

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

APRIL 4, 2024

Sunrise Easter Sunday

Ventures in Community, believing in the power of resurrection.

BY KEARY KINCANNON

For over fifty years Ventures in Community (VIC) has been organizing a Sunrise Service on Easter Morning. This year a beautiful service of word and music to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ was held overlooking the Potomac River on the lawn of the Mount Vernon Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Speakers represented five houses of faith including Rising Hope Mission Church, Washington Farm United Methodist Church, Heritage Presbyterian, Woodlawn Faith United Methodist Church, and the Fort Belvoir and Mount Vernon Wards of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Those gathered represented parishioners and attendees from those and other congregations.

This year's Sunrise Service had special music presented by the Trebles, an all-female acapella group



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Early morning crowd at the Easter Sunrise Service on the lawn of the Mount Vernon Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; the Woodlawn Faith UMC Gospel Choir, directed by Greg Wright; and the Washington Farm UMC Brass and Wind Ensemble directed by Eileen

Fraedrich.

Rev. Claire Miller, pastor at Washington Farm UMC, gave the main message of hope titled "The Resurrection and the Duck-billed Platypus." No matter how tragic or

dark life might be now, don't give up hope for life, health and wholeness. In the 18th century, many Europeans would not believe that God would create a furry, web-footed, duck-billed mammal that laid

eggs, known as a duck-billed platypus. They were proved wrong.

Many, down through the ages, have not believed it possible that Jesus was resurrected to life. But

SEE SUNRISE EASTER, PAGE 4



Greg and Barbara Brown. Greg is Woodlawn Faith UMC Music Director.



Easter Sunrise Service overlooking the Potomac River on the lawn of the Mount Vernon Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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OPEN SUN 4/7, 2-4

Mount Ida | \$2,650,000

Built in 2008, this home has been recently updated. There is flex space throughout on 4 levels with 5-7 bedrooms – including main-level primary suite & in-law/nanny suite – great gathering rooms, & separate private spaces. 3107 Russell Road
Janet Catterson Price 703.622.5984
JanetPriceHomes.com



OPEN SAT 4/6, 2-4

Arlington Ridge | \$1,850,000

Beautiful 8-bedroom, 9-bath colonial in a coveted neighborhood offers a main-level primary suite. Lower level with additional kitchen space, 3 bedrooms, and 2 living areas. Multi-level decks for outdoor entertaining. 1702 S Arlington Ridge Rd
Margot Lynn 703.973.3722
TheLynnTeamRE.com



Old Town | \$1,598,000

Prime location! Circa 1860, this pristine 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home features hardwood floors, arched doorways, and a gas fireplace. Luxurious primary suite with a newly renovated marble bath. One off-street parking space. 201 Cameron St
Babs Beckwith 703.627.5421
BabsBeckwith.com



OPEN SAT 4/6 & SUN 4/7, 12-2

Island Creek | \$1,450,000

Tour this 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath detached home and be dazzled by all of the updates, amenities, and customizations made over the years. This home checks all of the boxes a buyer could ever have, so what are you waiting for? 7721 Cashland Ct
Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655
JillianHoganHomes.com



OPEN FRI 4/5, 5-7 & SAT 4/6, 1-3

Kingstowne | \$1,025,000

Wonderful home on almost 1/3 acre. Lovely kitchen and bath updates. 4 bedrooms (3 up) and 3.5 baths. Family room open to kitchen plus rec room on lower level. Easy living; great location! 6017 Woodlake Lane
Sarah Bobbin 571.225.8716
SophisticatedLivingNOVADC.com



OPEN SUN 4/7, 1-4

Green's Steam of Old Town | \$1,010,000

In striking 4-level building with rich history, find this thoroughly renovated 2-bedroom, 1.5-bath condo. 1 parking space, huge windows, quality design/construction and perfect SE Quadrant location. 200 S Fairfax Street #6
Ann Duff 703.965.8700
AnnDuff.com



Del Ray | \$950,000

Charming 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath brick farmhouse with welcoming front porch. Main level flows easily from living to dining room with built-ins and kitchen. Sunroom with sliding doors to deck. Driveway parking. 216 E Windsor Ave
Jen Walker 703.675.1566
JenWalker.com



OPEN SUN 4/7, 2-4

Fort Hunt | \$829,900

Stunning 4 bedroom, 2 full + 2 half bath contemporary home. Soaring ceilings, exposed beams, hardwood floors, and so much natural light. Beautifully renovated kitchen, sun porch/playroom addition, & unfinished basement. 8902 Camfield Dr
Wendy Santantonio 703.625.8802
WendySantantonio.com



OPEN SAT 4/6 & SUN 4/7, 1-3

Stratford on the Potomac | \$820,000

This sleek, contemporary home is full of stylish finishes and new upgrades inside and out! Open & bright floor plan with 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths. Elegant oasis outside with large deck, waterfall feature, side patio, and fire pit. 2411 Culpeper Rd
Kristy Crombie 706.575.7926
Erika Olsen 202.262.1293



OPEN SAT 4/6 & SUN 4/7, 2-4

Del Ray | \$785,000

2-bedroom, 1.5-bath townhouse offers so much charm. Fantastic screened-in back porch, hardwood floors, new roof, renovated basement with walk-out access to fully fenced yard and covered off-street parking. 11-1/2 E Oxford Ave
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OPEN SAT 4/6 & SUN 4/7, 1-3

Warwick Village | \$774,900

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OPEN SAT 4/6, 2-4

Huntington at Mt Vernon | \$619,000

Huge all-brick end townhouse with 4 upper level bedrooms, 5th bedroom on the lower level, and 3.5 baths. 2,800-SF with extra windows. Lives like a single family home! Double-wide lot near community pool. 8245 Cedar Landing Court
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NEWS



The house is now fenced off while the exterior is being stabilized.



In years past the house has faced the elements and still remains standing.

House Restoration Project at Fort Hunt Underway

One-time residence is officially known as the “NCO (Non-commissioned Officer) Quarters at Fort Hunt.”

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

Most residents in Mount Vernon are familiar with the grounds at Fort Hunt Park off the George Washington Parkway. Besides the old fort and acres of picnic sites, there is a farm house that started as a family residence in the early 1900s, and now it is known as “NCO (Non-commissioned Officer) Quarters at Fort Hunt,” the National Park Service said. Recently the park service started work on the house that the NPS calls an “exterior stabilization,” project.

John Fagan walks around Fort Hunt Park a few times a week and was surprised to see the work going on at the old house on park grounds. Through the years he’s noticed the house slowly weathering but was happy to see it being restored.

This house was used in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps and after that the Park Police used it as a residence through the years until 1970s. The construction is scheduled to go on until August 2024, but after the construction is over and the fence is removed, it will remain as it is. The house will not be opened to the public or rented for anything, a park ranger said.

In addition, Fort Hunt park is also getting a new playground, and two of its bathrooms are being rehabilitated this summer, NPS said.

OTHER PARK AMENITIES

In another section of the park, there are the remnants of an old fort that housed the cannons from the days when there was a danger of ships attacking Washington, D.C. There is a circular road that goes around the interior of the park that connects to the GW Parkway Bike Trail and a well-known water fountain out front that the riders look forward to on a hot summer day.

Located on the Potomac River just south of Washington, D.C. Fort Hunt was originally a part of George Washington’s Mount Vernon estate. The War Department purchased the land in 1892 as part of a plan to modernize coastal defenses. In 1930, Congress authorized the land to be transferred into the new

George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Batteries at Fort Hunt defended the Potomac River during the Spanish American War; the Civilian Conservation Corps operated a camp there during the Great Depression; and soldiers at Fort Hunt interrogated prisoners, trained pilots in escape and evasion, and combed German documents for intelligence during World War II. At that time it was known as “P.O. Box 1142,” and in 1980, Fort Hunt Park was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

There are two other locations along the GW Parkway where work is ramping up before the warm weather and the picnickers. At the location where the Potomac Heritage National Trail portion goes under Glebe Road, work is underway for painting operations, and the Visitor Center at Great Falls Park is temporarily closed for construction, but the restrooms remain open and overlooks and trails remain open.

Recycling Solar Panels

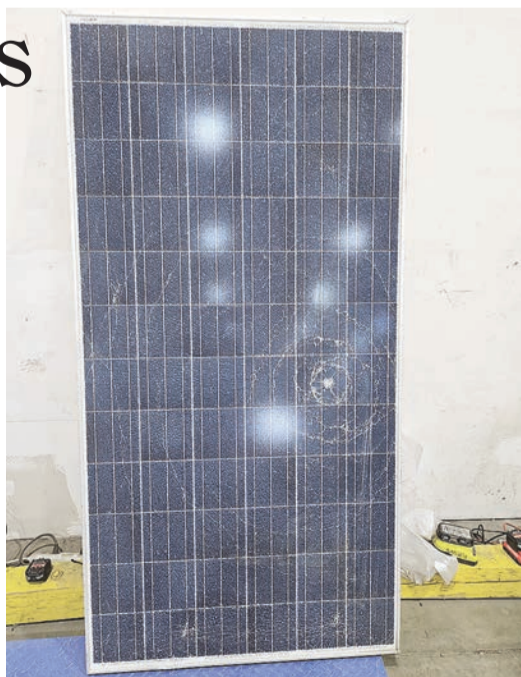
The Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) launched a Solar Panel Recycling program. Initially a pilot project starting in November 2022, this initiative offers a responsible method for residents to dispose of solar panels, contributing to a greener planet.

The pilot phase of the program was time for DPWES and its vendor, Securis, to refine the recycling process, focusing on how to dismantle the panels and find solutions for the materials involved, such as glass recycling and the recovery of precious metals. During this time, Securis was directly accepting a limited quantity of solar panels from both

residential and commercial entities within the County for testing, at no cost to the County.

Fairfax County is now actively accepting solar panels from residents for recycling. The transition from pilot to full-scale implementation demonstrates the County’s commitment to sustainability and responsible waste management. Residents can bring their solar panels to either the I-66 Transfer Station or the I-95 Landfill Complex Electronics Recycling area during regular hours. This service is exclusively for the disposal of residential solar panels and does not include pickup services.

Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycle>



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.

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.

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

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 4



Dr. Keary Kincannon, Pastor Emeritus of Rising Hope Mission Church.



Keith Davey, former President of the Mount Vernon Stake of the Latter Day Saints.



Rev. Claire Miller, Pastor Washington Farm UMC.

Sunrise Easter Sunday

FROM PAGE 1

many who have encountered their own resurrection from tragedies, trauma or addictions, have all the proof they need to believe in the power of resurrection.

The Rev. Dr. Rob Erickson, pastor

of Heritage Presbyterian Church, also spoke. It was recognized that Dr. Erickson is retiring this July, he was acknowledged for his years of service to the community and VIC.

Other Speakers included, Bishop Derrick Anderson, Mount Vernon

Ward of the LDS Church; Cathy Hosek, Co-Chair of VIC; Rev. Dr. Keary Kincannon, Pastor Emeritus of Rising Hope Mission Church; Keith Davey, LDS Church; and Kendra Mattox, LDS Church.

VIC is a coalition of faith com-

munities and nonprofit organizations in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts that advocates for and serves those in need. Members meet monthly to coordinate efforts to help local underserved people. Members are advocates for

the new location of an improved Kennedy Shelter, provide for the volunteers for the hypothermia shelter at Rising Hope, and testify before the Board of Supervisors when necessary to ensure the least among us are not forgotten.



Washington Farm Brass & Wind Ensemble.



Woodlawn Faith UMC Gospel Choir.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 3

Area, during the 2016-17 school year. In the 2015-16 school year, the 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. SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 10

6 Percent 'Across the Board' Raise?

Sole school board member challenges top FCPS staff salary increases.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Mount Vernon District school board member Mateo Dunne, seeks to call attention to the inequities inherent in how the Fairfax County Public School system plans to spend the money it receives in this FY-25 budget cycle.

Dunne says the school's proposed six percent across-the-board salary increase would give large sums to those already earning the top salaries, perpetuating the salary shortfalls of those earning less than their peers in the region. Instead, he says FCPS should "spend in smart ways that solve salary problems, not ways that perpetuate the problems. My priority is the folks working in the schools: principals, teachers, instructors, cafeteria workers and bus drivers. The people who are deserving but are paid below the market."



PHOTO FROM
DUNNE WEBSITE

Mount Vernon District
School Board Member
Mateo Dunne

What is the smart way to set salaries? Dunne argues the modern way is to examine pay by category of employee, within the metro region, to assure equal pay for comparable jobs. The goal is salaries that are internally equitable and externally competitive. He says not all school employees are underpaid, or underpaid by the same amount. Raises should create pay at, or as close to, the market as possible.

Mateo said that some salaries

in high demand areas need to be above market to attract needed employees. Teacher jobs in special education, Title 1 schools, and some math and science areas are traditionally hard to fill. As an example, he cites special education in FCPS, where a third of the teachers now are provisionally certified or long-term substitutes, putting special education at risk. He argues "we could end the crisis by paying correctly."

Dunne is the only school board member who did not vote in favor of the Fairfax County Public School's advertised budget, by abstaining. He shares his abstention was not out of disagreement with the priorities or amount of requested funds, but with the source of funding and the methods that would be used for distributing workforce compensation. Dunne said he strongly supports school superintendent Dr Michelle Reid, and that FCPS "is lucky to have her."

But Dunne said that Reid "doesn't need to be paid more, nor does her top staff." He will introduce a motion at the April 9 school board budget work session to exclude the top 25 highest paid staff members from salary increases. If passed, the motion would allow more funds to adjust salaries that are out of sync with market comparisons. If the motion does not pass, Dunne says we will know from the vote where each school board member stands on the issue.

Salary Comparisons

Joe Biden	U.S. President	\$400,000
Michelle Reid	FCPS Superintendent	\$399,836*
John Roberts	Chief Justice U.S. Supreme Court	\$277,700
Marty Smith	FCPS Chief of Staff	\$273,561*
Lloyd Austin	Secretary of Defense	\$221,400
Kamala Harris	U.S. Vice President	\$157,532

26 FCPS senior staff positions earn over \$200,000*
* obtained by FOIA and shared with The Connection

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
2024
THURSDAY, APRIL 11
PRESENTED BY
WALSH COLUCCI LUBELEY & WALSH

Join us at Economic Outlook 2024, where experts from key industries will delve into the significant developments of 2023 and provide insights into the economic course for the current year.

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<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

Governor Sets New Veto Record

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK

Gov. Glenn Youngkin has acted on a total of 475 bills passed by the General Assembly ahead of his fast-approaching April 8th deadline. To date, the Governor has vetoed 91 bills, the most of any Governor in the history of the Commonwealth in just a single year. Remarkably, he has issued 132 total vetoes during his 3-year term in office, breaking a record set by former Gov. Terry McAuliffe. And that number is sure to grow as there are 600 more bills yet to be acted upon. Given the narrow party-line passage of many of these bills, this result wasn't surprising. Nevertheless, it highlights the Governor's disconnect from the concerns of average Virginia families.

As you know from reading this weekly column, my bill HB 1167, which would have authorized any locality to adopt an ordinance to prohibit the sale of English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) within its jurisdiction was vetoed last month. An invasive plant, English Ivy is a major killer of trees in Virginia and costs landowners and local governments millions to eradicate. Just yesterday, the Governor vetoed two more bills that would have required signage posted at retailers that sell invasive plants to educate consumers about invasive plant species and encourage

consumers to ask about alternatives. In his veto of my bill, the Governor stated that the most effective approach to addressing the issue of invasive plants in the Commonwealth is education. However, these most recent vetoes contradict that.

The Governor's veto of our joint legislation with Sen. Aaron Rouse, aimed at establishing a robust regulatory framework for an adult-use only retail cannabis market, represents a huge failure. This veto not only squanders a crucial opportunity to protect Virginians but also intensifies the proliferation of dangerous illicit products, amplifying risks to our schools and public safety. Virginia's illicit cannabis market soared to a staggering \$2.4 billion in 2023, underscoring the urgency of enacting effective measures. (You can find my full statements on the vetoes of legislation I introduced on my website www.paulkrizek.com.)

Also on the chopping block was one of our top Democratic priorities this session: raising the minimum wage. HB 1 and SB 1 would have increased the current \$12 an hour minimum wage to \$13.50 on Jan. 1, 2025, and then to \$15 on Jan. 1, 2026. HB 157 would have removed the farmworker exemption from the Virginia Minimum Wage Act, righting a histor-



Krizek

ic wrong by extending long-overdue minimum wage protections to Virginia's farmworkers and migrant workers on temporary visas. Additionally, the Governor vetoed legislation that would have required employers to list pay ranges on job postings and stop relying on job applicants' prior salary to set wages. The Governor passed up a rare opportunity to stand up for equal pay and wage transparency, which would have been a win-win for employers and workers.

The Governor vetoed Sen. Schuyler VanValkenburg's SB 606, cognate to Del. Mark Sickles' HB 1177, directing the Commonwealth to re-enter the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). ERIC is a multi-state partnership that experts across the political spectrum consider the only reliable, secure way for states to share voter data and information with each other and serves as an essential tool for election officials to prevent people from being registered to vote in multiple states. Virginia was a founding member of ERIC in 2012.

The Governor vetoed 30 bills related to firearm safety and gun violence prevention. One bill would have criminalized possession of firearms in public university buildings, allowing law enforcement to

make arrests, seize weapons, and open criminal investigations. This measure was supported by university police chiefs in the Commonwealth as a tool to combat campus gun violence. While public universities can have policies prohibiting guns on campus, the only available remedies for violating those are administrative ones like suspension or expulsion. HB 2 and SB 2 would have banned the sale, purchase, manufacture, transport, or transfer of assault firearms. The bill defines an assault firearm as a semi-automatic rifle or pistol with a fixed magazine capacity of over 10 rounds or the ability to accept a detachable magazine. Another bill vetoed would have made it illegal to leave a firearm visible in an unattended motor vehicle. The Governor also vetoed two bills that would have protected individuals experiencing a mental health emergency from prosecution during police encounters.

Unfortunately, the likelihood of overriding these vetoes during the Reconvene session in Richmond on April 17 is minimal, as it necessitates a two-thirds majority vote to override a veto. However, the Governor has amended several bills and still has others to address. These amendments only require a majority vote for rejection or approval. If rejected, the Governor will then have the final chance to either veto or sign the legislation.

Sunset Concert at River Farm with Soulfire

The band Soulfire takes the stage at River Farm, headquarters of the American Horticultural Society, on Thursday, May 30, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. This outdoor family-friendly concert promises an evening of music, nature, and stunning views overlooking the Potomac River. The event is free. Donations are appreciated. Parking fee is \$20. For more information and to purchase parking in advance, visit www.ahsgardening.org/sunsetconcert.

Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket or folding chair and find a spot to enjoy an entertaining evening on River Farm's inviting lawn enveloped by the beauty of its gardens and the serenity of the Potomac River. Rocklands will be onsite with their finest BBQ available to purchase, or guests can bring a picnic basket. As the sun sets, Soulfire will set the atmosphere

Soulfire will play a sunset concert at River Farm on May 30 to raise funds for the Potomac Riverkeeper Network.



ablaze with a repertoire spanning over a thousand songs, from the classic rock of Chuck Berry and Elvis Presley to the funky vibes of Kool and the Gang, and the iconic tunes of The Rolling Stones, The Kinks, and The Who.

The event is made possible by River Farm neighbor, fan and advocate Katherine Ward who sponsored Soulfire, and the band's lead singer,

Randy Benn, who serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network. The AHS and River Farm support the nonprofit's mission to protect the public's right to clean water in the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers and their tributaries. Their work to stop pollution is critical to enhance the safety of drinking water, protect healthy river habitats and increase

public use and enjoyment.

River Farm is located at 7931 E. Boulevard Dr., Alexandria, Virginia 22308. It is open to the public and free to visit Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (excluding special events). For more information, call (703) 768-5700 ext. 114 or visit www.ahsgardening.org.

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Are the water levels in the Potomac River rising?



Many in the area look to the Potomac River for recreation.

River Levels Encroaching but Solutions Vary

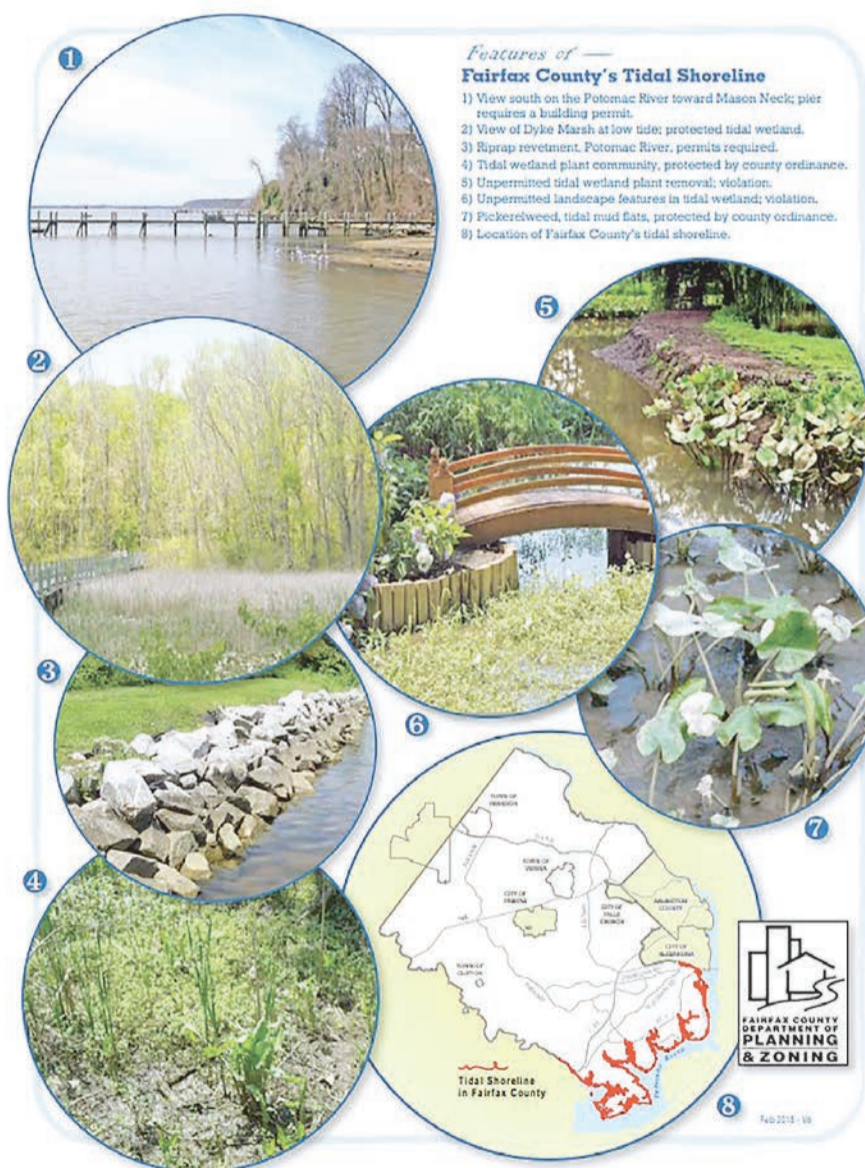
Plans on the county and state level don't give Mount Vernon homeowners the warm, fuzzy vibe.

By MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

The waters in Hunting Creek are threatening the backyards and docks in a certain Mount Vernon neighborhood but homeowners, Fairfax County and the Commonwealth of Virginia do not seem to agree on the solutions.

Larry Zaragoza is a resident of that neighborhood and has a dock in the creek right off his backyard. He was briefed by a Fairfax County staff member on the county's proposed amendments to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance. The county staff member reviewed a slide presentation on what the 2020 changes in law require but the briefing lacked the specificity that would be expected in ordinance text, Zaragoza said. For example, if a deteriorating "bulkhead," (i.e., a retaining wall that is anchored to the land) needs to be replaced, then the bulkhead height and soil behind the bulkhead should both be raised to avoid flooding. While the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance generally prohibits the use of fill in areas adjacent to tidal waters, the ordinance didn't clarify that when the height of a bulkhead is raised that the soil level behind the bulkhead should also be raised, Zaragoza said.

With the Mount Vernon District being right on the river, changes in the water level are noticed immediately. "We are on the forefront of climate change and sea level rise," said Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon). The state and the county are working to adapt policies and practices to address and mitigate the changes in the neighborhoods of Mount Vernon, he said. The changes for residents may be confusing, so Storck encouraged County staff to provide addi-



This county brochure went out to the homeowners that have waterfront property.

tional community outreach and education, like the "Owners of Tidal Shoreline Property" mailer that was sent to over 500 property owners this year, Storck pointed out.

Del. Paul Krizek (D-16) introduced a bill, HB 739, in 2022 titled "Shoreline improvements, existing; repair and maintenance." The bill, left in committee, did not become law. But it would have required that "no permitting decision shall require the replacement of an existing shoreline improvement if the living shoreline would substantially

detract from established use and enjoyment of the property."

While the change in ordinance is required in the 2020 law, Zaragoza noted that outreach to inform the public of the changes did not begin until recently and, in the absence of draft ordinance text, it is difficult to provide meaningful comment to either support or request adjustments that are also consistent with the law, which Zaragoza finds frustrating.



Flooding may be a common site in the near future.

The EPA Says

The Environmental Protection Agency has a handbook involving bulkheads called the "Estuarine Shoreline Development Handbook," with sections on using vegetation, sills, breakwaters, revetments and groins for shore erosion. They are all similar to bulkheads. The book looks at design, cost and lifespan for each.

Construction along the shoreline has a variety of impacts, the EPA states, but "the effects can be minimized by proper planning and construction of shoreline structures."

In their "Shoreline Development Impact Matrix," bulkheads have four negative impacts while vegetation has three positive impacts, the matrix shows.

There is a similar situation upriver and across from Mount Vernon where the cherry blossoms are blooming. The National Park Service is repairing and rehabilitating 6,800 feet of seawall, raising it to the historical functioning height, the NPS said. This work will also lay the structural foundation for additional wall increases in the future as needed. They will be working with the US Army Corps of Engineers and other stakeholders on future planning efforts to consider broader climate change impacts and solutions for West and East Potomac Parks, NPS said.

"Stumpy," the celebrity cherry blossom tree, is not expected to survive this effort.

ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU APRIL 15

Exhibit: "Searching for Truth in the Garden" at Freedom House Museum. At Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street, Alexandria. Gonzaga High School's groundbreaking research on slavery, "Searching for Truth in the Garden," found new life at the Freedom House Museum. The traveling exhibition, on view through April 15, 2024, delves into the life of Gabriel, a teenager enslaved at Washington Seminary (now Gonzaga) in 1829. Gabriel's story offers a poignant lens through which to examine the complexities of slavery and its lasting impact.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

NOW THRU APRIL 7

Seen Better Times Exhibition. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union Street, Studio 312, Alexandria. MEG is pleased to announce Seen Better Times, a new fine art photography exhibition juried by Michael Borek. The exhibition features 24 images that depict scenes that have "seen better days." Juror Michael Borek says the images he chose from the 14 included photographers go behind the surface of obvious decay and "invite viewers to use their imaginations to finish the hint of a story that is sketched out, but unfinished." Exhibition Artists: Soomin Ham, Eric Johnson, Irina Lawton, Sandy LeBrun-Evans, Matt Leedham, Francine B. Livaditis, Maureen Minehan, David Myers, Van Pulley, Sarah Hood Salomon, Alan Sislén, Tom Sliter and Fred Zafran.

MARCH 5 THRU APRIL 28

Mosaics by Nina Tisara and Photographs by Steven Halperson. At Green Spring Gardens, 4601 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. The Opening Reception is Sunday, March 10, 1-3 p.m. The mother-son team had worked together at Tisara Photography in Old Town for three decades. Steven now manages the Alexandria portrait studio as well as creating painterly photographic images and unique etched copper art. Nina creates intricate mosaics of unglazed porcelain tile which are widely exhibited and collected. Their work may also be seen by appointment at Serenity Place Gallery, Nina's in-home gallery.

March 9 to April 14

"Every Brilliant Thing." At Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Workhouse Arts Center Performing Arts, announces its newest production, Every Brilliant Thing, a heartfelt one-person play that celebrates



The 2024 Spring Garden Market at River Farm takes place April 12-13, 2024. <https://ahsgardening.org/about-river-farm/events-programs/springgardenmarket2024/>

2024 Spring Garden Market at River Farm

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At 7931 E. Boulevard Dr., Alexandria. Celebrate the start of gardening season with the American Horticultural Society's annual Spring Garden Market at River Farm. This much-anticipated outdoor event, one of River Farm's largest and most popular fundraisers, brings together plant, seed and garden accessory retailers, nature-focused artists and authors, gardening experts, food vendors, and fun for the whole family. Proceeds from the Spring Garden Market directly contribute to the maintenance, beautification and preservation of River Farm, headquarters of the AHS since 1973. Online tickets are now available for River Farm's annual plant and nature-inspired marketplace. Visit www.ahsgardening.org/springgardenmarket2024.



"Ordinary Days" will be presented on Friday, April 5, 2024 at The Athenaeum in Alexandria.

"Ordinary Days."

7 p.m. At The Athenaeum, Alexandria. Come join in a delightful evening with the Chameleon Theater Collective as four New Yorkers intersect on their way through the mundanity and the magic of the everyday. Get ready to be swept away by the beautiful music and heartwarming story of Ordinary Days by Adam Gwon. Our show is sure to leave you feeling inspired and uplifted.

the little things that make life brilliant. "Every Brilliant Thing" is an interactive solo performance piece that explores the resilience

of the human spirit and the capacity to find joy in all the little things. Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays

at 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale now and range from \$25 to \$35. For more information, visit the website (www.workhousearts.org).

BEGINNING MARCH 20

Water Taxi to The Wharf to See Cherry Blossoms. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Cruise from Old Town Alexandria to Washington, D.C., to enjoy the famous cherry blossoms. City Cruises Potomac Water Taxi offers a 25-minute direct water taxi from Old Town to The Wharf in D.C. From the dock at The Wharf, it is a 10-minute walk to the cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin. The water taxi docks at the Transit Pier, 950 Wharf St. SW, near the Tidal Basin, the National Mall, Hains Point and a Capital Bikeshare station.

MARCH 16 THRU APRIL 21

Cherry Blossom Cruises with City Cruises. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Traverse the Potomac River from Old Town Alexandria and cruise past the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C. on the Monuments Sightseeing Cruise from City Cruises. View and listen to the history of the iconic monuments, memorials and bridges as the D.C. region awakens to spring. See beautiful cherry blossom trees

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 5

as you glide past the Tidal Basin and head onward to Georgetown. The cruise is 45 minutes one-way and approximately 90 minutes roundtrip. Riders also have the option to explore Georgetown and return on a later boat.

MARCH 23 TO APRIL 14

Pink Torpedoes: Cherry Blossom Art in An Old Munitions Factory. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St., Alexandria. Explore all three floors of Torpedo Factory Art Center, home to the nation's largest collection of working artists' open studios under one roof, to view a building-wide exhibition of art inspired by the iconic cherry blossoms. Participating artists will exhibit one or more unique artworks in their studio or gallery. Each artist will explore their interpretations of the cherry blossoms—culturally, colorfully and viscerally—and visitors will discover new ways of thinking about the region's seasonal pink event. Visitors will receive a "Pink Torpedoes" building map with locations of the artwork to discover. Each studio artist in the Art Center is selected by art experts and rank among the best in the region. Artists work in front of the visitor and discuss their work on view. Visitors may shop for one-of-a-kind art inspired by the cherry blossoms, plus more. Can't visit the exhibition? A select exhibition of artwork will be on view at torp.

APRIL 4 TO MAY 12

Special Gallery: "Japanese Inspiration." At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. To complement Washington's festivities celebrating the Japanese cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin, the Athenaeum Gallery is featuring the work of three local contemporary artists whose work is influenced and guided by traditional Japanese art. Sean Doonan is an illustrator whose fanciful posters are inspired by Japanese mythology, anime, video games and pop culture. David Gootnick creates lacy and delicate designs out of wood using an ancient Japanese art form called Kumiko. And Yoshiko Ratliff's paintings are bold, but intricately detailed, representations of Japanese characters and kimonos.

APRIL 5-27

"Same But Different" Exhibit. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features art that explores notions of identity, distinctions and similarities in our natural and manmade world. This exhibit showcases the interconnectedness of humanity and the uniqueness of things that may appear to be the same. Opening Reception: Friday, April 5, 7-9 p.m. Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 12-6 p.m. Details: DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

SATURDAY/APRIL 6

All Lit Up Like a Japanese Lantern: The Japanese Aesthetic in Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House. 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. At Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria. By 1941, the year Pope-Leighey House was completed, Frank Lloyd Wright had studied Japan for almost a half-century. He had become a serious collector of



"Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express" will be featured March 23-April 13, 2024, at the Little Theatre of Alexandria. <https://thelittletheatre.com/performances/>

Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express.

At The Little Theatre of Alexandria. Adapted by Ken Ludwig. It's 1934, just after midnight, and a snowstorm has stopped the opulent sleeper train in its tracks. A wealthy American businessman is discovered dead, and the brilliant and beautifully mustachioed Hercule Poirot must solve the mystery before the murderer strikes again.

woodblock prints—even writing a book on the subject—and had won acclaim for his design of the Tokyo Imperial Hotel, one of the few buildings to survive the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923. On this special tour, visitors will discover how the famous American architect incorporated his love of Japanese art, architecture, and philosophy into Usonian homes, and how this East Asian influence shines in Wright's Pope-Leighey House.

SATURDAY/APRIL 6

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 11

United States Air Force Band. 7:30 p.m. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 4915 Netherton Dr, Alexandria. Join the United States Air Force Band Airmen of Note for a Jazz Heritage Series concert featuring pianist Dave Kikoski. A highly regarded jazz pianist, Mr. Kikoski emerged in the New York jazz scene in the 1980s and quickly established

himself as one of the top players, well known for his post-bop style and spontaneous swinging play. The Airmen of Note is one of the six performing ensembles within The United States Air Force Band, the premier musical organization of the U.S. Air Force.

SUNDAY/APRIL 14

Epics & Fantasies. 2 p.m. Featuring the President's Own United States Marine Band. At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria. John Mackey's Wine-Dark Sea carries a bulk of the narrative in this Marine Band concert of poetry and stories. The 30-minute work draws its inspiration from Homer's Odyssey, distilling the epic poem into a handful of musical highlights. Vocal features include Sousa's "Annabel Lee," set to the chilling verses written by Edgar Allan Poe, and a whimsical tale of "The Green-eyed Dragon" by Wolseley Charles. Debussy's Syrinx flute solo derives its name from a nymph in Greek mythology and the instrument known as "panpipes." The Marine Band's new Assistant Director 1st Lt. Jose Toranzo will also make his debut, conducting Alfred Reed's El Camino Real, also known as The Royal Road: A Latin Fantasy.

On Sunday April 14th at 2PM Alexandria non-profit Local Motion Project will be hosting "Dance on the Green," their first outdoor community dance event in John Carlyle Square Park. This highly interactive workshop promises to be an active

and enjoyable event

April 20-21

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra – Bernstein/Shostakovich. Saturday/April 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center; Sunday, April 21 at 3 p.m. at George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Featuring the Alexandria Symphony with James Ross, conductor; Aldo Lopez-Gavilan, piano; Jorge Amado: Alexandria Shuffle; Leonard Bernstein: Three Dance Episodes from On the Town.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Historic Garden Week Old Town. Take a behind-the-scenes peek into the spectacular homes and gardens of six historic Old Town Alexandria properties kicking off the Garden Club of Virginia's historic annual statewide tour. Offering a glimpse into the town's storied past, the tour features homes dating from 1785. Expertly updated, tastefully furnished, and filled with spectacular floral arrangements designed by blue ribbon garden club members, each property features lovely, curated gardens filled with bountiful Spring flowers timed to bloom in concert with the tour. Tickets include admission to five private homes and gardens, Lee-Fendall House, a one-time private home with a rich history that now houses a museum and garden, as well as six nearby public properties, including: Mount Vernon, River Farm, Carlyle House,

Gunston Hall and Green Spring Gardens. Advance tickets are \$55 online at www.vagardenweek.org and may be purchased tour day at the Alexandria Visitor's Center located at 221 King Street. The Garden Club of Virginia's (GCV) eight-day statewide tour from April 20 to 27 includes 170 private properties throughout Virginia. The Old Town Alexandria tour is hosted by the GCV's two local garden clubs, Hunting Creek Garden Club and Garden Club of Alexandria. For more information, visit www.vagardenweek.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Third Annual ALX Dog Walk. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. A 2-mile dog walk and celebration is back in Old Town Alexandria. Walkers meet at Oronoco Bay Park in Alexandria for an unforgettable experience. Walk and spread awareness about the importance of plastic-free and sustainable living. It's time to educate the community and make a positive impact. Pre-event registration check-in on Wednesday April 17th, from 12 pm to 7 pm to check-in and collect your sustainable Goodie Bag, t-shirt and doggie bandana, treat, and more. Register now! www.alxdogwalk.com/register

Beginning Wednesday April 24th, the Friends of the Duncan Library will be holding their Spring Book Sale. In addition to providing an opportunity to get great books on the cheap, this sale benefits the operations of one of Alexandria's neighborhood library branches.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

6th Annual Environment Expo. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Fort Hunt Park, Pavilion A, 8999 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Come out for reptile and raptor demonstrations, NPS Junior Ranger Programs, solar cooking, exhibitions, live music, an electric bike and vehicle showcase, make & takes, face painting, giveaways and much more. You'll find full event details online at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/.../6th-annual-environment>.

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.

APRIL

Wed. 3: Incognito \$69.50 SOLD OUT!
Thu. 4: LEAHY \$35.00
Fri. 5: Average White Band "A Funk Finale - Farewell Tour 2024" \$65.00 SOLD OUT!
Sat. 6: Average White Band "A Funk Finale - Farewell Tour 2024" \$65.00 SOLD OUT!
Sun. 7: Average White Band "A Funk Finale - Farewell Tour 2024" \$65.00 SOLD OUT!
Fri. 12: Marcus Johnson \$39.50
Sat. 13: NAJEE \$59.50
Sun. 14: Leo Kottke \$49.50
Thu. 18: Norman Brown \$59.50
Sat. 20: Steep Canyon Rangers \$39.50 SOLD OUT!
Sun. 21: SGGL (Speidel, Goodrich, Goggin & Lille) \$39.50
Thu. 25: Brandy Clark w/ SistaStrings \$45.00 SOLD OUT!
Fri. 26: The Stylistics \$65.00
Sat. 27: B.J. The Chicago Kid \$35.00
Sun. 28: Take 6 \$45.00

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 4

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

Line Dance Instructor needed for the Gum Springs Senior Program once a week on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Volunteer Solutions, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711.

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.

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/csb/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/csb/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.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 10

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.

The Advisory Board of the Joe and Fredona Gartlan Center for mental health is looking for volunteers. The board meets the second Tuesday of the month from 9-11 a.m. at Gartlan Center 8119 Holland Road.

Mount Vernon At Home is a community Village, providing support, services, and community to seniors in the area. Volunteers are needed for a variety of services, with transportation to medical appointments are greatest need. They can also use help with in-home handyman work and handling IT problems. If you are interested in volunteering, contact us at info@mountvernonathome.org or call 703-303-4060.

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/ltombudsman/, or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-5861, TTY 711.

Hollin Hall Senior Center is looking for a DJ ballroom and dance instructor. The Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road.

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center is looking for social companions for participants on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. and front desk volunteers on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-noon and 3:30-4:30 p.m. Located at 8350 Richmond Highway. For these and other volunteer opportunities call 703-324-5406 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults.

ONGOING

Mobile DMV 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sherwood Hall Library. Two programs, DMV Connect and DMV 2 GO, will provide full DMV service to the Route 1 area. At the Sherwood Hall service centers, customers can apply or renew their ID cards, drivers licenses, take road and knowledge tests, apply for special ID cards, get copies of their driving records, obtain vehicle titles, license plates, decals and transcripts, order disabled parking placards or plates, purchase an EZ-Pass transponder and more. A full list of services is available at www.dmv.virginia.gov.

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

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

- ❖ The Spring House: This building currently does not have a roof. Money originally slated for this project was reassigned to perform emergency repairs in the Mansion.
- ❖ The Ice House: There is a serious crack in the masonry that may result in long-term structural damage if not promptly addressed.
- ❖ The Mansion: Mount Vernon has just begun a five-year "rustication" project, which is the method used in George Washington's time of cutting, beveling, and sand-casting wood siding to make it appear as if it is stone.

For more information, visit www.mountvernon.org/donate.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax or www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

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Obituary



Stewart Hamilton Gamage was born in Norfolk, Virginia, on January 17, 1950, and she grew up in Petersburg, Virginia. She died peacefully in Richmond, Virginia, on Tuesday, March 19, after battling complications from a critical illness. Stewart was predeceased by her parents, F. Mason Gamage and Claudia Teass (Ney); husband, Joseph Stettinius and she is survived by her sons, Graves Tompkins (Colleen) and Forbes Tompkins (Caity), and her grandchildren (Brooks, Walker, Teddy and Bryce), as well as her sister, Anne Ferrell Teass Smith (Gary), and her brother, F. Mason Gamage, Jr. and her beloved nephews, cousins and their families. She is also survived by her stepchildren, Ted Stettinius (Sarah), Cricket Stettinius, Virginia McMullan (Mike), and Carolyn Rankin (Johnny). She cared deeply about her friends, family and faith, and she believed fervently in the need and opportunity to empower others through public and non-profit service. She was a faithful member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond, serving on the Vestry and wherever she saw a need.

Stewart was the founder of S. Hamilton Consulting, which focused on women's leadership, social justice, and racial reconciliation. Prior to that, Stewart served for 11 years as Program Director of Morven at the University of Virginia, which created a Women's Global Leadership Forum and the Presidential Precinct, where she served on the board and supported initiatives focused on civic engagement, human rights, economic opportunity, and cultural heritage.

Her work and impact spanned a wide range of public and private sector experience. Prior to joining the University of Virginia, Stewart served for almost 15 years as Vice President for Public Affairs at William and Mary. Prior to her work in higher education, she served as Chief Operating Officer of APCO Associates.

Stewart worked as Policy Director in the Office of the House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, Director of the Virginia Liaison Office and Senior Assistant to Governors Charles Robb and Gerald Baliles, and Associate Deputy of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House. In 1999, Stewart was appointed to the Commission for Presidential Scholars by President Bill Clinton.

Stewart graduated summa cum laude from William and Mary in 1972 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts and she earned a Master of Public Administration from the Washington Public Affairs Center at the University of Southern California in 1979. Stewart most recently founded Light Up Ukraine, which raised significant funds to provide the soldiers and civilians of Ukraine with more than 2,000 solar lights and 26 refurbished ambulances. She was also a founding director of the Phoenix Project, an initiative to prepare Virginia's next generation of leadership while building partnerships between higher education and distressed communities. Stewart previously served on the state board of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership and the national board of Women Executives in State Government. She was also a founding member of the board for the Pamela Harriman Foreign Service Fellowships. At William and Mary, Stewart was elected to the Board of the Society of the Alumni and served as Vice Rector of the Board of Visitors. In 2005, she received the Governor's Award for Community Service from Governor Mark Warner.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Stewart's honor are directed to fellowship programs that have been created at William and Mary to advance global diplomacy and public service in Virginia (contribute online at: Impact.wm.edu/Gamage; any checks can be made out to the William & Mary Foundation with "Stewart Gamage Memorial Fund" in the memo section and sent to P.O. Box 1693, Williamsburg, VA 23187).

A funeral service to celebrate Stewart will be held at Christ Church in Alexandria, Virginia on April 5 (live streaming available at coalex.online.church). Stewart led a purposeful and selfless life - she will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her and her impact in Virginia and around the world will be felt for decades to come.

Obituary

Oh Brother,



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

My late brother Richard attended, along with my wife, Dina, the first Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist back in late Feb. 2009 when we first learned that I had non-small cell lung cancer stage IV. He also attended my first appointment with my endocrinologist 10-plus years later when after a somewhat delayed, but much-needed biopsy, I received an updated/corrected diagnosis: papillary thyroid cancer stage IV. Unfortunately, Richard did not attend last week's meeting with the nephrologist. If he was alive, he most definitely would have attended. If there ever was an event/situation since his death in Dec. '22, where I felt his loss, it was during this initial meeting with the kidney doctor. The doctor who very well may control what medicines I take, what foods I eat, and what lifestyle I'm able to live for the rest of my life. A 'rest' which at present seems unlikely to satisfy my presumptive life expectancy and/or compare favorably to the age when my parents died: age 87 (father) and mother (age 86). I'll be age 70 this coming Sept.

This first meeting with the nephrologist was extremely informative. It was an opportunity for all parties to get acquainted since it seems, medically speaking, we'll be somewhat involved from here on out. Never had I quite felt the weight of my brother's loss than when we're sitting in an examining room and encouraged to ask the nephrologist questions. Which we (Dina and I) did. Had my brother, Richard, been in attendance, there might have been a few more difficult questions asked of the doctor - by him. Nevertheless, his positive attitude, his encouragement and good humor would have been welcome, especially given the rock (stage IV papillary thyroid cancer) and a hard place (chronic kidney disease, stage IV) where I find myself trapped. It will be very challenging to navigate my future healthcare decisions, more so than ever before. Cancer alone was difficult enough. Now, as if we needed any complications, my health status is complicated by the relationship between my thyroid cancer medicine and my kidney disease: in short treating the thyroid cancer damages the kidney, and not treating the cancer - so as not to damage the kidney, allows/enables the thyroid cancer to do what it does when left untreated: grows, moves and m, m, metastasizes.

Given the conundrum of sorts caused by my present conditions, I could use most everything my brother would offer; compassion, understanding, support, keen insights, and love. As my life exists now, with both my parents and my lone sibling deceased, the weight of my situation falls almost entirely on my wife, Dina. Up until recently, she (and I) had my older brother to rely/fall back on when any need might arise. Now we don't. And as serious as we thought/knew my previous medical history was fraught, this one may be "fraughtier." Though I may be older and wiser, I may also be sicker, or perhaps I should say, have fewer and more complicated options. The kind of 'complicated options' which really spell trouble (with apologies to Robert Preston) right here in Burtonsville, Md. Not everybody outlives a cancer diagnosis. I know of many individuals who have succumbed to this disease since my diagnosis. As for that Feb. 2009 non-small cell lung cancer stage IV diagnosis, lots of time has passed, but I haven't. Moreover, fifteen-plus years ago I was originally given a "13 month to two years" prognosis, I was shocked of course, as I was basically asymptomatic. Somehow, I outlived it, but I'm not sure I have as much left in the tank to counter the threat this time around. 'Wiser' is helpful, but I don't think 'older' is. Though medical care evolves as well, (back in my early days, there was no such option as immunotherapy), cancer is the big dog on or off the porch. Though being diagnosed with cancer is not the killer it used to be, in some cases; mine in particular, cancer is very much in charge, especially if it's left untreated.

Still, it's not as if Dina and I aren't up to the task, it's more that a task of this substance and severity require all hands-on deck. Having my go-to resource unavailable permanently presents all sorts of personal, medical, logistical, emotional, financial, and legal issues for us to navigate. And how can we navigate them without the one person who we could depend on and trust to initiate, follow through, and weather any storm, expected or otherwise as this train goes down the track? If Richard were still alive, this train would never run out of track. Without him still alive, I wonder - and worry, how I'll even make it onto the train - euphemistically speaking (I'm not exactly F.D.R.).

However, we're still early days. I just hope there's a few late nights left as well.

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