



John R. (Bob) Wood, Lieutenant General (retired) gives a speech before the race.



Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith addresses participants who are current or former military.



PHOTOS BY NICHOLAS LINDSEY/THE GAZETTE

Patriot Run

Close to 2,000 runners were estimated to participate in the George Washington Patriot Run on Sunday, Sept. 11. Proceeds from the race benefit George Washington's Mount Vernon and the Alexandria George Washington Birthday Committee.

Chamber Hears Meals Tax Defense

FCPS board members also discuss school performance.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

I learned about empathy and coding,” was the response from one young Fairfax County Public Schools student who participated in this summer’s Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics lab program.

Mount Vernon District representative to the FCPS school board Karen Corbett Sanders highlighted the success of that summer activity as well as “one to one” computer trials at Mount Vernon, Lee and West Potomac High Schools while addressing members of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Sept. 8.

A presentation from three members of the school board was preceded by a video showing students in the STEAM summer lab program designing egg drop apparatuses and playing with programmable robots.

Corbett Sanders also said, “In three years, we’ve decreased schools accredited with warning by more than half.”

Making a strong case for students engaging with technology and the need for businesses to be partners in that process, she cited the Genesys Works organization as well.

The social enterprise Genesys Works now has a national capital region site that has just finished training a cohort of students from six FCPS schools over the summer in technology and professional skills. Each one has earned a paid, part time internship with a local tech company they will hold throughout the school year and into next summer.

“We need to continue to reinvest in our schools,” Corbett Sanders



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON

Lee District representative Tammy Derenak Kaufax highlighted the school district’s 92 percent on-time graduation rate, despite facing the “challenge of poverty.”

said. “And we need mentoring, internships — for businesses get behind our schools.”

Lee District representative Tammy Derenak Kaufax highlighted the school district’s 92 percent on-time graduation rate, despite facing the “challenge of poverty.”

She went on to reference last year’s campaign to fully fund the school system’s budget. “We finally made the initial investment of raising teachers’ salaries,” Derenak Kaufax said. “It’s just the beginning of where we need to be.”

From there, the Lee representative and former school board chair voiced her support for the biggest point of contention between in the room that morning: the referendum on this fall’s ballot for a proposed tax on prepared foods.

It’s been estimated that the new tax would bring in an additional \$100 million annually in revenue for the county, 70 percent of which Derenak Kaufax said would be dedicated to the schools.

“You value a well-educated community,” she said. “We look for

SEE BOARD, PAGE 5

Reviewing Independent Auditor Office

Board item reviewed by supervisors’ public safety committee.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

At its Sept. 20 meeting, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will vote on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission to create an office of independent police auditor.

Board members reviewed a draft action item for approval of the recommendation during a meeting of the public safety committee on Sept. 13.

The draft included a number of revisions to the commission’s recommendation, which was discussed at the previous committee meeting.

Among the most significant revisions, said committee chair supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) was how the auditor will be involved in police internal

affairs investigations as they are occurring.

In the language of the action item, the police auditor “will review police use of force cases and complaints involving serious injury or death, including officer-involved shootings, to ensure the investigations are comprehensive, accurate, objective, and impartial.”

Later in the document, Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) pointed out it calls for the auditor to review all use of force incidents which are the subject of a public complaint made to Fairfax County Police or the auditor. This would include far more than just those involving serious injury or death, which are beyond the recommended scope from the Ad Hoc commission.

Cook and the members recommended the auditor follow the commission’s original scope for investigations.

There was also clarification that the auditor (whose office would include two support analyst positions) would recommend things to be looked at and people to be interviewed as part of their work, but would

SEE REVIEWING, PAGE 3

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BOB PARILLO PHOTOGRAPHY

The second annual Alexandria 9/11 Heroes Run was held Saturday, Sept. 10 beginning at 8:30 a.m. to primarily benefit the Travis Manion Foundation.

Heroes Run at Sandburg

Community members came out for a five-kilometer run-walk on a much sunnier day than the first year of the Alexandria 9/11 Heroes Run at Sandburg Middle School in the Fort Hunt area of Alexandria. The race was held Saturday, Sept. 10 beginning at 8:30 a.m. to primarily benefit the Travis Manion Foundation.

First Lt. Manion (U.S. Marine Corps) was killed in Iraq in 2007 while attempting to save fellow soldiers who were wounded. The Pennsylvania-based foundation started in his name works with veterans and families of dead veterans "to develop character in future generations."

For more information, visit www.travismanion.org.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK

From left, Clarke Slaymaker, Donna Slaymaker, Shirley Short, Christine Morin and Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) line up at the Sept. 10 Heroes Run.

Reviewing Independent Auditor Office

FROM PAGE 1
not personally question them.

Their purpose is to determine whether an investigation by the police department is being conducted well.

Another revision, pointed out by Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova, was that the recommendation the board-appointed auditor serve a two-to-five year term would be replaced by a proposal for the auditor to become an "at-will" position. If the action item passes, they would serve at the pleasure of the board.

Cook concluded the hour-long meeting by calling on independent counsel Julia Judkins to comment briefly on the creation of a civilian review panel, the primary topic of discussion for the next public safety committee meeting on Oct. 25.

From a legal standpoint, Judkins said, the most problematic component of the potential review panel would be that body hosting public hearings.

County employees, such as police officers, could be invited, not compelled to attend such meetings, Judkins said.

"This is a completely different animal and I don't see any authority for it," she said of such action.

Jack Johnson, chair of the Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the Ad Hoc commission, reminded committee members the intent in that recommendation was the panel would review incidents and not investigate them.

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Oct. 25 at 1 p.m. For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/board-committees/meetings.

Golf Classic Benefits Veterans

Belle Haven tournament raises funds.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

The third annual Patriots Day Golf Classic was held Sept. 9 at Belle Haven Country Club, raising funds for local veterans organizations in remembrance of those who perished in the 9-11 terrorist attacks as well as to honor those serving their country and working as first responders and emergency rescue personnel.

"It's amazing the support this tournament has given to local organizations," said Robert Koon, co-founder of the nonprofit Links to Freedom. "Golf is an important rehabilitative and adaptive part of recovery for our wounded veterans. We serve more than 235 veterans a year and the support here today will allow us to continue to aid our wounded and disabled veterans."

Along with Links to Freedom, the Alexandria-based Operation Renewed Hope will also receive funds from this year's tournament to support housing and social services to homeless veterans.

The foursome of Bill Hummel, Greg Jacobson, Tom Lapato and Chris Meyer hoisted the winning trophy with Herbert Hughes, Mitch Bono, Jim Stevens and Harry Mahon finishing runners up.

Tournament sponsors included Agiliko, AFBA, Michael Bennett and Ourisman Automotive, J. Timothy Thompson and the Thompson Group at Morgan Stanley and Dr. Jon Williams Family Dentistry. "We created this tournament to raise funds that will benefit organizations doing important work in our communities," said tournament ambassador John Cregan. "A



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Bill Hummel, Greg Jacobson and Tom Lapato celebrate Sept. 9 as winners of the third annual Patriot Day Golf Classic sponsored by Belle Haven Country Club. Not pictured is Chris Meyer.



PHOTO BY JEANNE THEISMANN
/THE GAZETTE

Links to Freedom co-founder Rob Koon, center, visits with Adron Krekeler and Becky Mahood prior to the start of the tournament.



Belle Haven Country Club pro shop manager Jim Carmalt sings the National Anthem Sept. 9 at the Patriot Day Golf Classic.

sincere and heartfelt thanks goes out to our sponsors, donors and volunteers for helping make this day a success."



The foursome of Herbert Hughes, Mitch Bono, Jim Stevens and Harry Mahon were runners up in the 2016 Patriot Day Golf Classic.

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.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is seeking volunteers to participate in a free, non-profit program, offered in conjunction with the IRS, that provides tax filing assistance to people of low- and middle-income, with special attention paid to those aged 60-plus. Training will be available in December and January to help taxpayers Feb. 1-April 18, 2017. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

SECOND WEDNESDAYS

Art Making as Meditation 7-8:30 p.m. St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Art making as meditation can be an active form of contemplative practice. Each session begins with a short reading and a brief introduction to materials. Silence for making and meditation lasts an hour followed by sharing images or insights gained through the process, if desired. Children able to participate in silence are welcome to come with a parent's quiet supervision. RSVP not necessary for attendance, but helpful for planning purposes. Call 703-360-4220, email info@centerforspiritualdeepening.org or visit www.staidanepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening.

SEPT. 10-21

2016 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration will

open July 5. Registration forms will be mailed to previous participants in late June and will be available at community and senior centers, senior residences and event venues. The registration fee of \$12, which covers multiple events, remains the same. Three events have an added fee, ten pin bowling, golf and orienteering. Deadline for registering is Aug. 27 (by mail), Sept. 3 (online). Call 703-830-5604 or email nvso1982@gmail.com for more. To volunteer, call 703-403-5360.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Mount Vernon Day To Serve. 9-11 a.m. at Heritage Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 8503 Fort Hunt Road. Mount Vernon community volunteers will be preparing meal packets in support of Food for Others which provides for children in Fairfax County Public schools in the Mount Vernon area. Contact Mary Oliver at 703-341-6179 or olivermary@cox.net.

MONDAY/SEPT. 19

Community Discussion. 7-8:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane. Join Supervisor Dan Storck for a community discussion with Police Chief Edwin Roessler on Monday, Sept 19, from 7:00-8:30 pm at Walt Whitman Middle School. This is an opportunity for the community to hear more about the ad hoc police practices review commission and their recommendations regarding use of force, citizen oversight, diversity and vetting, mental health, and communication and the Board's implementation of those recommendations to date.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 20

Chamber Open House. 8-9 a.m. at the Chamber Office, 6821 Richmond Highway. Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce will hold an open house for local businesses interested in learning more about the benefits of Chamber membership. Meet Chamber officers and hear how the Chamber benefits businesses and the community. Call 703-360-6925 or email info@mtvernon-leechamber.org.

Mental Wellness for Older Adults.

1-2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. For Older Virginians' Mental Health Month in September Fairfax County is hosting three community presentations with licensed county therapists and specialists in wellness resources for older adults. Call 703-324-7006 for more information and ADA accommodations.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 22

New Uses, Old Buildings. 8:30-10 a.m. at Hampton Inn & Suites, 5821 Richmond Highway. Join SFDC for the latest Summit Series event, "New Uses, Old Buildings: How Professionals Re-Purpose Old Structures for Modern Uses," with Heather Arnold, Managing Director, Public Sector at Streetsense, and Matt Hopkins, the Director of Architecture at Streetsense. The process of converting old and historical buildings to for modern use is referred to in development jargon as "adaptive re-use." There are examples of it all around: From the Workhouse Arts Center and Lorton Prison to Mount Vernon Estate, and likely in the near future, the old

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

Center for Spiritual Deepening

at St. Aidan's

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Sunday, September 18, at 6:30 pm

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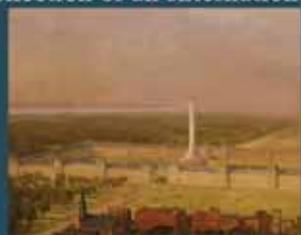
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OBITUARIES

Margie Harris

Margie "Marge" Diane Lukoskie Harris, died on Dec. 12, 2015 at her daughter's home in Quincy, Fla., after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease.

Born on April 15, 1923 in Shamokin, Pa. to Walter and Katie Lukoskie, Margie married William (Bill) Baxter Harris, EM1 USN, on June 1, 1946 at Saint Gabriel's Rectory in Washington D.C. They made their home in the Wellington Heights area of Alexandria for 54 years.

Marge worked in the Pentagon for the U.S. Department of State, and later the U.S. District Court in Alexandria for 25 years. She regularly attended Saint Mary's Church in Alexandria, and was an ac-

tive member of the Hollin Hall Senior Citizen Center, where she enjoyed playing bridge with her friends. Predeceased by her husband Bill, and two brothers, Walter (Kelly) and Lawrence (Pat) Lukoskie of Shamokin, Pa., she is survived by sister, Eunice Kanaskie of Shamokin, Pa., daughter, Deborah Wright of Quincy Fla., and son, William Harris, of Salt Lake City, Utah, 12 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

Interment service will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016 at 11 a.m. at Arlington National Cemetery, Columbarium, Court: 6 Section T. In lieu of flowers, make contributions to St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 South Royal St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Jerry S. Lucas

Jerry S. Lucas, 68, of Pooler, Ga., died on Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016 in his home. Jerry was born in Moline, Ill., to the late Clifford and Esther Lucas. He served his country in the U.S. Navy, was on active duty from 1968-1972, and was a Purple Heart Recipient due to combat in Vietnam. Jerry graduated from Western Illinois University with a Bachelors of Science degree and continued his post-graduate work in the field of botany. He retired from both the CIA, and Lockheed Martin, where he received awards for innovative programs and initiatives with his work for the government. Throughout his various career experiences, he combined his knowledge and enthusiasm for education, photography, technology, medicine, and anthropology. He also helped to map the Myan Ruins in Northern Yucatan and the wetlands of the Tennessee Tombigbee River.

Jerry's heart was in his faith, which he served through local, national, and international mission efforts, including his advocacy for Apple of His Eye ministries, and trips to Macau and Haiti. He was an avid naturalist, a wetlands guide at Huntley Meadows, and had recently begun volunteering at Otland Island and the Ogeechee Canal. A serial hobbyist, Jerry loved any excuse to buy a new gadget. He was always present for encouragement and excited to

share in family celebrations. Jerry had lived for the past 33 years in Alexandria before moving to Pooler last summer.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Lucas; children and their spouses, Matthew Jason Lucas and Kendra, Justin Theodore Lucas, Gregory Paul Lucas and Catherine, and Andrea Marie Korb and Christopher; grandchildren, Evan Paul, Lianne-Maia, Logan Augustus, Levi Ellis, and Aiyanna. He is also survived by several cousins, nieces and nephews.

The memorial service will be on Friday, Sept. 16 at Trinity Lutheran Church, located at 12391 Mercy Boulevard in Savannah. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m. with the memorial service beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The graveside service and burial will follow at 2:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Abbey West Cemetery.

Donations to the following missions are welcomed in lieu of flowers: Trinity Lutheran Comfort Dog Ministry of Savannah, Ga., Tents of Mercy, Armed Forces Ministry of the LCMS, or Lutheran Hour Ministries. Of course, what Jerry would have liked most is that you go out and share the Gospel. Friends may sign the online register book at www.stricklandandsonsfuneralhome.com

Thomas C. Strickland & Sons Funeral Homes is in charge of arrangements.

Board Members Update Chamber

FROM PAGE 1
ward to you supporting our greatest asset, our children."

At-large school board member Jeanette Hough, a Fairfax resident, steered her presentation away from the "meals tax." She focused on FCPS needing to communicate more with members of the business community.

"We don't want to be burdening our taxpayers," Hough said. "What will help you partner with us? We want to hear more about what we can do, as a board, as policy-makers."

Following the meeting, chamber president Jane Gandee reaffirmed the organization's opposition to the meals tax, citing feedback and values of their members.

"I've not found one yet that feels this is a good move for the restaurant industry," Gandee said.

She said some concerns she's heard are that a meals tax, which Fairfax County could levy up to four percent on top of sales tax, might cut into tips for employees and have other unintended consequences based on diners having to pay upwards of 10 percent tax on their meals.

There's also worry that earmarking of funds

for schools wouldn't happen exactly as advertised.

"Great schools have a great impact on the business community," she said, "but we have to be responsible to our members."

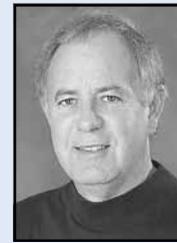
Holly Dougherty, executive director of the chamber, added that the organization will be launching a more comprehensive opposition campaign soon.

"It would be so damaging," she said of the meals tax, "for retirees, elderly on fixed incomes."

Dougherty also said there's potential for the tax to deter catering companies from doing business in Fairfax County that otherwise would've chosen it over other areas that already have a prepared food tax.

"You weigh that against the cost-benefit," she said, "it shows harm outweighs any benefit they would accrue."

For more information on the meals tax referendum, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax. A town hall meeting on the referendum is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Franconia Government Center, located at 6121 Franconia Road.



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OPINION

Need To Raise Minimum Wage

BY PAUL KRIZEK
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)



Over the last several weeks, our area college students have returned to school to resume their studies for the fall semester. I

know that their parents are very proud of them as are we all. Indeed, a good number of our young people spent their summer either working to pay off their student loans or to save for college costs, many on just the minimum wage.

COMMENTARY Tuition has risen 40 percent in the last 10 years at four-year public colleges and universities, after inflation, while family incomes have remained basically flat. Many states, including Virginia have cut their spending on higher education by roughly 20 percent per-student since the recession, rather than expanding their investments when everything was cheap.

Too many 44th district (Mount Vernon and Lee) families struggle with student debt, and the problem has reached crisis levels across the nation. Total student debt in our economy has more than doubled in the last 10 years, and now exceeds \$1.2 trillion. Nearly 7 out of every 10 new graduates of four-year colleges are in debt, and these indebted graduates carry an average balance of nearly \$30,000. Student debt has surpassed credit card debt, car loan debt, and home equity lines of credit to be the second largest source of consumer debt.

For students trying to work their way through college, especially at restaurants, the tipped wage is only \$2.13 per hour, leaving people who work hard at the mercy of another person's generosity. This is unreliable and leaves low-income workers of all ages without stability in their own personal budgets.

College used to be affordable. That's not the case today. It used to be that if you worked hard during the summers at the minimum wage, you could pay for your college tuition, books and supplies and still have money left over for your social life. Now, these low-skill summer jobs do not

even cover in-state students' tuition. Regrettably, the minimum wage is stuck in the past.

While many young people from the 44th district are in their first weeks of college, diligently studying and working towards pursuing exciting careers, others are rising juniors and seniors at Mount Vernon, West Potomac or area private high schools wondering which colleges they can afford and whether it is even worth it to apply to some of the out-of-state schools with the higher costs. It's a big deal when you consider that 87 percent of West Potomac High School 2016 grads went onto higher education.

For most people, paying for college is a substantial investment. Luckily, there are many tools to help students save money for college as well as ways to find available loans. Some of those tools can be found in the online web address below. Students also should talk with their counselors at school; they often have ideas and resources helpful as you prepare your strategy to cover the costs of an education. For example, last year's West Potomac High School class accepted 5.1 million in scholarship dollars. Financial aid comes from many different sources and, in most cases, requires completion of at least the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Visit the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)'s Tuition & Aid section for additional information at <http://www.schev.edu/index/students-and-parents/pay>.

Washington D.C. and Maryland have higher minimum wages than the Commonwealth of Virginia, so certainly we could raise the minimum wage without "losing our competitive edge." We are now losing good workers to the District of Columbia and Maryland who can make significantly more there than they can make here in Virginia for the same work, and anybody trying to pay off their student loans will be forced to find work in another state.

Our college students and those bound for college are already worrying about their grades. Let's not continue to add to their anxiety with how to pay for school on their meager summer earnings or first entry level job upon graduation. We need to raise the minimum wage.

extended family. How can children's faith be nurtured in such a way as to lay the foundation for a spirituality that will support them throughout their lives and deepen their relationship with God and Christ? And how can parents deepen their own faith in the process? Call 703-360-4220 or visit www.staidansepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening for more.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4
Mount Vernon High School. Visit www.sfdc.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

Supervisor Dan Storck holds open office hours at the Lorton Library (9-11:30 a.m.) and at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center office (12:30-3 p.m.) on the second Saturday of each month (except August). Call 703-780-7518 for a 15-20 minute appointment, which could result in a longer subsequent meeting during the work week, if needed. He may meet with walk-ins as time permits between appointments.

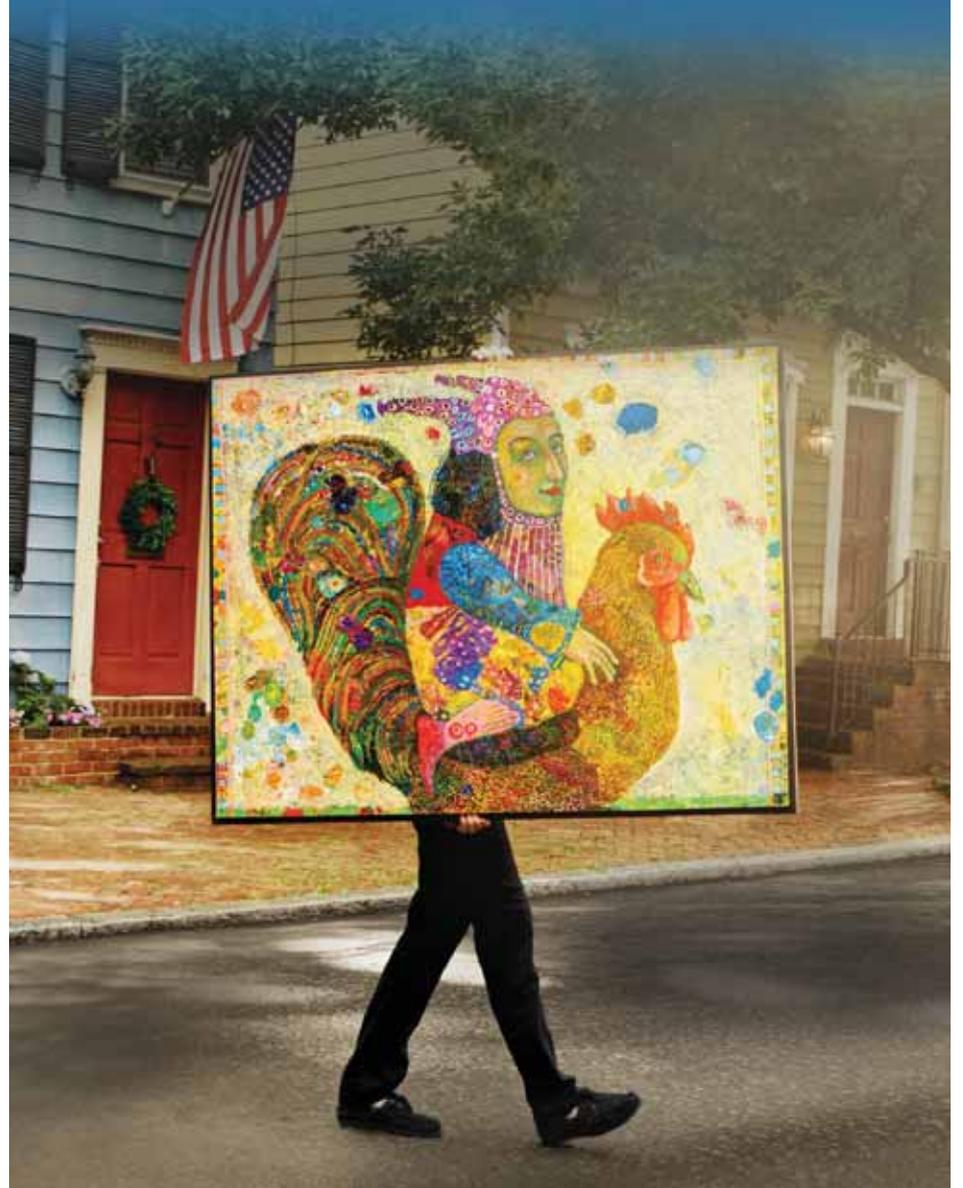
WEDNESDAY/OCT. 26

"The Spirituality of Parenting," 7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. A child's first understanding of God and the spiritual life comes from its parents and

SUPPORT GROUPS

Family Support Group. 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Gartlan Center, 8119 Holland Road. Opportunity for discussion, information and support for families with members experiencing symptoms of mental illness. Professionally facilitated. Program varies, may include guest speakers, movies. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. Free. For more information contact Nga Nguyen at 703-799-2726, TTY 711.

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Howard Allan Events

History: Protests Required to Advance Justice

Local story: Protest, arrests, brutal treatment, torture of advocates for vote for women.

Democracy without our Bill of Rights could amount to mob rule. The Bill of Rights, a visionary document made up of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, is reprinted on our website; it's under 500 words; it takes just a few minutes to read.

In the United States, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights offer many protections of freedom and equality. But actually extending that protection and freedom to all has often required individual action and sacrifice, protest, demonstration and nonviolent civil disobedience.

That doesn't make every demonstration and every protest virtuous, but even when protest is not to our tastes, we should appreciate that we live in a country where the right to do so is protected.

Even something as basic as the right of women to vote only came about because of persistent, unpopular protests organized by a militant group, individual action, sacrifice and courage in the face of brutality and repression from existing authority.

The story of how women got the vote, that is to say how half the population of the United States escaped being disenfranchised, is a lo-

cal story, and so appropriate to tell in the Connection.

Alice Paul, "one of the most notorious women in America, was the chairman of the National Woman's Party, a small and militant suffrage offshoot of the mainstream National American Woman Suffrage Association," wrote Catherine J. Lanctot, professor of law at Villanova, in "The Suffrage Pickets and Freedom of Speech During World War I."

In January 1917, Paul, Lucy Burns and other activists organized a relentless public protest outside the White House over President Woodrow Wilson's refusal to support the vote for women.

"By the fall of 1917, more than a hundred women had been arrested and imprisoned on charges of obstructing traffic and unlawful assembly, ostensibly because they attracted large and often hostile crowds to witness their demonstrations. ... Suffrage pickets found themselves at the center of increasingly violent confrontations with angry crowds and hostile law enforcement authorities. ...

"The judge assigned to their cases seemed perplexed by their stubbornness, patiently lecturing the women on world conditions, and explaining: "We are at war, and you should not bother the President," before sending them to

serve their sentence at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, Virginia. This strategy backfired badly in mid-July, 1917, with a firestorm of controversy over the incarceration of several socially prominent women and the intervention of liberal lawyers who previously had been allied with Wilson. ...

"Wealthy women serving time in a workhouse brought extensive media attention."

In fact, protest by women of privilege made a critical difference.

Conditions in the workhouse were brutal and filthy; women were beaten and tortured by force feeding during hunger strikes.

The 19th Amendment was ratified on Aug. 26, 1920: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Edith Mayo, curator emeritus of political and women's history at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, put the history in context at a recent event: "I think one of the things we're trying to get across is one has to be vigilant about voting rights. The voter suppression of recent years has concerned a lot of Americans. It took such guts and determination for all these groups except for white men to get the right to vote that any slipping backward and trying to suppress the right to vote is a grave concern."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Instead, the Board of Supervisors plead poverty, bemoaning the fact that "almost 90 percent percent of Fairfax County non-property tax revenues are capped, limited, or controlled by the state." They then subtly suggest that the meals tax will be less painful than increasing property taxes ... meaning of course, sooner or later, they'll get you one way or the other.

Instead of capitalizing on new categories upon which to tax residents, perhaps our Board of Supervisors should spend responsibly within their means like we all do at our kitchen tables. Yet, all tax increases in Fairfax County are defended on the need to keep up with the growing region because — as the conventional wisdom goes — you need more growth to expand the tax base and keep taxes low.

Yet, as a life-long resident of the county, I've observed that as the county has gotten bigger, so too have my taxes and cost of living. This grow-more-tax-more-so-you-can-grow-more idiocy is a self-propagating cycle that fuels higher costs and lower quality of life. It's also a perfect excuse for both conservative politicians to curry favor with the business community and liberal politicians to do what they are naturally inclined to do; take your money.

A more objective Meals Tax brochure might have included this opposing point of view: Taxing the food you eat in restaurants won't be necessary if the Board of Supervisors has enough brains to slow growth in this out-of-control county, already crippled by traffic and congestion. If we did that, we'd have fewer infrastructures to maintain and we wouldn't have to devise duplicitous new tactics to pick

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My Three Angels

To the Editor:

Fifteen years ago today I was lying in the street dying — cardiac arrest. As I tumbled to the ground, the first of my three angels saw me fall. She stopped her car, rushed up to me and started CPR. Maria Harbeson was a family practice nurse at the Fort Belvoir clinic. She was quickly joined by my second angel, Arletta Van Breda, a cardiac nurse from Alexandria hospital. They worked as a team, compressing, compressing, compressing oxygen and blood to my heart and brain. I'm told they had me in normal sinus rhythm by the time the EMT's delivered me to my third angel, Doctor Gia Viscardi, the ER doctor on duty at Mount Vernon hospital that day. She made all the decisions and called in a team of four or five specialists who used their training, ability, knowledge and experience to get me to a "he might make it" diagnosis.

Well, I did make it with no lasting ill effects. I have read or heard that only one percent of those similarly stricken come back like that. The reason I made it is because God put three angels in my life's path that day. The question I haven't answered yet is why? Why do some get second and third and fourth chances and others don't? I have asked myself that question countless times over the past 15 years. I do some good and, what I consider, meaningful things but what I do isn't extraordinary or hard. If I stopped doing all of them tomorrow others would step up. So why? I keep thinking, "something is coming your way so be prepared." Maybe that's it, just as simple as that. Keep trying to help, to make a difference and

be ready. If you know why you are here you are truly blessed. But if you're like me, it's not a bad idea to ask why. There are angels out there to point the way or maybe pick you up if you stumble.

I thank God today for my three angels.

Kevin Bergen
Alexandria

Meals Tax: Missing Items on This Menu

To the Editor:

It's good to be the King, especially when you can manipulate the message and censor opposing points of view to an entire county on a major referendum issue.

All residents are being mailed a brochure from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors titled "2016 Meals Tax Referendum, It's Your Decision," describing a proposed 4 percent tax on meals at most restaurants. But if you're looking for an objective source of information upon which to evaluate your decision, look elsewhere. This mailing is simply a hearty and transparent endorsement of the plan by a determined board with a never-satiated appetite for more. Their "voter guide" excludes any mention of the reasons why it should not pass, reasons that thoughtful voters might like to know but obviously information our Board of Supervisors feel entitled to withhold.

It would have been nice if the board had made even a token mention of the major concern that many have. If the Meals Tax passes, families will pay more for food.

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Comfort Zone

Local furniture maker combines style and comfort

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

John W. Smith treks through a maze of sleek chairs and stately sofas in a large, sunlit showroom tucked in an industrial warehouse center in Fairfax. He pauses at a dining chair, upholstered in beige linen and framed with espresso hardwood.

"Feel how smooth that is," he said, running his fingers along the wooden edge of the seat. "If you're at a sitting at the table for three, there's no sharp edge against the back of your calves."

Dubbed the "three-hour dinner party" chair, the Etesian is part of the Willem Smith Furnitureworks collection. Pieces ranging from the brown, leather San Luis, a streamlined version of a traditional wing chair, to the Francisco Metro Swivel, a petite recliner, to the Canapé sofa, fill the showroom.

"The comfort of the pieces sells them, but it doesn't look like big, over-stuffed furniture," said interior designer Lowell Wade of Interior Motives in Alexandria.

Like many furniture makers, Smith strives to marry style and comfort. He's taken that commitment to a new level, however, creating and patenting his own seating mechanism to ensure comfort. Named piErgonom, it's a device that attaches the seat back to



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN SMITH

John Smith uses his firm's Cabalero chair in his Great Falls home.

the seat cushion, preventing slippage and offering back support. Beauty and style matter to Smith, but in his liberal view of aesthetics, beauty springs from not only the physical appeal, but also the way a piece feels and functions.

"Comfort is the final element that determines whether the chair or sofa is a success," said Smith, a Great Falls father of four teenage daughters. "We sweat all of the

details and are completely consumed by making all of our seating more comfortable."

Smith says that he is committed to minimizing his company's impact on the environment. His practices include using non-endangered hardwoods. All of the springs incorporated into the cushions of his seats are made from recycled steel. Most of the furniture and fabrics used are made in the United States. Buyers can choose from a range of textiles and finishes, including leathers and fabrics, which are displayed in the showroom.

Born and raised on a farm in Ontario, Canada, Smith left a career in banking to spend more time with his then-young family. He also itched to find creativity in his life. His pieces, which not only include seating, but also tables, cabinets and other wood works, are a blend of contemporary lines and classic styles.

Smith credits a talented team of what he calls "style leaders" with the aesthetics of his goods. "I have no illusions that I'm Yves St. Laurent and I wouldn't pretend to have an affinity for style," he said. "There is a difference between design and style. Design is the engineering, construction, materials and performance, and that's my focus."

Before hitting the market, for example, each piece undergoes a careful inspection

by Smith and his business partner John "JB" Behrens.

"We know all of our pieces intimately," said Behrens. "The designs essentially come out of a collaborative process. We think about furniture logically and practically and we obsess over comfort."

"We focus a lot on scale and proportion and how that relates to a furniture buying decision," he continued. "When we have a chair, for example, John and I look at it together, think about what works, what doesn't, what things bother us, how can we figure out a solution to turn problems into positives."

A combination of versatility and comfort drew Potomac, Md.-based interior designer Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design to Willem Smith furniture during a recent home redesign. "All of their pieces are incredibly beautiful. They combine this very clever combination of Old World and classic style with innovation," said Walker. "The greatest strength is the comfort of their pieces. They take painstaking details. You can tell the first time you sit on one of their products that they are extremely comfortable."

Smith's wife, Mary, helps with marketing and other tasks. "The clear differentiator for the furniture is the attention to comfort and

SEE COMBINING, PAGE 11

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What's Permissible When Planning a Home Renovation?

Complete due diligence upfront to research ordinances or restrictions that may affect project.

BY JOSH BAKER



Unfortunately, homeowners and contractors often forget important steps during this project feasibility phase, which sometimes leads to wasted time and money or abandoned projects. To ensure you sidestep those mistakes, start with this checklist to look into to help minimize setbacks while planning and executing your next renovation.

ADVICE

Local Jurisdiction/County

First, call your local county government to find out if there are any site restrictions or requirements for your home or property. Propose your plan to the county before you start and get their feedback on any setbacks before moving forward. Ask them about any potential zoning ordinances as well. Also, check with the county to get building permits and land disturbance applications prepared. Many counties now allow these forms to be submitted electronically.

Department of Environmental Safety

You will also need to contact your local health department or department of environmental safety for water and septic tank restrictions or conflicts. There are many water and sewer construction requirements that have to be adhered to by the contractor and homeowner. Long

delays can arise during your permitting process if this part of the planning phase is neglected.

Homeowner's Association

Call your homeowner's association (HOA), condo association or equivalent, to see if there are any requirements or restrictions. HOAs can stop you from using certain materials or building on certain parts of the home. Additionally, HOAs sometimes require a review of your plans before you start the building process. These restrictions typically come written in covenants and, in most cases, are reviewed with prospective buyers before a purchase. To make sure you have the current information to share with your builder and get your project started on the right foot, it's always best to engage

your association early in the process.

Check with Local Historic Boards

Do you know if your property is in or near a historic area? If there is any question, call your local historic review board or registries to double-check. Some requirements from historic boards are extremely specific and involve special attention and advance planning. For example, we have seen instances where a board has only allowed the use of one specific brick on a home addition. Make sure you know what your requirements are, so you can plan in advance and avoid a battle and costly changes later.

With so many requirements for designing, building, budgeting and engineering it can be easy to overlook certain steps. Always make sure you hire an advocate that knows how to manage the many aspects of your renovation from start to finish, so that your project runs as smoothly as possible.

Josh Baker of Great Falls is the founder and co-chairman of BOWA, an award-winning design and construction company. BOWA has more than 28 years of experience and has earned nearly 200 awards, including being named National Remodeler of the Year by Professional Remodeler magazine. Visit www.bowa.com or call 703-734-9050.

Combining Style and Comfort

FROM PAGE 10

functionality," she said. "There is a lot of furniture out there that may look good, but isn't functional. A lot of the public doesn't realize it. That's the fun of the marketing piece: educating others about this great solution for people. Like before there was Starbucks people didn't realize they were drinking bad coffee all them time."

This attention to detail attracts clients ranging from furniture-seeking

homeowners to interior designers on a mission to create a showplace.

"Their furniture has a bespoke quality and an incomparable level of comfort," said Joseph Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. "I believe Willem Smith is the epitome of authenticity and timelessness." Even better, he added, "when I first took a client to Willem Smith, there was no smothering my client, no sales pitch. When your furniture is that good, there's no need to sell it."

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ENTERTAINMENT

An Ode to Harling's 'Steel Magnolias'

LTA's play centers on Louisiana women that bond and gossip at a local beauty shop.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE GAZETTE

The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) is staging "Steel Magnolias" now through Oct. 1. The play features a group of Louisiana women as they bond and gossip at a local beauty shop while following the marriage and motherhood of one of the customer's daughters. Playwright Robert Harling's play made its 2005 Broadway debut after the 1989 film version starring Julia Roberts and Dolly Parton.

Alana Sharp plays the role of M'Lynn Eatonton, Shelby's mother. "M'Lynn is a strong, determined woman driven to take care of people. Like many women, she puts her focus on helping and tending to the needs of others and often sacrifices her own needs," she said. "She refills her cup from the well of energy of her friends and only allows herself to break down in the safety of their sanctuary."

She said she played the role once before a few years ago and it was important for her to think of this as a clean slate and create a new character. "The vision of a new director is different than the last so it would be ridiculous to try and revive my old M'Lynn and force that square peg into a round hole," she said. "So I started fresh."

Carla Crawford plays the role of Truvy Jones, the owner of Truvy's Beauty Shop. "She wants everyone who comes into her shop to feel welcome and loved. Truvy is always looking at the bright side of life and wants others to share in her positivity," she said.

She said because the movie is so iconic with the Truvy character played by Dolly Parton, it would be easy to just mimic what she did on screen. "It was important to me to make Truvy my own. I grew up in a very small town in Alabama and have sat in salons that I don't think are very different from Truvy's. I tried to base 'my' Truvy on some of the ladies back home," she said.

She added: "I hope audiences will be reminded how vital friendships are, how important it is to tell family you love them,



Carla Crawford plays Truvy Jones.

and how unbelievably strong women can be."

Patricia Smith plays the role of Ouiser who is a bit "set in her ways." She said: "Life hasn't always been easy for this old Southern woman, but she has persevered and triumphed. She is made of strong stuff and her friends know that, regardless of her rough edges, she can be counted on at all times."

She said she wanted to be sure to explore all the notes in the melody that is this character. "It would be very easy to play just one note. That would be very unfair to Ouiser," she said.

Referring to the word "steel" in the play's title, she said: "This is a play about strength — the strength of individuals; the strength of friendships; the strength of families; the strength of traditions, and, of course, the strength of women."

Brenda Parker plays the role of Clairee, who is well aged and refined. "Think of a nice bottle of French wine properly paired with a tart soft cheese," she said. "As the former mayor's wife and recent widow, she's trying to find new purpose and passion."

She said: "Clairee has her 'Steel Magnolias moments' daily. She finds reasons to get out of bed, go places and stay active and



Brenda Parker (Clairee), Kelsey Yudice (Shelby), Patricia Spencer Smith (Ouiser), Susan Smythe (Annelle), and Carla Crawford (Truvy) star in LTA's "Steel Magnolias."

enrich the lives of her friends and community. All the while never letting a good recipe or reason to bake pass her by."

Co-producer Brooke Angel had never produced before, so when she was approached, she thought it was a joke. "I'm honored my first show to produce is 'Steel Magnolias,' and that I have such a great tech crew and cast to do this with," she said. "I hope they let me do more in the future — maybe 'Steel Magnolias, the Male Version?'"

She is trying to make the play appealing to both women and men. "This show is about women, but it's important for men to see it and enjoy it too. I hope to get men, not being dragged by their wives or girlfriends, who want to see the show and enjoy it," she said.

She added: "Women are strong. It's so simple but it's such a powerful idea. Women go through so much — a lot we don't even talk about among ourselves. This play shows we are not alone in our struggles — ever. And women are 'Steel Magnolias,' — we are pretty but tough. And we should celebrate each other for being strong instead of tearing each other down, which is often our first instinct sometimes."

Susan Smythe plays the role of Annelle, the only outsider since she's just moved to Chinquapin from a smaller nearby town. "Throughout the play, Annelle goes through a lot of changes on the road to figuring out who she is (and becoming a 'Steel Magnolia'), and I think she's able to change, grow and explore mostly due to the solid new 'family' she has found in Truvy and the la-

dies of the salon," she said.

She added: "I think the challenge of a 'character' role like Annelle is to create a genuine, living-breathing human who is not a stereotype or a caricature. While I certainly want to make sure I hit all the comic notes, I also want the audience to get to know and love the adorable (albeit, a little awkward), authentic person that Annelle is."

Co-stage manager Larry Grey decided to jump on board because he loves this show. "Yes, it is a show about five amazing, strong women. Beyond that, however, is a show about the value of friendship. A reminder to us that life is not meant to be lived in isolation, but we were created for fellowship."

Lynn Lacy is the co-stage manager and sound designer on the show. She said: "This show is very near and dear to my heart. It was a favorite of my daughter's in movie form, because she always got a kick out of me crying over the sad parts. We ended up burying her with a copy of the film after she died in a car crash Thanksgiving morning 2001, at the age of 21. I never pass up a chance to work on this show because I know my Jennifer is right here with me, watching to see if I'll cry. Without fail, I shed a tear during every show. Also without fail, just a whisper away, I hear a giggle."

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is staging "Steel Magnolias" through Oct. 1. Show times are Wednesdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$19 and \$22. The venue is at 600 Wolfe St. Call 703-683-0496 or visit www.thelittletheatre.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Exhibit: Kit Keung Kan. Through Sept. 18, gallery hours at The

Athenaeum, 201 S. Prince St. Kit Keung Kan is a Hong Kong-American artist and physicist who interprets traditional Chinese landscape paintings with his passion for the art form as well as his experience in scientific study and research such as relational concepts and objective abstraction. Free. Visit www.nvfaa.org for more.

33rd Annual Senior Olympics. Through Sept. 21, various times at

various locations. Participants over 50 years old will participate in track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, golf, miniature golf, ten pin bowling, Wii bowling, scrabble, duplicate bridge, cribbage, Mexican train dominoes, pickleball, racquetball, handball, volleyball, badminton, bocce, eight ball pool, cycling, horseshoes, yo-yo tricks, American style Mah Jongg, 5K run and more. Admission varies based on

event. Visit www.nvso.us.

Photography Showcase. Gallery hours at Broadway Gallery Fine Art and Custom Framing, 5641-B General Washington Drive. Photographic works by Fred Eberhart, Geoff Livingston, Hannele Lahti, Joseph Romeo, and David Sloane. Free. Visit www.broadwaygallery.net for more.

Blackberry Daze. Through Oct. 9, various times at MetroStage, 1201 N.

Royal St. This is an adaptation from the novel "Blackberry Days of Summer" by Ruth P. Watson. Tickets are \$60. Visit www.metrostage.org for more.

Exhibit: "Song of the Woods." Through Oct. 24, gallery hours at Green Springs Garden - Historical House, 4603 Green Spring Road. Artist Mary Exline displays her abstract expressionist paintings. Free. Visit www.artis.com/maryexline for

ENTERTAINMENT

more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 16

Garden Talk: Grow Beautiful

Bulbs. 1:30 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Colorful bulbs can turn an ordinary garden into extraordinary. Planted in mass displays, small groupings or containers, they are a welcome sight in any garden. Learn from master gardeners about a variety of beautiful bulbs and how to plant and care for them. Admission is \$10 for county residents, \$12 for out-of-county residents. Call 703-642-5173 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/.

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

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 16-17

Children's Consignment Sale. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday at Cameron United Methodist Church, 3130 Franconia Road. Call 703-971-7957 to become a seller, or email CUMC.CCS@gmail.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Scottish Heritage Outlander Day. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Events will include three Scottish and Celtic storytelling performances during the afternoon, an appearance by the Granfling School of Highland Dance, a concert by the Devil's Tailors, and a bagpiper. Tours of the museum will include references to Outlander, the popular book series and television show.

Tickets are \$7, \$3 for children ages 5-12. Visit www.novaparks.org for more.

Case Remodeling Seminar. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Case Mosaic Tile Showroom, 821 S. Pickett St. Case Design/Remodeling experts will help participants gain insight into the latest trends and different levels of kitchen and bath remodeling, as well as project timeframes and budgeting. Free. Visit www.casedesign.com for more.

Barley & Music Fest. 12-6 p.m. at John Carlyle Square Park. Attend the first annual Barley & Music Fest to find over a dozen craft breweries, music, and more. Admission to the festival is free, but drink tickets are \$15 for 5, additional tastes may be purchased for \$1. Visit www.barleymusicfest.com for more.

The Cigar Box String Band. 3 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. This live concert will feature songs from American history played on the banjo, fiddle, harmonica, bones, and washboard. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.cigarboxstringband.com for more.

Book Signing: "David Has a Purpose." 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Pops Old Fashion Ice Cream, 109 King St. Author Inir Raissa Some will be on site. Call 571-445-2158 for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 17-18

Colonial Market And Fair. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Visit the 18th century at this colonial celebration featuring crafting demonstrations, puppet shows, military drills, and traditional food and music. Tickets are \$9-17. Children age 5 and under are free.

Visit www.mountvernon.org.
Art League Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday at King Street Art Festival, Market Square (corner of King and N. Fairfax Streets). Patrons can purchase one of 1,400 hand-made bowls created by the talented artists of The Art League's ceramics department and enjoy a scoop of ice cream, all for \$15 per bowl, with the proceeds benefiting The Art League. Visit www.theartleague.org for more.

King Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday at King Street from Washington Street to the Potomac River waterfront. Outdoor Art Festival featuring multiple art vendors on King Street between Washington and Union Streets with over six blocks of artwork by more than 200 artists. Free. Visit www.artfestival.com/cities/alexandria.

Kingstowne Area Arts Show. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 12-5 p.m. Sunday at Snyder Center, 6450 S. Van Dorn St. Work in a variety of media will be on display. Free. Visit www.kingstowneartists.org for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 18

Glencarlyn Library Garden AutumnFest. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 300 S. Kensington St. Featured events will include free tastes of treats and drinks made from herbs grown in the garden, a naturalist with critters, a balloon artist, and Master Gardener-led mini-workshops. A wide variety of Virginia-grown sun- and shade-loving perennials, ferns, shrubs, and trees will also be available for sale. Free. Call Alyssa Ford Morel at 703-907-9318 or Judy Funderburk at

703-671-5310.

Wine & Cheese Reception. 6:30 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church 8531 Riverside Road. There will be presentations on the spirituality of parenting, recovery from addiction, dealing with grief. Learn more about St. Aidan's program offerings in the fall. Free. Visit www.staidanepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening for more.
Yoga Public Talk. 7-9 p.m. at 2402 Mount Vernon Ave. Public talk by Vishwaguru Swami Maheswarananda titled, "Yoga: In Service of Peace and Well-Being." \$25 suggested donation. Visit www.yogaindailyifeus.org.

SEPT. 18-24

ReelAbilities Film Festival. Various times and places throughout Northern Virginia. The 5th Annual ReelAbilities Film Festival: Northern Virginia, powered by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV), is a lineup of award-winning feature and short films and a preview of guest speakers and special events. ReelAbilities is the largest film festival of its kind in the nation dedicated to showcasing films by and about people that experience a disability. Opening and Closing Nights: advance tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for JCCNV members, seniors (65+), and for groups of 10 or more, \$10 students with valid student ID. All tickets are \$20 the day of the opening and closing events. Other ticket prices vary. Visit www.northernva.reelabilities.org for more.

MONDAY/SEPT. 19

Tree Selection and Care. 7-8:30

p.m. at Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. This program will help analyze tree planting needs. Alexandria's Arborist will discuss the City's upcoming Fall Tree Plant Sale and answer questions. Free. Call 703-228-6414.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 20

Beating the Odds: Using Indirect Evidence to Solve Brick Walls 1-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Genealogist Vic Dunn talks about using various types of indirect evidence to "prove" relationships when direct evidence is lacking. Free. Visit www.mvgenalogy.org or call 703-768-4101.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21

Antiques Club Meeting. 9:30-11 a.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Teresa Tkciik will demonstrate how we can evaluate pearls according to their qualities of size, luster, macre, shape, and color. Members should bring a few pearls from their collections for discussion, a 10x loupe or magnifier, a white light flashlight, and a centimeter tape measure. If not available, other members will share. Free. Call 703-360-4979 for more.

UCM Ocktoberfest Benefit Night. 4-8 p.m. at Port City Brewing Company, 3950 Wheeler Ave. A percentage of the evening's sales will be donated to UCM to help families in need. Food truck will be on site. In appreciation of Hunger Action Month, please bring canned food or other items to help stock the UCM Food Pantry. No tickets required. Visit www.ucmagency.org.

SEE CALENDAR PAGE 22

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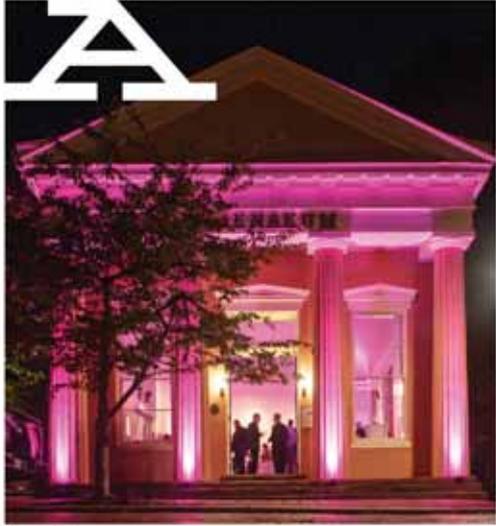
Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet



party!

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Join us for *La Vie en Rose* our annual member appreciation party Saturday, October 1, 7 – 9 p.m. We've planned a stroll through Paris's Montmartre arts district to amuse and delight you. All NVFAA members at the Supporter level and above get at least one free ticket. Contact Kelly Mechling (kelly@nvfaa.org) to confirm membership status, to become a member, or to learn more.

The Athenaeum is a wonderful venue for holiday parties, wedding receptions, and meetings. The elegant rooms have 24-foot high coved ceilings, enormous windows and beautiful woodwork. Standing events can accommodate as many as 150 guests. Contact Richard Webber (rentals@nvfaa.org) for more information or to schedule a site visit.

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Alexandria Gazette Packet Community Partner

Lift a Glass to the Debut Barley and Music Festival Event to take place in Carlyle on Saturday.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

Ah, Oktoberfest. The season of beer-drinking celebrations has dawned again, and with it, all sorts of festivals fêting the malty beverages. And for the first time in recent memory, Alexandria will host its own soiree of sorts. The Barley and Music Fest will take over Carlyle from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday with the hope of introducing attendees to new beers – and bringing back old favorites, too.

“I’m very excited about having our craft beers and local samples, and things that are up and coming,” says festival organizer Sandrika Berthias.

And the festival will have beers in droves – 30 different samples from 15 breweries, Berthias says, including locals such as Mad Fox in Falls Church and Union Craft Brewing in Baltimore.

APPETITE The beer selection also runs further afield, reaching toward Charlottesville with Starr Hill and toward Norfolk with O’Connor Brewing.

A festival can’t run on beer alone. Local restaurants such as Carluccio’s and Gordon Biersch will be on hand to offer up some festival favorites, such as sliders, to visitors. (Gordon Biersch will be pulling double duty as a beer vendor, as well.)

The Carlyle neighborhood has been seeing a surge of events in recent years, from the Holiday Market at Christmastime to an outdoor summertime movie last month, both in the community square at 300 John Carlyle St. The Barley and Music Fest will take to the park as well, ensuring a centralized location without necessitating street closures.

“I really like Carlyle. ... The local community is very supportive; they love local events there,” Berthias said.

While the beer is certainly a headliner



of the weekend’s event, music also takes a starring role. Three bands will play for a couple of hours apiece during the festival, giving attendees some entertainment along with their suds.

“They’re local artists — we’re trying to keep it within the area,” Berthias said.

Tequila Mockingbird, which hails from Charlottesville, will make the trek up for a midafternoon show, bookended on either side by Washington’s Down Wilson and Northern Virginia’s Girl X.

If you pop in to hear the music and sample a brew on Saturday, you’re not likely to be lonesome. A beautiful day paired with good drink, food, and music could lend itself to a crowd, Berthias says.

“It’s a first-year event, so I’m expecting 1,000 to 2,000 people,” Berthias said. “I’d be happy with that.”

It’s free to peruse the vendors; tasting tickets will be sold on site at the event. For more information, check out the festival’s website at www.barleymusicfest.com.

Hope Nelson owns Kitchen Recessionista, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 21

THURSDAY/SEPT. 22

Grand Opening: Amanda Davidson Real Estate. 4-7 p.m. at 6485 Old Beulah St. Ribbon cutting and networking in celebration of the new real estate office. Free. Visit www.mtvernon-leechamber.org for more.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 22-25

Old Town Boutique District Shop & Stroll. All day in Old Town. Browse and shop, while collecting stamps at each location to be entered in a grand prize drawing that includes \$1,000 worth of gift cards. Additionally, buy a stylish event bag for more savings and goodies. Free. Visit www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com for more.

THURSDAYS/SEPT. 22-OCT. 13

Crybaby Art Studio. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane. CryBaby Art Studio is an art class designed for parents with infants (0-1) to relax and exercise their creativity learning watercolor techniques each week with baby by their side. Registration is \$100 for four-week series / \$25 per class (art supplies included). Visit www.metamorphosisaec.com.

SEPT. 22-DEC. 8

Thursday Mornings with Kathryn Coneway. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. The themes in the book, “The Artist’s Rule,” will be a foundation to share experiences with creative practice. Each session will begin with a quiet time and exploration of materials before transitioning to a discussion of the themes and practices outlined in the chapter. Participants should purchase a copy of “The Artist’s Rule” and read the introduction and first chapter prior to the first meeting. Registration is \$50. Visit www.staidansepiscopal.com/Center-for-Spiritual-Deepening for more.

SEPT. 23-NOV. 13

John M. Adams: “Current Interrupted.” Gallery hours at The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center at Northern Virginia Community College, 4915 E. Campus Drive. Free. Visit www.thefullempy.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

Civil War Talk. 12-1:30 p.m. at Washington Street United Methodist Church, 109 S. Washington St. Washington Street UMC will host a lunch talk on the church’s history as a hospital during the Civil War. The speaker will be church member Mark Tooley, who has written books and articles on the Civil War and church history. Free. Call 703-836-4324 for more.

Mount Vernon Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at 8717 Fort Hunt Road. The flea market features: furniture, art, china, glass, porcelain,

pottery, books, photographs, lighting, tools, comic books, vinyl records, novelties and more. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Free. Visit mtvernonfleamarket.wordpress.com for more.

St. Luke’s Annual Craft Fair. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Mount Vernon. Connect with old friends and neighbors. Cold drinks and luncheon items from the St. Luke’s grill will be available, along with a bake sale featuring cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Also fresh produce from a nearby farm, entertainment provided by a guest guitarist and two local pianists. For children, there will be a moonbounce, face-painting and games. Visit www.saintlukeschurch.net or call 703-765-4342 for more.

Historic Pohick Church Annual Country Fair.

10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. The purpose of the Pohick Country Fair is to extend a welcome to members of the local community and Fairfax County, inviting them to visit the historic grounds for a day of fun and relaxation. The fair includes games, booths, pony rides, moonbounce, barbecue, funnel cakes, homemade apple butter, historic church tours, living history reenactors, organ concerts, live music, a classic car show, a Boy Scout camping and cooking demo, a bloodmobile and more. Free. Visit www.pohick.org for more.

75th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes

Tour. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Old Town Alexandria. For the 75th annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour, the public may visit six historic homes and gardens in Old Town Alexandria, all within walking distance of one another. Proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Tickets are \$40 in advance and may be purchased online. Thereafter, tickets are \$45 and may be purchased at The Twig’s Thrift Shop, 106 N. Columbus St. Visit www.thetwig.org/homes-tour for more.

Mount Vernon Celebration! A Community Showcase.

11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parkers Lane. The 2016 Celebration will feature a church choir competition. Inova will provide health screenings and the Bloodmobile will come for a community blood drive. Free. Visit www.celebrationmvl.org.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra Family Fall Festival.

12-4 p.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Find activities for kids, live music, food trucks, beer, wine, and more. Tickets are \$20 for adults, free for children 13 and under. Call 703-548-0885 or visit www.alexsym.org for more.

Alexandria Seaport Day.

12-6 p.m. at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St. Alexandria Seaport Day is an annual community event celebrating the mission and programs of the Alexandria Seaport Foundation and Alexandria’s maritime heritage. Free. Visit www.AlexandriaSeaport.org/Events.

Tea with Lady Washington.

2-3 p.m. at Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Step back in time and join “Lady Washington” for a cozy fireside tea as she shares memories of her and the General’s life as a young married couple, during the Revolutionary War, and at their beloved Mount Vernon. Following the program, guests are invited to a self-guided exploration of the estate and Mount Vernon’s beautiful decorative arts collection. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8
your pocket to pay for all the insane growth we're choking on.

Bob Dane
Alexandria

Meals Tax Effects

To the Editor:

Last week, I received in the mail a brochure signed by all members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors that concerns the referendum to appear on the Nov. 8 ballot asking taxpayers and voters whether or not they approve adding a meals tax to the list of taxes we already pay. The meals tax would apply to food and beverages prepared and sold at restaurants and other food service facilities including mobile ones such as food trucks.

I reviewed the brochure and found, surprisingly, that it only explains the reasons why voters should approve the meals tax. Not a word as to why voters should oppose the meals tax. It is outrageous that our BOS thought it appropriate to send taxpayers, at taxpayer expense, a propaganda piece rather than a balanced discussion of the pros and cons of this issue.

There are numerous reasons why voters should oppose the meals tax. As I stated in a recent letter to the Gazette, if we had politicians in Northern Virginia sufficiently competent enough to band together, regardless of party affiliation, and demand and secure an increase the percentage of tax money returned to us from the money we send to Richmond by a mere 3 percent, from about 23 percent to about 26 percent, this would raise the same amount of revenue the meals tax is projected to generate. No, our local politicians much prefer to take the easy way out and attempt to add but another layer of taxation to the high tax burden we already face. As I also pointed out in my prior letter, this amounts to double taxation, in that we already send our tax money to Richmond and because our politicians lack the wherewithal to gain us an equitable share of those revenues, we are taxed a second time to make up the shortfall.

The State Legislature allows some jurisdictions to enact a meals tax without referendum but others are required to conduct a referendum. Taxpayers in Northern Virginia should find it interesting that, in Northern Virginia, every jurisdiction not required to hold a referendum has enacted a meals tax through action of their Boards of Supervisors (Arlington, Alexan-

dria, Fairfax City, Falls Church, Herndon, Manassas City, Manassas Park and Vienna). By contrast, every jurisdiction required to hold a referendum has been unable to enact one (Fairfax County, Loudoun County and Prince William County). The last time Fairfax County attempted to enact a meals tax, the proposal was defeated by a vote of 58 percent to 42 percent (1992). This demonstrates that when politicians are given the opportunity to act responsibly, invariably they think they know better than taxpayers and enact new taxes that would likely fail to be enacted if taxpayers were given the opportunity to vote on them.

There are a number of reasons why the meals tax referendum should be defeated. Among them are the following:

(1) Studies have shown that the groups most affected by a meals tax are low to middle income families, senior citizens, and restaurant employees.

(2) Singling out a single industry for a tax increase is grossly inequitable.

(3) Adding a 4 percent meals tax to the current 6 percent sales tax would mean the government would derive revenues amounting to 10 percent of the gross sales by restaurants. According to the National Restaurant Association Operation Report for 2013-2014, the average profit margin for a restaurant is about 4 percent. Anyone can recognize the inequity of the government making 250 percent of the profit margin of the restaurant owner who is taking all the risk.

(4) Recently, the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington (RAMW) surveyed restaurant owners who own similar units in both Fairfax County and in another Virginia county where a meals tax is imposed. One particular restaurant group owns virtually identical restaurants in Fairfax County and Arlington County with similar size and theme and similar prices, this being the case for over 20 years. These two restaurants had similar revenue and net profits before Arlington County imposed a meals tax. In studying this scenario, the RAMW found that after the Arlington County tax was imposed:

(a) The Arlington County restaurant had a gross sales rate 49 percent lower than the Fairfax County restaurant;

(b) The wait staff in Arlington County earned 20 percent less than the wait staff in Fairfax County;

(c) Staff turnover at the Arlington County restaurant was 30 percent higher than that of the Fairfax County restaurant;

(d) Although both restaurants had similar staffing levels before the Arlington tax was imposed, now the Arlington restaurant employs 17 percent fewer employees;

(e) In the 20 years since Arlington County imposed a meals tax the difference in sales between the two restaurants has been \$3 million less for the Arlington County restaurant even though their revenues were similar before the Arlington tax was imposed.

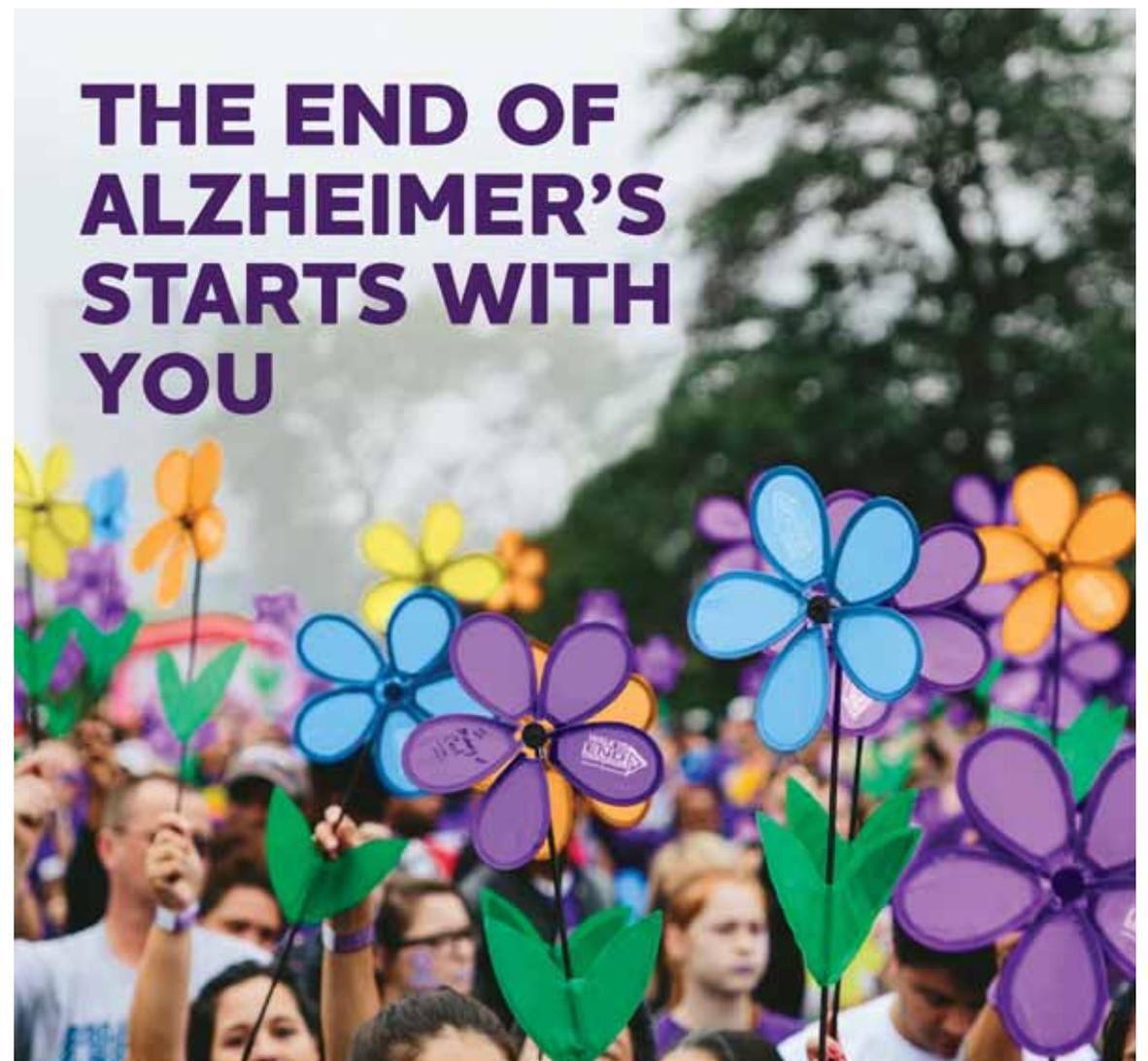
Clearly, imposition of a meals

tax not only hurts small businesses, it also devastates waiters who rely upon tips to support themselves and their families.

When Mount Vernon District Supervisor Storck was elected, the first thing he told us in a widely distributed e-mail and in public comments was that he intended to spend his time subsequent to his election in bringing the community together. As such, I suggest Supervisor Storck make a motion at the next Board of Supervisors

meeting asking the board to authorize preparation of a new meals tax referendum brochure to be sent to every taxpayer, in which a balanced discussion of the pros and cons of the proposed meals tax is clearly presented so that taxpayers and voters can make an informed decision based upon having received all pertinent information from the Board of Supervisors they have elected.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon



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-William Van Horne

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-Archimedes

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OBITUARY
Thomas Arthur Grant

September 29, 1931-September 3, 2016 (84)

Tom died peacefully in his sleep at his home of 54 years surrounded by his family. He was born in San Francisco, CA to Hazel & Claude Grant & graduated from Hartnell & San Jose State colleges. Tom received his Master's Degree in Auditing from Michigan State University & served as a U.S. Army Auditor for over 30 years achieving Executive Service along with numerous awards. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Patricia Burrell Grant; his daughter, Lori K. Grant and her spouse Ann-Margaret Olsson & his granddaughter, Monique Grant-Olsson; his stepson, Richard B. Frye, Jr., & finance Thy Bui & Children Julie & Jessica; his brother-in-law, Benjamin A. Burrell and his wife, Kathleen A. Burrell along with their daughter and son-in-law, Sarah A. and Frank D. D'Angelo. A memorial service will be held for family and friends at the Cunningham Turch Funeral Home, 811 Cameron Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 at 11:00am on Wednesday, 09/14/16.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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21 Announcements



Joseph M. Johnson, February 7, 1938

Passed away peacefully on September 2, 2016 after a long battle with colon cancer. He was husband to the late Yvonne L. Johnson, the father of ten, granddither of nineteen and great-grandfather of eleven. Joe was most well known for being the "Shoe Doc," as Joe owned and operated his shoe repair shop in Bradlee Shopping Center for over fifty years. He served and was a friend to generations of Alexandrians. A celebration of his life will be held Sunday September 18th at the Atlantis Family Restaurant at 3648 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302 from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.



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Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see.
-Mark Twain

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

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Norfolk Probate and Family Court
Docket No. N015D0963DR
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, Ma 02021
(781)830-1200

To the Defendant Joseph E. Morris.
The Plaintiff, Elizabeth Morris has filed a complaint for Divorce requesting that the court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown. You are hereby summoned and required to respond your answer, if any at or before 11/10/16. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court.
Register of Probate
Patrick W. McDermott

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Harris, Margie 'Marge' Diane Lukoskie 92

Margie Harris, 1923-2015
Our loving Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother, passed away peacefully on December 12, 2015 at her daughter's home in Quincy Florida, after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease.

Born on April 15, 1923 in Shamokin, Pennsylvania to Walter and Katie Lukoskie. Margie married William (Bill) Baxter Harris, EM1 USN, on June 1, 1946 at Saint Gabriel's Rectory in Washington D.C.

They made their home in the Wellington Heights area of Alexandria VA., for 54 years. Marge worked in the Pentagon for the U.S. Department of State, and later the U.S. District Court in Alexandria, VA., for 25 years. She regularly attended Saint Mary's Church in Alexandria, and was an active member of the Hollin Hall Senior Citizen Center, where she enjoyed playing bridge with her friends.

Pre-deceased by her husband Bill, and two brothers, Walter (Kelly) and Lawrence (Pat) Lukoskie of Shamokin, PA. Survived by sister, Eunice Kanaskie of Shamokin, PA., daughter, Deborah Wright of Quincy FL, and son, William Harris, of Salt Lake City, UT., 12 grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

DATE OF SERVICES
Interment service will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at 11:00 AM at Arlington National Cemetery, Columbarium, Court: 6 Section T.

DONATIONS
In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to St. Mary's Catholic Church 310 South Royal Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Light tomorrow with today!
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NUMBER 16-09-02

The Alexandria City School Board dba Alexandria City Public Schools is seeking proposals for Exit Interview Services for ACPS Schools.

Sealed Proposals with the notation RFP# 16-09-02 Exit Interview Services will be received in the Central Procurement Office, 1340 Braddock Place, Suite 620, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, on or before 3:00 pm, October 12, 2016. The time of receipt shall be determined by the time clock stamp in the Procurement office. Proposals appropriately received will be opened and the names of the firms responding will be read aloud. RFP documents may be obtained at the above Procurement Office or by calling 703-619-8162, or by downloading the RFP from the ACPS website at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/financial-services/purchasing/>

All questions answered will be posted as an addendum to the ACPS web site.

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

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

Gerald W. Amacker (Jerry)
ACPS Senior Buyer

SPORTS

CLASSIFIED

21 Announcements 21 Announcements



Richard L. Sacra

Richard Lee Sacra, 71, of Fredericksburg passed away Friday, Sept. 9, 2016 at Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Sacra had retired from the U. S. Postal Service and Action Sheet Metal in Alexandria. He was preceded in death by his wife, Rebecca Lynnette Sacra; his parents, Robert E. L. and Florence E. Sacra; brother Robert Earl Sacra; grandson Jonathan F. W. Ortiz; and grandmother Lula Grimsley.

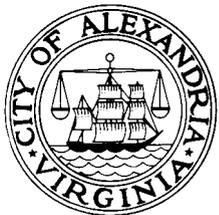
Survivors include his daughters Marsha Lynn Jackson (Frank) and Gloria Suzanne Delgado (Saul); two grandchildren Brittany Cheyanne Sacra and Irvin Sydney Laurendine; sister Arlene George (Dale); host of nieces and nephews; fiancée Joan Presutti; and many other friends.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m Friday, Sept. 16, 2016 at Covenant Funeral Service, Fredericksburg.

A service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17 at the funeral home chapel. Burial will be at 12:30 p.m. at Mount Comfort Cemetery, Alexandria.

Online obituary at covenantfuneralservice.com.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements



Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, September 17, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 11-513 (Administrative Special Use Permit) of Article XI (Development Approvals and Procedures) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment heretofore approved by City Council on June 18, 2016 as Text Amendment No. 2016-0004.

On June 18, 2016 during the consideration of text amendment No. 2016-0004 regarding small business regulations amendments, City Council requested that civic and business associations be added as a party that can appeal an administrative SUP. On June 28, 2016 City Council adopted the ordinance to implement the text amendment but that ordinance inadvertently did not include this language.

The proposed ordinance accomplishes the final adoption of the portion of Text Amendment No. 2016-0004 that mistakenly was not included in the previous ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the owner of the property located at 530 First Street (parcel address 901 North Saint Asaph Street) to construct and maintain an encroachment for a vault for electric transformers under the sidewalk right-of-way at that location

The proposed ordinance permits an encroachment for an electric transformer to be located underneath the sidewalk right-of-way at 530 First Street (parcel address 901 North Saint Asaph Street) as part of a new development.

A PUBLIC HEARING to receive the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Confederate Memorials and Street Names.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL.

JACKIE M. HENDERSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

18 ♦ MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE ♦ SEPTEMBER 15-21, 2016



West Potomac Dominates Edison

West Potomac senior quarterback Mark Ellis threw for one touchdown in a 60-7 victory over Edison. West Potomac scored in all phases of the game with a blocked punt, interception return with their rushing attack and through the air.

PHOTOS BY RICHARD MAPLE



Junior running back Daiimon Cleveland rushed for 2 touchdowns and 90 yards.



Senior DeWann Steigall being escorted to the end zone by his teammates during a 3rd quarter interception for a touchdown.

SCHOOL NOTES

Tag Day Yields More than \$29,500

Hundreds of West Po performing arts students hit the streets for last Saturday's annual Tag Day. Teams of band, chorus, guitar, orchestra and theatre students went door-to-door, giving out "tags" inviting neighbors to this year's performances, and asking for donations. The result? A record-breaking \$29,500-plus in one day, thanks to the generosity of the community. "Frankly, we are overwhelmed by the goodwill of this community every year," said Kathy Callahan, a band parent, noting that this local support makes the critical difference in West Potomac's performing arts programs. But she says there's more to this day than money. "My favorite part of Tag Day has become listening to the kids coming back to West Po with great stories of fun conversations they've had on doorsteps. The kids worry it will be awkward, but so often the exchange turns out to be interesting and cheering on both ends. I love that." For those not home during Tag Day, donations can be made at www.wolverineband.com and click on the "Tag Day Donation" button.



It takes a lot of pizza to fuel 200-plus performing arts students on Tag Day. Pictured are band students Claudia Berman and Emma Auld.



West Potomac Tag Day team from theatre — all of whom will be in "School of Rock" this fall — include Jonathan Barger (front), Aubrey Blount, Matt Evans, Lorna Ryan, Josh Turner, and Tony Lemus.

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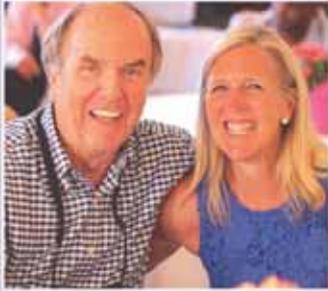
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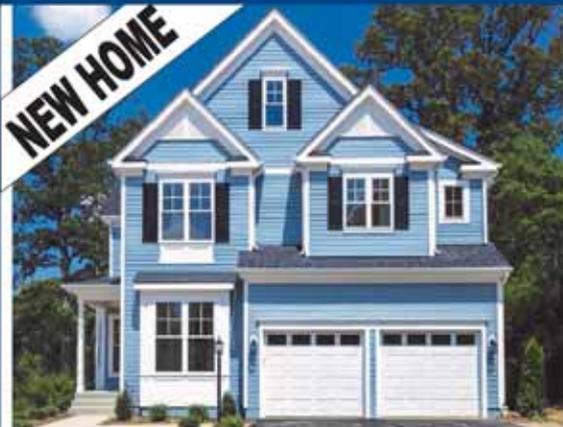
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Fabulous Radford model by Wakefield Homes! Popular model provides all the new home bells and whistles at remarkably reasonable price! Exceptionally attractive, open floor plan enhanced by high ceilings and large windows. Gorgeous setting on large lot just down the street from Mt. Vernon estate. New home features+amenities at used home price! Free finished basement rec room for limited time



NEW HOME

**4401 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy
\$999,000**

Wakefield Home's popular Custis model at exceptionally attractive price! This model typically sells for well over \$1,000,000. Numerous fabulous features include: large room sizes, open floor plan, high ceilings, chef's kitchen, custom trim detail and two car garage. Pre-construction allows for maximum customization! Limited time offer-free finished basement rec-room



OPEN SUNDAY

**8329 Woodacre St.
Stately Colonial w/
Custom Pool!**

Classic Colonial in prime Ft. Hunt location. Up to date floor plan featuring: open floor plan, large room sizes, dramatic entry foyer, high ceilings, open kitchen family room, three finished levels, luxurious master suite, and side load two car garage. Very private back yard and pool. New home feeling at a fraction of the price!



OPEN SUNDAY

**9300 Old Mt. Vernon
\$1,289,000
One of the area's most
distinctive properties!**

One of area's most admired homes! Truly exceptional estate on approximately one acre grounds in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Superlatives include: Three luxuriously finished levels, 7 Br's, 5.5 baths, stunning main level master suite, stately room sizes, elegant finishes + oversize garage. Vacation at home- custom salt water pool and hot tub!



JUST LISTED

**8416 W. Boulevard Dr.
\$875,000
Collingwood Stunner!**

Best Value in Collinwood - Waynewood Area! Incredibly spacious home with imposing columned front. Commanding position on elevated lot just off GW Parkway. Spectacular great room - kitchen additions with cathedral ceilings & glass walls. Amazing top quality updated kitchen - breakfast area. Other feats: HDW floors, 3.5 BA's, 3 FP's, & oversize 2 car garage. Spacious deck overlooks fenced rear grounds. Near Waynewood School + Pool. Nothing like if for close to this price!



NEW PRICE

**4218 Dandridge Terr
\$665,000
New England Style
Colonial!**

Magnificent 5 BR, 3.5 BA in prime location on beautifully landscaped lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac. Rare, 3 car garage! Other special features include: 3 finished levels with full walk out lower level, thermal windows, open kitchen to family room, well maintained hardwoods on both main levels, & expansive exterior decking. Home is in pristine, move in condition. Exceptional value!



**3808 Washington
Woods Dr.
\$1,299,000
Absolute Perfection**

Best of both worlds. Stately colonial exterior combined with stunning bright open floor plan. Enhanced by over \$400,000 in recent expansion and upgrades including: Kitchen, 3.5 Baths, HVAC system and cedar shake roof. Other features include: Three beautifully finished levels, 4 fireplaces, and three car garage. Custom "Trex" deck overlooks magnificently landscaped grounds. True one of a kind property in the exclusive "Wycliffe on the Potomac."

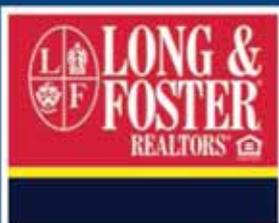


JUST LISTED

**9313 Heather Glen
\$635,000
Fabulous
Opportunity!**

Spacious home in pristine condition. Updated throughout with top quality materials. Special Features include: Open floor plan, high ceilings, "Pella" windows & glass door, stunning new bright white kitchen, updated baths, and gorgeous hard wood floors. Prime location on fenced level lot. Super Value!

UNDER CONTRACT IN ONE WEEK!



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