

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JUNE 1, 2023

Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber Awards \$26,000 In Scholarships

BY DAVID GRIFFIN
MOUNT VERNON SPRINGFIELD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Thirteen scholarships were awarded to local high school students by Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce to recognize outstanding achievement of 2023 graduating seniors planning to continue their study in a business-related field.

The 2023 Distinguished Business Scholars are Bianca Blancaflor, Lake Braddock High School; Jackson Brown, Edison High School; Lauren Cremer, Bishop Ireton High School; Julia Hopper, West Potomac High School; John Hood, Mount Vernon High School; Jada-Ane Larkin, Hayfield Secondary School; William Michael Meares, Mount Vernon High School; Adam Peverill, Mount Vernon High School; John Shaffer, South County High School; Laura Ridgeway, Thomas Jefferson High School; Maxwell Riggs, Hayfield Secondary School; Steven Liu, An-

SEE MOUNT VERNON, PAGE 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, Don Cammarata, Covanta Fairfax; Mike Murphy, Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus; Laura Ridgeway, Thomas Jefferson High School; Travis Clarke, Burke & Herbert Bank; Scott Stroh III, Gunston Hall; Nicole Trejo, John Lewis High School; Julia Hopper, West Potomac High School; Bianca Blancaflor, Lake Braddock High School; Jada-Ane Larkin, Hayfield High School; Mike Meares, West Potomac High School; General Robert Jorgensen, The Fairfax; Maxwell Riggs, Hayfield Secondary School; Lauren Cremer, Bishop Ireton High School; George Ksenics, Andrews FCU; Steven Liu, Annandale High School; Alex Thalacker, Fairfax County EDA; Jackson Brown, Edison High School; Adam Peverill, Mount Vernon High School; John Hood, Mount Vernon High School.

United Community to Search For New Executive Director

Alison DeCoursey, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Community, is leaving the organization after more than six years. Her last day at United Community will be June 30, 2023.

"We wish her the absolute best as she takes time off now to be with her family, and in all her future endeavors," said Thomas J. Curcio, United Community Board Chair, in a letter to supporters.

"As an organization focused on racial and social equity, with the audacious goal of Ending Multigenerational Poverty, I am inspired by United Community's deep commitment to our diverse community and prioritizing community voice and leadership in our work," DeCoursey said in her resignation letter. "At this time, my responsibilities as a mother, daughter and wife call me to step back from my role."

United Community serves the Mount Vernon area, including the

historically most impoverished area of Fairfax County; 86% of United Community clients live in the two zip codes with the highest rates of poverty in Fairfax County.

DeCoursey elevated the impact that United Community has on the community, building a strong leadership team, according to Curcio. She "guided the organization through the Covid pandemic with agility and resilience as we experienced an extraordinary increase in the need for our services," Curcio wrote. "We are positioned better than ever to pursue our vision of ending multigenerational poverty."

Bryant Rice, current chief operating officer, will serve as Interim CEO while the organization conducts a search. A search committee composed of representatives of the Board of Directors, United Community team, and community will begin to look for the best candidate for new CEO



PHOTO BY JOHN BORDNER/GAZETTE PACKET

Let The Music Play

The Mount Vernon Concert Band, an all-volunteer ensemble under the direction of Linda Davidson, performed May 30 for residents at The View by Goodwin Living. The concert featured a variety of selections, from classical to jazz, to John Phillips Sousa, Carole King and excerpts from The Lion King. In addition to the Concert Band there are five other associated ensembles: the Mount Vernon Swing Band, the Mount Vernon Dixieland Band, Vernonberg am Potomak Volksmusik Blasskapelle (the Mount Vernon German Band), the Mount Vernon Flutes and the MV Brass. www.mvbands.com

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

#WeAreAlexandria



Colonial Park | \$2,650,000

This classic brick colonial is perfect for gracious entertaining and comfortable living. Fantastic kitchen opens to the family room. Spacious screened porch and classic library with custom cherry built-ins. 5 bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths. 314 Mansion Drive
Sarah King 703.864.5050
www.saraheking.com



Belle Haven Estates | \$1,799,500

Situated at the peaceful end of a serene street, this extraordinary residence harmoniously blends with the surrounding natural beauty. Spanning an impressive 5,000± SF with 6 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, open flowing main level, and chef's kitchen. 6503 Blue Wing Drive
The Jean Beatty Group 301.641.4149
www.TheJeanBeattyGroup.com



Del Ray | \$1,125,000

Built in 1895, this classic Folk Victorian with fish scale accents, gabled elevation, and a second story balcony is among Del Ray's most distinctive. While the property has been updated, extended, and modernized, many original touches remain. 22 E Windsor Avenue
Annette Hinaman 571.216.4411
www.AnnetteHinaman.com

OPEN SUN 6/4, 2-4PM



Old Town | \$1,087,000

Built in 1820, living room has built-ins, a separate dining room, and an updated kit with a cozy, wood burning fireplace. Lot's of storage on upper level! Private patio for entertaining or quiet reading. Updates include a gas water heater (2018), washer, and dryer (2023). 423 S Pitt Street
Sally Z. Harper 703.517.2849
www.sallyzharper.com.com

OPEN SAT 6/3 & SUN 6/4, 2-4PM



Riverside | \$1,075,000

This stately, 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath colonial beautifully blends traditional style with updated modern elegance. Renovated last year, the updated kitchen opens to a spacious family room with a wood-burning fireplace & sliding doors leading to expansive yard. 2123 Rampart Dr
Kim Fazio 703.244.3889
www.KimFazio.com

OPEN SUN 6/4, 2-4PM



Waynewood | \$775,000

Lovely on every level, this wonderful home is perfectly sited on a generous, level lot on a quiet street. Interior highlights: wood floors, bright, natural light, built-ins, & 2 fireplaces. Sunroom addition adjacent to the kitchen & dining room with patio access. 8504 Doyle Drive
Kristin Mango 571.276.0798
www.KristinMango.com

OPEN SAT 6/3 & SUN 6/4, 2-4PM



Del Ray | \$739,900

Remodeled & meticulously maintained 3 bedroom, 2 full bath townhome! Bright open floor plan. Kitchen boasts white cabinetry, granite countertops, & stainless appliances. Finished lower level. Large, flat, fenced-in backyard. New roof, installed 2021. 43 Ansell Street
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
www.JenWalker.com

OPEN SAT 6/3, 12-2PM & SUN 6/4, 1-3PM



Glenwood Park | \$678,888

Nestled on a quiet street, this charming 3-bedroom, 3-bath home offers a unique combination of timeless elegance and modern comfort. Private backyard oasis with a large fenced-in deck surrounding a gorgeous heated swimming pool! 5602 Justis Place
James T. Kim 202.798.1781
www.JamesyDC.com



Arlington/Brittany Condo | \$305,000

Fabulous 11th-floor condo with gorgeous views from the balcony, hardwood floors, freshly painted, assigned parking space, and incredible natural light. Amenities: 24-hour front desk, pool, tennis/pickleball courts, and fitness center. 4500 S Four Mile Run Dr #1122
Susan Taylor 703.927.3000
www.callsusantaylor.com

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
 703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com



MEMORIAL DAY



PHOTO COURTESY WHITE HOUSE

President Joe Biden places a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier May 29 at Arlington National Cemetery.



PHOTO COURTESY WHITE HOUSE

President Joe Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin pay respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier May 29 at Arlington National Cemetery.

‘Their Sacrifice Was Not In Vain’

Biden pays tribute to the fallen.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

President Joe Biden paid tribute to the nation’s fallen heroes as part of the Memorial Day ceremonies May 29 at Arlington National Cemetery.

“Today, we recommit to the future that generations of servicemembers died for,” posted Biden on social media. “It’s on all of us to ensure their sacrifice was not in vain.”

As part of the ceremony, Biden placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He was accompanied by Vice Present Kamala Harris and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.

“Every year as a nation, we undertake this right of remembrance, for we must never forget the price that was paid to protect our democracy. We must never forget the lives these flags, flowers and marble markers represent,” said Biden. “A mother, a father, son or daughter, sister, spouse, a friend, an American – every year we remember, every year it never gets easier.”

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley joined Austin and Biden in delivering remarks honoring those who have died in service to the nation. More than 3,000 people were in attendance at the ceremony, including First Lady Jill Biden and Harris’ husband Doug Emhoff.

Biden used the occasion to note the anniversary of the death of his son Beau Biden.

“Tomorrow marks eight years since we lost our son Beau,” he said. “Our loss is not the same – he didn’t perish in the battlefield, it was cancer that stole him ... after being deployed as a major in the United States Army National Guard in Iraq. As it is for so



PHOTO COURTESY ANC

Visitors place flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as part of Flowers of Remembrance Day May 28 at Arlington National Cemetery.



PHOTO COURTESY WHITE HOUSE

Flowers and an American flag sit at the headstone of Gen. Colin Powell May 29 at Arlington National Cemetery.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Hon. Donald Remy, a former Army officer and 9th U.S. Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, speaks at the American Legion Post 24 as part of the May 29 Memorial Day ceremony.

“It’s on all of us to ensure their sacrifice was not in vain.”

— President Joe Biden,
Memorial Day 2023

many of you, the pain of his loss is with us every day, but particularly sharp on Memorial Day.”

Following the ceremony, Biden noted the occasion on social media, saying, “This Memorial Day, we once again gathered at the sacred Arlington National Cemetery to honor our fallen heroes. We stood amid the rows and rows of marble stones and bore witness to the brave women and men who served and sacrificed for our freedom and for our future.”



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Medal of Honor recipient Col. Paris Davis (ret.), right, is honored by American Legion Post 24 Commander Mike Mixon following May 29 Memorial Day ceremonies across the region.

MEET THE AUTHOR



Author Eric Jay Dolin on the right.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION



His book touches on a side of the Revolutionary War that doesn't get much coverage.

Privateering the Topic in Author's Discussion at Mount Vernon

Revolutionary War shipping channels had more going on than generally known.

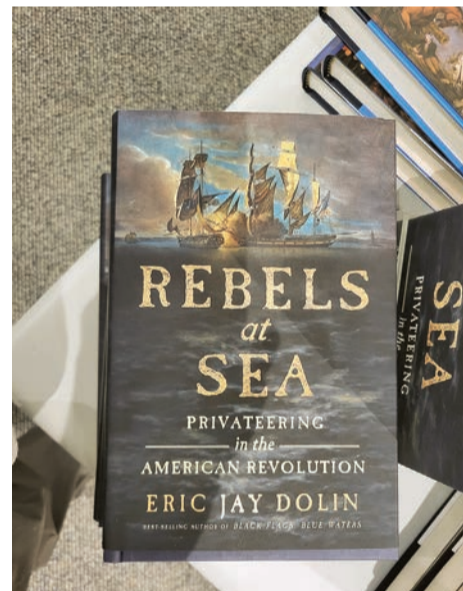
BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

During the Revolutionary War back 1775-1783, there were battles with the redcoats, hand written directives and ship-board cannons to keep the two sides busy. There was a lesser-known activity called "privateering." This involved capturing ships and their cargo kind of like pirates did in those days.

The privateering wasn't too publicized but is now the subject of "Rebels at Sea," a book by Eric Jay Dolin, who led a discussion at the Mount Vernon Plantation recently.

"Privateering was a big part of the United States winning the Revolutionary War," he said to a roomful on May 24 in the Mount Vernon conference room. "Somehow they didn't fit with our imagery of the Revolutionary time period," he said.

The privateers would go out with cannons blazing and capture the ships. Many of those ships contained weapons and ammunition that helped the effort for the U.S., and kept George Washington stocked as well. Washington knew about it and the similarities to pirating but wasn't against it. England, France and Spain also had privateers, so it part of the fight.



Afterwards the author signed a few books.

"He started his own private Navy," Dolin said of Washington. In fact, there were several Navies on the Continental Army side. John Adams was involved also.

Some of the privateers were captured by the British and Dolin described the overcrowded living conditions encountered on the prison ships.

Nearly 800 vessels were commissioned as privateers for the Americans and are credited with capturing or destroying about 600 British ships, according to the National Park Service.

Dolin has written 15 books over his career, and wrote this book during the pandemic. He researched online and got some help from historical resources that had to be convinced of his intentions. Some of these were early American newspapers. Dolin signed a contract with the publishers for this book in February 2020.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MT. VERNON FARMERS MARKET IS NOW OPEN

A mix of new and familiar vendors will be selling local, farm-fresh produce – including strawberries and asparagus – and more at the McCutcheon/Mt. Vernon Farmers Market. From 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday (through December 20), 21 farmers and local food producers will sell fresh 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. This year's vendors are: Arnest Seafood – crab cakes, scallops, shrimp, rockfish, oysters and more The Big Brine – Fermented foods, pickles and pickled vegetables The Fermented Pig- charcuterie and gourmet bacons Grace's Pastries - cakes, pastries and breads, with a Caribbean touch Great Harvest Bread - breads and pastries Honeycomb Heroes – Honey and bees-wax-based products House of Empanadas –variety of empanadas King Mushrooms –variety of locally

grown mushrooms Layla's Lebanese Restaurant – Lebanese hummus, eggplant dip, garlic sauce and more Linda Vista Farm - fruits and vegetables, specializing in Asian and Latin produce Misty Meadow Farm Creamery - milk, ice cream, cheese and eggs Ochoa Produce - vegetables, herbs and flowers Pasta Ilgatto – Fresh, handcrafted pasta and sauces PorkStork – Forest-raised heritage pork products, including bacon and sausages Salsa Las Glorias - fresh salsas, guacamole and chips

Sharkawi Farm - herbs, spices, teas, plants and flowers Three Way Farms – vegetables, melons and herbs 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 WeGrow - Microgreens. All of the items sold at the market are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within a radius of 125 miles. The McCutcheon/Mt. Vernon market is one of 10 farmers markets run by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA); for

more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.

FAMILIES SOUGHT TO HOST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Families and individuals from the Washington, D.C.-metro region are being sought to become hosts for international students for 12 weeks, a semester, or an academic year.

Exchange students represent nearly 80 countries and cultures, including Kenya, Ukraine, Egypt, Turkey, Italy, Germany, Chile,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 5

Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber Awards \$26,000 In Scholarships

FROM PAGE 1

nandale High School; and Nicole Trejo, Lewis High School.

Scott Stroh, a past Chairman of the Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber and chairman of the Chamber's 501(c)3 foundation, opened the evening by welcoming the award recipients, their families and introducing members of the Education Partnership Board of Directors. These directors raise the money for the scholarships and

select the scholarship recipients: Scott Stroh III, Gunston Hall; Michael Bennett, Ourisman Automotive Group; Travis Clarke, Burke & Herbert Bank; Don Cammarata, Covanta Fairfax; Holly Dougherty, Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber; George Ksenics, Andrews Federal Credit Union; Mike Murphy, Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus; Alex Thalacker, Fairfax County EDA; Eric Christensen, Springfield Town Center; Genie Wilford,

Edison High School Academy.

The event was sponsored by two hosts: The Fairfax Retirement Community, and the Army Retirement Residence Foundation - Potomac. The latter's president, Brigadier General Retired Robert Jorgensen, spoke about how wonderful it was that our youth in the area are developing their talents, abilities and preparing themselves to make a difference in the community before announcing the award recipients.

"The Chamber is committed to providing scholarships for local high school students," said Holly Dougherty, president of the Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce. "We think this is the right thing to do and we consider the scholarships an investment in the future of the community."

Scholarships are made possible by the generous donations of local businesses and by funds raised at the annual Chamber Golf Classic.

Businesses that provided complete scholarships are Covanta Fairfax Inc., Ourisman Automotive dealerships, CDI Inc. Rubrik, and Cisco.

This continues the Chamber's annual tradition of providing scholarships to students planning to study business. The Chamber has awarded scholarships for more than 20 years and these scholarships totaling \$26,000 brings the Chamber's cumulative scholarship giving to more than \$294,000.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

Thailand and more. AFS-USA, a leader in international high school student exchange for 75 years, is focused on providing opportunities for intercultural exchange that can help lead to a more just and peaceful world. Those interested in hosting an AFS Exchange Student are encour-

aged to contact 1-800-AFS-INFO or visit www.afsusa.org for more information. You can also get involved as an AFS-USA Volunteer. Visit www.afsusa.org/volunteer to get started or learn more about opportunities to make a difference.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

Interested in becoming a foster parent? There is always a need for

caring foster parents looking to open their homes to foster youth. Get in touch to learn more. Visit fcsvanow@gmail.com or www.FCSVA.org. Or call 703-817-9890.

LOOKING FOR SOFTBALL PLAYERS

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman

over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. They play most Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna from May-July and September-October. For more information, visit the web site www.goldengirls.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

STEM VOLUNTEERS. The American

Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) needs scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and physicians to assist K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) teachers in the Northern Virginia Area, during the 2016-17 school year. In the 2015-16 school year, the

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

PASSPORT AUTO



PASSPORT BMW

4730 Auth Place
Suitland, MD
(301) 423-2700

PASSPORT TOYOTA

5001 Auth Way
Suitland, MD
(301) 899-6000

INFINITI OF SUITLAND

4731 Auth Place
Suitland, MD
(240) 695-5500

PASSPORT NISSAN

5000 Auth Way
Marlow Heights, MD
(301) 423-8400

PASSPORT MAZDA

5050 Auth Way
Suitland, MD
(240) 492-2000

MINI OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

820 Russell Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD
(240) 238-1200

PASSPORT INFINITI

160 S Pickett Street
Alexandria, VA
(703) 461-1500

PASSPORT NISSAN OF ALEXANDRIA

150 S Pickett Street
Alexandria, VA
(703) 823-9000

MINI OF ALEXANDRIA

5990 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA
(703) 751-4630

COLLISION CENTER

4725 Auth Place
Suitland, MD
(301) 423-2200

Visit Us Online at PassportAuto.com

North Hill: New Housing Options for All

BY SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK

A place to call our own is important to each and every one of us, in so many different ways. A home provides comfort, a gathering place for family and friends, safety, stability and so much more. Whether through ownership or rental, where you live connects you with community, outdoors, shopping, education, entertainment, transportation and employment. This month, after more than 30 years in the planning, we will open North Hill and the Residences at North Hill, featuring affordable, senior and market rate homes. Please join us on June 14 at 10 a.m. at North Hill (7250 Nightingale Hill Lane) for this community celebration. Apply today: <https://www.pennrose.com/apartments/virginia/residences-at-north-hill/> and <https://www.khov.com/find-new-homes/virginia/alexandria/22306/k-hovnanian-homes/north-hill>.

Since the late 70s, I have been championing housing issues. While President of Good Shepherd Housing's (GSH) Board, beginning in 2001, I led efforts for GSH to begin purchas-



ing its own units. Affordable rentals and, preferably, homeownership has and will always be the "Holy Grail" for me. As Supervisor for the past seven years, I have supported and advocated for County programs providing opportunities for lower income families to purchase and own their own homes. Learn more: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/housing/homeownership>.

We often talk about affordable and supportive housing for those in need, but there is more to that picture. In order to house all who want to live in our neighborhoods, we need a wide mix of housing stock for every income level. From mobile home communities and large numbers of middle-class homes to waterfront estates, our Mount Vernon District has it all, but we need more housing just to keep up with high demand in our area. In the District over the last 3 years, we have added approximately 1264 housing units. Of those, approximately 881 are market rate, 404 are committed affordable and 49 are workforce affordable units. These new projects include The Arden, The Belhaven and Avention. In addition, we are preserving 861 affordable

units through Cityside and the County purchase of The Landings I and II, near Fort Belvoir. I have also led discussions between our mobile home communities and community organizers, as we work together to solve challenges around tenant ownership, needed site upgrades and protections for residents who own their home, but not the property on which it sits.

My recent efforts also include helping our unhoused or homeless population through significant improvements at the existing Eleanor Kennedy Shelter, and ultimately, the new Penn Daw Fire Station, Emergency and Supportive Housing facility. To learn more about these plans, visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/capital-projects/penn-daw-fire-station-and-supportive-housing>. Join us on June 8 at 7 p.m. for an in-person meeting at Bryant High School cafeteria, where County staff will present concept designs and seek feedback from the community on the co-location design options.

All of these issues are important as we work collectively to build a strong, connected, vibrant community, and continue forward on our revitalization of Richmond Highway, while "Leaving No One Behind."

Observing Memorial Day

BY DELEGATE PAUL KRIZEK

On Memorial Day Delegate Krizek addressed the Hollin Hills Community at Voight Park:



Thank you fellow Hollin Hillers. It is my honor

as your neighbor and our elected Delegate to the Virginia General Assembly to be speaking to you today at this Hollin Hills Memorial Day Observation. I was here for the inaugural Hollin Hills Memorial Day Observation, and I said then that "When this community starts a new tradition it often lasts forever! The home and garden tour started in 1953 and the 4th of July picnic has been going on for as long as I can remember, and I've lived here since 1974." I was right! It is great to see this community honor our courageous heroes again. And, it is appropriate that it is raining as this is not a celebration, but a sacred ceremony.

And all across America today there will be remembrances and ceremonies just like this, big and small, in neighborhood parks, and at memorials and cemeteries, honoring the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our freedom, to observe the meaning of this day. Many of us here lost loved ones. Many of our fellow Hollin Hillers lost loved

ones in service to our nation. Many of our Mount Vernon community lost loved ones. Without those soldiers' sacrifices we would not even be here, nor allowed even to gather like this, let alone have the opportunity to include a flag and wreath-laying ceremony as we will do shortly.

War is an awful thing. Look around the globe today, there are many wars, and an especially horrific one in Ukraine where Russia has invaded and is destroying everything and killing many. War doesn't distinguish between civilians and military, children and adults.

Our military is strong and necessary. They lay down their lives to protect us. We honor our war dead and to try to make sense of and find meaning in their sacrifice. Why did they have to die? Why do some not return from the battlefield? They put our country over self!

Yet, if recent history teaches us nothing else, it is that we cannot take our freedom for granted and that we must never forget what those who came before had to sacrifice to defend our freedom.

And, I know also that veterans especially appreciate these gestures of thanks from their fellow Americans and feel honored for having served our country. Today

they also remember their fellow soldiers, their friends, who didn't make it.

I know my father was especially proud of his service and told us of the heroic deeds of those he fought with. He retired as a USAF Colonel and is now buried at Arlington Cemetery. My grandfather served in WWII and died in France where he is buried. He was only 29 years old.

I especially want to say thanks to all of our Native American veterans. We are standing on land where Algonquian-speaking Indians were the first inhabitants, the last being the Piscataway, who are today an active and recognized tribal nation across the Potomac River in Mary-

land. They served a country whose government once took everything from them. They have served in all branches of the U.S. military as far back as the Revolutionary War before they could vote, before they were even considered citizens. Of course, you have heard of the code talkers of WWII, who kept our communications a secret using the complex Navajo language to thwart the enemy.

So, let's take one final moment to observe, honor, and never forget all those patriotic soldiers who are no longer here, and to salute those veterans here with us today.

Thank you and God Bless America.

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/
By email: 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
<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

Twitter @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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Mary Kimm
Editor and Publisher
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Mercia Hobson
Staff Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore, Glenda Booth
Contributing Writers

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Helen Walutes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9410
hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper





When it rains, stormwater flows off impervious surfaces into streams and rivers.



The Woodrow Wilson Bridge spans the Potomac River, connecting Virginia and Maryland.



The Potomac River near Great Falls.

The Potomac River: Progress Yet Problems

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

The Potomac River, called by some “the nation’s river,” may seem to always be in the backdrop, especially in the public’s mind, but the health of the river and its tributaries is vitally important to four states and the District of Columbia. For starters, five million people in the greater Washington area depend on the river for their drinking water.

Is the river healthy? Yes and no. On May 16, the Potomac Conservancy gave the river a grade of B, up from a B- in 2020, a C in 2013 and a D in 2011. We have seen progress, Conservancy officials say, but more must be done.

In 1965, then-President Lyndon B. Johnson called the Potomac “a river of decaying sewage and rotten algae.” Since the 1972 Clean Water Act became law, some pollution has declined, mainly from what are called “point sources” like factories, sewage treatment plants and farms. But pollution is still a threat.

“Polluted urban runoff is the only growing source of pollution to the Potomac River,” according to the new report card. This stormwater runoff flows off hardened surfaces, like streets, parking lots and roofs and carries street oils, lawn chemicals, trash and even diluted sewage directly into streams that flow into the Potomac and into the river. “We must leave behind a 20th-century mindset where we pave over forests and deal with the consequences later,” said Hedrick Belin, Conservancy President.

More Trees and Plants

The health of rivers depends in part on the lands that surround them. “Potomac River habitats are not improving as quickly as projected,” the report card concludes.

Forested shorelines earned a grade of D+. Trees near shorelines, called “forest buffers,” can hold sediment in place, absorb rainwater and slow down and filter runoff. The Conservancy did find that in 2020, “shoreline trees and plants doubled across the watershed when compared to 2018 and 2019,” but that represents 36 percent of the annual goal of 207 miles.

Water clouded with suspended sediments resulting from runoff, deforestation and poor sediment management blocks sunlight that underwater grasses or submerged



Canoeing and kayaking are popular on the Potomac River.



Nancy Rybicki, an expert on submerged aquatic vegetation, explains that this vegetation is important for water quality and that ducks eat the tubers of wild celery, an underwater grass.

aquatic vegetation need to grow. These grasses “are still having a difficult time expanding to acreage levels seen in the past. A goal of 3,581 hectares of underwater grasses (roughly the size of five Rock Creek Parks!) was set for the Potomac River watershed to reach healthy levels of underwater grasses. Unfortunately, as of 2020, the Potomac was only 33% of the way to reaching this goal,

Potomac River Facts

The Potomac River Basin or watershed covers 14,670 square miles through five geological provinces. The river flows over 400 miles spanning Washington, D. C. and four states -- Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Its major tributaries are the Anacostia River, Antietam Creek, the Cacapon River, Catoctin Creek, Conococheague Creek, the Monocacy River, the North Branch, the South Branch, the Occoquan River, the Savage River, Seneca Creek and the Shenandoah River.

The river’s habitats have 1,400 native plants and animals, including 200 globally rare species. In the late 1500s, the average population density was 2.2 people per square mile. In 2020, it was 94.

analysts found.

In the tidal Potomac, the 100-mile-stretch from Chain Bridge to the Chesapeake Bay, harmful algae has increased in some places, which can put people and pets at risk. The report card maintains, “In the Potomac River, chlorophyll a conditions have remained poor as excessive amounts of algal biomass are recorded in the watershed. In 2020, Potomac chlorophyll a levels registered a score of 14%, indicating ‘very poor’ conditions, according to the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES).” That study gave the river a C-.

Global Warming, More Harm

Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses entering the atmosphere are trapping heat and warming the planet more than is natural, climate scientists contend. “We are

already experiencing the impacts of a warming climate” in the region, says the report card, and these impacts will worsen. Warmer atmospheric temperatures mean warmer water temperatures, which can adversely affect aquatic life, promote algal blooms and encourage bacteria growth.

“The region’s storms are intensifying and becoming more frequent and periods of drought are becoming longer,” thanks to a warming climate, the Conservancy reports. It rains harder here than it used to and extreme storms are becoming more frequent, conditions that impair water quality because drier soils cannot always absorb heavy downpours, driving more polluted stormwater off the land.

On the good news front, nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment are “on track” to meet 2025 pollution reduction goals, the report maintains. Some populations of fish and bald eagles and bottlenose dolphins have rebounded. Some parts of the river are swimmable at certain times during the year. More people are spending time around the Potomac. Sports fishing licenses quadrupled in 2020.

Belin challenged government decision-makers: “We can’t keep paving over our forests and putting nature last. Leaders at all levels must aggressively invest in nature-based solutions that reduce urban runoff and strengthen our community’s defenses against intensifying storms and other climate impacts.”

Visit <https://potomacreportcard.org/>

FAIRFAX COUNTY ENTERTAINMENT

JUNE 1-4

Tysons Library Quarterly Book & Media Sale. At Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Thursday, 1 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday, 2 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 3 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, 4 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bag sale. \$10 for a full grocery sack or half price if less. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests.

JUNE 1-4

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Thousands of like-new books to choose from. Thursday, June 1st, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, June 2nd, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, June 3rd, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Contact Friends of Richard Byrd Library at rbfriends@gmail.com

JUNE 1-4

Herndon Festival. At Northwest Federal Credit Union, 200 Spring Street, Herndon. It will include musical entertainment, a carnival, and business vendors. Kicking off the Herndon Festival on Thursday, June 1 will be Herndon's own Pool Boys. Headlining Thursday night will be Uncle Jesse, taking festival goers back to the 90's and 2000's, covering hits from Avril Lavigne, Britney Spears, Backstreet Boys, Smash Mouth, and more! On Friday, June 2, Pablo Perez "El Alcalde de la Salsa" will have the crowd dancing and ready to open for headliner The Chuck Brown Band. On Saturday, festival attendees can enjoy the legacy of Louisiana's vibrant music tradition with headliner Buckwheat Zydeco Jr. & the Legendary IIs Sont Partis Band. The Creole cousin of jazz, Zydeco will have everyone up and dancing. Saturday will also feature acts, such as Northern Virginia's very own Caribbean band Tobago Bay, Latin tropical music from Pablo Antonio y La Firma, and more. Closing out the weekend on Sunday, June 4, is Festival headliner David Cook. David was launched into stardom following his American Idol Season Seven win and has broken several Billboard chart records. Opening for David Cook will be Broke Royals, known for their sing-along, arena-ready sound. Visit www.herndonfestival.net.

THURSDAYS, JUNE 1 – AUG. 31

Take a Break Concert, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. At Reston Station, Reston. Beginning with Don't Back Down, a Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers tribute band, the Take a Break concerts fill the plaza atop the Wiehle-Reston East Metro station. Other performers include Texas Chainsaw Horns, Loudoun Jazz Ensemble, Scott Kurt and Memphis 59.

FRIDAYS, MAY 26 TO OCT. 13

Darden Purcell and Friends. 5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. At Reston Town Square Park, Reston. Jazz vocalist and series curator Darden Purcell brings her group to open the summer series of "Darden & Friends" in Reston Town Square Park. This concert will feature exciting new arrangements of Great American Songbook repertoire and jazz standards.

JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 1

Fab Fridays. 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. At Reston Station, Reston. Kick off the weekend with Fab Fridays featuring



The AutoWorks Festival takes place on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

ing the U.S. Army Blues Big Band, festive rhythms from Dogo from Togo, merengue with Latin pop band Ocho de Bastos and many more. See the full concert schedule here: RCC Fab Friday Concerts. Three hours of free parking are available in the ParkX garage with validation. Concerts are presented by RCC in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc., and are hosted by Reston Station.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Paws on The Plaza. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons. Pups are invited to roam the dog park with obstacles and splash pads, while adults are invited to enjoy the Beer Garden, visit local vendors, including Woofbowl + Woofie's of McLean or take part in other activations, like a pet friendly photobooth and free caricatures of your pet.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Onstage: Josanne Francis. 7:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. D.C.-based award-winning artist, composer and educator Josanne Francis began playing steelpan at age 9 in her native Trinidad & Tobago. She delivers unmatched technical mastery and an energetic and emotional complexity that enchants listeners across the world. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/josanne-francis>

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Inova Saviile Cancer Screening and Health Fair. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Inova Schar Cancer Institute, 8081 Innovation Park Drive, Fairfax. The free community event is open to all and will provide valuable information to anyone interested in learning more about their own risk factors for developing cancer, or for those who have questions about cancer screening and prevention. Complimentary on-site and take-home cancer screenings will be provided, as well as interactive,

educational exhibits about cancer prevention and genetic research at Inova. In addition to the screenings and educational programs, attendees can enjoy local food trucks, family activities, sport and exercise sessions, and art therapy.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Pickleball Tournament. 9 a.m. Weichert, Realtors' Burke/Fairfax Station Office to host Amateur Pickleball Tournament to benefit charity. At Rolling Valley West Park on Sydenstricker Road, next to Pohick Regional Library. Players of all skill levels are invited to participate. The festivities will continue until late afternoon, depending upon the number of teams and games played. In addition to pickleball, there will be a variety of activities for the whole family, plus refreshments and raffles. To compete in the tournament, please visit the Weichert Burke/Fairfax station website to register. Each \$30 registration fee includes a tournament hat, and all proceeds go to the winning team's charity of choice. Call 703-569-7870.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Gardens of Note. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Presented by the Reston Chorale in partnership with the Reston Garden Club and Hidden Lane Residential Landscapes. Enjoy the sights, sounds and scents of five beautiful, private Reston Gardens, open to the public for one day only. Cost is \$20 in advance; \$25 on tour day. Tickets are available online at RestonChorale.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

AutoWorks Festival. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. There is a \$30 car registration for individuals who would like to participate by showcasing their classic cars. Car enthusiasts can attend the AutoWorks Festive for free, browse at their leisure while listening to live music, and vote for their favorites in the following car categories: Antique (pre-1960), American Classic (1950+); Import

Classic (1950+); Sportscar; Muscle Car; Truck/SUV/Wagon; Unrestored & Well Preserved; Diamond in the Rough; Hot Rod & Custom; and Modern Marvels. Visit <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/auto-works-festival>.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

SYA (Southwestern Youth Association) is celebrating 50 years in youth sports! June 3rd from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. will be the big 50th anniversary party at SYA Sports Park. If you have been a part of SYA in the past 50 years... you are invited. There will be sports demos, giveaways, local celebrities, food and drinks. Visit <https://www.syasports.org/e-newsletter>

SUNDAY/JUNE 4

An Irish-American Concert. 4:30 p.m. At Annandale United Methodist Church, Annandale. Presented by the Focal Arts Ensemble. With special guests Cool McFinn, a Celtic music combo, and dancers from the O'Neill James School of Irish Dance. Tickets \$30; students \$15.

SUNDAY/JUNE 4

Book Drive and Concert. 4:30 p.m. At Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale. VAE will be working with Food for Others for this concert to support their Books Are Food for Your Brain program, which works to improve literacy for low-income children in Northern Virginia. Please consider bringing new/gently used children's books including board books, picture books, easy readers, and chapter books through 5th grade level. Dictionaries and bilingual books (especially Spanish) are welcome. Religious books cannot be accepted. A donation box will be set up in the lobby prior to the concert.

SUNDAY/JUNE 4

Curtis Salgado. 7 p.m. At Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Visit the Website: www.jamminjava.com

SUNDAY/JUNE 4

Grind Day and Blacksmith Demo. 12 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Rd., Great Falls. Cost is \$10. Register Online.

NOW THRU JUNE 25

Falls Church Arts All Member Show L-Z. At the Falls Church Arts gallery, 700-B West Broad St. (Route 7), Falls Church. Eighty-eight artists with last names from L-Z will be featured in the second part of the All Member Show at the Falls Church Arts Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 27. The reception is open to the public. The show features the work of emerging and established member artists from Falls Church Arts and encompasses an extensive range of media from the more traditional watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, pastel, fused glass, oil, photography, and sculpture to a wide variety of mixed media and printing techniques. Visit the website www.fallschurcharts.org.

NOW THRU JUNE 3

"Urinetown." 7:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides that he's had enough and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/urinetown>

NOW THRU AUG. 23

Art Wednesdays. 5 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. The first four Wednesdays starting May 3 watch live graffiti art come to life. The Lorton Workhouse and Live Art International introduces alternating art concepts for participants to take a drawing class, take home personalized airbrushed swag and more. All materials will be provided.

NOW THRU AUG. 31

Game Night Thursdays. 6 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Starting May 11th, DC Fray will host a free game night every other Thursday. Game concepts will rotate between Cornhole, Roller Skating, Ping Pong, Bingo, RC Racing and Pickleball. Prizes will be awarded!

NOW THRU AUG. 11

Music & Dance Fridays. Classes: 6 p.m. or 6:45 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Join Silvia and La Musica the first two Fridays of each month starting May 5 through August 11 for salsa lessons and a musical workshop. For beginners, Salsa lessons start at 6 p.m. and bachata lessons begin at 6:45 p.m. The La Musica: World of Encanto music workshop for kids will feature musical genres from successful Disney films: Coco, Saludos Amigos, The Three Caballeros and Encanto for karaoke session with live percussion instruments.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

numbers of STEM volunteers in Northern Virginia were: Fairfax County - 40, Arlington - 20, and Alexandria - one. Details of the collaboration are worked out between the teacher and the volunteer, and may involve giving demonstrations, assisting in lab experiments, lecturing on special topics, assisting with homework, etc. The hours are flexible, and volunteers attend a one-day training in September before being assigned to schools. To see how volunteers are assisting their teachers, view the video clips at www.seniorscientist.org. To volunteer, contact donaldrea@aol.com.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.

United Community (formerly UCM), 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, seeks volunteers for Food Pantry assistance, Early Learning Center teacher aides, basic needs counselors, youth tutors and mentors, office administration/data entry, and community outreach. Flexible hours and schedules. Opportunities for all ages to serve, including community service hours. More info at ucmagency.org/volunteer-opportunities or email volunteer@ucmagency.org.

Volunteer Adult Mentors Needed. Help assist the Department of Family Services' BeFriendA-Child mentoring program. The mentors provide opportunities for companionship, guidance and support to children who have been abused and neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Contact Ibrahim Khalil (Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov) at 703-324-4547.

Operation Paws for Homes, a Virginia based 501(c)(3) organization seeks volunteers, especially to foster dogs. See www.ophrescue.org for information and all volunteer opportunities.

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@volunteer-fairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Volunteer Fairfax makes it easy for individuals and families, youth and seniors, corporate groups and civic clubs to volunteer. Fulfill hours, give back, or pay it forward through a variety of service options. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

Line Dance Instructor needed for the Gum Springs Senior Program once a week on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Volun-

teer Solutions, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

Fairfax County's Community Services Board is seeking volunteer office assistants. Volunteers are needed to assist CSB staff with greeting guests, making reminder phone calls, data entry, filing, shredding, stocking shelves, and other duties as needed. Hours are flexible, but would be during normal business hours. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csrb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

Yoga Teachers are needed. Help improve a person's well-being by teaching yoga classes to adults who are staying in a residential facility. The day/time is flexible, but would be during the week. Prior yoga instruction is required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csrb/viva/volunteers.htm for more.

The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The Gum Springs Senior Program in Alexandria is looking for a Line Dance Instructor. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The Kingstowne Center for Active Adults in Alexandria needs Instructors for the following classes: Country-Western Line Dance, Hula Hoop and African Style Dance. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The Hollin Hall Senior Center in Alexandria needs instructors for the following classes: Basic Woodworking, Italian and Ballroom Dance. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center in Alexandria needs front desk volunteers and patient Card Players. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Volunteer Advocates for Nursing Home & Assisted Living Residents needed throughout Northern Virginia. Contact the Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lcumbudsman/, or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711.



Powering Today. Protecting Tomorrow.





ServiceMaster NCR
National Capital Restoration



MILITARY, VETERAN & SPOUSE

DATE
14 Jun, 2023

TIME
11:00 AM - 02:00 PM

Embassy Suites
8100 Loisdale Road
Springfield, VA 22150

CAREER FAIR 2023

Attendees will be able to network and join workshops with small, local businesses that have career opportunities for transitioning military service men and women and spouses. Work in your community and forget the commute.



www.mountvernon.springfield.com/military-veterans-spouses-career-and-resource-fair/

Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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



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

Free Estimates **703-999-2929**

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

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!




ERIE Metal Roofs
FREE ESTIMATE 1.844.902.4611
Expires 6/30/2023

Limited Time offer! SAVE! 60% OFF ON YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF
Additional savings for military, health workers and first responders


New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie 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. License numbers available at eriemetalroofs.com/licenses/. VA License Number: 72705029944.

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

Human Trafficking? NOT ON MY ROUTE



Let's keep Virginia safe. If you see signs of human trafficking abuse, just call #77, and you can be a human-traffic hero!



GENERAC

Prepare for power outages today

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(844) 947-1479



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

*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.

ENTERTAINMENT



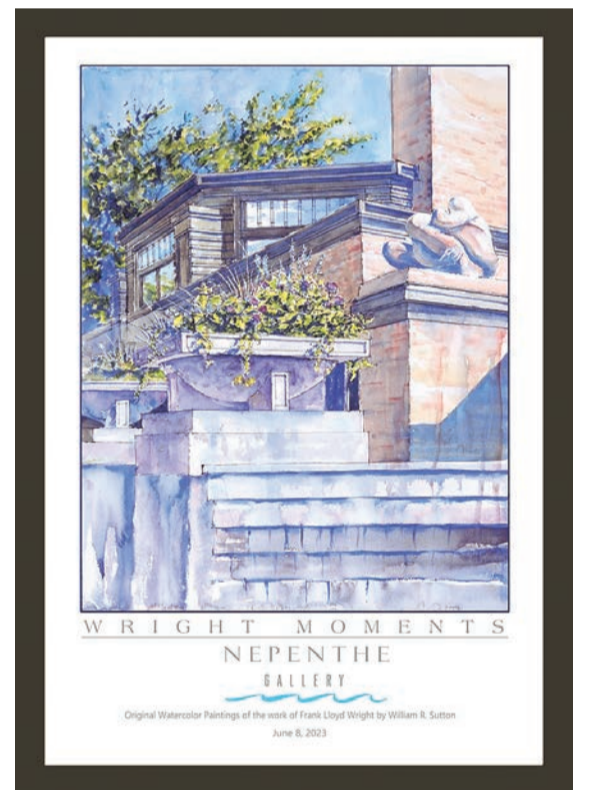
Happy Birthday to Frank Lloyd Wright

On Thursday, June 8, 2023 Nepenthe Gallery will celebrate Frank Lloyd Wright's Birthday with watercolors by William Sutton.

We plan to honor him with a birthday cake for everyone to share. We are featuring original watercolor paintings of Wright's architecture by Annapolis based architect and watercolorist William (Bill) Sutton.

For this show, Bill will be exhibiting his watercolors of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture: Pope-Leighey House in Alexandria, VA; Taliesin West in Scottsdale, AZ; Robert Parker House in Oak Park, IL; and Fallingwater in Mill Run, PA. He will also be signing "special event posters," giclée prints of some of his original works, and books.

Long-time guide Peter Christensen will discuss the history of the Pope-Leighey House.
<http://nepenthegallery.com>
703-314-5399



CALENDAR

NOW THRU JULY 15 Alexander D'Agostino: "A Shrine for the Forgotten" Exhibition.

At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Baltimore-based solo artist exhibition recipient, Alexander D'Agostino, presents "A Shrine for the Forgotten." The work explores queer histories and images, through performance, installation, and reclaiming material from queer archives and other cultural resources related to the historic marginalization of LGBTQ people.

NOW THRU JUNE 11 Women's Work.

At the Athenaeum, Alexandria. In Women's Work three artists, Kirsty Little, Donna McCullough, and Kathryn McDonnell use non-traditional media to explore concepts related to the role of women in the arts and society.

Each with a strong voice, the artists come together to offer a surprising and cogent statement about the place females have in our current world. Artist Talk: Sunday, June 11, 2 p.m.

NOW THRU JUNE 25 Kandinski.

At Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery announces the opening of its juried show "Kandinsky," which will run from May 23, 2023-June 25, 2023, featuring fiber art interpretations of Kandinsky's paintings.

JUNE 1-AUGUST 31 Creative Summer Programs.

At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Creative Summer Programs is a series of workshops exploring the arts.

Learn techniques in drawing, mixed media, mosaic, jewelry, watercolor, and more from local artists. Delve into creative exploration solo or with friends. For children and/or adults, free and paid programs are offered. Sign up for what inspires you! Visit the website: DelRayArtisans.org/creative-summer

JUNE 2-25 The "American Patchwork" exhibit.

At Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features art that highlights the diversity of cultures, landscapes, and artistic styles that make up the American experience. The exhibit broadly explores and captures the patchwork spirit of the United States and her people. Open Thursdays 12-6pm, Fridays

SEE HELPING, PAGE 7

ENTERTAINMENT



The Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair will take place on Saturday, June 3, 2023 in Alexandria.

Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Waterfront Park, 1 Prince Street on the Potomac River. Volunteer Alexandria is thrilled to present the Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair. The fair features local and regional artists and crafters who showcase their pieces across various mediums, including pottery, stationery, fabrics, paintings, jewelry, photography, and more. Visit the website <https://www.volunteer-alexandria.org/events>

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

12-9pm, Saturdays & Sundays 12-6pm.
Reception: Friday, June 2, 7-9pm. Details:
[DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits](https://delrayartisans.org/exhibits)

FRIDAY/JUNE 2

Women's Work – Jane Franklin Dance:
NVFAA at the Athenaeum. 7:30 pm. At 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Jane Franklin Dance returns to the Athenaeum with works that respond to the current exhibit Women's Work in coordination with the exhibition by visual artists Kirsty Little, Donna McCullough, Kathryn McDonnell. Visit the website: <https://janefranklin.com/performances>

MOUNT VERNON NIGHTS

Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria

JUNE

3 Wicked Sycamore (Contemporary Folk)
10 Let it Flow Band (R/B, Soul)
17 The Box Tops (Pop, Rock)
24 Kadencia Orchestra (Bomba, Plena, Salsa)

JULY

1 Fast Eddie & The Slowpokes (Blues)
8 Robin and Linda Williams (Folk)
15 DuPont Brass (Soul)
22 Rebekah Todd (Rock, Soul, Blues)
29 Scott Kurt & Memphis 59 (Southern Rock)

AUGUST

5 Incendio (Latin)
12 The Gibson Brothers (Bluegrass)
19 Mariachi Estrellas (Mexican folklorico)
26 The 19th Street Band (Country Rock)

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Free Lecture, "A History of Burgundy."
1:00 p.m. At the Franconia Museum, inside the Franconia Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Historians Nathaniel Lee, Donald Hakenson and Carl Sell from the Franconia Museum will present a free lecture about the early history of the Burgundy neighborhood. Come hear about the colonial-era merchants that lived at Burgundy. Hear the account of Tom Fuller, the renowned "Alexandria Calculator." See General Howard's encampment of Union troops in the Civil War. Follow the earliest days of Burgundy Farm Country Day School... and so much more! Visit www.franconiamuseum.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Used Book Sale: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Lane. Selection of over 20,000 gently used children's books, fiction, history, biography, home and garden, cooking, crafts, sports, religion, travel, CDs, DVDs, and more. Unless specially priced, \$1 for hard backs and large paperbacks, and 25 cents for mass market paperbacks. Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/friends-of-sherwood-regional>.

TUESDAY/JUNE 20

Mapping Ancestor's Neighborhood. 1-3 p.m. Via Zoom. Have you ever wondered where your ancestors lived, shopped, worked, attended church? Genealogy educator and lecturer Chuck Mason will discuss how a great deal of this information can be gleaned by matching genealogical records with maps printed during your ancestor's time. Register for this FREE ZOOM event by emailing a registration request to the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society at contact-us@mvgenealogy.org. Find out more about this and other society events at <https://mvgenealogy.org>.

THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria.
All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com. Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or www.Birchmere.com.

JUNE

Fri. 2: Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy \$45.00 (Resched from 3/4/23)
Sat. 3: Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukes \$59.50
Sun. 4: Leonid & Friends \$59.50 SOLD OUT!
Tue. 6: RIOPY \$29.50
Fri. 9: Marcus Miller \$69.50
Sun. 11: TWEET \$45.00
Tue. 13: America \$119.50 SOLD OUT!
Wed. 14: America \$99.50 SOLD OUT!
Fri. 16: NRBQ \$45.00
Sat. 17: Atlantic Starr \$59.50 SOLD OUT!
Sun. 18: Atlantic Starr \$59.50
Tue. 20: Happy Together Tour 2023 featuring The Turtles, Little Anthony, Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Vogues, The Classics IV, And The Cowsills \$99.50 SOLD OUT!
Thu. 22: The Voice of The Moody Blues JUSTIN HAYWARD with Mike Dawes \$79.50
Fri. 23: Tarsha Fitzgerald Productions Presents "THE VOICES" Tribute To Motown \$35.00
Sat. 24: After 7 \$75.00
Fri. 30: Newmyer Flyer Presents The Songs of Burt Bacharach & Hal David \$39.50

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004
FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Landscape Drainage	Landscape Drainage

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

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE

We Need Your Help Again
We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers.

All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk.

The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

Visit connectionnewspapers.com or <https://www.gofundme.com/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac
1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

In-Laws or In Trouble



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm quite aware, as a longtime married man, that when one refers to in-laws, he or she is referring to the parents of their spouse. However, what does one refer to the parents of your nephew's wife? They're his in-laws, not mine, right? Regardless of what we call them, they're flying in from Kansas next week to sight-see in the nation's capital and we've been asked by our nephew to offer a helping hand. Though they're not staying at our house, they are nonetheless local and our guests, sort of, so we will be, as my friend Sean says: "pulling duty." Since Dina and I are both retired, as Curly of The Three Stooges said: "It shouldn't be a total loss."

Exactly how much time we'll be spending together is unknown. And neither are we aware of their expectations/interests/commitments, et cetera. What is known is that we are picking them up at Reagan National Airport Saturday night and driving them to their hotel in Old Town. (When they texted us about how they far/how to get to their hotel, we offered to pick them up. No problem.) After we confirmed that we'd be happy to pick them up and take them to their hotel, I was going to joke in our text back to them that we're less expensive than Uber. I decided to ask my wife, Dina if texting this text attempt at disarming humor was OKAY? She said, "Absolutely not! Sometimes humor doesn't come across in a text." And since I value our marriage, I omitted my joke.

Now we've only met these quasi-in-laws once, at our nephew's wedding to their daughter some 10 years ago or so and have never communicated/exchanged any information about the other (no phone numbers, no emails, no landline; nothing. We couldn't get a hold of them if our lives depended on it). And though the reception was outside at their home - in a comfortable and welcoming environment, I can't say Dina or I spent much one-on-one time with either of them. Nor would we have remembered their first names, or last name even for that matter until our nephew reminded us - in advance. Furthermore, we're not sure if we'll even recognize them at the airport, nor they us. So far, through multiple texts back and forth with one another, they've expressed their appreciation and good fortune - referring to us as "guardian angels" concerning our willingness to pick them up at the airport and "tour-guide" them around Washington, D.C. We're definitely off to a good start, I would say. Still, I'm going to keep my powder dry until I see the whites of their eyes - and to quote my late father: "the cut of their jib."

I imagine we'll get through the week relatively unscathed. As multi-decade "DVM-ers," having the opportunity to revisit the spectacular sites and Memorials in Washington, DC is worth any awkwardness that may ensue.

Certainly, we won't be discussing politics (they're from a red state in the Midwest) or religion/abortion (since they're regular church goers), so I won't be taking the name of the Lord in vain. And there won't be any swearing - on our part. We will try to seek some common ground and navigate the terrain - literally and figuratively, as carefully and respectfully as possible. Come to think of it, they may even be younger than we are, but we don't know that either (add it to the list of things we don't know).

All we have in common is the simple fact that our nephew married their daughter. Beyond that we're clueless. On balance I would say however, that Dina and I are sort of looking forward to the week. We'll have to play the arrangements and mutual commitments by ear, so to speak, knowing as little as we do about them. And even though I'm a good listener and not a know-it-all control freak, the challenge will be integrating their expectations about Washington DC/the visit with our reality/availability and personalities. I have no doubt we'll get through the presumptive ordeal as we've experienced family members. Nevertheless, I must admit to being a bit anxious concerning our total lack of knowledge about who they are - really, and especially about the lack of any details about their reasons for coming to Washington, DC. And our exact role in any of it. Though we know visiting Washington, DC has world-wide appeal and is one of the great tourist destinations, we can't help but be curious about why now, why them? Their daughter, along with my nephew and their children visited us for July 4th holiday in 2022, perhaps that gave us a solid recommendation. If so, additional pressure may be on. Wish us well. We may need it.

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



CHRIS WHITE

FAMILY REAL ESTATE
OF LONG & FOSTER

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



JUST LISTED
9390 Warburton Ct | \$1,250,000



JUST LISTED
1112 Cedar Dale Ln | \$1,200,000



JUST LISTED
3600 Riverwood Rd | \$1,150,000



SALE
2210 Londonderry Rd | \$899,000



SALE
4108 Old Mill Rd | \$749,000



CONTRACT
4110 Robertson Blvd | \$799,000

33 homes sold in 2023 so far!



CONTRACT
3107 McGeorge Terr | \$800,000



CONTRACT
4007 Adrienne Dr | \$770,000



SOLD!
9220 Forest Haven Dr | \$830,000



SOLD!
9417 Macklin Ct | \$1,395,000



SOLD!
3713 Wash Woods Dr | \$1,350,000



SOLD!
4008 Adrienne Dr | \$800,000



SOLD!
8410 Camden St | \$815,000



SOLD!
9308 Maybrook Ct | \$1,149,000



SOLD!
5500 Old Mill Rd | \$820,000



SOLD!
9338 Mount Vernon | \$980,000



SOLD!
5104 Mount Vernon | \$805,000



SOLD!
8801 Old Mt. Vernon | \$650,000

92 homes SOLD in 2022!

LONG & FOSTER
REAL ESTATE

703.283.9028

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

Forbes
GLOBAL PROPERTIES

BEST OF WASHINGTONIAN
TOP PRODUCING AGENT 2015-2022

Alexandria/Old Town Historic ~ 110 N. Royal St. 3rd Floor Alexandria, VA 22314