

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JANUARY 5, 2017



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE

Pausing after a particularly craggy stretch of paved path on the Mount Vernon trail, Supervisor Dan Storck (right) and half a dozen riders stopped and talked informally. Storck said he was aware of that trail and others that could greatly benefit from repaving, which he may be able to assist with money available for road repairs.

Tour de Mount Vernon

Supervisor Storck leads inaugural cross-district bike ride.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

When Carlos Alfaro of the Woodlawn area of Mount Vernon showed up New Year's Eve morning at the Belle Haven Marina parking lot with his road bike, he didn't know what to expect. Neither did Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon), who organized the magisterial district-spanning group ride he advertised as "Tour de Mount Vernon."

"I wanted to get a ride in this year," Storck told a group of 20 to 30 riders, himself bundled up in several layers and a neon green high-visibility jacket. The objective, Storck said, was to tour some of the trails and roadways running through Mount Vernon District, and along the way discuss some of the near to distant development plans for the area.

Storck said at least 40 people had registered for the event through a website sent out by his office, though with the cold and the holiday weekend, he was uncertain of what attendance would be. Seeing the turnout, Storck said he couldn't have been happier.

Fitness watches beeping and gears clicking, riders departed from Belle Haven around 9:45 a.m. heading south on the trail along the George Washington Memorial Highway.

After following the curve at the entrance to George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, riders



Right, Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) meets with Captain Derrick Penny of Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Station 37 Kingstowne during the first-ever Tour de Mount Vernon bike ride.

kept following the Mount Vernon Trail. Pausing after a particularly craggy stretch of paved path, Storck and half a dozen riders stopped and talked informally.

Storck said he was aware of that trail and others that could greatly benefit from repaving, which he may be able to assist with money available for road repairs.

The supervisor said having passable trails for bikes and foot traffic is incredibly important for not only neighbor-to-neighbor community-building, but also connecting what he called significant "cultural sites" for visitors, including the Mount Vernon Estate, the National Museum of the U.S. Army and Arcadia Farm on the historic Woodlawn Estate.

ARCADIA is already functioning as a demonstration farm and base for a veteran farmer training program. The Army Museum is still several years

SEE STORCK, PAGE 4

For Schools: New Year, New Superintendent

Budget shortfall, equity and nondiscrimination are storylines for 2017.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

With the passing of 2016, Fairfax County Public Schools also waved goodbye to its highly influential superintendent Dr. Karen Garza. Garza, who came to FCPS in July 2013 and is largely credited with the titanic achievements of bringing full-day Mondays to elementary schools, pushing back high school start times and pushing through a \$2.7 billion budget for FY2017, announced her resignation in September last year. It took effect in December.

Garza's temporary replacement is Dr. Steven Lockard, who has

worked as deputy superintendent for FCPS since August 2014.

The school board has hired the same recruiting firm that brought them Garza as a candidate, Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, and the search is on.

As with Garza's recruitment, there will be town hall meetings, community meetings, online portals for feedback and opportunities to meet in person with the final candidates.

Pat Hynes, who represents Hunter Mill on the school board, said the search could take up to three months, with the goal of having a new superintendent in place by May or June of this year.

SEE FCPS, PAGE 3

Police Auditor, Civilian Review Panel for 2017

Body cameras, mental health part of public safety focus.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE GAZETTE

This year will see two historic firsts for Fairfax County, its police department and citizens: the beginning work of an Office of Police Auditor and Civilian Review Panel. The auditor will review police use of force cases and internal investigations of those incidents, while the panel will review other citizen complaints of police misconduct and abuse of power.

Both bodies were recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, a panel created Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova largely in response to public frustration and anger over the lack of transparency and accountability after the 2013 shooting of unarmed Springfield man John Geer in the doorway of his home by then-Fairfax County Police officer Adam Torres.

A committee appointed by

SEE POLICE, PAGE 4

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALEXANDRIA, VA
PERMIT #482
ATTENTION
POSTMASTER:
TIME-SENSITIVE
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REQUESTED IN HOME
1/6/17

Home Sellers trust McEneaney Associates

McEneaney.com



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Hollindale \$735,000

Charm & character in one unique home! Move-in ready on a large corner lot with amazing yard. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths and flooded with natural sunlight. Bonus rooms can be used for office/exercise/extra bedroom spaces. thegoodhartgroup.com/listings/1809-hollindale/
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OPEN SUN 1/8, 1-4

Hollin Hills \$799,000

Impeccable 3-bedroom, 3-full-bath contemporary with 2 additions has true chef's kitchen with Aga range; master bedroom suite; 2nd floor family room; flexible living spaces; updated systems, rare carport & lovely outdoor spaces with zen garden & koi pond. 1924 Marthas Road
Jodie Burns 571.228.5790
www.JodieBurns.com



Old Town/The Prescott \$559,000

2-bedroom, 2-bath condo. Bright, open floor plan with large windows, wood floors, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Large master with spa-like bath. 2 side-by-side reserved garage spaces. Enjoy walking to shops, restaurants and Metro.
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com



OPEN SUN 1/8, 2-4

Old Town \$1,425,000

This light-filled, modern design home in Old Town's sought-after SE Quadrant has an open floor-plan with a fabulous kitchen leading to one of two quaint courtyards. 3 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms, including a master suite with vaulted ceilings. 722 S Fairfax Street
Jessica Richardson 703.864.3438
www.JessicaRichardson.com



OPEN SUN 1/8, 2-4

Old Town \$524,900

Two-bedroom townhouse with loft in wonderful Arch Hall! All brick, three stories, fireplace, and a private patio. Stainless and stone kitchen, and newly refinished hardwood floors. 655 S Columbus Street

Peter Crouch 703.244.4024
www.CrouchRealtyGroup.com



Hollin Hills \$765,000

Nestled in lush landscaping, this spacious 2-level Goodman has 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, renovated kitchen, master bedroom suite, beautiful hardwood floors, newer roof & HVAC, great storage. Wonderful indoor/outdoor spaces... wrap-around deck, 4 season plantings, pond & stream.
Jodie Burns 571.228.5790
www.JodieBurns.com



Woodbridge \$439,000

Beautiful home on private cul-de-sac. Open floor plan with hardwood floors & accent columns. Kitchen includes granite, stainless appliances & island. Fantastic master bath with outstanding tile & walk-in shower. Rear sunroom addition & huge fully fenced rear yard with patio.
Bob Bazzle 703.599.8964
www.BobBazzle.com



Alexandria \$599,000

Light-filled 4-bedroom, 3-bath home with oversized garage in a great location! Renovated granite and stainless kitchen with island. Sparkling baths, sliding door to spacious deck and fenced yard. Wood floors, gas fireplace, newer windows.
Sue Dickerson 703.380.0153
www.SueDickersonRealtor.com



OPEN SUN 1/8, 2-4

Lorton \$785,000

Lovely center hall colonial backs to woods! Gleaming hardwood floors on the main level with chef's kitchen and eat in area; 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, family room boasts gas fireplace. Premium landscaped lot, custom fencing and deck.
Vicki Binkley 703.994.0778
www.VickiBinkley.com

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New Year, New Superintendent for FCPS

FROM PAGE 1

Budget will once again be a major storyline for the school system, as Hynes said the board is currently looking at about a \$90 million shortfall for FY 2018.

Hynes lamented the voting down of a proposed meals tax that would have brought the school system an estimated \$67 million that would have gone to investing in teacher salary scale and other long-term investments. “Those things are on the block right now,” said Hynes.

A citizen budget task force is being re-engaged to go over the work of a previous task force and look for any and all possibilities of trimming to make up that \$90 million.

“That’s the conversation we’ve been having with the community,” Hynes said. “Unless that shortfall gets a lot smaller, it’s a hard nut to swallow.”

George Becerra of Burke is an FCPS parent and actively engaged with both school system and county-wide issues, sitting on a subcommittee of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

“The reality is this year, the schools will not get what they’re asking for,” Becerra said. “When do we start having a conversation of programs over taking money away from teachers?”

Becerra suggests starting evaluating programs that have an abundance of students.

“The reality is this year, the schools will not get what they’re asking for. When do we start having a conversation of programs over taking money away from teachers?”

— George Becerra, parent

“Forget the name, is it doing what it’s supposed to be doing?” he said. “How do you know money going to it is actually producing results?”

Mount Vernon representative to the school board Karen Corbett Sanders says another major topic for 2017 is discussion of ensuring consistency of programs from school to school.

“We started down this path with homework and grading policy last year,” she said. “What does equity really mean,” Corbett Sanders continued. “We’re going to have

some healthful discussions about it. Everything from early education on.”

Hynes said to help address the challenge of equity, the school system is planning to hire an assistant superintendent for innovation and equity.

“Looking at equity really is a systemic thing,” said Hynes. “It has to be top-down, it has to be part of how you deliver curriculum in every building.”

Hynes and Becerra agree the county’s level three and four Advanced Academic Centers in only select elementary and middle schools, which require testing and choice by parents to enter, introduce the problem of equity.

Then in high school there are honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and general education classes. “The reality is by then kids are sorted,” Hynes said. “They’ve been sorted through our sys-

Superintendent Search Community Forums

Share thoughts and ideas for ideal superintendent characteristics at ten community meetings in January. A survey for online submissions will be posted Jan. 9 at www.fcps.edu.

❖ **Monday, Jan. 9**, 1 p.m., Gatehouse Administration Center, room 1600, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

❖ **Monday, Jan. 9**, 7 p.m., South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton, VA 22079.

❖ **Tuesday, Jan. 10**, 12:30 p.m., Virginia Hills Center Library, 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria, VA 22310.

❖ **Wednesday, Jan. 11**, noon, Providence District Office and Community Center, multipurpose room 2, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031.

tem and remain sorted in high school. And then there are parts of the county where advanced and challenging work isn’t even available at all to kids.”

THE TOPIC OF GENDER IDENTITY figures to continue to be a contentious one this year in Fairfax County Public Schools, as it is around the country. Over the last two school years, the board voted to add sexual orientation and gender identity — generally understood as the sex that someone feels or intrinsically identifies with relative to their sex at birth — to the FCPS nondiscrimination policy for students and faculty.

Opponents of the change say the board acted outside its authority, and did so to follow a directive from President Obama, who some say was acting outside his authority to hold schools accountable to make

❖ **Wednesday, Jan. 11**, 7 p.m., Mount Vernon High School Little Theater, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309.

❖ **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 11 a.m., Herndon Council Chambers, 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, VA 20170.

❖ **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 1 p.m., Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke, VA 22015.

❖ **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 7 p.m., Stuart High School Little Theater, 3301 Peace Valley Lane, Falls Church, VA 22044.

❖ **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 7 p.m., Chantilly High School Lecture Hall, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151.

❖ **Wednesday, Jan. 18**, 7 p.m., Langley High School Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101.

such changes.

A lawsuit against the school board over this issue is pending at the state level, but Hynes emphasized that Policy 1450 as it stands is still in place.

A set of regulations for implementing the nondiscrimination policy was sent to the board from school system staff in 2016, but tabled indefinitely.

Hynes said the regulations are meant as guidance for consistency, as for principals addressing an issue for the first time such as student who identifies as transgender.

“They’ve been doing it school by school, kid by kid,” said Hynes. “The bottom line is everyone has the opportunity for privacy.”

It’s not known whether the board will take up the regulations again. But, as Hynes said, opponents of the policy can push school board members to put it back up for a vote.

Police Release Security Footage of Gomez Shooting

Law enforcement invites media to view and break-down sequence of events

On Dec. 20, Fairfax County Police released security camera footage showing the sequence of events that led up to and immediately followed Master Deputy Sheriff Patrick McPartlin shooting Yovani Amaya Gomez at the bus depot outside Inova Fairfax Hospital on Aug. 15, 2016.

The previous Friday, Dec. 16, Commonwealth’s Attorney Ray Morrogh announced his decision that McPartlin was not criminally liable in the shooting and that it was a “justified homicide.”

David Smith, commander of Fairfax County Police Department major crimes division, broke down the security camera footage of events leading up to and following Yovani Amaya Gomez (pic-

tured on screen holding a sign post he used to attack a security guard and Sheriff’s deputy) being shot by Master Deputy Sheriff Patrick McPartlin.

A report on Morrogh’s decision is available online here (link: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2016/dec/20/fairfax-county-sheriffs-deputy-cleared-fatal-shoot/>).

The full, unedited security footage of Gomez released by Fairfax County Police is available on YouTube here (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp1uyBk0CW4&feature=youtu.be>). Security guards first engage with him around the 53-minute mark.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

David Smith (left), commander of Fairfax County Police Department major crimes division, breaks down the security camera footage of events leading up to and following Yovani Amaya Gomez (pictured on screen holding a sign post he used to attack a security guard and Sheriff’s deputy) being shot by Master Deputy Sheriff Patrick McPartlin.

Storck Leads Inaugural Cross-District Bike Ride

FROM PAGE 1

from opening but when completed will span 80 acres in the Fort Belvoir area and exhibit rare artifacts, documents and images, as well as an experiential learning center.

In addition to community members, Storck had invited a number of county staff and government officials on the ride to get a first-hand look at situations needing attention, like the rocky trail.

Bikers continued on to Jeff Todd Way, heading north to Telegraph Road and a mettle-challenging hill. At the top of the hill, however, volunteers were waiting at the Kingstowne Station 37 of Fairfax County Fire & Rescue with water bottles. The group took a brief break to warm up, use the bathroom and meet with station Captain Derrick Penny.

The group followed Telegraph southwest toward Lorton, eventually turning right on to Lorton Road after a brief jog on Richmond Highway.

They took Lorton Road past the work entrance for Liberty Crest at Laurel Hill, a \$188 million project that's redeveloping former Lorton prison structures on 80 acres for residential and commercial use.

Bikers followed Lorton Road to a short jog on the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail before continuing on Workhouse Road and taking the redone entrance to the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

Staff from Storck's office and other volunteers were waiting outside the Workhouse's main building with hot chocolate, water bottles and energy bars.

Though the group had splintered somewhat during the ride, they reconvened at the Workhouse around 12:30 p.m., just over 20 miles pedaling from the starting point.

Alfaro said that despite the cold, the sun had come out and the ride was "totally worth it."

"I've lived in this area most all of my life," Alfaro said, "and it's the first time I've biked here."



Right, Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) welcomes a group of between 20 and 30 riders to the first Tour de Mount Vernon cross-district bike ride on New Year's Eve. The objective, Storck said, was to tour some of the trails and roadways running through Mount Vernon District, and along the way discuss some of the near to distant development plans for the area.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE GAZETTE



From left, Loretta Trowen of West Springfield, Charles Dyer of Fairfax Station and Cathy Miller of Fairfax rode in the first Tour de Mount Vernon on New Year's Eve.

Like Alfaro, Cathy Miller of Fairfax, was excited to find some new routes for getting from Point A to Point B, and to get out and



Carlos Alfaro of Woodlawn said it was the first time he'd explored this much of the county by bike and he was already looking forward to Supervisor Dan Storck's next tour.

see friends on New Year's Eve. Miller is also a member of the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling.

WITH 20 MILES IN THE BOOKS, some riders took alternate transportation back to Belle Haven while others continued on to different destinations.

Those remaining largely followed the same route back to the start point, completing just over 40 miles in the saddle.

Storck said again he was encouraged by the turnout, and intends to use this first Tour de Mount Vernon as a learning experience for engaging more of the community and scheduling more similar rides in the future.

Police Auditor, Civilian Review Panel to Become Reality in 2017

FROM PAGE 1

Bulova is reviewing six candidates who topped the applicants list.

For the civilian review panel, invitations to nominate members have been sent to dozens of community groups, including minority organizations, disability services, interfaith groups and others that were part of the Election Process Improvement Commission. Each supervisor may also make nominations. Public Safety Committee chair supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said the full board will review all the nominations in closed session Feb. 14.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) fully supported the auditor position but has been critical of the need for a civilian review panel — he was the only supervisor to vote against its creation.

Looking ahead at 2017 though, Herrity said "my expectation and hope for both is

they're going to confirm our police department is doing a very good job."

Randy Sayles of Oak Hill was a member of the Use of Force subcommittee of the Ad Hoc Commission. Sayles spent more than 35 years in law enforcement with the Denver Police Department and Drug Enforcement Administration. He said he is very optimistic both the auditor's office and civilian review panel will be beneficial to the supervisors, police and citizens.

Sayles said from what he's seen, "There's a sense there can be real improvement and transparency, not just lip service."

In choosing the members of the panel, Sayles said it's crucial the supervisors go with people who won't allow bias to corrupt the review process.

"It's very important people picked deal with facts, demand facts and make decisions based on facts," Sayles said, "and communicate those in a way that's not divisive.

"Try to get a diversity of people," Sayles said. "But ultimately, pick people who are willing to be fair, no matter what. It can be a difficult thing to do."

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT and contentious recommendation from the Ad Hoc commission is the implementation of police officer-worn body cameras. Herrity said the supervisors are set to approve a new pilot program this month.

"They are absolutely important," Herrity said. "This is something our police department supports, our citizens support. We should go ahead and get it done now."

Herrity said the estimated cost for getting body cameras up and running on police in Fairfax County is \$30 million. The pilot, he said, will last for several months. He's asked that it include two different vendors and be done at stations in two magis-

terial districts.

SUPERVISOR COOK said another public safety priority is taking next steps with the Diversion First program, which is set up to prevent people with mental illness or developmental disabilities from going to jail for nonviolent offenses.

Coordinating more with the court system is an important issue, Cook said.

"We really need a sea change in how we think about mental illness," said Cook, "to recognize it serves a public safety purpose as well to get people treatment. If you just throw them in jail, 80 percent of the time, something else happens, they're going back in."

The next meeting of the board's Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Jan. 31 at 3 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

Krizek Seeks Mandatory Seatbelt Law

Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) has introduced a bill to require all occupants of a motor vehicle to utilize safety restraints. Current law requires safety belt use only by occupants under the age of 18, drivers, and front-seat passengers.

The idea for the bill came from West Potomac High School student, Jonathan Tucker, who proposed the legislation as his 2016 Amundson Institute Scholar project. The bill would make it a secondary offense for any automobile passenger to fail to use a seatbelt.

CRIME NEWS

Suspect Arrested In Shooting

Officers arrested a 40-year-old man from Alexandria who was wanted for malicious wounding, use or display of a firearm while committing a felony, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in relation to the Dec. 27, shooting in the 3800 block of Miramonte Place. The suspect was arrested without incident and will be taken to the Adult Detention Center where the warrants will be served.

Police initially responded to a call for one man chasing another and shooting at him with a handgun. The victim was wounded by a bullet that grazed his leg. He was treated at the scene by Fairfax County Fire and Rescue personnel.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Crime Solvers electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637) or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Suspect in Stabbing Arrested

Detectives have charged a man for stabbing another man on Monday, Dec. 26. An investigation determined the two men, who did not know each other, were outside talking with a mutual acquaintance in the 7900 block of Audubon Avenue around 8:50 p.m. The two men began arguing. The argument escalated and the suspect stabbed the victim multiple times with a knife.

According to the police, the victim suffered serious trauma to the upper body. He was taken to the hospital, where he remains in critical condition. Major Crimes detectives assumed the investigation.

CRIME REPORT

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

UNLAWFUL ENTRY: 8000 block of Pantano Place, Dec. 29, 7:14 p.m. A security officer reported that three juveniles were inside a vacant apartment. Officers responded and identified the three juveniles. Charges are pending.

ROBBERY: 8200 block of Russell Road (Mount Vernon Apartments), Dec. 22, around 7:42 p.m. A 31-year-old woman was walking on a sidewalk when two men grabbed her from behind, threw her to the ground, took her purse and ran off. The victim was treated at a local hospital for minor injuries.

TRAFFIC PURSUIT/DWI/POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA/UNAUTHORIZED USE/ARREST:

Richmond Highway/Russell Road, Dec. 24, around 8:50 p.m. Officers saw a vehicle driving erratically and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The driver failed to pull over. Eventually, the officers were able to stop the car. A 39-year-old man from Waldorf, Md., was arrested, taken to the Adult Detention Center, and charged with unauthorized use of a vehicle, possession of marijuana and driving while intoxicated.

ROBBERY: Parrott Place/Pelican Place, Dec. 21, around 1 p.m. A 35-year-old woman was walking through a neighborhood when she was approached by two men. One suspect displayed a knife and demanded cash. The other suspect threw her to the ground and took an unknown amount of money from her purse. The suspects ran away. The victim did not require medical attention.

During 2014, 58 percent of back seat passengers killed were not buckled up. In 2008, motor vehicle crashes killed 25,351 occupants, where 55 percent were unrestrained, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Twenty four states and the District of Columbia require seat belt use in all seating positions. Minnesota enacted the requirement in 2009, and New Jersey passed a similar measure in 2010.

Shortly after, a 34-year-old man from Falls Church was located in the 8300 block of Brockham Drive. He was taken to the Adult Detention Center and charged with malicious wounding.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Fairfax County police at 703-691-2131 or you can Crime Solvers electronically by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org> or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637)** or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477).

Police Release Video Of Robbery Suspects

Detectives have released surveillance video of the suspects in the robbery that occurred at the Quality Inn at 7212 Richmond Highway, on Thursday, Dec. 15, shortly before 11 p.m.

Police are asking for the public's assistance in identifying the two men and car that appear in this video. See <https://fcpdnews.wordpress.com/2016/12/28/update-detectives-release-video-of-hotel-robbery-suspects-and-car/>

The first suspect was described as black, 25 to 30 years old, and around 6 feet tall. He was wearing a black or dark blue hooded jacket, blue jeans, black sneakers, black gloves, and a ski mask. The second suspect was described as black, 25 to 30 years old, and around 5 feet 10 inches tall. He was wearing a black jacket with a gray, hooded sweatshirt, black pants, black shoes, gloves, and a ski mask.

The car was described as a silver compact sedan.

If anyone recognizes these men or the car, they should contact Detective McAuliffe from the Major Crimes Division at 703-246-7800, or Crime Solvers electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES(274637) or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

SHOPLIFTING/ARREST: 6700 block of Richmond Highway (Marshall's), Dec. 21, around 1:45 p.m. A loss prevention officer notified a detective that three men, whom he recognized as serial shoplifters, had left the store with merchandise. A lookout of the suspect car was provided to local officers and a traffic stop was made. The driver, a 49-year-old man from Baltimore, was arrested, taken to the Adult Detention Center and charged with petit larceny. The other two suspects were released.

DEC. 30

LARCENIES
Backlick Road/Richmond Highway, tools from construction site
3100 block of Furman Lane, tires and rims from vehicle

SEE CRIME, PAGE 14



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Alex/Potomac Valley \$624,900
8815 Vernon View Drive
KNOCK DOWN GORGEOUS RENOVATION - Turning a lovely 3BR, 1.5BA Duckling into a beautiful 5BR, 3BA Swan!! New: Roof, Gutters, Windows, 3Baths, Kitchen, Flooring, Paint etc. etc... Kitchen gutted, expanded & open to Living & Dining

rooms. Beautiful Travertine flooring in Kitchen & Baths - Lovely 255 sq ft screened porch overlooks a beautiful, large, fenced bkyd. Two minutes to GW Pkwy, 10 mins to Alex - This is a 10!!!



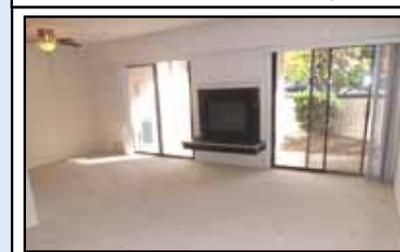
Alex/Wessynton \$679,900
3301 Wessynton Way
Beautiful Contemporary Home on one of Wessynton's premiere wooded lots, backing to over 10 acres of pristine forest, teeming w/wildlife & spectacular views. Large kit w/breakfast area, separate dining rm, beautiful hdwd flrs. Liv & Din rms w/fireplace,

wall of windows brings outdoors inside - Garage & Deck -Community boat ramp, swimming pool, & walking trails. Minutes to Old Town (N) and Ft. Belvoir (S).



Alex/Riverside Estates \$639,900
8522 Wagon wheel Road
Absolute gorgeous 4BR, 3BA expanded & updated Split on large beautiful lot w/fenced backyard. Two 16x14 ft. additions, Office off the MBR & Sun rm off the Living rm. Updates include: roof, HWH, HVAC, baths, kit (floor, cabinets, appliances & counters) - Freshly painted interior & exterior.

Approximately 2900 fin sq ft plus 2 car garage w/new driveway. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 mins to Old Town, 28 mins to Ntl Airport, 33 mins to Pentagon. Agents - this property is listed & offers a 3% C. S. Will activated in MRIS early Feb but can be shown earlier thru appt w/Rex.



Alex/Sequoyah \$157,900
3879 El Camino Place
Lovely, well maintained, 2 bedroom & 1 bath, w/open floor plan-Large living room w/raised fireplace & sliding glass doors to front patio. Spacious kitchen w/large pantry, opens up to living room-New carpeting installed & new bathroom vanity. Master BR

has large walk-in closet - Both bedrooms have sliding glass doors that open to rear patio-Rear & front patios are fenced w/gates for your convenient access. Close to Ft. Belvoir, Old Town Alexandria.



Alex/Hollin Hall \$604,800
8011 Jackson Road
Beautifully renovated and expanded rambler w/over 1700+ sq. ft. of stunning one-level contemporary living space. 3BRs, 2.5BAs. Gourmet kitchen opens to vaulted Great Room w/stone fireplace. Gorgeous owner's suite. Beautiful fenced bkyd

w/patio, fire pit, shed. Located in Waynewood Elementary district, & short walk to Hollin Hall shopping center.



Alex/Riverside Est. \$649,900
8425 Mt. Vernon Highway
Beautiful home w/over 4000 fin sq ft & 2 lvl addn plus 600+ sq ft bsmt in lovely Riverside Estates. Great Rm on ML w/gas FP & wet bar. Adjacent Family Rm w/wood burning FP. An office adjoins the gorgeous 20'x32' MBR addn w/vaulted Douglas Fir ceiling & skylights.

Library/studio (32'x 12') on upper lvl addition. Both HVAC systems, HWH & roof replcd 2011. 1 mile to GW Pkwy. Close to Ft. Belvoir.



For more information: www.RexReiley.com

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OPINION

Unsung Heroes of Police Reform

Personal involvement of Culosi, Beltrante key to success of police commission.

The call for reform and transparency in Fairfax County Police began long before the shooting death of John Geer in August 2013. Some members of the Fairfax County Police Practices Review Commission pressed for reform for nearly a decade before the formation of the commission. Their experience also should answer any question about whether reform was really needed.

Anita and Sal Culosi lost their son Dr. Salvatore "Sal" Culosi Jr. when he was killed by a Fairfax County Police officer Jan. 24, 2006 outside his Fair Oaks townhouse by a SWAT team member executing a search warrant. Police knew Culosi was unarmed and did not consider him dangerous. The shooting was ruled an accident and the officer faced no charges.

"My son would still be alive today," Culosi said at the first meeting of the commission in March 2015, "but for 2006 Fairfax County policies to routinely use SWAT and aggressive procedures against citizens certified to be low risk."

Culosi Sr. told members of the commission that David M. Rohrer told him that use of force policy changes had been made since his son's shooting, but that Rohrer declined to give him copies of the changes or tell him exactly what changes were made. Rohrer, now deputy county executive for public safety was Fairfax County police chief when Culosi Jr. was killed.

As the commission began its work, Police Chief Edwin Roessler and Rohrer among others, embraced Sal Culosi Sr.'s involvement, and worked with him on many details of policy changes ranging from how SWAT teams are deployed to "ready gun position." New policies



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Sal Culosi (left), father of Dr. Salvatore "Sal" Culosi Jr., who was killed by a Fairfax County Police officer in 2006, and Nicholas Beltrante (right), executive director of the Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, attend the first meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission in March 2015

were developed with his input, are available to the public and mark significant improvements.

NICHOLAS R. BELTRANTE, a retired D.C. homicide detective and Mount Vernon resident, founded Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability in 2010 in response to the shooting death of unarmed David A. Masters who was shot and killed by a Fairfax County Police officer on Richmond Highway and Fort Hunt Road on Nov. 13, 2009. Masters, a former U.S. Army Green Beret, struggled with mental health issues.

Beltrante decried the secrecy surrounding the Masters and Culosi cases among others, and began advocating for the formation of a civilian review panel.

He wrote to the Connection in 2012: "During the years 2010-2011, the CCPA has

directed a number of letters to Chief David M. Rohrer regarding these and other citizen allegations of police abuse, misconduct, and negligence. These letters have gone unanswered. As a result the CCPA began in January 2012 mailing letters of complaint to Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova with the understanding they would be forwarded to Supervisor Gerald W. Hyland, the board's Public Safety Committee chairman, for appropriate action. In recent weeks the CCPA has written to Supervisor Hyland in an effort to determine what action, if any, he had taken. To-date, we have not heard from Supervisor Hyland.

"The apparent lack of accountability by various entities of the Fairfax County Government regarding these serious issues has caused many citizens grave concern and some have expressed their frustration by indicating their belief this may constitute a case of malfeasance."

Beltrante noted that no one, including the families of the deceased victims, had been able to obtain a police incident report despite the fact that the four cases were closed.

The establishment of a civilian review panel and an independent police auditor, both approved last year by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, plus changes in policies about use of force, transparency and crisis intervention, among many others, are major accomplishments.

The Culosis and Beltrante began the call for such changes many years before the death of John Geer. Geer's best friend, Jeff Stewart, also served on the Ad Hoc Commission. Stewart was present on the scene when his friend was shot dead. Stewart's voice was also critical on the commission. The personal involvement of these families and individuals in the process, plus the new openness of leadership in the FCPD, made all the difference.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

County Should Be Supporting Recycling

To the Editor:

Does Fairfax County actually care about recycling? Based on recent experience, I suggest that the answer is a mixed one. Yes, most of us residents are furnished with the blue roll-away bins that we fill with recyclable materials and put out by the curb each week, but the county has recently closed its eight stand-alone, non-attended recycling centers like the one that existed on the hill behind the Mount Vernon Recreation Center.

I spoke this week with the director of solid waste management for Fairfax County, a phone call facilitated by a staffer for Supervisor Dan Storck. The staffer had responded to my inquiry about

why the recycling center had been closed, with a notice at its site directing would-be patrons to proceed to West Ox Road if they had items to recycle. (For the record, the West Ox location is way out I-66, some 28.5 miles from my house.) The center had been closed, said the sign, because people were dumping trash there.

It was clear from the beginning of the conversation that the Fairfax County employee wasn't buying anything I was selling. I told her that many people used the recycling center and that the reason people dumped items like mattresses, old TV sets, and broken furniture next to the recycling bins was because there was nowhere else to put them. What if the

county had placed a dumpster there to accept trash, I asked, rather than closing the recycling center? The logic on the sign simply did not make sense to me, I said.

Her response was a litany of reasons why I didn't understand waste management, while she had 38 years of experience. The eight stand-alone, non-manned recycling centers collected "only" 2200 tons of recyclable materials last year, she said, a small fraction of the total. And why didn't I just use the blue bin, she asked. I explained that we did use the bin, and that we filled it every week, with recyclables left over. That's when we went to the place behind the rec center. She then told me that I



Posting about the closing of the recycling center behind the Mount Vernon Recreation Center.

could simply leave materials outside the bin, and it would be picked up. Not so, I said, as such items would blow around the neighborhood and into the parkland across the street. She

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

Mount Vernon Gazette

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A Connection Newspaper



OPINION

FROM PAGE 6

suggested that I could drive to the Furnace Road facility near Lorton, missing entirely the idea that those of us who care about preserving scarce resources don't want to trek down I-95 almost to Prince William County every time our recycling bin is full. Conserving gasoline is also part of our ethos.

Our conversation ended with me trying to make the point that earth's resources are limited, that recycling is a very good thing, and that she clearly did not understand the public on this one. I asked whether there had been any kind of public notice or discussion before the eight centers were closed. Her silence gave me the answer. Her retort was that she had heard from only 20 county residents out of a million people who lived here. Frankly, I said to her, I think 20 people who cared enough to contact the county is a large number.

Maybe I'm totally wrong, and maybe there are only 20 people in Fairfax County who care about this issue. But I am guessing that there are way more than 20 people who believe that making it convenient for people to recycle bulky items like cardboard boxes is good for the county and good for the earth. I hope that the Board of Supervi-

sors will reverse this ill-conceived decision.

**Col. James T. Currie,
USA (ret)/Alexandria**

Fragile Habitat

To the Editor:

The National Park service has contracted with seven tree-cutting companies to remove trees along the Parkway from above Spout Run to Mount Vernon through March of 2017. This calls for removal of trees deemed a danger. It is the responsibility of a certified arborist to determine which trees are to be cut down. Recently over 90 trees were removed near the boardwalk north of Tulane Drive. Many of the trees were far from the boardwalk and posed no threat to people or property.

Included among the trees cut down were three Pumpkin Ash that had been selected by a certified arborist from Bartlett's Tree service along with a park service biologist. These were injected with insecticide to protect them from Emerald Ash Borer using funds provided by the Friends of Dyke Marsh. The trees were evaluated in the spring and were deemed healthy. Regrettably, the arborist responsible for overseeing this

cutting was ill at the time of the tree sawing, and the selection of trees was made by an unauthorized individual removing many that exceeded 70 years of age.

In areas of the midwest and northeast, where up to 19 percent of the urban forest is composed by Ash trees, a decision has been made after a cost-effective analysis, that the considerable price of cutting ash and replanting them with new trees justifies consideration of treatment as an alternative. The decision to treat is made by evaluating the canopy in the spring and trees with less than 40 percent canopy damage are considered candidates for ash borer treatment while other, more distressed trees, are removed. The National Park Service's designated arborist has been removing all Ash trees close to "targets," including those with no obvious defects and has made the decision in the fall after leaf drop rather than when leafing has occurred in spring. Their justification is likely that Emerald Ash borer, sooner or later, will affect all Ash trees and that removing them is justified. But is this truly a proper rationale for cutting? Overreach jeopardizes a fragile habitat that we all enjoy.

Edward Eder/Alexandria

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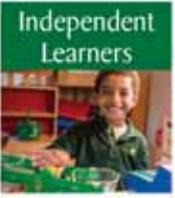
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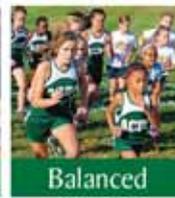
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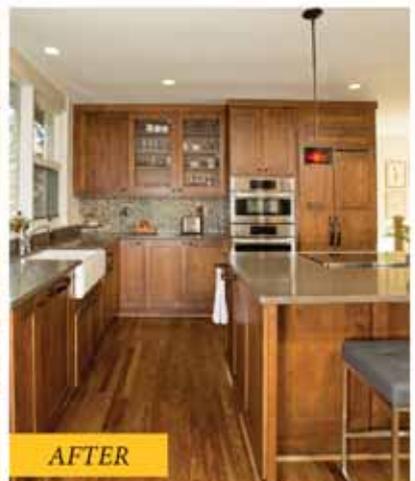
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Tips to Achieve New Year's Resolutions

Advice on setting and reaching goals.

BY RIKKI GEORGE
THE GAZETTE

Terry Garret wants to quit smoking. Timothy Noel Castle wants to get in shape. Larry Miller wants to stop procrastinating. And Pat Troy wants to do more for others.

The New Year is here and it naturally inspires people to make resolutions like losing weight, finding a new job and all of the above. Often times, however, people set themselves up for failure. By February, that ambitious plan to lift weights before work becomes no plan at all.

With a little retooling and help from others, New Year's resolutions can be achievable. Here are a few tips from local experts to get started on the right track.

According to Executive Coach Jean Stafford, New Year's resolutions fail because people never go beyond the "wish stage." It is about details. How are you going to lose those 10 pounds?"

Stafford suggests developing a plan based



Alexandria resident Terry Garret. "I really want to quit smoking and lose weight for health

reasons. I just want to be healthier. I've taken the patch and that didn't work."



Retired restaurant owner and parade organizer Pat Troy. "[I always have] New Year's resolu-

tions. The most important thing is health, family and friends. We need to do more for others."



Timothy Noel Castle, formerly of Alexandria, lives in Fairfax. "I've been ... 20 years

without a cigarette.... I want to work on my core with sit-ups and crunches. I go to gym and walk six to 10 miles a day. Your health is more important than all the money in the world."



Larry Miller has been a resident of Alexandria for 52 years. His resolution is to not procrastinate. "I have a tendency to procrastinate," Miller said. He spends two

hours walking a day. He is stress-free. He's been retired for 20 years.

PHOTOS BY RIKKI GEORGE
GAZETTE PACKET

on the model of S.M.A.R.T. goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-based. "Being realistic is key for resolutions," Stafford said. "Be in the realm of possibility."

For board certified clinical hypnotherapist Ruth Ruskin, L.C.S.W., "resolutions are an opportunity to feel good if successful or an opportunity to look at why things are not working. Do you not have the motivation to go to the gym at 5 a.m.? What could be an alternative strategy for you?"

Ruskin suggests breaking a resolution down into steps on a daily or weekly basis

and work them into a schedule. By doing so, tasks become less overwhelming and, more importantly, they become a habit.

Dr. Kristine Erickson, a wellness coach and personal trainer, agrees. Have a vision for the future but start small. Setting up a small, reachable goal will lead to bigger goals and that leads to confidence building and success.

Understanding the emotion behind the resolution is also important, according to stress management expert Dr. Cynthia Ackrill, a physician trained in neuroscience and leadership coaching. Why do you want

to change? And do you have the knowledge to proceed with the resolution? Willpower alone won't get you there, she said.

"It helps to be accountable to someone and not on Facebook," said Ruskin. Identify one or two trusted people — especially someone with similar goals. Together, you become a co-motivating group.

Finally, understand you won't be perfect. It takes a lot of work to change behavior, so "have compassion with yourself when you do this," said Ackrill. If you fail, just start again. As Ruskin said, "The all or nothing approach never gets you to all."

Keeping Resolutions **Realistic goals and specific plans among keys to success.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Every January for the last five years Faye Ripke has resolved to lose weight and lead a healthier lifestyle. However, the only thing she has to show for it, she says, is a trail of unused gym memberships and a wardrobe of clothes that have increased in size.

"Both of my parents died from heart attacks," says Ripke, 57 of Fairfax Station. "My doctor keeps telling me that I need to do more aerobic exercise to get my heart rate up every day and drop about 75 pounds."

Losing weight, getting organized, achieving physical fitness and improving one's finances are the most frequently made resolutions, often the guilt-induced responses

to holiday indulgence. According to a study published last month in the Journal of Clinical Psychology, only eight percent of people who make New Year's resolutions keep them and achieve success.

"One reason that many people fail to achieve their goals is that they might not be ready to make the change, even if they would benefit from doing so," said Joel Bitman, a Bethesda-based psychotherapist. "Another reason is that people often set unrealistic goals or don't have a plan to achieve their goals."

Actually wanting to make the change that the resolution would bring about is the first step followed by developing strategies to achieve it. "When you set a goal, say quitting smoking for example, ask yourself whether it's something that you really want

to do or something that you think you should do," said Bitman. "If you're doing it because you think you should or because society is telling you that you should, but the reality is that you really enjoy smoking, it will be much harder, if not impossible, to quit."

While it is easy and often tempting to look at pictures of ultra thin models and resolve to transform one's body by the end of the year, setting unrealistic expectations can sabotage a set of goals, says Alicia Brand, a Falls Church personal trainer.

"Trying to lose 60 pounds in time for a beach vacation during spring break isn't going to happen," he said. "But losing 10 pounds by April is absolutely achievable for most people."

A key to that achievement is creating a

set of concrete goals that are realistic, specific, measurable and include a timetable, says Bittman. "You actually have to make mindset changes and behavioral changes in order to successfully reach a goal, and changes in behaviors are often quite difficult," he said. "But if you are able to make small changes and reach small weekly, daily or even hourly goals, you're more likely to gain confidence to keep going. It's easy to become discouraged and give up."

"If you want to become more fit, but you haven't exercised in years, you might begin by committing to walking 30 minutes a day, three days a week," said Brand. "That is much more realistic than signing up for a gym membership and planning to spend an hour there every day until you've whittled your body down to a size two."

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Legislators To Hold Public Hearing

As in years past, the Fairfax County delegation to the General Assembly will hold a hearing for public comment on the upcoming 2017 session on Saturday, Jan. 7, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova will welcome the delegation to the Government Center on behalf of the Board of Supervisors and deliver brief remarks.

Fairfax County is assisting with the logistics of the delegation's event. Fairfax County residents who want to sign up in advance to speak at the hearing should register online or contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors at 703-324-3151, TTY 711, by noon on Friday, Jan. 6.

Only Fairfax County residents or individuals speaking on behalf of a Fairfax County organization may register to speak, and are asked to personally register for their speaking slot (residents needing assistance will be helped on a case by case basis).

Organizations are encouraged to limit their number of speakers to five. Additional attendees in support of said organization at the public hearing may be recognized by the chair. Speaking slots will be numbered based on a first come, first served allocation.

Each speaker will be allocated three minutes to address the delegation. Speakers must be present when called to the podium, and people who miss their turn will be added to the end of the list of speakers. The chair reserves the right to modify the guidelines on site for the smooth operation of the public hearing.

Further information on the public comment hearing is available from members of the Fairfax County legislative delegation. Contact information for individual delegation members is available on the Virginia General Assembly web page: <http://whosmy.virginiaassembly.gov/>.

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

Sponsors Needed. Britepaths Family Sponsoring. Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread) is seeking community members to sponsor families in need who live throughout the Fairfax County area. Sponsors are matched with an individual or family with demonstrated need, and may opt to provide a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal, and/or gifts for children under 18. Cash donations and gift cards are welcome to assist those who are not sponsored. Britepaths is expecting to have 3,000 households on its assistance list. A great family,

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.

company or group holiday service project. Register and learn more at <http://britepaths.org>. Contact 703-273-8829 or hpassist@britepaths.org.

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.

Center, 8221 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board is hosting a public information session for people who know someone who has opioid or heroin dependency and learn about a new CSB opioid dependency treatment group that starts in February. 703-324-7006.

ONGOING

Peer Facilitated Mental Health Support Group 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Gartlan Behavioral Health Center, 8119 Holland Road. Facilitated by trained peers with lived-experience dealing with mental health challenges. 571-414-9072 sharonmartinbsa@yahoo.com

Mount Vernon Preservation Challenge. George Washington's Mount Vernon has embarked upon a special year-end fundraising campaign that will help ensure the ongoing preservation of the estate of this nation's first president. As the country's most popular historic home, Mount Vernon does not accept government funding, instead relying upon donations from patriotic individuals and organizations. Through the Preservation Challenge, Mount Vernon hopes to raise enough money to perform critical repairs and restoration work on original structures located in the historic area. The funds raised through the Mount Vernon Preservation Challenge will support the following projects:

SUNDAY/JAN. 8

School Open House. 2-4 p.m. at Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. School serves pre-kindergarten to 8th grade. Call 703-329-6968 to RSVP or schedule a personal tour. Visit www.burgundyfarm.org for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 17

Heroin-Opioid Dependency Information. 7-9 p.m. at Merrifield

PEOPLE NOTES

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

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association elected **Sarah Miller Coulson** of Bryn Mawr, Pa., to serve as its 22nd Regent, or chairwoman.



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—John Wooden





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3 Ways To Bust New Year's Resolutions

Diet got you down?
Here are some places
to break free.

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

Fess up — you're not even a week into the New Year and already your diet has become bland and boring. Here are three Alexandria restaurants where you can give into temptation once and for all.

Lavender Moon Cupcakery, 116 S. Royal St.

Life is short — better have a cupcake. And Lavender Moon, indisputably one of the city's best cupcake shops, offers up its wares in spades. From traditional flavors such as takes on vanilla and chocolate to adventurous combinations such as Irish whiskey coffee cake and, a recent favorite for New Year's Eve, strawberries and champagne, this bakery has you covered. But you'd better hustle — once they've sold out for the day, the doors are locked and you're out of luck.

It's easy to get overwhelmed while standing face-to-face with a veritable buffet of sweet treats, but you can't go wrong with blood orange dreamsicle — a cakey version of the summertime frozen dessert, teeming with orange flavor and boasting a smooth, moist cake. Or for a campfire favorite brought back into the city, pick up a s'mores cupcake, with all the chocolately, marshmal-



BurgerFi sports quite a few offerings that are poised to break dietary resolutions.

low flavors of the original. In fact, go ahead and pick up a few — they'll keep for later.

Carluccio's, 100 King St.

Admittedly, there's nothing in the culinary landscape so satisfying as the carby good-

ness of pasta. And at Carluccio's, which has quickly become a mainstay in Alexandria's Italian-food scene, the possibilities are seemingly endless. From a variety of antipasti sharing boards to start one's meal (preferably with a gaggle of compatriots)

to a plethora of pasta options for dinner to a sweet treat to finish up the evening, the restaurant has everything you need to carb-load for the days ahead.

Coming in with a crowd? The family-style Trio de Pasta might hit the spot. Choose three pasta entrees from the menu — perhaps a spaghetti con polpette (meatballs), pasta con funghi (mushrooms), and the agnolotti (pasta filled with burrata cheese and spices) — and get ready to break bread with the table. Don't feel like sharing? Try the risotto of the day for one — and if the mushroom variety is on the menu, order it at once.

BurgerFi, 111 N. Pitt St.

Nothing busts the dietary budget quite as quickly as a hearty burger, that's for sure. And BurgerFi — a relative newcomer to the neighborhood — has just what the doctor ordered (so to speak) to delve into a caloric heyday.

When perusing the menu, there's really only one deep end to dive in — the Breakfast All Day (aka BAD) Burger. A patty topped with a fried egg, hash browns, cheese, grilled onions, maple syrup, and ketchup, it will make you forget about your rice cake in mere seconds. And vegetarians aren't left out, either — the slightly more healthy Vegefi burger is waiting in the wings for just such an occasion. Grab some onion rings or fries on the side, and you'll be back to your old ways in no time.

Hope Nelson owns and operates the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.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

"Fully Committed" at MetroStage.

Through Jan. 8, various times at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Tom Story plays a restaurant reservationist, juggling phones, personalities and pandemonium with the dexterity of a Cirque du Soleil contortionist. \$55-\$60 703-548-9044 www.metrostage.org

Art Exhibit: Color Disorder.

Through Jan. 8 at Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St. Katie Baines and Amy Chan's acrylic, gouache, airbrush and screen print work on display. Sat., Nov. 13, 4-6 p.m. is opening reception. 703-548-0035, nvfaa.org.

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery:

"Geometry Glitz." Through Jan. 8, gallery hours at Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. 2016. In this show, our artists have the sparkle and shine of the holidays for inspiration, with an additional focus on geometry. Explorations may focus

on points, lines, and other flat shapes, such as circles and triangles, or 3-dimensional shapes, such as spheres and cubes. Free. Visit www.potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

Bagels and Bach Concert Series Returns.

Through Jan. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. Enjoy classical music from Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association's Youth Orchestras while eating a light brunch. Advance registration: resident \$10/Nonresident \$15. Children under 5 years old are free. For more information, contact Cheryl Ann Colton at 703-746-5565 or email cheryllanne.colton@alexandriava.gov

American Arabesque Art Exhibition.

Through Jan. 12, 5-10 p.m. at Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St. An art exhibition by contemporary local Arab Americans and Arab artists. Free curator tours on Jan. 5 and 6 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. 703-746-5565

DASHing Words in Motion.

Through Feb. 1, The City of Alexandria Office of the Arts and the Alexandria Transit Company have joined forces to host a poetry contest "DASHing Words in Motion." Possible inspirational ideas might stem from the Alexandria Transit Company's DASH buses motto which is "Keep Alexandria Moving," or bus stops, neighborhoods, roads,

or other modes of transportation within the City of Alexandria. www.alexandriava.gov/Arts, email at poet@alexandriava.gov, or by phone at 703-746-5565.

Multiple Exposures Gallery.

Through Feb. 12 at Torpedo Factory Art Center, #312, 105 North Union St. Colleen Henderson's A Study in Contrasts, and Sandy Lebrun-Evan's McDowell County, WVA. Artist reception is Jan. 14, 2-4 p.m. www.multipleexposuresgallery.com

Making as Meditation with Kathryn Coneway.

Second Wednesday of each month, 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. 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. Email info@centerforspiritualdeepening.org.

New Frontiers in Textile Art

through Jan. 15 at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. a new exhibition in Target Gallery, the contemporary exhibition space for the, turns an eye toward the

future of textile art. Public reception: Thursday, Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m.; Juror's Talk at 7 p.m.

Mercy in Alexandria Walking Tour.

Sundays at 1:30 p.m. at Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King St. Experience an inside access tour of 19th century Alexandria. Inspired by the PBS mini-series "Mercy Street," accompany a trained military historian through Civil War-era Alexandria and learn the actual history behind the TV show. Short tours are \$15, private tours for five are \$149. Visit www.dcmilitarytour.com for more.

The Lyceum: 175 Years of Local History.

Ongoing, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On view in the museum's Coldsmith Gallery, the historical objects and images featured represent The Lyceum, the community at work, and commemorations and celebrations. Throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to "be the curator" and think about why the various artifacts are in the museum's collection, and about how tangible representatives of the past help tell the story of Alexandria's history. Free. Visit www.alexandriahistory.org for more.

Medical Care for the Civil War Soldier Exhibit.

Ongoing at the

Fort Ward museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. ongoing exhibit which features original medical instruments and equipment from the Civil War period and information on Union Army hospital sites in Alexandria. Free. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/forward for more.

Alexandria's Nurses and Hospitals During the Civil War.

Ongoing at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. An exhibit on the life of Clarissa Jones, a nurse at The Lyceum hospital during the Civil War. The true story of a nurse in Alexandria during the war, drawing parallels with characters portrayed in the PBS drama "Mercy Street," with references to the experiences of other nurses, such as Anne Reading, who worked in the Mansion House hospital, and Jane Woolsey, who served at the Fairfax Seminary hospital. Admission is \$2. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/lyceum for more.

"Ancient Art of Movement."

1 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. Carmen Shippy, retired professional dancer, teaches a series designed for ages 50 and above. Movements are designed to strengthen core muscles and increase flexibility. Adjustments will be made for those with physical limitations.

ENTERTAINMENT



Acoustic Music Live

Acoustic artists **Friction Farm** and **Michael Bowers & Siobhan Quinn** will perform **Sunday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Tickets are \$18/\$15 for advance sales and members, contact herb@focusmusic.org or 703-380-3151.**

First lesson in the series is free for non-center members. To continue lessons, a yearly membership to all Senior Center programs is \$48. Call 703-765-4573 to sign up.

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.lataasca.com.

French Movie Night. Every Thursday, 7 p.m. in the back room of Fontaine Caffe and Creperie, 119 S. Royal St. View a French film. Free, no reservation necessary. Call 703-535-8151 or visit www.fontainecaffe.com/reviews.html.

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.leafendallhouse.org or call 703-548-1789.

Alexandria Cars and 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.-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 p.m. 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.

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.

Doggy Happy Hour. Starting April 5, Tuesdays through October 5-8 p.m. at Jackson 20 and Hotel Monaco Alexandria, 480 King St. Doggy Happy Hour at Jackson 20 and the Hotel Monaco Alexandria offers specials on cocktails and beers plus treats and water for canine companions. Free, but drinks sold separately. Visit www.monaco-alexandria.com for more.

Baseball Boat to Nationals Park. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St. The Potomac Riverboat Company offers baseball enthusiasts the chance to avoid the crowds and take a leisurely cruise from Old Town Alexandria to Nationals Park along the scenic Potomac River. Admission: one-way \$20; round-trip \$25 Monday-Thursday; round-trip \$28 Friday-Sunday. Visit www.baseballboat.com for more.

Wake Up Wednesdays featuring The Pop Up Cafe. 7-9:30 a.m. on Wednesday's near the King Street Tunnel - Carlyle Entrance located near 2000 Duke Street near Motley Fool. The cafe will feature coffee, live music to help commuters start the day off right and donuts from Sugar Shack. maurisapotts@gmail.com

CAMPS, CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

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

Life Drawing. Del Ray Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for anyone to develop life-drawing skills further. Drop-in for the session and bring supplies to draw or paint live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Del Ray Artisans is located at 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org for a schedule.

Community Yoga. Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Sundays 7:30-8:45 p.m. at 532YOGA, 532 N. Washington St. Suite 100. No experience required to participate in

weekly community class. Suggested \$10 donation. Visit www.532yoga.com.

THROUGH JAN. 6

Mount Vernon Holiday Tours. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. Tour the Mansion, watch historic chocolate-making demonstrations, and meet Aladdin the Camel. Join daily "Camel Talks" and learn more about the rare animals at George Washington's home during the holiday season. Hear from costumed friends and family of the Washingtons tell stories of Christmas traditions of the past. Mount Vernon is open every day of the year, including Christmas Day and New Year's Day. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

Holiday Ornament Making. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. On select weekends, make a Mount Vernon holiday wooden ornament. For children ages 5-10, accompanied by an adult. Included in admission. Supplies limited. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free.

Holiday Teddy Bear Teas. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3200 Mount Vernon Highway. On select weekends, bring a favorite stuffed animal friend to have "tea" with "Lady Washington." This special experience will also include a hands-on seasonal activity. For ages 4-11, accompanied by an adult. Refreshments provided. \$5 in addition to general admission. Adults \$17, ages 6-11, \$9, ages 5 and under free. 703-799-5203 or www.mountvernon.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 5

Cuban Cruise Informational Meeting. 5-6:30 p.m. at Carr Workplaces, 500 Montgomery St., Suite 400. The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is partnering with the Arlington Chamber of Commerce for a four-day trip to Cuba. sbolouri@alexchamber.com

FRIDAY/JAN. 6

The Cecilian Players, Blessed Sacrament's Chamber Ensemble. Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 1427 W. Braddock Road. The concert is free but contributions to support the concerts are welcome. jmccrary@blessedsacramentcc.org or 703-998-6100 x 103

Choral Evensong on the Feast of the Epiphany. 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 South



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ENTERTAINMENT

Pitt St. Grant Hellmers, organist-choirmaster, will direct the Adult Choir in a Choral Evensong on the Feast of the Epiphany. Music by Ayleward, Stanford, Archer, Palestrina will be featured. The Three Wise Men will appear at this service. 703-549-3312, grant@stpaulsalexandria.com

Free Acapella Concert. 7-8:30 p.m. at Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St. The seven woman acapella choir had the honor to spread the light of the Lucia Winter Solstice tradition. The tradition is a combination of the Italian Saint Lucy and the old Scandinavian legends of the evil spirits of 13th of December and is one of Sweden's most cherished traditions. Free. 703-746-4554

JAN. 6-29

Simply Abstract" Art Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Features local area artists' expressions of abstract art using shape, form, color, and line in 2- and 3-dimensional work. Artists tossed their colors and media in the air to release their inner energy in this display of artwork. Opening Reception: Friday, Jan. 6, 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JAN. 6-7

ROAM Winterfest. 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. The shows will be a benefit for Rose Cruz's family; Cruz was a local Alexandria who was fatally injured when she was hit by a car. www.birchmere.com or 703-549-7500

SATURDAY/JAN. 7

Nowell Sing We. 7-9 p.m. at the St Mary Catholic Church Lyceum, 313 Duke St. Alkemie Medieval Music Ensemble will present a concert of Medieval and Renaissance vocal music for three sopranos and vielles (medieval fiddles) and instrumental dances in celebration of Epiphany. stover.michael@gmail.com 202-966-7298 www.alkemie.org

Parade of Plants. 10-11 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Look at the history of the Rose Parade, see close-up photos of the floats and go on a walk in the gardens to collect plant materials. Afterwards make a wintery decoration from natural materials in the tradition of the floats. \$6 Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2901813501 or call 703-642-5173.

Zombie Drama Camp Registration. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the West Potomac Theatre Department, 6500 Quander Road. Open to students 3rd-8th grades. www.westpotomactheatre.org

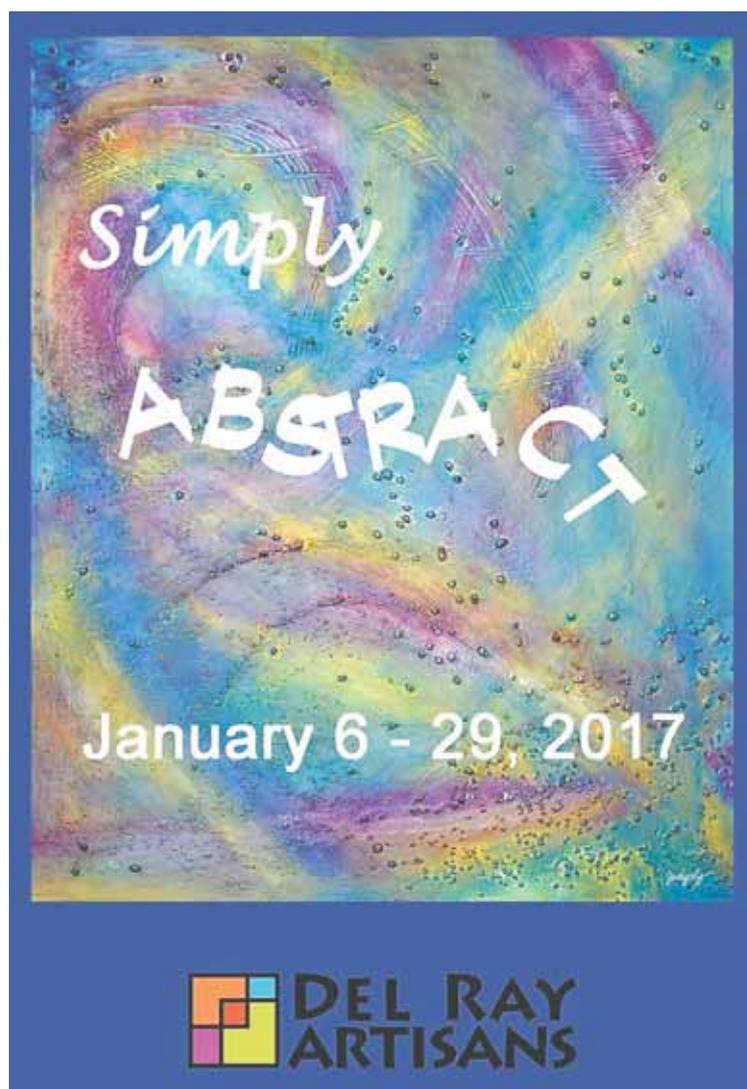
SUNDAY/JAN. 8

Art Show and Reception. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Reception for the Vienna Arts Society show at the Horticulture Center and Historic House from Dec. 20-Feb. 19. Free. 703-642-5173

FocusMusic Concert. 7 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. FocusMusic presents folk and acoustic artists Friction Farm and Michael Bowers & Siobhan Quinn. \$18/\$15 for advance sales and members herb@focusmusic.org 703-380-3151

MONDAY/JAN. 9

Yoga for Gardeners 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. This class features an introduction to the



Vinaya method which helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Register \$91 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2901262401 or call 703-642-5173

Garden Sprouts: Nature Playgroup 10-11:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschooler do nature-themed activities while other playgroup parents can meet one Monday a month. \$6 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes using code 2901028701 or call 703-642-5173

JAN. 9-20

Christmas Tree Recycling. Residents who receive city refuse collection may place Christmas trees at the curb for recycling on their regular trash collection day, beginning Monday, Jan. 9, through Friday, Jan. 22. Remove stands, lights, and decorations from trees. See alexandriava.gov/YardWaste.

TUESDAY/JAN. 10

NVCC Community Chorus invitation. Rehearsals start for all interested singers to join for the spring 2017 season. No audition is required. Join by registering for this one-credit class at Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria campus. Rehearsals are 7 p.m. on Tuesdays at the NVCC Alexandria campus, 3001 N. Beauregard, with some optional extra Saturday morning rehearsals. The college waives tuition for seniors 60 and older. Dr. Mark Whitmire, Director, 703-845-6097 mwhitmire@nvcc.edu

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY/JAN. 11-12

Musical Comedian Stephen Lynch. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave. \$25.

www.birchmere.com

JAN. 11-MARCH 1

Jitterbug/Lindy Hop classes. 7-9 p.m. at Nick's Nightclub, 642 S. Pickett St. In the beginner class, learn the three footwork patterns that are the basis of all forms of swing dancing: six-count, eight-count Lindy Whip and Circle, and Charleston. The intermediate class builds upon the foundation to help develop a vocabulary of dance moves that are easy to use on the social dance floor. www.gottaswing.com

THURSDAY/JAN. 12

Veterans Curation Program Meet and Greet. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Alexandria Laboratory, 816 N. Saint Asaph St. Tour the facility and meet the new group of laboratory technicians and learn about the progress made over the past six and a half years. 571-312-4717 or www.VeteransCurationProgram.org
"The Hidden World of Food in the Civil War." 7:30 p.m. at the Lecture Hall of The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. \$10 per person and may be purchased in advance at The Lyceum or by going to shop.alexandriava.gov. Reservations are required, space is limited. alexandriava.gov/Lyceum.

SATURDAY/JAN. 14

Movie Night at Del Ray Artisans. 7-9 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Featuring "Pollock." Learn about the life and work of 20th century artist Jackson Pollock. DelRayArtisans.org/event/pollock-movie

Stuff the Bus Food Drive for UCM. 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Shoppers at Mount Vernon Plaza, 7660 Richmond Highway. Annual food drive hosted by Fairfax County Government and

"Simply Abstract," art exhibit (Jan. 6-29) at Del Ray Artisans, is an exploration of abstract compositions using shape, form, color, and line by local area artists. Opening Reception: Friday, Jan. 6, 7-9 p.m. DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

MTV Transportation to stock United Community Ministries food pantry. List of most need items at www.ucmagency.org.

TUESDAY/JAN. 17

Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast. 7:30-9 a.m. at Carluccio's, 100 King St. Focus on roundtable power networking and giving attendees the chance to exchange business cards, develop new prospects, and share a 60-second commercial with each table. Members \$35, Non-Members \$50, Members at the Door \$40. www.alexchamber.com

SATURDAY/JAN. 21

Family Owl Outing at Huntley Meadows. 4:30-6 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Discover the secret world of owls and learn what makes these raptors excellent predators of the night. After the presentation, hike the trail at Huntley and hopefully hear or spot one of the park's resident owls. \$7. 703-768-2525 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/.

TUESDAY/JAN. 24

Homeschool Program: Firefighting Technology. 1-2:30 p.m. at Friendship Firehouse, 107 S. Alfred St. See how fire-fighting technology has evolved and test the scientific concepts behind how the historic equipment worked. Tickets are \$8 per child, adults free. Pre-registration is required. Visit shop.alexandriava.gov.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 25

Dyke Marsh Walk 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Dyke Marsh, 6401 George Washington Memorial Pkwy. Join

leader Tom Nardone to scan the river for waterfowl and enjoy a walk through the marsh and woodland areas. Sponsored by the Northern Virginia Bird Club. www.nvabc.org/

Volunteer Alexandria Open House.

4-7 p.m. at 123 North Alfred St., 1st floor board room. Meet friends and learn how to get engaged in the community. Visit www.volunteeralexandria.org

Iconography: Prayer in Images.

7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Learn how to read the symbolism in this art form and how icons are used in Orthodox Christian churches and homes with Laura Clerici. 703-360-4220

THURSDAY/JAN. 26

Songwriter Scott Miller and Mac

McAnnally in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. 703-549-7500 or www.birchmere.com

SATURDAY/JAN. 28

"Hands on: Collaborate

Abstractly" 2-3:30 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Workshop students partner up to create abstract art.

DelRayArtisans.org/event/hands-on

Chairman's Voyage: To Boldly

Go.... 7 p.m. at Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, 2834 Duke St. Hear the future of the City of Alexandria and welcome our new Board Chair Dak Hardwick and celebrate the possibilities to come. 703-549-1000 info@alexchamber.com

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

Marine Chamber Orchestra Plays

Water Music. 2 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Drive. Music by George Frideric Handel, Ned Rorem and John Knowles Paine. 703-845-6156 or www.schlesingercenter.com

MONDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 30-FEB. 5

Restaurant Week. Participating restaurants offer multi-course \$35 dinner, \$22 lunch, and - for the first time - \$22 brunch menus, exclusively available during Restaurant Week. www.rwdmv.com

TUESDAY/FEB. 7

Iconography: Prayer in Images.

7:30-9 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Road. Learn how to read the symbolism in this art form and how icons are used in Orthodox Christian churches and homes with Laura Clerici. 703-360-4220

FEB. 7-MARCH 19

Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery.

Torpedo Factory, Studio 29, 105 N. Union St. Cosmic Sights and Sounds, comes as the winter night sky's grand collection of brilliant stars begins to give way to the vernal equinox. This show will also highlight the work of featured artists Carol Bodin, Mickey Kunkle, and Lynda Prioleau. www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com

TUESDAY/FEB. 14

Submission Deadline.

2017 Needlework Show & Sale mail-in entries: Jan. 11-Feb. 14; walk-in entries: Feb. 12-14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Looking for needlework pieces that showcase many techniques in both traditional and contemporary designs. woodlawnevents@savingplaces.org

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

32 Lost 32 Lost

Obituary



MEDICO, Frank (age 92). Born in South Braintree Massachusetts and resided in Mt. Vernon, VA for 52 years died on Friday December 30, 2016. He exemplified care, love and a person who always placed helping and concern for others first.

He is survived by his adult daughters Jane and Patricia Medico, son Fred Medico, Daughter-in-law Susan Medico, four grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Friends may visit at the **DEMAINE FUNERAL HOME**, 520 S. Washington St. Alexandria, VA 22314 where the family will be present on Sunday January 8th from 2PM to 5PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Monday January 9th at 10A.M. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 S. Royal St., Alexandria, VA 22314 with interment to follow at Quantico National Cemetery at 1:00pm. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to St. Jude children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105 or Shriners Hospital for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Dr. Tampa FL 33607.

OBITUARY



Mrs. Mary Nell ("Nellie") Thomas Lawrence, wife of Fred and mother of Eric and Chris, passed away in the early morning of Wednesday, the 21st of December 2016 in Alexandria, Va. She was seventy-four.

Nellie was born in Houston, Texas on the 8th of December 1942, to Marcus Wray and Martha Elizabeth Hutchins Thomas. She graduated in 1961 from Lamar High School in Houston and matriculated at Southern Methodist University. After marriage, she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Education and History in 1965 at LSU-New Orleans.

Nellie and Fred met on a blind date in 1959 and quickly became high school sweethearts. Their life long journey of enduring love was cemented when they were married in Houston, Texas on the 25th of July 1964. The couple moved to New Orleans where her two sons, Eric and Chris were born. She provided unwavering support and guidance for her family as they moved to McLean, Va., Denver, Co., and finally Alexandria, Va.

Nellie had two passions in life: the unconditional love of her family and a deep intellectual curiosity for lifelong learning and education. Nellie was a certified elementary teacher, a G.E.D coordinator and a docent at the Woodlawn Plantation, Frank Lloyd Wright Pope-Leighey House and the National Portrait Gallery. Always the active learner and volunteer, she was a compulsive reader and was involved with several organizations including P.E.O. International - Chapter J, Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, Smithsonian programs, and OSHER Lifelong Learning. Regularly attending plays, concerts, operas and exhibits, she also loved hiking, backpacking, fishing and skiing in the Rocky Mountains and Blue Ridge Mountains. Travel to historic or scenic sights and towns occupied many extended weekends.

Nellie is survived by her husband of fifty-two years, John Frederick; sons, John Eric and his wife Patricia Thompson Lawrence, and Christopher Alan and his wife Catherine Ann Sheeler Lawrence; and her six loving grandchildren Sadie Oxford Lawrence, John Patrick Lawrence, Beaumont Cunningham Lawrence, Christina Elizabeth Lawrence, John Thomas Lawrence and Mary Caroline Lawrence. She is also survived by her brothers Marcus and Robert Hutchins Thomas along with sister-in-law Lynda Sims Lawrence and nephews Father Robert and Michael Graham Lawrence, and James Thomas.

A memorial service for friends and family will be held at eleven o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, the 28th of December in the Chapel of the Demaine Funeral Home, 520 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Immediately following, all are invited to join the family at a reception at the same location.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions in Nellie's memory be directed to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Smithsonian Institution Campaign, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, or the charity of one's choice.

Obituary



John W. Trumbo, 89, passed away on December 29th, 2016 in Columbia, South Carolina. He was born on September 26, 1927 in Washington, D.C. to Alice Jane Holder and George Thomas Trumbo, and grew up in Arlington and Richmond, Virginia. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Richmond and the Virginia Military Institute, Class of 1948A. He served two terms in the armed forces from 1948-1953 as a First Lieutenant.

John met his beloved wife Barbara Jean Pryse in Washington, D.C., and they married in 1949. He was dedicated to his family and church. He was a deacon and Sunday School teacher for more than 50 years, first at Plymouth Haven Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia and then at Stuarts Draft Baptist Church. He owned and operated an IGA grocery store in Alexandria and then in Stuarts Draft.

He will be greatly missed by his wife of 67 years, his daughter Anne (Erick), son Steve (Sue), grandsons David (Shannon), Andrew, Matthew, Keith, Will and Nathan, and great-grandchildren Gavin and Blakeley. He was predeceased by his son George Thomas Trumbo II, sister Mary Edna Ritchie, and brother Robert Holder Trumbo.

A memorial service to celebrate John's life will be held at Stuarts Draft Baptist Church, 2517 Stuarts Draft Hwy., Stuarts Draft, VA on Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 3 p.m. There will be a graveside service for the family on Monday, January 9, 2017 at Fairview Cemetery, Culpeper, Virginia at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in John's name to the George Thomas Trumbo Scholarship at VMI, P.O. Box 932, Lexington VA 24450.

Condolences may be given at clore-english.com Arrangements have been entrusted to Clore-English Funeral Home, 11190 James Monroe Highway, Culpeper, Virginia.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

CITATION DOCKET NO.
G.L.c. 210, 6 NO16A0067AD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

In the matter of Brandon Alexander Aguirre

To:
Rosbin Aguirre, last known of Alexandria, in the State of Virginia
A petition has been presented to said court by:
Cynthia O'Grady of Stoughton, MA

Joshua O'Grady of Stoughton, MA
requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

Brandon Alexander O'Grady

Norfolk Probate and Family Court
35 Shawmut Road
Canton, MA 02021
781-830-1200

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are in indigent person. An indigent person is defined by the S.J.C Rule 3:10 The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT:

Canton

ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00AM) ON:

3/29/2017
WITNESS, Hon. John D. Casey, First Justice of this Court
December, 23, 2016

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

Missing Yorkshire



Trimmed, 8 Yrs, "Maui" female neuter, red and green collar, 5 pounds. Very Shy. Do not chase. Has chip. Sighted eve 30 Dec. BelleView Area

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21 Announcements

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

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Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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Register online: www.sssas.org/educator
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STOLEN VEHICLES
8000 block of Pantano Place, 2001 Pontiac Grand Am

DEC. 29
LARCENIES
7400 block of Mount Vernon Square Center, merchandise from business
8500 block of Richmond Highway, bicycle from business

DEC. 28
LARCENIES
2600 block of Indian Drive, property from residence
3100 block of Lockheed Boulevard, wallet from business
2500 block of Parkers Lane, property from residence

DEC. 27
LARCENIES
8600 block of Beekman Place, merchandise from residence

3100 block of Brosar Court, door from residence
8400 block of Diablo Court, GPS from vehicle
3000 block of Furman Lane, license plates from vehicle
3100 block of Lockheed Boulevard, merchandise from business
6500 block of Potomac Avenue, tools from construction site
6800 block of Richmond Highway, tools from vehicle
8700 block of Richmond Highway, cash from business
8200 block of Russell Road, beer and cigarettes from business
6300 block of South Kings Highway, merchandise from business
7100 block of Westfield Court, credit card from residence

STOLEN VEHICLES
8700 block of Cooper Road, 2008 Nissan Altima

DEC. 22
LARCENIES
6700 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7910 block of Richmond Highway, wallet from a business

DEC. 21
LARCENIES
7200 block of Fairchild Drive, wallet from person.
8600 block of Beekman Place, property from vehicle.
6300 block of South Kings Highway, merchandise from business.

DEC. 20
BURGLARY: 3300 block of Pelican Place, between Dec.3 and Dec. 9. An investigation determined entry was forced through a window. Electronics and jewelry were reported missing. The incident was not reported until Dec. 19.

LARCENIES
7400 block of Mount Vernon Square Center, liquor from business
6600 block of Richmond Highway, jacket and hats from business
6700 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7700 block of Richmond Highway, merchandise from business
7700 block of Richmond Highway, tools from business
8500 block of South Lawn Court, package from residence

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Kiddie Country is accepting applications for a co-teaching position is one of our Jr. Kindergarten programs. 6-8 hours per day, M-F. Applicant must have a degree in Early Childhood or Elementary Education. Team teachers will work together to appropriately conduct a planned semi-structured program supported by a curriculum specialist. Please apply if you are caring, motivated and committed to high quality education for preschool learners. Applicants are invited to call Kiddie Country directly for further information or an appointment.
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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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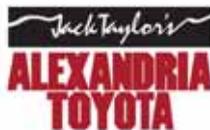
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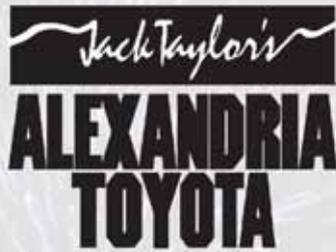
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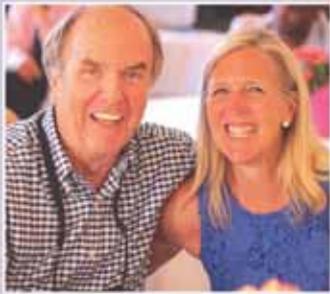
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**4221 Dandridge Terr
\$598,500**

Beautifully Updated!
Priced to sell - fabulously updated home in Southwood, one of the area's premier communities. Features include: 4 BR's, 2.5 updated baths, stunning Chef's kitchen open to family room with stone fireplace, hardwood floors, and side load 2 car garage, custom deck overlooks fenced rear yard. Nothing like it for under \$600,000!



**8522 Riverside Rd.
\$475,000**

Great Opportunity!
Best value in Ft. Hunt area! Spacious 4 BR, 3 FULL bath home with Garage in unique courtyard style setting. Prime location near Stratford Landing School. Some updating including: thermal windows. Amazing price provides affordable price entry to highly sought after neighborhood plus the opportunity to personalize the home!



**5427 Grist Mill Woods Way
\$899,000**

Stunning 5,686 sq ft Colonial featuring dramatic open floor plan, large room sizes, soaring high ceilings, and modern amenities typically found in \$1 Mil+ properties. Features include: 3 Fin levels, walk out lower level, 5BR's, 4.5BA's, Chef's kitchen, upgraded trim, hardwood floors, & 2 car garage. Custom deck and brick patio capitalize on gorgeous fenced grounds backing to park. Amazing Value!



**9314 Craig Ave.
\$635,000**

Pristine Condition!
Truly exquisite property! Spacious 5 Bedroom home on gorgeous, fenced level lot in premier location. Numerous features include: Bright open floor plan, Hardwood floors, gas cooking/heat/hot water, thermal windows, and garage. Large deck overlooks spacious grounds. Property is in pristine "move in" condition!



**9433 Forest Haven Dr.
\$745,000**

Walk to Yacht Club!
Unique New Orleans Colonial on gorgeous large lot in prime location near Potomac River. Features include: Updated custom kitchen, 3 finished levels, 4 BR's including spacious Master suite w/ balcony, 3 full baths, recently installed Andersen windows, oversize 2 car garage, expansive rear deck overlooks magnificent grounds which includes detached studio/office.



**9515 Mt. Vernon Lndg
\$950,000**

River Views!
Classic brick colonial in prime location on large lot fronting quiet cul-de-sac. Just steps from the private marina for the exclusive use of the Mount Vernon on the Potomac residents. Special features include: large room sizes, spacious custom kitchen, expansive master suite with river views, finished lower level with full bath & walk out, oversize 2 car garage, dramatic deck with view of river.



**8417 Plymouth Rd.
\$1,399,000**

New Build!!
New Melson II model on half acre lot in Plymouth Haven. 3525 square feet on two main levels plus fully finished basement and 2 or 3 car garage. Open floor plan, high ceilings, upgrades throughout. Finished recreation room & bathroom in Basement. Pre-construction contract offers maximum opportunity to customize! \$10,000 towards closing costs! (Using approved lender)



**1681 Hunting Creek
\$929,000**

One of a kind 4 level town home in Old Town Greens. Convenient to everything! Spacious property has been substantially updated. Interior transformed by prominent DC designer Zoe Feldman. Features: 4 finished levels, 4 BR's, 4.5 BA's, 2 car garage. Upgrades include trim detail, lighting, Bath's with Waterworks fixtures & custom tile work. Prime location, walk to metro, shops, & restaurants.



**5903 Mount Eagle Dr. #506
\$325,500**

Beautifully renovated 2 BR 2 BA unit with spacious patio and gorgeous views. New doors, custom vanities/paint/molding/light fixtures. Bright white kitchen w/ granite counters and tile floor. New workout facility just opened, indoor/outdoor pools, tennis courts, billiard room, bowling alley, dry cleaner, restaurant, shuttle service, etc. Additional basement storage included.



**9419 Mt. Vernon Cir
\$998,500**

One time opportunity to acquire true estate caliber property in Mt Vernon on the Potomac- the only community in the area with a private marina for the exclusive use of its' residents. Imposing residence with many custom touches including open foyer with double curved stairway, custom white brick exterior, high ceilings and spacious room sizes. Columned veranda overlooks pool.



**9221 Patton Blvd.
\$795,000**

Custom Build!
True custom home with bright open floor plan and Potomac views on half acre lot in premier water access community. Stunning Master suite on main level! Other features include: 5 Bedrooms, 4.5 Baths, Chef's kitchen w/ granite counters, Gas cook top, wood floors, large deck and oversize 2 car Garage. Truly amazing value!



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