

Former Police Officer Charged with John Geer Murder

Adam Torres indicted by special grand jury.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Adam Torres has been charged with murdering John Geer. Though Torres shot the unarmed man once in the chest nearly two years ago, the then-Fairfax County Police officer remained on the department's payroll until being terminated July 31, 2015.

Commonwealth Attorney Raymond Morrogh had convened a special grand jury to hear testimony from officers and other witnesses to determine whether Torres had committed any criminal wrongdoing. It first met for a week beginning July 27 and resumed on Aug. 17. The indictment of second-degree murder was announced later in the day Aug. 17.

Fairfax County Chief of Police Edwin Roessler and Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova held a joint press conference to discuss the new charge.

Roessler opened by sharing that he had reached out to the Geer family to again offer them "my personal condolences and sympathy." But he didn't stop there. "To the men and women of Fairfax County Police Department and our great community, my heartfelt sympathy to everybody, because the loss of life in this case impacts the Geer family and all of us."

TORRES was in the process of surrender-



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Torres Arraigned

Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh (center) speaks with reporters outside the Fairfax County Courthouse following the arraignment hearing for former Fairfax County Police officer Adam Torres. Judge Stephen Shannon denied Torres' counsel's request to set a bond; Torres was released to the custody of the Sheriff's Office. Both parties agreed to begin a jury trial on Dec. 14.

ing himself and being processed at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center while the press conference was taking place. He's currently being held without bond, a police report said. An arraignment hearing was scheduled for 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning, Aug. 19, where a judge may or may not set a trial date, Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh said in an email.

On Aug. 29, 2013, Geer had been standing in the doorway of his Springfield home for around 40 minutes, talking with offi-

cers who had their guns trained on his chest. Geer's longtime partner Maura Harrington called the police earlier because Geer had been throwing her belongings out of the house after she previously told him she was planning to move out of the residence and he became upset.

In police reports of the incident, Torres claimed to see Geer quickly lower his arms, presenting a perceived threat. The other officers present provided contradicting accounts, that Geer's movements were slower and nonthreatening. Torres fired once, strik-

ing Geer in the chest.

Roessler said he decided to terminate Torres because after reviewing the incident investigation, "the use of force was not reasonably necessary in this matter" and violated police general order 540.1.

Despite the tragedy of the incident itself, Geer's case drew public and media attention because it highlighted a perceived lack of transparency and accountability in the way Fairfax County and the police department handled communication and other

SEE FORMER POLICE, PAGE 6



John Geer's friend Jeff Stewart (center) speaks to reporters outside the Fairfax County Courthouse following Adam Torres' arraignment hearing. Torres was indicted Aug. 17 by a special grand jury and faces second-degree murder charges in the August 2013 shooting death of John Geer.

Policy Changes Recommended on Mental Health and Crisis Intervention

26 recommendations grouped into five different sets.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

About half of the inmates in the Fairfax County Jail have a mental health illness or substance abuse disorders. The Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Team subcommittee of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission included this information from County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid in the introduction to its list of policy change recommendations to the full commission on Aug. 17.

The subcommittee compiled 26 recommendations, grouped into five different sets: items for the Fairfax County Police Department, the Sheriff's Office and Community Services Board, the Judiciary

and Mental Health Dockets, more thorough implementation of the Virginia Crisis Intervention Team Essential Elements and increased community and county involvement in mental health awareness.

Del. Marcus Simon (D-53) is a commission member and chair of the Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Team subcommittee. He said one of the overarching goals of the recommendations is

to "create a situation where it's really easy for Crisis Intervention Team officers to start doing their jobs."

"We want to make sure folks who don't belong in jail don't end up there in the first place," Simon added.

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM training for law enforcement of
SEE POLICY CHANGES, PAGE 6



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid (center) attended the Aug. 17 Ad Hoc police policies review commission and joined the conversation regarding mental health and Crisis Intervention Team training.





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A Back-to-School Opportunity Fair was held at the South County Government Center.



PHOTOS BY EMILY RABBITT/THE GAZETTE

Cox volunteers unload computers.

Working Together for Back-to-School Opportunity Fair

Strengthening communities by supporting families.

BY EMILY RABBITT
THE GAZETTE

Opportunity Neighborhood, a collaborative effort of Fairfax County Government, Fairfax County Public Schools, United Community Ministries, and various other non-profits, hosted a Back-to-School Opportunity Fair for families at the South County Government Center in Alexandria.

Opportunity Neighborhood is a collaborative effort between government, non-profits, and residents, that seeks to capitalize on the strengths of a community while working to identify needs and target resources there.

"We look at families and communities from a strength perspective," said Fairfax County Community Developer Ramona Carroll. Bringing residents to the table is a key focus of the collaborative efforts.

The event took place simultaneously on three levels of the government center, the top which had at the ready 1,600 kits with core school supplies like books, pencils and pens. Representatives from each school in the area were available including Woodlawn, Riverside, and Mount Vernon Woods Elementary schools, Whitman Middle School, and Mount Vernon High School. Students who showed up from other schools were also provided with school supplies.

Opportunity Neighborhoods focuses on connecting families with services. "Children who are successful in school are ones with engaged, involved parents," Carroll said.

As families filed by carrying binders and school supplies, Carroll collected their "passports," sheets of paper with contact information that asks questions of parents such as: "do you read to your children?" and "do you know where your local library is?" as a way to gauge what residents know about the services available in their community and ways to help their child succeed. The information collected will help Opportunity Neighborhood to follow up with families and tell them about back-to-school nights and other ways to stay en-



School kits ready to be distributed.

gaged with their children's school.

Carroll caught any parents walking by with strollers or small children to tell them about the availability of Imagination Library, an initiative created by Dolly Parton to have more young people read to. A free book is sent each month to the parents of a child from infancy until they reach five years of age — a crucial time in language development.

One floor down from the school supplies, Bonnie Lilley headed up the free physicals for children new to Fairfax County. Any student who is uninsured and has joined the

school district within the last year gets a physical, immunizations, and this year, a dental check-up. Students who get the free check-ups get a free backpack. The service is available for preschool through 6th graders (middle and high school students don't need a physical in Fairfax County).

"Everyone is a volunteer," Lilley said, including doctors and nurses that volunteer their time, and Lilley herself, who is a retired school social worker.

On the bottom floor and in the parking lot, Cox was helping families check to see if they were eligible for their Connect2Compete program, which offers low cost (\$9.95 a month) internet access for families with school-aged children that meet qualifiers like receiving free lunch or SNAP benefits.

Emma Inman of Cox said that "Fairfax County Public Schools have been a tremendous partner, because they have the information about who qualifies." Connect2Compete is essential, said Inman, because "76 percent of K-12 teachers assign homework via internet, and we're trying to bridge that gap."

Cox volunteers were on hand and assisted 46 families to enroll or begin the enrollment process for the service. Thirty families received desktop computers.

Suspect Arrested For Homicide

Fairfax County police have arrested 19-year-old Michael Norman Powell of Alexandria and charged him with second-degree murder in the death of Khalid Aboumalik, 42.

Powell was arrested Aug. 13, just over a week after police identified Aboumalik's dead body in Huntington Park and determined it an apparent homicide.

A Fairfax County Police Fugitive Detectives and U.S. Marshals Service task force captured Powell. He's currently being held in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center without bond, according to police.

— TIM PETERSON



Michael Norman

FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPT.

Candidates Face Off on Fairfax Public Access's 'Inside Scoop'

For the first time, the non-partisan Meet and Greet Candidates Forum for certified candidates, both for the State Senate and the House of Delegates, will be broadcast live on a special extended edition of Inside Scoop on Aug. 31, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The studio is located at 2929-S Eskridge Road in the Mosaic District of Fairfax. All of the candidates have been invited to respond to questions from a studio audience for an hour and then to meet with the public informally in a conference room next to the studio. Viewers at home will be able to e-mail or phone in questions during the broadcast to insidescoop@NoVa.org or 1-571-749-1166. To join the live audience, go

to the studio. Directions are on the Channel 10 website. To stream the program, go to www.insidescoopproductions.com. Ten minutes before the program starts, touch the WATCH LIVE button on the screen. The streaming will last till the program ends. A videotape of the broadcast will be posted both on the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) website and on YouTube.

Candidates for the Senate and House of Delegates in the eastern region of the county, Mount Vernon, Lee, and Mason districts, will be in the studio with their constituents from 7 to 8 p.m. Candidates for districts in the central region, Braddock,

Providence, and Springfield, will be in the studio from 8 to 9 p.m., and candidates with districts primarily in the western region will be in the studio from 9 to 10 p.m.

This event is the first of 13 Meet and Greets sponsored this year by the LWVFA and its co-sponsors: the American Association of University Women of Virginia (AAUW), the Fairfax County Council of PTAs, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the Voice of Vietnamese Americans.

A companion program for candidates for Sheriff, Commonwealth Attorney, Clerk of the Court, and Directors of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District will air on Monday, Sept. 28, from 7 to 9 p.m.

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CRIME REPORT

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

ROBBERY: Frye Road near Richmond Highway, Aug. 17 at about 3:30 a.m. The victim was walking and was approached by a group of five to seven men. The suspects assaulted the victim, took cash and property and fled. The victim was transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The suspects were described as in their 20s.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY: Mount Woodley Place/Sherwood Hall Lane, Aug. 15 at about 10:11 p.m. The victim was walking and was approached by a man. The suspect assaulted the victim and attempted to take property from the victim prior to fleeing on foot. The victim incurred non-life threatening injuries. The suspect was described as a white male in his late teens, wearing a black shirt and blue jeans.

INDECENT EXPOSURE: 5900 block of Richmond Highway, Aug. 11 at about 4:04 p.m. A man walked out of a bathroom of a hotel and exposed himself to an employee. The suspect was described as a black male, about 6 feet tall, wearing a white tank top and dark basketball shorts.

PEEPING: 7900 block of Janna Lee Avenue, Aug. 10 at about 11:24 a.m. Two different residents reported a juvenile male looking into their rooms on the same day. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 16-years-old, wearing a blue T-shirt, blue shorts and a grey baseball hat.

PEEPING: 6700 block of West Wakfield Drive, Aug. 9 at about 10:05 a.m. and 10:39 p.m. A resident reported a male looking into the rooms of the residence. The suspect fled prior to po-

lice arrival. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 26 to 30 years old, about 6 feet tall, 175 to 185 pounds, and wearing a navy blue short-sleeve shirt, long khaki shorts and a grey baseball hat.

ROBBERY: 6200 block of Richmond Highway, Aug. 9 at about 10:32 hours. The victim was standing at a bus stop when an unknown male took her wallet from her hand. The suspect punched the victim and ran off with her wallet and fled in an unknown vehicle. The victim did not require any medical attention. The suspect was described a black male in his 30's, about 5 feet 11 inches, wearing a striped polo style shirt, jeans and a white hat.

BURGLARY OF AN OCCUPIED DWELLING: 2400 block of Huntington Park Drive, Aug. 9 at about 12:47 a.m. A resident reported a white male entering his garage, then riding away on a bicycle. Officers located the suspect and arrested him. The juvenile suspect was wanted on a probation violation. Investigation continues.

BURGLARY OF AN OCCUPIED DWELLING: 2400 block of Huntington Park Drive, Aug. 9 at about 5:44 p.m. A homeowner had returned from a bike ride when he was approached by a juvenile who asked for money for the bus. While the homeowner was distracted the suspect rode off with the victim's bicycle. Officers recovered the bicycle but the suspect was not located. The suspect was described as a Hispanic juvenile, thin build, and wearing a blue polo style shirt and khaki shorts.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT: 6600 block of Richmond Highway, Aug. 6 at about 9:35 p.m. The victim was in the parking lot of the TGI Fridays and was approached by three men. The suspects assaulted the victim and fled in an older

model SUV. The victim was transported to a local hospital and incurred non-life-threatening injuries.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE WITH APPREHENSION: 6000 block of Richmond Highway, Aug. 5 at about 4:50 a.m. Officers responded for a report of vehicle tampering in progress. Officers arrested the suspect after a brief foot pursuit. A 27-year-old man from Washington D.C. was charged with two counts of destruction of property, larceny, trespassing, and possession of schedule III drugs.

BURGLARY: 8000 block of Capistrano Place, Aug. 3 at about 6:37 p.m. A resident reported that an unknown person went into a residence and took property.

UNLAWFUL ENTRY: 2800 block of Jefferson Drive, Aug. 3 at about 10:47 a.m. A property manager reported that an unknown person had been living in a vacant home.

ROBBERY: 6300 block of South Kings Highway, Aug. 1 at about 1:30 a.m. Two men approached the victim and one displayed a knife and demanded money. The victim gave up some cash and the suspects ran away. The victim did not need medical attention.

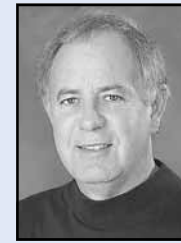
BURGLARY: 4400 block of Flintstone Road, Aug. 1 at about 6:02 p.m. A resident reported an unknown person entered the residence and took property.

LARCENIES
5900 block of Grand Pavilion Way, phone from business.

2600 block of Groveton Street, property from residence.

7600 block of Richmond Highway, purse from business.

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Alex./Yacht Haven • \$832,700
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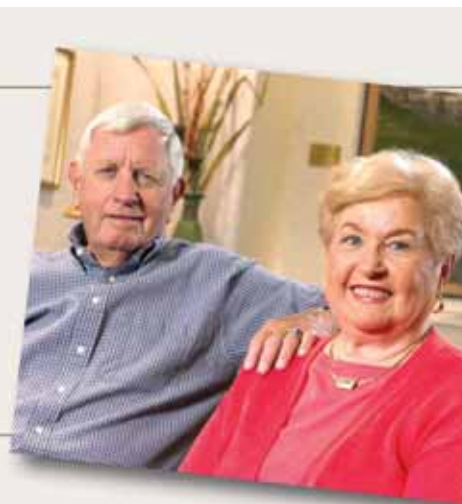


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—James F. Hind



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Former Police Officer Charged with John Geer Murder

FROM PAGE 1

policies such as use of force.

One response to the criticism was Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova's creation of an ad hoc commission to review police policies.

"Fairfax County has learned a lot through this very difficult process," Bulova said at the press conference, "learned a lot about sharing information in a timely way."

Though Geer was killed Aug. 29, 2013,



Adam Torres was fired by Fairfax County Police on July 31 and indicted for the second-degree murder of John Geer on Aug. 17.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL LIEBERMAN

John Geer standing in his doorway in Springfield, minutes before he was shot by a Fairfax County Police officer.

Fairfax County Chief of Police Edwin Roessler expressed his sympathy for the Geer family, police officers and the community at a press conference announcing the indictment of former officer Adam Torres for second degree murder of John Geer.



Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova called Monday "a sad day" for the Geer family and police department, with one of their own being charged with murder.



very little information about the case was made public, much less released to Geer's family following the incident. Ongoing investigations by the police department, Commonwealth Attorney's Office and Department of Justice were cited as reasons why information such as the name of the officer who shot Geer was withheld for a year and a half. Geer's family finally filed a \$12 million civil suit against the county, including the request for information. Fairfax County settled out of court, paying nearly \$3 million, and released over 11,000 pages of documents from the incident investigation.

"This is the first time we've had a situation like this where there has not been a relatively fast resolution to a police-involved shooting," Bulova said. The chairman referred to the situation as a "convoluted" one that "held things up in a way that frustrated the Board of Supervisors. We were not happy that things ended up not moving forward to resolution, that instead it wound

up at the federal level."

THE AD HOC COMMISSION is scheduled to present its final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in October, however Bulova and Roessler said the county hasn't waited to begin already implementing some of the suggestions that have already been put forward by the commission.

"I have every confidence a scenario like this won't happen again," Bulova said.

Many others are hopeful for that as well.

"Nothing you can do is going to justify his death," said Jeff Stewart, Geer's friend who witnessed the shooting and also serves on the ad hoc commission. "The only thing I can hope is through this commission, and other things, it vindicates his life. I think he'd be proud of that — we keep these things from happening in the future."

Stewart said after he heard about the indictment, he had "mixed emotions." "It's certainly a big weight, felt like a weight had been lifted, but it's hard to get past the fact [Torres] has two kids of his own. His family didn't sign on for this either. It's tragic."

With regards to closure, Stewart said, "I think we're there already."

"The grand jury heard the evidence and got it right. I trust when it goes to trial, they'll get it right as well. I've trusted the system up to now — I've said, if he was indicted, I would trust the system to make the right decision."

And while Torres received the indictment, "more went wrong here than just Torres pulling the trigger," Stewart said. "You should have supervisors in front of you, answering for why an officer was there, violating procedures, and no one was doing

anything about it." "While he did kill someone, we can't really blame him for everything after that," said Mike Curtis of Northern Virginia Cop Block and founder of the Facebook group Justice for John Geer, which has staged numerous protests since the fall. "He can't decide to charge himself with the crime, he can't prosecute himself."

"You can't blame him for the stonewalling," Curtis continued. "That's one thing I'm worried about now. We've gotten the one step done, but hardest thing is holding Bulova, Roessler, (County Attorney) David Bobzien accountable. There needs to be some opposition to people who've been on the Board of Supervisors for years. They're the ones who make these employment choices. These patterns keep repeating."

"Unfortunately, it's not an issue to most people," Curtis said.

Policy Changes Recommended on Mental Health and Crisis Intervention

FROM PAGE 1

Officers helps them to "recognize, evaluate and de-escalate encounters with individuals in mental distress," the subcommittee's report says.

Subcommittee members researched "The Memphis Model" for Crisis Intervention Team training, as established in Memphis City after the fatal shooting of a man with mental illness by a city police officer. "In the City of Memphis," the subcommittee report reads, "the change in approach has resulted in an attitudinal shift within the police department as it relates to all their encounters with the community, a shift from military/aggressive or warrior mentality to a community/service or guardian one."

Members of the subcommittee and Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid visited Bexar County, Texas, said to be a current example of the Memphis Model in practice. The county adopted the model eight years ago, Simon explained from the report, and has since seen savings of \$5 million a year in

What is the CSB?

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board is the public agency that provides services for people who have mental illness, substance use disorders, and/or intellectual disability. The CSB also provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services.

jail costs from diverting more than 4,000 individuals with mental health problems away from the jail, as well as significantly reducing the number of use of force incidents inside the jail.

Recommendations 8 through 18 deal specifically with the Sheriff's Office and Community Services Board, including reorganizing the Board to expand its capacity, as well as expanding the Mobile Crisis Unit program — an emergency on-scene service offering treatment, evaluation and crisis intervention.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS chairman

Who to Call for Help

In emergency situations (24/7)

❖ CSB Emergency Services, 703-573-5679, TTY 711

❖ Fairfax Detoxification Center, 703-502-7000, TTY 703-322-9080

❖ CrisisLink suicide hotline, 703-527-4077

❖ CrisisLink suicide text hotline, 703-940-0888

❖ Call 911 for a life-threatening emergency

Sharon Bulova commented that the supervisors were already including funding for the mobile crisis unit in the budget carryover package.

"The Board of Supervisors is very sensitive to the issues being discussed," she said, "and not waiting for October for those recommendations."

"It's really going to make a sea change,"

During business hours:

❖ CSB Entry & Referral Services, 703-383-8500, TTY 711

❖ Infant & Toddler Connection, 703-246-7121, TTY 703-324-4495

For basic needs: food, housing, medical care, etc., 703-222-0880, TTY 711

Staff at all of the numbers listed above can take calls in English and Spanish and can access other languages when needed.

— KEN MOORE

Bulova added.

Simon reminded Bulova he plans to be a "bird dog" when it comes to following up on the recommendations of the subcommittee and full commission.

"To have all this information sitting on shelves would be a shame," he said. "Now we've got a roadmap to solve a lot of these problems."

Questions Pursued after Encounter with Police

Iraq war veteran calls Internal Affairs commander's statements "victim blaming."

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

Alex Horton waited patiently for his chance to speak. Meanwhile the Use of Force subcommittee of the Fairfax County ad hoc commission to review police policies and procedures waded through the results of a survey to determine the content and language of policy change recommendations it will eventually bring to the full commission.

Once it was time for public comment, Horton pulled out a prepared statement and proceeded to read from it while seated outside the ring of subcommittee members.

On the morning of June 14, Horton was asleep in a model apartment in his building in the Huntington area of Alexandria. He had been staying there briefly while repairs were taking place in his own unit. Upon seeing the door to the apartment ajar, a dentist with an office across the hall called Fairfax County Police and reported a vagrant in the building.

Police gained access to the building and unit, and reportedly announced themselves repeatedly.

Hearing no response, they entered and performed a sweep of the room, brandishing their service weapons. In a July letter published in The Washington Post, Horton describes waking up in shock while this was taking place.

The letter goes on to explain no shots were fired and the situation de-escalated after Horton produced proof that he lived in the building.

Horton came to the subcommittee meeting not as much to complain about the officers' tactics specifically, but rather his experience with the police department afterwards. An Iraq war veteran, Horton said he understood the process officers used to



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Alex Horton of the Huntington area of Alexandria, reads his latest statement at the Aug. 12 Use of Force subcommittee of the ad hoc police policies review commission, calling for a continued "constructive dialogue" about police accountability, professionalism and transparency.

sweep the room.

"My chief complaint," Horton said, "is how the officers failed to reasonably exhaust all opportunities to gather information before raiding the bedroom with guns drawn and leveled at me."

Following Horton's letter in the newspaper, Fairfax County Chief of Police Edwin Roessler announced an investigation of the matter would take place. Aug. 7, the chief released recordings of the 911 call and dispatch call, as well as a five-page response letter to Horton, to the public.

At Horton's request, the two met in person to discuss his concerns.

"I felt it was helpful and constructive," Horton said.

In addition to the case, Roessler said the two had "a good, healthy discussion about philosophical issues with policing in the national dialogue. He made good points about the profession, I wanted to get his input."

In his statement at the meeting, Horton said the chief justified the officers' procedures because they were executed by the

book. "Whether the book itself needs rewriting is a question I hope Chief Roessler and other leaders will answer in the coming weeks and months," said Horton.

Horton was also critical that the chief's summary in the letter to him said officers tried but were unsuccessful in obtaining information from the security guard at the apartment complex.

"A representative from the security company told me precisely the opposite of what was found in the report," Horton said, "The officers only asked the guard which building the 9-1-1 caller had identified and they went in. That's it, no questions, no fact-gathering."

Horton played recordings he'd made of conversations with the security guard who encountered the police, as well as a police supervisor with knowledge of the incident. That supervisor asserted the officers didn't do anything wrong by not gathering more information.

Horton's next major complaint was with statements made by Fairfax County Police Internal Affairs commander Maj. Michael

Kline, who attended the previous subcommittee meeting and spoke about how the incident transpired and the ensuing investigation.

During his explanation (which is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k82WIL9Uvo4>), Kline walks the subcommittee members through the mentality of the officers who responded to the vagrancy call.

Whether they're homeless just looking for a place to stay the night, drug addicts strung out, a fugitive, someone who is mentally ill, "these things are in the back of the mind of the patrol officer as he's prepared to make that entry."

Kline said the officers knocked and announced themselves, standard procedure, and hearing no response, entered the room with a mindset that the person inside might be trying to barricade themselves or set up an ambush.

"It can be pretty well inferred, our investigation indicates, that he had spent the night before drinking rather heavily," Kline said. "He didn't hear the knock and announce because he was still in bed and asleep when we went in."

"This is untrue and pure conjecture," Horton responded. "By all accounts, the officers said I was cooperative and compliant, and nothing would have indicated I was inebriated."

"Whether consciously or not," Horton continued, "he seized on the harmful trope of the damaged, drunk and disheveled war veteran that my community has sought to amend in the wake of Vietnam."

Horton went on to say he shared this complaint with Roessler as well. Roessler confirmed that the matter is a "personnel issue, under inquiry by me."

Though Kline was in the room for the Aug. 12 meeting, he didn't immediately respond to Horton's statement.

Use of Force Subcommittee To Pilot Case Review Process

The Aug. 12 Use of Force subcommittee meeting began with a discussion of the Fairfax County Chief of Police Edwin Roessler's public release of brief summaries of every officer-involved shooting going back to 2005.

Though the summaries do provide more information that had previously been released, they do not mention victims' names or officers' names who were involved. Members of the subcommittee questioned whether the summaries were complete enough or sufficient to help that body with its mission of crafting suggestions for policy changes.

"The people who've prepared this are in the best position to see if these have policy issues embedded in them," said Sal Culosi, who is also a member of the full Ad Hoc commission to review police policies. "The

Police Department is in the best position to help us identify ... If they can't do it, we're not going to be able to do it."

Subcommittee and commission member Mary Kimm raised the possibility of requesting access to full incident reports for "three, five, seven cases, to see if we can find out a little more about it? A couple might help us understand the procedures."

Roessler confirmed that rather than grant unrestricted access to incident reports, several subcommittee members will participate in a "pilot effort" where they'll be able to ask dedicated police staff questions related to particular cases. Those staff members will have access to the files.

Roessler said the first such meeting is being scheduled in the near future.

— TIM PETERSON

Officer-Involved Shooting Summaries By Year											
Station/Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
FAIR OAKS		1	2	1							
FRANCONIA	2			2			1	1	1	1	
MASON	2	1									
MCLEAN	2	1		2	1	1					
MT VERNON		2	1		1			2	1		
RESTON						1					
SULLY		1					1			1	
WEST SPRINGFIELD	1		1	1					1		
Total	7	6	4	6	2	2	2	3	3	2	0

IMAGE COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Summaries of 37 cases of officer-involved shootings, between 2005 and 2015, are searchable by year or location through the police department's website.

OPINION

Sea Changes in Policing?

Report offers blueprint for transforming aspects of policing, jail and services for people with mental illness.

Yesterday, for the first time in the history of Fairfax County Police Department, a Fairfax County Police officer was charged in a shooting death.

On Monday, Aug. 17, former Fairfax County Police officer Adam Torres was charged with the second-degree murder of John Geer, following an indictment returned by a special grand jury convened by Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh. It appears to be only the second time in history that the Commonwealth's Attorney has convened a grand jury in an officer-involved shooting.

John Geer was shot dead in the doorway to his own home on Aug. 29, 2013 after police were called in a domestic dispute. Torres was fired in July 2015, almost two years later.

FCPD began by releasing almost no information. It took a year-and-a-half, a judge's order, a U.S. senator's probing, and public outrage (the most important of these being the court order) to get information about the investigation.

But the public outrage led the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to form the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, which has been meeting since April both as a commission and five subcommittees involving thousands of hours of work by about 70 people.

Areas of focus by committee include Use of Force; Communications; Mental Health; Recruitment, Diversity and Vetting; and Independent Investigations and Oversight.

Communications recommendations came out last month, well worth reading on the commission website.

Police and county officials recognize that the world is changing around them, and have engaged in the process. The kind of changes needed represent a massive change in culture and approach, and none of it will happen overnight, but the process has started.

Several developments, beyond the indictment of Torres, mark progress and opportunity for change.

Last week, FCPD Chief Edwin Roessler posted a website summary of all officer involved shootings, a major step and a work in progress. The department is wrestling with communications initiatives on many levels.

This week, the report released from the Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Training Committee marks a remarkable opportunity for Fairfax County to transform the way it provides services to people with mental illness. Recommendations reach beyond the police department to the county jail and the Community Services Board, which provides mental health services in the county.

Police are often the first responders in a

Get Involved

The public is invited to speak at the next meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission:

Monday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.

Walt Whitman Middle School

2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria VA 22306

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission/>

♦ Read the Mental Health Subcommittee's final report and recommendations:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission/materials/mhcrit-draft-report-august14.pdf>

♦ See Fairfax County Police Department website on Officer Involved Shootings

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/inside-fcpd/063015ois.htm>

mental health crisis. The jail is the county's largest facility for people with mental illness. The costs, financial and human, of dealing with mental health in this way are enormous. The 26 recommendations of the Mental Health Subcommittee, presented by committee chair and state delegate Marcus Simon, offer the county a path to getting it right.

Recommendations including fully implementing the "Memphis model" of crisis intervention, which provides for response teams including officers specially trained in de-escalating situations with people in mental health crisis; creating a system of getting treatment rather than incarceration for people with mental illness; creating a mental health docket in the courts; funding a second Mobile Crisis Unit under the Community Services Board; establish strategically located, 24-hour crisis intervention sites where police can safely transfer custody of person in crisis without taking them to jail.

How much will it cost? It will require upfront money, but it costs \$50,000 annually to house someone in the Fairfax County Detention Center. To provide intensive therapy in the community costs \$7,500 a year.

— MARY KIMM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Policy Change Warranted

To the Editor:

I was disappointed to read the letter ["Ignoring Will of the People," The Gazette, July 16] regarding Dan Storck's position on the changes to the non-discrimination policy and the family life (FLE) curriculum regarding gender identity.

All of our FCPS students deserve the right to attend school without fear or bullying, and the expansion of these policies to include transgender students underscores that right.

Almost half of transgender youth will have had at least one suicide attempt before they are 20 years old compared to 8 percent for youth nationwide. Therefore, school policies that help minimize an environment of bullying and harassment are actually a matter of life and death.

The Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) conducted an analysis of the effectiveness of anti-bullying policies around the country and found that

LGBT students attending schools that specifically have LGBT-inclusive policies reported greater feelings of safety, lower rates of victimization and other harassment, and more effective response from staff when students did report incidents of bullying to them than LGBT students who attend schools that do not have LGBT-inclusive policies. When school districts decline to include gender identity, they are leaving it to teachers and principals who may not have training to figure out how to manage this issue.

A growing body of research also indicates the individual LGBT youth who hear about themselves in health and family life curricula do better on a wide range of indicators: better attendance, better grades, better post-secondary outcomes, improved mental health indicators. These are things we want for all of our students.

Adolescence is a challenging time for all children. I am proud that our School Board overwhelmingly voted to serve the needs of all of our students by expanding the non-discrimination policies to include gender identity as well as

revising the FLE curriculum. The people I know in Mount Vernon do not support any form of discrimination. This is the 21st century, not the 19th.

I appreciate Mr. Storck's support on these issues and I'm happy to support him in the race for Mount Vernon supervisor.

Sherry Dana
Springfield

Wrong Emphasis

To the Editor:

I take exception to part of the tone on the article ["Mount Vernon Football Looking for First Win Since 2013," The Gazette, Aug. 6] about the upcoming season for the Mount Vernon football team. That part is the emphasis on winning games. At this level of play the emphasis should be on playing well as a team, not on winning. The coach's job is to give his players endurance and team skills, but it is beyond his (or her) capabilities to deal with the advantage that a team may have because it has

more players, and there is only so much a coach can do to overcome the latent talent that may lie in an opposing player, or to develop the latent talent in his own players.

Sports should never be the main focus of one high school education. Emphasis in sports should be on every player performing up to their potential. Winning is often a natural consequence of this.

John Dickert
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue.

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

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1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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OBITUARY

Frances Dowdle Abbott "Smokie" Lyon

Frances Dowdle Abbott "Smokie" Lyon, 91, of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., died on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2015. Frances was born in Rome, Ga., on March 21, 1924, a daughter of John Westley and Lucille Field Dowdle. She grew up in Columbia and Florence, S.C., and graduated Columbia High School and Draughton's Business College with honors. She was a member of the Columbia Choral Society, the Trianon Club and the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. A member of the National Honor Society, Frances later worked for Military Personnel at Fort Jackson and the Army Air Base in Columbia during World War II.

Frances later transferred to Washington, D.C., and in 1948, married Army Captain Jackson Miles Abbott, of Boston, Mass. Residing in Alexandria, they raised four children in Waynewood, property along the Potomac River once a part of George Washington's Mount Vernon estate. Active in her community, Frances was involved in Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, the PTA and volunteered with countless other organizations. The Abbotts were members of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) and listed in the Social Register of Washington, D.C. A lifelong student of history, Frances is a descendant of Richard Stockton of New Jersey, signer of The Declaration of Independence. She served many years as chairman of the "George Washington Birth Night Supper & Ball" as a member of the Virginia State Commission to celebrate Washington's 250th Birthday (1982), and five years on the steering committee establishing the Neighborhood Friends of Historic Mount Vernon. During her tenure as chairman of the Birth Night Ball, it became an "invitation only" affair and was attended by the Governor of Virginia and Mrs. John Dalton (1978), the Lt. Governor and Mrs. Charles Robb (1979), and the Attorney General and Mrs. Marshall Coleman (1980), various ambassadors and their wives and other distinguished guests. Frances received many special awards for her volunteer activities on behalf of Mount Vernon in furthering the remembrance of George Washington.

Frances later pursued a 20-year career as librarian and research associate at Gadsby's Tavern Museum in Old Town Alexandria. She especially enjoyed its connections to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson and was instrumental in beginning a series of books

holding all the Alexandria Gazette's clippings relating to Gadsby's Tavern from 1749 to its present day as a city museum. Frances was a 50-plus year member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), during which time she chaired many committees. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Fort Sullivan Chapter of Charleston.

Other activities included: feature writer and Mount Vernon correspondent for the Alexandria Gazette newspaper; District Chairman of the Mount Vernon March of Dimes; Secretary-Treasurer of the Mount Vernon Citizen's Association; and volunteering once a week at the White House during the Reagan years. She also enjoyed modeling for various military and civilian organizations in the Washington, D.C., area. For years, she was listed in Who's Who of American Women.

After her first husband died in 1988, Frances married Archibald (Archie) W. Lyon, BG U.S. Army (Ret.) in 1993. They travelled widely and enjoyed sharing their love of history until Archie died in 1998. Frances later moved to Charleston. In addition to membership at Christ Church where she was an active member of the "Seekers" Life Group and Daughters of the King, she belonged to the West Point Society of Charleston, South Carolina Historical Society, The Nature Conservancy, Charleston Chapter of National Sojourners, Charleston Chapter of Military Officers Association of America and the Hat Ladies of Charleston.

She is survived by her four children, Elizabeth Youngs (Steven), of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., Medora Frances Abbott, North Charleston, S.C., David Field Abbott (Patty), of Columbus, Ohio, Robert Jackson Abbott (Sandra), of Woodbine, Md.; stepson, David Allen Lyon, of Washington D.C.; her beloved sister, Medora Dowdle Jackson, of Columbia, S.C.; two grandsons, Jackson Byron Youngs and Jacob Miles Abbott; and a large and loving extended family. A funeral service will be held at Christ Church, 2304 N Hwy. 17, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015 at 5 p.m., followed by a reception at the church. She will be buried at Arlington Memorial Cemetery, Arlington, beside her first husband, the late Jackson Miles Abbott, LTC USAR (Ret.) at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made in honor to Christ Church Building Fund, 2304 Highway 17 N, Mt. Pleasant, S.C. or to Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal

Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Expressions of sympathy may be viewed or submitted online at www.McAlister-Smith.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to McAlister-Smith Funeral Home, Mt. Pleasant Chapel, 1520 Rifle Range Road, Mt. Pleasant, S.C., 843-884-3833. Visit the guestbook at www.legacy.com/obituaries/charleston.



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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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Checking the Back-to-School Healthcare Blocks

Local governments, clinics offer free immunizations for all and physical exams for the uninsured.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

As the lazy days of summer wind down, beach trips, lemonade stands and lax bedtimes give way to alarm clocks, textbooks and backpacks. Public health officials say that a back-to-school list should include more than pencils and paper. For many, the first order of business is a well-child physical, a dental exam and required immunizations.

During a physical exam, parents should double check that immunizations are up to date, ask if their child's growth is on target and what normal developmental changes they should expect during the next year. Parents should also be prepared to answer questions about their child's sleep patterns and eating habits.

"Vision checks are an important part of a routine school entry physical so make sure to ask for one," said Caroline Sutter, a family nurse practitioner, DNP-BC, co-director of Mason and Partners (MAP) clinics and an assistant professor of nursing at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Dental exams

are important to maintain health. Ask for a referral for a dental visit."

George Mason University's College of Health and Human Services runs MAP clinics, which offers school entry physicals at no cost.

The Fairfax County Health Department provides free school-required immunizations at five locations in the county. "We are offering some special extended hours in August and September to accommodate the back-to-school rush, but we recommend that parents make the appointment now," said John Silcox, public safety information officer, Fairfax County Health Department.

IN CONJUNCTION with Inova Health System's Partnership for Healthier Kids, the Fairfax County health department also offers free physicals for school entry to uninsured children. The health department also operates three dental clinics that provide services to children based on eligibility.

"We operate three health centers in Falls Church, Alexandria and Reston that provide primary health services for low income, uninsured residents who cannot afford pri-

mary medical care services for themselves and their families," said Silcox.

Sutter says proper sleep and physical activity are also part of the pediatric health care picture and should not be overlooked. Transitioning from a summer of sleeping late to a school year of early wake-up calls can be challenging if children are not prepared. "Establish a sleep schedule now," said Sutter. "With summer coming to an end, it is important to get kids on a regular sleep schedule before school starts.

"Stress the importance of routine physical activity with your child," she continued. "Talk about sports they might be interested in during the school year or other ways to stay physically fit but most important set a good example. Exercise regularly yourself or with your children."

For those experiencing anxiety about returning to school, Sutter suggests addressing the issue before the first day of school. "Come up with a good plan to address them," she said. "Talk to your children about kindness and what to do if he or she is a victim of bullying and how to ask for help if needed."

Health Care Resources

Mason and Partners (MAP) Clinics

For physical exams:
Wednesdays: Springfield
Springfield Family Resource Center
7224 Commerce Street, Apartment T4
Springfield, VA 22051
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Thursdays: Culmore
Culmore Family Resource Center
3304 B Culmore Court
Falls Church, VA 22041
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Other Fairfax County, Virginia, health care resources:

Fairfax County Health Department Community Health Care Network (CHCN)

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/pcs/hdchcn.htm>
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/pcs/hdchcn.htm>

❖ CHCN - South County
8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 301
Alexandria, VA 22309
703-704-5333

Fairfax County Health Department's Dental Clinics

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/pcs/hddental.htm

❖ Joseph Willard Health Center
3750 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA, 22030
703-246-7100
❖ Mount Vernon Office
8350 Richmond Highway, Suite 233
Alexandria, VA 22309
703-704-6181.

Fairfax County Immunizations

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/immun/immunupdate.htm

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NEWS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Farmers Market Supports UCM

Every Wednesday afternoon, vendors at the Fairfax County Farmers Market at Sherwood Hall donate unsold fresh produce and baked goods to the UCM Cynthia Hull Food Pantry to benefit families in need. Recently, UCM received crates full of fresh squash, tomatoes, eggplant, corn, herbs, baked goods, and fresh flowers. Above, with UCM Food Pantry volunteers is Alexandria resident Pamela Beggan, left, who has been volunteering for more than 20 years to pick up and deliver the donations to UCM, along with Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club members.

Carucci Joins National Breast Center Foundation

Martha Carucci of Alexandria has been named program manager of National Breast Center Foundation. With a background in lobbying, administration and event planning, Carucci was chief lobbyist to the U.S. House of Representatives for the Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association and the manager of administration and events for the National Association of Broadcasters. She has extensive volunteer and fundraising



experience essential for the foundation. Carucci will develop and implement strategies to maximize program efforts and services, supporting the foundation's mission to improve the lives of women by removing barriers that prevent them from getting proper screening, diagnosis, and education about breast cancer. Visit www.nationalbreastcenter.com.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Carucci also studied at Georgetown and Harvard Universities. She is married with three children. She can be reached at martha.carucci@nationalbreastcenter.org.

Neighborhood Resource Fair Returns Sept. 12

From animal control and code compliance to stormwater management and community revitalization, Lee District community members will have a chance to get a variety of county service questions answered — all in one place.

Next month, the biennial Lee District Neighborhood Resource Fair, sponsored by Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) will bring Fairfax County department experts to the Franconia Governmental Center to interact with residents face-to-face.

The fair is scheduled to take place Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Franconia Governmental Center located at 6121 Franconia Road in Alexandria. For more information, call 703-971-6262.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO COURTESY OF MELINDA HUNTER

Little Free Library

Mount Vernon-area resident Liz Schroeder erected a "lending library" on the corner of her property, named "Wheat's Corner" in honor of her late uncle Len Wheat. The Little Free Library is free for anyone to use and includes a sign encouraging users to take or leave books, and write friendly messages in the books they return.

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Extraordinary updated Colonial w/ 7BR, 5.5BA on 4 levels & +5400 sq ft of luxury living. Chef's Kit, built-ins, fin bsmt/w au-pair suite, kitchette, rec rm w/FP & wet bar. \$1,299,000
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Potomac Club
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Woodbridge VA
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upgraded berber and
hardwood floors.
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Potomac Club
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Mary Cay Harris
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Garage, New Hardwoods
& Paint, Built-Ins &
Plantation Shutters
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David Thorpe
MLS # AX8623169

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Alexandria VA
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floors, crown molding, lots of
windows. \$610,000
Tracy Vitali
MLS # FX8694245



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lg private deck, located near all
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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Broadway Musical Dance

Workshop. Through Aug. 24, 3:45-4:45 p.m. Mondays at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Dance class involving jazz and Broadway music. All skills levels welcome. Free; donations accepted. Register by calling 703-765-4573.

Paintings by Stanley Agbontaen.

Through Aug. 28 at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Drive. The Maryland-based international artist's depictions of scenes are painted on oil canvas. Free. Visit www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter.

“Au Naturel” Exhibit. Through Aug. 30, first Thursdays, 12-9 p.m., Thursdays, 12-6 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 12-9 p.m., Sundays, 12-6 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave. View artwork made in the “Au Naturel” or minimalist style. Admission is free. Visit www.TheDelrayArtisans.org.

Leigh Merrill: “Cloud Seeding.”

Through Sept. 7, during gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Texas-based artist Leigh Merrill shows photography and video in her solo exhibition Cloud Seeding. Merrill's work examines the construction of desire, fiction and beauty in urban landscapes by digitally compositing thousands of images and videos into imaginary spaces. Admission is free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried Show.

Through Aug. 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Studio 18. View parade-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com or call 717-359-7724.

Cool Yoga.

Wednesdays through Sept. 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave. Participate in group yoga sessions taught by Prasada Yoga's Maureen Clyne and enjoy refreshments provided by St. Elmo's Coffee Pub and other local eateries. Suitable for all levels. Bring mat, towel and water. Free. Call 703-671-2000.

“Fields.” Through Sept. 6, during gallery hours at The Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Abstract Artists David Carlson and Pat Goslee make art based on their interests in spiritual exploration and energy fields. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

Special Family Museum Tours.

Saturdays through Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N Royal St. Flexible tours and hands-on activities provide a deeper experience into the social and political life of Alexandria in the 18th and 19th centuries. Tickets are \$5 for adults (\$4 with AAA card), \$3 children ages 5-12, and children ages 4 and under as well as Alexandria Public School and Blue Star families receive free admission. Coupons accepted. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Art Exhibit: Sultry Colors. Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Arts Center, 105 N. Union St. The Enamelists at The Torpedo Factory collaborate for an exhibit filled with sultry colors and patterns. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/event/sultry-colors/ or call 703-838-4565.

Exhibit: “Scapes.” Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Art League

Gallery, 105 N Union St. View the annual August landscape exhibit juried by Elizabeth Peak. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Exhibit:

“Taking Shape.”

Through Sept. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at The Art League Gallery, 105 N Union St. This exhibit features three-dimensional works by Art League member artists. Free. Visit www.theartleague.org.

Baseball Boat to Nationals Park.

Through Sept. 26 at various times. Leaves from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Baseball fans can avoid heavy traffic and cruise along the Potomac to Nationals Park. Tickets are \$20 one-way and \$25 round-trip, Monday-Thursday, \$28 roundtrip Friday-Sunday. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

Doggy Happy Hour.

Tuesdays through Oct. at 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20, 480 King St. Enjoy discounted drinks and treats with one's dog. Free. Visit www.jackson20.com.

Water Taxi to the National Mall.

Through Nov. 1, at various times at Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. Cruise from Old Town to D.C. on the *Miss Sophie*, while stopping to view some of the area's most popular attractions. Tickets are \$28 roundtrip and \$14 one-way for adults. For children under 12, tickets are \$16 roundtrip and \$8 one-way. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com/.

Mount Vernon in 3-D: Then & Now.

Through Nov. 20 during regular operating hours at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visitors will have the chance to travel back in time, and in 3-D, to see how the estate appeared more than 100 years ago through a special photography exhibition. The exhibition is included in the regular admission fee of \$17 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$9 for youth and free for childre younger than 5. To view the historic stereoview images as well as the modern 3-D anaglyphs, visit www.mountvernon.org/3D.

“Not-So-Modern” Jazz Quartet Performance.

Through Dec. 31, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Not So Modern Jazz Music plays music from the glory days of



Clockwise from top left: “OBX” by Eileen Doughty, “One Red Window” by Joanne Bast, “Summer on the Sirannon” by Eileen Doughty, and “Close Encounter” by Dianne Thomas

Art Imitates Vacation at Fiber Arts Gallery

For the “What I Did On My Summer Vacation” exhibit at the Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, artists used textiles to depict their summer vacations. The exhibit will run Aug. 31-Oct. 18 at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N Union St. Admission to the Gallery is free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com for more.

traditional jazz, including tunes from traditional Dixieland and the Swing era. Free. Visit www.stelmoscoffeepub.com for more.

Flamenco Show. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at La Tasca, 607 King St. Watch dancers and guitarists perform traditional flamenco. Free to attend. Call 703-299-9810 or visit www.latascausa.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S Royal St. View a French film in the company of friends or a date. Free to attend. No RSVP necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

Journey to Be Free: Alexandria Freedmen's Cemetery. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. A new exhibit tracing the 150-year history of the long-forgotten Freedmen's Cemetery, its rediscovery and how the new Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial was created at the site. Call 703-746-4356.

Their Fates Intertwined: The Lees of Alexandria in the War of 1812. Wednesday- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Lee-Fendall House and Gardens, 614 Oronoco St. A new exhibit on the experiences of the Lee family in

Alexandria during the War of 1812 examines the contributions of Alexandria's citizens during the conflict that led to the writing of our national anthem through the lives of this iconic Virginia family. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

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.

Fifty Years of Collecting. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W 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. 12 p.m. 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 takes place weekly, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7 a.m. (8 a.m. November through March), is free, 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 will 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.alexandriaarchaeology.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 story with dress-up dance interpretation. The session culminates with a recital and

ENTERTAINMENT

reception. Tiny Dancers is designed for ages 2-12, featuring a performance based ballet, tap, jazz and musical theater curriculum. The studio is at 621 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-739-0900 or visit www.tinydancers.com.

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 lists camps by week offered and age group. Register online or at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. The guide is available for download at www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation. Free printed brochures are available at City Hall, recreation centers, and public libraries. Call the Registration and Reservation Office at 703-746-5414.

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.

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.

THROUGH SEPT. 18

International Guild of Realism 10th Annual International Juried Exhibition. During gallery hours at Principle Gallery, 208 King St. The International Guild of Realism is dedicated to the advancement of realism in fine art. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.principlegallery.com/alexandria for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 20

Scott Fallon Performance. 5 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Acoustic artist, Scott Fallon, will be performing. Free. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

Visiting Artist Program: Marcel Deolazo and Sol Hill. 5 p.m. at studio 333 and 316 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Hear from artists who are participating in the Visiting Artist Program at the Torpedo Factory. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

Records & Rarities Grand

Opening. 5 p.m. at Landmark Mall, 2nd floor E224. Record retailer Records & Rarities will celebrate the grand opening of a new location with a skateboard signing by the C1rca Skateboard Team, and a skate demo event. Free. Call 703-490-9028 for more.

Business After Hours. 5:30-7 p.m. at Global Health College, 6101 Stevenson Ave. Tour the campus, enjoy refreshments and network with business professionals. \$10 for members and \$25 for non-members. Visit www.alexchamber.com.

Chris Stapleton-In The Flex Stage. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Tickets are \$20. Call 703-549-7500 or visit www.birchmere.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 21-30

Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week. Neighborhood restaurants offer specials and deals for customers. Prices and times vary. Visit www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 21

Whiskey Tasting and Dinner. 6:30-9:45 p.m. at the Distillery & Gristmill, 5513 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Learn how whiskey was made in colonial times and taste whiskey paired with a dinner. Tickets are \$125 per person. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

Bruce Givens Performance. 7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Acoustic artist Bruce Givens will be performing. Free. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

Community Dance with the Mt. Vernon Swing Band. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Participate in the Community Dance, featuring a swing band. Live music conducted by Owen Hammet. Admission is \$4. Call 703-765-4573.

Anthony David. 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. at The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave. R&B singer-songwriter Anthony David performs live, joined by special guest Zo! and Carmen Rodgers. Tickets start at \$35. There is a \$25 minimum food and beverage purchase required per guest, except for general admission tickets. For tickets, visit www.thecarlyleclub.com.

Libby Wiebel Performance. 8-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Libby Wiebel is a folk singer and songwriter who uses the guitar and piano to tell the stories of her travels. Free to attend. Visit www.stelmoscoffeepub.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 22

Elephant Appreciation Day. 8 a.m.-

4:30 p.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 915 King St. Learn about the dwindling elephant population and how to protect it. Also find a demonstration of elephant dung paper-making, an EQ (Elephant Quotient) test for adults, an elephant quiz for children, an elephant tattoo parlor, elephant themed refreshments and more. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com for more.

3rd Annual Artist Materials

Market. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Sell, buy, and swap gently used art supplies, tools, materials, and more. There are approximately 20 tables available for purchase on a first-come, first-served basis. Reserve your table for \$25 at eventbrite.com before Aug. 19.

Tom Walker Performance. 7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Musician Tom Walker will be performing. Free. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

Kitty Donohoe Concert. 7 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Songwriter Kitty Donohoe, famous for the 9/11-inspired song "There Are No Words," will be performing as a part of the Focus Music series. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.focusmusic.org.

Movie Night. 7 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Enjoy music, snacks and children's crafts before watching "Hook" at sundown. Sponsored by @home Realtor Cookie Balcha. Free. Call 703-928-0591 for details.

Dan Berry Band Performance. 8-10 p.m. at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Ave. Singer-songwriter Dan Berry will perform with his band. Free to attend. Visit www.stelmoscoffeepub.com.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 26

Tony Martirano Performance. 7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Artist Tony Martirano will be performing. Free. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

AUG. 26-NOV. 20

Young at Art Juried Art Show. Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Artists 55 and older can contribute their artwork for the exhibition. On Thursday, Aug. 20, artists can bring their work to the Durant Center from 10 a.m.-noon to be registered and displayed. Artists must fill out an Entry and Artist/Lender Agreement and pay an entry fee of \$20 for up to three works of art, \$5 for any additional pieces. Entry forms can be found at www.seniorservicesalex.org or by calling Mary Lee Anderson at 703-836-4414, extension 111.

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ENTERTAINMENT

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 26

Port City Beer Dinner at Wildfire.

6:30-9 p.m. at Wildfire, 2001 International Drive, McLean. Four courses will be paired with Alexandria's Port City Beers. Tickets are \$50. Visit www.portcitybrewing.com for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 27

FACE It You Can Paint: Paint Your Own Flower Garden.

10-11:30 a.m. at Convergence, 1801 N Quaker Lane. Learn simple brush techniques to create garden paintings. \$45 for 1 adult/1 child and \$15 for additional children. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com to register.

Tim Cretella Performance. 5 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Singer-songwriter, Tim Cretella, will be performing. Free. Visit www.theblackwallhitch.com.

Movie Screening. 6 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Watch "Selma" and engage in a discussion about women's roles in the Civil Rights Movement. Free. Visit www.nwhm.ticketleap.com/movie-night-selma/.

FRIDAY/AUG. 28

FACE It You Can Paint: Paint Your Own Flower Garden.

3:30-5 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N Quaker Lane. Learn simple brush techniques to create garden paintings. \$45 for 1 adult/1 child and \$15 for additional children. Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com.

Red Wine Diaries Performance. 7 p.m. at Blackwall Hitch-Alexandria, 5 Cameron St. Acoustic band, Red Wine Diaries, will be performing.

Free. Visit theblackwallhitch.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 29

The Washington School of Ballet

Open Auditions. 9:30 a.m. registration and 10-11 a.m. auditions for 4-5 year olds; 10:30 a.m. registration and 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. auditions for 6-7-year olds; 12 p.m. registration and 12:30-2 p.m. auditions for 8-10 years at The Washington School of Ballet, 3515 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington D.C. This fall, the Washington School of Ballet will be offering Pre-ballet through Level 1A classes at the Athenaeum. There is no audition fee. Visit www.washingtonballet.org for more.

The General's Tour. 1 p.m. at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Take a guided walking tour of Lee family homes in Alexandria's Historic Old Town. Locations and stories associated with the Confederate general's life in Alexandria, his hometown from the age of five and residence of his "earliest and oldest friends" will be highlighted on the tour. Admission is free for museum member, \$10 in advance, and \$15 at the door. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

AUG. 31-OCT. 18

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Juried Show: "What I Did On My Summer Vacation."

10-5 p.m., 10-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St., Studio 18. View summer vacation-themed artwork. Admission is free. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 1

Tuesday Morning Stroll.

11 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Simpson Park Gardens, 420 E. Monroe St. Residents are invited to visit the garden, receive free seed packets and have their gardening questions answered by experts. Free. Contact carol_kilroy@comcast.net for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 4

Big Chalk Draw 2015. 8-10 a.m. at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. School supply donations are welcome at this chalk art community event. Free. Call 703-360-4220 or visit www.staidansepiscopal.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-6

"Labor at Lee-Fendall" Tours. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St. Learn more about the life and times of the free and enslaved laborers who inhabited the grounds. Admission is free for museum members and \$7 in advance. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

TUESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 8-OCT. 18

Photography Exhibit. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. on Thursdays at The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. View the work of photographer Karen Keating, who combines both words and images in her art. Free. Visit www.multipleexposuresgallery.com.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 10-OCT. 18

"Angel Soldier Dance Sublime." 10

a.m.-6 p.m. at the Target Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. View work exploring femininity and masculinity by female artists from Maine's Blue Hill Peninsula. Free. Visit torpedofactory.org.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 10-OCT. 25

Athenaeum Invitational

Exhibition. During gallery hours at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Works inspired by the song "Don't Fence Me In," by Cole Porter, will be on display. Free. Visit nvfaa.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

Business Breakfast. 8-9:30 a.m. at Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road. The Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce September Business Breakfast will discuss upcoming economic development in Alexandria City. Tickets are \$25 per person. Visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org.

Second Thursday Live: Rhythm and Roots Experience. 7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. This performance will feature West African music. Admission is \$15. Visit nvfaa.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 11

SPARK Health and Fitness

Festival. 4-8 p.m. at John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St. Hosted by SPARK Physiotherapy, LLC., fun and safe games, competitions, entertainment, raffles and giveaways. Free. Visit www.sparkphysio.com/home/make-your-health-happen-health-and-fitness-festival/ or email njbabka@sparkphysio.com.

Four Mile Summer Movie Festival.

Movies start at dusk and are shown at the Four Mile Conservatory Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. National Community Church's Inaugural summer movie festival is co-sponsored by the City of Alexandria. Film is "Cool Runnings." Bring a blanket or chair. Free. Visit www.theaterchurch.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

Civil War Walking Tour. 10 a.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S Washington St. Discover locations and stories associated with soldiers, citizens, and the enslaved, including Robert E. Lee's departure from his hometown, the occupation of Alexandria, and emancipation. Admission is free for museum members, \$12 in advance, and \$15 on the day of the event. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org for more.

Canine Cruise. 11 a.m. at Alexandria City Marina, 1 Cameron St. The family dog is welcome to join in on an hour-long cruise through the Alexandria Seaport. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children. Dogs ride free. Visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

Music Festival. 12-4 p.m. Four Mile Run Park Community Building, 4109 Mt. Vernon Ave. There will be live entertainment, local performers, children's interactive games and crafts, food, face painting and various vendors. Free. Email cisco.fabian@alexandriava.gov or call 703-746-5465.

Collective Delusion. 9:30 p.m. at John Strongbow's Tavern, 710 King St. Local band will perform rock songs from the 1970s to the present. Free. Visit www.collectivedelusion.net.

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ENTERTAINMENT

MONDAY/SEPT. 14

Dance Class: The Art of Ballroom

Dance. 7-7:45 p.m. practice and 7:45-8:30 p.m. dance at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Come with or without a partner to learn several classic dance styles from Gary Stephans. Admission is \$15. Call 703-505-5998 for details.

History Lecture: Medical Heroism in Alexandria.

7 p.m. at the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Learn

about the Athenaeum's role in the Civil War and medical efforts in Alexandria from historian Tom Shultz. Free. Visit nvfaa.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 16

What is a Healthy Forest? 7:30 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park-Norma Hoffman Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Listen to geology and forest ecology instructor Joe Marx discuss issues facing Mid-Atlantic

forests. Free. Visit www.vnps.org/potowmack.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 19-20

King Street Art Festival. Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 480 King St. In its 13th year, the festival features art displays, art giveaways and sales and live music. Free. Visit www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com/artfest.



Clockwise from top left: "B-4-Now" by Linda Elliff, "Shorty's Long Note" by Theresa Kulstad, and "The Watch" By Guy Jones

Local Artists Featured in Katrina Anniversary Exhibit

In honor of the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, artists from all over the country, including Alexandria's Del Ray Artisans members Linda Elliff, Theresa Kulstad, and Guy Jones, will participate in the "Thanks Y'all" exhibit. The exhibit will open in Waveland, Miss. on Aug. 29 following a special "Remembrance of Lost Lives" program at the Ground Zero Hurricane Museum. To learn more about the exhibit contact Vicki Niolet at 228-671-9790 or vniolet@earthlink.net.



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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE SCHIPPER/THE GAZETTE

First-year West Potomac volleyball coach Nancy Nixon instructs rising junior middle blocker Laura Aaron during a recent practice.



Rising sophomore setter Ashlyn Hendrix and the West Potomac volleyball team open the 2015 season at home against Falls Church at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27.

Nixon Takes Over as West Potomac Volleyball Coach

Wolverines looking for first winning season since 2007.

BY BONNIE SCHIPPER
THE GAZETTE

The West Potomac volleyball program hasn't posted a winning record since 2007, and went 5-11 last season.

This year, however, Nancy Nixon was hired as the head coach, and her players believe that this could be the first step to changing the Wolverines' reputation.

"[Nixon] is very well educated in volleyball," rising junior outside hitter Lindsay Cullen said. "She always has sources, so when we ask 'Why are we doing this?' she has an article or a scientist that proved that it was right and can help us. She's very focused on not only making us a better team, but better individual players as well. She understands that it's not just six people on the court, it's six different people."

Nixon served as West Potomac's junior varsity coach for two years in 2012 and 2013, and worked as an assistant coach at Northern Virginia Community College last fall.

"Coach Nixon was my JV coach," Cullen

said. "Having worked with her in the past, it's easier for some of us to understand her philosophy and know where she's coming from."

Hoping to improve the team's record by increasing the strength of her players, Nixon implemented a more intense practice schedule and conditioning program than West Potomac has had in past years. It's not uncommon for regular practices to run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with specialized practices for certain positions continuing until 3 on some days.

"Most practices during the summer run at least five hours long. We do a lot of work to be as good as we can be," rising sophomore setter Rebekah Jenne said. "We do a lot of conditioning for our legs and arms in order to help our stability and make us consistent players."

On the court, Nixon plans to keep everything as simple as possible in order to succeed. With several underclassmen in starting positions, she wants to ensure they learn "correct techniques" and "understand the game."

"We are working on the basics and devel-

oping our skills," Nixon said. "Technique is our focus."

Where other teams may have superior skills, the Wolverines hope to be smarter.

"We aren't as strong as other teams, so we have to hustle and be smarter than them to make up for it," rising senior outside hitter Sydney Nixon, the coach's daughter, said. "We have to put the ball where the other team isn't and not try to do too much."

Jenne and rising sophomore setter Ashlyn Hendrix are two of the underclassmen who will be expected to step up this season. Both in their first year on varsity, they have been doing a lot of work to catch up to their teammates.

Nixon, however, expects that the two setters will be one of the strengths of the team.

"There's a lot of pressure on us as sophomores on varsity to be able to set for almost every hitter on the court," Jenne said.

Some of the more experienced players on

the team are Cullen and Nixon. With several more seasons of volleyball experience under their belts, Coach Nixon expects that they will be leaders on the court.

"Having my mom as a coach is different than we're at home," Nixon said. "It's a different atmosphere here. I re-

spect her as a coach and she looks at me as one of her players, not her kid, and she expects a lot from me."

The Wolverines will begin their season at home on Aug. 27 against Falls Church.

"[Nancy Nixon] is very well educated in volleyball. She always has sources, so when we ask 'Why are we doing this?' she has an article or a scientist that proved that it was right and can help us."

— West Potomac rising junior outside hitter Lindsay Cullen

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SATURDAY/AUG. 22

West Potomac Band Car Wash. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Belle View Elementary School, 6701 Fort Hunt Road. The West Potomac High School Band will be accepting donations. Contact Courtney May at courtneymaypt@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 9

MOMS Club Meeting. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Attend the meeting to hear about the process of language development from a speech pathologist. Children may attend. Free. Contact Melissa Holmes at 571-217-4171 or southalexmomms@yahoo.com, or visit southalexandriamommsclub.webs.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability Meeting. 7

p.m. at The Martha Washington Public Library, Room 104 A/B, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. An advocacy group concerned with discussing actions of the police force meets. Free. Visit virginiaccpa.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

Mount Vernon 2015 Day To Serve. 9-11 a.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. Help prepare meals for the Food for Others program, which provides food to local students on the weekends. Free. Visit www.heritagechurchva.org/.

MONDAY/SEPT. 14

Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane. The public is welcome to attend. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 19

Worship Watch Meeting. 8:30-12 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd. Participate in a crime prevention meeting focused on preventing crime

targeted toward places of worship. Admission is free. Call 703-360-8928 or e-mail Robert.urps@fairfaxcounty.gov.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center in Alexandria needs a licensed beautician, a social companion and a Spanish-speaking social companion. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions under "Get Involved."

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
The Ugly Mug, LLC trading as Katherines Catering, 4116 Wheeler Ave. Alexandria, VA 22304. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverage Caterer Limited license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Gaynor Jablonski, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Peenong, LLC trading as Peenong, 8501 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Yomkwan Kuntri, owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

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

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Please be advised that a brief fireworks display will take place as part of a private event at George Washington's Mount Vernon on the following date:

Saturday, August 29, between 8:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. (3 minutes)

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

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OBITUARY



John Kenneth Severson, Sr.
John "Big Al" or "Uncle Al the Nation's Pal" Severson,

longtime owner and proprietor of Al's Steak House on Mount Vernon Avenue in Alexandria died peacefully in his home on Saturday, August 15, 2015. He was born in Hawaii on October 28, 1941 to the late Elizabeth and Arthur Severson.

He is survived by his son, John (Bo) Severson and his daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and David Swales and their three children of Crozet, Virginia. He is also survived by his sister, Mary Anna Severson of Savannah, GA, and his brother, Arthur (Sonny) Severson of Falls Church and their families.

John began what would be his lifetime career at Al's Steak House at the age of twelve when he began cutting onions after school for the original Al. After a very brief career as a mail carrier, John and his wife, Patricia, bought Al's Steak House in 1966 and he began his reign over Del Ray as "Steak King." During decades of rapid growth and change, John refused to change anything. He prided himself on providing customers who returned far and wide with a local institution that offered the same massive cheese steaks and familiar surroundings year after year. Definitely a colorful character, John never let anyone leave Al's hungry whether they could pay or not and he wanted to be remembered as someone always ready to help others.

The family offers their thanks to the many doctors, nurses, and hospice workers for their loving care and support during his year-long battle with lung cancer.

The family will receive friends at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home, 1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA on Thursday, August 20, 2015 from 6-9 PM. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, August 21, 2015 at 10:30 AM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA. A private family burial will take place at Mount Comfort Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, due to allergies, the family requests that donations may be made to Alive! So that "Big Al" can continue to feed the hungry in Alexandria. In addition to the services, a celebration of John's life will take place at later date.

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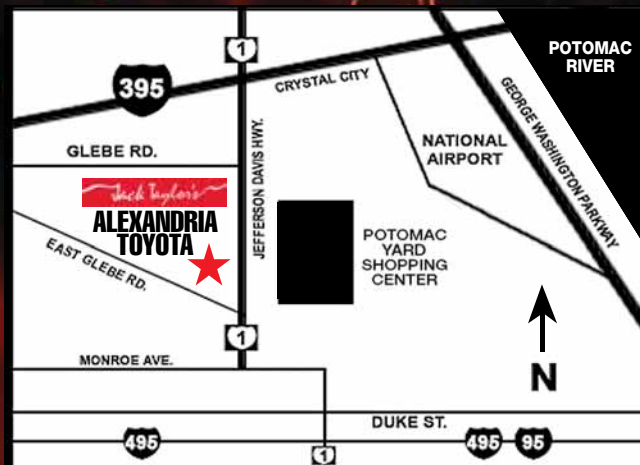
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IN THE NATION
TO RECEIVE THIS HONOR



ServiceCenters
Keep Your Toyota
a Toyota



ToyotaOwnersOnline.com

TOYOTA
LIFETIME GUARANTEE

Mufflers • Exhaust Pipes • Shocks • Struts
Toyota mufflers, exhaust pipes, shocks, struts
and strut cartridges are guaranteed to the
original purchaser for the life of the vehicle
when installed by an authorized Toyota dealer.
See us for full details.



TOYOTA
Let's Go Places



TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR



\$1.00



WITH PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE

SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.

GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION,
TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY
MULTI-POINT INSPECTION.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

LUBE, OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL

\$34.95 \$44.95

NON-SYNTHETIC SYNTHETIC

Includes: Change oil (up to 5 qts.),
install Genuine Toyota oil filter,
inspect & adjust all fluid levels and
complimentary multi-point inspection
with print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

WE WILL

**MEET OR
BEAT**
ANY LOCAL TOYOTA
DEALERSHIP'S
CURRENT ADVERTISED
SERVICE SPECIALS

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL



\$99.95

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month
FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside
assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll
check all battery cables & connections.

Installation additional. Does not apply to hybrid vehicles.
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

A/C SPECIAL

\$99.95

Includes: Check compressor, add up to 1 lb. of R134a freon,
adjust drive belts, tighten fittings, check condenser fins &
check system for leaks.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

POTHOLE SPECIAL 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT



\$99.95

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire
wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

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

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

15% OFF SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES WITH FREE INSTALLATION

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.



\$32.95 PER DAY WITH ANY SERVICE

MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE WITH VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE AND PROOF OF INSURANCE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER.
TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. 100% FINANCING. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
RENTAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA RENT A CAR SERVICE ONLY.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR VEHICLE! BG FLUID EXCHANGE SPECIAL

TRANSMISSION FLUSH **\$189.95**
POWER STEERING FLUSH **\$139.95**
BRAKE FLUSH **\$139.95**
FUEL INDUCTION FLUSH **\$139.95**

FOR TRANSMISSION FLUSH, TYPE T OR WS FLUID ADD \$50.00
NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER
EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP.
VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE

BRAKE SPECIAL

\$99.95

PADS

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads,
inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition
and inspect all hardware. TCMC pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

DOES NOT APPLY TO ALL VEHICLES PLEASE SEE SERVICE ADVISOR
FOR DETAILS. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON.
TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 8/31/15. COUPON MUST BE
PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

SUMMERTIME SAVINGS



New Camrys, Corollas,
RAV4s and Priuses

**ALL ON SALE
LIKE NEVER BEFORE**

Summer is here and so are the SAVINGS!

Ask one of our sales managers.
George, Mike, Yared or Rocky
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**WE ARE HERE
TO MAKE DEALS!**

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JUST MINUTES FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT!



**Let's
Go
Places**



CHRIS WHITE

*Planning to sell in 2015?
Now is the time to call Chris & Peggy White!
Leading the Area in Real Estate. SOLD!!!*



9408 Brambly Lane \$1,165,000
New Home Feel!
Spacious Colonial by Wakefield Homes-the area's leading custom builder! Home has striking open floor plan accentuated by high ceilings and large windows which bring light to every corner of the home. Numerous fabulous features include: 3 luxurious finished levels, open kitchen-family room, spacious master suite and oversize 3 car garage. Deck overlooks private wooded yard. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac. Impossible to duplicate at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 8/23, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd; R-Brambly Ln.**



9412 Ferry Landing Ct \$799,500
Beat the Heat in your Own Custom Pool!
Uniquely gorgeous property! Custom home in premier setting on quiet cul-de-sac ending at river. Magnificent grounds featuring custom pool, hot tub, expansive decking and large level lawn. Home with numerous features: open floor plan, updated kitchen & baths, fabulous rec room over side load, two car garage. Super value-nothing like it at close to this price! **OPEN SUN 8/23, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Old Mt Vernon Rd, becomes Ferry Landing Rd; L-Ferry Landing Ct.**



8720 Plymouth Road \$1,599,000
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!



9312 Heather Glen Dr \$618,500
Classic Colonial- Great Price
Classic three level, 4BR Colonial in premier setting at remarkable reasonable price! Spacious home in absolutely pristine condition & offers many features including 3 finished levels, fab. floor plan, family room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, spacious master suite & garage pkg. Magnificent grounds with stone walk, patio & gorgeous landscaping. Prime location!



3205 Woodland Lane \$1,550,000
One of a Kind Property- Waterfront!
Spacious residence, custom crafted to capitalize on natural beauty of its setting. Soaring cathedral ceilings and expansive glass walls bring light, natural beauty of property and water views to every corner of home. Special features include 3 finished levels, 6 BR including 2 master suites (one on main level), 4 fireplaces, spectacular family room off kitchen, walk-out lower level, fabulous screen porch and open deck. Nearby private boat launch. Magnificent property! Impossible to duplicate!



8234 West Boulevard Dr \$1,625,000
One of Area's Most Admired Properties!
Award winning classic Victorian combines exquisite period detail with dramatic open floor plan. Painstaking attention to detail and its design led to this fabulous home winning the award for being the best custom home in its category for all of Northern VA the year it was built! Loaded with features! 3 car gar.! Screen porch! Walls of windows! Upgraded trim detail! Luxury abounds!



7107 Richard Casey Ct \$779,500
Victorian Classic- Exceptional Price!
Stunning value-custom built by Wakefield Homes. Numerous features characteristic of area's leading builder include large room sizes, bright open floor plan, high ceilings, 3 finished levels, chef's kitchen, private master suite and oversize 2 car garage. Distinctive wrap around front porch. Screen porch and deck overlook spacious fenced rear yard. Unique opportunity to purchase Wakefield custom home at fraction of today's prices.



6036 Fort Hunt Rd \$799,000
True Belle Haven Gem!
Classic Belle Haven Colonial in prime location on gorgeously landscaped grounds overlooking Belle Haven Country Club. Fabulous property carefully updated throughout in a manner which provides a delightful blend of the home's original character with many modern conveniences. Numerous features include 3 finished levels, updated kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, fireplace and garage. Private grounds with outdoor kitchen and brick patio.



4327 Ferry Landing Rd \$559,000
Mid Century Modern- Yacht Haven Estates!
Classic contemporary Rambler featuring the open floor plan, large room sizes and high ceilings that characterize this popular model. Kitchen and baths have been beautifully updated. Other features include 2 finished levels, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, gas heat & tankless hot water heater. Unique main level master suite with private porch. Prime location near Mt. Vernon Yacht Club. Fab combination of modern amenities with mid-century character.



9357 Mount Vernon Cir \$1,500,000
Mt Vernon on the Potomac!

9227 Allwood Dr \$548,950
Updated Throughout- Move-In Ready!



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028

www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com

Alexandria/Old Town Historic - 400 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

