

## Home of the Brave

'Flags for Heroes' on display at Cedar Knoll.



PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

Attendees, including Campagna Center CEO Tammy Mann, third from right, listen to remarks at the opening ceremony of the Flags for Heroes display June 27 on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant. More than 250 flags are on display overlooking the Potomac River through July 11.



Organizers gather at the June 27 opening of the Flags for Heroes display on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant along the Potomac River. Back (from left): Jim Carmalt, John Moorman and Mike Wicks; front (from left): Cheryl Monno, Pam DeCandio and Sharon Meisel.

**"We are humbled to honor all the individual heroes who are remembered here today."**

— Flags for Heroes project organizer  
Sharon Meisel

Bagpiper Jeff Herbert performs Amazing Grace to close the opening ceremony of the Flags for Heroes program June 27 at Cedar Knoll Restaurant.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
GAZETTE PACKET

The strains of Amazing Grace filled the air as a lone bagpiper stood among hundreds of American flags overlooking the Potomac River as part of the 4th annual Flags for Heroes display June 27 on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant.

"This is a great, patriotic program," said project organizer Sharon Meisel. "And the flags are magnificent with the Potomac as a backdrop. We are humbled to honor all the individual heroes who are remembered here today."

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Alexandria, the Flags for Heroes project provides community members an opportunity to ded-

SEE HOME OF THE BRAVE, ON PAGE 6



Campagna Center president and CEO Tammy Mann was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony of the Flags for Heroes display June 27 on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant.



## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Seen in TJ's Freshman Class

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology admitted 550 students as its Class of 2025. The population reflects broader diversity, equity, and inclusion than any other class in school history. Changes to the TJ Freshman Application Process made by the Fairfax County School Board on Nov. 9, 2020, and later decisions to transition to a holistic approach, upended the selective secondary school's 36-year troubling trend of racial and economic admissions data disparities resulting in equity gaps.

In June of 2020, Ann N. Bonitatibus, Ed.D., TJ Principal, sent a letter to the families of TJ students. She wrote, "Our school is a rich tapestry of heritages; however, we do not reflect the racial composition in FCPS... Do the TJ admissions outcomes affirm that we believe TJ is accessible to all talented STEM-focused students regardless of race or personal circumstance?"

**THE SITUATION** was not new. Nearly a decade ago, "across all four grades TJ in 2009-2010 school year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic, and 1.74 percent were poor," the Connection reported on June 26, 2012. "Fully 25 percent of students in Fairfax County are poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced price meals. Do we believe poor students are less talented than students from wealthier families?"

According to Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand in a June 23 news release, "Last year, Fairfax County Public Schools moved to ensure increased ac-

SEE DIVERSITY, ON PAGE 7



SCREENSHOT VIA FCPS WEBSITE

Scott S. Brabrand, Superintendent Fairfax County Public Schools, describes the revised admission process for TJ.

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit [www.WeAreAlexandria.com](http://www.WeAreAlexandria.com)

#WeAreAlexandria



**Herbert Springs | \$2,953,000**

Defined by its beautiful stone exterior, this home sits on a lush landscaped lot and has views of the Potomac River. Fabulous 31'x28' great room, main-level bedroom suite, gourmet kitchen, 4 fireplaces, 5 bedrooms, 4 full & 2 half baths. 830 Herbert Springs Rd.  
**Susan Taylor 703.927.3000**  
[www.callsusantaylor.com](http://www.callsusantaylor.com)



**Fort Hunt | \$2,195,000**

Welcome to 1904 Mallinson Way...a truly special opportunity to own one of only six custom homes in idyllic Grand View. This stately brick colonial has breathtaking views of the Potomac River and boasts a lovely upper balcony perfect for taking in the scenery.  
**Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658**  
[www.tracybdunn.com](http://www.tracybdunn.com)



**Townsend | \$1,049,000**

Fantastic location and opportunity! With classic details and endless possibilities to capitalize on the needs of today, the best of both worlds meet here in a forever home which will continue to be the place everyone gathers for years to come! 1600 Ivanhoe Court  
**Genevieve Moorhouse 703.401.5902**  
[www.GenevieveMoorhouse.com](http://www.GenevieveMoorhouse.com)



**Belle Haven | \$920,000**

This classic stone and stucco 1930s update has everything. Features large living room, gracious dining room, eat-in kitchen and family room/office. 3 large bedrooms, 2 full baths and roof-top deck overlooking the private yard. 6022 Fort Hunt Road  
**Janet Caterson Price 703.622.5984**  
[www.JanetPriceHomes.com](http://www.JanetPriceHomes.com)



**Stratford on the Potomac | \$845,000**

Beautifully updated 4-bedroom, 3-bath home with a 1-car garage! Open main level, gourmet kitchen with island, multi-level deck, large flat back yard, custom mill work built-ins and more! This home is truly a gem, don't miss it! 1912 Sword Lane  
**Margot Lynn 703.973.3722**  
[www.MargotLynnRealtor.com](http://www.MargotLynnRealtor.com)



**New Alexandria | \$749,900**

Delightful 3-bedroom, 2-bath Cape Cod with a 1-car garage! Open main level, gourmet kitchen with newly refinished kitchen cabinets, beautiful fenced in yard with raised garden beds, private patio, refinished hardwoods and more! 1501 Olde Towne Road  
**Margot Lynn 703.973.3722**  
[www.MargotLynnRealtor.com](http://www.MargotLynnRealtor.com)



**Falls Church  
 \$799,000**

Handsome 3-level brick townhome with marble entry, maple hardwood floors on the 2 main levels, 2 gas fireplaces, updated kitchen with granite and stainless, adjoining breakfast room, updated bathrooms, integral garage plus driveway, upper and lower decks. 2168 Kings Garden Way

**Joel Miller 571.277.1321**  
[www.McEneaney.com](http://www.McEneaney.com)

McENEANEY ASSOCIATES  
 IS PLEASED TO WELCOME

**KAYLA NAPPER**

TO THE ALEXANDRIA OFFICE

---

If you are thinking of buying, selling or renting,  
 call Kayla today at **703.473.4503**, or email her  
 at [KNapper@McEneaney.com](mailto:KNapper@McEneaney.com).

[KaylaNapper.com](http://KaylaNapper.com)



**Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.**  
 703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | [McEneaney.com](http://McEneaney.com)



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



Supervisor Dan Storck heard all sides of the issue.



The Kennedy Shelter Allies had an RV, literature and leis, but none lived within 1,000 feet of the proposed shelter.

## County Eyes Spot for New Fire Station and Affordable Housing

**Proposed location has easy access to Richmond Highway and GW Parkway.**

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

The crowd at Tuesday nights' Penn Daw Fire and Supportive Housing Advisory Community Meeting was a mixture of Mount Vernon district residents on both sides of the aisle. The supporters were predominantly from the Kennedy Shelter Allies group, and they had an RV as a mobile headquarters, blue shirts and leis.

The anti-shelter group was a little more incognito, but there were a few signs and voices that came out of the crowd at certain times.

Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck chaired the meeting, making sure questions were addressed, and reiterated that his position was not on one side or the other.

"I can commit to listening," he said. The meeting continued on land that was once home to flowers and plants, and is now committed to at least a fire station and maybe a homeless shelter and some affordable housing.

Also in attendance was Vrushali Oak, the project manager, Assistant Fire Chief Tom Arnold, Tom Barnett of the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, and Lt. Fred Chambers of the Mount Vernon District Police Station.

Fairfax County paid \$3 million for the 3.5-acre piece of land, and it's big enough for all three county amenities, fire station, affordable housing and shelter with supportive housing.

Early on, Storck set up an advisory committee which looked at the situation last fall, and saw the opportunity to relocate the Eleanor Kennedy Shelter, which is in an old pump house building on Fort Belvoir land across from the Town of Accotink.

"Co-locating services at the site and providing supportive housing in a new, modern facility aligns with county strategies to prevent and end homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church community," the advisory committee said on the Fairfax County website.



One of the Allies with a yellow lei, needed a better view.

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 8

## Environmental Expo Finds A Home in Fort Hunt Park

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

Phantom the barn owl was greeting arrivals at the Third Annual Environmental Expo, held for the first time at Fort Hunt Park. The owl's handler was telling the story of Phantom, his preferred places of residence, and how to preserve an environment where barn owls live alongside people.

"For some reason they really do like barns and silos," the handler said, while Phantom flapped his wings, perched on a protective leather glove. "These guys like open territory, we're losing that around here," he said.

It was the theme for the expo, save the environment, a cause Supervisor Dan Storck

(D-Mount Vernon) has stood for throughout his tenure as supervisor.

"The passion we have is so high," Storck said. "Taking trees out to put in solar panels is a no-no." He added that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is behind in environmental efforts. "We have a board that's fully committed," he said, pointing to an effort at the Lorton Landfill to install a five-megawatt solar feed that will provide energy to the surrounding area. "Part of our net zero," Storck said.

That feeling of environmental hope permeated throughout the expo, which consisted of about a dozen tents for exhibitors near one of the pavilions, plus the Fairfax Coun

SEE ENVIRONMENTAL EXPO, PAGE 8



Education about the spotted lanternfly was part of the environmental expo. The invasive spotted lanternfly could seriously damage grapes, peaches, hops and other crops in Virginia where it was first detected in Frederick County, Va. in January 2018.



Barn owls like barns, silos and open space, not development.

## Adult Use of Cannabis Now Legal in Virginia

BY DELEGATE PAUL KRIZEK

**O**n Thursday, July 1st, simple possession of marijuana will become legal for adults 21 and over in Virginia. Home cultivation of up to four plants will also be legalized, as well as “adult sharing” without remuneration. These small steps are just the beginning of what will be comprehensive marijuana reform — by 2024 we will have established a regulatory framework for the legal sale of cannabis within the Commonwealth of Virginia to those 21 and older. This initiative will be led by a new Cannabis Control Authority of Virginia, and I will be participating as a member of the oversight board, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

This legislation is remarkable for the Commonwealth on many levels. It is a historic milestone — we are the first state in the South to legalize possession of marijuana — but more importantly, this is intended to “prioritize social equity, public health and public safety,” as is stated on the state website on cannabis legislation, [www.cannabis.virginia.gov](http://www.cannabis.virginia.gov)

First, let’s discuss how the legalization of marijuana will address social equity in Virginia. Historically, the criminalization of marijuana has disproportionately been used

as a pretext to target African American individuals and communities. For example, a report by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) found that “Black Virginians have been 3.5 times more likely than white Virginians to be arrested for marijuana possession, and 3.9 times more likely to be convicted, even though both populations used marijuana at similar rates.”

As we know, criminal charges have an enormous impact on an individual’s ability to participate fully in society. Decriminalization and now the legalization of cannabis possession and use will do away with these racial disparities, thus creating a more equitable future for all Virginians. To address historic inequities, one thing the legislation plans to do is seal approximately 60,000 criminal records of prior marijuana misdemeanor offenses so that those formerly convicted are no longer blocked from many job, housing, and educational opportunities. Additionally, the Cannabis Control Authority will incorporate equity and diversity into all facets of its dealings to ensure that taxes from marijuana sales are especially used to benefit the health and wellbeing



Krizek

of Black communities in Virginia.

It may seem counter-intuitive to think that legalizing marijuana is a public health and safety initiative, but that truly is the case. Think of the Cannabis Control Authority as the equivalent to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority (more commonly known as ABC). This group will be working with public health experts (advised by a Health Advisory Council) and local leaders to create a regulation that promotes safe cannabis use. For example, they are already planning initiatives to prevent youth access and increase public awareness of how adults can use the drug safely. A 21% tax on marijuana sales will enable these public health efforts by funding substance abuse treatment and prevention, pre-K programs, and public safety programs.

Of course, there are still many lingering questions about how this process will go. The first step is on July 1, when possession, home cultivation, and adult sharing of cannabis are legalized. From then until 2024, when the sale of marijuana will be legalized, there are many kinks to work out and a regulatory framework to craft. It is unclear if social consumption of marijuana will become the norm, like hookah

bars. It is also unclear if employers will proceed with drug testing — as of now, it is illegal for most federal employees to use marijuana even if it is legal on the state level.

Another complication is the need for drug testing for motorists under the influence of marijuana. Unlike alcohol, there is no breathalyzer test for cannabis but driving under its influence is illegal.

Many of these questions were raised recently, and covered in this paper last week, when the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber hosted a discussion via a virtual meeting. I participated in that dialogue which included the Governor’s policy advisor and cannabis legalization expert, Megan Field, and Jacquelyn Katuin from the Commonwealth’s Homeland Security. The bottom line is that the legalization for adult use and the creation of the new state authority to regulate the industry that begins this week on July 1 is just the start. We will have to reenact the bill again in the next General Assembly session, and the Cannabis Control Authority will complete the regulatory scheme, implement a social equity program, and then issue business licenses for growers, manufacturers, and retail outlets. There will continue to be plenty of opportunities for the public to weigh in and provide legislators like me your thoughts, concerns, and ideas.

### BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Washington Library at Mount Vernon is seeking additional volunteers to staff its front desk. No library experience required. Duties include greeting and directing Library guests and assisting with general Library and building operations. Available shifts are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 1 – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday. Benefits include access to the estate and behind-the-scenes Library happenings, discounted estate admission for friends and family, as well as food and retail discounts. Qualifications include basic computer skills including MS Office, familiarity with office phone systems, and friendly and welcoming demeanor. Email [FWSLibrary@mountvernon.org](mailto:FWSLibrary@mountvernon.org) to learn more.

### ONGOING

Local, farm-fresh produce – including strawberries and asparagus – and more will be featured at the now-opened McCutcheon/Mt. Vernon Farmers Market. From 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday (through December 22), 16 local farmers

and food producers will sell fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits; meats; Chesapeake Bay seafood; breads and pastries; honey, jams and jellies; milk, cheese and eggs; herbs and plants; and more. The market is located at the Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. All of the items sold at the market are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within a radius of 125 miles.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) EBT cards can be used. As a bonus, the market will match up to \$20 per market visit in SNAP dollars for fruits and vegetables.

This year’s vendors are:

Arnest Seafood – crab cakes, scallops, shrimp, rockfish, oysters and more  
Grace’s Pastries - cakes, pastries and breads, with a Caribbean touch  
Great Harvest Bread - breads and pastries

Honey Brook Farms - meats and vegetables raised with no chemicals, gluten-free baked goods

House of Empanadas –variety of empanadas

King Mushrooms –variety of locally grown mushrooms

Locust Grove Farm - vegetables and herbs

Misty Meadow Farm Creamery - milk, ice cream, cheese and eggs

No. 1 Sons– pickles, kimchi, sauerkraut and kombucha teas

Ochoa Produce - vegetables, herbs and flowers

Traveling Shepherd Coffee Co. – variety of freshly roasted coffee

Twin Springs Orchard - fruits, vegetables, cheese and more

Valentine’s Bakery & Meats - meats and baked goods.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of

Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit [www.rsvpnova.org](http://www.rsvpnova.org).

### Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

#### Send letters

Online [www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/)  
By email: [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

By mail to: **Letters to the Editor The Connection**  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314

You can comment on our Facebook page or find us on Twitter  
[www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers](http://www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)  
<https://twitter.com/alexgazette>  
<https://twitter.com/mtvernongazette>  
<https://twitter.com/followfairfax>

Never miss an issue, get a free digital subscription,  
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe/>

[www.MountVernonGazette.com](http://www.MountVernonGazette.com)

@MtVernonGazette

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

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://www.facebook.com/TheismannMedia)

Marcia Hobson  
Community Reporter  
[mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com)

Mike Salmon  
Contributing Writer  
[msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Ken Moore  
Contributing Writer  
[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

ADVERTISING:  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

Helen Walutes  
Display Advertising, 703-778-9410  
[hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com)

David Griffin  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

Classified & Employment  
Advertising  
703-778-9431

Publisher  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://www.facebook.com/MaryKimm)

Art/Design:  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
Production Manager:  
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION  
Circulation Manager:  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

A Connection Newspaper



# Baseball and Be The Good Project Hit a Home Run

The Fort Hunt Little League collects canned goods for others.

Fort Hunt Little League recently donated 1,000 cans of food to Be the Good Project. The League created the Score a Run, Donate a Canned Good Challenge to benefit Be The Good Project, a grassroots-fueled nonprofit based in Mount Vernon, that harnesses the generosity of the community to help feed those who are experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

“Being part of a sports team is more than what happens on the field,” said Josh Cramer, President of Fort Hunt Little League. “It is about character and how you can make a difference. Our support of Be The Good Project was just one way we could give back as a league



Team members outside the home base house with the goods from “Score a Run, Donate a Canned Good Challenge.”

and I look forward to other opportunities to support our community.” All teams within Fort Hunt Little League participated and donated 1,000 canned goods to Be

The Good Project which were used to create care packages for those in the local DC Metro Area.

Learn more about Be The Good Project at [bethethegoodproject.org](http://bethethegoodproject.org).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



**Rex Reiley**  
RE/MAX Allegiance  
703-768-7730  
[rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com](mailto:rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com)



**Vienna/Acadia Condo** \$394,900  
9480 Virginia Center Blvd. Unit 120

Beautiful 2BR, 2BA Condo located in South Vienna. Good Sized Bedrooms each with their own walk-in closet and bath. Kitchen is open to the eating area and family room & has beautiful corian countertops. Attractive laminated flooring through the kitchen, family room and hallways. Don't miss the office station and the lovely balcony off the family room. 2 convenient garage spaces below are reserved for this unit. Tremendous community amenities highlighted by a wonderful swimming pool, gym, recreational room and office room. Finally, a perfect location with quick and easy access to Rt. 66, 495 and Rt. 50. If you want to leave your car behind, a quick 2 block walk will put you at the Vienna Metro Station. This wonderful property can be yours to enjoy!!



**Alex/Mt. Vernon** \$414,900  
4125 Buckman Road-22309

Contractors/Investors, come take a look at this beautiful potential work of art. A traditional Cape Cod: 4BRs, 2BAs & a full sized, unfinished basement that is waiting for you to work your magic on. What will also get you excited is the gorgeous .49A lot! It adds so much charm & has just the right number of trees & open spaces. Many years ago, the owners had a nice firepit adjacent to a volleyball court & hosted many parties there-- it is perfect for entertaining both friends & family. There is constant bird activity around the feeders & just the other day, while sitting on the deck w/the owners, we watched a beautiful Doe graze in the backyard. Great location: 5-minute drive to Ft. Belvoir (S), 15 minutes to Huntington Metro & Old Town (N), 27 minutes to National Airport (N), & 30-35 minutes to Pentagon/D.C. (N). Finally, adjacent to the house is an oversized 1 car garage w/room for both your car & a workshop. This house & lot has so much potential & is waiting for the right person to come along & to restore it to its beautiful former life. Selling "As Is" @ \$414,900 & looking for a cash buyer. Come by & take a look.



**Alex/Hollin Hills** \$777,500  
2308 Kimbro Street

Attention!! Grab this Opportunity to buy into one of Virginia's most sought-after communities at Below Tax Value! Designed by Well Renowned Architect Charles M. Goodman, this one level 4-bedroom, 2 bath Rambler is awaiting your remodeling touches. A Beautiful 1/3-acre lot positions the home up off the road allowing Breath Taking Views overlooking the scenic neighborhood. It also has a Rare Carport for Parking and also a Rare Shed for Additional Storage. You can turn this into one of the Crown Jewels of Prestigious Hollin Hills located between Ft. Hunt and Belle Haven in the 22307-zip code.



For more information: [www.RexReiley.com](http://www.RexReiley.com)

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



## When's the last time you saw your doctor?

From routine physicals to regular screenings such as cholesterol checks, colonoscopies, and mammography, the need to maintain your health hasn't stopped, and neither has our care.

Schedule a check-up today at [inova.org/YourHealthFirst](http://inova.org/YourHealthFirst).

#SafeAtInova



# Celebrate July 4 at Local Historical Sites

BY HOLLY DOUGHERTY,  
PRESIDENT  
MOUNT VERNON LEE CHAMBER

July 4th is a celebration of America's founding. Local historic sites of national significance provide places to celebrate Independence Day and enjoy the outdoors while learning more about the nation's founding.

See what historic sites are open locally on July 4th and July 5th and then check the Chamber's business directory at [MountVernonLeeChamber.org](http://MountVernonLeeChamber.org) to know what stores and restaurants are ready to provide what you need for your celebration.

## George Washington's Mount Vernon

Celebrate "America's independence at Mount Vernon" with made-for-daytime fireworks. At 11 a.m., observe a moving ceremony in which people from across the world become U.S. citizens. Throughout the day, meet General Washington, watch and learn about flying hot air balloons in the 18th century, and hear 18th-century music from the Sons of Liberty. See activities for the entire weekend at [www.mountvernon.org/](http://www.mountvernon.org/)

## Gunston Hall

Explore George Mason's ideas, weigh his choices, and discover his actions in this new exhibition on "Revolutionary Rights." Investigate the legacy of this essential founder of our country, through activities and ideas for the whole family. Start your visit at [www.gunstonhall.org/visit](http://www.gunstonhall.org/visit)

## National Museum of the United States Army

On July 2, noon- 1 p.m., join a Virtual Gallery Talk with The Chief



Visit the "Revolutionary Rights" exhibit at Gunston Hall while visiting the home of this Founding Father.



The Military Women's Memorial in Arlington is a great place to see the DC fireworks while missing the crowds.

Curator, "Founding The Nation." In this virtual event, Chief Curator Paul Morando shares artifacts from the "Founding the Nation Gallery." The Gallery showcases the Army's history from the colonial period to the War of 1812. Learn more at [www.thenmusa.org/events](http://www.thenmusa.org/events) The museum is open July 4 and July 5 and tickets may be reserved online.

## Woodlawn Pope-Leighey House

At this historic site, The National Trust for Historic Preservation is dedicated to preserving the site's cultural heritage, especially the stories of the enslaved, freed Black communities and their de-

scendants. The mansion, built in 1805, was gifted to Nelly Custis and Lawrence Lewis by George Washington. Also on the site is the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Pope-Leighey. Woodlawn is open July 4 and July 5. See [www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org](http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org)

## Military Women's Memorial

Avoid the crowds this July 4th by viewing D.C.'s spectacular fireworks display at a comfortable, exclusive event at the Military Women's Memorial. Enjoy a delicious catered buffet, beer and wine, live music, and family-friendly activities for all ages. Your all-inclusive



Gum Springs Black History Museum now has a virtual tour you can find on their website.

## George Washington's Mount Vernon celebrates Independence Day with special events and special daytime fireworks.



ticket includes free and convenient street parking, air-conditioned building and restrooms, food, beverages, and entertainment. Skip the crowds and enjoy the 4th with ease and comfort at the Military Women's Memorial. Buy tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/military-womens-memorial-fourth-of-july-celebration-tickets-160832529425>

## Workhouse Arts Center

It wouldn't be July 4th without fireworks. Enjoy local fireworks on Friday, July 2, 5-10 p.m., with all time favorite U.S. Navy Band and DJ Nose. Arrive early for other surprises between 5 and 6 p.m. The Drive-in Tail Gate includes a visit from Uncle Sam, Julia the Balloon Twister, art demos and a per-

formance by the Great Zucchini. More details for this family-friendly event are at <https://www.workhousearts.org/workhouse-events/workhouse-fireworks-2021/>

## Gum Springs Black History Museum

The Gum Springs Museum is excited to showcase an interactive virtual tour of the museum with exhibits about the founder of Gum Springs, West Ford. The interactive tour may be viewed at <http://gumspingsmuseum.blogspot.com/2020/12/virtual-tour-of-gum-springs-museum.html>

In-person tours of the museum are available by calling 703-799-1198. The museum is located at 8100 Fordson Road in the Gum Springs Community Center.

# Home of the Brave

FROM PAGE 1

icate a flag to honor a hero in their life. A card attached to each flag bears the name of the hero - a friend, family member, veteran, healthcare worker, first responder or other hero -- along with the name of the individual sponsor.

Scouting troops joined Rotary volunteers in unfurling more than 250 flags at 6 a.m. the previous day to set up the display, which will remain in place through July 11.

Rotarians from Mount Vernon and Alexandria West partnered

with Alexandria in the program with Alexandria West president William Berry paying tribute to Engie Mokhtar, a past club president who died in April of cancer at the age of 50.

This year's Flags for Heroes program has raised in excess of \$20,000, which will benefit Alexandria Rotary Club community projects and provide direct financial support to more than 40 local charities and nonprofits.

"What a beautiful day," said Alexandria Rotary president John Moorman. "We had a great host in Cedar Knoll to make this a big success."



Lauryn and Tammy Mann stand among the American flags of the Flags for Heroes display June 27 at Cedar Knoll Restaurant.



Alexandria Rotary Club president John Moorman opens the Flags for Heroes program June 27 on the grounds of Cedar Knoll Restaurant.

PHOTOS BY JANET BARNETT/GAZETTE PACKET

# NEWS

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Seen in TJ's Freshman Class

FROM PAGE 1

cess and opportunity to TJ for students with an aptitude and passion for STEM. The data around TJ's prospective freshmen class speaks volumes to the fact that when we truly center our work on equity, all of our students have an opportunity to shine."

TJ is annually designated by the Virginia Department of Education as an academic-year regional governor's school for science and technology. It is under the sole direction and control of the Fairfax County School Board. Existing in the very diverse County of Fairfax, it serves select students who meet the eligibility requirements not only from Fairfax, including the City of Fairfax but four other Northern Virginia school divisions-Arlington County, Falls Church City, Loudoun County, and Prince William County.

In 2021, the U.S. News Best High Schools report ranked Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology the number one school nationwide for the second year running. The school offers a challenging, comprehensive

college preparatory program, with research-based learning emphasizing STEM-related courses and activities. In addition, TJ offers a complete high school curriculum, fine arts and performing arts, and world languages. There are over 180 clubs and activities, according to FCPS.

Previously, attending one of the top three middle schools in Fairfax County, Carson, Longfellow, and Rocky Run Middle Schools, seemed to give students a better chance of attending TJ. Operating under the newly revised 2020-21 Eligibility Requirements for the In TJ's merit-based admissions application process, students were allocated a number to be identified, making it race, ethnicity, and gender blind. For the first time in ten years, every middle school in the Fairfax County Public School division is represented at TJ as seats in the Class of 2025 were allocated for the top 1.5 percent of applicants from every middle school's eighth-grade student population. Students from historically under-represented schools increased to

SEE DIVERSITY, PAGE 9

**Summer Locally**

Thank You for Supporting LOCAL Businesses and Attractions!

MOUNT VERNON • LEE Chamber OF COMMERCE

[MountVernonLeeChamber.org](http://MountVernonLeeChamber.org)

**Sign up for**

**FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
to all of our papers

[www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

**VARIETY STORE**

Est. 1958

Experience the Nostalgia of an old-time Five & Dime Store

*"If we don't have it, you don't need it."*

Hollin Hall Shopping Center  
7902 Fort Hunt Rd.,  
Alexandria, VA 22308  
703-765-4110  
hhvs@vacoxmail.com

**THE CONNECTION**  
Digital | Print | Online NEWS

**WE REACH YOUR MARKETS!**

**In Print & Digital**

- Email Blasts
- Digital Billboards
- Website Videos
- Exclusive Front Page Shoutout
- Digital Edition Subscribers
- Print Edition Readers
- Sponsored Content

**THE CONNECTION** Newspapers & Online  
**Alexandria Gazette Packet**  
**POTOMAC ALMANAC**  
**Mount Vernon Gazette**

**PRINT | DIGITAL | SOCIAL**

For Advertising: Call 703.778.9431 or Email [advertising@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:advertising@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Same Company, Same Employees, Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

**TWO POOR TEACHERS**  
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999

**2018 Angie's list SUPER SERVICE AWARD**

**10% down** nothing until the job is complete for the past 17 years

**Free Estimates 703-999-2928**

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level <http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

**Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)**

# Environmental Expo Finds A Home in Fort Hunt Park

FROM PAGE 3

ty Showmobile. A smattering of attendees wore masks. Storck's office co-sponsored this event with the National Park Service, a natural partnership.

"The small stuff ends up bigger," said Charles Cuvelier, the George Washington Parkway Superintendent with National Park Service. He pointed to efforts with reusable grocery bags and invasive plant management as steps people could take to help the area. "Educate, raise awareness, to action," he said.

On one end of the expo, a few electric cars were parked, and owners were highlighting the advantages, while another tent highlighted protecting the water system. Education about the dreaded lanternfly was the topic at another.

June Eakin was in from her home in Maryland to show off her electric Ford Mustang Mach-E, that she and her husband named Marlin. She plugs it in every night and noted that electric cars' reputation for lacking speed may have been true years ago, that is not the case with Marlin. "It will push you back against the seat if you have a place to



Phantom the Barn Owl squawks and flaps her wings, welcoming people to the Environmental Expo at Fort Hunt Park.

do that," she said.

The Joe Chiocca Band provided the morning's musical entertainment on stage in the pavilion, and the sounds echoed throughout the expo. They are a group based in Alexandria that hammers out blues, classic rock and classic country. Other venues they've played include the Arts on the Avenue event in Del Ray. The band consists of "two Joe's, two Mike's and one Randy," said Joe Wells, the drummer.

This is the third annual environmental expo Storck has hosted, and he plans to continue, hopefully with the National Park Service.



Supervisor Dan Storck and his communications manager Camela Speers like the arrangement with the National Park Service as cosponsor of the annual Environmental Expo, held last week in Fort Hunt Park.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



June Eakin highlights the advantages of her electric vehicle, a Ford Mustang Mach-E.

# County Eyes Spot for New Fire Station and Affordable Housing

FROM PAGE 3

The Kennedy Shelter Allies cited the needs for a new shelter, and handed out literature reiterating their stance. The group is a "coalition of 10 local faith communities, nonprofits, and advocacy groups," the release stated. They expected people from both

sides of the issue to attend, and have collected "17 signatures from local businesses on a pro-shelter petition." The list was taped to the outer side of the RV for all to see.

The new housing must be along a main transit route so residents can get to jobs and services, and it must be constructed as a modern facility recognizing the need for resident care and space. It must also open as soon as possible, the task force criteria stated. This was reiterated to the crowd for one reason they couldn't renovate the existing shelter.

This shelter should include at least 20 units of permanent supportive housing, with medical respite beds, a kitchen, laundry, community rooms, outdoor terrace, and other essentials of a modern homeless shelter. The site should also include at least 30-50 units of affordable housing units as recommended by the department of Housing and Community Development.

## AUDIENCE SPEAKS OUT

Each speaker then got up with a series of questions from the audience, and it was systematically handled by Storck's office so every question was answered. Topics of the questions included fears of crime and property damage from shelter residents; why locate near existing families; and why not make it a plot of trees? Since the county purchased the land for a purpose, the trees were out of the question. "The county has a need for other services," Storck said.

One question that popped up from the opponents of the shelter and affordable housing was how it impacted their property

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



Another sign to share the wealth from Kennedy Center Shelter Allies.

values. The response from the officials cited evidence that was "inconclusive," they said. This was reiterated a few times.

Kevin Knappmiller, a nearby resident, said the question that he submitted on a card asked for a show of hands of those who oppose the colocation was never addressed. "We're about 800 feet away, they're not answering the people who it would impact," he said.

## GIMME SHELTER

Some questioned the need to put it at this location when there are other shelters, they claimed, in Mount Vernon. On one of the presentation slides from an earlier meeting, it listed all the shelters and supportive housing locations around the county, and the Mount Vernon District only has one — the Eleanor Kennedy Shelter with 50 beds. The Mason District has the most with three; Lee District and Springfield District have two each. The Lee District locations are along Richmond Highway and close to the Mount Vernon District.

Other locations that were looked at for



A split decision?

the shelter, fire station and housing included nine places along Richmond Highway, some of which were "not for sale," or "not available," and one in Lorton was an "undesired location due to proximity to Elementary School."

If all pans out with the three county amenities, they will be ready in five years, officials said.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Signs, signs, everywhere, signs.



# Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

FROM PAGE 7

30.73 percent versus 5.56 percent (2020-21).

According to TJ Admissions Data, students in the Class of 2025 are "high performers and are well prepared for TJ's academic rigor." The average GPA [Grade Point Average] for applicants was at 3.9 on the scale between 1.0 and 4.0, slightly higher this year than in the past five years. The average reported GPA, 3.9539, remained high for those offered admissions, in line with previous years.

The new TJ admissions process also resulted in "a significant increase in access to teaching for groups who have faced barriers to entry, including special education students, students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and English Learners," said Brabrand.

FCPS staff increased outreach efforts to encourage students to apply, resulting in a 17 percent increase in enrollment applications, 3,034 applications versus 2,539 applications for SY2020-21.

THE CLASS OF 2025 represents greater diversity and inclusivity. According to FCPS:

- ❖ Black students increased from 1.23 percent (2020-21) to 7.09 percent.

- ❖ Hispanic students increased from 3.29 percent (2020-21) to 11.27 percent.

- ❖ Female students increased from 41.80 percent (2020-21) to 46 percent.

- ❖ White students increased from 17.70 percent (2020-21) to 22.36 percent.

The most significant increases occurred in the number of economically disadvantaged students [those eligible to receive reduced-price or free meals at school] from slightly greater than 0.5 percent (0.62 percent in 2020-21) to 25.09 percent. In addition, 2.36 percent of accepted students are special education students, and 7.09 percent of accepted students are English Language Learners. Asian students continue to constitute the majority of the class at 54.36 percent, although the percentage has decreased.

"As usual, all newly admitted students will have access to comprehensive support from school staff to ensure a smooth transition and a successful experience for every student enrolling," said Brabrand. "We want to be sure we are providing them the support so that they can maximize their talents."

**CLASSIFIED**  
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM  
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

**A Smarter Way to Power Your Home.**

**GENERAC PWRCELL**  
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!\***  
1 (833) 688-1378

\*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.

**TRANSFORM YOUR BATH OR SHOWER IN AS LITTLE AS ONE DAY**

**CALL NOW**

**FOR \$500 Off**

OR

**NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST UNTIL 2022**

Offer Expires 6.30.2021

**BCI BATH & SHOWER** Military & Senior Discounts Available  
"We make bathing safer"

**844-945-1631**

\*Includes product and labor, bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires June 30, 2021. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. \*\*Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2021 BCI Acrylic Inc.

**Leaf Filter** GUTTER PROTECTION

**BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

**EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!**

**15% OFF** & **10% OFF**

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE SENIORS & MILITARY!

**+ 5% OFF** TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!

**WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!**

**FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!\***  
Promo Code: 285  
\*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

**CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE** **1-877-614-6667**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLB# 1038795 DCP# 21073898-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UB# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705182153A License# LEAFRNV82212 License# WV056912 License# WC-29598-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC-0649505 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC62759 Registration# RZ31804 Registration# 13M19953900 Registration# PA059383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2205169445 License# 202000022 License# 202000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-19114

**Find us on Facebook and become a fan!**

**www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers**

**THE CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online  
The Connection to Your Community  
**www.connectionnewspapers.com**

Upgrade Your Home with a **NEW METAL ROOF**  
Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

Made in the USA

Call today to schedule your **FREE ESTIMATE**  
**1-844-902-4611**

**LIMITED TIME OFFER**  
**\$500 OFF**  
+  
**TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% off**  
Install for Military, Health Workers and First Responders

**ERIC Metal Roofs**  
Warranty: Limited Lifetime. Transferable to subsequent owners from original purchaser. Terms and conditions apply. See website for details. Appearance of the surface coating beyond normal wear and tear. Expires 08.31.21

This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Eric Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Eric"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires October 1st 2021. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Eric or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved.

**AN ORGANIZED HOME IS A HAPPY HOME**

Add space to your kitchen and time to your busy schedule with ShelfGenie's custom pull-out shelves installed in your existing cabinets

**ShelfGenie**  
EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH®  
a neighborly company

**50% OFF INSTALLATION\***

\*Limit one offer per household. Must purchase 5+ Classic/Designer Shelves. EXP 6/30/21

**Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:**  
**(866) 982-2260**  
Hours: Mon - Fri 9am-9pm, Sat 10am - 4pm EST

**GENERAC**

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**  
**844-947-1479**

**FREE**  
7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
A \$695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

**Special Financing Available**  
Subject to Credit Approval

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

## And the "Scancer" Is ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... stable, with a side of shrinkage, however modest. No jeopardy here, final or otherwise. Simply more of the same here, but hardly ho hum. A status quo with which I am fond of writing: I can live. Promises and guarantees left the building on that fateful day in late February, 2009 when an oncologist who I had previously never met summarized my condition and identified it as stage IV, non small cell lung cancer. A "terminal" disease if there ever was one, and of course there are many. And along with that bombshell came the excruciatingly unpopular prognosis: "13 months to two years." I was 54 and a half with no history of cancer in my immediate family.

Much has happened and many medications prescribed since I infused my initial chemotherapy back in early March, 2009. Most of which you regular readers know. If you recall anything from my 12 years of weekly cancer columns, it is that regular diagnostic scans: CT scans, bone scans, P.E.T. scans and MRIs have been recurring nightmares. Every three months, I am scheduled for some type of scan, sometimes more than one ("BOGO, I call it) which based on its findings will determine my subsequent course of treatment. If the results are encouraging, a change in my treatment is unlikely. If however, tumors are growing, newly appearing or spreading then it's "Katy bar the door," as we say in New England. Which means, hang onto your hat, among other things, as a new health situation presents, and one without an automatic solution. After years of conversations with my oncologist, I've learned: The best one can hope for is a definite maybe. It's this unpredictability which fills my day - and night.

Nevertheless, my life has gone on way longer than my oncologist anticipated. It may be because I was misdiagnosed (as a Georgetown Cancer Center oncologist suggested) and had a slow moving form of papillary thyroid cancer rather than an aggressive form of lung cancer which kills more often than it cures. Or, I may simply be my oncologist's "third miracle," as he's fond of saying. Presumably my positive attitude and good humor about my circumstances in conjunction with the many supplements I ingest with alkaline water exclusively have contributed to my unexpected survival. Regardless, as Frankenstein might have said: "I'm alive."

As scary as Frankenstein, Dracula or Lon Chaney ever was, a cancer diagnosis tops them all. Being told by a doctor you have never met that you have two years to live, at best, is as you might imagine, nearly impossible to process. It's not exactly what you had planned on or expected hearing when you sat in the doctor's office. Yet, as Ralph Edwards used to say, "This is your life." And as many others have said: "You're stuck with it." And as grim as you feel about your future, this is no fairy tale. As always, reality beats make-believe any day, and in this instance, not in a good way.

But I am in a good way. I am still typing, among other activities. And after having just received a "looks good" comment from my oncologist concerning this week's CT and bone scan, my warranty has been extended for another 90 days, when the results of my next quarterly scan will be emailed. Until then, I am in high cotton. To say I'm not worried is of course naive, but in the interim, between scans, I am in "the rocking chair, good buddy," to invoke a familiar CB-ism. This is how many cancer patients live: from one scan to the next. It's not ideal, but it is a living, and one for which I'm extremely grateful and fortunate to still have. It may not have been the life I expected, but I'm glad to live it nonetheless.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL	
<b>K &amp; D ELECTRIC</b>	
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting	Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Ceiling Fans	Office 703-335-0654
Phone/CATV	Mobile 703-499-0522
Computer Network Cabling	lektrkman28@gmail.com
Service Upgrades	
Hot Tubs, etc...	

LANDSCAPING	
<b>Quality Tree Service &amp; Landscaping</b>	
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.	
<b>Summer Cleanup...</b>	
	Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.
25 years of experience - Free estimates	
<b>703-868-5358</b>	
<b>24 Hour Emergency Tree Service</b>	

Landscape Drainage	
<b>ProDrainage</b>	
A JES Services, Inc Company	
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts	
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More	
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987!	
<b>703-772-0500 www.ProDrainage.com</b>	
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor	

Sign up for  
**FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)

## SENIOR LIVING

When designing a separate living space inside the existing home of one's adult children, splurging on table lamps, wall sconces and pendants adds a chic element of comfort and safety.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Living with Adult Children

Creating livable spaces that balance the security of family with the need for independence.

"I'm currently working with a client to turn a pool house into a living space for her mother-in-law," said Sallie Lord of Grey Hunt Interiors.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
GAZETTE PACKET

When June Joyce's husband died two years ago, she was lonely living alone in the sprawling Alexandria family home where the couple raised their four children. Joyce wanted to sell her home and downsize to a smaller dwelling space, but wasn't interested in a retirement community.

One of her daughters had an unfinished lower level in her home and convinced Joyce to move in with her and her family. Together, the mother-daughter duo are transforming that bottom level space into an apartment with a separate entrance.

"I felt like I wanted to be closer to my daughter, son in-law and grandchildren, but I didn't want to disrupt her family dynamic and I also wanted my privacy," said Joyce. "My daughter and I are designing it ourselves. We're having fun choosing paint colors, a few appliances and furniture."

Creating a separate living space within a preexisting home is an option that allows seniors to live near adult children while maintaining a comfortable level of independence. Local designers share projects that combine functionality and safety features in a way that is stylish and subtle.

"It's connected to the main house and we want to tie in the feel and style, but we wanted this guest house to feel like a retreat."

Forgo large appliances like French door refrigerators and double oven ranges, says Anne M. Walker of Anne Walker Design in Potomac, Maryland who is in the midst of a design project that will accommodate her client's parents.

"You...won't need to cook full family meals, so what you need in this type of situation is smaller, smarter appliances," she said. "In the entertainment and kitchenette space I'm designing currently, we've chosen a single dishwasher drawer rather than a full dishwasher."

Whether selecting wall scones or table lamps, lighting is one feature that Walker says is worth a splurge.

"Proper lighting will make the space feel joyful and ... as safe as possible for [those] whose eyesight may not be as good as it used to be," she said. "But no harsh, fluorescent or LED lightbulbs, please."

Style need not be sacrificed for safety, advises Lord. "With my current client, we're making the space more ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] compliant to plan for long term needs while doing it in a discreet way that just feels like a stylish, modern convenience."

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

**WE NEED TRADES!**

GET OVER KELLEY BLUE BOOK VALUE FOR YOUR TRADE THIS WEEK!



*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

*4th of July*  
**INDEPENDENCE DAY SAVINGS**

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA COROLLA LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

**\$169** /MO



MODEL# 1152. MSRP \$21,470. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA CAMRY LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

**\$239** /MO



MODEL# 2532. MSRP \$25,965. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA VENZA LE**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

**\$249** /MO



MODEL# 2810. MSRP \$33,645. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA SIENNA HYBRID LE**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

**\$319** /MO



MODEL# 5402. MSRP \$35,635. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**SERVICE & PARTS HOURS: MON-FRI 6A-7P & SAT 7A-5P**

**BATTERY SPECIAL**

**FREE**

**BATTERY CHECK-UP**  
INCLUDES: CHECK COLD CRANKING AMPS AND VISUAL INSPECTION OF BATTERY CONDITION. INCLUDES BATTERY CONDITION PRINT OUT.

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**LUBE, OIL & FILTER SPECIAL**

**\$39.95**

**\$44.95 FOR SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE**  
INCLUDES: CHANGE OIL (UP TO 5 QTS.), INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA OIL FILTER, INSPECT & ADJUST ALL FLUID LEVELS AND COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION WITH PRINT OUT.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**ALIGNMENT SPECIAL**

**\$89.95**

**4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT**  
INCLUDES: 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT, INSPECT SUSPENSION, BALL JOINTS, STRUTS & SHOCKS, TIRE CONDITION AND SET TIRE PRESSURE.

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**BRAKE PAD SPECIAL**

**\$99.95**

**BRAKE PAD REPLACEMENT**  
INCLUDES: INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA FRONT BRAKE PADS, INSPECT FRONT & REAR ROTORS AND/OR DRUMS, CHECK TIRE CONDITION AND INSPECT ALL HARDWARE. TOYOTA PADS ONLY. MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$189.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**TOYOTACARE PLUS**

**\$329.00**

**SPECIAL**  
MAINTAIN PEACE OF MIND BY EXTENDING YOUR TOYOTACARE COMPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PLAN TO 4 YEARS/45,000 MILES!

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**SERVICE VARIABLE DISCOUNT**

**THE MORE YOU SPEND, THE MORE YOU SAVE!**

\$10 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$50-\$99  
\$15 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$100-\$199  
\$20 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$200-\$499  
\$50 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$500+

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 07/31/21.

**CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY: 703-684-0710**



Toyota's  
President's Award  
34 years in a row!

Se habla español

*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

3750 Richmond Hwy • Alexandria  
**703-684-0700**  
AlexandriaToyota.com



# CHRIS WHITE

FAMILY REAL ESTATE  
OF LONG & FOSTER

Leading the Area in Real Estate **SOLD!!!!**



8226 W. Boulevard Dr  
\$2,000,000



9494 Lynnhall Pl  
\$1,450,000



9205 Forest Haven Dr  
\$1,001,600



3711 Riverwood Rd  
\$1,000,000

## 64 homes sold so far in 2021!

Consistently obtaining the best results for homes in every price range!

Hear it directly from  
a recent seller!

Highly likely to recommend

- ★★★★★ Local knowledge
- ★★★★★ Process expertise
- ★★★★★ Responsiveness
- ★★★★★ Negotiation skills

*"Chris White and his great team not only lived up to their very lofty reputation as "the best real estate agents in the Alexandria area", they also went way beyond the usual guidance and support services we were expecting. With patience, knowledge, efficiency, and some very well-timed humor, we were led through the enormously arduous and stressful task of clearing, repairing, and selling our childhood home of 53 years after the sudden passing of our mother. Somehow, Chris was able to transform this difficult process into a rich and pleasurable journey. We almost hated to see it come to end, except for the fact that in the end, our house sold for much more than our list price and was only on the market for 3 days before receiving a record number of offers. We are so glad we put our faith in Chris from start to finish, and that we followed his excellent guidance to turn our dreaded nightmare into a total business success and unforgettably positive experience."* –Elizabeth



4909 Godfrey Ave  
\$852,500



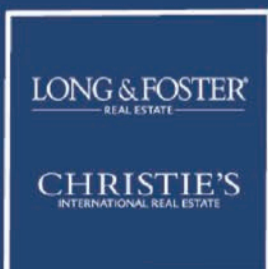
4329 Tarpon Ln  
\$720,000



3433 Ramsgate Terrace  
\$659,000



8331 Mount Vernon Hwy  
\$549,000



703.283.9028

[www.chrisandpeggywhite.com](http://www.chrisandpeggywhite.com)

[chris.white@longandfoster.com](mailto:chris.white@longandfoster.com)

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

