR

Alfred St. Meet Carol Butler, the author of “Genois Wilson, Firefighter, She Dared to Be First,” and Genois Wilson. Tour the historic firehouse and ring the bell. Copies of the book will be available for purchase. For children age 6 and older. \$4/child. Reservations required, www.alexandriava.gov/FriendshipFirehouse or 703-746-4994.

Signature English Tea. 2-4 p.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Enjoy music, a silent auction and more. \$40/adult; \$25/child age 12 and under. 703-497-5927.

Generation to Generation Gala. 6-11 p.m. at the Hilton Alexandria

Mark Center. Enjoy dinner, dancing, silent auction and more. SSA will pay tribute to some Alexandria residents for the impact they’ve had on the community. Buy tickets at www.eventbrite.com/e/generation-to-generation-gala-tickets-10630589379 or visit www.senior-servicesalex.org/ for more.

Great Rum Punch Challenge. 7-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 138 N. Royal St. Enjoy different rum punch creations from local restaurants and distilleries and vote for your favorite, as Cutters of Barbados defends its title. The Alexandria Town Crier will announce the winner at the end of the evening. There will also be food, a silent

auction and more. Beverages will be provided for designated drivers. \$50/person or \$100/person for VIP pre-event tasting. Proceeds benefit the museum’s educational and preservation efforts. Reservations required. Visit <http://shop.alexandriava.gov> for tickets.

Concert. 8 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Barry S. Hemphill, guest conductor will lead the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, featuring the Metropolitan Chorus of Arlington. Free pre-concert chat one hour prior to performance. Reserved seating starts at \$20 adult; \$10 student with ID; and \$5 for 18 and under. Visit www.alexsym.org

call 703-548-0885.

SUNDAY/MARCH 30

Theater Performance. 3 p.m. at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. See “Once Upon a Mattress.” \$12. Visit mvctt.org for more.

Music Performance. 3 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. The Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic will perform the world premiere of a cantata by local composer Lawrence Ries. \$20/general; free for children 18 and under. Visit www.wmpmusic.org.

Gala Concert, Reception and Silent Auction. 4 p.m. at George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101

Callahan Drive. The Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia will host a silent auction that opens at 3:30 p.m. \$25/advance; \$35/door. Visit www.sonovamusic.org for tickets.

Musical Classics. 5 p.m. at First Christian Church, 6165 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. National Men’s Chorus, under the direction of Thomas Beveridge, will present “Gilbert & Sullivan and other Classics of the Musical Stage.” The program will feature soprano, Debi Smith, and pianist, Thomas Pandolfi. At the door: \$20 (general admission), students and children free. Visit www.nationalmenschorus.org or call 202-244-7191.

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www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org
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Monthly Networking
Feb 13, 5:30-7:00 pm @ Hampton Inn Mt Vernon
Mar 13, 5:30-7:00 pm @ Good Shepherd Housing

MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
6821 Richmond Highway / Alexandria, VA 22306

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Mass Schedule

<p>Saturday Evening 5:00 pm Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)</p> <p>Sunday 7:30 am; 9:00 am (with Sign Language Interpreter & Children’s Liturgy of the Word); 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon; 2:00 pm (en Español); 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Weekday & Saturday Mornings: 9:00 am Mass, followed by Rosary (on First Friday, Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)</p> <p>Thursday & First Friday of the Month: 7:30 pm Mass en Español</p>
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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

a priority on kissing up to small but vocal factions in our society for nothing more than political gain is unacceptable and has no place in Virginia or the U.S. Many call for equal rights for gays and yet they have every right as anyone else, and seeking to provide taxpayer subsidized benefits to illegal immigrants and their children is fraud, waste and abuse of the taxpayer in the very least and frankly criminal in the most. The state and the country as a whole is being subject to such nonsense from the President and his failed agenda and now this has migrated into the once great state of Virginia. It saddens me to think that our elected officials trumpet as legislative priorities such things as turning normal marriage on its heels and placating illegal immigrants whose only recognition from the government and taxpayers is a bus ticket back to the country they departed from when they broke our laws and entered this country illegally. Had enough? I know I have.

But I can offer a few suggestions for your next list: 1) lower taxes 2) eliminate the ethanol requirement in gasoline that reduces fuel mileage in cars, damages many older cars (many owned by low income citizens who cannot afford a new car) and does nothing to help many of the mythical climate excuses that initiated its use in the first place. 3) Forget the gay agenda and stop illegal immigrants from extracting one cent from the taxpayers. Start using your time in Richmond

for value added actions and stop placating every radical voting block you can uncover.

Garry A. Scutt
Alexandria

MVCCA Opposes ESI's Request

To the Editor:

An article in last week's Gazette ("Green Energy or a Closed Landfill") seemed to miss the purpose of EnviroSolutions' (ESI) request for a Special Exception Amendment, which is to substantially expand the capacity of the Lorton construction and demolition debris (CDD) landfill and extend operations for 22 years.

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations' Environment and Recreation Committee, which I chair, was asked to review this application by ESI's representative, Conrad Mehan. We worked closely with colleagues in the South County Federation (which opposes the SEA request) and with ESI, and conducted our own research to understand this complex and contentious case. Majorities of MVCCA Environment and Recreation and Planning and Zoning Committees voted to support a resolution opposing ESI's request, which was adopted by the full Council on Feb. 26 (see www.mvcca.org/Resolutions/res-J-2014-01.pdf).

The citizens of the Mount Vernon district support efforts to reduce dependence on

energy sources that generate greenhouse gases, and would welcome responsible renewable energy projects. This is not a responsible renewable energy project.

In addition to other impacts on air and water quality, landfills generate methane, an air pollutant 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas. If the landfill's capacity is expanded and filled, methane will continue to be created many decades after closure in 2040. (ESI's models show methane production continuing at least until 2060, even if the landfill closes Jan. 1, 2019, as currently planned.) The methane collection proposed as part of the Green Energy Park would leave 25 percent to escape into the atmosphere, according to ESI's feasibility study. Recycling a large fraction of the debris would avoid creating methane in the first place, and is a far more environmentally friendly approach than a few wind turbines atop a methane-generating dump. Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Plan advocates source reduction, reuse, and recycling over landfilling, the county's least preferred method of waste management.

Expanding capacity at the Lorton CDD landfill is not supported by the analysis of its costs and benefits that is required by Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan instructs, "Prior to the expansion of the Energy/Resource Recovery Facility or other waste management facilities, comprehensively consider the costs, benefits and effects of other alternatives in-

cluding recycling and waste reduction for the protection of the public health, public safety, the environment, and natural resources" (Public Facilities Objective 34, Policy b).

Without an analysis of the environmental, economic, or public health costs and benefits of expanding the Lorton landfill, it's impossible to know if there is a need for additional CDD landfill capacity within Fairfax County. The county staff report on this application did not do the analysis, but concluded that "the benefits of continued operation of the landfill in the county are very difficult to quantify." In January 2012, the Northern Virginia Waste Management Board reported six CDD landfills and 15 CDD recycling/recovery facilities operating in the region, suggesting there may already be adequate CDD disposal available without expansion of the Lorton CDD landfill.

Finally, there has been no evaluation of the effects of expanding capacity at the Lorton landfill on the rate and economic viability of CDD recycling, the county's preferred and a far more environmentally benign method of waste management.

A recent independent study (More Jobs, Less Pollution: Growing the Recycling Economy in the U.S.) estimates that by following best practices, 75 percent of CDD could be recycled nationally by 2030. Massachusetts achieved an 80 percent CDD recycling rate in 2010. Locally, a certified CDD recycling facility recovers and recycles 68

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 18

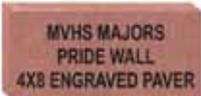


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Mount Vernon Gazette

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U.S. 1 Version 2.0: Public Hearing Next Week

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
DELEGATE (D-44)

On Wednesday, March 26, at 6 p.m., the second public hearing regarding the U.S. 1 Multimodal Transit Alternative Analysis Study will take place at the South County Government Center.

The study was funded by a \$2 million budget amendment secured by Sen. Toddy Puller and I last session and is being administered by Virginia's Department of Rail and Public Transit. It is probably the most important study for the future of our area to ever take place.

The purpose of the study is to consider all factors clearly define the key transportation needs for our community, consider a range of multimodal transportation solutions to address the needs, and arrive at a recommended program of transportation improvements and accompanying land uses to lay the groundwork for development in our area through the year 2035.

The meeting will include the unveiling of four potential transit options for the U.S. 1 Corridor: (1) Dedicated Curbside Enhanced

Buses, (2) Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in Dedicated Median, (3) Light Rail in Dedicated Median, and (4) a Hybrid Metrorail-BRT plan that extends the Yellow Line to Hybla Valley and Dedicated Median BRT to the Occoquan. Each alternative has its advantages and disadvantages. The study will also propose new bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

The March 26 public hearing begins the public input process before running these scenarios through final evaluations to determine a locally preferred alternative ("LPA") in anticipation of applying for federal grant funding and seeking additional funding from the state.

Sen. Toddy Puller, Sen. Adam Ebbin and I are also currently working on securing an additional \$4 million in the current budget to fund environmental studies and preliminary engineering to lay the groundwork for the actual construction of the LPA. Along with our efforts, Supervisors Gerry Hyland and Jeff McKay have elevated the priority of widening U.S. 1 from Costco to Fort Belvoir on the county's request list for the Northern Virginia Transportation Administration's funding list. We are poised

to finally see movement.

These decisions largely revolve around two issues. First, is how much density is appropriate. Second, is funding the project.

The least expensive and least disruptive is dedicated curbside lanes for "enhanced" busing (\$12/rider). The most expensive to construct and operate is light rail in the median (\$21/rider). A Yellow Line Extension to Hybla Valley with median bus rapid transit (BRT) south is the third most expensive to construct and operate and involves significant land use changes on Beacon Hill and in Hybla Valley (\$18/rider).

It might seem difficult to envision our community 20 years from now. I will be on the verge of retirement (knock on wood) while my four children between 1st and 7th grades will be wrapping up college, thinking about getting married and where to settle down. We will have five presidential elections during that time and probably half of the people living here will have moved or passed away. However, as I explained in my previous four-column series, the mode of transit on U.S. 1 has far-reaching consequences for schools, traffic, jobs, the environment, affordable housing, property val-

ues and the quality of life here in our part of Fairfax County.

On March 26, the presentation will include graphics to help people visualize what enhanced density on Beacon Hill and Hybla Valley will actually look like. Presenters will also provide depictions of different road and transit configurations, including bicycle facilities.

No matter what we do, by 2035, at least 17,000 new jobs and 30,000 more people will be living within half a mile of U.S. 1 whether we like it or not. New rounds of the Defense Department's Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) are likely to happen and could bring even more people, traffic and economic activity to the corridor.

We can either address these challenges head-on in advance — prepare — or struggle to deal with them after they occur. I choose the former. Good transportation and land use planning requires a long lead time.

I hope we will see a standing-room-only turnout at this meeting. If you have suggestions or questions, please email me at scottsurovell@gmail.com.

It is an honor to serve as your state delegate.

Public Meeting To Discuss Health Coverage Gap

BY LINDA T. "TODDY" PULLER
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

The 2014 General Assembly session has come and gone ... sort of. While a great many things were accomplished this session, we adjourned on March 8 without a budget. Governor McAuliffe has set a special session for March 24. Details on this special session are still being hammered out.

The sticking point is accepting federal dollars for Medicaid expansion, or purchasing private insurance through Marketplace Virginia. As I stated on the Senate floor and in previous articles, I am in favor of expanding health care coverage in Virginia and closing our coverage gap. I have heard from many of my constituents on this issue and the majority of you agree we must close the coverage gap and keep our tax dollars in Virginia, helping Virginians gain access to insurance. To those who want to separate this out from the budget, I say that is short-sighted and not practical. The money we will receive from the federal government — which is our tax dollars returned to us — will free up millions of dollars for teachers, police

and firefighters, roads and other currently underfunded projects. How can we separate out the two?

I will be holding a town hall on closing the coverage gap with Del. Scott Surovell on Saturday, March 22, at 11 a.m. at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center in Alexandria. Secretary Bill Hazel will be on hand to give a short presentation and answer questions.

I was able to get five bills passed this year, plus one more bill that, as it worked its way through committees, we realized there was a simple solution we could work out without passing legislation. The five bills headed to the Governor's desk are:

SB 11: Absentee voting and procedures; secure return of voted military-overseas ballots

Allows for return of absentee ballots by secure electronic means for active duty, overseas military personnel. This bill was SB 830 in 2013 and improved upon by the Cybersecurity subcommittee of JCOTS. This has been a top priority of the Joint Leadership Commission on Veteran Service Organizations [JLC] for several years. There was broad, bi-partisan support for this bill, as

well as the support of the Governor and his staff. However, the House of Delegates amended my bill, adding a reenactment clause so that if, after the working group establishes the procedures and proves the system is secure, we will have to go back to the General Assembly again in 2016 to get the bill reenacted and finally passed into law.

SB 60: Joint Commission on Health Care extends sunset provision

Extends the sunset provision for the Joint Commission on Health Care from July 1, 2015 to July 1, 2018. I am currently the chair of this commission.

SB 201: Health insurance; prescription drug formularies, notices

Requires any health insurer in Virginia that applies a formulary to specialty-tier prescription drug benefits provided to provide 60 days written notice to each individual covered under that policy when a drug, or drugs, are moved from one tier to another. My bill and the companion, HB308 (Del. Dance) were amended for 30-day notice instead of the desired 60 days. While this is a good first step, I will keep fighting

for the full 60-days notice that the patient advocate groups and pharmaceutical companies have been fighting for.

SB 481: Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; residency requirements

Extends requirements for the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program, for spouse or children of soldiers killed or 90-percent-plus disabled, who can prove they lived in the state of Virginia for at least 5 years can be eligible for the education benefits. Currently families must establish residency and maintain that for at least 5 years.

SB 605: Alcoholic beverage control; mixed beverages license for Virginia State Fair

Updates the license for the Virginia State Fair and county fairgrounds with lower square footage requirements in regards to liquor licenses to sell mixed beverages. I worked with Del. Dave Albo on this legislation and it will benefit Northern Virginia and the 36th district by allowing the Prince William County fairgrounds to start a beer garden, drawing in more visitors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

percent of construction debris, sends burnable residuals to the Covanta Energy/Resource Recovery Facility and the remainder to a landfill, according to data reported to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

In contrast, the Lorton landfill recycled less than half a percent and landfilled the other 99.53 percent in 2012, according to data the facility reported to the DEQ. Most of the 1,029,823 tons of CDD debris arriving at the landfill that year came from out-of-state (37 percent from Maryland and 18 percent from D.C.) and would best be re-

cycled nearer the source, reducing vehicle emissions and improving air quality. Southern Fairfax County does not need to be the New Jersey of the mid-Atlantic, attracting landfill debris from far and wide.

The environmental benefits of this project are more than offset by its environmental harms (for other environmental harms, see

www.mvcca.org/Resolutions/res-J-2014-01.pdf). That is why the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations voted to oppose ESI's request to expand the landfill and operate it until 2040.

Betsy Martin
Alexandria

Art Educators, Galleries Celebrate Youth Art Month

Experts say art can teach valuable life skills.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Brightly colored self-portraits, landscapes dotted with spring flowers and hand-carved sculptures fill a gallery at the McLean Project for the Arts in McLean. All of the art was created by local school children. Meanwhile, in Alexandria, parents and tots dip their fingers in glue, clay and paint to create collages, sculptures and paintings.

“It is a true delight to see parents and children making things together in the studio. Joy is found in the stuff they make — the collages, paintings, drawings and sculptures — as well as the more intangible things we build: relationships, confidence, creativity, persistence and the many ways we make meaning through art,” said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Mount Vernon.

These are just some of the local art activities for children. In fact, Youth Art Month is an annual observance held each March to emphasize the value of art and art education. This year’s theme is “Start With Art, Learn for Life,” which was chosen by the Council for Art Education, a sponsor of Youth Art Month.

Local art educators are using the month as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of art education and raise awareness about the important life skills it can build.

“We believe art is important to study for its inherent value, but art also promotes life skills, including creativity, problem solving, determination, concentration, collaboration and confidence,” said Samantha Marques-Mordkofsky, education and outreach manager for the Arlington Arts Center in Arlington. “Regardless of what field a child pursues later in life, these skills will translate and he or she will be better rounded because of ... art. We also offer multidisciplinary classes like Book Illustration, Amazing Architects & Engineers, and Murals: Big Art, Big Ideas where students have the opportunity to master technical skills in art while simultaneously learning about other subjects.”

“What our art educators have known for many years research is

now confirming,” said Benita Cathey, director of admissions at Grace Episcopal School in Alexandria. “Art helps develop critical thinking and reading skills. Art education is vital because it builds concentration, motivation and confidence.”

Jorge Luis Somarriba, art teacher and artist-in-residence at Norwood School in Bethesda, Md., says the school is a community of artists. “We believe in a process-oriented and child-centered philosophy,” he said. “Art nurtures self-confidence through self-discovery and personal visual expression. Art education is instrumental in the holistic development of a human being: spiritual, mental, emotional and physical. Art making develops the right brain, empowering individuals to become creative, problem-solvers who may think ‘outside the box.’”

Experts said art education also develops self-expression and an appreciation for the work of others. “Elementary school students create art with such unbridled enthusiasm for painting, drawing and creating things,” said Dabney Cortina, communications director for the McLean Project for the Arts. “I think it’s because they haven’t been told that there is anything wrong with how they create art. Currently going on is our youth art show featuring Fairfax County Public Schools in the McLean area. It is incredible to look at. You see the talent they have. It is totally amazing.”

Eileen Lyons, chair of the Fine Arts Department at Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac, Md., said that the arts are a vital part of the school’s curriculum. “Arts education helps students learn how to solve problems in unique ways and it deepens their overall learning experience,” she said. “Through collaboration and cross-curricular projects, teachers at Holy Child work closely together to engage students in the arts on many different levels. Art teachers collaborate with language, social studies, English and geometry teachers to bring deeper meaning to learning.”

For example, said Lyons, on a recent trip to the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., art and French teachers worked together to bring the Van Gogh Exhibition to life in both English and French.

Stacie Steinke, chair of the Arts Department at The Madeira School in McLean suggests art education might not be taken as seriously as other disciplines. “Schools in gen-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MADEIRA SCHOOL

A student at The Madeira School in McLean enjoys art in the school’s art room. Stacie Steinke, chair of the Arts Department, says the school’s approach to art draws on a student’s natural curiosity, ability to perceive art in different forms and ability to think spatially.

eral have been responding to trends that you need more science and math education and have been teaching to tests. Not at Madeira, but at some other schools, art edu-

cation has diminished,” she said. “We look at arts as a process. Our students learn to work effectively with others. Our approach draws on a student’s natural curiosity,

ability to perceive art in different forms and ability to think spatially. They develop cognitive growth, so they learn to see how parts relate to a whole.”

Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre

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BRYANT ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Seniors Porter, Jeanpierre to Participate in All-Star Game

Suburban Classic will be held Sunday, March 23 at Oakton.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon seniors Samantha Porter and De'Ja "DJ" Jeanpierre traveled different paths to arrive at this point. Porter spent four seasons with the Mount Vernon varsity girls' basketball program, surpassing 1,000 career points along the way. Jeanpierre played her freshman and sophomore seasons at Hattiesburg High School in Hattiesburg, Miss., and her junior year at Thompson High School in Alabaster, Ala., before mov-

ing to the Mount Vernon area for her senior year.

Together, Porter and Jeanpierre led the Majors to the state tournament in 2014, a destination that talented Mount Vernon teams of the recent past failed to reach. The Majors produced a 22-7 record and finished Conference 13 and 5A North region runners-up. Mount Vernon lost to eventual champion Princess Anne 65-57 in the 5A state semifinals. Princess Anne reached the state championship game for the sixth consecutive season.

"I'm very proud of my team and everything that we accomplished this season," Porter wrote in an email. "We made it further than anyone expected us to and we overcame so much adversity during our season."

Along the way, Porter earned first-team all-conference and first-team all-region honors. She will play college basketball at Christopher Newport. Jeanpierre was named first-team all-conference and second-team all-region. She will play at Barton College. On Sunday, Porter and Jeanpierre will be teammates one final time.

Porter and Jeanpierre will play for the East squad in the 10th Suburban Classic girls' basketball all-star game on March 23 at Oakton High School. The game features some of the top seniors from the 6A North and 5A North regions. There is a 3-point shootout at 2 p.m., followed by the main event at 3 p.m.

"I'm looking forward to playing with some of my teammates again, both past and present," Porter wrote. "I'm really excited to play with DJ one last time before we go off to college."

While Porter and Jeanpierre played just one season together, they built a basketball bond.

"I am excited to be a part of the all-star game," Jeanpierre wrote. "Outside of the



Mount Vernon's Samantha Porter will join other standout seniors from the 5A North and 6A North regions for the Suburban Classic all-star game on Sunday, March 23 at Oakton High School.



Mount Vernon senior De'Ja "DJ" Jeanpierre will play for the East team at the Suburban Classic all-star game on Sunday, March 23 at Oakton High School.

Register for Hope Fest II Basketball Tournament

Join the City of Hope Worship Center's Christian sports ministry team for Hope Fest II this Saturday at Bryant Alternative High School. The tournament will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the school located at 2709 Popkins Lane near its intersection with Route 1.

There is no cost to enter the tournament. Call Marvin at 703-585-6908 to register a team at the event that will feature church basketball teams, song and dance, rap, vendors, games, face painting, music, food and fellowship.

fact that I get to play in one more organized game before college, I'm most excited to be back on the court with my 'right hand' Sam.

"Sam and I have created a bond on the court that I've never had with any other teammate. As captains this season, we made many big decisions together, hence she's my right hand."

The East team is led by Edison head coach Dianne Lewis. The rest of the East Roster includes: Tykera Carter (T.C. Williams), Angie Schedler (T.C. Williams), Amy Berglund (West Springfield), Amber Bryson (Lee), Tatiana Torres (Edison), Michelle Noel (Wakefield) and Cami Prock

(McLean). The West team is led by Madison head coach Kirsten Stone. The roster includes: Abby Rendle (South Lakes), Caitlin Jensen (South Lakes), Jenna Green (Centreville), Katie Blumer (Centreville), Bailey Dufrene (Osborn), Arnelle Collins (Freedom-South Riding), Katie Kerrigan (Madison), Kayla Hix (Stonewall Jackson), Nicole Zubovich (Freedom-South Riding) and Alexia Johnson (Broad Run).

Admission is \$5, with senior citizens and children younger than 5 admitted for free. Proceeds help to fund the Northern Virginia Women's Basketball Coaches Association scholarship program.

Last Snowstorm Of the Season?

St. Patrick's Day brought a lot of white to the Northern Virginia area. All area schools were closed and school activities canceled. Different parts of Virginia and Maryland saw five to nine inches of snow. Snow began Sunday night and accumulated early quickly. St. Patrick's Day was a more subdued affair since much of the area was a lot quieter. Along Collingwood Road in Alexandria, it seemed like only these male northern red cardinals were out surveying the effects of the storm while singing to other nearby birds.



PHOTO BY VERONICA BRUNO/THE GAZETTE



PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

Meet Alfie. It's his first winter and he was definitely having fun in the snow.

Four-year-old Cailey had a lot of fun, playing in the snow, with her mom, Ann.

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**

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RFP #00000428: Title: Professional-Holmes Run Bike Trail
RFP Opens: Date and Time: March 25, 2013, 3:00 p.m., pre-
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Pre-Proposal Conference: March 12, 2014, at 11:00 am, at 100 North Pitt Street, Suite 301, Alexandria VA 22314.
For general inquiries contact Lawrence Hall, Contract Specialist at 703.746.4697.
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Quality Tree Service & Landscaping
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured
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Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.
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24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

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Yates Service is a Family Owned and Operated business that has been serving Alexandria for 50 years. We are opening a brand new, state of the art and fully air conditioned dry cleaning plant in Old Town Alexandria. We are seeking candidates with prior experience working in a dry cleaners. Please apply at www.YatesCorner.com

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703-780-4707 ask for Chris

12 Commercial Lease

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Steps from Braddock Road Metro. Wifi and scheduled conference room access included. Wonderful location conveniently located near restaurant, dry cleaners and stores. Professional environment. \$950 per month. Contact Gloria at (703) 535-5700.

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks.
Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.
Email:theschefers@cox.net

Legal Notices

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

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21 Announcements

Sallie Leah Conley Scherrer

Sallie Leah Conley Scherrer resided at 207 N. Pitt St. and at the Alexandria House from 2000 until 2009. Sallie is survived by her husband of 65 years, Victor, son Huel of Apple Valley, MN and daughter Marla Merrick of Jonesborough, TN, six grandchildren and one great grandson.

Sallie was born in Garrett, KY on Aug. 13, 1923. She graduated from Alice Lloyd College KY, Berea College KY, The University of Kentucky, with additional graduate studies at the University of North Carolina and Northeastern University.

Sallie taught in every grade beginning at age 16 in a one room school on Mud Creek, Floyd County, KY. She went on to teach at Alice Deal Middle School in the District of Columbia, The Estabrook School Lexington Massachusetts, and five schools in Prince Georges Co. as a reading teacher, assistant principal and principal. She has devoted her life to Education and educating others.

She was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother. Education has lost one of its finest. She will be missed by all who knew her.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Theodore M. Haverchack, 91, of Alexandria, VA on March 9th, 2014. He is survived by his loving wife Helene; one sister, Mary Blinka of Arizona; and a caring family friend Mark Simon. Graveside Services will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Please continue to check www.fmfh.com for updated service dates and times.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T Mobility, LLC proposes to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility at 1200 South Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. A new emergency generator will be installed on the roof at a top height of +/- 91.7 feet. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61141230-SLF c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail S., York, PA 17403 or 717-428-0401.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the City of Alexandria per specifications will be received in the office of the Purchasing Division until the date and time designated as follows:
Title: Request for Proposals No. 00000435, Alexandria's Healthy Vending Machines Initiative
RFP Closing Date and Time: April 17, 2014, 4:00 p.m., prevailing local time For general inquiries contact Jason Soltis, Contract Specialist at 703.746.4299.
The City of Alexandria reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, cancel this solicitation, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in procedure. **THE CITY REQUIRES ITS CONTRACTORS TO BE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS.**

ALEXANDRIA Gazette Packet CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

21 Announcements

EVEN SUPERMAN HAD FOSTER PARENTS

Kids and teens in our community need super parents like you.

855-367-8637 or umfs.org



21 Announcements 21 Announcements

OBITUARY



Tammy V. Sare (age 56) of Bowie, MD passed away on March 14, 2014. Loving sister of Cindy L. Kiernan of Alexandria, and longtime companion of Norman Keith of Bowie; also survived by 3 nieces Carrie Coffee, Jamie Goldin and Damia Tabachow. Ms. Sare is preceded in death by her parents William R. Sare and June C. Page and her brother Russell L. Dunn. Friends may visit on Friday, March 21, 2014 at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA from 2-4 and 6-8.. Interment services will be private. Flowers and a guest register may be found at: www.everlywheatleyfuneralhomes.com

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

OBITUARY



Marion Genevieve Cox Gibson, age 88, passed away peacefully with her family by her side March 15, 2014 at the home she shared with her daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Michael Morel. Marion, daughter of the late John Cornelius and Elsie Fearson Cox, was a native Alexandrian and wife of the late William Edward "Perry" Gibson, also of Alexandria. She graduated from St. Mary's Academy, was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church, and worked with the American Red Cross. She and Perry enjoyed attending social events at the Mount Vernon Yacht Club and Old Dominion Boat Club, and was an avid genealogist, proud of her Virginia heritage. Marion is survived by daughters, Susan Gibson Barker of Punta Gorda, FL and Janet Gibson Morel of Round Hill, VA; brother, John C. Cox, Jr. (Susan O'Driscoll Cox) of Fairfax Station, VA; grandchildren, Caroline Tapp Rhoads and Kevin Morel of Ashburn, VA, Mike Morel, Jr. of Chantilly, VA; great-grandchildren, Kathryn and Tapp Rhoads, Megan Malo, and Bella & Hayes Morel; nephews, Daniel and Michael Cox; and niece, Cornelia Cox Musser. Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church of Alexandria on Wednesday, March 19th at 1 p.m. Marion will join Perry at Ivy Hill Cemetery, Alexandria. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Capital Caring Hospice or the Alzheimer's Association. A guest register may be found at www.everlyfuneralhomes.com.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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Property Previews: March 8th & 15th (10am-12pm), March 9th & 16th (12pm-2pm)

Saturday, March 29th at 10am On-Site

Terms: 10% buyers premium. Closing to occur in 30 days. Full terms online. VAAF93

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Total Business Liquidation Virginia Refrigeration Inc.
Saturday March 29, 2014 @ 9AM
11191 Hopson Road
(Hanover Industrial Air Park)
Ashland, Va. 23005



After 40+ years Owners has decided to retire and sell at public auction entire contents of warehouse: Equipment - Air compressor, Reclaim/Recovery units, Machinery-JLG Scissor lifts, Mitsubishi Fork Lift, Hand and Power Tools, 130Lbs. of Silver 15 brazing rods, Industrial shelving, Fleet of Vehicles-Ford Vans, Chevrolet Pickups, Chevrolet Malibu, Box Truck, Trailer, and more.

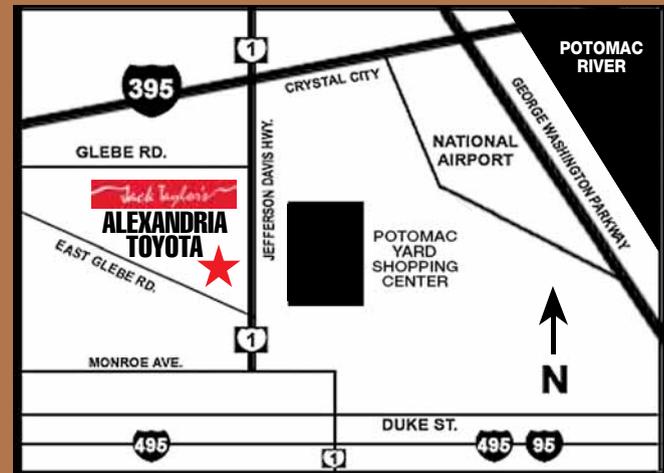
Terms: 10% Buyers Premium for cash or approved check, 13% Buyers Premium for Credit Cards. **Preview & Early Registration Wed. March 26, 2014 4pm-6pm and also morning of auction. Complete terms and details online www.GrindstaffAuctions.com VAAF 612 (804) 301-2488 Anne Grindstaff**

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INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

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PADS

PLUS \$50 VISA GIFT CARD

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\$50 VISA CARD \$50.00
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GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION. PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.

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Full premium detail

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Beautifully Maintained And Updated With Completely Remodeled Kitchen, High End Appliances, Designer Space Saving Drawers And All Baths Updated!! **gorgeous Hardwood Floors**new Anderson Windows** Enjoy The Large And Private Back Patio! All This In Historic And Desired Belle Haven, Just Minutes To Old Town. ***an Added Bonus Is There Is Space For Expansion At The Back And Side Yard** Perfect!! **Allison Gillette 703-307-5698**



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