



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Two hundred inmates of the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center participated in the facility's first Inmate Resource Fair on March 3, learning more about support services available to them both before and after their release back into the community.

Hard Time with Re-Entry

Fairfax County hosts first Inmate Resource Fair.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

They're hoping the third time will be a charm: 34-year-old Demeterius Spann of the Richmond Highway area of Alexandria and 29-year-old Nydale Sheppard of Reston have each been incarcerated three times. And with information gained from the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and Fairfax Re-Entry Council's first Inmate Resource

Fair, they're determined to make this latest stay their last.

"Before, I didn't have a plan and I kept landing here," said Sheppard, who has served 25 months for violating parole and is scheduled for a Dec. 21 release.

Spann, previously a county employee with the Department of Sanitation, has been in seven months, and has a trial scheduled later this month.

"I'm here to better myself as a person and expand my horizons to other avenues," he said.

TWO HUNDRED of the jail's roughly 1,000 inmates had the chance to meet with a spectrum of national, state and local vendors about services

SEE RESOURCE, PAGE 20



Inmate Nydale Sheppard of Reston (left) talks about re-entry services with Jamie Milloy (right), programs coordinator with OAR of Fairfax, at the Fairfax Adult Detention Center Inmate Resource Fair on March 3.



Inmate Demeterius Spann of Alexandria (right) learns about services offered by the Fairfax Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court with its intake officer Diana Casey (left).

Public Commission To Review Police Policy

Over some objections, Bulova launches ad hoc commission in wake of police shooting.

BY KEN MOORE
AND TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Supervisor Michael Frey did not mince words when voicing opposition to Chairman Sharon Bulova's establishment of an ad hoc police commission on Tuesday, March 3.

"This is not the time nor the right way to proceed," said Frey (R-Sully).

Bulova's commission will include law enforcement, legal experts, citizens, academics, public information officers, and media.

Fairfax County Police officer Adam D. Torres shot and killed John Geer of Springfield inside the doorway of his own home on Aug. 29, 2013. Police were called following a domestic argument, and spoke with him for more than half an hour while he stood in his doorway, unarmed, with his hands raised and resting on the

frame. Geer was shot in the chest and died in his house without receiving medical attention. It took more than 16 months, a \$12 million civil suit by Geer's family, intervention by a U.S. senator and a court order to get the first information on the shooting, which came in January when police named Torres.

FAIRFAX COUNTY released more than 10,000 pages of documents about the shooting and the

investigation on Jan. 30, 2015, in response to the court order. The documents revealed that four other officers on the scene disagreed with Torres, who said Geer moved his hands rapidly down from his head towards his waist prompting Torres to shoot.

"I think there will be a time to do this, but I think this is after we deal with pending outcome of the Geer case," said Frey on Tuesday.

But that could take years, Bulova said, during Tuesday's Board session.

The commission will review existing policies, practices and programs regarding police-community relations, police-involved incidents and laws regarding the public release of information.

"Our board has been taking a hard look at our policies involving the timing and manner of releasing information in the case of critical police-involved incidents," Bulova said. "This effort can be

greatly enhanced by engaging with the community in an open, transparent way."

"I think this is an excellent and right thing to do," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

"I'm real happy to see this review get underway," said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield).

"This is a learning opportunity for our community. And I mean everybody," said Supervisor Jeffrey

"This effort can be greatly enhanced by engaging with the community in an open, transparent way."

— Sharon Bulova

SEE PUBLIC, PAGE 19

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‘Above Equal’ 1965 graduates of Luther Jackson remember the county’s only African American high school.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Florence King was pretty impressed with her school bus driver. The Alexandria resident grew up on Old Telegraph Road and road the bus to both Drew Smith Elementary School in Gum Springs and Luther Jackson High School, prior to desegregation. King graduated from Luther Jackson in 1965.

“It was amazing how the driver knew where every black person lived,” King said. Along the lengthy, circuitous routes to Drew Smith and Luther Jackson, King’s bus would pick up students from pockets of African American communities all over Fairfax County.

White students along the route waiting for their buses were generally respectful, King said, except for a group in the Hollin Hills area, who would yell names and throw eggs as King’s bus passed. “It was awful,” she said. “I think they were just kind of ignorant.”

Opened in 1954 to specifically serve African Americans in Fairfax County, Luther P. Jackson High School in Falls Church got its name from the founder of the Negro Voters League of Virginia. Dr. Jackson was also chair of the History Department at Virginia State College.

King’s family was one of the only African American households in their neighborhood. Her great great grandfather was a freed slave from George Washington’s plantation who stayed in the area; her great grandfather was Thornton Gray. She remembers the atmosphere at Luther Jackson fondly.

“It was the camaraderie, the chance to meet people that looked like us,” King said. “We never saw them. It was good to be around my people, thinking: This was fun.”

Sandra McNeill’s family moved in near the King’s before the girls were in high school. They became close friends and enjoyed playing in the woods by their houses and picking fresh fruit. When they started



Phyllis Ford (nee Walker) grew up in Franconia and graduated from Luther Jackson High School in 1965.



Sandra McNeill’s older sister Ernice Evans graduated from Luther Jackson High School in 1963.

going to Luther Jackson together, the same year, McNeill remembers her parents saying the school was separate but not equal.

“We were always told Caucasian kids were more advanced,” said McNeill, who currently lives in Franconia. Her grandmother was a teacher at the historic Laurel Grove Elementary School. “We got their books two years later,” after students at other schools had gotten new books.

Despite having older books, McNeill and King thought they received solid instruction from dedicated and caring, African American teachers who also had Ph.D.s in their fields.

“It was above equal,” said King, who confidently rattled off the French she still retains from language labs Luther Jackson students were encouraged to take.

In King’s family, she said, regarding Caucasian students, “they didn’t want to put it in our mind that we’re not as good as they are.”

But in general, King and McNeill said they didn’t feel too threatened from racial tension in their community during high school.

Luther Jackson classmate Phyllis Ford, who grew up around Beulah Street in Franconia, said the Caucasian families in her area were pretty accepting, and that her parents otherwise sheltered her and her brother from protests and Civil Rights issues. “They didn’t talk about it a lot,” said Ford, “we just kind of sailed through.”

Ford’s great grandfather was William Jasper, who after being freed from slavery purchased 13 acres of land in northern Virginia in 1860.

Retired in theory, Ford sits on the board of the Franconia Museum, represents Lee district on the Fairfax County History Commission, is president of the Laurel Grove School Association and director of the Laurel Grove School Museum.

Ford would do homework together with



Phyllis Ford grew up in a house behind the Laurel Grove Baptist Church (background, right of the church) on Beulah Road in Franconia.



Florence King (nee Harris, left) grew up on Old Telegraph Road and had the option to attend Edison High School her senior year. She graduated from Luther Jackson High School instead in 1965. When Sandra McNeill (nee Evans, right) and her family moved in close to the Harrises, they were among the only African American families in their neighborhood. McNeill also graduated from Luther Jackson with the class of 1965, completing several credits over the summer at Edison High School.

her Caucasian neighbors across the street, students from the Gorham family who attended Edison High School.

“It didn’t feel segregated, really,” Ford said. “We just did it. I wasn’t really thinking about it.”

Their senior year, Ford, King and McNeill each had the option to attend the base school for their area, Edison, but chose to

graduate from Luther Jackson.

“The most important thing was to get an education,” said King. “That was your ticket.”

For the 1965-66 school year with desegregation in full effect, students were required to return to their local school. Luther Jackson became an integrated middle school for grades 7 and 8.



Bessie Alkisswani (nee Harris), older sister of Florence King, graduated from Luther Jackson High School in 1963.

Luther Jackson Class of '65 50th Reunion

Florence King and members of the Luther Jackson High School alumni association are planning to celebrate the class of 1965’s 50th reunion throughout 2015, including creating a memory book,

slide presentations, oral history presentations and setting up a scholarship. For more information, contact Florence King at 703-684-2005 or by email fmkinc@fmkinc.com.

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Fighting Against Hypothermia

Rising Hope Mission Church hosts nightly shelters.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

At 7 p.m. doors to Rising Hope Mission Church open for guests to sign in. Promptly at 7:10, volunteers begin serving dinner. On a chilly, rainy, mid-December night, the volunteers from Aldersgate United Methodist Church prepare beef steak with gravy, beans and corn for about 20 homeless individuals.

By 9:30, staff from New Hope Housing, the non-profit organization contracted by Fairfax County to run this hypothermia prevention shelter, hand the reins over to the volunteers from Aldersgate to chap-erone overnight. Different churches take one night each week for two-month periods.

Karen Latta of Mount Vernon has been working at the shelter since it began at Rising Hope, about 10 years ago, through a collaboration with the ecumenical group Ventures in Community.

"We were talking about how someone had died from hypothermia," said Latta. "We pulled it together quickly after that happened, there really wasn't any doubt."

"There were a lot of people living in a camp in the woods in the area," said Pam Michell, executive di-



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon residents Kent Siegel (left, foreground) and Arnie Westphal (right, background) of Aldersgate United Methodist Church dish up dinner at Rising Hope Mission Church.

rector of New Hope Housing. "We got together with Ventures in Community, brainstormed, and said, 'We can do something.' Keary Kincannon, the pastor here at Rising Hope, said, 'You can use our church.' Ten years later, here we are."

SEE RISING HOPE, PAGE 20

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PEOPLE

Update on George's Library

Founding director highlights programs, goals.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

George Washington had a vision to construct a library but never got around to building one. He said in a letter to his friend, James McHenry, on April 1, 1797, "I have not houses to build, except one, which I must erect for the accommodation and security of my military, civil, and private papers, which are voluminous and may be interesting." More than 200 years after he wrote of his desire for a library it is now a reality because of the efforts of supporters of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, who raised more than \$106.4 million for the library, approximately one third went to finance the construction and the rest to endow the programs planned.

AN INTERVIEW

Dr. Douglas Bradburn, founding director of the Fred. W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington, discussed the library's programs, challenges, during the second year after opening its doors.

Q. As founding director, how will you measure your initial success for the library?

A. I am very honored for the special opportunity to play an important role in the development of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington.

Success for the library will be measured and constantly reevaluated in many ways. In our first and second year of existence we have embarked on several strategic efforts to develop the foundation for long term success: hiring the right people who have the skill, vision, and commitment to realize the creation of a world class library and research institution; selecting our first group of academic scholars and teaching fellows; continue to collect rare objects and historic papers such as our recent acquisition of George Washington's financial papers of the Potomac Navigation Co. (1785). After George Washington's return to his Mount Vernon home from the war, he founded the Potomac Navigation Co. It was a typical example of the vision and energy that he applied throughout his life. He saw the Potomac River as a key ingredient in expanding commercial opportunities, and the creation of the navigation company as providing him with the means to make good

decisions to expand the use of the river by improving knowledge of the river. We are also in the process of launching a Mount Vernon leadership fellowship program for selected undergraduate students. Our plan is that by awarding scholarships and fellowships we will over time develop a distinguished alumni of leaders in government and the private sector. In addition, we are well underway in sponsoring new book talks and symposia at the library that is open to the public.

The library is also interested in educating the public and scholars on the importance of George Washington's ethics, his character, and his ability to inspire others. We will also build the ability of the library to assist scholars who work with us to publish their research. For example we assisted in getting published a just completed book on horticulture which depicts George Washington's effort to influence landscape design.

Q. You have mentioned the importance of promoting the study of history and social studies in the secondary school systems and at the university level. Why? How do you plan to assist history teachers?

A. On several levels the study of American history has had limited support among state and local budgets and university budgets. We believe American history and history teaching in general should not be undervalued as an educational tool to understand how to preserve and protect our democracy, values, and culture. Understanding the past helps leaders understand present and future challenges better. We will assist history teachers by developing and maintaining cutting edge digital techniques (podcasts; digital images; interactive e-books, etc). This will help us to present information on the history of George Washington in an interesting, creative, and easily accessible way. We want the history profession to view the George Washington library as a second intellectual home. Secondly, we will provide innovative teaching opportunities to history teachers through our fellowship program. We have already reached out to 18 states to recruit 20 history teachers to join our summer program of improving their capacity to teach history. Our selections emphasize potential for scholarship, diversity, and commitment to the teaching of history. This will continue as we reach out to all states over the next several years. We also have and will continue to regularly invite local teachers in Virginia, D.C., and Maryland for teachers' weekends to explore history and social studies here at our library.

Q. As you know our Alexandria paper, one of the Connection



From left: Mark Santangelo, archivist, and Douglas Bradburn, founding director of the National Library for the Study of George Washington, stand by an original painting of President George Washington. The painting is an original oil by Rembrandt Peale, circa 1855-1860.

PHOTOS BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

Newspapers' 15 affiliate papers, has been continuously in existence since George Washington's time. How do you feel about that historic connection?

A. It is a unique and special experience. George Washington was known to have the Alexandria paper delivered to his home in order to keep up to date on local and national issues, and now I am reading it and being interviewed by the same paper.

Q. You have mentioned earlier that the library is focusing on presenting the life of George Washington using advanced information system techniques as part of your strategy to sustain and increase the interest of history teachers and scholars in the life of George Washington and early American history. Do you have additional comments to make?

A. We have received over a million hits on our digital encyclopedia site so far and we believe it will grow. Over the past year we had 800,000 first time visits. Right now it is the most used digital early American history program in existence. It is this kind of commitment to using digital platforms that we believe will keep us on the cutting edge of information dissemination for present and future generations of scholars, researchers, and other users. The effect of this is to expand our reputation as a center of excellence for research on George Washington and American history.

Q. In an earlier interview at the time of the opening of the library with a member of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, the spokesman at that time said that regional and local community organizations would not be included in the universe of eligible participants in using the meeting facilities of the library. Is this still

true?

A. Our policy is for the library to be open to use by community organizations. When a calendar vacancy exists and the justification for the use is made and approved by the library we will welcome use of the facility by local and regional community organizations. We are totally committed to serving community groups locally.

Q. What additional thoughts would you like to share?

A. We are living at an exciting time right now. Because of technological advances, new educational concepts and emerging programs can be quickly accessed by everyone interested all over the world.

I believe we have had a good beginning in making this Presidential library a preeminent one. But make no mistake, there are challenges ahead. We are going to do our best to do our part in meeting the research and development needs of our increasingly complex 21st century society and beyond. George Washington, I hope, would be pleased by what we have accomplished in this early phase of our development and what we plan on accomplishing in the foreseeable future.

VISIT WWW.MOUNTVERNON.ORG.

Biography

Douglas Bradburn

Born in Wisconsin, raised in Virginia. He earned a B.A. in history, B.S. in economics from the University of Virginia; a Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago. Former position as the chair of the Department of History with the State University of New York, Binghamton. Received the SUNY Chancellor's award for excellence in teaching, in 2010. Married for 15 years to Nadene J. Bradburn. They have two children, Charles, and Samuel.



The Gazette co-publisher Jerry Vernon (right) examines the first President's personal library collection with archivist Mark Santangelo. During the tour of the National Library for the Study of George Washington, Vernon met with Santangelo and founding director Douglas Bradburn to discuss if the library has an interest in preserving for the archives of the Alexandria Gazette's editions dating back to the 1800s.

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8604 Cotswold Court

Charming center hall colonial offering 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths and a 1-car garage. Features Brazilian teak hardwood floors, gas fireplace, fenced backyard with two-tier deck and an abundance of storage.



HOLLIN KNOLL \$935,000

8027 Washington Road

Built in 2008, this gorgeous custom home features 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, designer kitchen, large family room with gas fireplace, private office, hardwood floors and an attached 2-car garage.



PLYMOUTH HAVEN \$1,195,000

8709 Fort Hunt Road

Perfectly sited on a half acre lot, this custom built home offers 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, 4 gas fireplaces, hardwood floors, large finished basement, luxurious master suite & 2-car garage.



COMING SOON

MOUNT VERNON \$1,699,000

5125 Remington Drive

Gorgeous new construction home with Potomac River views. Features a beautiful designer kitchen, high ceilings, hardwood floors, luxurious master suite, finished lower level and a 2-car garage.



MOUNT VERNON \$3,795,000

4736 Neptune Drive

Stunning custom waterfront property features breathtaking water views from every room, marble floors, designer kitchen with Clive Christian Cabinetry, 200+ ft dock, 3 stop elevator and 2-car garage.



COMING SOON

JEFFERSON PARK

505 Woodland Terrace

Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home in Alexandria City featuring a renovated kitchen, hardwood floors throughout, landscaped backyard with stone patio, 3 fireplaces and a huge storage attic.



OLD TOWN \$1,495,000

610 S Washington Street

This gorgeous custom built home in Old Town features 3 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, a high-end kitchen, 4 gas fireplaces, a rooftop sun deck, gated entry, private patio and detached 2-car garage.



COMING SOON

OLD TOWN \$1,795,000

604 S Fairfax Street

Stunning historic detached home in the heart of Old Town featuring a formal living room with 12' ceilings, chef's kitchen, original heart pine floors, 6 bedrooms, 4 baths and a private flagstone patio.



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OBITUARY

Lewis M. K. Long

Lewis McClelland Kennedy Long, a psychologist, writer and aspiring artist died on Jan. 17, 2015 in Virginia Beach. He was 91. The cause was aspiration pneumonia.

Dr. Long, who grew up in Porto Alegre, Brazil and Roanoke, Va., and moved to Alexandria in 1963, led a full life and varied career. His career included private practice, teaching, civil service as psychologist at many government agencies including The Center for Metropolitan Institute at National Institute of Mental Health, VISTA, National Teachers Corps and the Peace Corps.

Lewis Long was born on Nov. 19, 1923 in

Porto Alegre, Brazil. His father, Frank M. Long was secretary for the YMCA and his mother Eula Kennedy Long was a published author. His maternal grandfather Dr. James L. Kennedy, was the second Methodist missionary in Brazil. At Jefferson High School in Roanoke, Lewis starred on basketball and swimming varsity teams that won Virginia state championships.

Dr. Long received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from University of Oklahoma. He left college to enlist in the navy in July 1943 after the death of his brother Millard Long in the Solomon Islands during WWII. Dr. Long served three years in the Pacific theater on board an LSM-1 Landing ship and fought in Mindanao Islands. He was

awarded 3 stars for fighting in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater, 1 star for the Philippino Liberation and the World War II Victory medal.

After WWII, he continued his education benefiting from the GI bill and earned his Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University. In Cambridge, Dr. Long met Barbara Sue Dietterich. They were married in Kenmore, N.Y. in 1952 and moved to Little Rock Ark. in 1957, where Dr. Long worked at the Child Guidance Clinic at the University Medical Center, and part-time professor and chairman of the Psychology Department at Little Rock University and maintained a private practice as well.

In 1963, Lewis, Barbara and their four children moved to Alexandria where he was chief psychologist for the Children's and Youth Center at Saint Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C. His first wife Barbara, died in March 1976. Dr. Long married Alice Deaton in 1979. Ms. Deaton died in May, 1989.

Dr. Long had two brothers, James Long and Millard Long and two sisters, Eulalee Long Anderson and Edith Long Schisler Frye. He is survived by his sister Edith Long Schisler Frye of Rutland, Vt. and Florianopolis, Brazil.

After retiring from NIMH, Dr. Long co-founded The American Board of Professional Disability Consultants and followed his love of learning by earning degrees from Northern Virginia Community College, George Mason and Georgetown Universities. In addition, he developed artistic in-

terests and created pieces in glass, painting, print making, collage and jewelry. He wrote an autobiographical play as well as authoring books about Barbara Long's death and a short memoir about growing up in Brazil. Dr. Long was currently working on a fictional fantasy novel titled "Bugiganga" (the Portuguese word for junk). He invented several games and was in the process of applying for patents for two. Lewis Long loved traveling, attending the SE Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, playing chess, collecting coins, watching sports, performing magic tricks and socializing. In his spare time Dr. Long read daily, jogged, worked out, attended Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, played poker, worked on countless remodeling projects on his home and wrote a monthly family letter documenting his self-meditations and observations about life.

Dr. Long is survived by his four children, Mark Long, Susan Long, David Long and Stephen Long and six grandchildren; Lynsi Long, Austin Long, Dakota Long, Max Sierra, Annie Long and Charles Long. In addition to his immediate family, Lewis Long is survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 7 at 11 a.m. at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church 1909 Windmill Lane in Alexandria Virginia. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Discretionary Minister's Fund at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FEB. 1-APRIL 15

Free Tax Preparation. Monday-Saturday, 10:15 a.m.-2 p.m.; Monday-Thursday, 5-8 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

For taxpayers with low and middle income. All ages, with special attention to seniors. Federal and Virginia tax returns prepared and electronically filed by IRS-certified volunteers. Tax questions can be answered. Bring your photo ID(s), Social Security Card(s), tax documents, and your prior year tax return.

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Business Roundtable. 8:30-10 a.m. at Holiday Inn Express, 6055 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation presents "Successful Networking" as part of its monthly Business Roundtable Speaker Series. All sessions include presentations, a light breakfast, and time for networking. Free. RSVP to info@sfdc.org or visit www.sfdc.org/whats-happening for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Mardi Gras Celebration and Straw Poll. 8-11 p.m. at Don Beyer Volvo, 7416 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Due to inclement weather, the Mount Vernon District Democratic Committee's Mardi Gras Celebration was postponed. The straw poll for Mt Vernon County

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 9

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

MARCH

3/18/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools
3/25/2015..Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
FCPS Spring Break 3/30-4/3

APRIL

4/1/2015.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout
Easter Sunday is April 5

4/8/2015.....HomeLifeStyle
4/15/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools
4/22/2015.....Real Estate Pullout – New Homes
4/29/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout

4/29/2015.....Mother's Day Celebrations, Dining & Gifts I

MAY

5/6/2015.....McLean Day Pullout
5/6/2015.....Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II
5/6/2015.....Wellbeing
Mother's Day is May 10

5/13/2015.....HomeLifeStyle

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- Potomac Almanac
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Saturday, March 21 at 6 pm

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UCM is grateful for the media
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Mount Vernon Gazette

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 8

Supervisor and 36th District Senate seats will be conducted during the celebration. \$50 at the door; includes a Cajun buffet, drink tickets, live music and a silent auction. Visit www.mvdemocrats.com for tickets.

MONDAY/MARCH 9

Citizens Group Meeting. 7 p.m. in Room 104 A/B, at the Martha Washington Public Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, Inc. meets monthly. Visit virginiaccpa.com, email virginiaccpa@aol.com, or call 703-768-6700.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12

Business Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Meet the leadership of the new Wegmans Food Market opening in June at Hilltop Village Center. Mike Dempsey, store manager, and Matt Spath, service manager, will speak at the March Business Breakfast hosted by Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce. \$25 per person. Register at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org or call 703-360-6925.

Tax Relief Workshop. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; they may be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. Department of Tax Administration staff will be available to assist with filling out the application form and answer questions. No appointment necessary. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta, or call 703-971-6262 (TTY 711).

SATURDAY/MARCH 14

Office Hours. Fairfax County School Board Member Dan Storck will host Saturday office hours. Members of the community are invited to stop by to ask questions or to discuss concerns, no appointment necessary. Contact Dan Storck at Dan.Storck@fcps.edu or his assistant Mary Ellen Hook at mehook@fcps.edu

- ♦ 10 a.m.-noon at Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, in the Conference Room.
- ♦ 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, in Conference Room 3.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 21

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Dir.: G.W. Parkway South from Old Town, right on Tulane & follow Partners Signs.



7117 Marlan Drive \$759,000

•Tremendous Curb Appeal – Large Level Lot •Custom Brick Rambler with **Rear Addition** •Formal Living Room with French Doors opening to Front Elevation •Three Generous Bedrooms & Two beautifully **Remodeled Baths** on Main Level •Totally **Updated Kitchen** features **Granite** Counters and **Stainless** Steel Appliances •Refinished **Hardwoods** •Two Masonry Fireplaces •Lower Level Family Room, Full Bath, Laundry and Storage



1107 Gatewood Drive \$895,000

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March 7th

(Snow Date: March 14th
Please call to confirm!)

12:00 to 4:00pm

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Project Features:

- Added cathedral ceiling by replacing attic staircase with full size pull down stairs and maximizing unfinished attic storage use
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- Custom designed cabinetry and fireplace surround



ABOUT THE TOUR

Visit the website for more details:
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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

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OPINION

Good, Bad and Ugly

A look at recently ended session of the Virginia General Assembly.

The 2015 session of the Virginia General Assembly came to an end last week, and some of the biggest news was about what it did not do. By far the ugliest debacle rests in the Assembly's ongoing refusal to expand Medicaid to cover as many as 400,000 uninsured people in Virginia, even though it would come at no cost to Virginia (Federal government pays 100 percent for the next two years and 90 percent after that) and would be a massive boost to Virginia's economy. The local and state economy is suffering from the loss of federal spending in other areas, and it's just plain crazy and mean-spirited to deny medical care for people who can't afford it otherwise, and at the same time, turn away an economic stimulus equal to 20,000 or more jobs and a direct infusion of nearly \$2 billion a year.

GOOD: The Assembly nixed a bill which "empowers the Director of the Department of Corrections to make and enter into contracts ... to compound the drugs necessary to carry out execution by lethal injection. ... Information

relating to the identity of the persons or entities compounding such drugs, the identities of persons or entities engaged to manufacture or supply the materials used to compound the drug products, and the name of the materials or components used to compound drug products for use in an execution are confidential, exempt from the Freedom of Information Act, and not subject to discovery or introduction as evidence in a civil proceeding ..."

The House of Delegates nixed executing people with secret potions. Passed in the Senate, blocked in the House of Delegates. Be sure to thank those local legislators who voted against this craven proposal: Senators: Adam Ebbin, Barbara Favola, Janet Howell, Dave Marsden and Chap Petersen. Delegates: David Bulova, Eileen Filler-Corn, Charniele Herring, Patrick Hope, Mark Keam, Kay Kory, Rob Krupicka, Jim LeMunyon, Alfonso Lopez, Ken Plum, Tom Rust, Mark Sickles, Marcus Simon, Scott Surovell and Vivian Watts.

And ask these local legislators who voted to carry out executions with secret drugs and secret methods what they were thinking: Senators George Barker and Dick Saslaw. Delegates: Dave Albo and Tim Hugo.

No good comes from conducting the people's business in secret, all the more true when the business is brutal. Killing people is wrong, two wrongs don't make a right, killing people and keeping the brutal details secret is wrong.

BAD: State Sen. Barbara Favola's bill to ex-

tend foster care services and support, including foster care maintenance payments, to qualifying individuals age 18 to 21 years who were formerly in the custody of a local board of social services passed unanimously in Senate, and died in the House of Delegates. The money spent would have been matched by Federal dollars, and every dollar spent helping former foster children become independent, self-supporting adults saves a bundle in other costs down the line.

UGLY: "Ethics reform" put a \$100 cap on each individual gift from lobbyists to members of the Assembly, with no enforcement mechanism, and no changes in campaign finance. Former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife were convicted of corruption for taking more than \$170,000 worth of gifts and favors from Star Scientific and related individuals; this was the catalyst for the so-called reform. It is apparently fine, however, that Star Scientific also gave \$108,000 to McDonnell's campaign. More than 40 other entities gave more, including Dominion (\$383,720), Altria (\$361,556), Smithfield Foods (\$267,738), Walmart (\$121,250), just as examples. (Source: vpap.org). No good comes from having our legislative body awash in this kind of cash. You can visit the Virginia Public Access Project at vpap.org and look up who has been giving how much to the people who represent you. It's fascinating.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Inova Announcement a Huge Win for Fairfax Economy

BY GERALD L. GORDON, PH.D.

There has been a lot of talk in recent years about the need to diversify the Fairfax County and Washington-area economies. Sequestration served as a wake-up call that the county and region must not be overly dependent on federal spending any more than Pittsburgh in the '70s was overly reliant on steel and Seattle on Boeing.

The Feb. 9 announcement by Inova Health System that it will acquire the 117-acre Exxon Mobil headquarters in Merrifield and create the Inova Center for Personalized Health has the potential to redefine the Fairfax County and regional economy just as much as the life sciences altered the Pittsburgh economy and Microsoft and Amazon changed Seattle's business landscape.

The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority has worked tirelessly for more than 50 years to build economic security for the county by attracting and retaining thousands of companies here. These companies have created hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs and built the commercial tax base that the Board of Supervisors uses to fund the high-quality services, for which Fairfax County is known around the nation, and has done so without making residents pay the full cost of those services.



Gerald Gordon

The FCEDA has made tremendous headway in diversifying the county's economic base. Just since 2007 the FCEDA has helped build these non-governmental sectors: automotive (with Volkswagen of America's North American headquarters), hospitality (Hilton Worldwide corporate headquarters), engineering and construction (Bechtel global services headquarters), satellite services (Intelsat's administrative headquarters) and software (Cvent's corporate headquarters).

However, the enormity of the Inova announcement is almost indescribable. The research, education and commercialization entities that will make up the Inova campus will make Fairfax County a primary hub for genomic research and the commercialization of ground-breaking discoveries in the burgeoning field of personalized or translational medicine. Inova intends to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to fit the Exxon Mobil building for lab, research and education space.

The 1.2 million square-foot building will attract funding that will in turn attract world-class researchers, who have the ability to do

pioneering research that will lead to discoveries that could change the way we diagnose and treat individuals with illnesses such as cancer. Companies that can commercialize those discoveries – get them to medical professionals and patients – will grow close to the Inova campus in order to be near the source of the talent and work.

Inova wins by becoming a leader in another aspect of health care. Fairfax County wins with a larger and more diversified commercial tax base and an even better reputation as a business location. We all win with discoveries that improve the quality of life for millions.

When Mobil Corporation relocated its corporate headquarters to Fairfax County from New York in 1987, it in essence started the process of diversifying our economic base. In transferring its building to Inova, it furthers the process of strengthening the local economy for decades to come.

Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Mount Vernon Gazette

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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A Connection Newspaper



HOME SALES

In January 2015, 69 homes sold between \$3,500,000-\$100,000 in the Mount Vernon area.
This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$1,730,000-\$295,000 range.
For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC .	PostalCode	Subdivision
9380 MOUNT VERNON CIR	5	6	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$3,500,000	Detached	0.60	22309	MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC
8105 YORKTOWN DR	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$912,500	Detached	0.15	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
8033 WASHINGTON RD	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Detached	0.15	22308	HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
8632 PLYMOUTH RD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$824,500	Detached	0.56	22308	PLYMOUTH HAVEN
916 DRESDEN CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$770,000	Detached	0.35	22308	WAYNEWOOD
4209 DANDRIDGE TER	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$769,900	Detached	0.32	22309	SOUTHWOOD
7704 LOOKOUT CT	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$760,000	Detached	0.47	22306	KIRKSIDE
8809 NORTHERN SPRUCE LN	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$685,000	Detached	0.46	22309	WOODMILL ESTATE
4215 DANDRIDGE TER	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$650,800	Detached	0.32	22309	SOUTHWOOD
3112 SPRING DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$649,950	Detached	0.19	22306	VALLEY VIEW
7110 COLGATE DR	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$649,000	Detached	0.19	22307	HOLLIN GLEN
4202 PICKERING PL	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$643,000	Detached	0.36	22309	SOUTHWOOD
3809 WESTGATE DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$640,000	Detached	0.46	22309	WESTGATE
1904 BRIDLE LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$630,000	Detached	0.24	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
4104 SULGRAVE DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Detached	0.50	22309	SULGRAVE MANOR
1805 HACKAMORE LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Detached	0.24	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
1804 OLD STAGE RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached	0.26	22308	RIVERSIDE GARDENS
8600 BOUND BROOK LN	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$540,000	Detached	0.24	22309	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
2305 LONDONDERRY RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$522,400	Detached	0.31	22308	STRAITFORD LANDING
4721 POLE RD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.60	22309	ENGLESIDE
7908 BAYBERRY DR	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$505,000	Detached	0.24	22306	SHERWOOD HALL
7004 BEDROCK RD	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$500,000	Detached	0.27	22306	STONEBROOKE
4421 ROLLINGBROOKE CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Detached	0.25	22306	STONEBROOKE
3606 KEOTA ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Detached	0.19	22303	BURGUNDY MANOR
6711 TAHALLA DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$463,000	Detached	0.45	22306	COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES
5808 HARVEY PL	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$456,000	Detached	0.24	22303	BURGUNDY FARM
4606 OLD MILL RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$455,000	Detached	0.44	22309	MT VERNON MANOR
6612 BENSON DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$449,000	Detached	0.29	22306	COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES
4113 CASEY CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$447,000	Detached	0.23	22306	WOODSTONE
4350 ROLLING STONE WAY	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$439,000	Detached	0.19	22306	STONEBROOKE
8226 CEDAR LANDING CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$429,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTINGTON AT MT VERNON
5953 EDGEHILL CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.04	22303	HUNTINGTON COMMONS
8261 CEDAR LANDING CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	HUNTINGTON AT MT VERNON
8525 WYNGATE MANOR CT	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$399,500	Townhouse	0.04	22309	WYNGATE
3820 ROXBURY CT	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.05	22309	ROXBURY OF MT VERNON
8424 HALLIE ROSE ST	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.03	22309	SKYVIEW PARK
7436 CONVAIR DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$384,000	Detached	0.30	22306	HYBLA VALLEY
8021 STEADMAN ST	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$378,000	Detached	0.25	22309	MT VERNON VALLEY
7031 SWAIN DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$377,000	Detached	0.28	22306	VALLEY VIEW
7907 DONELSON ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$370,000	Detached	0.26	22309	FAIRFIELD
8020 STEADMAN ST	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$365,000	Detached	0.25	22309	MT VERNON VALLEY
2447 WINDBREAK DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Townhouse	0.08	22306	MT VERNON SQUARE TOWNHOU
7411 FAIRCHILD DR	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$355,000	Detached	0.20	22306	HYBLA VALLEY
7983 AVERY PARK CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$355,000	Townhouse	0.03	22306	AVERY PARK
2720 SHERWOOD HALL LN	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.05	22306	MT WOODLEY MANOR
7106 WESTFIELD CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.04	22306	WOODSTONE
7034 CANTERBURY LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$314,500	Duplex	0.12	22307	BUCKNELL HEIGHTS
8127 KIDD ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$310,000	Detached	0.27	22309	MT VERNON VALLEY
4514 SQUIREDALE SQ	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.05	22309	PINEWOOD LAKE

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6:30 pm Vigil Mass (en Español)
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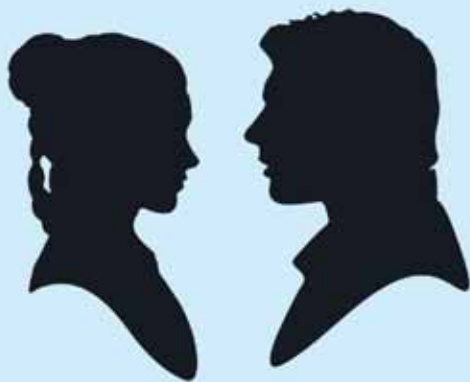
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Budget Tweaks, Execution Secrecy and Ethics

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



COMMENTARY

In the last week of the recent General Assembly session, we passed a budget and some of the most contentious legislation of the session. We actually adjourned one day early on Friday, the first session in the six regular sessions in which I have served that has finished early.

Here's a quick rundown on several bills:

Four of my bills passed both houses and are with the Governor for his action. I described them in my column last week. I hope they will be signed into law without any amendments.

We approved amendments to our biennial budget that includes money to fund the state's share of a 1.5 percent raise for teachers, a 2 percent raise for state employees and a 2 percent raise for college faculty. Many of these employees have had only one raise in the last seven years.

The budget also endorses Governor McAuliffe's new plan to provide mental health services to 21,600 Virginians with serious mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders who are at 60 percent of

federal poverty level.

We prepaid \$129 million for a constitutionally-required Rainy Day Fund deposit and restored about \$41.5 million to higher education that was cut earlier in the year because of the economic downturn. We also provided \$106 million for construction for new buildings at various colleges, including

James Madison University, Virginia Tech, Longwood University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Radford University and funds to restore the historic rotunda at the University of Virginia.

The budget also makes a \$129 million one-time payment to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) to reduce our unfunded liability. This will also reduce required contributions from local governments that are largely funded by real estate property taxes.

The budget also includes my proposal to restore one General District Court Judgeship to Fairfax County, a position that is desperately needed.

Gaping Holes

The legislature did not expand Medicaid

as authorized by the Affordable Care Act. To me, this omission is legislative malpractice. As of today, Virginia has left \$1.8 billion in federal funds on the table. By next year, this will be the equivalent of \$40 million in the 44th Delegate District alone or about 500 per constituent or about \$2,000 for each four-person family I represent. We have lost about 400 jobs in the 44th District and health care coverage for about 5,000 people.

In addition, this budget fails to adequately fund education or address our unfair education funding formula, despite my efforts. Virginia also still has a \$15 billion unfunded liability in the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). The legislature also failed to repeal or correct dozens of ineffective tax credits and tax preferences for things like coal, yachts and private schools. Virginia also still has \$100 billion transportation capital shortfall over the next 20 years. These are some of the reasons that I voted "no."

Transparency

This year, the Department of Corrections pressed legislation to exempt the entire execution process from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). I fought this effort and killed the legislation in a biparti-

san coalition of 33 Democrats, 27 Republicans and one independent. Execution is the last thing that should be shrouded in secrecy.

Finally, on the last day, the legislature sent "ethics" legislation to the Governor. I voted "yes" on the final bill, but I was anything but happy with it. The bill did include my proposal to limit gifts and political contributions during the Governor's Opportunity Fund process, but it is riddled with problems.

First, although the bill lowered Virginia's gift cap to \$100, it deleted the \$250 aggregate gift cap, so now elected officials can accept an unlimited number of gifts under \$100 from the same donor.

The bill also lacks a real enforcement mechanism. There are no mandatory audits. There is no independent ethics commission and the new ethics committee has no subpoena power. Stronger ethics laws are essentially meaningless if they cannot be enforced.

You can see my floor speeches on ethics, death penalty secrecy and the state budget on my YouTube channel.

Thank you for all of your feedback and suggestions. It is an honor to serve as your delegate. I hope you will continue to be in touch at scott@scottsuovell.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Updates Appreciated

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in regards to the article written by Tim Peterson, "Dates Set for Trial Of Jesse Matthew in Murder Case." I have really appreciated all of the articles related to this case because Hannah Graham was a girl from my hometown and we had a large amount of mutual friends. It heavily impacted the community and raised the attention of sexual assault and abduction. These articles published have been keeping me up to date because it is a lot tougher to see what is happening in the community while I'm away at school. The information provided by these articles has raised the awareness of sexual assault and people are more careful about it and watch out for it to prevent it. Girls across college campuses now are more careful with the partying and drinking scene and watching out for sexual assault and harassment. Sexual assault happens everywhere and often, but rarely reported and I thank you for publishing articles about this topic so people can be more cautious and hopefully reduce the sexual assault rates. It feels good to know that justice is being served for these terrible actions and that family and friends can get closure. I really appreciate the news updates on this event.

Jane Heller

Martyr to Police Accountability

To the Editor:

I am writing to commend the Connection Newspapers for the excellent coverage of the John Geer case. Your reporting and editorial position show that your staff is right on top of this controversial issue.

The manner in which Fairfax County officials from top to bottom have handled this case has been dismaying. In my opinion, this is the most disgraceful and embarrassing episode in the history of Fairfax County. The continual cover ups and obfuscation and stonewalling are reprehensible. As a 54-year-old lifelong Northern Virginian this is the worst I have seen.

But there is a long and sordid history of this type of behavior. Consider the case involving Sal Culosi and David Masters and most recently Natasha McKenna.

But let me take this opportunity to give credit to the Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability and its executive director Nicholas Beltrante. For several years now, they have been working tirelessly to raise public awareness of these matters. It is a shame that it takes a tragedy like the Geer shooting to wake everybody up from their complacency.

I understand that John Geer was a graduate of J.E.B. Stuart High School in the Falls Church area of Fairfax County. His alma mater was, of course, named after the dash-

ing Confederate general who commanded the Army of Northern Virginia's cavalry during the Civil War. Stuart was mortally wounded on May 11, 1864 in a fierce battle fought at Yellow Tavern, north of Richmond. His death was a great blow to the Confederacy. He went down in history as a martyr for his cause.

John Geer has become a martyr for the cause of government and police accountability and transparency.

Gregory G. Paspatis
Alexandria

Transition For PACK

To the Editor:

Earlier this week, a meeting of Westgrove PACK (PACK) was held. One of the agenda items was election of new officers and directors. I did not attend the meeting but based upon the slate of candidates, there has now been a complete transition from the founders of PACK to the newly elected leadership.

PACK was founded to be the sponsoring organization for an off-leash dog area (OLDA) at Westgrove Park on Fort Hunt Road just south of Belle View Elementary School. The main purpose for creating the sponsoring organization was to make best efforts to create an OLDA unlike others in the county. The goal was to create an OLDA

on which the ground surface was planted with grass, not covered with stone dust as is the case with other county OLDAs. The founders of PACK succeeded in achieving this goal through hard work and with the cooperation of Mount Vernon Park Authority Representative Lynwood Gorham and the eventual cooperation and support of Supervisor Hyland. In fact, Supervisor Hyland considered establishment of the OLDA to be one of his most significant accomplishments for 2013.

An OLDA requires other infrastructure to be attractive to dog owners, such as water supply, shade trees, benches and tables, parking for visitors, and kiosks and sign boards. The founders of PACK succeeded in obtaining all of these amenities save for water supply. The most critical component of the Westgrove Park OLDA is the turf. In order to maintain turf at the OLDA, the new leaders of PACK will have to be extremely vigilant, willing to close down the OLDA when turf conditions dictate that should be done. After a hard rain, until the turf has drained and dried, use of the OLDA will damage the turf. The Park Authority has made it clear that if the OLDA becomes bare and muddy, they will cover it with stone dust. Only time will tell if the new leadership is able to maintain the OLDA as a turf-based OLDA. I wish them the best of luck in achieving and maintaining this goal.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon



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Citizen Group Reacts to Ad Hoc Commission

In response to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' announcement of an ad hoc commission to review police department practices and policies, the citizens group Justice for John Geer released the following statement:

Fairfax County needs a permanent, effective civilian oversight board that is independent of police influence, trusted by the public, supported by the board, and tasked with a broad review over all practices and policies relating to law enforcement activity.

We didn't get that today. What we got was a panel hastily thrown together in an effort to provide political cover rather than real reform.

The formation of the ad hoc commission exhibits the lack of transparency and disrespect for the public that lies at the heart of police misbehavior. Comments by Supervisors Herrity, Hudgins, and Frey confirm that the ad hoc commission was formed by Bulova without involvement from other

board members or the public at large.

The make-up of the ad hoc commission appears designed to frustrate independent civilian review and meaningful reforms.

❖ It is shocking and unacceptable that representatives of law enforcement are so numerous and unaffiliated civilians so few. The Police Department has ample opportunities to access and influence supervisors directly and indirectly. Concerned citizens do not. Citizens deserve an oversight body independent from police pressure.

❖ It is disappointing that no one representing the family of Sal Culosi is on the commission. We are told Sal Culosi's father, Sal Culosi, Sr., requested to be on the commission but was denied.

❖ It is surprising and disappointing that none of the lawyers named to the commission stands out as a spokesperson for the vigilant protection of civil liberties.

❖ The inclusion of David Rohrer in any

capacity is a conflict of interest and an insult to the public's intelligence. Rohrer was the police chief from 2004 to 2012. During his tenure, Sal Culosi and David Masters were shot and killed by police. After both those shootings, the Police Department adopted the same secrecy and hostility to transparency and accountability that we have witnessed in the wake of John Geer's shooting. Purported "reforms" from Rohrer's tenure clearly failed to prevent the unnecessary shooting of John Geer. As Deputy County Executive for Public Safety, Rohrer currently oversees the police department.

The responsibilities of the ad hoc commission are insufficiently broad. Justice requires not just transparency but accountability, which is entirely absent from the commission's responsibilities. True civilian oversight requires a broad, comprehensive purview over law enforcement practices and policies, with a Board of Supervisors com-

mitted to meaningful reform.

We object to the inscrutable method by which the ad hoc commission was formed. We object to the makeup of the commission, which should offer civilian oversight and guidance independent of law enforcement influence. We object to the too-narrow purview of the commission. And we object to Chair Bulova's refusal today to allow for a period of public comment on the formation of the commission.

The need for reform has been longstanding. The creation of an important oversight body should have happened long ago in a straightforward and competent manner. Chair Bulova has failed as a leader and should resign as chair of the Board of Supervisors.

Other members of the board, if they are to regain the public's trust, need to prove their personal commitment to pursuing meaningful reforms as required by justice and their oaths to the public.

General Assembly Adjourns Sine Die

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



COMMENTARY

The 2015 session of the General Assembly has officially adjourned. Bills I introduced that now await Governor McAuliffe's signature include legislation on issues from job placement and hospital patients' rights to tax refunds and ethics reform. I believe that this legislation will improve the lives of Virginians.

Jobs: Last year, Congress passed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014. This legislation provides more funding, technical resources, and flexibility for creativity and innovation to the Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) throughout the country in order to better train and provide job placement assistance to unemployed workers for the jobs of the future. Essential job training programs for an unemployed worker can cost up to \$3,700; however, if we are not able to help them find a position to match their new skills, then that money is not well spent.

That is why I put forward SB1002, which gives local WIBs the flexibility to negotiate pay-for-performance standards directly with job placement agencies. The more we do to empower WIBs across the state and incentivize their partnering organizations, the sooner we will get our neighbors back to work with good-paying jobs and the faster we will grow the Virginia economy.

Hospital Patients' Rights: As it stands today in Virginia, if you are receiving care in a hospital and your status is changed from "in-patient" to "observation," there is no requirement for the hospital administration to notify you. A status change can have serious financial ramifications in terms of how Medicare or your private health insurance provider covers the cost of your care.

That is why I introduced and passed SB857 along with Senators George Barker and Dick Black, so that hospital patients will receive explicit notifications of a status change.

Tax Refunds: Another bill I passed with Senator Barker is SB1005, which restores the option for taxpayers to receive their state refunds in the form of a paper check. In 2012, Virginia changed the system of delivering tax refunds so that the only two options for payment would be in the form of direct deposit or a plastic debit card.

This was done under the guise of saving the state money from the printing and postage of the checks. Instead, the change outsourced a core function of the Virginia Department of Taxation to a private, for-profit company that resulted in taxpayers receiving plastic debit cards and being charged fees for using the cards at ATMs, businesses and even for inquiring about their balance too often. A 2013 study by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) shows that 6.5 percent of Virginia's citizens do not have a bank account for direct deposit, a 1.7 percent increase since 2009. Using fee-ridden debit cards hurts those who can least afford it.

Our legislation will allow taxpayers once again to have the option of choosing a paper check or direct deposit for their tax refund.

Ethics: Virginians need and deserve to have confidence in their elected officials — but the McDonnell scandal gave citizens every reason to doubt. From the outset, I have called for strong, decisive action to fix our laws and restore Virginians' trust. I introduced reform bills in both 2014 and 2015, and I have offered amendments to

strengthen my colleagues' legislation. I am pleased to see that the final bill incorporates several of the ideas I have fought for.

The legislation we passed moves us in the right direction, but it leaves much work undone. The bill imposes a \$100 gift cap on officials, strengthens the Ethics Advisory Council and ensures that disclosure forms will be publicly available online. It will also prohibit gifts of travel unrelated to a legislator's official duties — like trips to golf tournaments on corporate jets. Still, it also leaves gaping loopholes in place. There is no limit on the cumulative value of gifts, and the Ethics Council lacks crucial investigative authority. Many other issues — like the ability for legislators to attend secret meetings on the taxpayer's dime — go totally unaddressed.

We still need to restore Virginians' trust — and until we have done that, I will keep working for stronger and more substantive reforms.

There are still many pressing issues that were not addressed this session. Unfortunately, my legislation to address topics such as codifying workplace protections for LGBT employees, reforming our failed drug policies, and enacting smarter regulations to prevent gun violence, all failed to advance. I also co-sponsored bills to raise the minimum wage, make it easier to vote, and create an independent redistricting commission that were also defeated by the Republican majority. It is my hope that the progress that we have made this year will serve as a foundation to build upon in 2016 when next year's General Assembly convenes.

You can email me at district30@senate.virginia.gov. I am also active on Twitter @AdamEbbin and Facebook at www.facebook.com/EbbinCampaign.

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

Krizek To Launch Campaign for State Delegate

Paul Krizek will kick off his campaign for state delegate in the 44th District with the help of state Sen. Toddy Puller, Sen. Adam Ebbin, Del. Scott Surovell, and Del. Mark Sickles 3-6 p.m., Saturday, March 7, at 7110 Bertram Lane, Alexandria.

Krizek is a native of the Mount Vernon area, having graduated from Groveton High School (now West Potomac) before attending the University of Virginia and then obtaining a law degree from Catholic University. Krizek worked as a legislative aide for U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, and has spent the last 16 years as the chief counsel and vice president of Christian Relief Services Charities, a \$50 million humanitarian organization that is headquartered in the 44th district.

Krizek is running for Surovell's seat with his endorsement. Surovell is running for the Senate seat of Sen. Toddy Puller, who is retiring.

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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WELLBEING

PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTON CENTER FOR
WEIGHT MANAGEMENT & RESEARCH, INC.

Domenica M. Rubino, M.D., far right, pictured with Mougeh Yasai, PhD, clinical psychologist and Amy Allnutt, MS, ACSM/HFS, exercise physiologist. Rubino, director Washington Center for Weight Management & Research, Inc., recommends a research-based, comprehensive mind-body approach to weight loss and maintenance that includes medical, nutritional, behavioral and psychological factors and includes physicians, dietitians and psychotherapists



Shedding Pounds and Keeping Them Off

Suggestions for maintaining a healthy weight.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

For Toni Williams, effective weight loss and maintenance have been a struggle her entire adult life. Her introduction to unhealthy food came in college.

"Instead of the 'freshman five,' I did the freshman 20," she said. "I ate cheeseburgers and fried chicken every day."

Williams, now 60, identified here by a pseudonym, counts herself among the estimated 97 million Americans who the National Institutes of Health identifies as overweight or obese and at risk for health problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. Approximately 90 percent of people who have lost weight, including Williams, have regained weight after a weight loss.

"There are a lot of different ways to lose weight, and I know how to lose weight," said Williams. "The problem is keeping it off."

Williams is a patient at the Washington Center for Weight Management & Research, Inc., in Arlington, and says that through her work at the center, she has discovered her own personal formula for losing weight.

"Weight is a constant work in progress," she said. "There is no one way to do it. What works for some people won't work for others. You have to figure out what works for you."

VIEWING OBESITY as a medical condition is the first step to solving it, said Dr. Domenica M. Rubino, director of the Washington Center.

"Obesity is a serious and complex disease that affects each individual differently," she said. "It is significantly influenced by risk factors including genetic, environmental, economic, psychological and social determinants, as with most chronic diseases."

Rubino recommends a research-based, comprehensive, mind-body approach to weight loss and maintenance that includes medical, nutritional, behavioral and psychological factors, and includes physicians, dietitians and psychotherapists.

"I try to help my patients explore the triggers [such as sadness, anger, and anxiety] that lead them to turn to food as a way to cope," said Mougeh Yasai, a clinical psychologist at the Washington Center. "Mindfulness can help patients become more attuned to their feeling states, and also how to deal with these feelings when they come up. Once triggers are iden-

tified, we explore various coping skills that can be helpful during times of distress. The emphasis on mindful observation of eating behaviors is to practice the skill of observing with a nonjudgmental stance."

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS at Weight Loss Services at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital in Fairfax, also assist patients in a weight loss program that includes a variety of bariatric (or weight loss) surgeries, generally reserved for those with a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or more.

"We also might use pharmacological methods to jump start weight loss," said Carmen Spencer, a registered nurse. She is the clinical program coordinator at the clinic.

"Medical weight loss is pretty much open to anyone with a BMI of 27 or higher," she said. "We offer a 12-week program that uses meal replacements."

"Maintaining weight can be difficult for several reasons," said Yasai. "There are physiologic signals of appetite, satiety and hunger that increase after we lose weight. These are normal responses after weight loss."

Some strategies are helpful in increasing one's chances of keeping excess weight at bay. "The environment is filled with opportunities to eat high-calorie foods and not move much," said Yasai. "So in addition to continuing the lifestyle changes that helped you lose weight, it is important to have strengthened coping skills for managing stress as well as being mindful of potential emotional triggers to eating."

Setting unrealistic goals, losing too much weight at one time and following fad diets can lead to rapid weight regain or failure to lose weight in the first place.

"There is no magic, no special potion or diet," said Rubino. "In fact, no one person or thing holds the key for the treatment of obesity."

Maintaining a healthy weight takes work and dedication. Adherence to healthy eating and physical activity are two of the most important aspects of keeping weight off. Williams builds both into her daily routine.

"I go to the gym three times a week at 6 a.m.," said Williams. "If I don't do it then, something will come up later during the day. I use a trainer because I find that it's a luxury that I can't afford not to have. My trainer keeps me motivated and from making the gym my favorite charity."

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ENTERTAINMENT



Chef Niko Papaloizou cuts a chicken in half, drizzles on olive oil, rubs salt and pepper through his fingers, spoons on minced garlic, adds wine from the family vineyard in Greece, and with a final garnish and vegetables added to the plate. His chicken lemonato at Taverna Cretekou is a favorite.

Meet the Chef: Niko Papaloizou at Taverna Cretekou

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE GAZETTE

Chef Niko Papaloizou sprinkles olive oil on the branzino, just flown in fresh from the Mediterranean. He rubs salt and pepper between his fingers, spoons minced garlic inside the fish, dribbles a little lemon juice with a flourish. Finally he pours from a bottle of 2012 cabernet sauvignon which has been imported from their own vineyard in Messinia in southern Greece.

"Nobody else has this same wine, just us," said Cristos Papaloizou, his father.

The fish will bake for 15-20 minutes. "This is my favorite," Niko Papaloizou said, "and also one of the two customer favorites. We make a chicken lemonato, a similar chicken recipe that I'm having for lunch today. The other favorite is the special of five different traditional Greek dishes like pastitsio and moussaka."

He points to his Assistant Chef Mateo Guevara, who is dishing up the Taverna Cretekou Special. "We have to make those early in the morning because this kind of Greek food needs three to four hours to settle. Otherwise when you cut it, the pieces get sloppy."

Niko Papaloizou generally arrives about 6 o'clock in the morning at the restaurant

on King Street to get everything set up. He has a kitchen crew for lunch and another for dinner. He says all of them have been with him for at least 15 years.

"Everyone has their part; we've been together so long." He says if he has to go do inventory or check the refrigerator, they all know how to back up each other.

At 3 p.m. he heads home to relax with a bottle of ouzo and to get ready for work at night. In the busy summer season this can mean 200-300 for dinner and 80-100 for lunch.

He dishes half a chicken onto a white plate.

"Here let me dress it up." Soon roasted potatoes line the edge of the plate and vegetables join the display. "The summer has some lighter menu items, a different sauce for the lamb and a nice Greek salad," he said.

The kitchen door swings open. "This is my sister Maria," he says with a big hug, "who joined the restaurant in 2005 when my father and mother bought it. She manages the front desk. I am in charge of the cooking and manage the kitchen. My parents own the business. We all work together as a family, but they run the show."

His mother Denise Papaloizou said, "they do a little bit of everything. If no one is in the door, they are upfront, if no one is wait-

ing on the customers, they help with that."

Niko Papaloizou said he started as a busboy, just like his father, then worked himself up to waiter, then his dad put him on salads, then an assistant cook.

"And now here I am."

He said his father and mother bought the restaurant in 2005, but his father had been working there for a number of years and Papaloizou had been working there since he was 15 years old. When the restaurant was closed on Mondays, his father brought in a Greek chef from Cyprus "to teach us the traditional Greek methods, like what kind of ingredients and the sauce has to be a certain way. And how to use a knife."

But it really started before that. "My grandmother was a great chef and had a restaurant. I was the little boy in her kitchen. I think she must have inspired me."

Niko Papaloizou says the up and down economy hasn't had too much of an impact because the restaurant has regular customers who have been coming since they opened, and some come two or three times a week. They have had the same basic menu since the restaurant opened with a new dish now and then.

"We have a sweet lady who comes every Thursday. My mom and dad always take care of her, and she says it feels like home. Some people have said we should open another restaurant but the customers who

IN THE KITCHEN a monthly series



PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

Assistant chef Mateo Guevara dishes up the special with a sampling of five Greek dishes, one of the most popular with customers at Taverna Cretekou.

come here like to see our face."

"You just have to try our traditional Sunday Greek brunch." It was one of five featured in the United States several years ago on the Travel Channel.

Papaloizou said it is different cooking for a small dinner party of friends and a restaurant where someone says your job is to cut 200 onions. But he never gets tired of making the same dishes.

"You've got to feel it when you're cooking."

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

"Bessie's Blues." Through March 15 at MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St., Alexandria. "Bessie's Blues," features Bernardine Mitchell, Roz White, TC Carson and a cast of actors and musicians who will tell the story of Bessie Smith through a musical odyssey of the blues. William Knowles is music director. Performances are Wednesday-Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 3 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, 3 and 7 p.m. \$55-60. Visit www.metrostage.org or call 800-494-8497.

"Front and Back." Through March 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily; 10 a.m.-9

p.m. second Thursday of the month at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery in Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Artists' imagination plays with Items that are different front vs back; right vs left; right vs bottom; inside vs outside; top side up vs up side down; positive space vs negative space. Anything that has two or more sides can be used to show two different visuals. Free admission. See www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

"Considering Harm." Through Saturday, March 21 at The Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Artist Pamela Flynn presents an exhibition titled "Considering Harm." This art project focuses on the issue of gun violence and bringing awareness to our community. Visit www.ourconvergence.org or www.pamelaflynnart.com for more.

"In and of the Land." Through Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

and during performances at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, Margaret W. and Joseph L. Fisher Art Gallery at the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. "In and of the Land" is a two person exhibition of recent work in paintings by Clive Pates and ceramics by Virginia Rood Pates. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/Gallery for more.

"Four." Through Sunday, March 29 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Associates Gallery, Studio 319, at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The Torpedo Factory gallery presents "Four," featuring photographer Julie Patrick, mixed media artist Kara Hammond, painter Jill Finsen and painting/mixed media artist Barbara Muth. TAG will present a new show each month. Visit torpedofactory.org.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum

4301 West Braddock Road. An anniversary exhibit of objects from the Fort Ward collection. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or call 703-746-4848.

Second Thursday Music.

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

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Tiny Dancers 2015 Summer

Camps. Each session includes daily instruction in ballet, a snack, fine motor exercise through a theme-related craft and a favorite story with dress-up dance interpretation. The session culminates with a recital and reception for family and friends. Tiny Dancers is a program designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz and musical theater curriculum. The Alexandria studio is located at 621 S.

Washington St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit www.tinydancers.com for more.

Art League Spring Classes.

Registration is open for the Spring Term of fine art classes at The Art League School. The Spring Term begins the week of April 6, with more than 200 classes and 50 workshops to choose from. Classes are available for ages 5-adult for all skill levels. Browse course catalog and register at www.theartleague.org/school/search_browse.php.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Multiple Exposures Gallery on 105 N. Union St. 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.

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

and bring 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.

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Children's Concert. 7:30-8:45 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus, Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 5000 Dawes Ave., Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Community College NOVA Alexandria Band, the John Adams Elementary School Orff Ensemble and the George Mason and Jefferson-Houston Elementary Schools Jazz Band will perform a variety of musical selections as part of the annual Children's Concert. The concert is free and open to the public. Parking is free in the Beauregard Street Garage. Call 703-845-6252 or email leckstein@nvcc.edu for more.

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Lyceum History Museum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. The United States Air Force Band-Chamber Players concert featuring eclectic music for Tuba-Euphonium Quartet. Concert subject to cancellation due to inclement weather. Free. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

MARCH 5-APRIL 6

"Reconstructing the Landscape."

Through April 6 at The Art League, Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. "Reconstructing the Landscape" features large-scale abstract paintings by Claudia



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY MICHAEL DEBLOIS

Tom Flatt plays John and Andy De plays Ian in Port City Playhouse's production of "Shining City."

'Shining' at Port City

"Shining City," a drama about complex personal relationships set in contemporary Ireland, continues its run at Port City Playhouse, 1819 N. Quaker Lane in Alexandria. Performances are Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 and 13-14, and Tuesday, March 10, at 8 p.m.; and Saturday, March 7 and 14, at 2 p.m. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org for more.

Cappelle. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

"Family Paint Night." 6-8 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. Explore the arts with featured artist Teresa Brunson guiding participants through painting their own masterpiece. No experience needed. Art supplies, pizza and soda

provided. \$15 per adult, children under 12 years old are free and must be accompanied by one adult. For reservations, stop by the Durant Arts Center, call 706-746-5560, or email durantcenter@alexandriava.gov.

Scottish Social and Tasting. 7-9 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St., Alexandria. The City of Alexandria's Sister City Committee is holding a fundraiser to support educational and cultural exchanges.

2ND ANNUAL Boys & Girls Club Fairfax Casino Night

Friday, March 6, 2015

The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Fairfax Region help hundreds of at-risk youth every day right here in Fairfax County.

Casino Night is a fun-filled evening featuring:

- Full complement of staffed gaming tables including Texas Hold 'em, Black Jack and Craps, Roulette
- Fabulous dinner buffet * open bar * amazing raffles, live and silent auction
- Celebrity Emcee with music and dancing.

The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner

1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean, Virginia 22102 • On the Silver Line

Tickets: www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/casino-night/



Friday, March 6, 2015

6:30-11:30pm

Tickets: \$95.00 per person, \$175.00 per couple

Special Overnight Guest Room Rate at the Ritz-Carlton for Friday March 6, 2015 -- \$119.00

We invite your organization to consider sponsorship opportunities for our 2nd Annual Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax Region Casino Night.

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Mount Vernon Gazette



52nd Annual NEEDLEWORK EXHIBITION

March 1 - 30, 2015 (closed Tuesdays)

10 am - 4pm

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W: www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org

T: 703.780.4000

Photo by Gordon Beall



ENTERTAINMENT

The program includes discussion, whisky tasting instructions, and a Q&A led by a Scotch whisky expert; there's plenty for the non-whisky drinkers: dinner, wine and other beverages will be served. \$40. RSVP to roberthayjr@gmail.com. Send checks to Robert Hay, ASCC, 300 N. Washington St #205, Alexandria VA 22314 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov/ to make payment.

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local area artists express their dreams through their art in "DREAM ON!" Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or call 703-838-4827.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 6-7

"Legally Blonde: The Musical."

Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. When sorority queen Elle is dumped by her boyfriend, she earns acceptance to Harvard Law School and follows him there to win him back. Once there, she discovers she has more legal savvy than she ever imagined, and she can use her newfound legal knowledge to help others. \$5. Visit www.sssas.org/arts or call 703-212-2950 for more.

MARCH 6-29

"DREAM ON!" Runs through Sunday, March 29 at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Local area artists use any media to explore and express their dreams in the "DREAM ON!" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Using their imaginations, artists interpret their dreams—from weird to wonderful, scary to surreal. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or call 703-838-4827.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Java Jolt Lecture. 10 a.m.-noon at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Friends of Alexandria is sponsoring a Java Jolt lecture with William "Jack" Hranicky, who will present an illustrated lecture on recently discovered Virginia artifacts and art forms, possibly dating to the paleoera. Light refreshments will be served. Seating is limited and reservations are recommended. Free. Email archaeology@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-4399.

Bowling for Baldness. 2:30-4:30 p.m. at AMF Alexandria Lanes, 6228 N Kings Highway, Alexandria. The National Capital Area Alopecia Areata Support Group is hosting their 2nd Annual Bowling for Baldness to benefit the National Alopecia Areata Foundation. \$20, includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, drink and a donation to the NAAF. Register at <https://support.naaf.org/alexandria/events/2nd-annual-bowling-for-baldness/e42329>.

Country-Western Dance. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance with a lesson at 6:30 p.m. and open dancing, 7-9:30 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org or call 703-860-4941.

Live Music. 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria. Focus presents folk singer/songwriter Peter Mayer, with guest Doug Alan Wilcox. \$18 general,

\$15 in advance at www.focusmusic.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 7-8

Thomas Lynch, Poet-Undertaker.

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8:30, 9:45, and 11:15 a.m. at Aldersgate Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Thomas Lynch, author and inspiration behind the HBO series "Six Feet Under" will speak at Aldersgate Church. There will be a question/answer session and book signing at Aldersgate on Sunday, March 8, 12:30 p.m. \$10 per person, pre-registration required at www.aldersgate.net/lynch.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 7-22

March 150. Through Sunday, March 22 in the Target Gallery at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The exhibition will feature 200+ works of original art by local arts, all created on 10" square panels and sold for \$150 each, until the night of the Art Party on March 20, when all the work is discounted to \$100. Visit torpedofactory.org/event/march-150/ for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

Civil War Sunday. 1-5 p.m. at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union Street, #327. Explore the Civil War in Alexandria with Civil War Sundays. Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org or call 703-746-4399.

International Women's Day at Ten Thousand Villages. Noon-6 p.m. at 915 King St., Alexandria. Shoppers can find the perfect fair trade gift for the women in their lives; that gift was most likely made by one of the thousands of female artisans working with Ten Thousand Villages; on March 8 the store will donate a portion of the day's sales to the City of Alexandria's programs combating domestic violence. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com.

TUESDAY/MARCH 10

Travel Presentation. 7 p.m. at the Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke St. Alexandria. Margaret Riccardelli traveled the world working for the American government. As a secretary to American ambassadors, she journeyed the world just like Marco Polo, to exotic and even hostile lands. Hear Margaret talk about her travels. Includes a "please touch" exhibit and photo display. Call 703-746-1751.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

Grand Opening and Art Show.

7-9 p.m. at Cove, 805 King St., Alexandria. Cove will partner with ArtSee to open the doors of their Alexandria location for a reception featuring the work of Alexandria artist, Pete McCutchen. The work on display shares McCutchen's "Geometrics" series. The productive space will be hosting McCutchen's work through May 3, 2015, and welcomes the public to tour the space. Visit cove.is for more.

Illustrated Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St., Alexandria. First Ladies of the Civil War, an illustrated lecture exploring the lives of Varina Howell Davis and Mary Todd Lincoln as First Ladies, wives, mothers, and widows, will be presented by Kelly R. Hancock, Manager of Education and Programs, The American Civil War Museum and White House of the Confederacy. Free. Call 703-746-4554.

MARCH 11-29

Blossom's Rainbow. Runs through



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Gold Mettle, NOVA United's 60-64 team, at the 2013 National Senior Games with a silver medal in the AA division. NOVA United is the premiere senior women's basketball association in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area. Approximately 60 women between the ages of 50-75 come from Northern Virginia, Maryland, D.C. and West Virginia to practice every Friday night at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church.

Film Screening

Join the Alexandria Film Festival at a screening of "Coming Back to the Hoop," winner of the 2014 Audience Award. The film chronicles an Alexandria woman as she returns to play competitive Basketball after a 40-year hiatus. Q&A with film star and director, Jane Pittman after the screening. See "Coming Back to the Hoop," Wednesday, March 11, 6-8:30 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Visit <http://alexandriafilm.org/> for more.

Sunday, March 29. 10:30 am. at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Wednesdays-Fridays and Sundays. In the show, a painter's brush sets a young cherry blossom's world into motion. Infused with whimsical dance, vibrant colors, and dynamic live music, join Blossom on her journey from the red mountains down to the indigo city in this new piece that celebrates Japanese culture. Best for children ages 2-5 and their families. Arts on the Horizon is a theatre company that produces original work exclusively for children ages 0-6 and their families in Northern Virginia and the DC metro area. \$8, tickets online or at the door on the day of the performance. Box office: 703-967-0437. Visit www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12

Opening Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at The Art League, Studio 21 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. "Reconstructing the Landscape" features large-scale abstract paintings by Claudia Cappelle. Visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780.

Using Native Plants. 7-9 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. The Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society will host a talk on painting and preserving native American plants as well as medicinal uses. Eileen Malone-Brown is author and illustrator of "American Botanical Paintings: Native Plants of the Mid Atlantic." Free. Call 703-642-5173.

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Lyceum History Museum, 201 S Washington St., Alexandria. The United States Air Force Band-Chamber Concert will perform, featuring an Irish Celebration with Celtic Aire. Free. Call The United States Air Force

Band's Concert Line at 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafbnd.af.mil.

FRIDAY/MARCH 13

Family Fun Night. 6-9 p.m. at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center & Aquatics Facility, 3210 King St. Bring the whole family to Family Fun Nights for swimming and fun for all ages on Friday evenings. Pool games include beach ball relays, water basketball, diving for prizes and fun on the 'Aqua Challenge' floating obstacle course. Participate in swimming skill assessments for youth, learn pool safety tips and more. Admission, \$4 per person. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/c/10280 for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 13-14

"Legally Blonde: The Musical."

7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School, Chapel/Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. When sorority queen Elle is dumped by her boyfriend, she earns acceptance to Harvard Law School and follows him there to win him back. Once there, she discovers she has more legal savvy than she ever imagined, and she can use her newfound legal knowledge to help others. \$5. Visit www.sssas.org/arts or call 703-212-2950 for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 13-15

"Bye Bye Birdie."

Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Rock and roll heart throb Conrad Birdie comes to Sweet Apple, Ohio, to bestow his #1 fan with a goodbye kiss before entering the Army. \$12. Purchase tickets at www.mvcc.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 14

Spring Modern Dance Concert. 7 p.m. at BalletNova's Fredgren Studio

Theatre, 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. The Choreographers Collaboration Project, a modern dance company based in Alexandria, presents their Spring Modern Dance Concert. This concert will feature CCP dancers and CCP's youth dancers performing new work and repertory. \$10 adults, \$5 ages 12-17 and under 12 free. Visit www.ccpdance.org, email cpdance@gmail.com or call 703-683-2070.

Pajama Party. 7-10 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. A fun-filled evening to celebrate the "DREAM ON" exhibit at Del Ray Artisans; with raffles and prizes. Free to those who wear pajamas; \$5 each for those who don't. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or call 703-838-4827.

Saxophone Concert. 7:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Washington Saxophone Quartet performs music of Bach, Debussy, Duke Ellington and more. \$10-\$20. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net or call 703-765-4342.

Concert and Gala. 8 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. In celebration of their 45th season, the Alexandria Choral Society presents Joseph Haydn's "The Creation," with the Virginia Chamber Orchestra, and featuring Samantha Anthony, soprano; Brian Thorsett, tenor; and Justin Wilson, baritone. Followed by a gala and silent auction. \$25/adult; \$20/senior and military; \$15/student; free for 13 and younger. \$5 more at the door. Visit www.alexandriachoralsociety.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 15

Persian New Year Celebration. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at the John Carlyle Square Park, 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. The fourth annual Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will include entertainment from musicians, dancers, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players. About 55 street vendors will be offering traditional and exotic foods, as well as jewelry, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. Visit www.nowruzfestival.org for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 17

"MAPS." Through April 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Studio 18 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. The artists' imagination plays with physical features such as cities, roads, rivers, mountains, geographical borders, etc. that are represented by diagramming on maps of land and sea. Whether for self or gifts, jewelry, sculpture, clothing, and wall pieces are some of the items that will be exhibited. Free admission. Visit www.Potomacfiberarts-gallery.com or call 703-548-0935.

Museum Lesson. 12:45 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred St. Learn how museums store, care for and treat an object in order to preserve it for generations to come. Call 703-746-4242 or visit shop.alexandriava.gov for more.

History and Genealogy. 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Learn about military, land, and Congressional records related to the War of 1812 in the National Archives. Jonathan Webb Deiss presents a talk entitled "The War of 1812, Bounty Land, and Your Ancestors." The Mount Vernon Genealogical Society sponsors this free event. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

Hollin Meadows Elementary Celebrates Diversity

Hollin Meadows Elementary School hosted its annual Multicultural Fair last month at the school. Music and dance from Peru, England, India, Mexico, China, Greece, Jamaica, France and the United States were performed by the students along with local dance groups. International displays were set up in the cafeteria along with a varied selection of ethnic foods. A crafts workshop was held in the library.



Choy Wun dancers Phoebe Liu and Mary Sullivan perform in the "Lion Dance." Believed to be protectors, the brightly colored lion accompanied with drumming, symbols and a gong make a lot of noise scaring away evil spirits.



Taking turns performing as the lion were Peter Chan, Michael Evangelista, Phoebe Liu, Mary Sullivan, Raphael Villacrusis and Steve Tran.

The kindergarten class performs the Mexican Hat Dance with their parents at the fair.



At the conclusion of the dance, students were invited to come forward to touch the mirror ball of the head of the lion's face.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

Public Commission To Review Police Policy

FROM PAGE 1

McKay (D-Lee).

Michael J. Hershman, founder of the Fairfax Group, is a citizen representative and will chair the commission. He is "an expert in government and corporate accountability and transparency," according to the Board of Supervisors.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, said Bulova.

"Fairfax County is the safest jurisdiction of its size due in no small part to the hard work and dedication of our public safety personnel," she said. "The Board of Supervisors and the Police Department recognize the importance of maintaining that public trust and the importance of always reviewing policies and practices and seeking to improve."

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) commended Bulova for putting Fairfax County in a leadership role on a critical matter. "This is more than one case, it's part of a national discussion," he said.

"We want to take the time to get this right," said Herryty.

The board approved Cook's amendment

that a review of crisis intervention training within the police department be added to the commission's scope of work.

But Herryty and Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) also raised concerns saying that the board itself be more involved in the review.

"This is not the time nor the right way to proceed."

— Michael Frey (R-Sully)

"It's been over two years since we have had a Public Safety Committee meeting, although one has been promised for some time," said Herryty. "The board needs to have a discussion in open session on these critical issues."

"I think it is the board that should be clearing the mind of the citizens as to where we are," Hudgins said. "This is not the way I would like to do this."

Frey believes the commission will solely focus on the Geer case. "This is the latest reaction to a nasty situation in the media," he said. "I guarantee that focus will not be on process, it will be on this case."

The commission will "review all police department policies related to critical incidents including how and when information is released to the public," according to a release issued by the county. It will also review police policies related to use-of-force training policies, threat assessments and the Internal Affairs Division.

"The commission will also review prac-

Commission Members

POLICE

Det. Sean Corcoran, Fairfax Coalition of Police Local 5000
Det. John Wallace, Fairfax County Police Association
Brad Carruthers, Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77
Joseph Woloszyn, Southern States Police Benevolent Association
Lt. Gervais Reed, Fairfax Black Law Enforcement Officers Association
Lucy Caldwell, civilian public information officer
Lt. Col Tom Ryan
Maj. Joe Hill (alternate)
Representative from Fairfax County Sheriff's Department

LEGAL

Douglas R. Kay, Fairfax Bar Association president-elect
Bob Ross, former deputy county attorney
U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice (Invited)

ACADEMIC/CONSULTANT

Robert Kane - Drexel University, Director and Professor, Criminology and Justice Studies Program (Fairfax County resident)

Jack L. Johnson, PricewaterhouseCoopers, public sector practice

MEDIA/PR

Broadcast Media representative (shared seat): Jeff Goldberg, WJLA, Peggy Fox, WUSA9
Mary Kimm, Connection Newspapers
Merni Fitzgerald, former director of public affairs, Board of Supervisors
Representative from the Virginia Coalition for Open Government

CITIZENS

Jeff Stewart, Chantilly
Adrian Steele, McLean
Nicholas Beltrante, Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability (alternate to be determined)
Tim Thompson, President, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Shirley Ginwright, Chairman, Communities of Trust Committee, President, Fairfax County NAACP

COUNTY STAFF

(Ex-officio members/supporting roles)
David Rohrer, Deputy County Executive for Public Safety
Tony Castrilli, Director, Office of Public Affairs

tices related to the release of information, and will consider the roles of police public information officers and the Office of Public Affairs, along with the relationship between the FCPD and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, and the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act."

"We will be better at the end for having done this," said McKay.

IN OTHER MATTERS, the board held a 90-minute closed session.

Afterwards, Vice Chairman Penelope Gross announced that County Attorney David Bobzien will retire June 30, 2016 and will reorganize the day-to-day operations of the office.

The board will begin the search process for a county attorney by the end of this year.

Rising Hope Mission Church Hosts Nightly Shelters

FROM PAGE 5

Rising Hope has been in the building at 8220 Russell Road in Alexandria for 20 years — its seventh location, counting Kincannon's own car.

"The reason it's perfect for us to partner with New Hope Housing and Ventures in Community," said Kincannon, "is because more than two-thirds of our members have been homeless."

That's who we started to reach out to, the most in needy in our community, which includes the homeless."

This particular shelter can handle up to 24 guests per night for the full four months the hypothermia prevention program is running. It began Dec. 1, 2014. According to Michell, the guests are mostly the same single, male adults, with only one or two women each night.

Sherry Edelkamp of Alexandria, a volunteer for the last 10 years, said she's seen more youth coming to the shelter recently.

"Some of it is they've decided they're grown, and going to do what they want to do," said Edelkamp. "Some of them just haven't had a great home environment to begin with and this is better than the things that are going on with them."

Edelkamp described one young man who stayed at the shelter for a week at the beginning of December. When she asked him what was going on, if he just didn't want to follow his parents' rules anymore and they put him out of the house, he said yes, almost in tears.

"It's more the young ones that bother me, because they're on the path to be homeless for a long time," said Latta.

"Our first and foremost goal is hospitality and safety," said Michell. "Then, if we can hook people up, so much the better,



Sherry Edelkamp of Alexandria rolls out sleeping bags at Rising Hope Mission Church, a shelter site for New Hope Housing.



Crain Thomson of Hybla Valley has been helping as a part of the Rising Hope ministry for over three years.



Mount Vernon residents and members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church Karen Latta (left) and Gunnel Hamilton (right) pass plates of food to be served to overnight guests of Rising Hope Mission Church.

PHOTOS BY
TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

then sometimes we can even move people into housing."

With the help of about 400 volunteers, New Hope Housing served a total of 124 unduplicated guests in the last year.

Though New Hope Housing staff and volunteers help with the managing of the shelter, a nurse, mental health professionals and other outreach personnel from Fairfax County make regular visits to help guests like "Denny" work through their issues.

Denny has been homeless for the last eight years.

After previously living in Triangle, Va., he went through a stretch where his car broke down, he subsequently lost his job, was left suddenly by his wife and became separated from his daughter. He ended up at the Eleanor U Kennedy Shelter in Fort Belvoir and has been spending time there, Rising Hope and hotels, trying to live solely off Social Security checks.

"Here, it's been all right," he said. "I can't complain."

"We really become a healing community for them," said Kincannon, "where they can know that they're known and loved and cared about. Yeah they've got some struggles, but other people around them know what they've been through."

"The best part about Rising Hope is the love to mankind," said Crain Thomson of Hybla Valley.

Thomson has been helping out as part of the Rising Hope ministry for over three years. "To show people somebody cares makes a big difference."

Rising Hope Mission Church is located at 8220 Russell Road in Alexandria. For more information, visit www.newhopehousing.org or www.risinghopeumc.org.

Resource Fair Connects Inmates with Support Services

FROM PAGE 1

that will help them transition to life after prison: services like housing, job placement, substance abuse and mental health treatment, domestic relations and veterans administration.

"The state prisons have resource fairs and we wanted to bring that great idea to the county," said Alexandria Ruxer, senior probation and parole officer with Virginia State Department of Corrections. "These individuals are coming to our community. Studies have shown if we smooth their transition, that their basic needs like food, housing and clothing are met, the likeliness of recidivism goes down."

Ruxer was part of a team that organized the March 3 fair, along with 1st Lt. Steven Quesenberry, supervisor of inmate programs and recreation for the Sheriff's Office.

"When released they might be lost," said Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid. For

"I'm very excited to see all the people here willing to help us get a fresh start."
— Nydale Sheppard of Reston

men and women who re-enter the community without prospects for jobs, housing and other basics, they may "go back to where they came from" and resort to unlawful activity just to survive.

Quesenberry said they would like to offer this kind of event once every six months, to inmates who aren't on extended sentences and have already taken initiative to

improve themselves through classes and services offered at the jail.

Jamie Milloy coordinates inmate programs for OAR, a multi-service organization for ex-offenders with an office in Fairfax. The classes and services including re-entry planning, fathering and personal finance

management begin while the inmate is incarcerated and are available once they're released as well.

"Today I saw a lot of names on the list I've never seen before," said Milloy, whose 25 classes per week serve 3-400 inmates

with a waiting list 100 deep. Though information is there, getting it to everyone isn't easy, which is why Milloy is glad they widened the pool for the fair. "This is their shot. They didn't just pull inmates already involved in the programs."

Previously an employee at McDonald's, Sheppard expects to move to Maryland with family and friends when he's released and pursue tile-laying or carpentry. "Now I have a plan and I hope I can execute. I want to further myself in all areas possible."

MALE AND FEMALE INMATES who circulated through the gymnasium for 45-minute intervals from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. seemed engaged and excited.

"Some people are ready for the change and they've chosen to be here," said Ruxer. "It's about self-sufficiency, so they grow into productive members of society."

Spann, Sheppard and others are ready for their chance, armed with more information on what's available to them.

"I'm very excited," said Sheppard, "to see all the people here willing to help us get a fresh start."



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

1st Lt. Steven Quesenberry (left) from the Sheriff's Office and Alexandria Ruxer (right) with the Virginia Department of Corrections were on the team that organized the county's first Inmate Resource Fair on March 3.

SPORTS

West Potomac, Mount Vernon Boys Earn All-Conference Honors

West Potomac boys' basketball coach David Houston III was named Conference 7 Co-Coach of the Year for the 2014-15 season. The Wolverines entered the season having lost uber-athletic guard DeMornay Pierson-El (graduation) and sophomore point guard Alan Treakle (transfer). West Potomac finished the year with an 8-15 record, including a pair of victories against eventual conference tournament champion South County, despite limited athleticism on the roster.

This was Houston's 11th year as West Potomac head coach. He led the Wolverines to the 2010 Patriot District championship.

T.C. Williams head coach Bryan Hill also earned Co-Coach of the Year honors.

West Potomac junior forward Jamie Sara earned second-team all-conference honors and was named to the conference's all-defensive team.

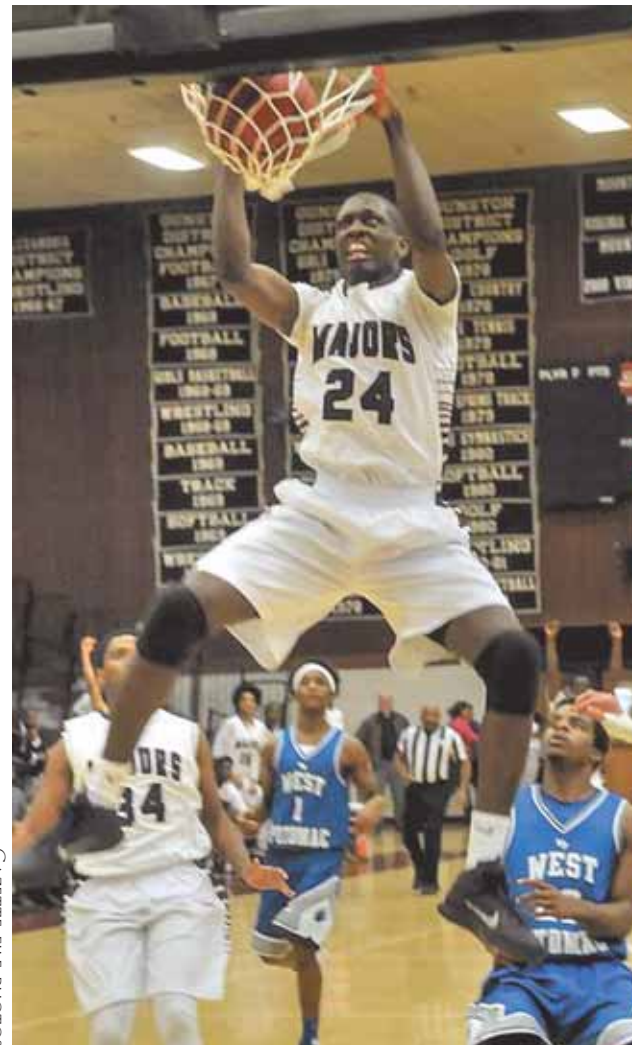
Senior guard Chris Cheng, a 3-point sharpshooter, garnered honorable mention. In Conference 13, Mount Vernon senior forward Earnest Jones received first-team all-conference honors. Junior forward Tarel Terry, received honorable mention.



West Potomac boys' basketball coach David Houston III was named Conference 7 Co-Coach of the Year.



West Potomac junior forward Jamie Sara received second-team all-Conference 7 honors.



Mount Vernon senior forward Earnest Jones was named first-team All-Conference 13.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 18

Coffee Social and Open House.

10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Mount Vernon At Home will host a coffee social to share information about the Village movement, Aging in Place information and volunteer opportunities. RSVP at info@mountvernonathome.org or 703-303-4060.

THURSDAY/MARCH 19

Tax Relief Workshop. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; they may be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. Department of Tax Administration staff will be available to assist with filling out the application form and answer questions. No appointment necessary.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta, or call 703-971-6262 (TTY 711).

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Tax Relief Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 201, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; they may be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. Department of Tax Administration staff will be available

to assist with filling out the application form and answer questions. Registration required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta, or call 703-765-4573 (TTY 711).

FRIDAY/MARCH 25

Hearing Health Program. 10 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. "Advanced Hearing Health Care" visits Hollin Hall Senior Center with a presentation and discussion of "Fall Risks" — the part and parcel of

hearing loss. Free and open to the public. Call 703-765-4573 (TTY 711).

SATURDAY/MARCH 28

Boater Education Course. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Knights of Columbus Hall at 8592 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Flotilla 25-8 of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a boater's education course that meets the mandatory boating education requirements of all states. Contact Jean Ponton, herpomp79@yahoo.com or 703-362-7079.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Mount Vernon Woods Elementary is set to celebrate its 50th anniversary on Wednesday, March 4. Adorned in blue and white shirts, students and staff were scheduled to hear the history of the school, the original school song written in 1965, and a poem about the school written by a teacher this year.

The golden celebration included a slide show presentation and musical tribute highlighting school and everyday developments over the past five decades. Following the ceremony a cupcake celebration was planned.

Amber Huguee was part of a talented cast and crew from Baldwin Wallace University (Berea, Ohio) who staged Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize winning "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"

in February.

Hugee, a graduate of Mount Vernon High School, majoring in theatre with a focus on acting and directing, served as understudy for the role of Big Mama in the production.

Rebecca C. Wheeler was named to the dean's list at Boston University for the fall semester.

Sarah C. Sheya graduated with a Master of Arts in Teaching in modern foreign language education from Boston University in January 2015.

Lazreta Kote was named to the fall 2014 dean's list at McDaniel College (Westminster, Md.) with honors.

Mousa Gaye, a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University's Metropolitan Campus in Teaneck, NJ, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Grand Champions

On Feb 7, at the Sweetheart Dance Invitational hosted by Garfield High School, the Carl Sandburg Middle School Dance Team, competing in the middle school category, won first place trophies in Captains, Pom, Jazz and Hip Hop. Their Hip Hop routine earned the highest score of the day and the title of Grand Champions. Additionally, Natalie Edwards placed 1st for her jazz solo. The team concluded its 14-15 season undefeated against seven other middle school dance teams in the area.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Adey Abeba, Inc trading as Tsedey Restaurant, 672 S. Pickett St. Alexandria, VA 22304. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer/Mixed Beverage Restaurant on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Seifu Tessema, President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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21 Announcements

Mary H. Nash ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA



Mary Frances Hendrix Nash died peacefully on Sunday, March 1, 2015, at Goodwin House Alexandria, Alexandria, Virginia. Born in Idabel, Oklahoma on August 13, 1920, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hendrix, she brought joy to life and was loved as a daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, teacher and volunteer. She graduated from Oklahoma College for Women with honors and immediately supported our country during WWII in an aviation plant in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Affectionately known as "Muff", her reputation of love for others, willingness to always help anyone in need, and offer generosity to all preceded her.

She is survived by her husband of seventy years, Captain Norman C. Nash, USN (Ret), two sons Captain Donald Nash, USN (Ret) and Major General Gordon Nash, USMC (Ret), and their wives Donna Lamberth Nash and Susan Fimian Nash. She will be missed by her five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Emilie Fulton of Sugar Land, Texas. She was preceded in death by her sisters Eloise Poston and Louise Mott.

Muff and Norm began their romance in Chickasha, Oklahoma where she was a student at Oklahoma College for Women and Norm's father Dr. M.A. Nash was the President. She immediately became a devoted Navy wife and moved many times in support of Norm's career. Muff enjoyed serving as a substitute school teacher and as a Cub Scout leader. She is remembered for her award winning Garden Club memberships and devoted service to Trinity United Methodist Church where she was head of the Trinity Flower Committee for forty years.

During tours in Hawaii, California, Maryland, Rhode Island, Japan, and Virginia, Muff could be found leading clubs and organizations in support of others. A most gracious and generous host Muff was always prepared to feed and provide lodging for her many friends and family. For over thirty years Muff enjoyed weekends at the beach in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware where she took an active role in support of meetings and the local Methodist Church.

Muff will always be remembered for her love and support of her husband, sons, grandchildren, and great grandchildren as well as so many others. Each grandchild received personal attention and memories from their "GRAMMY!"

The family wishes to give special thanks to the staff at Goodwin House Alexandria who lovingly cared for her.

A celebration of Muff's life will be held on March 8, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. Goodwin House Alexandria, 4800 Fillmore Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia. Her remains will be interred at the Columbarium at the U.S. Naval Academy at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mills Rd, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

21 Announcements

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

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21 Announcements

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-02-11**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors to provide an online professional development management system.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-11 Electronic Professional Development Management System will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 16, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8181, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php> ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.
Chris Guy
Procurement Manager

21 Announcements

**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 15-02-09**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for Translation & Interpretation Services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-09 Translation & Interpretation Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 26, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Current Bids and Request for Proposals, Request for Proposals.

All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., March 18, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

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

ACPS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities in any proposal.
Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 15-02-13**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for Bleacher Inspection, Maintenance & Repair Services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-02-13 Bleacher Inspection, Maintenance & Repair Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, March 26, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services, Current Bids and Request for Proposals, Request for Proposals.

All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., March 18, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPS web site.

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

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

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

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INFORMATIONAL ADVERTISEMENT: The information presented is not intended to be legal advice. The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely on advertisement. The lawyer responsible for the content of this ad is Adam Pulaski.

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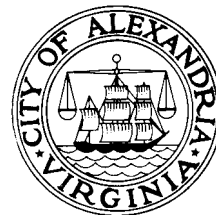
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TAKE NOTICE

Notice for Proposed Precinct and Polling Place Changes: Charles Houston Recreation Center (new precinct and polling place) and replacing the St. James Church polling place with the Hermitage.

On March 14, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., the Alexandria City Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 301 King Street, to consider an ordinance to make two precinct changes effective with the June 9, 2015 Primary Election. The first change would establish Charles Houston Recreation Center (905 Wythe St.) as a new precinct and polling place and the second change would replace the St. James Church (5000 Echols Avenue) polling place with the Hermitage (5000 Fairbanks Ave).

A copy of the full text of the ordinance and a map with the proposed changes is on file with the City Clerk and Clerk of Council, Room 2300, City Hall, 301 King Street. This notice is advertised pursuant to Va. Code Sec. 24-2.306.

For information, please call (703) 746-4550.

Jacqueline M. Henderson
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

The biggest things are always
the easiest to do because there
is no competition.
-William Van Horne

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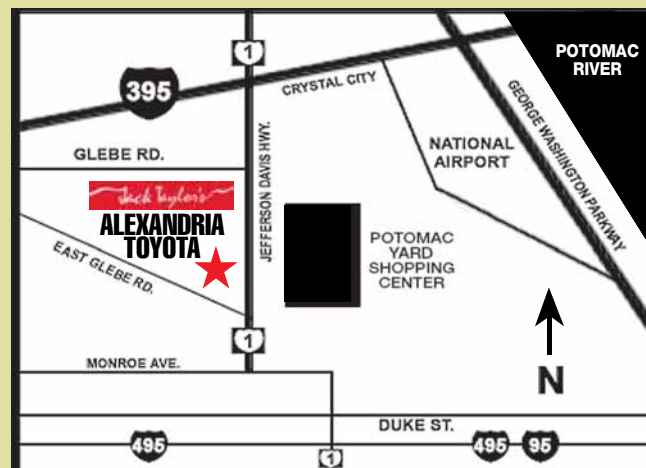
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