



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

The British troops advance.

Re-enactors Encamp at Mount Vernon Estate

More than 450 Revolutionary War re-enactors from around the world gathered at Mount Vernon for one of the largest Revolutionary War encampments of the year last weekend. The re-enactors set up tents in the fields and visitors were treated to camp life interpretations, battle demonstrations along with artillery and cavalry drills. A reproduction of General George Washington's marquee tent was on view, courtesy of the Museum of the American Revolution.



Hessian cavalryman Bill Buser crosses the field to join the other equestrians for the morning battle demonstration.



Gen. George Washington greets Kate Hernandez outside the reproduction marquee tent on the Bowling Green.



Patrick Updike expounds on the history of the Hessian regiments.

Republican Jane Gandee Enters Mount Vernon Supervisor Race



PHOTO COURTESY OF DESIREE McGEOUGH

Businesswoman and activist Jane Gandee announces her intentions to replace Gerry Hyland (D) as Mount Vernon District supervisor.

Focuses on ensuring pro-business climate.

A hundred supporters were on hand April 23 as Mason Neck resident Jane Gandee announced her campaign to replace Gerry Hyland (D) as Mount Vernon representative to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The event took place at the Mount Vernon Government Center.

Hyland announced earlier this year he would be retiring after 28 years in office.

"As supervisor, I will focus on

creating a pro-business climate that will generate more jobs and better-paying jobs," Gandee said in a statement. "I will work to

implement solutions to reduce highway congestion and improve transit options which will reduce
SEE GANDEE ENTERS, PAGE 5

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Oh, The Impact They Make

Dr. Seuss-themed 23rd Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards held in Springfield.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Wesley Pan of Great Falls-based Boy Scouts of America Troop 55 was humble about receiving the Youth Volunteer Group award. "We're just happy to help the community and make a difference," he said.

His fellow scout Jeff Ye agreed that their organization is about "growing future leaders for our community and country."

The Boy Scouts were among dozens of volunteers recognized at the 23rd annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards, held April 24 at the Waterford reception center in Springfield.

In the opening remarks, Volunteer Fairfax acting Executive Director Emily Swenson referenced a favorite saying of the organization's retiring Executive Director Jeanne Sanders, that "Communities are supported by citizens helping citizens."

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova commented that robust volunteerism has "become ingrained in our culture," a quality that stands out to visitors from outside the county.

"This is normal, this is what we do," she said.

The Lifetime Achievement award went to Alexandria resident Peggy Ferguson, who founded the Naomi Project to help young and struggling new mothers in 1995.

"I saw a need, an incredible need for pregnant women and new parents," she said. "I envisioned an opportunity where one volunteer could work with one client."

With experience in public health nursing, hospital chaplaincy and raising five children of her own, Ferguson said she was well-prepared for forming the organization. But she added she's grateful for "the incredible women I've worked with, down through the years, who've made this possible."



Roberta Bucher (center right) of Alexandria receives the Rising Star award. Bucher has been a volunteer at the front desk of the Huntley Meadows Park visitor center for the past two years, recently adding editing duties for the Friends of Huntley Meadows Newsletter.



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova recognizes retiring Volunteer Fairfax Executive Director Jeanne Sanders at the Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards celebration.



Peggy Ferguson (one left of center) of Alexandria received the Lifetime Achievement award for her work with the Naomi Project, a volunteer program she started in 1995 that helps new and young mothers to have healthy pregnancies, develop parenting skills and navigate government resources. From left are Our Daily Bread executive director Lisa Whetzel, Ferguson, and Naomi Project volunteers Laura Greenspan, Betty Ann Wilkins and Jessica Ramones.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE



Shirley Short was nominated by Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) as the Mount Vernon District Community Champion for her work as a firefighter and community volunteer.



Lawrence Kelly, center right, of Fairfax received the Senior Volunteer award for his years of service to the FACETS organization helping individuals suffering in poverty.

JROTC Cadets Honored

Three JROTC cadets were honored by the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution during a ceremony held April 30 at Mount Vernon High School.

Cadet June Haynes received the Patriotism Award and Cadet Elisa Solomon the ROTC Award from Tanya Pitzer, a member of the Kate Waller Barrett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Cadet 2LT Rhealiza Ambanta received the Sons of the American Revolution Enhanced JROTC Medallion and the SAR Bronze Medal from SAR George

Washington Chapter representative Jack Pitzer.

In addition, Ambanta received a check for \$500 from the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution as a result of being selected second in the state competition for outstanding JROTC cadets. A junior at Mount Vernon High School, Ambanta wrote an essay on the topic "How JROTC has helped me become a better American citizen." She also provided references attesting to her performance in JROTC, her academic performance and community and school service.

— JEANNE THEISMANN



JROTC Cadet 2LT Rhealiza Ambanta receives the Sons of the American Revolution Enhanced JROTC Medallion and the SAR Bronze Medal from SAR George Washington Chapter member Jack Pitzer April 30 at Mount Vernon High School.



JROTC Cadets June Haynes, left, and Elisa Solomon, right, are honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution during a ceremony held April 30 at Mount Vernon High School. Kate Waller Barrett DAR chapter member Tanya Pitzer presented the Patriotism Award to Haynes and the ROTC award to Solomon.

Embrace the Past

Hundreds of Mount Vernon grads set to return for 75th anniversary

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Montebello resident Mike Skinner was a history teacher, basketball coach and sub school principal at Mount Vernon High School between 1955 and 1983. His name now adorns the school's Michael M. Skinner Field House.

"I feel very fortunate," said Skinner, who routinely appears at the school to attend graduations and hand out athletic awards.

On May 16, Skinner and dozens of former faculty and alumni will return to campus to celebrate Mount Vernon's 75th anniversary. Skinner fondly remembers his time with longtime principal Melvin B Landes.



Billy Davis

"It was a privilege to work for him," said Skinner. "The way he ran the school, scheduled every student by hand, knew every student, knew their parents — those 18 years I worked for him were one of the highlights."

For Class of 1980 graduate Billy Davis, memories that stand out are being part of the school's first state basketball championship in 1979 (AAA) and regional football championship in 1979. "The stuff we accomplished as a team never really goes



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILLY DAVIS

Mount Vernon High School graduate Billy Davis (center, left of Vice President Joe Biden) is Special Agent in Charge for the U.S. Secret Service Vice Presidential Protective Division.

away, it's always part of you," Davis said.

A football, basketball and baseball player at Mount Vernon, Davis went on to play football for Clemson University and the St. Louis Cardinals professional team. He now works as Special Agent in Charge for the U.S. Secret Service Vice Presidential Protective Division. In addition to being honored at the gala, Davis is also speaking at Mount Vernon's graduation ceremony.

The pressure of representing 75 years of former students in addressing this year's seniors is a role he isn't taking lightly.

"My major take home is a creed I live by: Embrace the past," he said. "There are a lot of people who sacrificed a heck of a lot to get you where you are now."

Davis said he's maintained close relationships with more of his former coaches than students he played with.

"Coaches, teachers, give up a lot on a day-

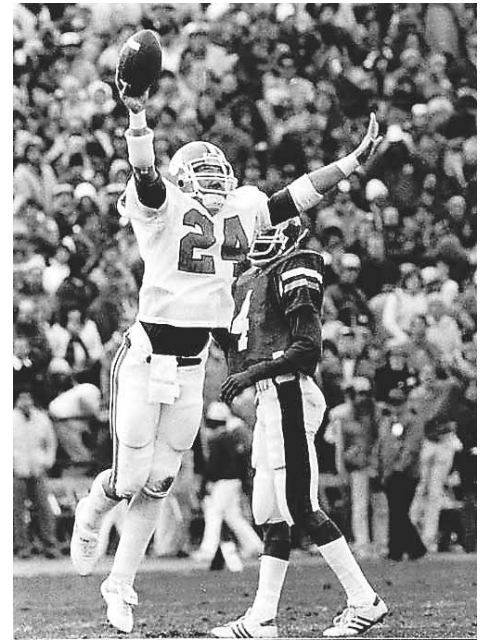
to-day basis," he said. "What people fail to realize who aren't in education, they're not in it for the money, they're doing it because they want to make a difference."

CURRENT PRINCIPAL Nardos King said over 300 tickets for the evening event have already been sold. The program will feature a meet and greet in the Hall of Fame, remarks from former Virginia governor, senator and Mount Vernon alumnus Chuck Robb and, hopefully, a little dancing.

Honorees and guests will span graduation dates going back to the late 1940s and early 1950s, King said.

"I told the DJ to be prepared to play music from all of those decades," said King, "a lot of oldies but goodies, some pop, maybe some disco."

King will be joined by five of the six living former principals of the school, which



Billy Davis played football for Clemson University after graduating from Mount Vernon High School in 1980.

has only had eight in its history.

"I feel honored to be the current principal," said King, in her ninth year at the position. "With only eight principals, that's tremendous and speaks to the dedication folks had while they were leading this school."

King will be presenting letters of commendation from U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D), U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D), Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D), Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) and U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8).

"The list of awardees we're honoring is a testament to the great educational start they got in Fairfax County," said King. "We have doctors, lawyers, judges, military generals. The most important thing is the academics. If you work hard today, it's going to pay off later. These folks are a testament to that."

The Mount Vernon High School 75th Anniversary Gala takes place May 16 at the school's Skinner Field House, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road in Alexandria, beginning at 6 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets at \$45, contact the school at 703-619-3100.

Capital Murder Added To Matthew Charges

Albemarle County Commonwealth's Attorney Denise Lunsford announced Tuesday, May 5, that Jesse Matthew will face a capital murder charge in addition to abduction and first degree murder charges for the 2014 death of West Potomac alumna Hannah Graham.

"The commonwealth received some additional forensic information in late February that led to this increase in charge," Lunsford said in a press conference, "that further solidified and just basically made something an option that we didn't feel was appropriate previous to that."

Matthew was initially indicted by a grand jury in Albemarle County on Feb. 2 and was in court Tuesday for a new trial date to be set. Now the date is scheduled to be set on June 25.

Though Matthew can't be convicted of both murder charges, "If this matter goes to trial, the Commonwealth will seek the death penalty," Lunsford said.

— TIM PETERSON

BULLETIN BOARD

THURSDAY/MAY 7

Social Media Seminar. 8:30-10 a.m. at Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 6055 Richmond Highway. Speakers will discuss search engine optimization, website best practices, and email marketing. Free. Contact info@sfdc.org to RSVP.

FRIDAY/MAY 8

Not-so-silent Auction. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Howard Gardner School, 4913 Franconia Road. Find music and buffet dinner at the school's 10th Anniversary Auction to benefit the financial aid program. Admission is free. Call 703-822-9300 to RSVP.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

"Fostering Wellness and Resiliency." 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary, 7630 Telegraph Road School. Marc Brackett, Ph.D., the director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence will be featured as the keynote

speaker at the 2nd Annual Community Conversation on Teen Stress: Fostering Wellness and Resiliency. Tracy Cross, Ph.D., Professor at The College of William and Mary and Executive Director of the Center for Gifted Studies and Talent Development will speak about perfectionism and child and adolescent suicide.

Prayer Walk. 9:30 a.m. at Woodlawn Shopping Center. The City of Hope Worship Center will be having a prayer walk and will pray about crime and homelessness. Free. Call 703-203-8778.

Princess for a Night. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road. High school students may shop for prom dresses, handbags, shoes, and jewelry. Free. Call 703-619-3304.

TUESDAY/MAY 12

Teen Trafficking Seminar. 7 p.m. at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road. Learn facts and figures about sex trafficking in Virginia for experts including Bill Wolfe, of the Fairfax County Police Department Trafficking

Unit. Free. Email justaskva@yahoo.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 14

Business Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. Citizens may meet the candidates for Mount Vernon District Supervisor. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.mtvernonchamber-leechchamber.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 16

"Staying Home." 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. AARP is teaming up with Mt. Vernon at Home, Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, and Fairfax County Building for All Committee for a free community workshop. A panel of experts will share practical tips to minimize the financial costs of home modifications, and how to avoid fraud and scams. Registration is free, but space is limited. Visit www.states.aarp.org/may-16.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DESIREE MCGEOUGH

Supporters of Jane Gandee for Mount Vernon District supervisor look on while she's introduced by District Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) at an April 23 event.

Gandee Enters Supervisor Race

FROM PAGE 1

the amount of time Mount Vernon families spend on the road getting to and from work and play. We will also work together to enhance our communities so families can live safely, prosper and enjoy a great quality of life."

Gandee, a West Virginia native, owns a ServiceMaster franchise located close to Richmond Highway and is vice president of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce. She also serves as chairman of the Advisory Board of the Alexandria Salva-

tion Army.

"Our property tax and stormwater tax bills will go up again this year while at the same time a majority of supervisors voted themselves an outrageous pay raise and many of our schools are falling behind," Gandee's statement continued. "Everyone I talk to agrees that we need a new direction."

The Democratic primary election is scheduled for June 9 between candidates Candice Bennett, Jack Dobbyn, Tim Sargeant and Dan Storck.

— TIM PETERSON

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Alex./Riverside Estates • \$499,000
8415 Wagon Wheel Road
Lovely, updated 5 BR, 3 BA Split for under \$500,000. Freshly painted interior, refinished hdwd floors, expansive kitchen opens to the living & dining rooms. 3 updated baths. Lower level offers large family rm w/fireplace, bar, 4th & 5th bedrms and 3rd full bath. Beautiful covered porch along entire left side of house overlooking a great landscaped & fenced bkdy. 10 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 minutes to Old Town Alex.



Alex./Woodland Park • \$769,900
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Alex./Olive Park • \$514,900
8732 Lea Lane
Lovely 3,000+ sq ft Colonial w/5 BRs/4 BAs on a beautiful .5 acre lot. A 2005 upper level addition offers a true master bedroom/master bath suite, both w/vaulted ceilings along w/2 other bedrooms & a bath. The main level has 2 BRs, 2 BAs plus a large kitchen which opens to a great room, both w/vaulted ceilings. A wood-burning FPL in the living room & wood stove in the great room add to the charm. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 25 mins to NTL Airport.



Alex./Bucknell Manor • \$314,900
6839 Kenyon Drive
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ME & MY MOM Readers submitted photographs for Mother's Day.



Big Brother Will Warchol hides from mom Lauren, dad Michael and baby sister Katia during a pleasant spring day.



I'm Willa Denton, this is a picture of me and my mom (Julie Denton), on my elementary school promotion. She is always so supporting, helping me even when I'm in a bad mood, I'm so lucky I have her.



Stanhope Fairbanks with mom Debbie of Alexandria at Six Flags Fright Fest in October 2014.



Nan Rudin of Alexandria with son Andrew taken in Albuquerque, N.M. in 2012.



Ann Hernly of Alexandria with son Samuel Hernly, on Feb. 17, 2015 were taking a break from playing in the snow during Samuel's snow day.



Gazette reporter Tim Peterson (right) and his mother Ellen (left) tailgate before a Northwestern University football game in Evanston, Ill.



Mom Janhavi Fritz of Alexandria with son Aneesh Fritz, out for dinner for his first birthday.



Mother Ann Vernon and her three younger children, (from left) Hal, Scott and Emily, build one of life's long-term memories on a summer day more than 15 years ago as they make their pick from this litter of golden retriever puppies, naming her Kileah.



The Scotts: Taylor, Tracey, Ryan and Camryn in Corolla N.C.



Sisters and moms, Lauren Warchol and Emily Vernon, take a break from enjoying a snowy interlude with Will and dog Tilly, Caleb (left) and Katia.



Alexandrian resident Mariah with daughters KD and Lillie Soriano celebrating a birthday dinner at Wildfire in Tysons Galleria.



Stephanie Levy with mom Jill of Alexandria on vacation at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Orlando in March 2015.



Emily Vernon and her first child, young Caleb, enjoy a few moments together in celebration of parenting.



Lindsay Hemphill and her Mom, Linda Hemphill, at the NHL Winter Classic at Nats Park on Jan. 1, 2015.

ME & MY MOM *Readers submitted photographs for Mother's Day.*



Jessica Gibson of Alexandria with her mom Geraldine Strozier and her son Aidan Gibson.

Katherine Fill-Buschang with her daughter Alyssa.

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OPINION

Hunger Is Widespread

Saturday, May 9, is the postal carriers food drive; put a sturdy bag with food donation next to your mailbox that morning.

There are families dealing with hunger in every county in the United States, including here in Northern Virginia. In Fairfax, there are 67,190 people who are food insecure, (facing hunger at some point monthly) which is more than 6 percent of the population, according to a report by Feeding America. In Arlington, 8.7 percent of the population is food insecure, 18,750 people. In Alexandria, 10.8 percent of the population faces hunger at least monthly, that's 15,540 people.

You can see the national data by county in an interactive map: <http://map.feedingamerica.org/>

ON SATURDAY, MAY 9, as they deliver mail, postal carriers will collect donations of non-perishable food left by residents near their mailboxes. They will be joined by retired letter carriers, by family members and friends, and by volunteers to help collect and distribute the sacks of non-perishable food items that get left next to mailboxes that morning.

EDITORIAL

People are encouraged to leave a sturdy bag containing non-perishable foods such as canned soup; canned vegetables; canned meats and fish; pasta; peanut butter; rice or cereal next to their mailbox before the regular mail delivery on Saturday. Carriers will bring the food to local food banks, pantries and shelters.

The annual food drive is held in more than 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam. Last year almost 73 million pounds of food was collected in the one-day event for people in need throughout the United States.

CHILDREN ARE AFFECTED by hunger disproportionately, with nearly 30 percent of students in Fairfax County Public Schools poor enough to receive subsidized meals at school, which is an incredible 51,968 students. That percentage is more than 31 percent in Arlington with more than 7,700 students poor enough to get meal benefits. In Alexandria, 60 percent of students are poor enough to get meal benefits; that's almost 8,600 students.

Many of these students go hungry on weekends, during school closures for bad weather and in the summer. More on that soon.

In the meantime, leave a bag of food out by your mailbox on Saturday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Morrogh Must Be Held Accountable

To the Editor:

The Commonwealth Attorney of Fairfax County, Raymond F. Morrogh, has lately adopted the role of schoolyard bully who disguises his insecurities by picking on those he perceives as weak. In his desperate effort to cover up the fact that has not been up to his job as a prosecuting attorney, he resorted to bullying tactics in avoiding answers to the questions I asked him a recent Fairfax County public forum. As reported in the Mount Vernon Gazette, I asked Mr. Morrogh why it has been over 18 months to finally decide to convene a grand jury to review the facts in the police

shooting death of John Geer. Mr. Morrogh ignored my questions by responding that I was out of my depth and could not possibly know what I was talking about due to my advanced age. Instead of explaining the reasons behind the 18-month delay in the case, he tried to use my age as a bullying tactic. The facts are that Mr. Morrogh has many excuses for not prosecuting the case in a timely manner but the primary reason is that he failed to develop the facts of the case. His failure of leadership is at the heart of the delay. Mr. Morrogh needs to step back and realize he has the tools to do his job without delay. I am too old, right, to engage him on this highly legal and technical matter. Well, instead of attacking me, why not come up with some constructive suggestions?

At this forum, I asked Mr. Morrogh why he

has not found a single incident of police misconduct though there have been several incidents of police misconduct in the years he has served in office. This includes several police-related incidents resulting in the deaths of residents who were unarmed. At a minimum a violation of the General Order on the use of lethal force was clearly a factor. Three wrongful death suits were filed in the past several years in which the county paid millions of dollars on out-of-court settlement awards. There could have been more. If there was no misconduct as Mr. Morrogh's inaction suggests, why the out-of-court settlements? Mr. Morrogh's actions or inaction makes one question who Mr. Morrogh really represents — certainly not the families of the victims of alleged police misconduct.

When a suspicious shooting occurs in Fairfax County, Mr. Morrogh should do his job and immediately begin an investigation in an effort to bring about justice in a fair and impartial way. The voters selected him to solve problems, not make excuses. We need to feel assured that our law enforcement people are using their authority to use lethal force wisely and judiciously, not abusively. We want to work with and feel confident in the integrity and discipline of our police, not fear them. If Mr. Morrogh did his job well, he would be an essential ingredient in protecting and assuring our community by vigorously investigating police misconduct if and when it occurs.

Therefore, I am asking Mr. Morrogh again: Why has it taken your office 18 months to finally convene a grand jury to look into the John Geer shooting death? Ane while we are on the subject, why didn't you find misconduct in the unarmed shooting deaths of the Culosi and Masters shootings, or several other highly questionable police shootings of unarmed citizens? I may be 87, but I know when a person is doing his job and unfortunately for all of us right now you are not and you know it.

You have a unique and historic opportunity

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Snapshot

1:02 p.m., Saturday, May 2: Flowers bloom in the garden at the Mount Vernon Estate.

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

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A Connection Newspaper



OBITUARY

Glenda B. Harrison

Glenda B. Harrison died peacefully surrounded by her loving family at Manor Care on April 17, 2015, in Alexandria. She was born Nov. 15, 1934, in Lincoln, Nebraska to Lanice Long and Ernest Beauchamp. Glenda married David P. Harrison in Germany in 1957 and was divorced in 1978. She is survived by three children David Harrison, Christine Lane, and Ruth Erbe; nephew John Parks, and grandchildren Esther and Ryan Erbe, and Claire Lane. A graveside memorial service was conducted at 10 a.m. Friday May 1 at Mt. Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria.

Glenda graduated from Mount Vernon High School and earned a BA at George Washington University School of Education. She marched twice as a majorette for the Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington, D.C. She taught elementary school in Fairfax County and at the International Baccalaureate School in Taipei, Taiwan. She also administered defense contracting logistics in the Washington metro area until she retired.

Glenda lived and raised her family in Taiwan from 1965 to 1970 and visited 11 countries. In 1995 she travelled with her Aunt Violet Long to Hilpert, England for genealogical research of the Long family. She enjoyed traveling with her daughter Christine to Hawaii and California, attending her daughter Ruth's concerts with the Maryland Symphony, and attending musicals with her son at the Kennedy Center.

Glenda attended Wesley United Methodist

Church and Immanuel Lutheran Church in Alexandria. She enjoyed playing the piano in high school and swimming at the pool. She enjoyed adopting and feeding birds, dogs, cats, and ducks that would visit her front door. Glenda is remembered for her humor and quick eye for editing. She enjoyed sending news articles to family and friends about their interests.

The Glenda B. Harrison Rose Fund will live as an enduring tribute to Glenda and provides vital funding for cancer research. Donations to The Glenda B. Harrison Rose Fund can be made in the following ways:

❖ Mail: National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR)

Attn: The Glenda B. Harrison Rose Fund
4600 East West Highway, Suite 525, Bethesda, MD 20814

❖ Phone: 301-654-1250 or 1-800-321-2873

❖ Online: <http://www.nfcr.org/> From the home page, click on Ways to Give, then Donate In Honor of/Memory of. Please put The Glenda B. Harrison Rose Fund in the field for Honoree Name or Comments field. The National Foundation for Cancer Research is a 501(C)(3) tax exempt charity Tax ID# 04-2531031.

The family also encourages gifts to The Rector's Discretionary fund at St. Christopher's Church, 6320 Hanover Avenue, Springfield, VA 22150. Please write "Glenda B. Harrison Fund" in the memo line of the donation check. See www.saintchristophers.net

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

to ask yourself, how can I improve my performance and avoid delays and move forward so that in the future there is no repeat delay in investigation and possible prosecution? Timely action in your office will be a crucial step in improving police-community relations where it counts — investigation of alleged police misconduct.

Having said all of that, and getting it off my aging chest, I propose that you move forward and collaborate on recommendations to improve police-community relations, hire skilled and disciplined police recruits, remove police who prove to be inadequate to the job, install body cameras, and research the benefit of creating a Citizen Complaint Oversight Board. Let's get working to come up with meaningful changes in police policies and practices. Mr. Morrogh must respect the senior citizens of Fairfax County and not criticize them for their age.

Nicholas R. Belrante

Executive Director
Virginia Citizens Coalition
for Police Accountability, Inc.

Higher Pay, More Taxes

To the Editor:

Well my prediction about higher county taxes has happened, unfortunately.

On April 21, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the 2016 County budget markup that includes raising at least six fees that include sewer and refuse disposal fees. Although the real estate tax rate remained at \$1.09 per hundred of assessed value, your real estate tax bill will be higher than the prior year because property assessed values have increased. To find out how much extra you will pay, compare the prior year's tax bill amount with the amount derived by multiplying the increased property assessed value by \$1.09. According to a supervisor's published information, county taxes have increased 16 percent over the last three years.

The markup also included money for the supervisors' pay raise increasing supervisors' annual pay from \$75,000 to \$95,000 or a \$20,000 increase and Chairman's Bulova's pay from \$75,000 to \$100,000 or \$25,000 increase. The supervisors' pay before the pay raise was substantially higher than the four top surrounding Virginia counties. The mark up also included pay raises for the Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals and a new pay plan for general county employees. The motion to approve the budget markup was made by Chairman Bulova (B) and seconded by Supervisor Hyland (D). Supervisors who voted for the markup that included more taxes are Cook (R), Foust (D), Hudgins (D), Hyland (D), McKay (D), and Bulova (D) and voting "no" are Frey (R), Herrity (R) and Smyth (D).

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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Healthy Relationships for Life Researchers say meaningful friendships help preserve health

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Bill and Betty Kenealy, of Springfield, make it a point to socialize regularly with their long-time friends, many of whom are other couples they met through work and through the activities of their five children. They've watched their children become adults, worked, retired and even survived cancer. Now they're living together in a retirement community in Springfield. Bill is 85 and Betty is 81.

"We enjoy meeting for dinner on a regular basis or playing cards or dominoes and Bingo," said Bill.

One of those couples is George and Peggy White, both 80. They met when Bill and George were stationed together in the military. Both couples speak fondly of the strength they get from their friendships.

"All of us have different stories and have different backgrounds," said Peggy White, 80. "It's been an interesting and rewarding."

Healthy friendships and strong social connections provide more than interest, say researchers. They are vital to one's mental, physical and emotional wellbeing. A study by the National Institutes of Health show that people who are socially isolated are more likely to die of heart disease than those

who have close relationships. While it might be more challenging to make friends as one ages, the benefits are worth the effort say researchers.

"Research shows that social connections are more important for health, longevity and cognitive functioning than any other variable," said Linda Gulyn, professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Social support ... increased likelihood of getting proper health care, compliance with health treatments, diet, activity [and] mental health."

A HEALTHY SOCIAL NETWORK is credited with longevity. "Social support at all stages of the lifespan reduces people's stress levels, and this in turn promotes physical health," said Linda Cote-Reilly, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at Marymount University. Seniors who have active social connections are better able to fight disease, they experience greater psychological wellbeing and reduced incidence of depression, Cote-Reilly said.

Social isolation can lead to depression and physical health issues.

"One of the things that research has shown is that social isolation is a killer," said Dominique S. Hubbard, professor of psychology who studies social exclusion and ostracism at Northern Virginia Community

College. "One of the most fundamental things that we need is meaningful social connections and a sense of belonging."

In fact, researchers point to a variety of studies that link health and longevity with fulfilling relationships.

"There is this really amazing study done in Alameda County, Calif., that followed almost 5,000 residents for nine years, and found that the best predictor of mortality rates were people who indicated they had few meaningful relationships, meaning that people who answered they had many meaningful relationships were more likely to be alive than those with few," said Georgeana Stratton, Ph.D., (associate professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Sterling. "Even when they ... only look at people with cancer or heart disease, they still found that those with many meaningful relationships did better than those who answered few.

"Their social relationships were the best predictor of health and death, meaning it predicted better than other things they measured like smoking and stress," said Stratton.

Seniors are more susceptible to the harmful effects of a dearth of companions. "Isolation is potentially very damaging to all of us, but most especially to seniors," said Pamela Stewart, assistant dean of psychol-

ogy, Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale campus. "Friendships keep us balanced and generally more positive. They help to keep us busy, can give us a focus and keep us more happily engaged in the world around us."

Retiring and relocating creates challenges when attempting to maintain existing friendships. "Unfortunately, for many the pool of friends becomes smaller as one ages," said Stewart. "We lose touch with our former work mates and a fair percentage of our friends may have moved away or passed away."

Those who are no longer in situations that offer natural opportunities for social interactions can still recreate a circle of friends.

"Seniors can replace those by adding new things," said Hubbard. "Consider joining a class or a bridge club. The key is to have consistent, positive interactions."

Donating one's time offers an opportunity for staying connected.

"Volunteering at a local school or animal shelter or even getting a part time job is a great way to meet people and stay engaged and current," said Joyce Schwartz, a geriatric social worker who lives in Potomac, Md. "Pursuing a hobby, working out a gym or attending lectures are good too, especially if they're free or discounted activities for seniors."

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Why I Am Running for the 36th District Senate Seat

BY JERRY FOREMAN
MAYOR OF DUMFRIES, VA.



Foreman

We need a senator in Richmond who will work with both parties to solve problems; with a track record of cutting taxes and providing economic opportunity for all, a commitment to open and transparent government, and a willingness to represent the “entire” district equally, which includes Fairfax, Prince William and Stafford counties

As the mayor of Dumfries, I have seen first-hand how state policies can help and how they can hurt. I have seen the effects of big government, a lack of transparency and complacency statewide. As senator I will firmly reject the status quo, work collaboratively for greater transparency, innovation and empowerment and be a voice for necessary reform.

I will work to forge powerful and lasting coalitions across the political aisle in order to craft common sense legislation that pro-

vides solutions to the issues facing Virginians. Government is not the recipe by which everything can be made right — nor should it be. As senator, I will work to make head-

way on economic growth, transportation initiatives, ensuring pensions are funded, affordable education, and strategic long-term fiscal planning.

I am a politician committed to always placing the citizens’ interests first. The market and people should drive the economy not government manipulation and interference. We need elected officials that work for their constituents and representatives in Richmond that can say “no” to the federal government when it offers shiny new,

feel-good programs, but no money to pay for them.

“Business as usual” in Richmond is clearly not serving the taxpayers in our district. Continuing to ignore our state’s problems and underfund programs that are essential to the creation of good-paying jobs, while siphoning more of our savings through ever-rising fees and taxes is destructive to our economy and our communities. It drives growth away from our state.

The philosophical foundations in Richmond must change.

The people should choose how to spend their hard earned dollars, not the government. While it is essential that government has a revenue base to fulfill its obligations, our state government in Richmond has now adopted a “feed-the-beast” mentality where excessive spending requires rising taxes and runaway debt to pay for it.

This will only stop if we force the politicians to change, or vote them out of office when they refuse to do so. As senator, I will unapologetically fight for pro-growth poli-

cies and limited governmental regulation allowing the unrestricted flow of capital, labor and ideas. I am confident that when given the opportunity to vote for a candidate who brings a message of fiscal and individual responsibility, the voters of this district will take it. My candidacy brings that opportunity.

I am not naïve — I won’t win every battle, but the battle must be joined.

Every election is about the future and this race will be no different. I want to build a Virginia that challenges citizens to change their communities for the better.

We need more people in the legislature who can identify what is right with our state and build on its strengths to make it better, and not just identify what is wrong and criticize it.

Together, let’s fight for the values that Northern Virginians hold dear. There is much work to do for our state. I look forward to earning your support and your vote, and promise that you will always know where I stand; I stand with you!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

The supervisors seem to take care of themselves with your tax money. If there isn’t enough money to take care of supervisors’ wants, they raise your taxes. In Fairfax County the supervisors win and the taxpayers lose. Keep that in mind when you go to the polls in November.

Frank Medico
Mt. Vernon

‘Best and Brightest’

To the Editor:

I read the article on Thomas Jefferson High School [“Best and Brightest,” The Gazette, April 23]. As a long-time resident and senior citizen, I have wondered about the school. Liz Bradsher of Clinton identified the problem of “the best and the brightest;” maybe she is too young to remember the best and brightest in the U.S. government cost us 55,000 American lives in the place

called Vietnam. Does not seem best and brightest is the way to go.

Charles Gupton Sr.
Alexandria

Leaders’ Accountability

To the Editor:

In the past few days, we have seen some movement on the John Geer case. Fairfax County agreed to resolve the Geer family’s wrongful death civil suit and paid out \$2.95 million.

Then the Fairfax County Commonwealth’s Attorney finally decided to have a grand jury review the tragic case of Geer’s shooting. But what about the lingering image of our local police and government authorities? It is certainly at an all-time low.

Many of our so-called government “leaders” have shown an abject lack of leadership. They seem to be afraid of holding anyone accountable. This deplorable situation

combined with a rash of national incidents involving police brutality makes one wonder where we are headed. Are we still a democratic republic or a police state?

I urge all concerned residents to get involved with the Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability. They hold meetings at the Martha Washington Library on Fort Hunt Road. This is how we can change things for the better.

Greg Paspatis
Alexandria

Estate’s Effect On Traffic

To the Editor:

How can George Washington be a better neighbor? Over the last few years, the number of attractions and the number of visitors to Mount Vernon Estate has really increased.

I have to drive through the chaos that this has created every day to get to work. I often wonder how an unsupervised four-way

traffic stop, bus stop, tourist crossing area (and there are many more of them), and taxi pickup area can all be crammed into one area? Surely a better traffic pattern could be developed.

Surely the estate should or could have been asked to consider the traffic impact to neighbors.

I recall trying to secure approval for some work in my back yard and the country rightfully wanted to make sure I would not impact my neighbors. I don’t recall anyone asking me about the latest patterns. And with Fort Belvoir expanding, the traffic will only increase.

Sure I want what’s best for the estate. It’s a wonderful place. Just find me a way to bypass it all and we would all be happier. I thought that’s what would be incorporated into the library design but again, no.

The hassle we experience could have been avoided a few times. Let’s talk about one now.

Michael MacNair
Alexandria

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ENTERTAINMENT

Pizza Chef Evan Buchholz Heats up Rustico

Making 130 pies a day is a labor of love for this pizza-maker.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE GAZETTE

Evan Buchholz pulls a wad of dough out of a large bucket onto Rustico's kitchen counter. He cuts the dough into 11-ounce strips "enough to make 25 14-inch pizzas. I make over 130 pizzas a day." This dough had been made yesterday and had been retarding in the refrigerator

IN THE KITCHEN overnight. That allows it to proof and give it the flavor. The dough

balls get moved to proof boxes for up to two more days for bunching and shaping. He says the current customer pizza favorite is "Butcher's Block," a combination of capicola, salami, in-house made sausage, pepperoni and provolone cheese, "of course with the house-made San Marzano sauce cooked 2.5 hours, always by the same person. It's a labor of love."

Buchholz takes a ball of dough that has been resting. He says with a wisp of a smile, "see how relaxed it looks?" His hands pull the dough first one direction, then another until it is stretched thin. "Some people believe in tossing the crust, but we stretch it out thin inside and to get the nice crust on the outside." As each is finished, he lines up the empty crusts on a rack 20 pizzas high and creates each one as it is ordered. Today he is making a mushroom pizza, "my own personal favorite."

Dipping into the container of mushroom cream with a scoop, he spreads the sauce around the crust "so everyone can get a taste of it on the pizza." Next he sprinkles fresh spinach to give the pizza some body and arranges the green



Buchholz pops the mushroom pizza into the oven, which is 500 degrees with 800 degrees and the top.

leaves on the circle "to make it look appetizing." Now the pièce de résistance, the sautéed combination of shallots and garlic in Chablis with a mushroom combo of oysters, shitakes and creminis. Dollops of white goat cheese add a slightly tangy flavor and pattern of colors. He carefully edges the wooden paddle under the pizza.

Flames leap inside the open oven where he coaxes the pizza off the paddle to cook for 4-6 minutes. "The floor of the oven is 500 degrees with 800 degrees on the top, and the heat circulates to give it that nice crust." The restaurant sometimes suggests food pairings with its sizable beer selection. He says, "Beer is much better with food. Rustico is having a whole week dedicated to beer and food May 12-18. For instance, with the mushroom pizza I'd probably suggest a scotch ale because of the maltiness or go to the other end

with a saison because of the herbs in the beer, complementary to the mushroom flavor."

Buchholz says this is a neighborhood restaurant. "I see some of the same people every night. There is a section at the bar that on any given night I see 5-6 people I know. They stop by to say 'hi' to Jim at the bar or to chat me up." He continues, "it's always fun to try a new thing for the regulars; that keeps people excited." He remembers a pumpkin pizza puréed with a lot of cheese that he tried last year. "It was delicious." Rustico likes to use fresh ingredients from local farmers. Sometimes Buchholz stops by his neighborhood farmer's market at Mount Vernon, "and I pick up a crate of apples. I paired it with spinach and ham. What I find, I translate into a pizza with that ingredient." But he thinks there aren't as many trends in pizza as with other foods. He says,



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE GAZETTE

Spinach is scattered on the pizza to add body with dollops of goat cheese sprinkled throughout.

pepperoni is always the all-time favorite. "It's never going to go away. Well, we did introduce our gluten-free crust, and people went crazy. And Friday seems to be family night when the kids come home from school and nobody wants to cook."

After graduating from Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts in Pittsburgh, Buchholz worked at the Rustico at Ballston before transferring to the one on Slater's Lane in Alexandria. He comes to

work at 8 a.m. and leaves "ppppppff, at 8 p.m. or closing." Before that, "I was at Rosa Mexicana. But pizza was more my wheelhouse." He says when he was 12 years old, his mother said he wasn't going to leave home without knowing how to cook. So she told him he could cook whatever he wanted for a week in the summer. He made, "ground beef tacos with a lot of cheese and more ground beef tacos with lots more cheese..."

CALENDAR

Email community 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

"Attics and Alleys." Saturdays in May, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at various locations. Guests are invited to take a walking tour through historic sites like Gadsby's Tavern Museum, The Apothecary Museum and the Carlyle House in honor of National Preservation Month. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.alexandriava.gov for more.

"Tempo & Pause" Exhibit. Through May 11, various times at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Find cityscape paintings by Greg Gandy and Valerio D'Ospina. Free. Visit www.principlegallery.com.

"The Odd Couple." Through May 16, Wednesday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and 3 p.m. on

Sundays. The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. The LTA presents a twist on the traditional comedy with female characters. Tickets start at \$19. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

"COMPARTMENTALIZED." Through May 17, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday 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, 5000 Dawes Ave. The exhibit, featuring Lang's assemblages of photography, digital photomontage, and found objects will be on display. Free. Visit www.schlesingercenter.com.

Art Exhibit. Through May 31. Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. "Rara Avis" is an exhibition of bird-centric works of Beverly Res, Langley Spurlock and Martin Tarrat in the Athenaeum Gallery. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

Eunsook Lee: "Dispersed Family." Through May 31. Gallery hours at The Target Gallery, 105 North Union St. Eunsook Lee's exhibit of black light threads sealed and laminated

alongside images and other materials will be on display. Admission is free. Visit www.torpedofactory.com.

"MIX: Adventures in Mixed Media." Through May 31 at DelRay Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Artists mix two or more mediums for this exhibition collaboration between Del Ray Artisans and Artistic Artifacts. See www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

"Perceptions" Through May 31, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Associates Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, Studio 319, 105 N Union St. The "Perceptions" exhibit will feature 3-D artist Erika Cleveland, painter Ellen Delaney, graphic artist Kara Hammond, and street photographer Val Proudki. Free to attend. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Nine Paintings from John Chapman. Through May 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Nine unique paintings by the Virginia born artist John Gadsby Chapman (1808-1889) illustrating landscape scenes important to George Washington's biography are on view.

Visit www.mountvernon.org.

"Paws 'N Claws for Art." Runs through May 31 at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans and Animal Welfare League of Alexandria teamed up to present this animal-themed, fundraising exhibit. Both nonprofits receive a percentage of each sale. Also showing, but not for sale, will be UpCycle's Fur-Vor project community-based student-recycled dog art. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW for more.

"Intricacies" Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 31 at various times at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. Artist-Photographer Nina Tisara unveils her "Intricacies" exhibit, a collection of mosaics. Visit www.ourconvergence.org.

"Living Yesterday Today." Through June 14 at various times at Multiple Exposures Gallery, 105 N Union St. "Living Yesterday Today" is an exhibit featuring photography by Sandy LeBrun-Evans following 150th Civil War Reenactments. Free to attend. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

"Paintings of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists." Through June 28, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 12-4:30 p.m. on

ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Find watermedia floral and landscape paintings. Free to visit gallery. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring.

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

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

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.

Dinner for the Washingtons. Noon at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. A walking tour that goes behind the scenes to find out how food was prepared and served before the era of microwaves and TV dinners. \$5 in addition to estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org/ for more.

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

The Monday Morning Birdwalk has been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free of charge, requires no reservation, and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at the park's entrance at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Direct questions to Park staff during normal business hours at 703-768-2525.

Art for Life. Third Thursday of every month. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N Union St. Hyatt Regency Crystal City has partnered with the National Kidney Foundation for a program highlighting a different artist each month for a year.

Civil War Sundays. 1-5 p.m. at Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 North Union St., #327. Learn more about the Civil War as it occurred in Alexandria. Find dioramas, newspaper articles and more. Free. Visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.

CAMPS, CLASSES & 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

Trace Monotype Workshop Will Make an Impression



"To Be the Pretty Girl" by Katherine Rand

As an extension of the Del Ray Artisans' "MIX: Adventures in Mixed Media" exhibit, the gallery is offering a trace monotype workshop May 16, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Artist Katherine Rand will teach a class on the printmaking technique which turns line drawings into prints. Participants will use a Plexiglass plate to create an image on paper using ink and "mark-making" tools. The workshop is \$35 for Del Ray Artisans members and \$45 for non-members. There is an additional \$6 supplies fee.

Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit www.tinydancers.com for more.

Art League Summer Camps. Registration for Summer Art Camp 2015 is now open.

Art Camps run Monday to Friday, June 22-Aug. 21. Camps are available for ages 5 and older, with morning, afternoon, or all day options. Subjects include: drawing, cartooning, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, fiber arts, clay animation, and Basic Art Camp (a new medium each day). \$155-\$345. Visit www.theartleague.org/content/art_camp for more.

Encore Chorale Summer Choral Institutes. Encore Summer Choral Institute at Washington College in Chestertown MD runs from June 14-18 and Encore Summer Choral Institute at Chautauqua Institute in Chautauqua, NY from from Aug.30-Sept. 4. Sponsored by Encore Creativity for Older Adults, the nation's largest choral singing program for adults 55 and older, the institutes attract adult students from all over the country, at all levels of vocal experience, for a week of intensive choral music study. For information and pricing, call 301-261-5747, email info@encorecreativity.org or visit www.encorecreativity.org.

Summer of Smiles. The Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Summer Fun Guide, is now available. Summer camps and activities are available for youth ages 2-17 and include sports, dance, creative arts, computer, chess, enrichment, nature, adventure, Out of School Time (residents only) and classic camps. The guide has an index listing camps by week offered and age group. Registration opens Wednesday, March 18 for City of Alexandria residents and Friday, March 20 for nonresidents. Interested participants may register online or in-person at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The Summer Fun Guide is available for download at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures will be available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414.

Tavern Toddlers. Every Monday (except Federal Holidays) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Join other families with toddlers (walkers through 36 months) to have fun in Gadsby's historic ballroom. Playtime features a craft table, book corner, toys and group dancing. \$7

for a group of three. Visit www.alexandria.gov/gadsbystavern or call 703-746-4242.

Photography Workshop. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. 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.

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

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

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

Tween Yoga. Thursdays, May 28-July 16. 4-5 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N Washington St. Suite 100. 532Yoga uses yoga to help tweens develop greater self-confidence. The workshop fee is \$125 or \$20 for drop-in classes. Visit www.532Yoga.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 7

Mini-MIX-Art Make & Take Workshop. 6-9 p.m. at DelRay Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Del Ray Artisans and Artistic Artifacts, a local arts and crafts store, will offer workshops and classes for anyone interested in mixed media. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 7-9

"Anne and Emmett." Various times at MetroStage, 1201 N Royal St. "Anne and Emmett" is an imagined conversation between 14-year-old Emmett Till and 15-year-old Anne Frank, both young victims of racial violence. Tickets are \$35, \$25 for students. Visit www.metrostage.org.

MAY 7-JUNE 1

"Printed Art: The Potomac."

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Sunday Breakfast Buffet ~ 7 a.m.-12
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Mother's Day Brunch Special ~ 12-3 p.m.
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ENTERTAINMENT

Gallery hours at The Art League, 105 North Union St. The Art League presents a series of linocuts by John Gosling depicting the Potomac. Free Visit www.theartleague.org.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 8-9

Hollin Hall Art Show. 1-3 p.m. on Friday, 12-3 p.m. on Saturday. Senior artists will display and sell their art in connection with the month-long Fairfax County Creative Aging Festival. Also find an intergenerational seed saving American Indian pinch pot workshop. Free. Call 703-765-4573.

“Stick Fly.” 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1819 N. Quaker Lane. A well-to-do black family take a summer holiday. Tickets are \$16-18. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 8

Not-So-Silent Auction. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Howard Gardner School, 4913 Franconia Road. Find music and buffet dinner at the school’s 10th Anniversary Auction to benefit the financial aid program. Admission is free. Call 703-822-9300 to RSVP.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

Genealogy Lecture. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Co-author of “African Americans of Alexandria, Virginia: Beacons of Light in the Twentieth Century” Char McCargo Bah will lead a lecture on “What you need to know about Social Security.” Admission is \$10. Visit www.alexandriava.gov.

Wine Tasting Event. 12-5 p.m. at Balducci’s, 600 Franklin St. In honor of Mother’s Day, Balducci’s will be serving special wine and food

pairings. Free. Visit www.balduccis.com.

Spring Art Market. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. This outdoor market will feature the work of more than 25 artists. Free to attend. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.com.

Braddock Interim Open Space Celebration. 3-5:30 p.m. at 600 N Henry St. The public is invited to celebrate the launch of the new half-acre space with community gathering areas, seating, joggle boards, a bocce ball court, horseshoe pits and a Ping-Pong table. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Braddock.

World Fair Trade Day. 6 p.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. The store will be giving away samples of fair trade products all day, and at 6 p.m. Mayor Euille will announce the winner of the fair trade essay contest. Free. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com.

New Hope Housing Spring Gala. 6:30-10:30 p.m. at US Patent & Trademark Office, 600 Dulany St. Councilman John Chapman, Del. Scott Surovell, Ms. Capitol Region 2015 Madhu Umashankar, and Dale Fisher will participate in a dance-off at this fundraiser. Tickets are \$100. Visit www.bidpal.net/nhhgala2015.

The Honey Dewdrops, with Buzz Peele. 7 p.m. at Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane. Folk singers Laura Wortman and Kagey Parrish will perform alongside Buzz Peele. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Visit www.focumusic.org.

Gary Taylor. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. R&B singer/songwriter Gary Taylor will perform. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.birchmere.com.

Spring Concert. 8 p.m. at

Convergence, 1801 N Quaker Lane. Visit www.alexandria.choralsociety.org.

MAY 9-10

Mother’s Day Weekend at Mount Vernon. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon: George Washington’s Estate and Gardens, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Martha Washington, portrayed by Mary Wiseman, will be present on the estate to give tours and hand out lavender sachets to mothers. Admission is included in the \$17 ticket for adults. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 10

Mother’s Day Tea. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N Fairfax St. Lounge at the Magnolia Terrace with catered food and learn the “Language of the Fan.” Tickets are \$30. Visit www.carlylehouse.org.

Mother’s Day Open House. 1-4 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S Alfred St. Learn the history of the fire house and have your picture taken by the in-house photographer. Free for mothers and families. Visit www.friendshipfirehouse.net.

Mother’s Day Tours. 1-5 p.m. at The Stabler Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 107 S Fairfax St. The Museum is offering free tours to mothers. Admission is \$5 for other

Fort Ward Brings Civil War History To Life

A Union soldier, portrayed by Kevin Moriarty, will provide tours of historic Fort Ward on Saturday, May 16. Moriarty, who is on staff at Fort Ward, will present a program on the “Defenses of Washington,” the lives of Civil War soldier, and the weapons they would have used. Guests will also be able to visit the Officers’ Hut which has been fully restored to its original condition. The free tours are scheduled for 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Visit www.fortward.org.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

adults, and \$3 for children aged 5-12. Visit www.apothecarymuseum.org.

MONDAY/MAY 11

Community Barbeque Bash. 6-8:30 p.m. at The Waterfront Market & Cafe, 7 King St. ACT for Alexandria is hosting a barbeque. Tickets start are \$35 for children, \$50 for adults. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/community-barbeque-bash-tickets-15734049967.

Alexandria Sesquicentennial Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N Washington St. “When Did the War Between the States End (Ever?) and What Did Australia Have to do With It?” will be led by William Connery. Free. Call 703-746-4554.

MAY 11-JUNE 14

“In My Neighborhood.” 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N Union St. Studio 18. Resident artists will display work based on their neighborhoods and local colors. Admission is free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

TUESDAY/MAY 12

Annual Excellence in Aging Awards. 6 p.m. at Vola Lawson Hall, 301 King St. Individuals will be recognized based on outstanding service to senior citizens in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/aging.

Beer History Talk. 6-8:30 p.m. at Port

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—Helena Scott

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ENTERTAINMENT



'Lonely Drone' Gives Bird's Eye View

Brian Williams' exhibit, "The Lonely Drone" is intended to explore what earth might look like from above if captured by a drone. He uses oil paintings on aluminum panels and uses only a 3-inch brush to create layered images of water, mountains, clouds, etc. The exhibit will open on Friday, May 22 and run until Sunday, July 22 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. The opening reception will be on Saturday, May 23. It is free to attend both the exhibit and reception. Visit www.schlesingercenter.com for more.



City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Writer and historian Garrett Peck will discuss his book, "Capital Beer: A Heady History of Brewing in Washington, DC." Free to attend. Visit www.portcitybrewing.com.

National Chamber Players. 7:30 p.m. at Pendleton Hall, Episcopal

High School, 3900 W Braddock Road. The Chamber Players will be joined in concert by Jonathan Carney, concertmaster of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Michael Rusinek and Nancy Goeres, principal clarinet and bassoon of the Pittsburgh Symphony. Free. Call 703-933-4135 or email

vdp@episcopalhighschool.org for more.

MAY 12-JUNE 2

Art Exhibition. 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Principle

Gallery, 208 King St. An exhibit of new work by local artists Teresa Oaxaca and Robert Liberace will be on display. Free. Visit www.principlegallery.com/alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 13

"Race to Nowhere" Screening. 6:45 p.m. at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road. "Race to Nowhere" is a documentary about schools and college preparation. Free. Call 703-799-6100.

THURSDAY/MAY 14

"Printed Art: The Potomac" Opening Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at The Art League, 105 North Union Street, Studio 21. Meet linocut impressionist artist John Gosling. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.
"The Hero of Two Worlds." 7-9 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Marc Leepson, author of "Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General," will give a lecture titled, "The Hero of Two Worlds: The Marquis de Lafayette, the Revolutionary War, and the French Revolution" followed by wine and dessert. There is a \$5 suggested donation. RSVP at www.herolafayette.eventbrite.com.

Todd Rundgren. 7:30 p.m. at Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The rock musician will make a stop on his "Global Tour." Tickets are 49.50. Visit www.birchmere.com for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 15

Art Demonstration. 6 p.m. at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. Teresa

Oaxaca, known for her stylized baroque paintings and alla prima portraiture, will be giving in-gallery demonstrations of her work. Free. Visit www.principlegallery.com/alexandria.

Ian McFeron. 7-9 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. Singer/Songwriter Ian McFeron will be joined on fiddle, cello and harmony vocals by Alisa Milner. Free. Visit www.portcitybrewing.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 15-17

Spring Wine Festival. 6-9 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Mount Vernon's Spring Wine Festival & Sunset Tour celebrates the history of wine in Virginia with evening tours of the Mansion and cellar, appearances by "George and Martha Washington," and live jazz on the east lawn overlooking the Potomac River. On Friday admission is \$40, \$46 on Saturday and \$36 on Sunday. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

MAY 15-JUNE 14

"The Letters." Various times at MetroStage, 1201 N Royal St. "The Letters" is a psychological drama about life under Stalin. Tickets are \$50-55. Visit www.metrostage.org.

MAY 15-16

"Stick Fly." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1819 N. Quaker Lane. A well-to-do black family take a summer holiday. Tickets are \$16-18. Visit www.portcityplayhouse.org for more.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

Mass Schedule

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

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Help #saveFCPS

Superintendent says FCPS faces deficit of more than \$100 million; FCPS excellence at risk.

Statement from Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Karen K. Garza following the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors passage of the Fairfax County Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 budget:

Once again, we find that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has failed to fully fund Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). This is extremely disheartening — we entered this budget year making a good faith effort to work collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors. We worked for nearly a year with the County Executive and the Board of Supervisors to develop a reasonable budget that met only the very minimal needs of FCPS, and in the end they did not deliver.

Supervisors are sending a clear message that they are unconcerned about the increasing challenges of our students, our teachers, and our schools. The supervisors refused to fully fund our budget for the 2015-16 school year (FY 2016), when faced with a nominal \$7.6 million deficit. We have grave concerns as to what will happen in the 2016-17 (FY 2017) school year when we face a devastating shortfall of more than \$100 million.

The entire Fairfax County community has a critical decision to make: either we invest the necessary funds in our students and schools, or we will have to work together to decide what to cut — and we cannot cut our way to excellence.

Due to years of chronic underfunding coupled with a decade of significant enrollment growth and increasing student needs, we will not be able to sustain the current quality nor the full range of academic programming we currently offer our students. We have sought to protect the classroom to date, but with the scale of the FY 2017



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Karen K. Garza

shortfall, we will have to take a serious look at the programs that we must cut starting in the 2016-17 school year. These cuts will likely affect all current academic programming including limiting elective choices, reducing career and technical programs, impacting advanced offerings, and again raising class sizes at all levels. We must make these difficult choices by December 2015 because students begin their course selections in January 2016.

Since 2008, we have cut 2,175 positions and nearly a half-billion dollars from our budget affecting every school and department. We have fallen so far behind in teacher salaries that we are no longer competitive and are losing talented staff to neighboring school districts. Our teachers are the reason FCPS students excel and achieve. Losing our most experienced teachers will have a significant effect on student performance and will ultimately affect the reputation of FCPS. Fairfax County public schools are frequently cited as one of the main reasons that businesses choose to relocate to the county, and Fairfax has some of the highest property values in the country, but without excellent schools as a foundation — corporate investment in Fairfax and property values will decline.

In the education of our children, every year matters; we cannot hope to make up deficits in their education in their later years. It is critical we take action now.

I hope our community will join me to #saveFCPS.

Rebuttal on School Funding

Schools have been county's top priority, receiving \$2 billion, 53 percent of county budget.



Sharon Bulova

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On April 28 the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget. Our board approved a total transfer to the schools of \$2.01 billion, an increase of \$66.7 million (an increase of 3.43 percent) over FY2015 and nearly two-thirds of all new revenue associated with increased property values. The total School Budget, which is comprised of the county transfer, plus state and some federal funding, totals \$2.6 billion.

Education is our board's highest priority; it is not, however our only priority. The school transfer amounts to almost 53 percent of our General Fund Budget. Public safety, human services, parks and libraries all receive a fraction of what FCPS does and these services are also critical to making Fairfax County one of the best places in the country to live, work, raise a family and grow older comfortably. It is also important that real estate taxes are affordable to our residents, many of whom are still struggling to get back on their feet following the recent recession.

Fairfax County's Direct General Fund Budget, services and programs, excluding the School Transfer is \$1.81 billion. This year the General County disbursements increased by only 2.06 percent, less than the increase in the School Transfer.

Fairfax County worked hard this year to advocate for a larger share of state funding for our schools. We were successful in receiving \$9.9 million more than anticipated through the state budget. With these funds, FCPS is within \$4.1 million of their total \$2.6 billion Advertised Budget proposal; a gap of just 0.16 percent (sixteen hundredths of a percent) less than the School Board's proposed budget.

The superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools increased her request for a transfer after the state budget increase was announced and shortly before our budget adoption. More information about the Schools' request and projections can be found here in the Budget Q&As.

In her April 28 release, the superintendent indicated this figure is now \$7.6 million or 0.297 percent of FCPS Proposed Operating Budget. Enrollment estimates, and the associated costs, can and do change as the school year approaches and FCPS staff refines their estimates. The gap, therefore, is somewhat of a moving target.

Our Board of Supervisors continues to be supportive of the school system and our partners on the School Board. When the

Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget, we also gave county staff Budget Guidance for FY2017 which provides a planning target for an additional increase of 3 percent next year.

As we look ahead at the fiscal outlook for

next year, we know that we will continue to be affected by a sluggish economy and the effects of federal cutbacks and sequestration. Like the schools, the General County side of the ledger is projecting a budget shortfall for the next (2017) Fiscal Year. This will have to be resolved, as Fairfax County is required to adopt and maintain a balanced budget. This spring, the Board of Supervisors will lead the community in a Lines of Business review. This process will be a comprehensive review of all the programs and services the county provides. It will help the board to identify redundancies, establish further efficiencies, consider strategic changes to reach intended outcomes and, most importantly, make sure that the investments we make through the budget conform to the community's expectations. In our Budget Guidance, we invited our counterparts on the School Board to participate and we hope they will undertake a similar process for FCPS.

I also hope that the School Board is able to fill the vacant Auditor to the School Board position they created in October of 2014. The Board of Supervisors has had an Auditor to the Board since the 1990s. This independent, critical perspective on the budget and county programs can help elected leaders identify efficiencies and cost avoidance opportunities and has saved taxpayers millions of dollars. As you may know, the Board of Supervisors does not have line item authority over the FCPS budget. According to the Constitution of Virginia, that responsibility lies with the elected School Board, who set the funding priorities for the schools, including salaries. If teacher salaries are the School Board's top priority, it is their responsibility to close the 0.16 percent gap between their proposed budget and the funds they are receiving.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contacted me during the budget process. Our board is always in a better position to serve residents when we have the benefit of your thoughts during the decision-making process.

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:

Letters to the Editor ♦ The Gazette
1606 King St. ♦ Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-917-6444
Email gazette@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Grown from Seed

Mary Barnett (at left with a heritage tomato plant) has run the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church greenhouse at 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, for many years with a team of volunteers, specializes in local native flowers, heritage tomatoes, and herbs. She grows most plants from seed in the 1930s art deco greenhouse that came with the Hollin Hall estate purchased by the church in 1959 in what is now the Mason Hill neighborhood off Fort Hunt Road. Best selling tomatoes this

year are the dark ones, Barnett said: Black, Cherokee Purple and Black Krim. Other vegetables include hot and sweet peppers, egg-plant, chard, kale, and lettuce. Herbs include several kinds of basil, dill, fennel, cilantro, marjoram, thyme, chervil, and several varieties of sage. Garden plants and flowers grown from seed are usually \$2-\$5, with some of the larger flowers up to \$15. Proceeds go to keep the greenhouse in repair and purchase next year's seeds.

USDA Position Available

"A temporary Program Technician position not to exceed 6 months is being announced with the Mobile County FSA Office in Mobile, Alabama. Grade/Series CO-04/07 with Salary Ranging from \$28,269.00 to \$50,932 which will be determined by Experience and/or Education. Opening date May 4, 2015, Closing Date May 18, 2015. Please see the following for additional information on this position and how to apply:

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- You must be a U.S. Citizen or national to apply.
- Must be a high school graduate or equivalent
- Must be 18 years of age or 17 years of age for high school graduates.
- Required to pass a background investigation and fingerprint check.

DUTIES:

This position is responsible for:

- Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county.
- Interpreting and explaining procedures, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel.
- Utilizing IBM system 36 and /or PC Computer to maintain producer data and process automated program forms.
- Using a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered.
- Possible travel to adjacent office(s) if and as needed within the local commuting area of approximately 30-40 miles.

AGENCY CONTACT INFO:

Resumes should be submitted to the following by Monday, May 18, 2015.

Gretchen D. Thomas • 251.441.6505 ext. 2
E-mail: gretchen.thomas@al.usda.gov

Agency Information:

Mobile County FSA Office
1070 Schillinger Road, North Mobile, AL 36608

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St Christopher's Episcopal of Spfld, VA seeks applicants for

Preschool Director

Preschool enrolls 2 1/2-PreK for 3 hour learning sessions up to 5 days/wk. Preferred qualities: early childhood ed. degree; 2+ years as director/asst dir. or 5+ years as teacher with leadership experience; knowledge of Fairfax City school requirements; strong organizational skills; friendly & outgoing personality; relates well to children & adults. Position start date: 1 July 15; Job open until filled Submit resumes to preschool@saintchristophers.net with Subject as Director Position

Blackwall Hitch, the Waterfront Dining Destination in Old Town Alexandria, is now **hiring all positions** for their Alexandria location. On-site interviews will take place May 4-8 and May 11-15 from 2pm to 7pm at 5 Cameron Street. You can also apply on-line at www.theblackwallhitch.com.

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**OBITUARY
LOUISE ANGLE**

October 25, 1925 - April 28, 2015

On April 28, 2015, Louise Angle passed away in Alexandria, VA. She was a long time resident of Sunrise at Mount Vernon, moving 13 years ago from New Jersey to be closer to her family. She made a difference in so many lives while at Sunrise. Louise spent her life supporting her husband, Bob Angle, moving and traveling in the U.S.A. and Europe for business. Music dominated her life beginning with piano and voice at a very young age. Other interests included Girl Scouts, golf, and much volunteer work. A career as a travel agent provided another means to visit family and friends. Known as a story teller, all these experiences provided her much material to entertain many people. She always started with a question, "What is the easiest thing to find?"

Louise is survived by her daughter, Karla Lamont of Alexandria, 2 granddaughters; Kelly Francfort and Meredith Ayala, and 3 great grandsons; Aidan, Tyler, and Wesley. Per Louise's wishes, in lieu of a funeral service, a Celebration of Life will be held at Sunrise Assisted Living at Mount Vernon, 8033 Holland Rd, Alexandria, VA 22306 on May 9, 2015 at 3:00 PM. Open to family and friends. Donations to the Make-A-Wish Foundation or Toys for Tots are preferred to flowers.

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IN MEMORIAM



In memory of Inez Cross Roberts on her birthday May 5 and Mother's Day. We greatly miss you love always Keith and kids Kevin, Kojo, Khalysha, Kenyatta, Wisdom and grandkids.

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OBITUARY



Savannah- Margaret Sellers Slappey, 92, of Atlanta, GA died on Sunday, May 3rd 2015.

"Marty" Slappey, daughter of Margaret Louise and James Freeman Sellers, Jr., loving wife of Sterling Greene Slappey, passed away at Savannah Hospice in Savannah, GA after a battle with cancer.

She is survived by her son Charles Freeman Slappey and his wife Bebe Willoughby. She is also survived by her granddaughter Louisa Margaret Slappey, all living in the Savannah area.

Marty owned her own bath and linens store in Alexandria, VA until her retirement in 1984, bringing her love of design home with her. She also loved to travel, puzzles, and spending time with her family. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

A private grave side service will be held at Westview Cemetery in Atlanta.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church on 228 South Pitt Street in Alexandria, VA 22314

Please sign our on-line guest book at www.foxandweeks.com
HODGSON CHAPEL

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**OBITUARY
Jay Kimberly Meekins**

The heavens brightened as they welcomed Kim on April 30, far too early. Kim was a devoted and loving husband, brother, son, uncle, cousin and friend. His memory will be cherished by his beloved husband, John Stracke, and three brothers, Dudley Meekins, Monty Meekins, and Chris Lane, along with their spouses. His many nieces and nephews will greatly miss their Uncle Kim. Other family members and many friends mourn the loss of a loving, joyful, and giving friend.

Throughout his life, Kim used his great artistic talents and engaging charm, wit and personality in his work, and brought light and joy to others wherever he went. He was fiercely devoted to his family and friends, and was always there for anyone in need. A remembrance will be held on Saturday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m. at Memorial Episcopal Church's hall, 1407 Bolton Street, Baltimore. In lieu of flowers, donations to Gilchrist Hospice Care in Kim's memory are welcome at <http://gilchristhospice.org/tribute>

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**OBITUARY
Mildred Papiroski Morris**

On April 28, 2015 went to join our heavenly father. Born in Alexandria, VA on January 22, 1925 Mildred is the daughter of Julia (Murawski) and Andrew Papiroski. She is survived by her husband of 65 years Samuel Brown Morris; children Andrew Dawson Morris, of Alexandria, VA., Anita-Marie Morris and husband Haskel Henderson of Gloucester Point, VA. and Edward Francis Morris and wife Phyllis (Beatie) Morris of Fairfax, VA.; grandsons Samuel William Morris of Newport News, VA. and Joshua Edward Morris of Fort Benning, GA. nieces Allison Boothe (Ed Boothe) of Stafford, VA., Betty Doss (Dave Doss) of Greenville, SC, nephew Ed Fordham of Goldvein, VA and many grand-nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, brothers Edward and Francis, sisters Helen and Margaret and niece Crystal. A visitation was held at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA, Sunday May 3, 2015. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Louis Catholic Church, Monday May 4 at 10:30 am with interment at Mt. Comfort Cemetery immediately following Mass.

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-04-13**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for Siding replacement and other upgrades at the D. Campbell Rowing Facility. Sealed Bids with the notation ITB # 15-04-13, D. Campbell Rowing Facility Upgrades will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, June 9, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPSS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services - Current Bids and Request for Proposals. All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., May 29, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPSS web site. A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held at 10:00 a.m., May 15, 2015 at the address listed above. No ITB may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB. ACPSS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid. Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry) Senior Buyer

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-04-05**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking Bids for Ramsay Elevator Additions for William Ramsay Elementary School. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference/site visit will be conducted on Thursday, May 15, 2015 at 10:30 AM, in the Facilities Conference Room 610-2, 1340 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. It is strongly recommended that all bidders attend this conference. Sealed Bids with the notation ITB# 15-04-05 RAMSAY ELEVATOR ADDITIONS, will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, June 4, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8343, or by downloading the Bid from the ACPSS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php>. All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., May 28, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPSS web site. No Bids may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of the bids except as may be set forth in the ITB. ACPSS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in any bid.

Sharon T. Lewis M.P.S., CPM, CPPB, VCO
Director of Procurement & General Services

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-04-11**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors for the provision of Strategic Planning/Facilitation Services for the Alexandria City School Board (Board) of Alexandria, Virginia.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-04-11 Strategic Planning/Facilitation Services for the Alexandria City School Board (Board) of Alexandria, Virginia will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, May 15, 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 703-619-8140, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPSS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financialservices/purchasing/bids.php> ACPSS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal.

Sharon T. Lewis CPM, CPPB, VCO
Director of Procurement & General Services

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NUMBER 15-04-12**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking competitive proposals from qualified Offerors for the provision of Video Production Services.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-04-12 Video Production Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, May 22, 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 703-619-8140, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPSS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/bids.php> ACPSS reserves the right to cancel this RFP and/or reject any or all offers and to waive any informalities in any proposal. Francine Morris Buyer

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID NUMBER 15-04-15**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking bids for parking lot improvements at John Adams Elementary School. Sealed Bids with the notation ITB # 15-04-15 John Adams Elementary School Parking Lot Improvements will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, June 5, 2015. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Bids appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. ITB documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the ITB from the ACPSS website at www.acps.k12.va.us, Administration, Financial Services, Procurement and General Services - Current Bids and Request for Proposals. All questions must be submitted before 1:00 p.m., May 26, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPSS web site. A pre-bid conference/site visit will be held at 10:00 a.m., May 19, 2015 at the address listed above. No ITB may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the opening of bids except as may be set forth in the ITB. ACPSS reserves the right to cancel this ITB and/or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid. Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry) Senior Buyer

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**ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 15-04-10**

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for the replacement/repair of window treatments as needed in the ACPSS school district.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 15-04-10 Window Treatments will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, June 11, 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 ACPSS 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., May 28, 2015. If necessary, an addendum will be issued and posted to the ACPSS web site. A Pre-Bid Conference/Site Visit will be held at 10:00 a.m. on May 21, 2015 at the address listed above. 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. ACPSS 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) ACPSS Senior Buyer

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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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SPORTS

Mount Vernon Boys' Soccer Falls to W-L

The Mount Vernon boys' soccer team lost to undefeated Washington-Lee 6-1 on May 4.

SPORTS BRIEFS

The Majors surrendered three goals during a 4-minute stretch in the first half before junior midfielder Peter Diawuo scored Mount Vernon's lone goal in the 32nd minute.

The loss dropped Mount Vernon's record to 5-3-3.

The Majors will close the regular season with home matches against Stuart (May 7) and Hayfield (May 11).

Mount Vernon Softball Beats Lee

The Mount Vernon softball team defeated Lee 6-5 on May 1 at Mount Vernon High School.

The victory improved the Majors' record to 12-3 and extended their win streak to 12 games.

Mount Vernon was scheduled to face Marshall at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline. The Majors will travel to face Stuart at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 8.

Mount Vernon Boys' Lacrosse Win Streak Snapped

The Mount Vernon boys' lacrosse team lost to Washington-Lee 10-4 on May 1, snapping the Majors' four-game win streak.

The loss dropped Mount Vernon's record to 7-2.

The Majors faced Yorktown on Wednesday, after The Gazette's deadline. Mount Vernon will host Falls Church at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, May 8.

West Potomac Softball Wins Third Straight

The West Potomac softball team defeated T.C. Williams 15-3 on May 1, giving the Wolverines a three-game win streak and improving their record to 12-5.

West Potomac will host South County at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 8.

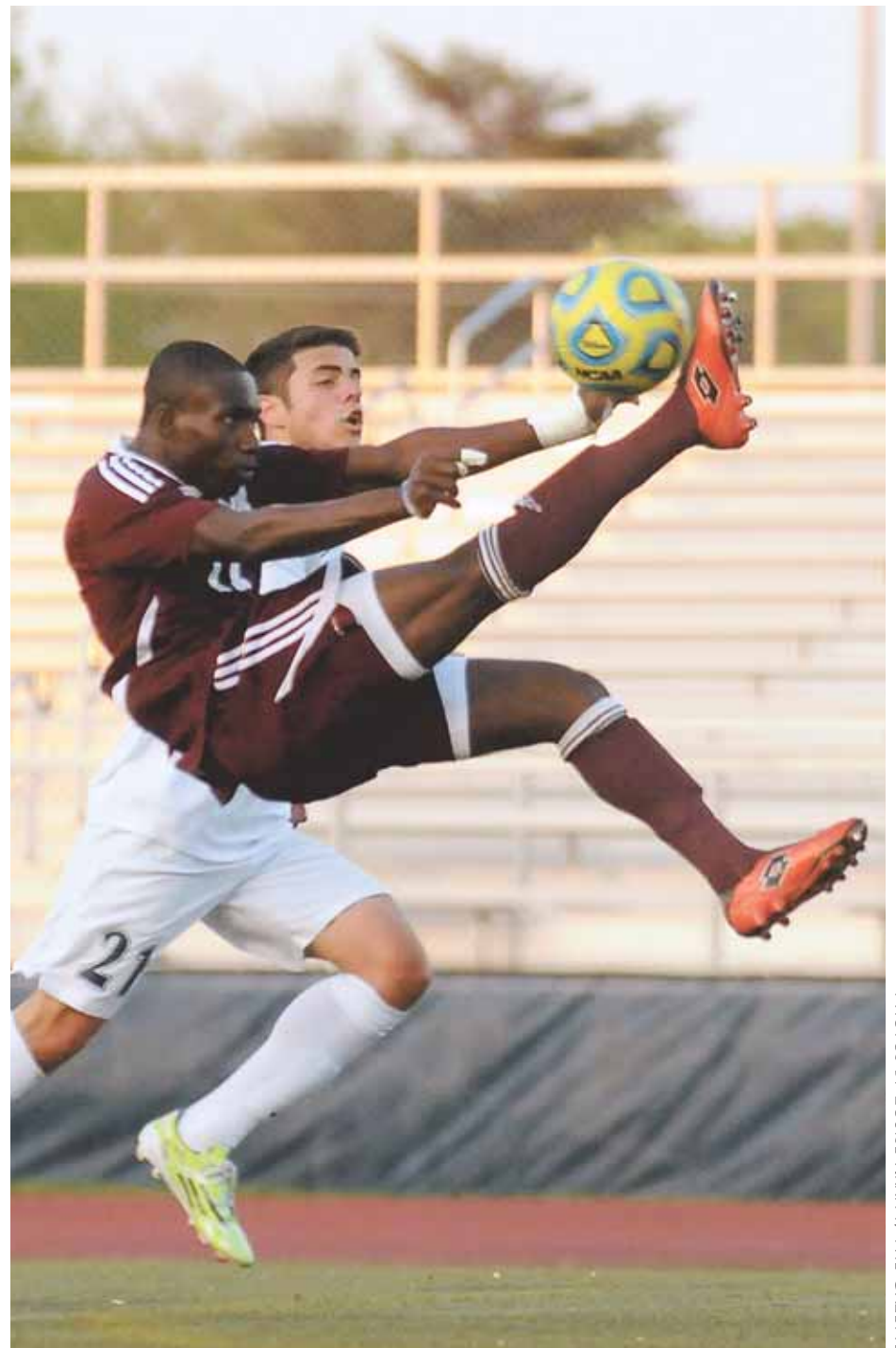
SCHOOL NOTES

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

Kelly Gallagher was named to the dean's list for the fall 2014 semester at Saint Mary's College (Notre Dame, Ind.).

Molly Adler has been named a Fulbright Fellow. She will teach English in Russia for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. Adler is a senior at Juniata College (Huntingdon, Pa.).

Hope Wentzel received Virginia Tech's 2015 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (www.cals.vt.edu/) Outstanding Senior Award.



Mount Vernon senior defender Van Dyke Gyau kicks the ball during Monday's match against Washington-Lee.



Junior midfielder Ivan Rodriguez is a captain for the Mount Vernon boys' soccer team.

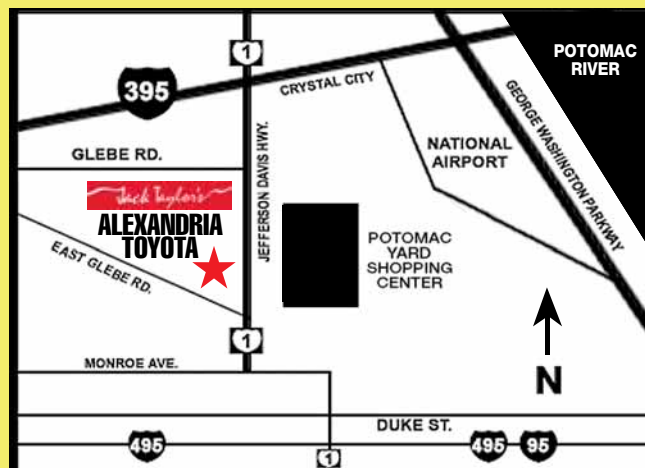
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9315 Ludgate Dr \$1,249,999
Estate Caliber Property—Near River!
No expense was spared in creating this magnificent custom Colonial designed to be seller's ultimate dream home. Stately, classic exterior combined with bright, open floor plan. App. 5721 sq ft of luxuriously finished space. Includes all the new home bells and whistles & virtually every upgrade and modern amenity. Exquisitely landscaped grounds! **OPEN SUN 5/10, 1-4!** GW Pkwy S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon; L-Washington Woods; L-Ludgate.



8720 Plymouth Road \$1,719,000
Brand New Home!
Spectacular Wakefield home loaded with virtually every custom upgrade & amenity in fabulous Plymouth Haven! Three levels of luxury! Fabulous features include striking open floor plan, high ceilings, designer kitchen, luxury baths, hardwood floors, sumptuous master suite, fabulous screen porch and 3 car garage. Prime location on large lot-walk to Waynewood School!



4204 Old Mill Rd \$534,900
Updated Home- Detached Two Car Garage!
Attention car enthusiasts! Truly unique property featuring updated home, large lot and oversize two car garage with basement storage. Home features updated kitchen, open floor plan, gorgeous hardwood floors and more! Gorgeous elevated lot with large level backyard. Excellent price!



8315 Old Mt Vernon Rd \$849,000
True Custom Home!
Classic Georgian exterior with stunning open floor plan. Three luxuriously finished levels, high ceilings throughout, elegant trim detail, chef's gourmet kitchen, "Andersen" thermal windows. Lower level with outside entrance, ideal in-law suite. Magnificent property offers combination of size & custom amenities rarely found in homes under \$1 million!



9413 Brambly Lane \$899,000
Custom Home with Main Level Master Suite!
Custom home built by Wakefield Homes in 2010. Fabulous "new home" amenities including high ceilings, open floor plan and energy conserving package. Upgrades include: 4 luxury baths, 5 BR including two master suites, one on main level, hardwood floors, chef's kitchen and finished walk-out lower level. Many features the builder is utilizing in \$1.5+ homes!



1209 Falster Ct \$649,000
Updated Throughout!
Nothing like it on market-totally updated Collingwood home on quiet cul-de-sac for remarkably reasonable price. Major updates include: kitchen, baths, windows, electrical service, roof and basement. Four bedrooms, 3 baths. Large deck overlooks fenced backyard. All the work has been done-just move in! Prime location and Waynewood School attendance area. Don't walk—run to this outstanding property!



3705 Carriage House Ct \$798,500
Stunning Riverwood Renovation!



9201 Cherrytree Drive \$564,950
Huge House— Small Price!
Cool Spring Dr \$549,900
Pristine Home— Prime Location!



8106 Orville St \$505,000
Uniquely Gorgeous Property!
Expanded 4 level home with open floor plan. Gorgeous custom glass walled sunroom overlooks beautiful wooded grounds. Fabulous features: large kitchen, hardwood floors, 4BR, 3.5BA, expanded master suite, family room with brick fireplace, potential in-law suite. Deck and hot tub. Workshop with electricity. Convenient to everything via new Jeff Todd Hwy.



4408 Tarpon Ln \$549,950
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