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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

MAY 22, 2008

35 Years for Jealous Killing

John Bloxham shot his ex-girlfriend's boyfriend the night before the couple would have become engaged.

BY KEN MOORE
GAZETTE

Although John P. Bloxham was sentenced Friday to 35 years in prison for murder, Todd Rogers' family, friends and fiancé ensured that it was Rogers' spirit that filled the Fairfax County Circuit Courtroom.

"This was the most comprehensive and moving testimony that the court has ever seen and ever expects to see," said Judge Charles J. Maxfield, holding a notebook of reflections from those who knew



John P. Bloxham

Todd Rogers, 31, the best. "Todd Rogers was an accomplished wonderful young man who was on the brink of sharing his life with another human being."

More than 25 people, including his family, fiancé, best friend, co-workers, bosses, and church members wrote to the court to give a glimpse of Rogers.

"Todd was such a good person and brought great happiness to our lives," wrote

his mother Carma Rogers.

"Todd was a very kind and gentle man," wrote his brother Mark Rogers. "He was always willing to serve, eager to please, and happy to share. ... He enjoyed serving in his church and community. In short, he lived righteously."

"I will miss his intellect. ... I will miss his culinary abilities. ... I will miss his compassion and service. ... I will miss his kindness and friendship," wrote brother Scott Rogers.

"I will never listen to his wry humor and hear him sing again. I won't see him get married and have a family with grandchildren that I would treasure," wrote his mother. "I won't see him smile, give him a hug, enjoy books and movies together and sing with him. Everything is broken because of his death, and I don't have any way to fix it."

TODD ROGERS PICKED up the engagement ring, planning to propose marriage to Carrie Johanson, the morning of June 30, 2007. He planned to propose the next day.

But John Bloxham, ex-boyfriend of Johanson, intercepted e-mail correspondence between Rogers and his fiancé-to-be, and knew the couple would be having dinner together at her house in Mount Vernon on June 30, 2007.

Around 10:26 p.m., Bloxham ended up in Rogers' car on the 2400 block of Phillips Drive in Beacon Hill. Bloxham shot Rogers

SEE BLOXHAM, PAGE 30



Happy Birthday

Friday afternoon, Congressman Jim Moran was treated to a small celebration in honor of his birthday and a tour of the new Hopkins House Pre-school Academy on Forest Place in Mount Vernon. Executive director of Hopkins House was joined by host trustees Greg and Nancy Leisch and others members of the board to welcome the congressman. Pictured are the students in pre-K presenting the congressman with a book of pictures and drawings that were made in class.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

The students had their April Shower's puppets on display in the hallway during the afternoon tour.



Todd Rogers with his fiancé Carrie Johanson



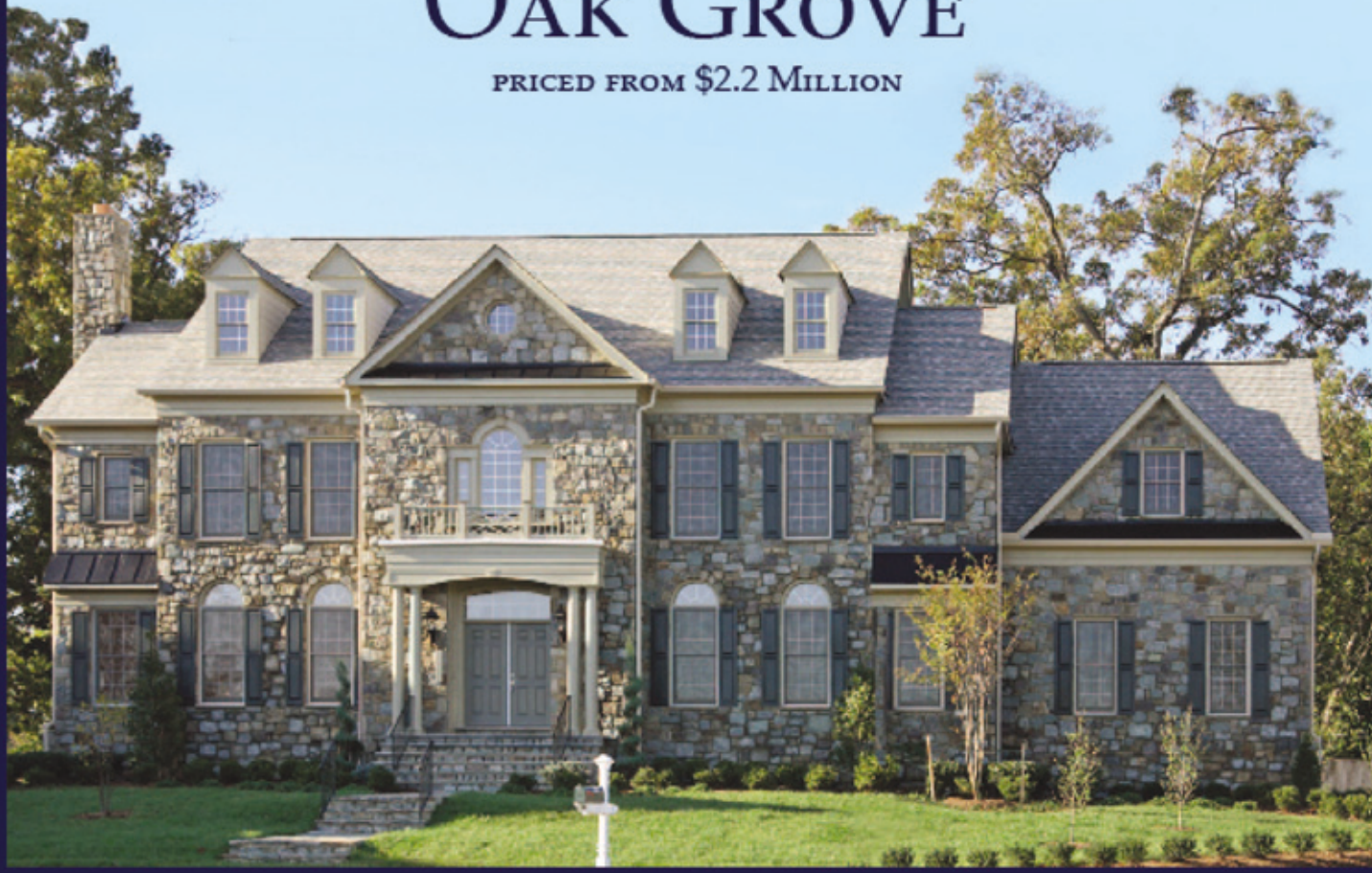
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Supervisors Impatient for Answers

Quality of life throughout Fairfax County neighborhoods has been a prime concern of Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, both during his election campaign and since he joined the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in January. He has argued for more stringent enforcement of laws against residential and commercial blight, drug blight and graffiti.

As he noted in Monday's board meeting, "one of my very first board matters in January asked staff to review enabling state legislation that provides localities with tools to deal with" those various forms of "blight." They diminish the quality of life in McKay's view. And, "quality of issues are paramount" to him and his constituents.

He wanted a report back from staff by April "so that when spring came and people spend more time outdoors ... we would be ready to respond more fully to the number of complaints that spike at this time of the year." He got only a partial report on Monday, well past his April response time frame, and that response only dealt with graffiti.

"This enabling legislation has been on the books for some time and the enforcement tools this legislation provides are not being used as vigorously as possible in Fairfax County. Meanwhile cases of blight continue to grow along with neighbors' frustrations," he stated.

Now, he is tired of waiting. To get the staff response he requested four months ago, McKay moved that "the County Executive report to the Board" at their next meeting "with a report of review actions to date regarding commercial and residential blight."

McKay also joined with Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland in requesting that Chairman Gerald Connolly draft a letter to VDOT requesting them to investigate why two recent rain storms have resulted in road closures along the Route 1 corridor due to flooding.

"This is unprecedented. Even during the June 2006 storm that caused extensive flooding throughout this area and the rest of the County, roads along the Route 1 corridor were not flooded and closed," McKay and Hyland pointed out in their joint Board Matter.

They want to know why this is taking place now and they don't want to wait until the next incident. "Time is of the essence and the report should be provided to this Board within the next two months. We cannot continue to close travel lanes on this heavily traveled corridor," they said.

— CHUCK HAGEE

Citizen Common Sense Trumps Bureaucracy

Fairfax County's departments of Planning & Zoning and Public Works & Environmental Services were taken to the verbal woodshed Monday by Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay for what he described as "sloppy staff work" resulting in severe damage to the "credibility of the Board of Supervisors."

What raised his ire and frustration was the approval of building a single family home on a lot bounded by three streets that, from his and other residents' points of view, was totally well beyond the required set back regulations. Even before the foundation was established, McKay informed the building inspectors that "the house was being built incredibly close to not one, but three public streets."

McKay first brought the matter to the attention of the two departments in February based on his personal observations and that of neighbors "armed with common sense." He was told everything checked out "okay" and the new construction was within boundary regulations. That occurred not once but three times.

He was also "assured that an engineering certification had been done and that this lot, that borders on three streets, was classified as a corner lot with primary and secondary front yards on Amherst Avenue and Highland Street." It was also explained that the sliver of land along the Backlick Road boundary line was a side yard. There was no rear yard, according to the various bureaucrats.

"How can a lot not have a rear yard?" McKay asks rhetorically

SEE BOARD MATTERS, PAGE 27



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Letter carriers collect food from customers throughout Alexandria and Mount Vernon

Letter Carriers Collect And Deliver

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

In this era of an economic one-two punch — rising food costs and rising demands on local charities to provide food for those in need — the National Association of Letter Carriers, with their annual food drive, once again helped to stop the cupboards from going bare.

Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, 8220 Russell Road, just off Route 1 in Lee District, received between one and three quarters and two tons of non-perishable food from the May 10 drive, according to Laura Derby, programs and office administrator, Rising Hope. "That amount of food should take care of our needs for about five weeks," she said.

"We didn't receive quite as much as last year but it was a huge help. Long term though we need a lot of food because we are getting a lot more requests for help," Derby said.

"In 2005 the Letter Carriers were able to give us

about six tons. But, donations are just down," she said.

United Community Ministries, 7511 Fordson Road, received approximately 5,000 pounds from the drive this year, according to Jose Fratti, UCM's food pantry manager. "That was down from 7,000 pounds in 2007," Fratti said.

Both organizations also rely on a wide array of community organizations, churches, and businesses for donations throughout the year. "The need for items from our Food Pantry has increased dramatically," Fratti said.

One of the primary organizations to benefit from the Letter Carriers Association efforts in Alexandria was ALIVE, Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically. ALIVE Executive Director Ken Nasser was not able to establish how much his organization received from the drive this year because they are supplied regularly from a variety of sources.

"But, there is one thing I can say, we were very pleased with the amount we received," Nasser said.



Larry Gray, owner of Village Hardware in Hollin Hall Shopping Center, donates a Weber Grill to the Wolverine Athletic Booster Club. Drawing for the grill will be Saturday, May 24. Proceeds will help purchase fitness equipment for West Potomac High School.

COMMUNITY

Party Like its 1827

After years of inaction and delay, preservation of Huntley Meadows mansion will begin soon.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Little seems to have changed in recent years at the Huntley Meadows mansion, the crumbling old federal-style mansion that Fairfax County has owned for the last 30 years. Buttercups are in bloom along the hill where the boarded up old mansion sits vacant, and a deer trail has taken hold where the carriage road once offered passage to visitors. But the site will soon be transformed into Fairfax County's newest historic park, with a central passage furnished to interpret the height of its grandeur in 1827. The completed facility will have a visitor center and a gift shop with rotating exhibits on everything from the influence of the Mason family to the history of Hybla Valley.

"At this point, we are waiting for the phone to ring and let us know our site plan has been approved," said Michael Rierison, resource stewardship branch manager. "We are hoping to start construction in the late

summer or early fall."

Although Fairfax County has owned the property since the late 1970s, the effort to create a house museum out of the old mansion began gaining momentum about three years ago. Since that time, Friends of Historic Huntley has been building support for the idea and steadily helping to raise funds. A 2004 bond issue added \$1.2 million to the cause, and voters will consider a \$1.95 million bond for the project this November. Rierison described the house as a "learning machine," adding that the site will also include a storage building with a large brick ice well and a three-seat privy that will help visitors understand life in the 19th century.

"It's kind of bittersweet for me because I'll be retiring this July," said Rierison, who



The Historic Huntley Meadows mansion was built in 1825 as a summer home for Thomson Mason, a member of the Alexandria City Council.

helped Fairfax County acquire the property from a developer after the family sold the house to the highest bidder. "But we're all anxious to see this process start."

THE FAIRFAX COUNTY Park Authority began archeological investigations at Huntley Meadow in 1998, although the site yielded more questions than answers.

The evidence suggests the house was built in 1825 as a summer residence by Thomas Mason, a prominent Alexandria elected official who was the grandson of George Mason. Beyond that, much of what went on here is speculative. For example, the icehouse on the property is too

SEE PRESERVATION, PAGE 10

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ELECTION 2008

War Views

Congressional candidates in the Democratic primary speak out on the Iraq War.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

First in a series articulating the views Democratic candidates for 11th Congressional District.

Four Democrats are vying to be the Democratic nominee for Virginia's 11th congressional district seat. Physical therapist Lori Alexander, former U.S. Rep. Leslie Byrne, Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly and Iraq war veteran Doug Denny will compete against each other in the Democratic primary June 10.

The winner of the Democratic primary will face local businessman and Republican Keith Fimian in November's general election. The current congressman, U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R-11), announced earlier this year that he would not seek re-election.

All the Democrats in the race support drawing down the troops in Iraq and want the Iraqi government to take on more responsibility for safety and security.

Lori Alexander

Alexander would be supportive of implementing a plan put forward by one of her opponents, Denny, if elected.

The plan calls for troops levels to be brought down to a split of 35,000 in Iraq and 35,000 in Kuwait by approximately July 2009. The United States would pull out the remainder of its support – with the exception of Iraqi government advisors and those working with the United Nations – by 2011.

"I have actually spoken with Doug Denny about this and I actually agree with his plan for the 'smart phase' withdrawal," said Alexander.

Alexander has concerns that an immediate withdrawal would result in what she saw and heard from people on a trip to Vietnam.

"I heard horror stories about what happened after the U.S. military just left in the middle of the night," she said, adding that she thought the killing in Cambodia was a direct result of those actions.

Leslie Byrne

Byrne wants to reduce the number of troops in Iraq immediately and devote more resources to diplomatic efforts, especially with Iraq's neighboring countries, she said.

"General Petraeus himself has said that there is no military solution, that it is a political solution," said Byrne.

The candidate emphasized her early opposition to the Iraq war. She signed a letter with other former congressman opposing the Iraq

invasion before it started in the spring of 2003. Byrne has also backed anti-war candidates, including former presidential hopeful Howard Dean and U.S. Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.)

Byrne said there is no record of any of her opponents publicly speaking out against the war until recently.

"It is one thing to say you oppose the war now that those difficulties are facing us square on. But where was your voice when it really mattered? ... It is not something that is new to me because I am running for Congress. It is something that I believe," said Byrne.

Gerry Connolly

If elected to U.S. Congress, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman Gerry Connolly said he would vote against any plan to keep large numbers of troops in Iraq without a timeline for withdrawal.

Connolly said the United States government needs to impose a timeline so that Iraqi leaders feel more pressure to step up to the plate and take control of their country. The chairman did not feel comfortable naming a specific date for troop withdrawal but said the federal government needed to start handing more responsibilities over to the Iraqis immediately.

Connolly had a 10-year career with the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he partly focused on United Nations and Middle East policies. With his expertise on the Middle East politics, Connolly has long been opposed to the Iraq war, said campaign manager James Walkinshaw.

"He has been opposed from the beginning of the invasion," said Walkinshaw.

Doug Denny

Denny would call for a multiple-phased withdrawal from Iraq if he is elected to congress. The Iraq war veteran has worked for the chairman of the U.S. armed services' Joint Chiefs of Staff and the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services since the war started.

Denny calls for a reduction of troops from 145,000 to 35,000 inside Iraq and 35,000 inside Kuwait by approximately July 2009. The candidate then says that all American support – with the exception of advisors and those working with the United Nations – should be removed by 2011.

"I am not asking for a total withdrawal in a short period of time," said Denny.

As part of his plan, Denny would pull back American soldiers who remain in Iraq from urban areas and palaces. He said the Iraqi troops would have to serve as the first line of defense for their own country.

The candidate added that it is important to give "tough love" to the Iraqi leaders and to force them to step up and take control.



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PEOPLE

Vela Promoted To Regional Director

Continuity assured for the development of Jones Point Park.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

One of the most influential forces in shaping the future configuration of Jones Point Park has been named the new Southeast Regional Director for the U.S. National Park Service.

David Vela, who became Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway just two years ago, May 28, 2006, will oversee a region that contains 66 national parks in nine states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. He will be one of seven NPS regional directors.

"David came up through the ranks, beginning as a frontline park ranger. His early field experience prepared him to be a great superintendent and now he will apply those same skills as regional director," said Mary A. Bomar, director, National Park Service.

"I always had my eye on the Southeast Regional Director spot and promised myself that if it ever opened up I would apply. I did

and I just got the word that I had been selected. I officially started in that new role this past Sunday," said Vela, who will remain in his Turkey Run office for several more weeks.

With its vast expanse, the Southeast Region welcomes over 60 million visitors each year. It has a \$204 million operating budget and employs more than 2,600 people, including 174 employees at the Atlanta, Ga., regional headquarters.

"When I became superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, I wanted a complex park experience and the National Capital Area offered that. It also afforded me the opportunity to develop many friendships over the past two years," Vela said.

"These past two years have offered a wide array of challenges and exciting experiences — everything from Jones Point Park to Dyke Marsh to the P.O. Box 1142 reunions of those who served at the secretive prisoner of war center at Fort Hunt Park during World War II," he said.

"I also want to assure everyone that there will be continuity in this position. Deputy Superintendent Jon James will become the new acting superintendent for the George Washington Memorial Parkway. He also served in that capacity after Audrey Calhoun retired and before I arrived," Vela



David Vela

the plans for the development of Jones Point Park. We are presently working on the design for the park, which is 60 percent to 65 percent complete. For all intensive purposes we are done with the configuration for Jones Point Park," he said.

James, a graduate of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in American History. Originally from western Missouri, he has been with the National Park Service for over 32 years, serving in 11 areas.

A 17 YEAR VETERAN of the Park, Vela began his career in 1981 as a Cooperative Education Student at San Antonio Missions Historical Park. Upon completion of that program he became a permanent Park Ranger.

He first came to Virginia when he was transferred to Appomattox Court House National Historical park in 1984 to serve as a Supervisory Park Ranger. In 1986, he moved to Independence National park in Philadelphia, Pa., where he served as a District Ranger.

said.

"Jon has been my right hand and is keenly aware of all the various events that have taken place over the last several years. There will be uniformity and continuity with all the projects, including Jones Point Park," Vela emphasized.

"My promotion will have no impact on

SEE VELA, PAGE 30

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Best Western Remodeled

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Best Western Mount Vernon, 8751 Richmond Highway, celebrated its grand reopening with a ribbon cutting ceremony in its newly remodeled and refurbished lobby completing nearly one year of extensive renovations to the 132 room hotel.

Joining owners Nayan and Chetan Patel and hotel General Manager Kathie Vance for the festivities were Katy Fike, president, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, and Ron Fitzsimmons, representing Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland. Other Chamber members and officers, as well as hotel staff, watched as Vance cut the ceremonial ribbon.

"We have taken pride in our commitment to guest service, comfort and the community. My staff and I strive to provide the very best accommodations for travelers and local corporations. Without the cooperation of my employees, this renovation project would not have been possible," Vance said.

Costing an estimated \$1.7 million, the hotel was completely remodeled including new carpeting, air conditioning and heating units, furnishings, lamps, draperies, lines, mattresses and other amenities. Each guest room is equipped with a new micro/frig unit, granite



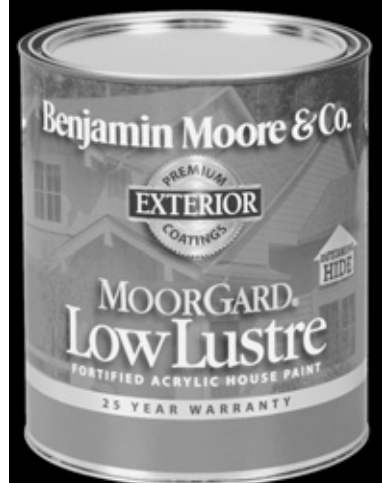
Kathie Vance (second from right), general manager, Mount Vernon Best Western Hotel, flanked by hotel owners Chetan Patel, second from left, and Nayan Patel, second from right, are joined by Ron Fitzsimmons left, representing Mt. Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland, and Katy Fike right, president, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

vanity, deluxe shower heads, a quilted duvet, and 27-inch television set.

Fike welcomed the remodeled hotel and its new owners to the Richmond Highway corridor on behalf of the Chamber. Fitzsimmons acknowledged the upgrading is a "welcome change from its former status," praising the new owners for their commitment to the ongoing Route 1 revitalization.

"Today's corporate and leisure guests are simply more sophisticated in their requirements. They expect a clean, comfortable room at an affordable price. They also desire modern, aesthetically pleasing furnishings, a convenient work area and enhanced lighting. All these features are incorporated into this remodeled hotel," said Steven Williams, director, Best Western Design.

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A question and answer session will follow the presentation. A light lunch will be provided.

RSVP for you and a friend today!

EVENT DETAILS

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OPINION

Remembering on Memorial Day

Local families turn grief into service.

Ami Neiberger-Miller of Sterling lost her brother, U.S. Army Specialist Christopher Neiberger, in August 2007 when he was killed by a roadside bomb while serving in Baghdad, Iraq. He was 22 years old when he died.

"He was wickedly funny and empathetic," Neiberger-Miller says, remembering her brother. "In many ways, I feel like I was just beginning to know the man he was becoming."

As we approach the seventh Memorial Day since the beginning of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, we recognize that here in Northern Virginia, many local families bear the personal sacrifice that comes with the loss of life there. More than 4,075 U.S. military members have been killed in Iraq and more than 500 more have died as a result of operations in Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001.

Many local people have responded to their loss by reaching out and helping others. Since her brother's death, Neiberger-Miller has devoted herself to the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (www.taps.org), which provides peer-based emotional support and other services for families of the fallen.

Scott Kirkpatrick, 26, died on Aug. 11, 2007 in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Kirkpatrick, who graduated from Park View High School in Sterling, and also considered Herndon and Reston as his hometowns, was a champion slam poet. His father, Ed Kirkpatrick, wrote: "Those of us who are already struck by this loss must add the numbers of those who are wounded [to those who have died]. That far greater number and the pain associated with it goes unnoticed and yet it is the one that is most alive around us. My wife and I try to help those at Walter Reed through the Yellow Ribbon Fund (www.yellowribbonfund.org). It was my son's wish that we help the families and soldiers who come back wounded and we try to do all we can to honor him and his last wish." Many of Kirkpatrick's friends also work to raise funds for the Yellow Ribbon

Fund.

Beth and Michael Belle of Vienna are mother and stepfather of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Nicholas Kirven, who, at age 21, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005 during a firefight in a cave with insurgents. He enlisted while still in high school after 9/11. Beth Belle was notified that her son had died on Mother's Day. She also has a special bond with the mother of the soldier buried next to her son at Arlington National Cemetery; both mothers lost their sons on the same day. The other mother lives in Connecticut, so Beth brings extra flowers and tends to her son's grave, as well as Nicholas'. They also hold an annual golf tournament to raise funds for scholarships they distribute to remember Nicholas.

Xiomara Mena and Rafael Anderson of Vienna are mother and brother of U.S. Army Corporal Andy Anderson, age 24, who was killed by enemy fire during combat operations in Iraq. Rafael will soon deploy to Afghanistan with his National Guard unit (and with his twin brother Randy). Xiomara Mena is described as the unofficial "mayor" of the section of Arlington National Cemetery where her son is buried; she is at the cemetery every day.

More than 30,000 soldiers have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. More than a million soldiers have served in Iraq and Afghanistan in that time, with their lives forever changed by that experience.

Those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are there because of their sense of duty to serve the rest of us, to put their lives on the line to defend the country. They join more than 24 million men and women, veterans, who have made great sacrifice in serving in the military.

A good place to start in showing respect for those now serving would be to provide them with the equipment and services they need while they are there, and the services they will need when they get home, including impeccable, first class health care, and an expanded GI Bill that will provide a college education for every veteran who is so inclined.

HERE ARE the names of some of the local men and women who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. We repeat these names several times a year to honor their service and to keep their memories in our con-

sciousness.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

* Staff Sgt. Jesse G. Clowers Jr., 27 of Herndon, died when an improvised bomb exploded near his vehicle in Afghanistan on Aug. 12, 2007.

* Jonathan D. Winterbottom, 21, of Falls Church, died in Iraq on May 23, 2007 of wounds inflicted when an "improvised explosive device" exploded near his vehicle.

* Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, died Nov. 24, 2006 of wounds suffered during combat in Anbar province in Iraq.

* Army Cpl. Andy D. Anderson, 24, was killed on Tuesday, June 6, 2006. He and another member of the 46th Engineer Battalion were killed when their camp in Ar Ramadi, Iraq came under "indirect enemy fire during combat operations," according to Department of Defense documentation. He had been a respected football and basketball player at Jeb Stuart High School and had proposed to his high school sweetheart about three weeks before he was killed.

* Airman 1st Class Lee Bernard E. Chavis, 21, was killed Oct. 14, 2006 by sniper fire in Iraq, trying to protect civilians from a roadside bomb.

* Spc. Robert Drawl Jr., 21, who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in 2003, was killed by a bomb in Kunar, Afghanistan, on Aug. 19, 2006.

* Capt. Shane R. M. Mahaffee, 36, a 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, died May 15, 2006. He was a lawyer, married, with two children. His parents live in Alexandria.

* Maj. William F. Hecker III, a 1987 graduate of McLean High School, was killed in action in An Najaf, Iraq, Jan. 5, 2005.

* Ayman Taha, 31, of Vienna, was killed Dec. 30, 2005, when an enemy munitions cache he was prepping for demolition exploded.

* Army Capt. Chris Petty of Vienna was killed Jan. 5, 2006.

* George T. Alexander Jr., the 2,000th soldier to be killed in Iraq, was literally born into the Army here in Northern Virginia, at DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir. Alexander died at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 22, 2005, of injuries sustained in Samarra, Iraq, Oct. 17.

* On Nov. 5, 2005, Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq.

* Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32, of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter crashed in Iraq.

* Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq Oct. 28, 2005.

* Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Jim Blankenbecker, 40, of Mount Vernon; Jim Adamowski, 29, of Springfield; DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunnery Sgt. Javier Obleas-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church; Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington.°

— MARY KIMM,

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LETTERS

Ruining Mount Vernon

To the Editor:

Ann Pamela Cunningham must be whirling in her grave at what has become of her /our beloved Mount Vernon.°

Where are they going to put the roller coaster?

Joyce Brown
Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon Gazette

A Connection Newspaper

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LETTERS

School Board Responds on Budget

BY DAN STORCK,
CHAIRMAN AND
PHILLIP NIEDZIELSKI-
EICHNER, BUDGET CHAIR
FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

A member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors was recently quoted as saying that whatever amount the county government transfers to the school system, "it is never enough."

This view belies the financial pressures the School Board faces just to continue to operate an excellent school system that benefits all county residents by attracting and keeping businesses and a workforce that are the foundations of our dynamic economy and high property values.

It is true — as parents, students, and others have told the School Board in testimony, e-mails, and phone calls during the months-long process which led to our final vote on May 22 — that many residents would prefer a school system that spends much more than we do. What parent does not want his or her child in a class of 18 students (the exception), rather than one of 25+ students (the norm)?

But Fairfax County Public Schools has prided itself for decades on its ability to provide an excellent education to a large number of children with widely differing needs at the lowest cost possible. We are nothing if not cost-effective, as any comparison of per-pupil costs with other comparable school systems in the region reveals: nearly \$1,300 less per student than Montgomery County, and over \$5,000 less per student than Falls Church City.

OUR STAFF and the School Board work daily to achieve the best value for the taxpayer. This means that we must sustain a high-performing and highly diverse school system for the least amount of investment. This year, we had made \$33 million in cuts before we submitted our budget to the Board of Supervisors, including millions saved by delaying a maintenance program for an aging infrastructure.

Federal and state unfunded mandates, and a shortfall in local resources, means that we must make further cuts, not in "frills," but in basic, ongoing costs. We will spend \$22 million, more than half the increase in school funding from the county, simply to educate the estimated 3,500 additional children who will arrive in our schools this fall. We have done

much to reduce demand for commodities to offset increasing costs; buses need fuel, however, and diesel prices are up 70 percent over last year. Fixed costs (such as state pensions) cannot be cut back. Reducing employee compensation below market rates could undermine our long-range ability to attract and retain employees who make excellence possible. It has been difficult to produce a budget that does not require that we "eat our seed corn" by making reductions that will make it more difficult to recover momentum in future years.°

EXCELLENT SCHOOL SYSTEMS (like excellent companies) do not sustain their high-caliber performance by standing still, and 21st century needs are different from those of the last century. Expansion of all-day kindergarten and elementary school foreign language to a few schools was intended to signal sustained commitment to these initiatives, similar to the County's continued funding of set-asides for new affordable housing and storm water management initiatives.

Even with advanced technology, education remains a people business. Eighty-seven percent of our budget goes to employee compensation. Significant reductions mean fewer employees or limiting compensation; next year's budget does both: reduces numbers of teachers and limits their compensation to below competitive levels. As attractive as our school system has been for the best teachers and employees, our competitive edge continues to erode as area school systems and other employers intensify their recruitment of these same personnel.

A more rigorous management system is in place, which is strengthening performance accountability. We have much more to do; for example, we will soon conduct a top-to-bottom program review of effectiveness and cost. As bad as this year's revenue situation is, next year's looks worse, but we cannot afford to lose our winning edge. The CEO of Volkswagen of America, which recently moved its headquarters to Fairfax County, identified our

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 27

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Preservation to Begin

FROM PAGE 4

large to suit the needs of a family. Why was it built? Does its presence there signify that the house was used for large gatherings, a sort of tavern in the woods beyond Alexandria?

"The wings of the house were built first," said Carolyn Gamble, site manager. "The central part of the house was built after the two adjoining wings, and we're not really sure why."

Thomson Mason's involvement in Alexandria politics included five terms as mayor and three terms as justice of the peace. An 1807 graduate of Princeton, Mason was a strong advocate for "retrocession" of Alexandria from the District of Columbia to the commonwealth of Virginia. Six months before his death in 1838, he was named as the first judge of the new Criminal Court in the District of Columbia. Although Mason's primary residence was on Oronoco Street, a house known as Colross

that was located where the Monarch building now stands, Huntley was a second residence where he could escape the hot summer days in Old Town.

"We are hoping to start construction in the late summer or early fall."

—Michael Rierson

"It's a beautiful example of the federal style because of its symmetry," said J.G. Harrington, a member of Friends of Historic Huntley who led tours last weekend during an annual open house. "The design could have come from a pattern book or Mason could have designed it himself. At this point, we really don't know."

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Bridge Dedicated To Cheers And Horns

Telegraph Road Interchange now takes center stage.

By CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Last Thursday, May 15, just after noon, it was finally declared officially finished.

That was when, to the cheers and applause of more than 1,200 dignitaries and guests, U.S. Senator John W. Warner (R-VA) brought to a symbolic conclusion one of the most expensive and successful highway transportation projects in American history. Torquing the final bolt with a three-foot-long chrome wrench he declared the new \$2.5 billion, twin-span Woodrow Wilson Bridge complete.

"I pull this bolt to honor all who worked and paid for this bridge. There was a total bipartisan effort in Congress to make this bridge happen. This is a bridge to everywhere — not a bridge to nowhere," Warner told the crowd assembled on the span above the Potomac River just prior to making the final tug on the brass bolt.

Labeling Warner "the Godfather of the bridge," U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters said, "This bridge stands as a tribute to your efforts to get it financed and built. And we (Federal Government) are very willing to work with the region to gain the maximum use of this new bridge." Warner is credited with being the moving force behind securing the necessary federal funding for the project.

Some of that maximum use was on audible and visible display throughout the hour long ceremony as truckers crossing the first span of the new bridge expressed their displeasure at a long traffic backup by blowing their horns and down shifting their rig's gears. There were also a few hand signals not meant to signify turns.

While the truckers and a local radio station were busy blaming the bridge project for the delays they seemed ignorant of the fact that the real cause was rubber necking drivers whose ranks the truckers joined as they approached the ceremony site on the Inner Loop span contributing to the delay of other drivers behind them. Traffic would not have had access to the north span that day, ceremony or no ceremony. It will not open until the end of May.

"I think they're telling us they like the new bridge," Peters said with a wry smile as she took the podium waving to the fire breathing truckers.

Joining her and Senator Warner on the temporary stage, set up on the Maryland



Governors Martin O'Malley and Tim Kaine join Senator John Warner and USDOT Secretary Peters in a reenactment of the final torquing that completes the bridge.



The 150-foot drawspan leaves are raised to provide a backdrop for the beginning of the formal ceremony. USDOT Secretary Peters welcomes everyone to the bridge.

side of the north draw span, which was raised to form a dramatic backdrop, were Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley (D) and Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine (D). Behind them were rows of bleachers filled with the men and women who actually performed the day-to-day construction of the new bridge.

"This bridge is a symbol for going from the past to the future. It would not have happened without courage and compromise. And, I'm going to take that message



Virginia Governor Tim Kaine speaks. In front of him is President Woodrow Wilson's 1919 Pierce-Arrow limousine.

back to Richmond and the General Assembly," Kaine said in reference to the upcoming special legislative session in June to deal with transportation funding.

"This is an accomplishment we did together. If we want to make this region better we need to make more of these commitments. This bridge is symbolic of a beginning, not an end," O'Malley said.

"We can still achieve great things in this country. Today we have to renew the spirit that built the Hoover Dam and the Golden Gate Bridge. In the words of the man for whom this bridge is named 'All that obstacles do to brave men and women is to encourage them,'" O'Malley said quoting Woodrow Wilson.

He also took a not so subtle swipe at the Bush Administration's support for creating

more toll roads and bridges rather than using federal and state funds to finance them. Referring to the horn blowing truckers going past, O'Malley said, "They think they were delayed now, how would they like to be paying a \$7 toll to Bear and Sterns to cross this bridge," making reference to the collapsed Wall Street financial institution.

As with the dedication of the new bridge's south span in 2006, the federal and state dignitaries arrived at the podium via a restored vintage automobile used by America's 28th President supplied by the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum in Stanton, Va.

Two years ago it was Wilson's Rolls Royce convertible touring car. This time it was the

SEE BRIDGE. PAGE 22



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ANNANDALE \$305,000 BARGAIN!

This 1500+ sq.ft 3BR/2BA condo is located inside the Beltway in Heritage Court; close to 495 & shopping. Low condo fee includes

water & gas. Contains dishwasher, W/D, disposal, microwave, oven range & hood & refrigerator. Come see this exceptionally well priced, well placed property today!

Derick Hammond (703) 519-0184



SPRINGFIELD \$365,000 MOVE IN READY!

No reasonable offer refused, owner is retiring soon! Delightful 2 level rambler has walk out family room. Media room

& office nook. Perfect 3BR/2.5BA completely updated from open kitchen w/42" cabinets, corian & double door fridge to the roof, HVAC, water heater & furnace. Storage & workshop too!

Sharon Edwards (703) 408-8144



FALLS CHURCH \$125,000 GREAT PRICE

You can't beat this value! The price has been lowered & this one bedroom one bath unit is ready for its new

owner. New carpeting and paint. Located near restaurants, shopping & DC, it is close to everything you'll ever need!

Jim Crowe (703) 856-8244

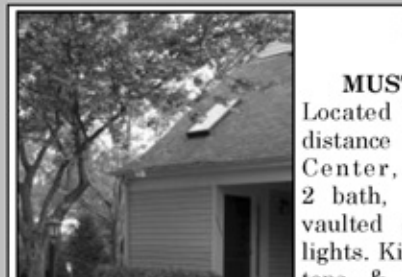


FALLS CHURCH \$375,000

This home is situated on a quiet street, but is close to everything you will ever need. Short walk to Loehmann's Plaza

and transportation to DC. Enjoy the Spring time in the comfort of the rear solarium. Fresh, clean and bright this beautiful home is move in ready and ready to move!!

Jim Crowe (703) 856-8244



FAIRFAX \$357,000 MUST SEE INSIDE!

Located within walking distance to Fairfax Town Center, this 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level condo has vaulted ceilings & 3 skylights. Kitchen has granite c/ tops & SS app. Separate dining room, large living room w/wood fp. Spiral staircase to loft w/custom closet. Huge MBR, WIC & upgraded MBA.

Cristin Patti (703) 638-8395





*We Know Your Neighborhood
...and Reach The World*

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



2208 FORDHAM DRIVE | \$629,900
Stylish, light filled & updated, desirable one level living "close in" Belle Haven area! Easy commute on Metro, GW Parkway, I-495! Near Airport. Upscale neighborhood, Family rm addition, cathedral ceiling, skylight, exposed beams! One car garage & cul-de-sac location. Great value for this popular Alex location.

SUE DICKERSON | 703.380.0153 BELLE HAVEN AREA

NEW LISTING



501 SLATERS LANE #622 | \$599,900
This 2 BR + office 2 BA home shows like a model w/updates & custom features throughout. No need to leave w/swimming pool, cabana, fitness center, & market at your fingertips. Located on the water. Minutes from airport, DC, shopping, dining, bicycle paths & more.

CANDACE LIGHTNER | 703.683.7958 OLD TOWN

NEW LISTING



8204 HENSLEY COURT | \$769,900
Classic colonial on secluded cul-de-sac in most sought after S. Alexandria location - close to waterfront, Old Town, Wash DC, airport & Metro. 4 large BRs, MBR w/ sitting room and luxurious spa-like bath. Chef's kitchen with island, granite counters, stainless appliances. Wide plank dark walnut flooring, neutral paint, study w/ built in shelving, private yard with wooden deck, fenced, faces trees. Large bsmt.

BOB WOODS | 703.244.8726 HENSLEY ESTATE

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



**3812 VERMONT CT
\$424,900**
Three level brick end townhouse. Large eat-in kitchen. New ceramic tile in main entrance. One car garage, deck and fenced back yard. Backs to woods. This private enclave is tucked away from the hustle and bustle yet close to major roads, National Airport, the Pentagon and Old Town. Directions: Old Town Alexandria: West on Duke Street, Left on South Early Street, Left on Vermont Court to 3812 on the right.

WIL ROBERTS | 703.447.6556 SOCIETY HILL

PERFECT GEM IN OLD TOWN

Open Sun 1-4!



**607 PRINCESS ST
\$699,900**
Two master suites, two baths, upscale kitchen, built in 1870, renovated in 2007, old wood floors, brick walled garden, nine foot ceilings, gas heat, central air. This home has it all! Floor plan is available. Call Marie Louise Meyer.

MLM1606@aol.com

MARIE LOUISE MEYER | 703.836.2080 OLD TOWN

BEAUTY IN BLUME!



6016-6020 TELEGRAPH ROAD
Beautiful mini-estate in sought after Wilton Woods. 4-sided brick colonial w/ 3BR & 2.5 BA. Eat-in, country kitchen. Professional landscaping. Priced below 2008 assessment.

ELLIS DUNCAN | 703.307.4295 JEANNE WARNER | 703.980.9106

GREAT LOCATION!



1207 MICHIGAN COURT | \$599,000
This all brick 2 BR plus den 3 1/2 BA TH has everything. 3 Fireplaces, Formal LR, Huge country KIT., Formal DR, HDWD flrs. Private enclosed patio, off st. pkg., Plus, an ideal location, minutes from the airport, shopping dining, river, & bike paths.

CANDACE LIGHTNER | 703.683.7958 OLD TOWN

HUGE PRICE REDUCTION!



3008 DARTMOUTH ROAD | \$699,000
Large three bedroom, two bath, two level brick rambler with atrium and two car garage in popular Clover. Featuring a large formal dining room, family room with fireplace, hardwoods, spacious living room and large private rear yard, this special home is vacant and ready for updating and rehab.

ED PAGETT | 703.518.6161 CLOVER

UNDER CONTRACT!



**5244 BRAWNER PL
\$675,000**
Exceptional Van Metre built "James Blair" model TH w/ prime location in Cameron Station. 2630sf on 3 lvs. 3 BRs - all w/vaulted ceilings, 3.5BA, spacious kitchen/family room combo w/ fireplace, 2nd fam rm on LL w/ 2nd FP, deck + patio, garage parking. Light filled w/large windows, high ceilings, tasteful moldings, hrdwd floors, neutral décor. CAMERON STATION

Photos on www.paddockhomes.com

DIANE & VAUGHN PADDOCK | 703.628.2828

Information is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. Equal housing representative. Not a solicitation of another broker's listing. Owned and operated by NRT,LLC.



ABSOLUTELY SPECTACULAR SETTING

\$4,500,000 | Herbert Springs



827 HERBERT SPRINGS ROAD

Alex/Mt. Vernon. Unique opportunity on the Potomac! Historic Herbert Springs Lodge, carefully gutted, on 1.12 acres. Innovative Arts & Crafts plans (Fairfax County approved), allow rebuild within original footprint plus additions (3500 SF). Hilltop setting with 128' prime river frontage and unparalleled views! Riverside pool overlooks new 120' dock with lift. Four miles from Old Town. Price includes the house (as is), all plans, approvals and benefits of extensive research by owner. Call for a private showing.

Ed Pagett
703-518-6161 | 571-237-4751 | epagett@cbmove.com



BEAUTIFUL!

\$1,875,000 | Belle Haven



2202 WOODMONT ROAD

Fabulous brick center hall colonial offering 9 foot ceilings, gracious formal rooms, lovely moldings, wide plank oak floors, family room with floor to ceiling stone fireplace, library with built-in book shelves, gourmet chef's kitchen with a breakfast area, spacious master suite, large recreation room with a fireplace and two car garage. Located on a lovely lot in sought after Belle Haven.

Jeanne Vander Myde Warner
703-980-9106



Previews INTERNATIONAL
MARKETING THE WORLD'S PREMIER PROPERTIES



NEW PRICE



501 SLATERS LN #1122 | \$698,057
Elegance meets class in this 11th Floor 3BR, 2BA condo with Breath-Taking Views! Marble FP and Foyer, Granite Kit and Baths, Garage Parking for Two Cars. Best location in No. Old Town—Lux. Bldg. On Potomac and Bike Path with Pool, Fitness ctr, Grocery, Valet, 24-Hour Desk, Security. Min's to D.C., Kennedy Ctr, Capitol Hill, Airport

ELOISE BRANTLEY | 703.408.4887 ALEX/ OLD TOWN



JUST LISTED



100 SYLVAN COURT | \$790,000
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac in sought-after MacArthur school district, this five bedroom plus three full bath home has been freshly painted throughout and sparkling hardwood floors have just been refinished. Flowering azaleas and towering trees enhance the charm of this one-owner home. Priced to sell at only \$790,000.

DONNAN C. WINTERMUTE | 703.518.6156|FT. WILLIAMS PARK



WONDERFULLY UNIQUE



3622 TUPELO PLACE | \$895,000
Sun-filled rooms, vaulted ceilings, 7 skylights & hwdw frs are a few of the many special features of this dramatically unique 5 BR/ 4 BA home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Open and airy floor plan w/ first floor family room, front and rear staircases, above-grade lower level recreation room plus au pair suite. One car garage plus large rear yard.

DONNAN C. WINTERMUTE | 703.518.6156|FT. WILLIAMS PARK



'PIED - A - TERRE' NEW PRICE!



501 SLATERS LANE #110 | \$237,500
Rarely-Available Jr. 1 BR/ 1 BA with Balcony! Wall of Glass Sliding Doors gives lots of sunlight—Bright and Cheery! Sep BR Large Walk-in Closet & Nice Foyer. Bldg. On Potomac, Bike Path, Pool, Fitness Center, Groc. Store, Valet, 24-Hr. Desk and a Great Community! The best location—only 10 min's to DC, Capitol & 5 Min's to Airport—with no lights!

ELOISE BRANTLEY | 703.408.4887 ALEX/ OLD TOWN



OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4



6637 HIGH VALLEY LANE | \$374,980
Wonderfully maintained 2 bdrm, 2.5 bath, END unit TH. New windows, copper pipes, flooring, full bath in lower lv, kitchen and laundry appliances, heating and cooling systems, crown molding, sliding door. Finished lower level can be used as rec room or 3rd BR. Close to Ft.

CAROL HOOKS | 703.509.4199 LANDSDOWNE



TRULY SERENE SETTING



11542 LILTING LANE | \$995,000
Enjoy the privacy of your pool in the back yard of this spacious home on 5 wooded acres. The home offers 3 wood burning fireplaces, 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths, kitchen w/ eating area, extra large living rm and separate dining rm, family rm plus enormous rec room. TRULY SERENE!

CAROL HOOKS | 703.509.4199 FAIRFAX STATION



COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE
310 KING STREET • ALEXANDRIA • VIRGINIA 22314 • 703.518.8300





LONG & FOSTER OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

400 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 703-683-0400




Alexandria/Belle View
\$279,000

GORGEOUS RENOVATION

OPEN SUN 1-4

Not your typical 2 bedroom porch unit. This unique and tasteful, from floor to ceiling renovation includes cherry wood floors and cabinets, granite counters, kitchen walls removed, ceiling ductwork removed, walk-in closet added, new tile and fixtures, plantation shutters and more. You have to see this one!

6610 Potomac Ave. #A2



MARGARET KEAGLE 703.518.8726



ALEXANDRIA
\$355,000


LOOK NO FURTHER!

Pristine, updated and refined describes this 3 level end unit townhome in convenient Woodstone. 2 Master Suites w/ private bath, generously sized living and dining rooms, plus sunny eat-in kitchen leading to deck and fenced back yard. Lower level features recreation room, 3rd BR possibility and full bath. Shows like a model home!

7214 Stover Drive



KIM MUFFLER 703.282.7739




Alexandria
\$995,000

PORTO VECCHIO WATERFRONT

Spacious 7th floor unit (2,245SF) with river views from all rooms! 3 bedrooms, 4 full tile baths, fireplace and open terrace. 24 hr. desk, limo service, pool, tennis, exercise and party rooms. Just reduced—priced below appraisal. Treat yourself to this rare opportunity!

1250 S. Washington St. #705



FRANCENA ALVAREZ 804-690-1618



Alexandria South
\$615,000

JUST LISTED!

Dynamite 2-level contemporary on Cul-de-sac and backing to wooded parkland. Upgraded kitchen (stainless, granite, ceramic tile), open to family room with hardwood and fireplace. 2.5 updated baths. Vaulted ceilings, 5 ceiling fans, and garage. Screened porch leads to in ground pool and hot tub with slate surround & new electric cover. Professionally landscaped fenced back yard. Automatic sprinkler system for lawn & flower beds.

4018 Cool Brooke Way



RUTH GUIRARD 703.609.3343



Alexandria/Kingstowne
\$474,900


TOTAL PERFECTION

Stunning end unit TH w/ brick front on quiet Cul-de-sac. Features: 3BRs, 2 FBs, 2 HBs, huge MBR w/walk-in. Bright kitchen w/eat-in area opening to large deck. Beautiful hwdwd fls on main level. Spacious lower level, rec. room with FP, built-in bookshelves & opens to private fenced yard plus 1 car garage. Enjoy the amenities of Kingstowne: Farmers market, movie theatres, shops, restaurants, walking paths, pool & tennis courts. Dir: 95/495, S on Van Dorn, R Franconia Rd, L Beulah, L at light on Kingstowne Commons, R Heatherfield Ln to 7408 on left.

7408 Heatherfield Lane



SHANE CANNY 703.346.2067
MARY BOURKE 703.906.5825




Alexandria
\$629,000

BRAND NEW PRICE!

One of the finest lots in the area with private views of parklands in all directions! Gorgeous Colonial boasts 4 BR, 2.5 BA, with over 1500 SF in the walk-out lower level! Fabulous screened porch and deck are perfect for entertaining and outdoor dining! Pristine condition and numerous updates. Convenient to Ft. Belvoir, Metro and Old Town. This is a must see!

4107 Komes Court



KIM MUFFLER 703.282.7739



Alexandria/Kingstowne
\$355,900


WONDERFUL...

2 BR, 2.5 BA, 3 level Townhome in the desirable Landsdowne community. This Mulberry model features 2 MBRs with vaulted ceilings, fireplace in LR, new kitchen appliances, large deck, fenced yard backing to common area & a finished lower level with full bath & rec. room or 3rd bedroom. Conveniently located close to Metro, Fort Belvoir, Kingstowne Center, & Old Town Alexandria. www.twohomepros.com

6562 Old Carriage Lane



RUBY STYSLINGER 703.847.3357




Alexandria/Del Ray
\$549,000

2100 SF OF LIVING SPACE ON A VERY QUIET STREET

- 3-Level Brick End Unit TH
- Eat-in Kitchen w/ FRPL
- LR & DR Opening onto deck
- 3 Bedrooms & 2.5 Baths
- 700 SF Basement

1609 Hancock Avenue



MARTINE IRMER 703.346.7283



Mt. Vernon
\$1,395,000

NEW CUSTOM HOME WATER ACCESS/ POTOMAC RIVER

New Construction! Elegant stone home, 5,400-SF, 5 BR, 3 fireplaces, high ceilings, granite, stainless, gourmet kitchen, hardwoods, finished basement. To be built, OPPORTUNITY TO CUSTOMIZE WITH PRE-SALE. Stately setting on rare 3/4 acre level lot, ideal for entertaining, room for pool, guest house, etc. Close to river, bike trails, parks, historic Mt. Vernon. Minutes to Old Town, Ft. Belvoir, DC. www.8645mtvernon.com/gaz.aspx

8645 Mt. Vernon Hwy



JILL DIPASQUALE 571-436-8699



Alexandria/The Royalton
\$481,990


EXCEPTIONAL 2BR/2BA CONDO SHOWS LIKE A MODEL!

Wonderful 2BR/2BA great roommate layout. En-suite baths. Granite countertops in kitchen & Bas. SS appliances, hardwood floors throughout. Open balcony w/access from LR & one BR. Lots of outdoor space in common area. Whole Foods Grocery downstairs. Metro just up the street & Old Town is right there. Restaurants, Nite life, Ya got it all. Excellent location ready for you.

309 Holland Lane #123



BRIAN HONG & JERRY BEAMER 703.929.5764
Visit www.brianandjerry.com




Alexandria/Van Dorn
\$259,900

2BR/1.5BA JUST UPDATED! QUIET & SERENE COMPLEX LOTS OF TREES

Move Right In! This lovely condo was completely updated in 2006. Freshly painted. Balcony for grill/table/chairs just off DR. Large LR has office nook near foyer. W/D in unit. Nicely sized bedrooms. Metro stop 1 mile away, Bus at corner. Short distance to Old Town, 395 into DC. Low condo fees include utilities. Unit backs to treed area. Plenty of parking. delaine@inf.com

6155J Edsall Road



DELAINE CAMPBELL 703.518.8740



OPEN SUN 1-4

Falls Church
\$334,900

LAKESIDE COMMUNITY

The living is easy in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath one level charmer. All new \$6K master bath, gorgeous plantation shutters, updated kitchen, lovely foyer. Nothing to do but enjoy the lake, tennis, walking trails and close by shopping. EZ commute by Metro.

7749 New Providence Drive #68



ANN LOGSDON 703.568.8433



Alexandria/Stratford
\$750,000


FOR BUYERS WHO VALUE EXCELLENCE!

Gorgeously and completely renovated, this center-hall Colonial gleams with its high-end craftsmanship and elegant appointments! This is truly a turnkey home and you won't find a better location! Call today for an appointment to preview this beauty.

2408 Wittington Blvd



LEAH CHAPLA 703.929.4875




Alexandria/Old Town
\$1,099,000


RESTORED & EXPANDED

You'll find exceptional qualities of light & graciousness in this free standing & updated brick townhouse located in the heart of Old Town. A beautiful large main level kitchen with breakfast area, 3 BRs, (including MBR w/adjacent sitting room), 3 FBs, lower level family room opening onto a fully fenced brick garden, 2 fireplaces & glimpses of the Potomac River are a few of the many features.

704 Lee Street



NORMA GANTS 703.408.2560




Alexandria
\$339,900

IN OLD TOWN

The largest one-bedroom offered in Braddock Place at over 820 Square Feet! Spotless home completely updated with washer/dryer, gourmet kitchen and a tile entry foyer. Garage parking, swimming pool, sauna, workout room and Braddock Road Metro is just around the corner!

1200 Braddock Place #310



GEORGE MYERS 703.585.8301



OPEN SUN 1-4

Alexandria/Old Town
\$679,900


WOLFE STREET GEM OPEN SUNDAY

Stunning circa 1820—Plagued 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths end townhouse. Beautiful hardwood floors, custom upgrades, ABSOLUTELY CHARMING—MUST SEE! Deep garden and lawn, screened patio. To view 710 Wolfe St. before Sunday's Open House call 571.332.0963.

710 Wolfe Street



PHILIP G. MATYAS 703.518.8727




Alexandria/Hollin Hills
RENT ~ \$2,400/Mo
SALE ~ \$727,000


HOLLIN HILLS

BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED one level contemporary, ideally located in quiet woodland setting, open floor plan, kitchen & baths, totally renovated, Bamboo floors, Thermopane windows, —2 Fireplaces—Large Family Room—Wet Bar—Charming private courtyard & deck—Plus 2 car rare Carport! Easy living and ready to go! 3 BR, 2 BAs.

1809 Drury Lane



FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840



Alexandria
DOUBLE OPTION

2 unique 1 BR units available for rent in the heart of Historic Old Town.


113 N. Fairfax Street ~ \$1,850

Features a spacious & updated kitchen. Watch all the activity in Market Square from the oversized windows. Wood floors thru-out & lots of storage & closet space in this light filled home.

213 Ramsey Alley ~ \$1,900

2 level detached house w/ off street parking place. Built circa 1800, it features a 6 ft wide fireplace & wide plank floors. Walking distance to all restaurants, shops & galleries.

Annelise Smith 703.505.2533




WWW.LONGANDFOSTER.COM





Inova Mount Vernon Hospital *Celebrates Hospital Week*

To our Physicians, Staff and Volunteers:

Thank you for the wonderful work you do each and every day at **Inova Mount Vernon Hospital**. This past week we celebrated together your dedication and commitment to excellence as well as the teamwork you demonstrate every day. You work hard providing quality healthcare to our community 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Because of your efforts Inova Mount Vernon Hospital continues to be the best place to give and get care.

Hats off to you!

Sincerely,

Barbara Doyle, Chief Executive Officer
Inova Mount Vernon Hospital

Hospital Week Celebrations continued throughout the week and featured a “Fiesta Celebration” provided for day, night and evening shifts.



www.inova.org/imvh

INOVA HEALTH SYSTEM IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

CELEBRATE MOMS



A new blessing - Katie Leggett with Baby Anna & big brother Gene & big sis Katharine.



Kellye C. Clarke with her son, Clay Clarke, age 4 and daughter, Kameron Clarke, age 7. The photo was taken on March 24, 2008 on The White House lawn for the Annual Easter Egg roll.



Alejandra Ferrer with her mom



Debbie Baker with daughter Emily Baker riding bikes on Siesta Key Beach, Fla. in April.



THE NEW STANDARD IN ALEXANDRIA
REAL ESTATE IS ANYTHING BUT STANDARD.

Keller Williams Realty is proud to establish roots in Old Town Alexandria. Ranked as the 4th largest residential real estate firm in the United States, there's no question why we've risen above our competition.



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Randy Bender

THE BENDER GROUP

Old Town & Outer Banks

Websites: thebendergroup.net or randybenderrealtor.com Phone: 703-906-1749 Fax: 703-739-0521 Email: randy.bender@inf.com

THE 10TH ANNUAL BENDER GROUP CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mount Vernon Country Club, Monday, June 2nd - 11a.m. Registration, 1 p.m. Shotgun Start



Net Proceeds will be used to refurbish and update the waiting room for the Emergency Room at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital.

Everyone is Welcome!

Enjoy a day of giving, golf, food and fun while helping to support the renovation of the Emergency Room at Mount Vernon Hospital.



YOU CAN SPONSOR, VOLUNTEER OR PLAY!
Go online to get more details and to register at www.thebendergroup.net - Annual Golf Tournament or phone 703.906.1749 or 703.906.7102

You can also make a donation — make checks payable to The Bender Group Inc.

Highlights!

Gift Bags
Putting Contest
Outdoor Bar-B-Q
AGAIN THIS YEAR!!!
Long Drive Clinic with Professional Scott Mayhugh
Refreshments on course
Grand Buffet
Awards Ceremony

Prizes

1st Place Foursomes - Net & Gross
2nd Place Foursome - Gross
Winner Putting Contest
Closest to the Pin (2 winners)
Longest Drive (2 winners)
Straightest Drive
Hole-in-One possibility on hole #16
Make one and Win a Car

Silent Auction



WIN
GRAND PRIZE
\$1,000,000 in
The Million
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Inova Mount Vernon Hospital
Kings Jewelry
Monument Title
Mr. Kleen Car Wash*
Passion Food Hospitality*
Prospective Inc.*
Suntrust Mortgage
The Bender Group
The Long Drive Guy
Water Management Inc.
William Wiatrowski*
CONTACT US: ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LIST!

MOUNT VERNON BULLETIN

To have a notice listed in the Bulletin, e-mail Mount Vernon Gazette gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407.

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking persons who are diplomatic, assertive, and good communicators to serve as volunteer ombudsmen. Volunteers are assigned to a specific local nursing home or assisted-living facility in the City of Alexandria and make weekly visits, meeting one-on-one with residents. For further information and to obtain an application, call 703-324-5422, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/LTCOmbudsman.

Are you concerned about the safety of your home, business, neighborhood and community at-large? Come share your concerns with **The Fairfax County Police Department at a Safe Community Forum**. The department is seeking residents who will share their input on how police can best protect and serve. A series of Safe Community Forums will be held locations across the county. A forum will be held at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road on Thursday, May 22 from 7-9 p.m. Spanish interpreters will be available on site.

On Tuesday, May 27 through Thursday, May 29, **The Leukemia &**

Lymphoma Society is teaming up with 15 area Uno's Chicago Grill restaurants to raise some dough to find a cure for blood cancers. To join in, people simply need to visit any of the participating Uno's (dine-in OR carry-out) and tell their server they are there to support The Leukemia & Society. Three locations are participating in Fairfax County:

- * Falls Church; 3658 Gatehouse Plaza
- * Reston; 11948 Market Street
- * Kingstowne; 5935 Kingstowne Towne Center

The **Fairfax County Sheriff's Office** will photograph and fingerprint

your children for free at several events around Fairfax in May and June. If your child is ever missing, the ID card will give authorities vital information to help them locate him or her. This community service is available for county and Fairfax City residents, ages 0-17. Contact Captain Sean Whitmore at 703-246-7521 or e-mail sheriff@fairfaxcounty.gov.

- * May 31, (11 a.m. - 3 p.m.) (Open House) (South County Government Center) (8350 Richmond Highway)
- * June 21, noon - 4 p.m. (Community Event) (Meadow Woods Apartments) (3308 Lockheed Blvd.)

Mount Vernon Nights. Listen to a variety of music at 7:30 p.m. on Friday nights at Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway starting June 6. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance for more.

The **Northern Virginia Habitat ReStore**, located at 7770-G Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA (behind Gold's Gym), sells new and used building and home improvement materials to the general public. All proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia.

The ReStore is run by volunteers that dedicate their time and energy to the work of Habitat and we are in need of more volunteers. 703-360-6700 or visit: www.restorenova.org.

On Tuesday, June 17, 2008, the **Mount Vernon Genealogical Society** (MVGS) will meet in room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road. The meeting will start at 1 p.m. and is free. The meeting will feature a presentation entitled

"Digital Reference, Digital Resources and Digital Maps at the Library of Congress." Visit www.MVGenealogy.org/. Any questions about the program should be directed to Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com.

This year, from March through September, **Mount Vernon Archaeology** will be excavating in the Upper Garden, one of two walled gardens that flank the western approach to George Washington's home.

Opportunities to volunteer are available Monday through Friday; in addition, we will be working on Saturdays during the months of June, July and August. Work hours are between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Contact Curt Breckenridge at cbreckenridge@mountvernon.org or 703-799-6303 if you would be interested in volunteering.

Band musicians [young or old] bring instruments and play along with the **Mount Vernon Community Band** during their Tuesday evening band practices from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Mt Vernon High School Band Room, 8515 Old Mt Vernon Road. No auditions. Just sit in and play along even if you are "rusty." Music and music stands will be provided. Call Eric Leighty 703-768-4172.

Adoption Support Groups are forming in the Mount Vernon area. All members of the adoption triad, (adoptees, birth parents, and adoptive parents) are encouraged to call for more information about the groups as well as individual, couples, and/or family counseling. The groups will be held in the evenings. Contact Diana Tracey, licensed clinical social worker, at 571-245-0054.



We deliver advanced care
so you can deliver worry-free

Expecting a baby is a joy ... but it's also a time of uncertainty. Even a routine pregnancy can suddenly present risks, which is why the hospital you choose is so important.

You already know that **Inova Alexandria Hospital** is close to home. But did you know that we have a nationally recognized perinatal diagnostic center specializing in high-risk pregnancies and a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit? And that we offer personal touches such as private rooms, liberal visiting hours, and a robust lactation program?

We deliver excellence in your community every day. Why go anywhere else for your special delivery?

Call 703-204-3373 for a FREE pregnancy planner.



INOVA HEALTH SYSTEM IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

WHERE SUMMER SCHOOL MEETS SUMMER CAMP.

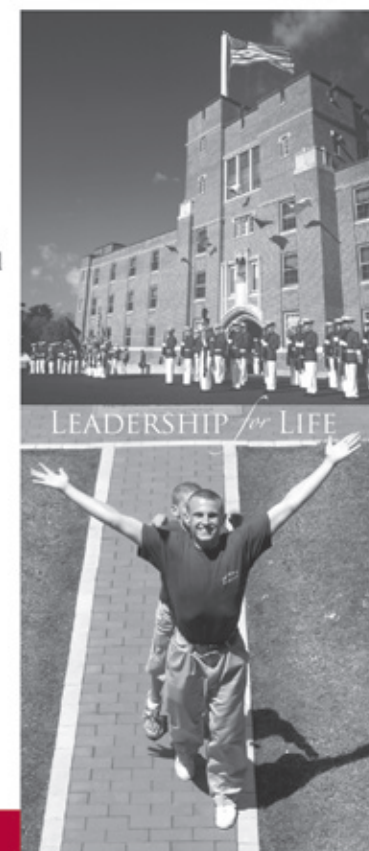
Non-military Summer Session Boys Grades 8-12 • June 29 - July 26, 2008

- ✓ **IMPROVE** study skills while earning credits toward graduation. **The Fishburne Summer Experience '08** offers an enriching academic and recreational program set in the mountains of the historic Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.
- ✓ **SELECT** from a range of academic classes in the morning complemented by afternoon sports and activities including soccer, basketball, golf, martial arts, and paintball.
- ✓ **ENJOY** weekly confidence-building activities sponsored by the Fishburne JROTC including rappelling, rope bridge building and orienteering.

For more information, please call toll free 1-800-946-7773 or email Scott Mangum at SMangum@Fishburne.org



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SCHOOLS



(Center front) Rebecca Walker, Jr. (Front, from left) La Monte Valentine, Keith Riddle, Graham Jenkins, Alex Snider, Teto Korha, Paul Disselkoen, and James Guss. (Back, from left): Hunter Link, Derek Marsh, James Custodio, Jacob Lawlor, Andrew Nielson, Miguel Perez, Chris Silva.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

'Best Ensemble in a Musical "The Crapshooters." (Center front) Paul Disselkoen. (Front, from left): La Monte Valentine, Keith Riddle, Graham Jenkins, Alex Snider, Teto Korha, and James Guss. (Back from left): Hunter Link, Derek Marsh, James Custodio, Jacob Lawlor, Andrew Nielson, Miguel Perez and Chris Silva.

West Potomac High School Nominated For Cappie Awards

Lead actor in a Musical and Best Song, "Luck Be a Lady," Paul Disselkoen and "Crapshooters."



Comic Actor in a Musical, Graham Jenkins



Male Dancer, Hunter Link



Female Dancer, Rebecca Walker

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FROM PAGE 12

late President's favorite means of transportation during and following his presidency — his 1919 Pierce-Arrow limousine. It also characterized the cooperation referred to by both Kaine and O'Malley and the consequences of failing to achieve such cooperation on policies serving the common

good.

The new 1919 limousine, known as a Vestibule Sedan, awaited Wilson at the New York City docks when he returned from negotiating the Treaty of Versailles in France at the end of World War I. That treaty was a precursor to the establishment of the League of Nations, which the United States

failed to join due to a blocking action by several U.S. Senators led by Republican Henry Cabot Lodge, Sr. The League's disintegration, among other factors such as the vengeance driven economic isolation of Germany, set the stage for World War II.

ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION OF

the new bridge commenced in mid 2001 with a combination of federal and state funding. The federal portion, primarily engineered by Senator Warner, with the support of other Northern Virginia and Maryland Congressional representatives, accounted for \$1.5 billion of the total \$2.5 billion cost.

The old bridge, constructed in 1960 as part of the Interstate Highway System initiated during the Eisenhower Administration, became not only an integral part of the North/South I-95, Maine to Florida corridor but eventually its worst bottleneck as traffic volume grew throughout the Washington Metropolitan Area. It met its demise with a spectacular Chinese firecracker style series of explosions engineered by the replacement bridge project just after the opening of the new south span.

Construction of the new bridge has encompassed both land and water modern technologies and methodologies as well as a lot of old fashioned frustrations, irritations, negotiations, compromises, and, probably most of all, ideology to ideology verbal and emotional combat. But, in the end the differences were drowned out, just as the fly over by the four Virginia National Guard jet fighters drowned out the truckers' horns last Thursday, by the necessities of tomorrow.

Along the way there were several flash points:

* The noise and vibration of the pile driving both in the area of Jones Point Park and in the river. The latter was far more annoying to nearby residents given the decibel levels that resounded throughout the area like a huge bongo drum being played by Johnny One Note.

* The falling ceilings in Hunting Terrace, their subsequent repairs, and the eventual relocation of the residents. That was coupled with the demolition of one of Hunting Towers' multi-level buildings and the ongoing negotiations with residents in the remaining towers and Porto Vecchio about noise, vibration, dust, etc.

* The environmental impacts of the bridge on Little Hunting Creek, the marsh lands, and Cameron Run. Some still see the bridge construction as a major contributor to the flooding of Huntington, although there is no scientific documentation to substantiate those suspicions.

* The mitigation funds and how they were and are to be used both in the context of Jones Point Park and other potential areas throughout Alexandria. Those discussions continue.

* The design, original and ultimate, of the so-called Urban Deck

and the adjacent Freedmen's Memorial Park and Cemetery. The completed Deck was dedicated last summer, but its landscaping was only recently completed. That landscaping remains a sore point with many, as does the absence of benches on the Deck. The Cemetery Memorial is probably one of the most positive aspects of the project's by-products.

* The construction, design and placement of various sound walls, both on the bridge's north span and in the Route 1/Church Street areas, have almost had a life of their own. Gaining the new laminated, see-through wall on the bridge was a hard fight with the National Capital Area Planning Commission due to their overprotective reaction to the bridge's aesthetics. It's up. It looks good. And, it does the job. The Route 1 walls remain a work in progress.

* Lane switches, asphalt laying procedures, opening and closing of interchange ramps, and various Route 1 bridge and access/egress approaches have all contributed their fair share of migraine moments for motorists and project personnel, as well as City, State and Federal officials over the course of the last seven years. And that will continue until 2013 when the final leg of the total project, the Telegraph Road Interchange element, is scheduled for completion.

When that dedication takes place, and the entire Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project is complete, the ultimate test of a return on investment will commence. Will traffic, both commuter and through elements, actually be eased or will volume be such that there will be little noticeable difference to drivers?

One of the primary arguments put forth for the construction of a new bridge was that the old one was literally disintegrating from traffic concussion for which it was not designed. The primary cause of that concussion factor was the increase in large tractor-trailer crossings, according to traffic analysts. The concussion from one, fully-loaded, 18-wheeler was comparable to 200 automobiles, they maintained.

Many argued for an outer loop, primarily in Maryland, to connect with and replace the existing Route 301, crossing the river well south of the National Capital environs. That didn't happen.

Others pushed for a tunnel instead of another bridge. That didn't happen either.

The Woodrow Wilson Bridge is the midpoint of the I-95 corridor and, as Senator Warner said in his dedication remarks, "This is a bridge to everywhere."

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Weber Builds Tournament From The Grassroots

Alexandria native nearing retirement after showcasing top AAU talent for the past 18 years.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE
GAZETTE

Less than a month ago, Charlie Weber sat in a plastic chair at American University chatting on one of his two cell phones. On an overcast, chilly Sunday, the gray-haired, tournament coordinator was locked inside, at the forefront of the entrance of Bender Arena.

Yet as time passed, the ever-changing basketball nucleus barely recognized him. A few coaches chatted him up, but mostly the hordes of players passed him unknowingly.

Weber's world is the sometimes filthy, but necessary arena of amateur basketball, where desperate college assistants gawk at teenage basketball players, some of who aren't old enough to possess a driver's license. On championship day, the spectacle is always on the court, where coaches are scribbling in their final evaluations and kids are battling for a coveted chance at the ultimate prize — a Division I scholarship.

"Over the years plenty of kids have used his events as a platform to further their reputations and in turn earn college scholarships," said Dave Telep, Scout.com's national recruiting director.

While the coaches confer on the railing overhead, like scientists watching lab mice, Weber sits in the shadows. A Brooklyn-styled Gatsby, he has grown to dread the inevitable headache that the nearly 190-team tournament, which bears his name, causes.

"You're worried about everything that could go wrong, from a father coming out of the stands and punching a player to a fist fight between a referee and a coach, and teams showing up where they're supposed to be," Weber said.

After a cycle of three concurrent games finished, one featuring the second tier team of Hampton-based Boo Williams — with T.C. Williams guard Edward Jenkins, and another of much-publicized

D.C. Assault, Weber took a glance at a massive three-ring binder, trying to synchronize eight tournaments trees that bent in awfully awkward angles.

"Just make sure the referees get to Gallaudet (University)," Weber said wildly, trying to simultaneously hold three conversations. Another coach, whose team had just won an overtime semifinal thriller, demanded that there was no plausible route across Wisconsin Avenue that would have had his team ready to play in less than 20 minutes.

Weber, exhausted from the month-long blitz of sleeplessness leading up to the first of two tournaments over consecutive weekends, simply sighed.

"People get lost," Weber said later. "You're getting telephone calls from coaches who haven't shown up so you have to break out directory, and ask 'where the hell are you?' There's always a problem somewhere."



Weber reflects on the past 18 years, when he first got into AAU with a 12-team tournament at Cole Field House.

IN 1990, Weber worked for the Department of Labor, alongside now-New Mexico governor Bill Richardson while his wife Jo worked exactly a floor higher for the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Fate tugged the pair — who will celebrate their 38th wedding anniversary in July — to Washington, D.C. from their native New York City in 1971. Circumstance would later expose the couple to AAU basketball, when recruiting analyst Bob Gibbons initially asked Weber to interview athletes about their prospective colleges.

At a Nike-sponsored event in Princeton, N.J., Weber met then-University of Maryland assistant Billy Hahn, when the college assistant casually conjured up the idea of a small tournament hosted at Cole Field House after a church service.

"I told him I wouldn't know how to start a tournament," Weber said.

He did, first starting with 12 squads spanning the Mid-Atlantic, with teams traveling from both Tennessee and Boston. Weber remembers buying pizza for Rasheed

Wallace, then a lanky high school junior and baby-faced high school freshman Ron Mercer, both of whom eventually morphed into NBA stars.

The next year, the event ballooned to 16 teams and soon thereafter Ron Stewart, a then-assistant for Lon Kruger at the University of Florida, coaxed Weber into coordinating a Florida-based tournament. Before he knew it, Weber's tournaments, one of which he co-coordinated with Gibbons, were considered premier stops on the summer circuit.

The shoe contracts, a necessary evil in the grassroots basketball landscape, came calling. First, it was adidas, then Nike, back to adidas to Converse, and then his final one with adidas, which terminated on Dec. 31, 2007. Included in the deals were 10,000 T-shirts, 48 pairs of shoes, 60 golf shirts, a \$2,000 clothing allowance and cash.

Relationships with high school, AAU and college coaches were soon cultivated, and by the late 1990s, Weber was a mild influence in where and more importantly, which kids would be showcased.

His premier annual event became the Charlie Weber Invitational, held annually in September, then one of the most pivotal recruiting months of the season. Weber relayed a message from then-UMass head coach John Calipari, who said his tournament "was like a convention, where you had to show up."

WEBER WAS ON TOP when his relationship with Gibbons deteriorated beyond repair in 2000. In

the ego-driven, money-grubbing business of amateur hoops, the abrasive pair went their separate ways, and despite a decade-long partnership, have had one cold conversation since. So Weber and Jo, who was part-secretary, part-fill-in, carried on alone, before a coaching coalition — he's convinced that was spearheaded by Roy Williams and Mike Krzyzewski — lobbied the NCAA to erase the September team evaluation period. Weber thinks the ruling was based on jealousy of other ACC coaches, who argued that U-Md. received an unfair advantage by



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Charlie Weber is usually on one of his two phones, while coordinating nearly 200 teams for a three-day AAU tournament.

having recruits attend the tournament on campus. After all, four of the five starters from the Terrapins' 2002 championship season had played in Weber's crown jewel of a tournament. So in 2002, Weber's event became irrelevant overnight. Instead of having teams beg for an opportunity to fork over the \$595

"Each year the competition for these events becomes more fierce and year in and year out Charlie's still getting it done."

He still holds tournaments, mostly based on contacts he's honed through the years, but instead of watching blue-chippers like Tim Thomas and Kobe Bryant face off as 17-year-olds, he's providing opportunities for mid-major AAU teams to be evaluated by lesser known schools.

"These days his spring events are lifeblood for mid-

major programs in the Mid-Atlantic region," Telep said in an e-mail interview. "They provide kids who might not be Top 50 players a chance to get after with a lot of head coaches in the gym."

LESS THAN 24 HOURS after his April tournament, Weber sat in his plush tan recliner on the 11th floor of a high rise Alexandria condo right off Route 1, where he and Jo, manage their basketball enterprise. Still, Weber, dressed in white adidas athletic shoes and a blue golf shirt had the same tone, one

"Over the years plenty of kids have used his events as a platform to further their reputations and in turn earn college scholarships.

—Dave Telep, scout.com national recruiting director

entrance fee, Weber was forced to adjust his tactics. So he developed the consecutive late April dates.

"Back when I got into the business in 1997, Charlie had the hottest fall tournament in the country," Telep said. "Teams were flying into College Park for his deal and it was big time. The landscape changed and fall AAU events weren't happening any more but for a period of time, Charlie ran the biggest in the country."

Weber's tournament has taken a hit, like a powerhouse getting knocked down a few pegs.

"Charlie hustles," Telep said.

SEE CHARLIE WEBER, PAGE 24

SPORTS

Jenkins Notches 500th In Perfect Season

Saints win ISL AA regular season, tournament and VISAA state title.

Kathy Jenkins started coaching the St. Stephen's & St. Agnes girl lacrosse team in 1976, before her current roster was even born. But the current roster, some of who are daughters of former players, capped a perfect season for the legendary coach.

Jenkins received her 500th win as the Saints completed an undefeated season by blasting fifth-seeded Episcopal, 19-3, on Friday and second-seeded Collegiate School on Saturday at the University of Richmond.

The Saints finished the season with a school-record 26 wins, which is also the nation's best according to www.laxpower.com. According to the same Web site, SSSAS currently holds the No. 2 national ranking behind Maryland's John Carroll School, though it could still change.

But over the weekend, the focus was on Jenkins and her 501-41-9 career record that includes 20 Group AA Independent School League championship seasons. The players weren't notified of Jenkins' milestone win until there were three minutes left in regulation.

"It was awesome," said girls athletic director Samantha Eustace, who also serves as an assistant coach. "The parents had bought T-shirts and had flowers, balloons and cake. She was very excited. It's been a special team for her."

After the state championship — the Saints second victory over Collegiate this season



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANNON DAVIS

SSSAS head coach Kathy Jenkins gets a hug after surpassing the 500-win mark.

— the players were emotional that the season was coming to a close.

According to Eustace, the group of 11 seniors, nine of which are headed to play Division I next season, was a unique crop.

"They were crying before game was even over," Eustace said. "They were tears of something great that was coming to an end." "These players, and especially these seniors, have made this season so special," Jenkins said after the game.

Eustace echoed the head coach's sentiments, saying that talented group bought into the team philosophy.

"This particular group of seniors and particular the captains have just been wonderful," Eustace said. "It's not about any individual person or the accolades. It's been about the team from the very beginning."

Four days prior to the state title, the Saints pounded Georgetown Visitation for the second time to capture their 14th consecutive ISL-AA title. Senior Hadley Lankford, who finished the season with school-record in assists, had five goals in the ISL final. Kelly Austin and Charlotte Davis added four goals as SSSAS cruised after amassing a 10-3 halftime advantage. The Saints haven't lost a league game in over a decade.

In the fall during field hockey, many of the same girls, including mega-recruit Annie Taylor (University of Virginia) helped Marsha Way get her 300th victory. The Saints also won the ISL-AA regular season, ISL title and VISAA state championship.

"For these seniors, they've won everything," Jenkins said.

—ERIC J. GILMORE

TITLE WEEK

2008 District Titles

BASEBALL

Concorde: Chantilly High School (Chantilly 5, Oakton 3)
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School (Stone Bridge 10, Madison 0)
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School (Lake Braddock 12, West Springfield 8)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 4, Edison 1)

SOFTBALL

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 4, Herndon 2)
Liberty: Langley High School (Langley 9, Stone Bridge 8)
Patriot: South County Secondary School (South County 2, West Springfield 1)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 9, Mount Vernon 4)

GIRLS SOCCER

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 2, Westfield 1)
Liberty: Madison High School (Madison 3, McLean 2)
Patriot: West Springfield High School (West Springfield 2, South County 1)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 2, Mount Vernon 0)

BOYS SOCCER

Concorde: Herndon High School (Herndon 1, Westfield 0)
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School (Jefferson 2, Stone Bridge 0)
Patriot: T.C. Williams High School (T.C. Williams 3, West Springfield 0)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 1, Wakefield 0)

BOYS TRACK

Concorde: Westfield High School
Liberty: South Lakes High School
Patriot: West Potomac High School
National: Edison High School

GIRLS TRACK

Concorde: Westfield High School
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School
National: Edison High School

GIRLS LACROSSE

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 14, Chantilly 13)
Liberty: Stone Bridge High School (Stone Bridge 14, Woodson 11)
Patriot: Annandale High School (Annandale 11, West Springfield 10)
National: Yorktown High School (Yorktown 9, Falls Church 6)

BOYS LACROSSE

Concorde: Chantilly High School (Chantilly 9, Oakton 7)
Liberty: Langley High School (Langley 8, Woodson 3)
Patriot: Annandale High School (Annandale 7, Lake Braddock 6 OT)
National: Falls Church High School (Falls Church 10, Yorktown 6)

BOYS TENNIS

Concorde: Robinson Secondary School
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School
National: Stuart High School

GIRLS TENNIS

Concorde: Oakton High School
Liberty: Thomas Jefferson High School, Woodson High School (Tie)
Patriot: Lake Braddock Secondary School

HIGH SCHOOLS ROUNDUP

Saints Lose in VISAA Semifinal

After advancing to the boys lacrosse Interstate Athletic Conference title game with an upset of Georgetown Prep, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes failed to defend its VISAA Division I state championship.

SSSAS lost to Norfolk Academy, 9-8, in the semifinal game on when Andy Via scored with 2:31 left in overtime. The Bulldogs eventually lost to third-seeded St. Anne's-Belfield in triple overtime during the Division I title game in Charlottesville, giving St. Anne's-Belfield its first-ever state title.

SSSAS lost 5-1 to Landon in the IAC championship, giving the Bears their first league title since 2004. Ian Gordon's goal cut the deficit to two, but the Saints mounted little offense against Landon senior goalie C.T. Fisher.

The Saints finished 8-12, including a seven-game winning streak after losing 10 of their first 11 games.

Senior long stick midfielder Briggs Davis, senior Jason Neithamer and junior midfielder Andrew Cordia made the first-team all-IAC team, as voted on by the league coaches.

Weber Builds Tournament

FROM PAGE 23

that hovers between genuine enjoyment for being a senior member of basketball's inner fraternity and another that bites on the bitterness of what it's become.

"The whole mentality is that all of these kids think they're God's gift to the world," Weber said. "They're all looking at it now and saying, what's in it for me?"

A few moments later, he's telling stories of Hakim Warrick, now of the Memphis Grizzlies, who probably would have never received a scholarship had it not been for a can't miss weekend at the fall tournament. Or conjuring up names surrounding former show executive John "Sonny" Vaccaro like Carlos Boozer and Lamar Odom, or even sagas from lesser-known recruits like Will Solomon (Clemson) and Jerome Harper.

Or tales about how a father spilled magic marker all over Williams, who was sitting in the rafters not wanting to be bothered, or how Calipari should be a stand-up comedian.

During the near-two hour conversation, Weber again flashed a level of resentment, saying he can't keep up with other tourna-

ments that offer financially laced incentives in exchange for kickbacks or how the lack of a shoe contract deters his credibility.

"I'm glad that my career in this is coming into the final stages because I'd hate to be starting out," Weber said.

But weaving through the conversation, he harks on a life-altering experience, when a routine surgical procedure turned into a month-long hospital stay.

During the ordeal, he received 142 e-mails and even more concerned phone calls from the basketball brotherhood, some from current coaches like Matt Doherty and Mike Brey, and others from diverse contacts sprinkled across the nation.

"I was never so emotional in my entire life," Weber said when reading them all at once. Still though, Weber realizes his 18-year run is nearing its final chapters.

"It's going to hurt me to walk away from this, whether it is this year or next year because you develop relationships," Weber said. "I know it's going to happen because it's the nature of the way these things work. You're going to end up being separated from the fraternity."

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7265 PARSONS CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.045799	04/02/08	
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2207 BELLE HAVEN RD	6	7	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,997,000	Detached	0.218549	04/04/08	
7202 MARINE DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,612,183	Detached	0.3986	04/04/08	
1239 SHENANDOAH RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$933,000	Detached	0.444376	04/04/08	
8103 OAKLAKE CT	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$242,500	Townhouse	0.051515	04/04/08	
7984 AUDUBON AVE #C1	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$149,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/08/08	
8611 BLUEDALE ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.25	04/08/08	
3106 MCGEORGE TER	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,000	Detached	0.241047	04/09/08	
8013 CANDLEWOOD DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Detached	0.308356	04/11/08	
3302 COLLARD ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$485,000	Detached	0.223829	04/11/08	
8703 GREYSTONE PL	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$549,500	Detached	0.527204	04/11/08	
5839 MOUNT VERNON DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Semi-Detached	0.082897	04/14/08	
3903 STONE MANSION CT	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Detached	0.308815	04/14/08	
1405 NAMASSIN RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$427,800	Detached	0.510354	04/14/08	
3864 HAVENWOOD PL #74A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$204,000	Townhouse		04/14/08	
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #208	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/15/08	
3022 KINGS VILLAGE RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$280,000	Townhouse	0.042654	04/15/08	
7660 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.050321	04/15/08	
6801 HARRISON LN	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$265,000	Detached	0.665909	04/15/08	
3833D JOSHUA PL	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$162,000	Townhouse		04/15/08	
2616 MAPLE ST	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$315,000	Detached	0.120845	04/16/08	
6503 POTOMAC AVE #A1	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$240,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/16/08	
6612 POTOMAC AVE #A2	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$240,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/16/08	
7909 CENTRAL PARK CIR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.073485	04/16/08	
2303 FAIRVIEW TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$269,900	Duplex	0.082645	04/17/08	
7208 BURTONWOOD DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.399587	04/17/08	
6041 EDGEWOOD TER	4	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$675,000	Detached	0.179063	04/17/08	
8605 BEEKMAN PL #B	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/17/08	
5694 MEDALLION CT	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Townhouse	0.029752	04/18/08	
7845 COLONIAL SPRINGS BLVD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$316,000	Townhouse	0.030005	04/18/08	
6906 LICHEN CT	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$422,000	Detached	0.348255	04/18/08	
1406 BELLE VIEW BLVD #C1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$238,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/18/08	
1400 OLDE TOWNE RD	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$318,000	Detached	0.123393	04/18/08	
1802 SHENANDOAH RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$399,000	Detached	0.210973	04/18/08	
7924 NEW MARKET RD	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$389,000	Detached	0.231405	04/18/08	
4233 LAUREL RD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$549,900	Detached	0.410859	04/18/08	
2202 TRAIRES CT	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$975,000	Detached	0.389807	04/21/08	
1732 OLDE TOWNE RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Townhouse	0.061639	04/21/08	
8614 VILLAGE SQUARE	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$182,000	Townhouse		04/21/08	
6000 WILLIAMSBURG RD	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.089302	04/23/08	
3409 BLUE MALLARD LNDG	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$407,000	Townhouse	0.033747	04/23/08	
7727 WELLINGTON RD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Detached	0.400505	04/23/08	
6613 10TH ST #B1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$245,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/23/08	
2401 WITTINGTON BLVD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$514,000	Detached	0.26343	04/23/08	
4020 LAUREL RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$537,000	Detached	0.522084	04/23/08	
8410 HUERTA CT #166	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$117,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/23/08	
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #111	1	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$263,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/24/08	
3306 MEMORIAL ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$303,900	Detached	0.200872	04/24/08	
4008 OLD MILL RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$288,750	Detached	0.5	04/24/08	
4256 BUCKMAN RD #19	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$95,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/24/08	
3815 EL CERRITO PL #1B	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$190,000	Townhouse		04/24/08	
3000 SCHOOL ST	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$569,073	Detached	0.245317	04/25/08	
2618 FORT FARNSWORTH RD #1-B	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$158,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/25/08	
5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1209	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$318,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/25/08	
7831 GUM SPRINGS VILLAGE DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$307,000	Townhouse	0.027916	04/25/08	
7755 WHITE HERON TRL	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.030785	04/25/08	
7407 NORTHROP RD	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$343,283	Detached	0.21219	04/25/08	
2001 MARTHAS RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$607,000	Detached	0.399816	04/25/08	
4457 PEMBROOK VILLAGE DR #137	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$239,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/25/08	
3805 LARAMIE PL #123G	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$127,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/25/08	
8501 RADFORD AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Detached	0.390266	04/25/08	
8305 CHERRY VALLEY LN	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$455,000	Detached	0.268388	04/25/08	
5390 BEDFORD TER #D	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/25/08	
3976 WOODHUE PL	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$130,000	Townhouse		04/28/08	
2207 FARRINGTON AVE	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Duplex	0.103489	04/29/08	
2606 INDIAN DR #55	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$169,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/29/08	
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1415	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$247,350	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/29/08	
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #607	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$187,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/29/08	
6609 CORNELL DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$412,500	Detached	0.208196	04/29/08	
2309 CANDLEWOOD DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$565,000	Detached	0.239991	04/29/08	
5902 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1512	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		04/30/08	
6423 HILLSIDE LN	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$415,000	Detached	0.230119	04/30/08	
2479 WINDBREAK DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.036731	04/30/08	
7120 COVENTRY RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$449,500	Detached	0.505188	04/30/08	
2828 MEMORIAL ST	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Detached	0.264004	04/30/08	
6610 10TH ST #B2	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$257,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		04/30/08	
6605 CAVALIER DR	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$160,000	Detached	0.165289	04/30/08	
6617 CORNELL DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$412,000	Detached	0.165289	04/30/08	
918 DARTON DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$560,000	Detached	0.296809	04/30/08	
1800 BUSHROD RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Detached	0.367309	04/30/08	
1204 WESTMORELAND RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Detached	0.622727	04/30/08	
8426 MASTERS CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$689,000	Detached	0.24876	04/30/08	
3814 EL CERRITO PL #3A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$185,000	Townhouse		04/30/08	
4616 ODESSA DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$353,000	Townhouse	0.034022	04/30/08	

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Manager of General Accounting

The Manager of General Accounting reports to the Chief Financial Officer, and is responsible for all financial statement, general ledger and accounts payable activities. The individual is also responsible for insuring appropriate internal controls, both within the Finance department and within the rest of the organization.

Specific Qualifications include:

- Bachelors Degree in Accounting
- Minimum of 8 years of accounting experience, including at least three years in a supervisory role

Staff Accountant

The Staff Accountant reports to the Manager of General Accounting, and is responsible for preparing journal entries, reconciling and analyzing general ledger accounts, and understanding and maintaining internal controls.

Specific Qualifications include:

- Bachelors Degree in Accounting
- Minimum of 3 years of accounting experience, including bank and account reconciliation work in an automated system environment

General Qualifications for both positions include:

- Excel proficiency
- Must be organized, analytical, accurate, detail-oriented, able to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, and able to complete work assignments in a timely manner
- Must have good communication skills, both verbally and in writing
- Must interact with others at all levels in a courteous, professional manner
- Previous experience in an automated accounting environment is required; experience with Microsoft Dynamics (Great Plains) is helpful
- Previous experience with fund accounting is helpful

Development Assistant: reports to Manager, Membership and is charged with providing administrative support functions in the Development Office.

Specific responsibilities: Answer dept. calls and inquiries; Record actions in "RE DB"; Filing; Direct requests from staff, prospective guests, and potential and current donors / members including "concierge" type projects; Support special events and prep for board meetings; Various Data Entry responsibilities including maintenance and tracking of donor / member programs and events; Update, maintain online membership calendar; act as back up for departmental data entry of contributions; Assist in processing and mailing membership notices; enhance departmental collaboration; record minutes for various meetings, committee functions and support groups; work as liaison w/other MVLA depts. to coordinate donor needs; Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Outgoing, interactive demeanor, enjoys working with diverse groups
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- Excellent customer service and telephone etiquette required
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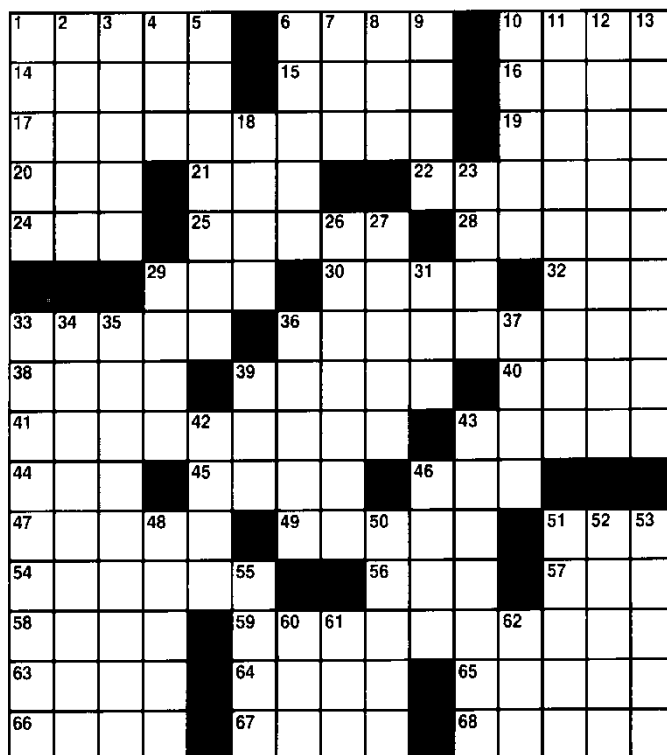
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0309-3



Puzzle by Harvey Estes and Nancy Salomon

ACROSS

- 1 Went airborne briefly
6 Sitcom set in Korea
10 Weary workers' exclamation
14 Eskimo home
15 Division word
16 "___ Rock" (Simon & Garfunkel hit)
17 Musician at a dance?
19 Egyptian cobras
20 Vitamin bottle info
21 Delaney of "N.Y.P.D. Blue"
22 Address part
24 Shade of blond
25 "No" vote from a horse?
28 Funky musical genre, for short
29 Rock singer — Bon Jovi
30 Julie in "Doctor Zhivago"
32 Needlefish
33 Jack who ate no fat
36 "What's your sign?," for example?

DOWN

- 1 The Scales

- 2 "Holy smokes!"
3 Leader of Islam
4 Washington wheeler-dealer
5 Bun
6 Dolphins' home
7 Whichever
8 Sault — Marie
9 — d'oeuvre
10 Miss America's prize
11 Internal combustion device
12 Obstacle
13 Basketball strategy

- 18 Lender's claim
23 Cafeteria carrier
26 Peeked (at)
27 Unduly severe
29 Blue birds
31 66, e.g.: Abbr.
33 Sun-shaped
34 Smoked Italian cheese
35 Undoing an act
36 LuPone or LaBelle
37 Italian cabbage?
39 Back-to-work time: Abbr.
42 Singing Mama
43 Friendly, reliable sort

- 46 Norse bolt maker
48 Symbols of stubbornness
50 Publicity person
51 Forgo
52 Enjoyed home cooking
53 Shows signs of boredom
55 Estrada of "CHiPs"
60 Blvd.
61 Delivery vehicle
62 Kilmer of "At First Sight"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



BOARD MATTERS

FROM PAGE 3

in his board matter. "The rear setbacks in this R-4 zoning district are 25 feet. Why did this lot not have to comply?" he queried.

McKay even went so far as to have the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) assure him that their right-of-way had not been encroached upon. "All is OK," said VDOT, even though "the exact setback from the three-lane Backlick Road was a mere 10 feet." Then on May 5, two and half months after McKay first sounded the alarm, "staff found the errors in the permit and on the site," McKay pointed out to his colleagues on the board.

"They (staff) told me that a "series of mistakes were made," that "the lot is unique," that "changes in the way plans are reviewed have already been implemented" and that "technical staff have received updated training," McKay said.

"And, because of that, the string of egregious errors on this site continued unnecessarily. It also defies common sense that setbacks are not routinely verified by our building officials during construction and that significant changes to building plans can, in some cases, be approved on site," McKay stated.

A stop work order has been issued on the construction and the owner has two choices, according to McKay: Correct the setback violation along the Backlick Road boundary; or apply for a special permit from the Board of Zoning Appeal for error in building location.

"There is much work that needs to be done to restore the community's trust in our building review process. We are the eyes and ears of the community and many times the community knows better than staff when something just does not seem right," he said.

Citing the progress made by the County Strike Team in restoring "County credibility" in code enforcement, McKay warned his colleagues, instances like this can "unravel all our progress."

He moved that the County Executive "initiate a comprehensive study of setback enforcement procedures and include the lessons learned in this case in the Housing Compatibility recommendations that are scheduled to come back to the Board later this summer."

—CHUCK HAGEE

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

school system as the number one reason for selecting our community. He said, "The school system is just perfect."

We greatly appreciate the community's support, and we value our partnership with the Board of Supervisors. Cost-effective investment that produces quality and high performance translates into college and/or jobs for students and sustained value for homeowners.

And, for forward-focused businesses, the mantra "location, location, location," really means "schools, schools, schools."

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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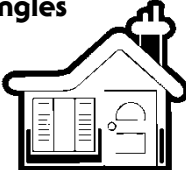


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CertainFeed TAMKO

Bloxham Sentenced to 35 Years

FROM PAGE 1

six times with bullets designed to fragment inside the body.

After he had been shot, Rogers' car crashed into a parked car in the neighborhood.

"[Bloxham] thought he was going to get away with it. He just didn't think that Todd would live that long," said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kathryn S. Swart during Bloxham's trial in March.

Rogers lived just long enough to identify his killer.

A resident, who was having tea with her in-laws, said she was called by a neighbor who told her somebody had hit her truck. When she went to inspect the street, she saw a man with a hooded sweatshirt running away from Rogers' car with a duffel bag in hand.

Rogers, bleeding from wounds from the six shots fired at him, kept blowing the horn, she said.

She used a towel to try to help slow down the bleeding. Rogers was pale and his voice was quiet, "like he was gasping to get out everything he said," the neighbor testified.

"He asked me to call a phone number, to tell them that 'Todd had been shot and that

John did it," she testified.

The number she called rang to Rogers' parents.

FAIRFAX POLICE ARRESTED Bloxham, after going to his residence on Memorial Street off Route 1 in Mount Vernon. When Bloxham answered the door, police smelled a strong odor of gun cleaning solvent around Bloxham, who initially told police he had been cleaning his gun after a day of shooting and white-water rafting in West Virginia.

At trial, he and his attorneys claimed self-defense.

"It is ironic that the defendant and the victim had two things in common: one, Carrie, and, two, the church," Swart said during Friday's sentencing hearing. "Todd Rogers was taught, he lived the lessons every day, and he died. The defendant was taught, he did not live the lessons, and he killed.

"[The defendant] will have to make his own peace with his own God at his own time," Swart said.

Rogers' family is left making their own peace through grief.

Instead of being Rogers' best man at his

wedding, Russell L. Bowers was a pallbearer at Rogers' funeral.

"Todd truly loved his friends," Bowers wrote, saying Todd and the way he lived life was "an example, inspiration and instructor to me. As I think about my friend, as I often do, I am compelled to be a better man.

Instead of planning a future and family and marriage together, Carrie Johanson, helped plan a funeral and talked with homicide detectives investigating the murder.

"To say that I have been devastated by this loss would be an understatement," wrote Carrie Johanson. "We were so fortunate to have found each other."

"When Todd was murdered, he didn't just lose his current life, he lost his future and, in particular, he lost his future with Carrie," wrote his sister Lisa Rogers. "He lost thousands of sunrises and sunsets, thousands of opportunities to breathe near her and hold her hand. ... He lost all the experiences inherent in marriage and fatherhood, all the joy and pain and vitality that comes with living and rearing a family of one's own."

"I miss Todd and I want him back," wrote his brother Scott.

David Vela

FROM PAGE 6

Vela interrupted his NPS career from 1987 to 1998 when he resigned to work as a Special Agent with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Inspector General, performing white-collar criminal investigations in New York and New Jersey. He also served as a special assistant for Hispanic Affairs to the late U. S. Rep. Mickey Leland.

Vela return to the park service in 1998 as the Superintendent of Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site located in Brownsville, Texas. In 2002, he was appointed the NPS's Texas State Coordinator for the Intermountain Region. He also performed detail assignments in the Office of the Director, and served as Acting Deputy Director, Southeast Region.

Vela is married to his high school sweetheart, Melissa, who also happens to be a graduate of Texas A&M University. They have two children, Christina, another A&M graduate, and Anthony, a sophomore at A&M and a member of the football team.

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