

Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

JUNE 19, 2008

25 CENTS

Belvoir Celebrates Army Birthday

Child spots his father's picture in a new Army book.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

They battled not only the best equipped and trained military machine in the world at the time but they did it in bone chilling cold and snow without proper clothing, weapons or housing at Valley Forge. They turned the tide of the Civil War at Gettysburg and saved the nation. Their lungs were seared with chlorine and mustard gas in the trenches of France during the "war to end all wars."

It didn't and they were volunteering again to "save the world for democracy" within a quarter of a century. They littered the beaches of Normandy with their blood and bodies and went on to crush the German military machine once again.

They fought under an international flag in Korea and remain to maintain the peace there today, more than a half century after the guns went silent. They suffered the stifling heat and tiger cages of Vietnam only to come home to a sharply divided nation.

Now they suffer the ravages of roadside bombs, suicide bombers, and some of the worst war inflicted injuries in their long and valiant history. More are coming home proportionately than in any of the previous conflicts but far more are also bringing their lifelong scars of war with



Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian Lauritzen (front row center) is joined on the steps of the Post's headquarters building by all those attending a celebration marking both the U.S. Army's 233rd Birthday and 2008 Flag Day.

"I had no idea my husband was in this book."

—Heather Sharpe

them — visible and invisible.

It all began 233 years ago with a proclamation from the U.S. Congress officially establishing the U.S. Army. And the next year the 13 star flag, fashioned by Betsy

Ross, became the official banner under which those upstart colonies that had formed themselves into a loosely allied fed-

eration fought the British juggernaut.

Last Thursday, June 12, in front of the headquarters building at Fort Belvoir, both the U.S. Army's 233rd birthday and the American flag's 232nd birthday were celebrated in a fashion that recognized both the strengths and sacrifices of the nation, its people and its defenders.

"America would not be the beacon of democracy if it were not for the men and women serving in today's Army. The legacy

of the U.S. Army dates back to the formation of this nation. Let us renew our commitment to duty and to this nation," said Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian Lauritzen.

"Much of our success depends on keeping our people informed. Our motto, "Army Strong," goes beyond physical strength. It goes to being strong spiri-

SEE BELVOIR, PAGE 4

Del Ray's Family Affair

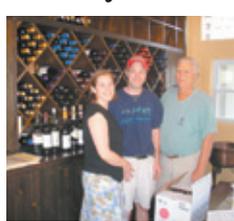
10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, according to owner Stephen Scott, Sr., who was cooking the steaks on Friday afternoon.

"This is truly a family and neighborhood operation."

—Stephen Scott, Sr., owner of La Strada

La Strada also offers both Italian and American fare. The menu includes the

owner of La Strada, located at 1905 Mount Vernon Ave.



Offering a wide array of Italian cuisine, La Strada is a family and neighborhood operation. An example would be the menu which features a variety of pasta dishes and appetizers. The menu also includes a variety of steaks and seafood. The restaurant is open from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Although the majority of menu offerings are traditional Italian fare, the menu also includes a variety of American fare. The menu includes the

owner of La Strada, located at 1905 Mount Vernon Ave.

Groveton Recognized For 400th Participation

The Grovetown community and St. Mark's Episcopal Church were honored for their work in commemorating the 400th anniversary of the Commonwealth.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Groveton Community and St. Mark's Episcopal Church were recognized Monday night for their participation in the Virginia 2007 Community Program commemorating the 400th anniversary of the Commonwealth with the found-

ing of Jamestown.

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay presented proclamations from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to Annabel Baer, chair, Groveton Civic Association and The Reverend John A. Weatherly, pastor, St. Mark's Episcopal Church. He also presented a State proclamation, signed by Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine, to Richard Pollio,

principal, Groveton Elementary School.

Noting that Groveton Civic Association is the oldest such organization in Fairfax County, McKay told the group as-

sembled in the lobby of Groveton Elementary School, "For me this is a special treat tonight. It's not often that I get to come to my own neighborhood to present a special recognition. Despite all that is happening around us our neighborhood continues to

SEE GROVETON, PAGE 3



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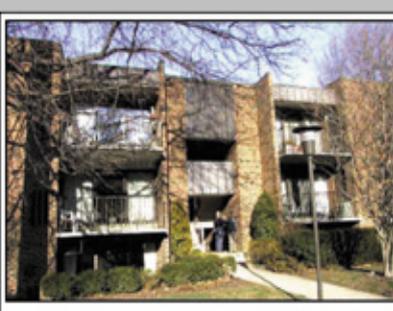
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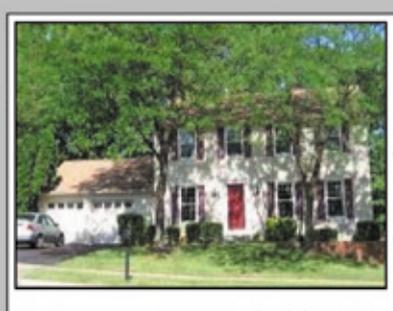
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Flag Day At Mt. Vernon Rates An “E Flat”

Liberty Bell replica at Mt. Vernon until July 7.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Almost in deference to the recently planted and dedicated “Liberty Tree” just outside Mount Vernon Estate’s main gate, a brief rain shower last Saturday morning interrupted the opening of Flag Day ceremonies at Washington’s home as guests were forced to take cover in the tent covering a full size replica of the Liberty Bell.

As the crowd emerged to re-take their seats, James Rees, executive director, Mt. Vernon Estate & Gardens, said, “What could be more appropriate for our new tree. It’s like it was saying let’s have a little rain.”

The Mount Vernon tree was grown from a seedling of the last surviving original Liberty Tree in Annapolis, MD, an 800-year old Tulip Poplar. It was felled by Hurricane Floyd in 2001. Fourteen seedlings were salvaged and are being planted in each of the original 13 colonies.

“We are so honored to have the Virginia Liberty Tree here at Mount Vernon,” Rees said. The small sapling was officially dedicated by Rees and representatives of The Providence Forum, provider of the tree.

In addition to providing Mount Vernon’s Liberty Tree, The Providence Forum, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving American history, also sponsored the placement of an exact, full-sized replica of the Liberty Bell at the Estate until July 7. It rests under a tent just outside the entrance to the Mansion’s Bowling Green.

THE YOKE OF THE BELL comes from the Annapolis Liberty Tree. The bell itself was created by Whitechapel Bell Foundry in England, the same company that produced the original on display in Philadelphia. When rung, as it was at the conclusion of the presentation ceremony, it resounds in the key of “E Flat” as does the original, according to Ralf W. Augstroze, executive director, The Providence Forum.

“The Forum came into existence nine years ago to preserve factual American history. We try to rely solely on original source history for our research,” he told the assembled guests who had been specifically invited to the dual event by The Forum and The Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association.

The new bell was cast in 2001 to commemorate a triple anniversary: 300 years since the establishment of William Penn’s



An exact replica of the Liberty Bell, on loan to Mt. Vernon Estate from The Providence Forum until July 7, forms the backdrop for the ceremony marking the planting of Virginia’s Liberty Tree and commemoration of the 250 anniversary of the commissioning of the original bell housed in Philadelphia’s Independence Square.

Charter of Privileges; 250 years since the commissioning of the original Liberty Bell; and 225 years since the first reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Weighing 3,200 pounds, the new bell has an etched crack allowing it to ring in E Flat and bears the same Old Testament scripture as the original bell: “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof,” Leviticus 25:10.

The original bell was ordered for the then new State House in Philadelphia on November 1, 1751, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Penn’s “Charter of Privileges.” That Charter laid the foundation for new laws in a new land. It expressly established the principal of religious liberty — something of vital importance to Penn who had been persecuted in England for being a Quaker.

The 18th century bell was actually cast three times, according to The Forum. First at the London foundry. Then in Philadelphia following its first crack. And, then again in Philadelphia because the first repair produced “an unpleasant sound,” according to The Forum’s research.

HISTORIANS HAVE INDICATED that the bell cracked while tolling following the death of the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme, John Marshall, on July 8, 1825. It was not called the Liberty Bell until 1839 when abolitionists adopted it as a symbol of their cause against slavery in America.

The Liberty Tree got its name from when



Mt. Vernon Executive Director James Rees recognizes the planting of the Virginia Liberty Tree and the full size replica of the Liberty Bell on loan from The Providence Forum during ceremonies just off the Estate’s Bowling Green.

the “Sons of Liberty” gathered under its branches in Boston to plan the Boston Tea Party to protest the British imposition of

the “Stamp Act” upon the American colonists. Eventually, each colony had either their own Liberty Tree or Liberty Pole that became a symbol of “popular support for individual liberty and resistance to tyranny.”

When the British captured Boston in 1775 they cut down the original Liberty Tree and used it for firewood. This act not only triggered the establishment of the other Liberty trees and poles but also caused the Liberty Tree symbol to become a battle flag of the American Revolution.

Guests at the Mt. Vernon event were also treated to readings by Dr. Peter A. Lillback, president, The Providence Forum, from his newly released book “Lessons of Liberty.” He noted that this confluence of Flag Day and Father’s Day was a true George Washington story.

“Scarcely has any nation in history had a man like George Washington. When the people wanted him to become king he gave back his military commission and returned to Mount Vernon stating “I didn’t fight the King to become one,” Lillback said.

“Interestingly, he returned his commission to the Congress assembled in Annapolis — the home of the last Liberty Tree whose seedling now is in Mount Vernon soil. It too has come home,” he said.

Groveton Recognized

FROM PAGE 1

survive and prosper.”

In addition to receiving the recognition proclamations attendees were able to view several displays depicting Groveton’s community history. “It is particularly fitting that this event is taking place in an elementary school because that is the time when children need to be introduced to history. And, not just what they read in their text books but what actually took place where they live,” McKay said.

Also present for the event were Dr. Jack Dale, superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools; Don Hakenson, author of “This Forgotten Land” and Patrick O’Neill, author of “Images of Mount Vernon,” both representing the Franconia Museum; Spring Bank and Gum Springs community representatives; and representatives of Groveton Baptist Church.



Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay presents a proclamation from Virginia Governor Timothy

COMMUNITY

Belvoir Celebrates Army Birthday/Flag Day

FROM PAGE 1

tually and ethically," he told the crowd assembled on the headquarters lawn facing a phalanx of color guard wearing Army uniforms from the Revolutionary War to the present.

Prior to Lauritzen's remarks, Fort Belvoir Historian Gus Persons gave a history of the American flag from the original 13 stars and stripes to today's 50 Stars and Stripes. First proposed by President Woodrow Wilson in 1916, the designation of June 14 as Flag Day was not approved by Congress until 1944 with the first celebration in 1945, Persons explained.

"Both the Army and the flag personify our country," said Ft. Belvoir Public Information Officer Donald Carr, noting that the flag is on the right shoulder of every soldier's uniform.

In keeping with the event's theme, "America's Army — Strength of the Nation," the original Congressional proclamation officially establishing the U.S. Army was read by Ft. Belvoir Soldier of the Year Specialist Joanna Montoya and NCO of the Quarter Brad Morrow. Deputy to the Installation Commander Jo Ann Banks

lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Lauritzen formally administering a symbolic oath of citizenship to attendees.

"Our motto, 'Army Strong,' goes beyond physical strength."

—Col. Brian Lauritzen, installation commander, Ft. Belvoir

Following the formal ceremonies the entire crowd was treated to birthday cake and red, white and blue cup cakes compliments of the Ft. Belvoir Commissary. The cake was officially cut with a silver military saber wielded by Lauritzen, Montoya and Morrow.

PRIOR TO THE Army Birthday/Flag Day ceremonies, Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., continued the tradition honoring Army families as part of the birthday recognition. As Lauritzen noted in his remarks, "Soldiers draw their strength from their families and now is the time to honor those families."

To that end Casey read the book "Happy Birthday Army," which



Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian Lauritzen (center) is joined by Specialist Joanna Montoya (Rt), Ft. Belvoir's Soldier of the Year, and Staff Sgt. Brad Morrow, Ft. Belvoir's NCO of the Quarter, in using a silver plated saber to cut the cake honoring the U.S. Army's 233rd Birthday.

explains various facets of the Army through the eyes of a child, to a group of children at Fort Belvoir's Markham School Age Services. During that event Casey received some unsought knowledge.

One element of the book refers to and pictures Army dogs and their handlers participating in various venues. As Casey was explaining about the Army dogs and showing the children a picture in the book of one such a handler,

four year old Tristan Sharpe raised his hand and said, "My daddy is an Army dog handler" to which Casey responded, "That's nice," and moved on.

Following the reading Tristan asked if he could see the picture of the dog handler again because he thought the person looked familiar. Casey showed him the picture and Tristan exclaimed, "That's my daddy."

Sgt. Joshua Sharpe, 212th Mil-

itary Police Detachment, Headquarters Battalion, Fort Belvoir, is presently deployed to Iraq with his dog Kira. Tristan's mother, Heather Sharpe, who was also at the children's event, said, "I had no idea my husband was in this book."

Casey gave the Sharpe family an autographed copy of the book that contains many photos, graphics and history of Army events and life. He also departed with a memory that he will long cherish.



Military color guards representing the U.S. Army from the Revolutionary War to the present day prepare to initiate the 233rd U.S. Army Birthday celebration and the observance of Flag Day during a dual recognition ceremony at Ft. Belvoir.



Color Guard soldiers representing the U.S. Army from the Revolutionary War to the present day assembled in front of Fort Belvoir's headquarters building during a dual celebration of the Army's 233rd birthday and Flag Day.

Police Officer Saves Child's Life

By CHUCK HAGEE
THE GAZETTE

A two-year-old boy, choking on a grape, was saved by the fast actions of a Fairfax County Police Officer from the Mount Vernon Station.

Private First Class Matthew Griffin, a six-year veteran of the police force was dispatched to a

“He was released this morning (June 17) and is fully back to his normal self.”

—Patrick Neal

home in the 7200 block of Marlan Drive in the Belle View area of Mount Vernon District on Monday, June 16, at approximately 8:30 p.m. Upon arrival he was met at the door by the child's father, Patrick Neal, holding his son, John.

Griffin, arriving before the paramedics, real-

ized the boy's airway was obstructed and began to deliver back blows to dislodge the object. Just as Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department paramedics arrived from Mount Vernon Fire Station the child made a small crying sound, according to police.

Paramedics took over treatment and transported the child to Inova Mount Vernon Hospital for observation.

He was kept there until late night and then transferred to Children's Hospital in Washington, DC, to “make sure there were no other complications,” according to Neal.

“He was released this morning (June 17) and is fully back to his normal self. John seems to have forgotten about the whole thing. However, I'm probably going to have to go on therapy to calm down,” Neal said.

“It was a very serious situation and I'm very happy for the fast response of both the police and fire departments to my 911 call. By the time the officer arrived John's color was not good and his nose was bleeding. I can't say enough for their quick response,” Neal said.

CRIME

Incidents reported to the Fairfax County Police Department.

LARCENIES

7200 block Fairchild Drive. License plates stolen from vehicle.

4400 block Fielding St. Wallet stolen from school.

8500 block Greenleaf St. Twenty antique guns stolen from residence.

3200 block Jackies Lane. Money stolen from residence.

8100 block Kidd St. Wallet stolen from vehicle.

3200 block Lockheed Blvd. Ignition stolen from vehicle.

4200 block Main St. Ignition stolen from vehicle.

len from vehicle.

7400 block Northrop Road. Bicycle stolen from residence.

6800 block Richmond Highway. GPS stolen from vehicle.

6800 block Richmond Highway. Wallet stolen from business.

8300 block Richmond Highway. Money stolen from business.

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Alex/Mt. Vernon \$468,500
3401 Ramsgate

Exceptional Value in this beautifully maintained & updated 4BR, 2.5 BA home on a gorgeous corner lot with trees, fences, garage. Entertain on the back deck, relax by the fireplaces. Updates include kitchen counters & appliances, refinished hardwood floors, fresh interior paint, & windows. Close to schools, county rec center, & minutes from Fort Belvoir in great neighborhood. Priced aggressively for quick sale. A Gem!



Alex/Mt. Vernon \$719,900
9200 Forest Haven

One of the most admired homes in all of Mt. Vernon has finally come on the market! This beautiful 6BR, 4BA, 2FPL, Cape Cod also boasts a large 2 car gar & a stunning family rm addition. Perched on a magnificent, landscaped .5 acre lot, it overlooks both Grist Mill Pk & Washington Mill Pk & is only 1 mile from Mt. Vernon Est. A combination of solid old world construction & today's modern conveniences... Beautifully refinished hardwood floors thru-out, freshly painted, energy efficient replacement windows, top of the line 40K roof...the list goes on! Come see us this Sun during our Open House. We'll leave the door open for you.



Mt. Vernon \$519,000
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PEOPLE

Getting to know... Barbara Rice

BY GREG ROSENSTEIN
GAZETTE PACKET

When Barbara Rice is not busy at work as branch manager at Martha Washington Library, you can probably find her at the local movie theatre or near a television watching a film. After all, her second love is movies. Rice said she has too many favorites to list but "Young Frankenstein" and "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" were at the top of her list. Rice talks about her role at Martha Washington and what the library is doing to promote reading in the area.

Why did you decide to become a librarian?

For as long as I can remember, I have always loved libraries and reading. I remember my mom reading Dr. Seuss books to me before I even old enough to go to school and how I thought the library was the best place on earth because there were so many books to read.

How did you get where you are today?

I started as a Special Librarian with the University of Tennessee in Nashville. "While I was there I began to volunteer at my local public library and loved it so much that I found a job as the Library Director for a small library system in east Tennessee. "While I was there I met my husband. "When he got a job offer in DC I moved up here with him.

How many years have you been director?

I have been the Branch Manager at the Martha Washington Community Library for nine years.

What is the best part about your job?

Working with a truly amazing group of people. "I couldn't think of a better place to work than Fairfax County Public Library.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

Not being able to find an answer to a customer's question.

Books you would recommend and why?

This is tricky since reading likes and dislikes vary from person to person. "What I would do is ask someone several questions about subject matter and what other authors they like to make a recommendation.

What are you doing to promote reading in your area?

Each year FCPL promotes the Summer Reading Program. "Library staff visit schools shortly before the summer break to 'book talk' to the students and get them interested in reading all summer long, with incentives if they read 15 books. "We also have four book groups that meet monthly for our adult readers at Martha Washington. "Each book group focuses on a different genre such as non-fiction, fiction, mystery and poetry.

Favorite movie?

There are so many movies that I could name but if I had to pick one it would be "Young Frankenstein" with "Monty Python and the Holy



Barbara Rice

"Grail" a close second.

Favorite local restaurant?

That's easy, Corduroy in DC across the street from the Convention Center.

Favorite thing to do on weekends?

Spend time with my husband and our dog, Sophie.

Best part about Alexandria?

Being so close to Washington DC.

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COMMUNITY

Optimists Honor Young Volunteer

Del Ray resident recognized for service to his community.

BY GREG ROSENSTEIN
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Ryan Bailey was born eighteen years ago with Down syndrome. Three months later he underwent open-heart surgery to fill a massive hole in his heart. And he continues to deal with health issues ranging from breathing and speech problems to severe food allergies.

But none of this has hindered Bailey's ability to help others.

Last Tuesday morning at the Belle Haven Country Club, Bailey was named the Sunrise Optimist Club's Annual Service Award winner for his volunteering efforts in the Del Ray community.

"I cried," Carol Bailey, Ryan's mother, said of her reaction to hearing the news. "He did have quite a rough start to life. Ryan is here because he wants to be here...he is a fighter. He has a strong desire to do and to live."

Courtney Bishop, the Alternative Community Service Manger for the Alexandria Volunteer Bureau, said Ryan stood out in a wide pool of applicants.

"Given his circumstances, he could have chosen to not be so involved in the community," Bishop said. "But Ryan did just the opposite. He has risen above a lot of adversity."

Ryan has spent much of his life volunteering at a variety of events in the area including Art on the Avenue, the Del Ray Halloween Parade, Holiday Tree Lighting and Cinema Del Ray. His parents have worked to help rebuild the Del Ray community and Ryan has been with them every step of the way.

"We wanted to try and make him a part of society rather than dependent on society," Terry Bailey, his father, said. "You just learn what your capabilities and capacities are and try and fulfill them. He gets a real enjoyment out of helping other people."

Gayle Reuter, a longtime neighbor and friend of the family who serves on the Del Ray Business Association's Board of Directors, said his disabilities have not held him back from his love of volunteering.

"Ryan has never been afraid to go in and meet new challenges and new situations," Reuter said. "I think what is important is that he is always the first person at all of these events and the last to leave. He does everything with a smile."

Reuter said that when they put up decorations on Mt. Vernon Avenue last winter, Ryan stayed out all



Ryan Bailey is presented with the Sunrise Optimist Club's Annual Service Award from Esther Stubbs Vernardo last week at Belle Haven Country Club.

night holding lights and ladders, despite the freezing temperatures.

"With so many teens, the first thing they do not think about is, 'gee, what can I do for the community?'" Reuter said. "And he takes much of his own personal time in doing for others. I think that is extremely unique for young men."

Ryan attends T.C. Williams High School and is part of the Life Skills Program for Students with Special Needs. The group works with local businesses such as the Hilton Hotel and Old Navy to see what skills the students can use upon graduation. Ryan is also a member of the newly instituted "Best Buddies" program, in which students from the regular school partner

with Life Skills students to take them to different events.

Patty Moran, a longtime friend of the Baileys and administrative assistant to the Principal at T.C. Williams, said Ryan is known throughout school for his jovial and friendly personality.

"He has done really well in school and is kind of a leader in his class," Moran said. "When he goes to the lunchroom, everyone says hi to him. He gets along with all types of kids here."

When Ryan accepted the award last week, his speech consisted of only "I like to help and thank you very much."

But that was okay. His actions spoke much louder than words.

"He gets a real enjoyment out of helping other people."

—Terry Bailey

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

OPINION

Why Didn't You Vote?

Voter participation last week was dismal; in November it could hit record levels.

Tuesday, June 10 was a primary election day for all voters in Northern Virginia. Less than 6 percent of registered voters turned out at the polls to make some very important decisions.

With primaries in all three congressional districts here, a tiny number of voters trickled into polling places to make their choices.

But during the last presidential election, more than 70 percent of voters statewide

turned out to vote. If anything, the election coming in November is likely to bring out even more voters.

Not only the presidential race, but also the statewide Senate race and the three local congressional races will attract voters.

Virginia officials would be wise to try to move more local elections, including General Assembly contests, so they coincide with national election, encouraging more voter turnout. Currently, Virginians face some election every November, and they often vote with their feet — by staying home.

What's more, the Board of Elections should mail sample ballots to all registered voters in the weeks before an election, allowing each voter to see what will appear on his or her ballot and confirming the date and polling place. As a state, we'd be far

better off with more participation.

Help with Community and Newcomers Guides

What would someone new to your town need to know? What interesting places would you like to have learned about earlier?

A bevy of interns and Connection staff members are already working on the Connection's annual Newcomers and Community Guides, which will publish between the end of July and the beginning of August, depending on the community.

We invite citizens and organizations to send us suggestions, calendar listings for major events for the upcoming year, infor-

Register for November Election

The deadline to register to vote for the Nov. 4 presidential election is Oct. 6. For forms and instructions, go to http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Voter_Information/Registering_to_Vote/Index.html

mation on how to get involved in nonprofits and charities, details about your club or other organization, and anything else you can think of.

We also invite readers to write short pieces about why you love your community, or one special place you'd like newcomers to know about, or any other suggestion you have for a newcomer to your community.

Send suggestions to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or call Mary Anne Weber at 703-917-6431.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
703-917-6416

Few Ideas on Transportation

The following is an open letter to Gov. Tim Kaine (D) and members of the General Assembly.

We are encouraged by your initiatives over the past two years to address Virginia's land use and transportation challenges. Public support for better growth management remains at high levels, making your efforts to better link land use and transportation critically important. Your collective initiatives have included increased support for transit and freight rail, traffic impact studies, urban development areas, land conservation, stronger access management policies and changes to subdivision street standards.

At the same time, the impact of rising energy prices on Virginians' strained household budgets creates a new imperative to be strategic in our transportation investments and to provide more transportation choices.

We recommend that you consider incorporating the following requirements in any agreed upon transportation funding package:

1) Re-evaluate the statewide plan, regional plans and major

projects in an open process with the public and in light of significantly higher fuel prices, the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the benefits to be gained from more efficient land use and community design.

2) Improve the efficiency of the existing transportation system and focus on short-term demand reduction measures before capacity expansion. These measures should include robust telecommuting programs and broadband investment, access management, transit and carpool incentives and public road pricing and parking pricing to manage demand on saturated highways in metro regions. A 5-10 percent reduction in highway demand can return a highway to free-flowing conditions far more cheaply than a costly expansion project.

3) Tie funding to performance standards that include improved operational efficiency; reduction in per capita vehicle miles traveled; increased mode share for transit, freight rail, telecommuting, pedestrians/bicycles; and adoption of urban de-

velopment areas with interconnected streets and new urbanist design principles. Alternatively, create a significant fund for providing bonus revenues to regions and local governments that reduce travel demand and approve more efficient patterns of development in well-designed Urban Development Areas.

4) Include funding for technical assistance to local governments and planning district commissions to assist communities with integration and adoption of the new tools approved by the General Assembly and Commonwealth Transportation Board including assistance with access management, city and town revitalization, transit-oriented development and well-defined UDAs using new urbanist design and "complete streets" with interconnected local street networks.

5) Require a clear analysis of Virginia highway maintenance spending to allow the public and General Assembly to more fully understand the maintenance situation. The analysis should include current and trend data on the re-

ported condition of Virginia's roads, maintenance costs per lane mile for various road types and districts, average life of new and repaired roadways and the potential for reducing long-term maintenance costs through longer life roadways (per the European model) and extended warranties by private road contractors who perform the work.

6) Dedicate significant funds (at least 35 percent of new funds) to transit, freight rail, intercity passenger rail, bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and significant funds to local street projects to create more transportation options that are energy efficient while reducing traffic on the state's highways and major arterial roadways.

7) Transit, passenger rail and freight rail are critical investments in a world of higher energy prices but must be tied to well-planned transit-oriented development and industrial centers to be cost effective. With over 60 percent of the state's population, gross state product and most of the congestion, the Northern Virginia-Fredericksburg-Richmond-

Williamsburg-Hampton Roads rail corridor should be a top state passenger rail priority, while freight rail investments are needed throughout Virginia.

We stand ready to participate in the discussions over the coming weeks leading to the special session and we look forward to working with you to move Virginia forward to an economically and environmentally sustainable future. Contact our lead representatives: Stewart Schwartz, CSG, 703-599-6437; Lisa Guthrie, VALCV, 804-225 1902; or Trip Pollard, 434-977-4090.

Martha Wingfield, chair, Virginia Conservation Network; **Lisa Guthrie**, executive director, Virginia League of Conservation Voters; **Stewart Schwartz**, executive director, Coalition for Smarter Growth; **Trip Pollard**, land and community program director, Southern Environmental Law Center; **Charles Price**, chair, Virginia Chapter, Sierra Club; **Chris Miller**, president, Piedmont Environmental Council

Mount Vernon Gazette

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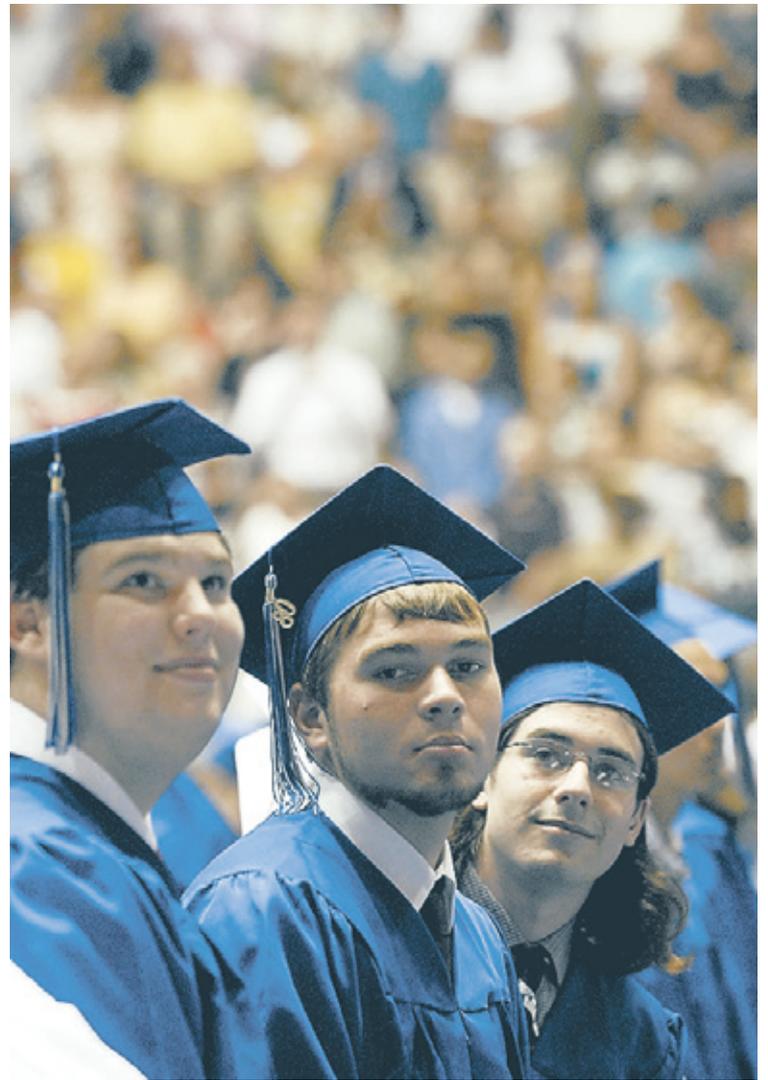
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Zohra Aslami, Kevin Cooper,
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
John Heinly, John Smith, Stu Moll,
Tam Nguyen, Wayne Shipp

GRADUATION DAY



The graduates are applauded by their families and friends.



Cheering the Graduates



West Potomac High School held its graduation Friday, June 13 at the Patriot Center.

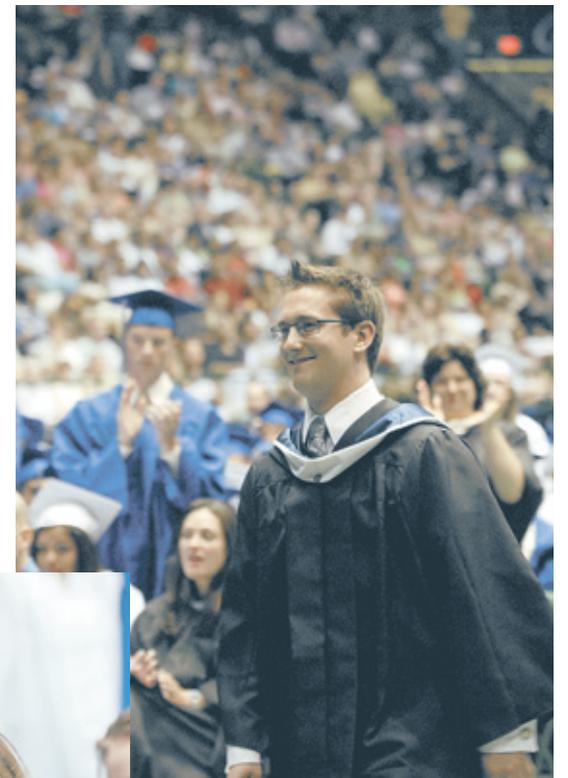
PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE

Andrea Jensen addresses her classmates.



Derick Parada receives the Outstanding Student Award

The West Potomac High School Class of 2008 take their seats in the Patriot Center for the Commencement Exercises.



AP Government teacher and Freshman Focus instructor Alex Case receives the faculty award.



Emily Kuhbach receives her Valedictorian medal from Senior Class Administrator Janice Monroe.



The West Potomac Band and Orchestra play the recessional.



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JANE COLE | 703.518.6187

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ED PAGETT | 571.237.4753

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COMMUTER'S DREAM



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2BR, 1BA, w/Den, condo at Huntington Club. This bright unit has a large pantry off the kitchen and a walk-in closet in the MBR. All utilities are included in the condo assoc dues. Huntington Metro is only 1/4 block walking distance.

JANE KING | 703.498.1034

THE HUNT CLUB

CONVENIENT STARTER HOME



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Commuters won't want to miss this updated treetop end unit condo located 1/2 block from the Huntington Metro, 1 mile from Whole Foods and Old Town. Newer kitchen tile and maple cabinets, hardwood floors, bathroom vanity, neutral walls. This condo is priced \$7K+ under assessment and been lovingly maintained.

JANE KING | 703.498.1034

THE HUNT CLUB

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



1111 N. ROYAL STREET
\$775,000

Delightful 4 lvl brick townhome, one block to Potomac River. Light-filled and spacious, 3 BRs including 4th lvl master suite w/designer bath, 3.5 BAs, gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters + adjacent fam rm and deck; 2-car garage. Upscale features, high ceilings, tasteful moldings, hrdwd flrs, et al. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com.

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Great brick colonial in sought after Jefferson Park. Near bus line to Metro. 3 BR/2 Bath, updated kitchen. First floor Family Room & Office. This home is ready for you to move in and enjoy. From Old Town, W on Braddock, R on W Windsor Avenue, house on right.

ANN LOCKWOOD | 703.299.8643 JEFFERSON PARK

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\$950,000 | Cameron Station

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Vaughn & Diane Paddock
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ONE OF A KIND IN OLD TOWN

\$1,280,000 | Old Town



649 FIRST STREET

Spectacular large brick home on the edge of Old Town. Brick serpentine garden walls, garage parking, 3/4 BRs, 4 bathrooms, hardwood flooring, and true quality throughout. Floor plans available upon request. Terrific family room, kitchen, breakfast area combination, formal parlor and huge recreation room. Private yet sunny and open. Master suite plus 3rd floor terrace.

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mmeyer@cbmove.com



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\$1,649,000 | Old Town Alexandria



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Located on one of Alexandria's most highly sought-after streets, this wonderful four bedroom plus four and a half bath home offers lovely archways, built-in corner cupboards, hardwood floors and four fireplaces. The bright and sunny first floor family room features custom built-in bookshelving with cabinetry below. Additional special features include a delightful glass enclosed porch, spacious lower level recreation room, abundant storage plus garage. Reasonably priced at \$1,649,000.

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GRADUATION DAY



Cameras record the moment as the class takes their seats in the Field House.



Parents cheer and send signals to their children as the Mount Vernon High School Class of 2008 enters the Michael M. Skinner Field House for Commencement Exercises.

Celebrating Graduation

Mount Vernon High School seniors celebrated their graduation on Friday, June 13.



PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE

The graduates of 2008.



Class Salutatorian Emilia Ninova Ninova.



Class Valedictorian Farshad Shawn Fouladi.



Judi Belzer directs the Mount Vernon High School Madrigals in the singing of the National Anthem.



Principal Nardos King presents the class leaders with medals.

Del Ray's Family Affair



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Italian summer fare beats the heat with delectable dishes.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

For those who love good Italian cooking there is no shortage of restaurants to satisfy the taste buds in either the City of Alexandria or in Mount Vernon and Lee districts. And, another has just opened in Del Ray.

La Strada, 1905 Mount Vernon Avenue, made its soft and quiet entrance on to the culinary stage last Wednesday evening, June 4, with a dinner offering beginning at 5 p.m. Right now that is the only meal being served during their shake down cruise on the public pallet.

A family owned and operated venture, it is located at the site of the former

Tex-Mex restaurant Los Amigos. When fully operational it will be open from 11 a.m. to

“This is truly a family and neighborhood operation.”

—Stephen Scott, Sr., owner La Strada

10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, according to owner Stephen Scott, Sr., who was stocking the wine bins on Friday afternoon.

“This is truly both a family and neighborhood operation,” said Scott Sr. Stephen Scott, Jr., is the chef. Daughters Kristen and Courtney Scott serve as the head waitress and hostess respectively. And, their mother, Diana Balboni, gives the restaurant its true Italian heritage, being a first generation American from Italy.

Kristen, Courtney and Stephen, Jr., all live in the Del Ray neighborhood while the senior Scotts are residents of Old Town Alexandria. “We are all neighborhood people,” Kristen said.

For Scott senior and Diana, this venture is truly a leap of faith. They also own and operate a computer business in Alexandria. “I work in the computer business from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and then come here and start all over again,” Scott senior said.

For the two sisters and their brother the restaurant business is nothing new — each has a professional background in food service.

Scott, Jr., has worked for a variety of restaurants in the Metropolitan area. He left the restaurant Zola in the District of Columbia, near the MCI Center, to participate in this family venture.

Kristen and Courtney have backgrounds in the restaurant business. Both have served in restaurant managerial capacities over the years. Kristen is also a teacher. She just resigned her job from Fairfax County Public

School teaching English As A Second Language to participate in the family venture.



PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE PACKET

Owner of the newly opened Del Ray Italian restaurant La Strada, Stephen Scott, Sr., (right) is joined in the restaurant's wine room by his son and restaurant chef, Stephen Scott, Jr., and daughter Kristen Scott, who serves as the establishment's head waitress.

Offering a wide array of Italian cuisine, La Strada's menu is unusual for its pricing. All menu items are offered at either a “Solo” or “Famiglia” price — depending on whether the item is ordered for one or for a group of up to six people.

For example the homemade ravioli stuffed with veal and vegetables in a morel mushroom cream sauce is \$19.95 for one or \$29.95 for a group. The group price would also apply to a couple ordering the same meal, according to Kristen.

Although, the majority of menu offerings are seasonal there are some items that are particularly designed to satisfy summer appetites. An example would be the tuna with tomato chilies, rosemary, garlic, capers and anchovies at \$18.95 solo or \$28.45 famiglia.

In addition to the comprehensive menu, La Strada patrons will also be able to enjoy a good selection of red, white and sparkling wines. Each, except the sparkling wines, can be order either by the bottle or glass ranging in price from \$24 to \$48 for the former and \$5 to \$11 for the latter. “We are hoping to eventually expand the wine list to over 100 selections,” Courtney said.

La Strada also offers both Italian and American beers. The latter includes Moretti and Peroni beers from Italy as well as four Sam Adams, two Yingling and Miller Lite from this country.

Seating capacity is now 50 but the Scott's are hoping to expand that with an outside patio. “We have ample room outside. And, if our unannounced opening night is any indication we can use the extra seating ca-

capacity,” said Scott, senior. They had a full house and customers waiting.

LA STRADA ISN'T the only Italian restaurant offering select dishes for summer. Some of the others, in both Alexandria and southeastern Fairfax County, include the following:

♦ **Landini Brothers**, 115 King St., a specially flavorful gazpacho for \$7.95

♦ **Il Porto**, 121 King St., a chicken Caesar salad at \$7.85 or Fisherman's salad with shrimp and salmon at \$8.50

♦ **A La Lucia**, 315 Madison St., a pasta with vegetables at \$12.95

♦ **Villa d'Este**, 600 Montgomery St., a seafood mixed grill composed of grouper, scallops, shrimp and calamari at \$18.95 for lunch and \$25.95 for dinner.

♦ **Tempo**, 4231 Duke St., a chunky gazpacho at \$3.95 plus fresh mountain trout with lime juice and honey for \$16.95 at dinner.

♦ **Mike's Italian Restaurant**, 8368 Richmond Highway, flounder stuffed with crab meat covered in butter, lemon and capers for \$24.95 at dinner.

♦ **Paradisio Italian Restaurant**, 6124 Franconia Road, egg plant with pasta at \$10.50.

These are only a sampling of the restaurants in both Alexandria City as well as Mount Vernon and Lee districts specializing in Italian cuisine with special items on their menus to satisfy lighter summer appetites. Patrons are only limited by their personal preference.



The exterior of La Strada, located at 1905 Mount Vernon Ave.

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A Bright Place to Be
www.crystalcity.org

CALENDAR



Jane Franklin Dance will perform in D.C. on Monday, June 23 at 8 p.m. Visit www.janefranklin.com for tickets and information.

E-mail announcements to the Mount Vernon Gazette at gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

ONGOING

Visit **George Washington's Distillery & Gristmill** through Oct. 31 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. See how whiskey got started. \$4/adult; \$2/child. Get discounts with admission to Mount Vernon Estate. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

Take a **seasonal walking tour** from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. This 30-minute tour explores a variety of contributions. Free. Visit www.mountvernon.org for more.

On Sundays take a Potomac River Sightseeing Cruise. \$9/adult; \$5/child in addition to Mount Vernon Estate admission. Visit www.mountvernon.org for schedules.

Every **Tuesday and Thursday** through October from 5-8 p.m. at Hotel Monaco Alexandria, enjoy **Doggie Happy Hour**. Enjoy doggie treats and human treats.

Join City archaeologists and trained

volunteers for an exciting program for kids of all ages at **Alexandria Archaeology Family Dig Days**. Be part of the fascinating archaeological investigation and discover firsthand the hidden clues left behind by the people who lived and worked there hundreds of years ago, by helping screen excavated soil. Monthly Family Dig Days will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, in Alexandria. The 2008 dates are on Saturdays: June 14; July 12; Aug. 16; Sept. 20 and Oct. 18. \$5/person and spots fill up fast. Call 703-838-4399 or visit www.alexandriaarchaeology.org to reserve a spot.

On Sundays from noon-5 p.m., visit the Waterfront and see **history-inspired performances** near the Torpedo Factory; do a "meet and greet" of early Alexandria residents and travelers near the Waterfront and lower King Street. Free. Visit www.historicalexandria.org for more.

In celebration of the exhibition **"Setting the President's Table: American Presidential China,"** visitors to Mount Vernon will have a chance every day from June 1 to Aug. 31 to win a piece of porcelain featuring the Martha Washington

"States" pattern. Drawings occur daily at 3 p.m. in the Shops at Mount Vernon, and the grand prize will be drawn on Aug. 31. No purchase is required, and visitors do not have to be present to win. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

On weekdays from **June through August**, from 10-11 a.m. or 11 a.m.-noon, children ages 6-12 can **hunt for Harry Potter's** favorite plants and explore their lore. Learn how to craft a wand and make potions. Groups welcome. \$6/student. 703-642-5173. At Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road.

On Saturdays from **June 7 through Aug. 16** from 1-3 p.m., children ages 8-12 years can learn how to **create a garden** with hands-on activities and will be able to grow a garden. \$10/student. At Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road. To register, 703-642-5173.

See Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St., in a whole new light - **lantern light**. Tour the 1785 tavern and 1792 City Hotel during the summer season with costumed guides as you experience the tavern as patrons did more than 200 years

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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Mount Vernon Gazette

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CALENDAR



Nothin' Fancy performs on Wednesday, June 25 as part of Lee District Nights, at 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Amphitheatre. Free.

FROM PAGE 14

ago before the advent of electricity. Tours are every Friday night, **June through August**, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person ages 5 and up. Tours last approximately 30 minutes, with the last tour starting at 9:15 p.m. Call ahead to confirm tour date. For more information, call 703-838-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 21

Closing Reception. 5-10 p.m., Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112-A Mount Vernon Ave., presents "Delray" by K. Wesley E. Clark from June 1 through June 21.

Soldier-Led Tour. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 West Braddock Road. Learn about Fort Ward, soldier's life and more. Free. Visit www.fortward.org or 703-838-4848.

Closing Reception. 5-10 p.m. see art by Wesley Clark from June 1 through June 21 at Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112A Mount Vernon Ave. Free. 703-894-8854.

Older Cat Care. 1-3 p.m. at Vola Lawson Animal Shelter, 4101 Eisenhower Ave. Learn about adult cats. Free. Visit www.alexandrianimals.org or 703-838-4774.

Lee District Nights. 7:30 p.m. at Hayfield Elementary School, 7633 Telegraph Road. Hear Rumba Club perform. Free. 703-324-SHOW (7469).

Framed Botanical Art: Pressed Ferns. 9:30-11 a.m. at Green Spring Garden. Learn how to mount flowers on paper and then frame them. \$25/person. 703-642-5173.

Garden Sprouts: Tops and Bottoms. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 years can learn about plants we eat and then enjoy a healthy snack and make a garden. \$6/child. To register, 703-642-5173.

Play Ball! 2 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Bring a camera and take a photo with Potomac Nationals mascot Uncle Slam, an item for his autograph and then hear a baseball story. Free. 703-

339-4610.

Book Discussion. Discuss and then get signed copies of "The Dark Before the Light at Dawn" by Vanessa Grace at 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Free. 703-765-3645.

Movie. 7 p.m. at Mount Vernon Rec Center. Watch "Shrek 3." Free. www.delraycitizen.org for more.

Dog Massage Class. 1-2:30 p.m. at Tails of Old Towne in Del Ray. Bring a dog and learn basic techniques. Register at www.tailsofoldtowne.com or 703-768-0500.

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. 703-838-4827.

Comedy Performance. Skippy from "Family Ties" will perform at All Stars Comedy Club, 3100 Mount Vernon Ave. Performances at 9 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Dinner packages available. Visit www.allstarscomedy.com for tickets.

Play Performance. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Running Scared, Running Free." \$10/person. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-838-4356.

Digital Photography Seminar. 2-6 p.m. at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Learn how to take pictures outside, and receive critiques. \$90/person. For more information or to register, call 703-768-2525.

Yard Sale. Community yard sale in parking lot of Lincolnia United Methodist Church, 6335 Little River Turnpike from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 703-354-5176 or lincolniaumc@verizon.net.

SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Workshop. Students can take part in a "Junk Mail Collage Workshop" from noon-3 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. \$25/member; \$35/non-member. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or 703-838-4826.

Movie Night. 6:30 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Watch "A Peanuts Celebration." Free. Visit

www.delrayumc.org.

Summer Herbal Teas. 1-3 p.m. at Green Spring Garden, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn how to enjoy the herbs in a garden or window box. Includes a full tea. \$25/person. To register, 703-941-7987.

Bridge Club. 4 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Beginners and advanced players age 12 and up can learn. Free. 703-765-3645.

Family Movie Night. 6:30 p.m. at Del Ray United Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave. Free. Watch "A Peanuts Celebration." Free. Visit www.delrayumc.org for more.

Play Performance. 2 p.m. at Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. Watch "Running Scared, Running Free." \$10/person. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or 703-838-4356.

MONDAY/JUNE 23

Writer's Group. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Adults can read material aloud for feedback. Free. 703-339-4610.

Mystery Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "Dead Heat" by Dick Francis. Free. 703-768-6700.

On The Ball. Spinny Johnson performs fun and amazing basketball tricks for children ages 6-12 at 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Free. 703-765-3645.

Little One-Ders. 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

Family Story Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. For all ages. Free. 703-51-5900.

TUESDAY/JUNE 24

Pinwheel Baby Blanket. 7-9 p.m. at Knit Happens, 127A N. Washington St. Learn to work in the round and increase with this project. \$70. Register at 703-836-0039.

Baby Booties Crash Course. 7-9

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 16

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 15
p.m. at Knit Happens, 127A N. Washington St. learn to increase and decrease. \$50. Register at 703-836-0039.

What's the Matter? 10:30 a.m. at John Marshall Library, 6200 Rose Hill Drive. Children ages 6-12 can explore chemistry with fizz, foam and flash. Free. 703-971-0010.

Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Pontoon" by Garrison Keillor. Free. 703-339-4610.

Martha's Movie Madness. 2 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 6-12 can enjoy a movie and popcorn. Free. 703-768-6700.

Teen Poetry Workshop. Meet author Kyndall Brown and learn how to write own poetry at 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. For children ages 12 and up. Free. 703-765-3645.

Time For 2s. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

SummerQuest Jr. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 5 can enjoy Kaydee Puppets. Free. 703-838-4566.

Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road. Hear Nothin' Fancy perform. Free. 703-922-9841.

Writer's Peer Review. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Review works and receive feedback on own work. Free. 703-339-4610.

J is for June. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2500 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 2-5 can have fun with the alphabet and stories for the month of June. Free. 703-765-3645.

Open House and Reception. 6:30-8 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St. The museum celebrates its 25th anniversary. Free. Enjoy free gift, refreshments and more. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org for more.

Summerquest. 10 a.m. children up to 5 can enjoy Kaydee puppets; children ages 6-12 at 4 p.m. can enjoy magician Michael Chamberlin. All at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Free. 703-519-5900.

SummerQuest. 3:30 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children ages 6-12 can enjoy "Sea Bugs" with Magician Joe Young. Free. 703-838-4566.

THURSDAY/JUNE 26

Author Discussion. Charles E. Cobb, Jr. will discuss his new work "On the Road to Freedom: A Guided Tour of the Civil Rights Trail" from 6-8 p.m. at the Alexandria Black History

Museum, 902 Wythe St. Free. Reservations suggested, 703-838-4356.

Reading Magic! 2:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. A magic show full of comedy and good old-fashioned fun with Turley the Magician for children ages 6-12. Free. 703-339-4610.

African Animals. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy stories, fingerplays, songs and crafts. Free. 703-768-6700.

The Nicolo Whimsey Show. 2:30 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 6-12 can see juggling, comedy and more from Nicolo the Jester. Free. 703-768-6700.

Art Talk. Alison Sigethy will talk about her journeys and more at 7:30 p.m. at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Free. Visit www.thedelrayartisans.org or 703-838-4826.

Story Time. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5. Free. 703-519-5900.

Short Story Discussion. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Discuss the first three stories in "The Art of the Short Story." Free. 703-519-3498.

SummerQuest. Children ages 6-12 can see and touch live reptiles, including snakes, tarantulas and more. Free. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. 703-519-6000.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at

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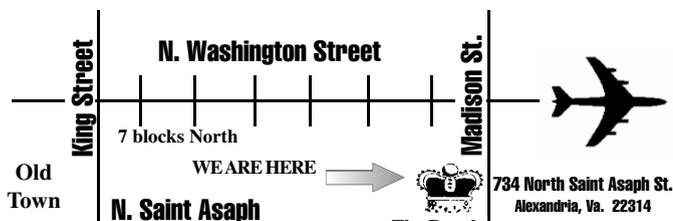
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Spacious four bedroom home in great condition with large room sizes, gorgeous hardwood floors, three full baths, master suite with private bath, eat-in kitchen, masonry fireplace and full walk-out lower level. Prime location on exceptionally large lot convenient to everything!



4212
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\$665,000
*Classic Center
Hall Colonial!*
Spacious home with 4 large BRs including master suite with private

bath, open kitchen/family rm, granite counters in kitchen, updated baths, replacement thermal pane windows, hardwood floors, walk-out lower level and oversized 2 car garage. Prime location on large fenced lot on quiet cul-de-sac in Southwood.



4417
Tarpon Lane
\$550,000
Huge Potential!
This exceptionally spacious home was custom built to capitalize on the natural beauty of

its wooded grounds. Fabulous open floor plan and large room sizes provide bright, airy environment. Five bedrooms include three, including MBR, on the main level. Stunning 18x12 upper level room with cathedral ceiling provides unique artist's studio or home office. Oversize two car garage. Walk to community Marina.



9101
Peartree Lndg
\$969,900
*Classic Colonial!
Gorgeous Pool!*
Stately Georgian Colonial in prime location on quiet cul-de-sac just off

the GW Parkway. Many special features include: three finished levels, bright & open floor plan, stunning master suite and oversized two car garage. Spectacular open kitchen/family room leads to gorgeous back yard with custom pool. Pristine condition!



9216
Presidential Dr
\$578,400
Bright Rambler!
The best of one story living and loaded with features, including: large room sizes,

4BRs, 3BAs, 2 fireplaces, first floor master suite, hardwood floors and updated kitchen. Finished lower level with bedroom, full bath, brick fireplace, full walkout and large storage area. Numerous windows on both levels overlook natural beauty of half acre grounds.



5306 Mt
Vernon Mem
Hwy
\$899,999
Perfection!
Classic Colonial with many updates throughout shows like a brand new

home! Open floor plan, updated kitchen with granite, spacious master suite with luxury bath, newly finished hardwood floors, updated baths, huge garage & more! Multi-tiered custom deck with hot tub & screened gazebo on gorgeous 3/4 acre grounds.



2215
Cavendish Dr
\$545,000
*Fabulous
Stratford
Property!*
Cape Cod features a bright and open floor plan and

exceptionally spacious rooms! Features include: custom sun room, hardwood floors on two levels, four bedrooms (two on main level), eat-in kitchen, thermal windows, covered parking and gorgeous fenced level lot. Sparkling move-in condition! Super value!



1901
Westfield St
\$559,000
Updated Home!
By far the best price on a spacious four level home in the Stratford area! Fabulous property

offers updated kitchen & baths, family room off kitchen, garage, recently installed concrete driveway and brick front walk. Prime location just two blocks off the GW Pkwy and bike trail. Unique opportunity to obtain premier property a rock bottom price!



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$979,000
*Georgian
Colonial!*
Classic Colonial in prime Mt Vernon location. Home has a combination of

location, size and features typically only available in \$1,000,000+ homes! 3 finished levels, open kitchen/family room, stunning master suite, dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Stately updated home is in pristine condition.



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8824 Stratford
Lane
\$1,275,000
Rare 2 Acre Lot!
Brand new Wakefield Home to be erected on gorgeous over two acre tract just off

the GW Pkwy in prestigious Stratford Landing. Three finished levels, high ceilings, gourmet kitchen with 42" cabinets and granite counters, walk-out lower level & 2 car garage. Pre-construction offering provides maximum opportunity to customize one of the few multi-acre properties left in close-in Alexandria!



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Cleveland Park
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STUNNING...
4 level Colonial with 6 bedrooms & 4.5 renovated baths. Features include: Chef's kitchen with SS & granite, fabulous 2 level addition creates banquet sized dining room that leads to charming garden & slate patio. Luxury master suite with spa bath & sitting room. Basement has in-law suite, large living room has vaulted ceilings. Great space for entertaining!

3842 Macomb Street NW



PATRICIA LANDAETA 202.390.2793



Alexandria
\$915,000

PERFECTION!
Sophisticated living at it's best in this NV built 1 owner home. Immaculate 4 finished levels, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, custom wood trim, fluted columns, shiny wood floors, neutral carpet and dramatic tray ceiling with indirect lighting in the master bedroom. Landscaped yard with large patio, lighting and in ground irrigation system.

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Alexandria/Mt. Vernon
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Beautiful brick end TH backs to the woods. 22 feet wide. Expanded MBR plus 2 other bedrooms & 2 full baths on upper level. Powder room on main level. Full bath on lower level plus finished family room with FP. Walk out to private patio. Hardwood in living room & separate dining room with crown molding, chair rail & wainscoting. All windows have been replaced. Interior recently painted.

8225 Doctor Craik Court



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Alexandria
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Rentals:
3BR/3BA/2-Car Gar. spcs, 2069SF. \$3,000
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OPEN SUN 1-4



Alexandria/Old Town
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710 Wolfe Street



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With Colonial style, 1 of 4 townhouses constructed in 2004 in the rapidly changing NW quad of Old Town Alexandria. An ideal commuter location, between Patrick & Henry Sts. 3 blocks to West Braddock Metro. With 2+ parking spaces & a deep fenced back yard, there is plenty of room for expansion, & it is zoned CSL. There are 3 BR's & a loft, 2.5 BA's, gas fireplace & hardwoods. The house is fully wired for sound.

1008 Wythe Street



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Alexandria
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This Shad Row Patio entrance townhouse, features over \$130,000 of custom kitchen and luxury Master Bath renovations, to include a full bathroom addition. The home has 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, hardwood floors on 3 levels, travertine marble bathrooms, Elfa closet systems, and 1 underground garage parking space.

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Alexandria/Old Town
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Rarely available, 1 BR end-unit patio home in St. Asaph Square— SE Quadrant of Old Town. Open floor plan incl. European—style kitchen with maple cabinets, black galaxy granite countertops with breakfast bar, SS appliances, granite tile flooring in kit, hardwood floors, FPL with built-ins, LR with double French doors opening to private patio & community pool. 1 block to Mt. Vernon bike path, GW Pkwy, & Balducci's.

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Stunning 5 BR, 4.5 BA Balmoral Model overlooks Washington's historic gristmill from the grand deck or the half-arched-window sunroom. Show room perfect, gourmet granite/stainless kitchen, 2-story family room, custom upgrades/paint, main level library, hardwood floors & huge finished lower level with workshop & walk-out to beautiful yard.

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501 Slaters Lane #910



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HIDDEN GEM!!



Alexandria
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OLD TOWN CONDO
Perfect location to walk to Metro, Old Town and PTO! 2 bedroom condo that's move in ready with tree-top views! Light, bright, freshly painted 1,160 SF. New carpet, new entry, sunken living room, eat-in kitchen. Hidden away in Fort Ellsworth behind the Masonic Temple. Dir: From Duke St West, Exit Roberts Ln, Go up hill to Fort Ellsworth condos on left.

102 Roberts Lane #201



MARTHA DEAL 703.622.6797



Alexandria/Old Town
\$589,000

WALK TO KING ST. METRO
Hidden away in a private enclave... this spacious, light filled 4BR/3.5BA TH backs to Masonic Temple & trees. Separate DR, step-down LR with FP, hwd flrs lead to French doors & custom built deck & brick patio. A walk-out basement features a BR, full bath, kitchenette, FP, den & large cedar closet & large floored attic for storage. This beautiful TH has been carefully maintained & is of the most convenient locations in town.

103 Shooter's Court



BONNIE APPLE 703.728.3430



Alexandria
\$199,000

GREAT VALUE!
Private top floor condo. Spacious 2 bedroom and den model with over 1,000 SF. Bright and sunny with courtyard views and loaded with features. Berber carpet, open kitchen with breakfast bar, walk-in closets and assigned parking. Relax on the large balcony. Condo fee includes all utilities except electric. Excellent amenities, pool and more!

3706 N. Rosser Street #202



PATRICIA LANDAETA 202.390.2793



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COUNTY NOTEBOOK

Bears Spotted in County

Fairfax County expects more local bear sightings to take place as the summer continues, officials said last week.

A few people have already reported seeing black bears in and around the western part of the county. The most recent sighting took place June 11 along Route 28 in the Centreville area.

"Since [last week] we have had calls about other sightings in Sully," said Lucy Caldwell, a public information officer with the Fairfax County Police Department.

Caldwell said wildlife experts think the bears are probably just passing through Fairfax County and do not actually live in the locality. They recommend staying out of a bear's way and doing nothing to distract them.

"We haven't heard of any problems with human encounters. But we caution people to avoid contact with a bear, fox, coyote or any kind of wildlife because animals can be unpredictable," said Caldwell.

It is not clear how many bears have been seen in Fairfax. Residents could be reporting multiple animals or just seeing the same bear over and over again, she said.

Sully District supervisor Michael Frey said residents do not seem to be concerned about the bears. His office has received no phone calls about bear sightings.

"I think the fact that there are bears show that we have done a pretty good job of protecting the environment and the ecosystem," said Frey, who added that residents seemed more concerned about recent coyote sightings.

Moran Joins LGBT Caucus

Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va., was one of 52 members in the House of Representatives to join a new "LGBT equality" caucus that advocates for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens last week.

The caucus, started by Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc., and Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., includes two Republicans but is made up mostly of Democrats. It will advocate for civil unions and more domestic partnership rights – including those that affect child adoption and health insurance benefits. The group will also focus on passing legislation on hate crimes that affect the LGBT community and fight for employment non-discrimination, according to Moran's spokesperson Austin Durrer.

"Moran is a strong supporter of gay and lesbian rights and for [gay and lesbian] people being treated like any other American. It is nothing new that he would be involved in a group like this," said Durrer.

30 Percent Rise in Rape Cases

Fairfax County's overall crime rate rose 6.13 percent from 2006 to 2007. Rape cases increased approximately 30 percent during the same time period.

The number of reported rapes in 2007 was 95 compared to 73 in 2006, according to a press release issued June 12. The Fairfax County Police Department did not reply to requests asking for comment.

In general, violent crime besides rape – murder, robbery and aggravated assault – dropped or increased very little. Incidents of reported burglaries fell by nearly 100 from 1,580 in 2006 to 1,409 in 2007.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

Bears have been seen in the Sully District area of Fairfax County in recent days.

THE COUNTY LINE

Second HQ Building?

Schools staff presents case for buying additional administrative building this week.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools staff will recommend the purchase of a second administrative building adjacent to the school system's Merrifield headquarters at the next school board meeting June 19.

A consultant for the school system, Alvarez & Marsal Real Estate Services LLC, concluded that buying the second headquarters at this time would be fiscally prudent.

The school system would be able to acquire a low interest rate on the project's debt due to a depressed real estate market and Fairfax County's excellent bond rating. The sellers of the building, which the American Red Cross currently occupies, are also offering the property for \$8 million below its assessed value, or approximately \$52 million, according to school system documents.

After renovations, the total cost of the project should be around \$110 million. The building purchase and rehabilitation would pay for itself and save the school system money in the long run, said the school system's chief operating officer Dean Tistadt.

SINCE 2004, the school system has sought to consolidate its administrative staff at one central location. Fairfax County Public Schools purchased Gatehouse I, its first central administrative building, in 2006, largely by handing over excess property to the Fairfax County government. The school system also acquired a second plot of land located next to Gatehouse I, to build a second administrative building, Gatehouse II. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors put a hold on that construction.

Tistadt and others said they could offer evidence that Gatehouse I has fully paid for itself so far. Schools eliminated some staff positions, avoided some maintenance costs and terminated some leases as a result of moving 650 people to Gatehouse I, they said.

If the school system acquired Red Cross building, which shares a surface parking lot with Gatehouse I, it would be able to terminate leases on approximately 38,000 square feet of additional office space they rent in the area. They would also vacate and turn over at least three more properties to Fairfax County, and eliminate an additional 18 positions.

Both Tistadt and the consultant said buying the



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools has proposed purchasing a second building to house its administrative functions.

"Really, this is a good time to do this."

—Tessie Wilson

"We can't seem to fund [renovations] in a timely manner but we can consolidate our offices in a timely manner?"

—Liz Bradsher

additional building would be more cost efficient than constructing a new headquarters as originally planned. The existing building is 67,000 square feet larger than the headquarters the school system thought it would build. But Tistadt said the extra space would allow the school system to vacate more leased office space elsewhere. They would also be able to vacate more school system-owned buildings. For example, the Dunn Loring Center, which is currently used as office space, could be converted back into an elementary school in anticipation of residential growth in Tysons Corner, said Tistadt. If approved, 1,050 additional school system employees would be located in Merrifield, bringing the total to 1,700.

THE SCHOOL BOARD would make its initial decision on the purchase of the building July 10. If approved, the school system would then be required to engage in a countywide discussion about the project and report back about community reaction at a School Board meeting Sept. 4.

School board members were split on how they felt about the transaction.

"Interest rates are at an all-time low and this is a better price than we would ever be able to get. ... For those reasons, I think it is a good idea. ... Really, this is a good time to do this," said Braddock District member Tessie Wilson.

But Springfield District school board member Liz Bradsher said she had reservations when so many communities need new schools or renovations.

Tistadt said the building purchase could positively affect both the schools capital and operating budgets, by adding more flexibility in both areas.

Still, Bradsher said the whole situation does not sit well with her. The school board member represents two school communities – South County Secondary School and West Springfield High School – who have been waiting on funding for new schools and renovations years.

"We have students in schools that need renovations. We can't seem to fund that in a timely manner but we can consolidate our offices in a timely manner?" said Bradsher.

Getting public "buy in" on the project could be difficult, particularly when the school system is having to cut back on services.

"Any decision we make in this fiscal environment will be a difficult one, whether it is about students or facilities. ... We are working in an environment where we have very limited funds," said school board president Dan Storck (Mount Vernon).



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HEALTH & FITNESS

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The **Alexandria Mental Health Family Support Group** of NAMI/FOCUS is open to all dealing with mentally ill family members suffering from depression, bipolar or schizophrenia. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Alexandria Mental Health Office, Community Service Board Clubhouse, 4480 King St. Contact J. Gulka, Facilitator, 571-451-0773.

VOLUNTEERS

Send volunteer notices to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or call Rebecca Halik with any questions 703-917-6407.

Alexandria Office on Women-Domestic Violence Program- Shelter Supervisors at the Battered Women's Shelter interact personally with individuals in need—an opportunity that many find extremely fulfilling. Primary responsibilities include answering the crisis hotline and supporting the women and children residing at the safe house. Contact: Jen Clayton, 703-838-4911 or jen.clayton@alexandriava.gov

Catholic Charities Diocese of Arlington- Thrift shop associates to assist shoppers, receive donations, sort items, price, display goods and clothing, create attractive displays, and to create a warm and welcoming environment for those with limited incomes. Contact:

Capital Hospice is starting a Grief Support Group at the Hollin Hall Senior Center on Mondays, from 2-3 p.m. to talk with others who have also had losses. Carol Mansfield of Capital Hospice will facilitate. Call Senior Center at 703-4573 or sign up on their Bulletin Board.

Yoga in Daily Life, 2402 Mount Vernon Ave., offers classes for people of all ages and physical ability, seven days a week. Meditation classes also offered. Free trial class the first week of each session for newcomers - next session begins June 23. Drop-ins welcome. Lunchtime Yoga classes held on Wednesdays 12:15- 12:50 p.m. Visit

<http://www.yogaindailylifeus.org/> or call 703-299-8946.

Dr. Corey Wallach, orthopedic surgeon, will discuss new treatments for neck pain, Wednesday, June 25 at 7 p.m., Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parker's Lane. To attend, visit www.inova.org or call Inova HealthSource 703-750-8800.

Dr. Kevin Fricka, orthopedic surgeon, will present "Osteoarthritis and Gender Knee," Wednesday, June 18, at 7 p.m., Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parker's Lane. To attend, visit www.inova.org or call Inova HealthSource 703-750-8800.

Dr. John Albrigo, orthopedic surgeon, will discuss hip and knee replacements that are minimally invasive, Monday, July 28 at 7 p.m., Inova Alexandria Hospital, 4320 Seminary Road. To attend, visit www.inova.org or call Inova HealthSource 703-750-8800.

Dr. Stefano Agolini, board-certified surgeon, will discuss new options for hernia repair, Wednesday, July 30 at 7 p.m., Inova Alexandria Hospital, 4320 Seminary Road. To attend, visit www.inova.org or call Inova HealthSource 703-750-8800.

Dr. Corey Wallach, orthopedic surgeon, will present "Treatment for Neck

Pain", Thursday, July 31 at 7 p.m., Inova Alexandria Hospital, 4320 Seminary Road. To attend this free lecture, contact Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800 or visit www.inova.org for more.

Body in Balance Center, 1423 N. Powhatan St., offers fusion flow for parents and babies, a class specifically designed for parents with babies who are crawling and beginning to walk as well as pre-crawlers. Classes are offered Thursdays at 11 a.m. and Saturdays 11:30 a.m. \$20.00 drop in fee or 6 class pass for \$90.00. Visit www.bodyinbalancecenter.com or 703-518-4434.

Sally O'Dwyer, 703-841-3838 or sodwyer@ccda.net

The Campagna Center- Summer Camp Volunteer Assist Site Directors and Assistant Site Directors with children's games, activities, and field trips, etc. Summer Camp will take place at William Ramsey, Maury, and Charles Barrett Elementary Schools. Contact: Charlene Johnson, 703-549-0111 or cjohnson@campagnacenter.org

Friends of Guest House- Transport clients back and forth to appointments during the day and evenings. Must have flexible schedule and own vehicle. Contact: Kari Galloway, 703-549-8072 or director@friendsofguesthouse.org

Gadsby's Tavern Museum - is actively seeking teen and adult volunteers to assist with tours, special events,

and/or family programs. Volunteers serving as docents commit to 6 hours per month. Special event volunteers needed throughout the year. Training is provided. Contact: Michele Longo 703-349-3322 or gadbys.tavern@alexandriava.gov

Inova Alexandria Hospital -Patient support; escort patients to procedures, assist with discharges, deliver flowers, charts, patient mail and laboratory items. Contact: Christina Spencer at 703-504-3031 or christina.spencer@inova.com

Meals On Wheels- Deliver meals to homebound seniors in the City of Alexandria. Contact: Samantha Pipkin, 703-836-4414x12 or mowssa@comcast.net

Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria- Clerical and

Data Input assistant Enter data from existing documents into Access Database or Excel spreadsheet. Some work can be done at home; other at Hopkins House. Contact Fay D. Slotnick, 703-739-0233 or info@plti-alex.org

Port City Playhouse - Volunteers needed (Be a star on stage and off!) on an ongoing basis to help with set construction and painting. Also need box office and ushering help for performances. Groups and youths age 15 and older are welcome. Contact: Robert Kraus 703-838-2880 or portcityinfo@aol.com

Stop Child Abuse Now of Northern Virginia - The Alexandria/Arlington Special Advocate (CASA) program is looking for volunteers to serve as advocates for children in the Arlington and Alexandria Juvenile Court system. Volunteers advocate for chil-

dren in abuse and neglect cases, custody cases, and cases where a child is in need of services. Contact: Dana Taylor, 703-820-9001 or dtaylor@scanva.org

Sunrise of Alexandria - Walking Club with seniors - club meets once a week at Sunrise of Alexandria and is looking for volunteers to help with this activity. Other opportunities for one-on-one visits with the residents are also available. Contact: Meghan Lee 703-212-9192 or alexandria.avc@sunriseseniorliving.com

The Child & Family Network Centers- Administrative Assistants perform administrative work; assist Development Manager with an event, front desk, helping Preschool Director in the office. Use a computer, organize things, make copies, and file, you can be a big help here. Contact: Kate Lyng, 703-836-0214 or Klyng@cfnc-online.org.

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PHOTOS BY CHRIS GANSLE

The graduates of the Bishop Ireton Class of 2008 leave the Shrine at the conclusion of the ceremony.



Father Matt Hillyard poses with graduates on the steps of the Shrine. It was the last Bishop Ireton graduation for Father Hillyard

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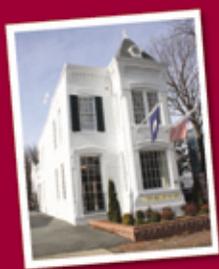
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Yacht Haven Club Tours Local Garden

Interior design seamstress and garden designer, Linda Brown opened her Stratford Landing home and garden, for the Yacht Haven Garden Club members and their guests to tour her spectacular garden on June 5.

Features in the garden included: A hosta walk showcasing 176 hostas, a breezeway with Imperial Hanging baskets, shade gardens, tropical plants, column planters, and butterfly gardens that provide the nectar and host plants for the Black Swallowtail and Monarch butterflies which Linda Brown raises.

Linda answered gardening questions and showed the various stages of her butterflies during the tour. Members brought food donations for UCM to the garden tea. YHGC holds an annual fall fashion show with proceeds going to local communities. The club also sponsors a children's garden project at Washington Mill Elementary School and beautifies the entrances to various neighborhood subdivisions.



President of the Yacht Haven Garden Club Angelita Kabler, Mahrou Akhundzadeh, Denise Wight, Linda Brown and Pam Gaddy.

The Garden at Linda Brown's home.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



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COMMUNITY

Pirates Invade Pohick Bay

Schooner of scalawags helps open Pirates Cove water park at Pohick Bay Regional Park.

PHOTOS BY JENNY WESTERHOFF/ GAZETTE



The pirate's water bucket spills unexpectedly on children. The water bucket dumps water intermittently on those standing under it.



One of the pirates poses with Sara Richardson and her mom Traci as they enjoy their day at Pirate's Cove on Saturday morning, June 14



Pirates big and small helped initiate the new water park by participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 14.



This pirate statue is one of the many additions to the new Pirate's Cove water park at Pohick Bay Regional Park.



The pirates that came to visit that day eyed many pieces of treasure around the water park.



The audience waits for the battle to begin.

SCHOOLS

Police Officer First Class Marvin Goodley, school resource officer (SRO) at Sandburg Middle School, has been named the 2008 Distinguished School Resource Officer by Fairfax County Public Schools.

Goodley has served as SRO at Sandburg for the past five years and is praised by Sandburg principal Wendy Eaton for his work building positive relationships with students and for promoting positive community interaction. He has planned summits — with guest speakers — for at-risk male students, worked to deter gang involvement and gang behavior in the community, and provided information and speakers on social networking Internet sites and gang awareness for parents and staff members at Sandburg.

These Mount Vernon High School students — **Javier Castillo, Robert Cordell, Elizabeth Badley, and Edgardo Pleitez** — were selected to attend the 2008 Congressional Student Leadership Conference on Medicine & Healthcare, sponsored by Lead America. The CSLC is a college-accredited invitational leadership program for academically talented and promising young leaders from across the United States and internationally. Javier, Robert, Elizabeth, and Edgardo will join other exceptional high school students with records of academic achievement and extracurricular or community involvement who are invited to participate.

The CSLC on Medicine & Healthcare is a 10-day leadership program in which students take on the roles of healthcare professionals and learn to manage a patient's case, making healthcare decisions based on new medical facts and circumstances presented each day. In a



Scouts Hold Bridging Ceremony

Girl Scouts from Service Unit 53-3 in Alexandria had their Bridging Ceremony on Monday, June 9. Bridging is the time a Girl Scout can celebrate her achievements as she progresses to the next level in Scouting. Daisy Scouts bridged to Brownies; Brownie Girl Scouts bridged to the junior level; Juniors bridged to the Cadette level; and the Cadettes bridged to senior level. Senior girls who have graduated from high school can bridge over to being an adult Girl Scout. Crossing the bridge symbolizes the girls are ready to take on new challenges and a tribute to what they have already accomplished.

hands-on learning environment, Javier, Robert, Elizabeth, Edgardo and fellow students will work with cutting-edge robotic simulators that look and respond like real patients, or participate in a patient simulation where medical actors play the roles of patients with unidentified illnesses.

Jennifer Alice Metcalf of Alexandria graduated from Lynchburg College with a degree in French on May 10. Lynchburg College is a private college in central Virginia enrolling 2,500 students in the liberal arts and sciences, as well as professional and grad studies.



Waynewood sixth-graders transferred pennies from jars and bottles to boxes to be counted at the bank.

Waynewood Collects Pennies for Peace

Waynewood Elementary students collected Pennies for Peace throughout the month of May. This program, a service learning program of Central Asia Institute, encourages school children to learn about their capacity as philanthropists by collecting and donating pennies to purchase school supplies for children in Afghanistan and Pakistan. These funds support education as the most effective way to overcome war and conflict. Each Waynewood class collected hundreds and hundreds of pennies. The schoolwide total will be determined when pennies are counted at Burke and Herbert Bank.



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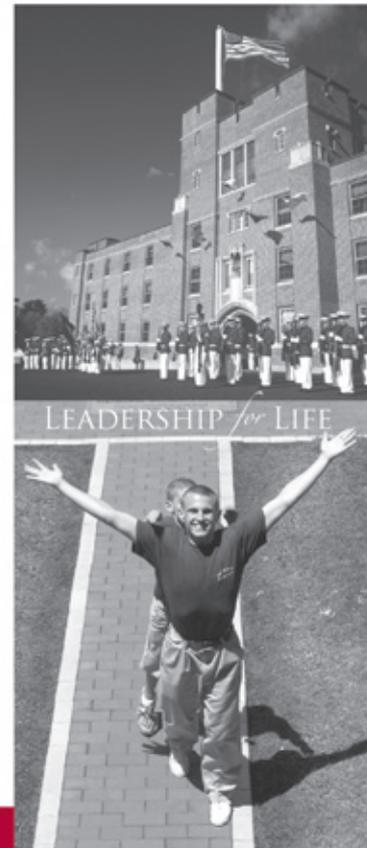
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Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Date Sold
2234 FARRINGTON AVE	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$295,000	Duplex	0.08	05/01/08	
1400 OAKBROOKE AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$595,000	Detached	0.27	05/01/08	
4309 CEDARLAKE CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.05	05/01/08	
3804 REDONDO PL #20E	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$156,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/01/08	
7800 COLONIAL SPRINGS BLVD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$284,900	Townhouse	0.04	05/02/08	
6425 RICHMOND HWY #303	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$245,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/02/08	
6621 WAKEFIELD DR #805	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors	0	05/02/08	
1203 BELLE VISTA DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.36	05/02/08	
8046 CENTRAL PARK DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$242,500	Townhouse	0.06	05/02/08	
8515 SOUTHLAWN CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.02	05/02/08	
8624C BEEKMAN PL #24C	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$135,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/02/08	
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #613	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$274,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0	05/05/08	
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #106	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$184,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0	05/05/08	
823 EDEN CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$757,500	Detached	0.38	05/05/08	
8138 WELLINGTON RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.66	05/05/08	
2207 WAKEFIELD ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Detached	0.31	05/05/08	
8414 EUREKA CT #101	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$121,000	Patio Home	0	05/05/08	
8209 ACKLEY ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Detached	0.25	05/05/08	
4306 BIRCHLAKE CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$220,000	Townhouse	0.05	05/05/08	
7970 AUDUBON AVE #A2	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$190,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/06/08	
7518F SNOWPEA CT #42	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$285,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/06/08	
3923 SAN LEANDRO PL #D	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$124,000	Townhouse	0	05/06/08	
4119 ROBERTSON BLVD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$659,000	Detached	0.34	05/06/08	
3894A MARIPOSA PL #49A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$172,000	Townhouse	0	05/06/08	
2059 HUNTINGTON AVE #1211	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0	05/07/08	
7573 GREY GOOSE WAY	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.04	05/07/08	
1102 PRISCILLA LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$735,000	Detached	0.28	05/08/08	
9302 LUDGATE DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Detached	0.40	05/08/08	
5731 CANNON LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$365,000	Detached	0.24	05/09/08	
5995 GRAND PAVILION WAY	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Townhouse	0.03	05/09/08	
7975 AUDUBON AVE #A2	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$80,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/09/08	
7593 GREY GOOSE WAY	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.05	05/09/08	
2321 KIMBRO ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$660,000	Detached	0.39	05/09/08	
6631 WAKEFIELD DR #917	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$270,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0	05/09/08	
8102 RUSSELL RD	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Detached	0.27	05/09/08	
8789 VILLAGE GREEN CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03	05/09/08	
3852 HAVENWOOD PL #C	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$130,000	Townhouse	0	05/09/08	
9213 CRAIG AVE	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$450,000	Detached	0.34	05/12/08	
8402 JINETES CT #215	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$200,000	Townhouse	0	05/12/08	
8612 SHADWELL DR #49	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$159,900	Garden 1-4 Floors	0	05/12/08	
3401 BLUE MALLARD LNDG	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.04	05/13/08	
5904 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1416	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$399,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	0	05/14/08	
3105 ELMWOOD DR	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Detached	0.17	05/14/08	
1139 WESTMORELAND RD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Detached	0.40	05/14/08	
2417 STIRRUP LN	5	4	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$625,000	Detached	0.29	05/14/08	
8520 WAGON WHEEL RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$460,000	Detached	0.38	05/14/08	

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Summer Swim: Everybody into the Pool

The CSL and NVSL kicks off their 2008 swim season.

BY PAUL FROMMELT
GAZETTE

With 126 swim teams in 21 divisions and made up of thousands of swimmers, the Northern Virginia Swimming League and the Colonial Swim League are making sure that Saturday mornings around Northern Virginia begin in the pool.

The NVSL houses 102 competitive swim teams, spread out in 17 different divisions throughout Fairfax County, Arlington and Alexandria. The more developmental CSL sports 24 competitive teams throughout four divisions, drawing mostly from Fairfax County and Loudoun County.

"The excitement level is really up," said CSL President Bobby Winterbottom. With most teams conducting their time trials last Saturday, both leagues will kickoff their 2008 dual meet season on June 21.

"They have been practicing now for two weeks so the kids are really fired up and ready to get in there and start swimming against somebody else," said Winterbottom.

Both league's seasons will culminate on August 2, for their Individual All Stars meet.

"It is a short season, but it is a really intense season. The kids are out of school and everybody is very excited, especially for that very first meet," said NVSL publicity chairman Keenan Goldsby.

Founded in 1956, the NVSL's mantra is, "A love for the sport, advanced aquatic skills, teamwork, and the principles of good sportsmanship."

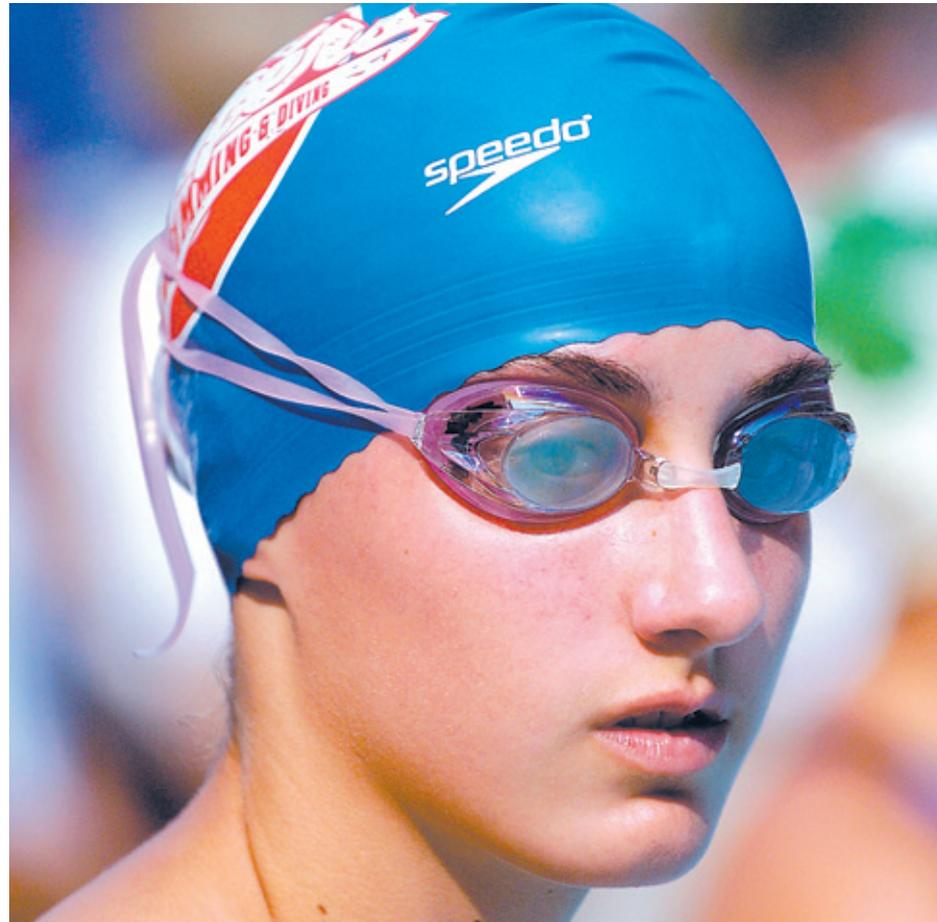
Winterbottom takes the same approach when speaking of the CSL's goals this summer.

"We try to teach them good sportsmanship and get them ready for bigger things," he said. "If they want to continue with swimming, they are getting all the knowledge and the experience to continue on."

Notable recent NVSL and CSL alumni include Kate Ziegler, 19, who broke the 1500-meter freestyle record last June, the longest standing world record at the time. Ziegler, a four-time World Champion, is favored to win gold at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing.

Suzanne Schwee, a CSL alumna who graduated from Stone Bridge High School this year, will swim for the University of Alabama and has posted top-20 times in butterfly and backstroke.

Recent Lake Braddock grad Ashley Danner, considered a top-10 swimmer, started in the NVSL and will swim for George Mason.



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/GAZETTE

A CSL swimmer prepares to race during the 2007 CSL Individual All Star meet at Wakefield Chapel.



CSL swimmers dive into the pool at the 2007 Relay Carnival.



A CSL swimmer shows off her dolphin body art at the 2007 Relay Carnival at Sugarland Run.

2007 Division Champs

Northern Virginia Swim League

Division	Team	Record	Points
Division 1	Overlee	5-0	2014.00
Division 2	Little Rocky Run	5-0	1757.00
Division 3	Lee-Graham	5-0	1803.00
Division 4	Fox Mill Woods	3-2	1414.00
Division 5	High Point Pool	5-0	1432.00
Division 6	Dunn Loring	5-0	1448.00
Division 7	Mansion House	5-0	1581.00
Division 8	Villa Aquatic	5-0	1398.50
Division 9	Hollin Meadows	5-0	1402.50
Division 10	Forest Hollow	5-0	1296.00
Division 11	Fox Hunt	5-0	1406.00
Division 12	Rolling Forest	4-1	1309.50
Division 13	Camelot	5-0	1241.00
Division 14	Rutherford	5-0	1277.00
Division 15	Long Branch	5-0	1308.00
Division 16	Lincolnia Park	4-1	1332.00
Division 17	Laurel Hill	5-0	1460.00

Colonial Swim League

Division	Team	Record	Points
Red Division	Burke Centre	5-0	1653.00
White Division	Chan. Highlands	5-0	1505.00
Blue Division	Barrington	5-0	1387.00
Gold Division	Fort Meyer	5-0	1558.00

Want your team highlighted in the Connection?

Send weekly swim team reports and photos to egilmore@connectionnewspapers.com. Reports should be no more than 100 words and must be submitted by Monday. For more information, contact sports editor Eric J. Gilmore at 703-917-6438.

NVSL and CSL: 2008 Important Dates

Colonial Swim League

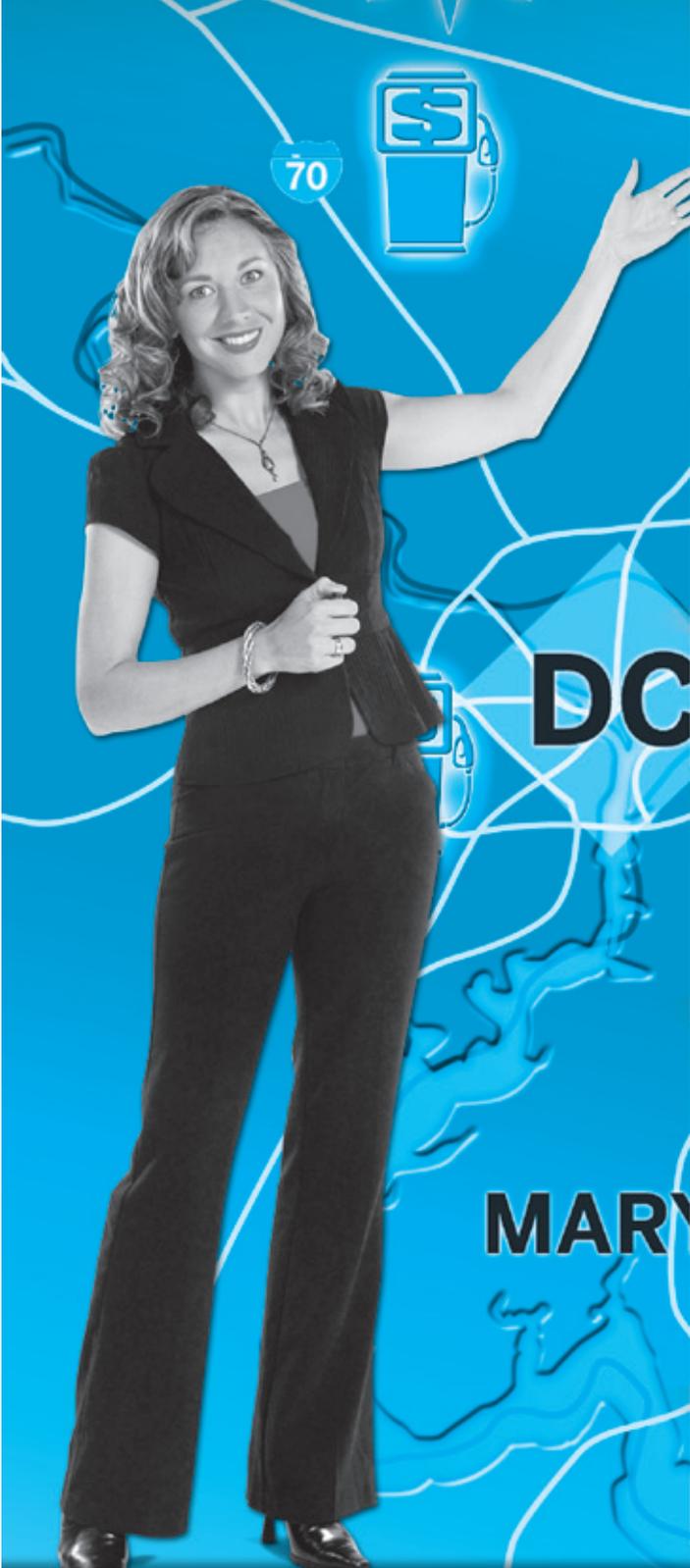
First Dual Meet of the Year:
Saturday, June 21, 2008
Relay Carnival
Sunday, July 13, 2008
Divisionals
Saturday, July 26, 2008
All Stars
Saturday, August 2, 2008

Northern Virginia Swim League

First Dual Meet of the Year:
Saturday, June 21, 2008
Divisional Relays
Wednesday, July 13, 2008
Divisionals
Saturday, July 26, 2008
Individual All Stars
Saturday, August 2, 2008

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Marbury D. Keys III
Director of Human Resources
703-549-7894, ext 26

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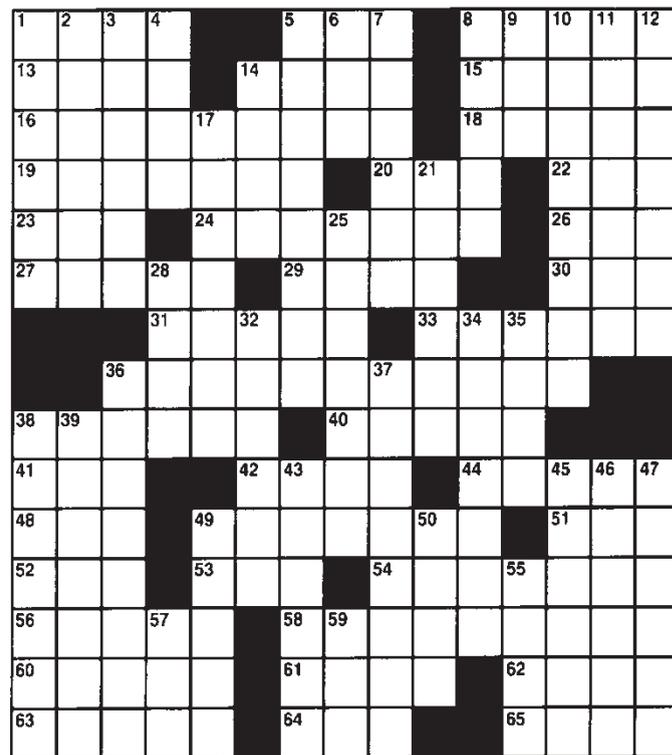
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Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0313-3



Puzzle by David J. Kahn

ACROSS

1 Small coin
5 Racing car product
8 Some Iranians
13 Part of a chorus
14 Word with strings or horns
15 "Do I — you?" (line from "GoodFellas")
16 Beechcraft Baron or Cessna 310
18 Clobber
19 Atomic energy source
20 More, musically
22 Sellout
23 Bond accrual: Abbr.
24 Division
26 Modern prefix with friendly
27 See 32-Down
29 Mischief
30 Kind of boot
31 Take off the rolls
33 Outfielder's throw, maybe
36 Bygone era, which will help answer the five italicized clues

DOWN

25 Edwardian wit who wrote "The Happy Hypocrite"
28 Quinine, for malaria
32 Place where 27-Across is sung
34 Undissembling
35 Counter offer?
36 Fade gradually
37 Badges
38 1950's TV variety show sponsor
39 Salon fixtures
43 African antelopes
45 Nicely sun-tanned
46 Poe poem
47 None too challenging courses
49 Echelons
50 Young 'uns
55 All hands
57 Class competition
59 Sensitive subject, to some

4 Wool weights
5 Carry away, in a way
6 Short —
7 Eye
8 On the fritz
9 Ralph's "The Avengers" co-star, 1998
10 Acts impatiently
11 Chicken legs
12 Make sure
14 Fruit used for preserves
17 Noted family of Italian sculptors
21 Con

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

D	E	J	A	V	U	F	L	O	S	D	A	K	
E	T	A	M	I	N	I	A	N	H	A	L	E	
A	C	C	E	P	T	A	N	C	E	A	L	I	A
R	H	O	T	O	M	A	T	O	P	L	A	N	T
B	E	R	L	I	N	R	E	L	I	E	S		
C	A	R	T	E	D	C	I	T	R	O			
U	T	I	C	A	G	E	T	W	I	T	H	I	T
E	L	I	T	A	O	S	O	O	Y	M	A		
D	I	S	E	M	B	O	D	Y	D	I	G	I	N
R	E	A	D	E	S	P	R	I	N	G			
A	P	R	O	N	S	A	R	A	I	S	E		
T	O	E	D	T	H	E	L	I	N	E	N	B	A
W	I	S	E	I	N	S	P	E	C	T	I	O	N
A	S	I	N	N	O	T	S	E	A	S	O	N	
R	E	N	T	G	S	O	T	S	E	T	S	E	

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The winner of puzzle #0312-3 is:

F. J. Pepper

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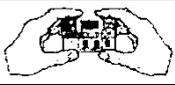
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OBITUARY

Captain Ward Boston Jr. Dies June 12

Captain Ward Boston, Jr. long time Coronado, California resident died on June 12th after a short term illness at the Coronado Hospital. At the time of his passing, Ward was in the comfort of his beloved wife, Emma and his loving family.

Ward was born in Moberly, Missouri on June 21, 1923, and was the only son of Ward and Margaret Boston. Prior to World War II, Ward had received a scholarship to study oboe at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, however his life took a detour when World War II was declared. At nineteen (19) years old Ward entered flight school as an aviation cadet. It was in Pensacola, Florida, where he earned his flight wings, and joined the war efforts to preserve America's freedom. He will be remembered as one who belonged in the group called our "Greatest Generation".

At the beginning of World War II, Ward entered the Naval Service and became a "F6F" fighter pilot in the Pacific fleet. Ward also was on combat duty on USS Yorktown, and also flew "Hellcats" and "Corsairs" off of two Jeep Carriers and two CVL Carriers including USS Midway in the Atlantic Fleet. Ward's flight crew soon referred to him as "Blackie", a nickname that followed him through his life span.

After World War II, Ward received his Bachelor of Art and Jurors Doctoral Degrees from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Ward also passed the Virginia State Bar, while still attending Law School, and subsequently practiced law in the "Law Firm of Richardson & Boston" in Williamsburg, Virginia. Shortly after World War II ended, Ward continued to fly as a "Week-end Warrior" and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. While stationed in Norfolk

he met and married his beloved wife Emma Penello.

Ward then accepted an appointment as a "Special Agent" for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and after graduating from the FBI Academy he was assigned and served in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Shortly after the Korean War commenced, Ward returned to active duty in the regular Navy as a Judge Advocate lawyer. Upon retirement, Ward had completed thirty-four (34) and a half years of duty. At the time of his retirement, Ward was the senior Captain in the Naval Service.

Ward was a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia, the US Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island and did graduate law studies at George Washington University. During Ward's long and devoted Naval Service career Ward received sixteen (16) combat decorations, awards and citations.

Ward and his wife Emma retired to Coronado in 1975 to enjoy their retirement years. However, throughout Ward's career; they had many tours of duty in Coronado that began in 1953 and continue until they made Coronado their permanent home. After Ward retired many longtime residents and friends came to know and enjoy Ward's talents, outgoing personality and expertise with civic and legal issues. Ward became active in the Al Bahr Shrine Oriental Band and the Coronado Optimist Club where he held "official club titles". Additionally, he was a member and Officer of the Coronado "Roundtable", and served as the Assistant President for the Grand Jury. Ward also held the title of President of the Silver Strand Chapter of the Retired Officers Association, and he was a member and served in the San Diego Chapter of the Society for former FBI agents. Ward was instrumental in the organization of this FBI Chapter and held a

position as an Officer. Ward was very active in the "Hammer Club" and the "Unconcerned Citizens" of Coronado. For thirty years (30) he was a weekly volunteer at the San Diego Aerospace Museum and a "Senior Volunteer Patrolman" for the Coronado Police Department.

Within the last few years, Ward had become instrumental in the investigation and uncovering the facts behind USS Liberty and the 1968 historical implications of his and the late Admiral Isaac Kidd, investigation as "Senior Judge Advocate" for the Sixth Fleet in Naples, Italy. Ward has always been and was an advocate for the survivors of USS Liberty as well as those who were lost at sea.

Ward and his beloved wife, Emma loved Coronado since four generations of his family resided on Coronado Island. Ward's late parents home, the "Pickford-Boston House" was designated a Coronado Historic Landmark in 1981.

Ward is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years who resides in Coronado. Three children: Anne Boston Parish of Alexandria, Virginia, Ward Boston, III and his wife Maryanne of Saint Petersburg, Florida, and Geoffrey Daniel Boston of Park City, Utah.

He is additionally survived by six grandchildren: Daniel Ward Boston, Jennifer Parish Wallace and her husband, John, Christopher Miller Boston, George Rod Parish, IV, Emma Jane Boston and Tyler Geoffrey Boston. Additionally, Ward is survived by his sister-in law, Anne Jenkins of Norfolk, Virginia.

On June 24th, at 1 p.m. Ward will be interred at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery on Point Loma with full military honors. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, Ward wished to have all donations made to the Disabled American Veterans.

and Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum (in the Torpedo Factory Art Center) at 105 N. Union St., Suite 327. Space is limited and an RSVP is required by Thursday, May 1. If interested, contact Jen Hembree by calling 703-838-4399 or by e-mail at jen_hembree@hotmail.com.

There will be a **volunteer management boot camp** from 9 a.m.-noon in Alexandria. Part of Volunteer Fairfax. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org, and click on "Training Registration" on the left-hand side. The fee for this session is \$35. For more information, e-mail Emily Gibbs at egibbs@volunteerfairfax.org.

UCM's Transitional Housing Program is looking for volunteer groups to help provide a prepared well balanced meal for about 60 people, this includes children. Groups would be asked to sign up for 1 meeting per year on the third Tuesday evening of each month. The grocery bill would be at the group's expense and a tax donation slip would be provided. Assistance with child care is needed. Call Betsy Damitz, volunteer coordinator 703-768-7106 ext. 328.

The Child & Family Network Centers has many volunteer opportunities, including volunteering in classrooms, field-trip assistants, ESL and Spanish language tutors, clothing drive assistant and office assistant. They also need volunteers to help prepare for their annual wine tasting fundraising event in the spring. Contact Patricia Chapman at 703-836-0214 or pchapman@cfnc-online.org.

Higher Achievement seeks teacher mentors to work with motivated scholars at Hammond Middle School from 6-8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Karen Berry, Volunteer Coordinator, 202-544-3633 or kberry@higherachievement.org

The Hispanic Committee of Virginia needs volunteers for their youth programs, including volunteers to mentor Hispanic teenagers and for "Arroz Con Leche," a weekly reading and writing enrichment program for immigrant 2nd and 3rd graders. Spanish language proficiency is not required, training and support is available, and average commitment is just 1-2 hours/week. Contact Jodi Hammer at 703-671-5666, ex. 20, or educationcoord@hcv.org.

Project Northstar needs volunteers to tutor children who live in homeless shelters, transitional housing programs and foster care. Project Northstar matches adult volunteers with the same student for one evening per week to work on basic math and reading skills. 202-223-0144, ext. 10

RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network) seeks volunteers for the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline, which provides live, secure, anonymous, instant message-style crisis support to the growing number of people who prefer communicating via the Internet — giving those affected by sexual assault a safe place to turn when they can't find their voice. Contact Darcey West at 202-544-0227 or darceyw@rainn.org.

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Send volunteer notices to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or call Rebecca Halik with any questions 703-917-6407.

Community Lodgings needs tutor/mentor a child in the Alexandria community. The after school program provides homework assistance as well as character development. Contact: Emily Barnes, 703-739-5856 emilybarnes@communitylodgings.org

The **Alexandria Commission for Women** needs volunteers to work with its Court Observation Program. This program is a volunteer-based court monitoring and research project which follows cases of sexual and domestic violence. Volunteers are asked to commit to working at least one morning each month in the Alexandria City Courthouse. Training will be provided two evenings: Tuesday, May 6 and Wednesday, May 14 from 7-9 p.m. Volunteers need to attend only one of these sessions. Contact Laura Mandala at 703-798-5452 or Laura@MandalaResearch.com.

Port City Playhouse- construct and paint sets for the theatre. Box office and ushering help also needed for performances. Groups and youths age 15 and older are welcome. Contact: Robert Kraus, 703-838-2880 portcityinfo@aol.com

Alexandria Legacies, the City of Alexandria's Oral History Program, is seeking volunteers to help collect the oral histories of long-time Alexandria residents by documenting their memories of living and working in Alexandria. Oral history volunteer training sessions will be held on Saturday, May 10,

MOUNT VERNON BULLETIN

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

The Virginia State Council of the Knights of Columbus recently selected a Mount Vernon couple as its 2007-2008 State Family of the Year. Stanley and Linda Glod were presented with the honor by the State Deputy, Lenny Pulizzi, at the State Council's annual convention in Roanoke. They were cited as role models for their sustained, selfless devotion and contribution to the Catholic Church, community, and the Knights of Columbus on the local, national and international levels. Stanley

is a Fourth Degree Knight with the Fort Belvoir Knights of Columbus Council 11170

The **Mount Vernon Republican Women** are hosting their June meeting on Thursday, June 19 at 7 p.m. at the home of Gail McNally. The speaker for the event will be Rodica Scoma, MD, a physician and member of our club. The title of the presentation is "Heart Attacks and Strokes in Women, What Precipitates?" This meeting is open to all interested members, guests, and community members. For information, call Debbie Fountain, 703-780-5942

The Alexandria chapter of the Coronary Health Improvement Project

(CHIP), a national nutrition and lifestyle improvement program, will sponsor a **Community Health Expo and Seminar** on Sunday, June 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Community Praise Center, 1400 Russell Road. The event highlights include a fitness clinic, vegan cooking demonstrations, health information on hypertension, diabetes, cancer, cholesterol, door prizes and more. Free health screenings for blood pressure, diabetes, body fat analysis and more will be provided. Free. For more information or to RSVP, call 703-823-2139 or e-mail cpchchip@comcast.net.

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking persons who are diplomatic,



Stanley and Linda Glod

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.

Sign-up for **"Master the Art of Reading,"** the Fairfax County Public Library's 2008 Summer Reading Program. The library invites kids from preschool to high school to enjoy the magic of reading this summer. The program runs from June 13 to August 30. Preschoolers through sixth graders read 15 books. (Children can have books read to them.) Students in grades 7-12 read eight books. Visit the library's Web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library>.

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. For more information or to schedule a public safety event, contact Captain Sean Whitmore at 703-246-7521 or e-mail sheriff@fairfaxcounty.gov.

* 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. Call the store today at 703-360-6700 or stop by. For more information visit: www.restorenova.org.

One on One Basketball presents its first overnight camps this summer. Located at the 130 acre Episcopal High School campus.

The Northern Virginia Basketball Camp caters to boys ages 7 - 16 and provides a day camp option. The Northern Virginia overnight camp runs July 6-10 for \$475. The day camp option (9 a.m.-3 p.m.) is \$350. The intensive overnight camp runs July 11-13 for \$350. Team and group discounts available.

One on One Basketball runs other day camps throughout the region. Call 202-244-BALL or visit <http://www.1on1basketball.com/dc/>

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. Washington created the garden during his 1775 redesign of the Mount Vernon grounds, transforming a circa 1760 rectangular garden into an elliptical space bounded by a brick wall as well as a greenhouse and slave quarter to the north.

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. A typical week includes lab work on Monday and field work Tuesday through Friday; lab work is also carried out on rain days. 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 Ed Smith 703-768-8278 or 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.

The **Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Auxiliary** is currently accepting applications for adult volunteers. Volunteering at Mount Vernon Hospital is fun, exciting, and rewarding. A variety of positions are available and every effort is made to match your availability, interests, and abilities with the volunteer opportunities within the program. The hospital is located at 2501 Parker's Lane in Alexandria. For further information, call 703-664-7260, stop by the Director of Volunteer Services office Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., or visit www.inova.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, a weight loss support group, meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m., Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Private weigh-ins. Annual fee \$24. 703-299-5788.

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