

# Mount Vernon Gazette

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VOL. XIX, No. 26

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

JUNE 26, 2008

25 CENTS

## Achieving A "Green Sanctuary"

**Mount Vernon Unitarian church becomes a green sanctuary, the first in Fairfax County.**

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

**R**alph Waldo Emerson, a member of the Unitarian Church, once wrote "The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it." That was proven last Thursday at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church during a ceremony officially dedicating its recently completed stormwater improvement projects consisting of creating two rain gardens, an inlet structure and check dams to control runoff quantity and improve local water quality. The church is now designated a "Green Sanctuary."

Funded by Fairfax County for \$60,000, these improvements are part of the church's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability.

The "Green Sanctuary" program challenges congregations to demonstrate that they are "living their commitment to the earth, and that individual members and the church community are developing a sustainable life style."

Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, located on Windmill Lane in Mount Vernon District, became the first congregation in Fairfax County to participate in a public-private partnership for the benefit of the county's water resources.

They supported construction of storm wa-



**One of two Rain Gardens created on the grounds of the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church as part of the private-public partnership between Fairfax County and the church under the Little Hunting Creek Watershed Program.**

ter management structures on their property by entering into a cooperative agreement with the county.

"We at the county knew that the people of the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church would partner with us. You have gone above and beyond to make this project possible. Working with this congregation have been very gratifying," said Stephen W. Aitchison, director, Stormwater Planning Division, Fairfax County Department of Public Works & Environmental Services.

"Mount Vernon Unitarian Church is clearly a leader in the Mount Vernon area when it comes to environmental issues. The success of this project will serve as a model for future partnerships," he said.

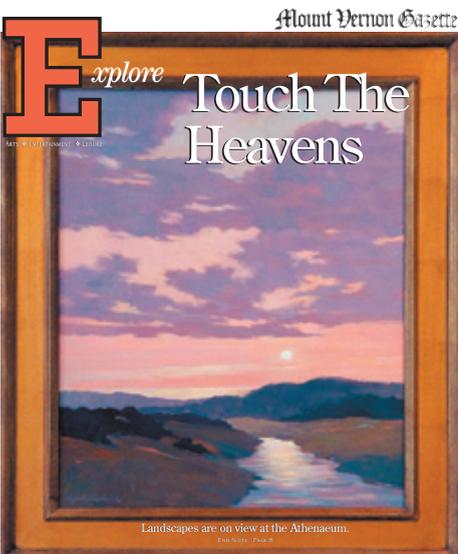
That was echoed by Virginia State Senator Patricia S. "Patsy" Ticer (D-30), who praised the congregation for their community involvement and environmental stewardship.

"This is something to be very proud of and an example for others. I thank you for

inviting me to participate in this dedication ceremony," she said.

The stormwater management elements installed at the church, which is situated atop Mason Hill and within the Little Hunting Creek watershed, will limit the volume of runoff, reduce erosion downslope, and remove pollutants by directing runoff from the church parking lot and driveway to the rain gardens and the new inlet structure.

SEE SANCTUARY, PAGE 7



## Saudi Academy Challenged Again

**Academy director arrested for failure to comply with state law on suspected abuse.**

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

**O**nce again the Islamic Saudi Academy, 8333 Richmond Highway, in Mount Vernon District, Fairfax County, is being charged with having hate and violence embedded in their curriculum and textbooks. However, this time attacks against the school have been compounded by the arrest of its Director General and the heated political contest for the 11th District

Congressional seat.

Debate about the school's curriculum was ignited in October 2007 when the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom issued a report calling for the school's closure "until such time as the official Saudi textbooks used at the ISA are made available for comprehensive public examination in the United States." They also sought action by the U.S. State Department and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The latter became embroiled in the con-

trovercy because the school building, a former Fairfax County Public Schools building, is leased to the academy by the Board of Supervisors. That lease was due for renewal this month at the time of the original Commission report. The Board unanimously approved a one year renewal at its recent meeting.

However, that renewal occurred following the arrest of the school's Director General Abdalla I. Al-Shabnan resulting from his failure to report a complaint from a five year old female student at the school that she was allegedly being sexually abused by her father. Al-Shabnan has been charged by

SEE ACADEMY, PAGE 4



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This fully renovated 3 BR home stands apart from the rest starting at the front porch addition and including the remodeled kitchen and baths, double pane windows, beautiful floors, family room, fireplace, patio, garage and large corner lot. Soothing color tone and attention to detail throughout make this home in perfect, move-in condition. Minutes to DC, Old Town, Pentagon & Airport.

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POLICE BRIEFS

## Serial Burglar Arrested

Cornelius Sniper, 20, of the 7800 block of Belford Drive, Hybla Valley, has been charged by Fairfax County Police with four counts of burglary, three counts of grand larceny, and two counts of grand larceny with intent to sell. He was arrested June 18.

On June 11 after a home in the 8600 block of Braddock Avenue was burglarized, an investigation led detectives to Sniper. A search warrant was executed and evidence was obtained at his home during the search that linked Sniper to the June 11 burglary as well as three other burglaries in the area, according to police.

He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. The investigation is continuing with further charges possible, police reported. Anyone with



**Cornelius Sniper**

information is asked to contact Crime Solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477) or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

## Antique Gun Collection Stolen

An assortment of antique shotguns and pistols were reported stolen June 4 from a home in the 8500 block of Greenleaf Street in the Woodlawn area of Mount Vernon District. A Fairfax County Police investigation has determined the weapons were stolen between Friday, May 30 and Wednesday, June 4, while the homeowner was away.

Entry was made through an unlocked rear door, according to police. The owner valued the collection at approximately \$20,000. Guns stolen included: Four

double-barrel shotguns; Four double-barrel pistols; six flintlock pistols; and six miscellaneous pistols.

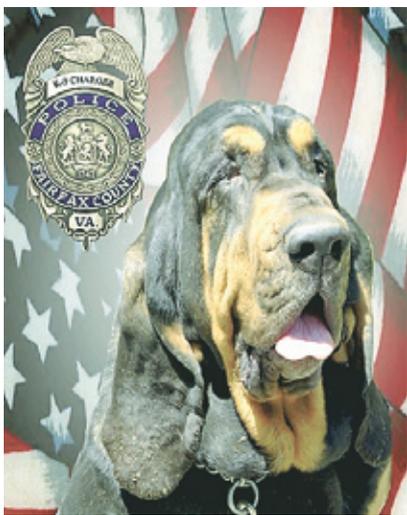
Anyone with information about the guns or the identity of the suspect or suspects is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), email at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIME(274637). A \$100 to \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information leading to an arrest. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

## Police Mourn The Loss of "Charger"

Charger collapsed and died while on his final walk in the woods near his home with his handler June 13. He had cancer.

"Charger" was a Fairfax County Police Bloodhound who had been with the force since arriving in the area from his home in Pont Rouge, Quebec, Canada, where he was born on February 23, 2002. His training to become a police tracking dog began in May 2002 and lasted for nearly a year. His primary duty was to find people, those who were lost and those who had committed crimes, according to police.

Charger and his human partner, Lt. Pat Ronan, responded to hundreds of calls. One of the most memorable tracks was of a suspected rapist who had attacked a victim in his own apartment building. Charger led Lt. Ronan and other officers to the suspect's



**Charger**

apartment where he was located and arrested.

Although a trained and experienced tracker, Charger was still a dog at heart and chewed everything in sight, according to Ronan. He was a special friend and companion as well as a dedicated police K9.

SEE POLICE BRIEFS, PAGE 9



**Children enjoy a ride on the Tommy Tank Train during festivities at the Gum Springs Community Center celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Mount Vernon District's Gum Springs Community.**

## Gum Springs Celebrates Its 175th

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

Last Saturday, the self proclaimed "Capital of African American History" celebrated its 175th Anniversary. Starting with a morning parade, the Gum Springs Community in Mount Vernon District put on a full day of live entertainment, kids rides and slides, free health screenings, and lots of good food at the Community Center on Fordson Road.

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland declared June 21, 2008 as "Gum Springs Day" with a proclamation from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Celebrity guests included Supa Ken of WKYS and the Grand Marshall Singers.

"So far we've had about 150 people attend and we hope to top 200 by the time it ends at 6 p.m.," said Anthony McCallum, president, Gum Springs Youth Association.

Proceeds from the Annual Community Day go to support the youth and civic associations, according to McCallum. "This is a great turnout. Everyone en-

joyed the parade and the police and fire departments have been very supportive," said Judith Garrett, president, Gum Springs Civic Association.

One attendee, Lashayla Eason, an 11th grader at West Potomac High School, who was collecting donations for the two organizations, will be taking a major trip this summer to represent her school and the community. As part of the International People to People Program she will spend 17 days in Beijing, China.

"I'm being hosted by a Chinese family which will give me an opportunity to study Chinese culture and share our culture with them. I also get to walk on the Great Wall," she said.

"I'm really excited about the trip and all the opportunities it presents. But, I'm also a little nervous," Eason said.

Inside the Community Center attendees had the opportunity to register to vote and avail themselves of several health screening tests. In addition to the Center and Civic Association, the event was sponsored by the Gum Springs Advisory Board, Gum Springs Historical Society, and Christians in Action for Positive African American Men.



**Attendees at the 175th Anniversary celebration of Gum Springs Community enjoyed various entertainers who performed throughout the day at the Gum Springs Community Center.**

## Belvoir Officer Nominated For First Woman Four Star General

Lt. General Ann E. Dunwoody, deputy commanding general and chief of staff, U.S. Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, has been nominated as the first woman in the U.S. Armed Forces to attain the rank of full General. Approximately five percent of Army general officers are women.

Scheduled to become the Materiel Command's commanding general, Dunwoody previously served as deputy chief of staff, G-4 at the Pentagon. She has been responsible for ensuring warfighters had the necessary supplies and services, and that logisticians had the tools and equipment necessary to deliver those supplies and services to soldiers around the globe.

"Lt. Gen. Dunwoody's leadership, character and career have best prepared her to lead the Army Materiel Command. She will bring 33 years of experience as the Materiel Command's next commanding general," said Secretary of the Army Pete Green.

"This is an important day for the Dunwoody family, the military and the nation. Lt. Gen. Dunwoody's nomination not only underscores her significant contributions and success throughout 33 years of service, but also shows the level of possible opportunity in our Army's diverse, quality, all-volunteer force," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey.

"I am very honored but also very humbled with this announcement. I grew up in a family that didn't know what glass ceilings were. This nomination only reaffirms what I have known to be true about the military throughout my career — that doors continue to open for men and women in uniform. My focus right now is to be the best deputy I can be," said Dunwoody. Her nomination now goes to Congress for confirmation.

A native New Yorker, Dunwoody received a direct commission after graduating from the State University of New York in 1975. Since her first assignment in 1976 as a platoon leader at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, she has commanded at every level. Dunwoody comes from a family with a long tradition of military service, including her great grandfather, grandfather, father, husband, brother, sister, and niece.

Dunwoody's awards and badges include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Master Parachutist Badge, and Army Achievement Medal.



**Lt. General Ann E. Dunwoody**

## Traffic Delays Expected At Mt. Vernon Circle

Motorists traveling the southern portion of the George Washington Memorial Parkway this summer should expect delays approaching the circle at Mount Vernon Estate due to construction, according to the National Park Service.

As part of an ongoing joint project with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), construction recently commenced on the median and the loading/unloading areas at Mount Vernon Circle, according to the park service. That work is expected to extend through mid-August.

Only one travel lane around the circle will remain open at all times. The northbound and southbound lanes of the Parkway will remain open, according to the park service. Drivers should watch for signs announcing lane closures, detours, and allow time for delays during the construction period.

The project, begun in March, is being undertaken to reconfigure traffic through the Circle, extend the Mount Vernon Trail, resurface existing parking lots, add 150 visitor parking spaces, and improve visitor access. It includes grading, pavement re-surfacing, utility and drainage improvements, a trail extension and a sidewalk addition.

SEE THIS WEEK, PAGE 7

# Academy Challenged Again

FROM PAGE 1

Fairfax County Police with two misdemeanors, failing to report and obstruction of justice, for not reporting the girl's accusations.

Al-Shabnan has claimed that he did not believe the girl and advised the parents to seek psychiatric help for the child. However, he also ordered the school's computers to be purged of a report about the complaint incident, according to police.

Although a trial date has not been set as of this writing, misdemeanor cases are usually heard in Fairfax County General District Court within 30 to 60 days of an arrest, according to Fairfax County Police Officer Eddie Azcarate, PIO. Al-Shabnan was required to report the incident under the Virginia Code applicable to physicians, nurses, teachers, school heads and others.

The code specifically states that the requirement to report such incidents is applicable to "Any teacher or other person employed in a public or private school, kindergarten or nursery." It also states: "All persons required by this subsection to report suspected abuse or neglect who maintain a record of a child who is the subject of such a report shall cooperate with the investigating agency and shall make related information, records and reports available to the investigating agency unless such disclosure violates the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act."

Any individual required to make such a report as defined by the Virginia Code must do so within 72 hours of gaining the knowledge. Failure to do so within that time frame can result in a fine of "\$500 for the first failure" and fines of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000 for subsequent failures.

**THE ARREST OF** Al-Shabnan, coupled with renewed calls by the Commission this month with reference to the school's textbooks and curriculum, triggered a protest at the school on June 17 by a about a dozen members of a lobbying group known as the Traditional Values Coalition. His arrest also brought forth statements from the election of campaigns of State Senator Ken Cuccinelli (R-37), running for Virginia Attorney General, and the Republican candidate for the 11th Congressional District, Keith Fimian.

Coalition members carried signs proclaiming "Honk to Stop Islamic Terrorism" and "This Saudi School is Anti-Semitic and Anti Christian." They maintained that the school's curriculum and textbooks justify killing of non-Muslims based on Islamic beliefs.

However, when representatives of the group were invited to enter the school and observe classroom teaching they refused, according to ISA's Education Director Rahim Abdullah, who met with the protestors. "I personally invited two representatives to come in and see how we operate but they refused. We couldn't have the whole group in because classes were in progress," she said.

On June 19 Cuccinelli's campaign released a letter sent by the candidate to Al-Shabnan questioning the contents of the school's textbooks and curriculum. According to the letter, it was instigated by what Cuccinelli read in "Washington Times news articles regarding the teaching of violent practices to students," not on his own first-hand inquires or investigation.

Referring to the school's June 13 press release

regarding the latest concerns of the Commission and noting that "once again" the Commission, in the opinion of ISA, had "issued an erroneous report" about ISA and its text books, Cuccinelli found the news release "not sufficient to alleviate concerns." He stated, "Since the ISA controversy allegations (of the Commission) of teaching violence are not

directly and unequivocally repudiated in the press release, doubt remains that the allegations might indeed be true."

Cuccinelli called on Al-Shabnan and the Islamic Saudi Academy Board to: "(1) Repudiate teaching at ISA that it is permissible for Muslims to kill adulterers and converts from Islam; (2) affirm that it is not acceptable for your students to be taught lessons which if acted upon would violate US law; and (3) that such lessons are not being taught at ISA."

**WHEN IT CAME** to Fimian, he called for County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerry Connolly, his Democratic opponent in the 11th Congressional District contest, to "reverse his decision to renew the public lease for the ISA, which is funded by the government of Saudi Arabia." As previously stated, it was a unanimous decision of the Board to grant a one-year renewal of the lease not an individual decision by Connolly.

"I think the least board members like Connolly should do is examine the textbooks and the curriculum before they rubber stamp this lease. We must demand greater vigilance in the face of real threats to the safety of our families and our nation," Fimian said.

His news release seem to be unaware that a thorough examination of ISA's textbooks was made by an independent scholar, fluent in Arabic, following the release of the Commission's original report in October 2007. That examination was at the behest of Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland (D). An examination has also been conducted

by the U.S. State Department which has the authority to require the school's closure if it feels it is violating U.S. Law in any way.

"In the world we live in we can't be too cautious. We need to sit back and wait for the release of the Commission's full report," said Steve Waters, Fimian Campaign manager.

"If the children are being taught violence and hate that's a very, very serious issue. And the arrest of the director further compounds the school's problems. Put the kids first. They are our number one commodity and future. Patience should have been exercised in renewing the lease," Waters said.

According to Hyland that is exactly what was exercised. "I intentionally proposed that the lease be renewed for only one year to give us more flexibility in assessing the situation both in terms of ISA and the future use of the building," Hyland said.

The renewal is for one year with two one year options. "This gives us (the Board) total control. It can't go for more than three years under this new agreement. And, the lease language gives the State Department the final say on the location of the Academy," he said.

As for the renewed textbook/curriculum controversy, "They (ISA)

assured me that the new curriculum would be theirs alone. It is different from what is being taught in any

**"I intentionally proposed that the lease be renewed for only one year."**  
—Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland

SEE ACADEMY, PAGE 33

# COMMUNITY

## Helping County Wildlife

Boy Scouts of America member Cole Rosenberg plans to restore habitats for the wildlife at Huntley Meadows Park in Alexandria, on Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29.

Cole, 13, hopes to reach Eagle Scout status, but in order to do so, he must complete a service project that benefits the community. He has chosen to spend the two days building brush pile shelters at one of the largest parks in Fairfax County. Due to the overgrowth of the surrounding forest and the increase in residential areas, the park's meadows are rapidly diminishing.

"The meadow habitat is disappearing," said Cole. "We're going to build shelters for the animals to live in."

According to Dave Lawlor, the park's natural resource manager, building and expanding the meadows will enable more species to inhabit the area. "The larger the meadows, the more species it can attract," said Lawlor.

Cole's mother, Sheryl Rosenberg, believes the project is a great idea. "He's learning leadership skills and organizational



PHOTO BY SARA RONKEN/THE CONNECTION

**Cole Rosenberg stands in front of the site where he will build brush pile shelters to help the wildlife. Rosenberg is looking for volunteers for Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29 at Huntley Meadows Park.**

skills," she said.

Cole is looking for volunteers to help out Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., at Huntley Meadows Park. He hopes to fully restore the meadow habitat and allow many more species to inhabit the area.

"The meadows make it a better place for the animals and for people to come visit," said Rosenberg.

Lawlor agreed. "When the meadows are healthy, they are a beautiful place to be," he said.

— SARA RONKEN

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**Alex/Mt. Vernon \$739,900**  
**3311 Wessynton Way**

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**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 finished 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.



**Alex/Mt. Vernon \$519,000**  
**5114 Old Mill Road**

Golfers & Nature Lovers-A sophisticated touch of country directly across from Mt. Vernon CC! Large beautiful renovated & expanded 4BR, 3BA, Cape Cod on a magnificent 2/3 acre lot. This home is bursting w/charm & offers a country front porch & 2 tiered deck w/involving hot tub overlooking a large fenced back yd. Updated kit w/granite counters & opens to breakfast & dining rms. A huge great rm. w/wet bar & vaulted ceil is perfect for entertaining. 3 updated BAs, new siding & replacement windows in 2004. Walk across St to MVCC-1 mile to GW Pkwy & 2 miles to Ft. Belvoir - This home is truly unique!



**Alex/Riverside Estate \$479,900**  
**8510 Wagon Wheel Road**

Absolutely Gorgeous 5BR, 3BA Split on one of Riverside's largest lots, .37 acre. Completely remodeled: brand new kitchen, remodeled baths, replacement energy efficient double pane windows, new light fixtures, freshly painted interior, new carpeting on lower level, and freshly refinished hardwoods on main level. It looks like a new home and priced to sell. Large fenced in back yard and only 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir.



**Alex/Mt. Vernon \$449,900**  
**3401 Ramsgate**

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**Prince William/Four Seasons \$495,000**  
**17185 Four Season Drive**

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## PEOPLE

# Getting to know...Denise Morgan

BY GREG ROSENSTEIN  
GAZETTE PACKET

**D**enise Morgan was not your average second-grader. Unlike her classmates who hoped to become firefighters and astronauts, Morgan knew at the time she wanted to be a librarian. After graduating from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Morgan moved to Fairfax County to work with the public library system. With 22 years of experience in the FCPL, she is now Branch Manager at Sherwood Library in Mount Vernon. Morgan talks about her role at Sherwood as well as what the library is doing to promote reading in the area.

### Why did you decide to become a librarian?

As I recall, it was second grade and because I like to read, and my best friends liked to read, and we all had more fun at the library than playing school.

### How did you get where you are today?

I've been with FCPL about 22 years and worked at several branches, some two or three times. Experience helps, and being open to new ideas, especially from colleagues.

### How many years have you been director?

I was branch manager at Lorton for about three years, was assistant branch manager

at George Mason for about 18 months, and started here as Branch Manager at Sherwood on March 29.

### What is the best part about your job?

My favorite parts are working with community projects and with students' homework questions. I generally learn along with the kids.

### What is the most difficult part of your job?

There are often conflicting interests among customers. For instance, some want to find all recorded copies of novels by an author together, regardless of format. Some only want to browse in the format they own.

### Books you would recommend and why?

Free for All by Don Borchert. It's about working in public libraries.

I also liked Rise and Shine by Anna Quindlen and Shibumi by Trevanian.

Jacob Have I Loved, by Katherine Paterson and Mara, Daughter of the Nile by Eloise McGraw for middle schoolers.

### What are you doing to promote reading in your area?

Along with all our FCPL branches, we host several book clubs for different age groups. In the summer, we actively promote our Summer Reading Program, this year themed Art in the Pages to go along with the new public art at most branches.



Denise Morgan

Our staff talks books at our local schools before summer begins to awaken interest in the summer programs. Here at Sherwood, we work closely with the Literacy Council and host several classes a week. All FCPL branches have collections for folks learning to read English, and kits with matched recorded books and printed books to make it easier to learn. Our branch attends back to school nights, and literacy events at local schools, as well. Our information staff also demonstrates the readers' portions of the FCPL website [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) that helps identify books in series, authors with common themes, etc.

### Favorite movie?

Kentucky Fried Movie, I think. Maybe Blazing Saddles

### Favorite local restaurant?

Too many to list

### Favorite thing to do on weekends?

Visit grandkids in South Carolina; and cross-stitch

### Best part about Alexandria?

The Sherwood Regional Library and the Farmers' Market on Tuesday mornings, of course.

# Mutts Struttin On Their Day

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

**L**ast Friday, June 20, there was a lot of petting going on in offices throughout the area. Not to worry — it was accompanied by scratching and woofing as well. It was Take Your Dog to Work Day.

One local firm that really got into the spirit was Meridian Title, LLC, 1451 Belle Haven Road. The boss, Jennifer Holt Enriques, even brought her canine "Angel" to participate in an effort to encourage adoptions from animal shelters.

The driving force behind the adoption plea was Struttin'Mutts Inc. and its owner Victoria Burnett-Miller. "I love animals and I wanted a change from corporate America. That's why I started Struttin'Mutts," said Burnett-Miller as she staffed a display outside Meridian Title with Enriques and volunteers from the Alexandria Animal Shelter, who brought along "Moe," a nine week old boxer mix, and "Roxy," a five year old dachshund.

Struttin' Mutts, started in 2004 by Burnett-Miller, is a dog walking and pet-sitting company based in her home in Mount Vernon District. "We service the area from Mount Vernon to Kingstown including Old Town," Burnett-Miller said.

"Meridian Title registered for Take Your Dog To Work Day and we felt it would also be a good spot to highlight the need for pet adoptions. There is a pediatric office in this building and that doesn't hurt getting attention. All the kids want to pet the dogs," she said.

In recognition of Meridian Title's willingness to participate in and support Struttin'Mutts's adoption efforts, Burnett-Miller presented a plaque of appreciation to Enriques and Raymond Sidney-Smith, a Meridian Title executive. "I want to thank you for participating in this event," Burnett-Miller said in presenting the plaque.

Additional information about Struttin'Mutts can be gained by visiting [www.struttinmutts.com](http://www.struttinmutts.com) and [www.petsit.com](http://www.petsit.com) or by calling 703-717-0700.



Victoria Bennett-Miller, president, Struttin' Mutts Inc., second from left, is joined by Meridian Title executives Jennifer Holt Enriques, third from right, and Raymond Sidney-Smith, third from left; and Animal Welfare League representatives Claire Moran far left, Lisa Miller and Abbie Hoffman, right in front of the Meridian Title building on Belle Haven Road as they promote animal adoption during "Take Your Dog To Work Day."

# MOUNT VERNON THIS WEEK

FROM PAGE 4

## Citizen Police Academy Starts July 9

A special five week Mount Vernon Citizen Police Academy, hosted by the Fairfax County Police Department will commence July 9 and run through August 6 at the South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway. It is designed to provide citizens with "a unique glimpse behind the badge," according to FCP.

Classes will be held on five consecutive Wednesday nights commencing at 6:30 p.m. and concluding by 10 p.m. The program is free and dinner will be provided, according to the FCP.

Topics covered during the session will include 911 Call Center, patrol, traffic stops, gangs, crime prevention, identity theft, and Internal Affairs. "Graduates of this course

will have a better understanding of the operations of the police department and a greater awareness and appreciation of the daily challenges faced by police," according to the police department.

It is open to all individuals who live or work in Mount Vernon District. For more information contact the Fairfax County Police Department at 703-280-0713 or by email at CPA@FairfaxCounty.gov.

## Fireworks Safety A Top Priority

Fourth of July is synonymous with fireworks. And, fireworks can be synonymous with death and serious injury in the hands of amateurs.

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department strongly urges citizens to leave the fireworks displays to the professionals. "Public dis-

plays are the safest and most suitable way to enjoy fireworks. They are conducted within a controlled setting, under safety regulations, monitored by safety specialists," according to the FCF&R Department.

Every year, thousands of Americans, many of them children, are victims of fireworks accidents. In 2006 there were 9,200 fireworks related injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms. Ninety percent of those were from firework permitted by Federal regulations, according to the department.

One of the prime misconceptions is the "safeness" of sparklers. When fully ignited, a sparkler can reach a temperature of 1800 degrees Fahrenheit, which can quickly ignite clothing or do permanent damage to eyes. Sparklers are generally the most frequent cause of fireworks injuries to children under 10, according to fire officials.

Many fireworks are not available in Northern Virginia because they are illegal.

Although they can be purchased elsewhere, anyone having those illegal fireworks in their possession will have them confiscated and will be charged with a Class I Misdemeanor which carries a maximum penalty of a \$2,500 fine and/or a year in jail.

All fireworks that explode, emit a flame, sparks, or perform as a projectile higher than 12 feet are prohibited by the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code.

Public fireworks displays will take place at the following locations and dates over the upcoming July 4 weekend with times differing depending on location:

July 3: Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road

July 4: Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road

Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road

Mt. Vernon Estate & Gardens, 3300 Mt. Vernon Memorial Parkway

# Unitarian Church Green Sanctuary

FROM PAGE 1

This project was initially identified during the development of the Little Hunting Creek Watershed Plan. It was prepared in collaboration with area residents and approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on February 7, 2005.

Watershed management plans are being developed for all 30 Fairfax County water-

sheds, Aitcheson told the small group assembled in the church sanctuary. They play an important role in restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

Little Hunting Creek watershed is considered poor in terms of biotic integrity, physical assessment and habitat. The goals of the improvement plan are to: reduce stormwater impacts from impervious surfaces; improve area habitats; improve

stream water quality; and increase community involvement in watershed stewardship.

MVUC was also selected this month by the Unitarian Universalist Association as the single recipient nationwide of the prestigious Bennett Award for Congregational Action on Human Justice and Social Action, which includes its environmental program. The church's social justice program focuses on a variety of social action efforts such as

homelessness, affordable housing, and civil liberties that involve nearly 50 percent of the church's 360 members.

"Our church acts both locally and nationally to make the world a more just place. We are honored that our national church has recognized our efforts and are determined to keep up this work," said Georgeta Pourchot, chairperson, Social Justice Council.

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# OPINION

## Hoping for Something Special

Special session in search of transportation solutions begins this week in Richmond.

Snatching defeat from the jaws of victory, the Virginia Supreme Court overturned an unlikely and hopeful transportation funding plan passed by the Virginia General Assembly earlier this year.

At the same time, funding for rail to Dulles has hit several bumps that could derail the project.

But at the beginning of this week, members of the General Assembly were back in Richmond, supposedly to produce a plan that would replace the \$300 million or more that the now defunct plan would have raised.

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine has made some sensible proposals, but the forces of “no, never, no taxes” say they will scuttle many if not all of the possible sources of new revenue to pay for transit, roads and other transportation improvements.

Kaine points out that Dulles Airport and the Port of Virginia are responsible for an estimated 375,000 jobs and \$895 million in state revenue. “These are our two most valuable connections with the global economy, but they depend upon a network that will allow easy movement of people and goods to and from these critical transportation hubs,” Kaine said at the opening of the special session Monday.

Here’s what he proposes:

- ❖ Raising the annual vehicle registration fee by \$10 and increasing the sales tax on automobiles from 3 to 4 percent. Virginia’s auto title tax would still be significantly below the national average.

### EDITORIALS

Here’s what he proposes:

❖ Raising the annual vehicle registration fee by \$10 and increasing the sales tax on automobiles from 3 to 4 percent. Virginia’s auto title tax would still be significantly below the national average.

❖ Fix the regional packages by imposing a 1 percent regional sales tax on goods other than food, medicine or automobiles.

❖ A grantors’ tax on property sale proceeds — 25 cents for each \$100 in value to create a Transportation Change Fund, with 75 percent of the revenue going for new transit strategies and 25 percent dedicated to projects for economic development. This would support public transit, carpooling, teleworking, etc.

These add up to a sensible proposal, and would provide money needed for maintenance as well as dedicated funding for Metro.

Meanwhile, if you’re sitting in traffic, higher gas prices might be the future source of some relief. Finally, with a clear economic motivation, perhaps some real alternatives will arise, some plan that calls for something other than millions people with jobs getting into cars one person at a time and heading to and from work at about the same time every weekday.

We can only hope that new technologies and new approaches developed over the next decade or two will provide less need to clog the roadways.

### Without Basics

Electrical storms have left many people without electricity in Fairfax, Loudoun, Arlington and Alexandria in the past few weeks, most of us for brief periods, but some for a couple of days at a time.

Across the river in Montgomery County, hundreds of thousands of people lived without drinkable water for a couple of days.

Being without either or both serves as a reminder that ordinary events (rather than terrorism) also require a little preparedness.

Recommended: Three days worth of non-perishable food and water for everyone in your household, plus flashlights, a battery powered radio and extra batteries. What’s in your storage cupboard?

## Help Wanted: Snow Jobs Available

Job seekers need to be wary of Internet scammers.

BY EDWARD JOHNSON

Desperate people do desperate things. The fallout that can result from losing a job is wrought with examples of rational people making irrational decisions. That’s because losing a job equates to more than simply a loss of income. The adverse consequences can quickly pile up and become insurmountable. Even though the ability to earn money may be on pause, you cannot put a pause on monthly bills. In short notice, an uncertain future becomes reality. Add in a troubled economy, a high unemployment rate and the ease by which unscrupulous businesses can hide behind a fake web site and you have the job-scammer’s perfect storm.

In a recent report on job searching, The Conference Board noted that in 2007, 73 percent of job seekers reported using online

resources. While the Internet has made searching for jobs easier, it also provides an opportunity for ID thieves and schemers to take advantage of eager — and unsuspecting — job seekers.

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) provides the following guidance to help people spot the most common red flags associated with online job search scams:

### RED FLAG #1: Employer e-mails are full of grammatical and spelling errors

Most online fraud is perpetrated by scammers located outside the U.S. Their first language usually isn’t English and this is often evident in their poor grasp of the language that can include poor grammar and the misspelling of common words.

### RED FLAG #2: E-mails purporting to be from job posting Web sites claiming there’s a problem with a job hunter’s account

After creating a user account on sites like Monster.com or Careerbuilder.com, a job hunter might receive an e-mail say-

ing there has been a problem with their account or they need to follow a hyperlink to install new software. Such phishing e-mails are designed to convince readers to click a link within the message to fix the issue, but actually take them to a Web site that will install malware or viruses on their computer.

### RED FLAG #3: An employer asks for extensive personal information such as social security or bank account numbers

Some job seekers have been surprised to learn they’ve gotten a job without having to do a single interview. However, when the employer then asked for personal information in order to fill out the necessary paperwork suspicions were raised — and rightly so. Regardless of the reason or excuse given by the employer, a job applicant should never give out his or her Social Security or bank account numbers over the phone or e-mail.

### RED FLAG #4: An employer offers the opportunity to become rich

### without leaving home

While there are legitimate businesses that allow employees to work from home, there are also many scammers trying to take advantage of senior citizens, stay-at-home moms, students and injured or handicapped people looking to make money at home. Job hunters should use extreme caution when considering a work-at-home offer and always research the company with the BBB first at [www.dc-easternpa.bbb.org](http://www.dc-easternpa.bbb.org).

### RED FLAG #5: An employer asks for money upfront

Aside from paying for a uniform, it is rarely advisable for an applicant to pay upfront fees or make a required purchase to get a job. Most recently, the BBB uncovered a scam where job hunters were told they had to pay \$64.50 for a background check before they could be considered for a cleaning job. Predictably, after paying for the background check, the job seeker never heard from the company again.

*Edward Johnson is president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the greater metro Washington, D.C. region.*

### COMMENTARY

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# POLICE BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 3

## Man Robbed In Engleside Area

A 39-year-old area man was robbed at gunpoint in the 8600 block of Walutes Circle in the Engleside area of Mount Vernon District on Monday, June 23, at approximately 5 a.m., according to Fairfax County Police.

The victim was approached by

three masked men who pushed him to the ground. One of the suspects held a gun on the victim as the others threatened, assaulted him and bound his hands with tape. They then fled with his wallet. The victim was transported to Inova Mount Vernon Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, police reported.

One suspect was described as Hispanic. They were all described as wearing black masks, dark shirts and jeans, according to police.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477) or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

## Murder Suspect Sought

Fairfax County Crime Solvers is seeking public assistance in identifying and locating the man responsible for killing a 49-year-old

man on May 10 in the 2900 block Furman Lane in the Penn Daw area of Mount Vernon District.

Police found the deceased victim, Michael Anthony Ross of Suitland, MD, lying next to an apartment patio at approximately 11 p.m. An investigated determined he had been shot in the upper body.

The suspect was described as black, between 18 and 25 years old, approximately 5 feet 8 inches to 10 inches tall, weighing an es-

timated 150 to 170 pounds. He was wearing black clothing.

Anyone with information about the suspect or the homicide is asked to call Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), email [crime@fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](mailto:crime@fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES(274637). A \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information that leads to an arrest. Callers never have to give their names or appear in court.



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**Donnan C. Wintermute**  
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# THE COUNTY LINE

## Media for Hire?

Political campaigns put bloggers on the payroll.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Virginia's delegation takes its seat on the floor of the Democratic National Convention in late August, Lowell Feld will be right next to them.

The Democratic National Committee (DNC) selected Feld, an Arlington resident who runs the left-leaning [www.raisingkaine.com](http://www.raisingkaine.com), to be Virginia's "embedded" blogger at the event in Denver, Colo. After receiving approximately 400 applications, the committee picked a handful of bloggers — people who voice their opinions through online diaries — to cover their state delegations and provide a "local angle" on the convention's proceedings, according to letter posted on the Web site.

Launched in 2005, Feld's blog, which he calls RK, focuses on state and national politics from a Democratic perspective. The Web site features about 12 regular contributors and is popular with political activists, journalists and elected officials around Virginia.

The DNC's decision to hand out convention credentials to more bloggers like Feld, an unapologetic partisan, speaks to the growing influence of this type of media.

According to Microsoft's [www.sitecounter.com](http://www.sitecounter.com), RK averages 2,751 visitors every day. Some Democratic activists say they turn to local blogs before newspapers, radio or television for the most up-to-date information on local politics.

"I find [bloggers] to be a very thoughtful and fair group. They are good about getting information out," said Mame Reilly, an Alexandria resident who is a Democratic Super Delegate and Gov. Mark Warner's former political director.

**YET FELD** and others are not bound by the same rules as traditional journalists. He and a few other local Virginia bloggers have been paid by candidates to do "netroots outreach" and other political consulting.

A mainstream news organization would not employ a journalist who took money from a political campaign, but, for bloggers, the practice often coincides with their reasons for starting a Web site.

"[Blogs] are a hybrid. They are sort of journalism, sort of citizen activism. We are like political operatives in a way," said Feld.

Feld founded RK to help get progressive Democrats elected in Virginia and his paid work on political campaigns can comple-

**Lowell Feld, who runs [www.raisingkaine.com](http://www.raisingkaine.com), will be Virginia's "embedded" blogger at the Democratic National Convention in August.**

ment the mission of the blog, he said.

The Democratic activist worked on U.S. Sen. Jim Webb's campaign and is currently consulting for Democratic congressional candidate Judy Feder, a Democrat who will face U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R) in November.

Feld also received at least \$500 from former congressional candidate Leslie Byrne, according to Byrne's campaign manager, Joe Fox.

Feld and other local Democratic bloggers only work for candidates who share their values, candidates they would support regardless of whether they were paid.

"I think Judy Feder is great. I did two years ago when she was running in 2006 and I didn't receive a penny from her then," he said. Feld uses political consulting to make ends meet. He quit his day job with the U.S. Department of Energy a few years ago, in part because he was prohibited from raising money for political candidates. "I could make more money in a lot more stable job working for the government. I choose to do this," he said.

**THERE IS** some question about whether bloggers who work for political campaigns should be thought of as journalists at all.

"This is an example of the difference between a journalist who blogs and a non-journalist who blogs. The blogosphere is filled with people who are not journalists. They wear multiple hats," said Bob Steel, who studies and teaches journalism values for the Poynter Institute.

Steel went on to say: "Bloggers are not necessarily journalists. A blogger might own a hardware store and write about a product he sells in the hardware store. There is nothing wrong with that but [he is] not being a journalist."

It is important to always bring a dose of skepticism when reading a blog, according to Steel. For bloggers who also work as political consultants, he suggests transparency.

"I think if something is written by a political consultant, the reader deserves to know that it is written by political consultant," said Steel.

**SOME LOCAL BLOGGERS** handle the overlap of their paid political work and Web site content in the way that Steel suggests. If Feld writes about a candidate that pays

him, he discloses his relationship to the campaign at the bottom of the post, he said.

"I am very clear about what I am doing," said Feld.

Kenton Ngo also revealed that he would be managing Ramona Morrow's campaign for school board in 2007 and then shut down his blog [www.kentonngo.com/750volts](http://www.kentonngo.com/750volts), until after the election.

"One of first things I did was to put the blog in mothballs. ... You can say you are going to talk about things other than the campaign but eventually you are going to say something that shouldn't be associated with the candidate," said Ngo.

Blogger Ben Tribbett did not disclose he was being paid by state Sen. Chap Petersen every time he posted about the politician's campaign on his Web site, [notlarrysabato.typepad.com](http://notlarrysabato.typepad.com), last fall. But Tribbett, who is from the Burke area, has also restricted his paid work to candidates who had already employed him during previous campaigns. "I have avoided taking on new people even though I have been asked to work on a number of campaigns," said Tribbett, whose political blog is among the most popular in Virginia.

For Petersen, Tribbett worked on campaign strategy, a topic he would not be posting about on his blog. He also made it clear that "Not Larry Sabato" would not be a "mouthpiece" for the campaign, he said.

"I was not putting anything up on behalf of the campaign. That was the one of the agreements we came to," he said.

Tribbett did promote Petersen and disparage his opponent, Jeanne Marie Devolites Davis, frequently on his blog in the weeks preceding the election. The Democratic activist said he would have championed Petersen, whether the candidate had paid him or not.

**STILL, THE PRACTICE** of paying bloggers has unsettled some local Democrats, especially those who have been suffered under their attacks. "I, myself, don't believe in putting bloggers on the payroll. I think it is akin to putting journalists on the payroll," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman Gerry Connolly, who is the Democratic nominee for Virginia's 11th district congressional seat.

## Blog Excerpts

Commentary on political blogs ranges from the thoughtful to the ridiculous. Here are some excerpts related to the Democratic primary for Virginia's 11<sup>th</sup> congressional district earlier this month. Fairfax chairman Gerry Connolly won the election by a wide margin, though many Democratic bloggers favored candidate Leslie Byrne over Connolly.

"It is important to note that Gerry Connolly did not win this by running on his record as a proud pro developer centrist moderate. He won by running more to the left than he has in a long time."

✦ wrote Karen Duncan on <http://anonymouisawoman.blogspot.com>, Duncan supported Byrne but has endorsed Connolly since he won the Democratic primary.

"There is plenty of ammo on Connolly; unfortunately none of it has proven effective yet. However, with the bevy of material, there is bound to be some good hits in there somewhere."

✦ Posted on <http://tooconservative.com> by a blogger who supports Connolly's Republican opponent, Keith Fimian.

In spite of being a Democrat, Connolly has been one of the left-leaning blogging community's top targets for criticism. Several local bloggers backed Connolly's opponent, Leslie Byrne, in the Democratic primary June 10. Connolly won the primary by a wide margin. In the days leading up to the primary election, many bloggers posted disparaging remarks about Connolly on their Web sites. Tribbett ran a bracket, much like those put together for a college basketball tournament, of Connolly's "worst moments" as an elected official.

Last week, the Virginia Democrats' 11th congressional district committee chair, George Burke, announced he would circulate a petition among Virginia's Democratic delegates asking them to remove Feld's "embedding" privileges at the national convention. Among Burke's concerns is the fact that Feld and Tribbett do work as political consultants.

"I think it is just inappropriate for people who promote themselves as journalists to be paid hacks for candidates. They present themselves as journalists but they are actually public relations practitioners," said Burke.

But candidates who have hired bloggers for political consulting said they are paying for a person's expertise at networking over the internet, not positive

coverage on the blogger's Web site. "I have known Ben for a long time but I don't attempt to have any editorial control over anything he does on his blog. I have pretty much no input on that," said Petersen.

Feder's campaign manager, Luke McFarland, said Feld has mainly been involved in developing a Web site, [www.farewellfrank.com](http://www.farewellfrank.com), on the Democrat's opponent, Republican Rep. Frank Wolf.

McFarland and others said it is common for campaigns to hire bloggers.



# LIFE

## Season of Plenty

Granny's Garden bouquets and garden plants.



A new vendor, Potomac Valley Farms featured a large variety of fresh herbs and vegetables.

The Mount Vernon Farmers Market is open every Tuesday morning from 8 a.m. to noon at Sherwood Hall Lane at Parker's Lane.



It is berry season at Westmoreland Berry Farm in Oak Grove, Va.



The lines were long and steady as flat after flat of berries was emptied and replaced by what was still left on the truck. In addition to strawberries, blackberries, raspberries and blueberries, peaches are now ripening from the first of the trees.



Green garlic curls, great for pesto and salads were fresh at the Potomac Vegetable Farm stand.



Fresh cut flowers from St. Stephen's Church VA.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/  
GAZETTE PACKET

# Lauritzen: Career And Life In Transition

BRAC has defined the end chapter in an interconnected career.

By CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

Three years ago next month Col. Brian W. Lauritzen became the Installation Commander of Fort Belvoir. On July 2, he will not only relinquish that command to Col. Jerry Blixt but also complete a 26-year military career that began with a West Point graduation in 1982.

A little more than 60 days after Lauritzen took command of Fort Belvoir he was presented with one of the greatest challenges of his career. On Sept. 8, 2005 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) made their final report to the President of the United States.

That report, calling for a host of base realignments nationwide, established the blueprint for the transition of Fort Belvoir into one of the most strategic posts of the U.S. Army. Nearly 20,000 personnel would be added to the existing Belvoir compliment of just under 60,000.

This triggered both excitement and anxiety among national, state and local leaders as well as business and public education professionals. The opportunities were and are vast coupled with a like description of the challenges.

At the center of this socio-economic F5 twister was Lauritzen. With a BRAC deadline for full implementation of Sept. 15, 2011, it would be his job to balance the priorities of a post 9/11 military game plan with the needs and concerns of the surrounding communities and their constituencies. "A jigsaw puzzle with changing pieces," as he once described it.

"This is a very interesting time in our history and that of Fort Belvoir. We are in the next wave of Belvoir's transition," Lauritzen said sitting in his headquarters office conference room just prior to the U.S. Army's 233rd birthday.

"Over the years we have built up this base and torn it down. We have grown the population and shrunk it. We are an army at war now. Things are very different than when that is not the case," he said.

Belvoir came into being during World War I as Fort Humphrey. It was renamed Belvoir with World War II. For many years it was the home of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Now it has become much more of an overall Department of Defense organization with only about 10 percent of its overall personnel compliment actual U.S. Army personnel, according to Lauritzen.

During a recent community public infor-

mation meeting, Lauritzen noted that although BRAC implementation is a major operation now, "It is only a blip on the screen in the long run. We're the drop of a stone into the lake with BRAC." It will be over at that deadline point and things will go on.

"Will there be another BRAC? And, if there is, will Ft. Belvoir be a loser or a gainer in that one," he asked rhetorically.

With the primary BRAC change on the main post being the construction, staffing and development of the new DeWitt Community Hospital, Lauritzen theorized, "Maybe, this base will become known as an advanced, superior medical facility," he said.

"I believe DeWitt will redefine how people think of Belvoir — much like they have thought of Walter Reed over the years. I'm sensing that this new hospital will cast a long shadow," Lauritzen predicted. The new medical, campus-like facility is now rising just inside the post's main Pence Gate.

"BRAC has defined my time here. It is the primary interest of the community leaders and population, the media, and the military because it calls for the intertwining of people, time, infrastructure, and dollars," Lauritzen said.

"What is sometimes lost in all this is that there are some 23,000 to 24,000 people on this base working everyday that have nothing to do with BRAC. They were here before BRAC and will be here after BRAC," he said.

"I have many people on staff here who could have moved on in their careers but didn't because they are committed to Belvoir. I've got a whole bunch of unsung heros here," Lauritzen said.

**"This is the best time for all of us."**

—Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander  
**Brian W. Lauritzen**

## DURING ITS

June 2 meeting, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) paid a special tribute to

Lauritzen and his efforts to bring all parties to the BRAC table. "It's no secret the BRAC process has been very difficult," said BOS Chairman Gerald Connolly.

"But, through it all Col. Lauritzen has been the one who has continuously found solutions for our community. He has exemplified outstanding leadership and we wouldn't be where we are today without him. We own him a great deal of thanks on behalf of all the people of Fairfax County," Connolly said.

For Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland, where the majority of Ft. Belvoir is located, Lauritzen's ability to reach out to the community and keep everyone not only informed but also in the overall BRAC decision making process was

paramount. "When the BRAC announcement came out we didn't expect to have a large town in the middle of Mount Vernon District," he said.

"But, Col. Lauritzen stayed calm and cool during the process even when many were asking how we were going to accommodate an additional 20,000 people. With all the pressure put on his shoulders he performed tremendously," Hyland said.

Some of that pressure was supplied by Hyland who often raised question about incoming personnel and their impact on schools and other community concerns.

In response Lauritzen acknowledged that, "An important part of my job is to have an established link with the county and its residents. Any commander must be a steward of that relationship."

Analyzing BRAC's metamorphosis, Lauritzen reflected, during the interview, on the fact that, "A lot of what were are dealing with now is because it was not dealt with originally in the process. Three years ago we didn't realize some of these things were going to be a problem."

As an example he cited the transportation component of BRAC implementation. "We should have asked what would be the transportation impact of all this on specific areas right from the beginning. It was always under study but there were elements we should have been more cognizant of," he said.

"But, at the end of all this, I hope we've gotten it right. By that, I mean right for everyone — the Army and our surrounding communities," Lauritzen said.

As for him, following the July 2 Change of Command, Col. Brian W. Lauritzen will become private citizen Brian Lauritzen. He, his wife Anne, and their two children, Daniel, 12, and Kristen, 9, will move to Carlisle, Pa., where they have a home and two horses. Located about 20 miles west of the state capitol in Harrisburg, Pa., it is the home of Dickinson College and Law School



Col. Brian Lauritzen

PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE

as well as the seat of Cumberland County.

"We bought the home in 2003 when I was attending the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle. We liked the town and decided it might be a good place to retire so we kept the house when we came here," he said.

A 1982 graduate of the West Point Military Academy, Lauritzen received his Master of Arts from the Colorado School of Mines in 1992. He also holds an MA in mathematics with a specialty in Operations Research.

His military education includes graduating from the Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, in 1995 and the Army War College in Carlisle in 2004. "I have to definite plans right now. I've got a lot of interests and hope to apply my training and experience in installation management somehow," he said.

"I felt this was the time to retire and start on the next phase of my life. But, it was a family decision. Everyone had a part of it," Lauritzen said.

"If I had stayed in the military it would have required at least a five year commitment. You can't do it a year at a time and do it right," he said.

"I want to enjoy the years with my family as the children grow up and experience all those growing up events with them as well as give them a stable environment for their schooling. My son will be graduating from high school in five years," he stated.

"This is the best time for all of us. It's been a great experience. But, you just know when its time for a change," Lauritzen said.



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# MOUNT VERNON BULLETIN

To have a notice listed in the Bulletin, e-mail the Mount Vernon Gazette at [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

A **joint meeting** will be held on **Monday, June 30** at 7:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parker's Lane, of two committees of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations—the Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committees—to provide an opportunity to understand major changes in Mental Health services enacted in the recent General Assembly, in response to the tragedy at Virginia Tech last year. For information, call MVCCA Committee Chairs Louise Cleveland (HHS), 703 780-9151, or Dallas Shawkey (PS), 703-360-2185.

The **Mount Vernon Hospital Auxiliary** is currently accepting applications for adult volunteers. A variety of positions are available and every effort is made to match the volunteer's availability, interests, and abilities. The hospital is located at 2501 Parkers Lane in Alexandria. Call 703-664-7260 or visit [www.inova.org](http://www.inova.org) for more information.

Seniors 50 years of age and over are eligible to enter the 2008 **Northern Virginia Senior Olympics** to be held Sept. 20-Oct. 2. Registration information is available now at local senior centers, community centers, senior residences or by calling 703-228-3600, ext. 9996. They can also be downloaded online at [www.novaseniolympics.com](http://www.novaseniolympics.com). Registration deadline is Sept. 5.

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

**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/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances) 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.inova.org).

**MOMS Club** of Alexandria meet every second Wednesday of each month at

10:30 a.m. at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children are welcome to all activities. Activities include: Monthly Meetings, playgroups, Park Days, Sunshine Committee, Community Service Projects, MOMS Night Out, etc. Visit [www.geocities.com/southalexmomclub/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/southalexmomclub/index.html) for contact information.

**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.

If you are a senior choral singer come and join a bunch of guys your age and sing with the "**Harmony Heritage Singers**" **Barbershop Chorus** Rehearse twice a month on Wednesday or Friday depending on the availability of the library at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The group has singers from several local organizations who sing with their regular groups as well as belonging to the Harmony Heritage Singers.

Rehearsal schedule can be found at: <http://members.cox.net/theperfectpitch/> or by calling James Coulter (703)957-4597 Email: [jnccoulter@comcast.net](mailto:jnccoulter@comcast.net)

**MOMS Club of South Alexandria.** Meets the second Tuesday of every month. 10:30 a.m. Sunset Hills Baptist Church, 3500 Franconia Road. Club is open to moms and children living in South Alexandria. Call 703-960-3366.

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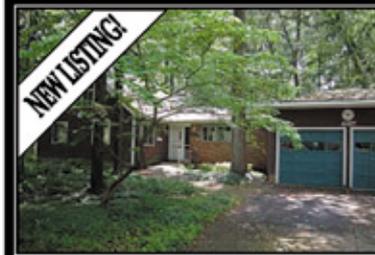
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**4212  
Dandridge Terr  
\$665,000  
Classic Center  
Hall Colonial!**  
Spacious home  
with 4 large BRs  
including master  
suite with private

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.



**NEW LISTING!**

**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!



**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.



**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!



**Halley Farm  
\$849,500  
Mount Vernon's  
Newest  
Community!**  
Six fabulous new  
homes to be  
erected in a  
gorgeous park-like

setting where almost 50% of the site will be preserved as conservation land! Spacious new homes are loaded with the latest amenities now available at unprecedented low prices! Prime location within walking distance of Mount Vernon Country Club. Pre-construction sale allows maximum customization.



**Mount Vernon  
Grove  
\$998,900  
Premier New  
Community!**  
For offers accepted  
in June -  
\$25,000 IN FREE  
OPTIONS AND

BELOW MARKET 30 YEAR FIXED FINANCING! Only 3 lucky buyers can take advantage of Mt Vernon Groves striking new Wakefield Homes combined with the convenience & prestige of Mt Vernon's premier new home community. Don't be left out. Contact us to review our plans! (Not valid with any other incentive program.)



**2+ ACRES!**

**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!



**CONTRACT!**

**1914 Sword Ln  
\$649,900**



**CONTRACT!**

**2011 Rampart Dr  
\$558,900**

# CHRIS WHITE (703) 283-9028

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WWW.CHRISANDPEGGYWHITE.COM





# LONG & FOSTER OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

## 400 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 703-683-0400



Alexandria  
\$579,000

### MOVE RIGHT IN!

Large corner lot in quiet cul-de-sac in close-in community of Woodstone. This lovely 3 level Colonial boasts new chef's kitchen, formal living & dining areas, cozy family room leading to oversized back deck. Plenty of space for family and friends with 3 BRs, 3.5 BAs, and fully finished lower level featuring a bonus room, recreation area & large laundry room. Just minutes to Metro, Old Town & DC. Dir 95 to Telegraph Rd S, L Kings Hwy (by Exxon), R Woodstone Pl, R Blue Slate to 4011.

4011 Blue Slate Drive

KIM MUFFLER 703.282.7739



Arlington  
\$284,000  
**COLONIAL VILLAGE**

Bright & sunny corner unit, total renovation in June 2008! Updates include custom paint, new carpet, granite counters, new sink & fixtures in kitchen, new vanity in bath, new window treatments. Spacious rooms, walk-in closet, parking lot for residents. Laundry, extra storage in building. Walk to Courthouse Metro, shops, restaurants & coffeehouse!

1729 Queens Lane #113

JILL DIPASQUALE 571.436.8699  
SUZANNE BACKUS 703.338.3594



Woodbridge  
\$265,000  
**NEWER...**

3 level, 1 car garage TH with 3 level bump out! Bright, sunny & spacious. Huge eat-in kitchen with upgrades. Finished lower level could be 4th bedroom/office. Deluxe MBA with garden tub & separate shower. Pretty lamp-post street & builder warranty conveys, home built in 2006. Just 5 miles to VRE, near golf course & Convention Center

2504 Oak Tree Lane

MARGARET RUHE 703.599.7527



Falls Church  
\$334,900  
**LAKESIDE COMMUNITY**

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

7749 New Providence Drive #68

ANN Z. LOGSDON 703.568.8433



Alexandria South  
\$599,000  
**DYNAMITE NEW PRICE!**

This home will WOW you! Upgraded kitchen with granite, ceramic and stainless! 2.5 updated baths! Vaulted ceilings! Screened porch! Garage! In ground pool and hot tub! Cul-de-sac location! Backs to common ground!

4018 Cool Brooke Way

RUTH GUIRARD 703.609.3343



Alexandria  
\$1,099,000  
**LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION**

Bright & sunny 3BR/3BA corner residence has a wonderful southeast exposure with endless light & a picturesque view of the Potomac. Redesigned & upgraded, the new open floor plan boasts rich hwd floors, beautiful moldings, fantastic built-in cabinetry, marble & granite baths plus a gourmet kitchen. 2 balconies, 2 contiguous garage spaces, & outstanding building amenities. Limo service, 24 hr desk, beautiful party rooms, Kayak dock & much more.

1250 S. Washington Street #121

PAT TIERNEY 703.850.5630



Old Town North  
\$489,900  
**NORFOLK LANE GEM**

Fabulous 2 bedroom, 2 bath, Light-Filled, Brick End Unit in Quiet Heart of Old Town Greens. Beautiful Hardwood Floors, Unique "Deux Tabls Dans Une" Kitchen, Garage, Pool and Tennis Courts. To View 700A Norfolk Prior to Open House Call Philip G. Matyas at 703-518-8727.

700A Norfolk Lane

PHILIP G. MATYAS 703.518.8727



Alexandria/  
Seminary Road Area  
\$774,900  
**JUST LISTED!!**

Spacious 4-5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 level Colonial, 2 car garage, fully finished lower level, 2 fireplaces, 2 story entry foyer, backs to trees, situated on Cul-de-sac and easy commute!!!

5921 Reservoir Heights Avenue

GARY ANSLEY 202.288.7946



Springfield/Saratoga  
\$499,900  
**SET ON A CUL-DE-SAC!**

Beautifully cared for split level with 2 car garage—screened porch off dining room is perfect for spring and fall evenings. 4 BRs, 2.5 Bas—Must see to appreciate all the updates done by owners! Immaculate and ready for you! EZ commute and close to transportation! Near Fort Belvoir! Prettiest street in Saratoga!

7906 Larrick Court

LOUISE DEVERS 703.795.9944



Alexandria  
\$725,000  
**HOLLINS HILLS NEW PRICE!**

Take advantage of this reduced price on a SPEC-TACULAR 2 level contemporary — over \$10K in renovations — in wooded enclave of unique architectural contemporaries—serene setting on half acre—totally renovated with fabulous gourmet kitchen—FR/Media room—Spacious BR's— all Thermopane windows—master suite—large walk-in closet/spa bath— Main level BR/BA— Many Special features, plus deck & patio— Don't miss this one! 4 BR/3BA.

2114 Whiteoaks Drive

FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840



Alexandria  
\$289,000  
**WATERGATE AT LANDMARK RESORT LIVING...**

in a gated community catering to those seeking a pampered lifestyle! Bright and airy 2 bedroom condo has been beautifully renovated. The kitchen and baths sparkle. Whether you're relaxing on the large balcony or enjoying the year round amenities (indoor/outdoor pools and tennis), you'll love the conveniences of Watergate.

205 Yoakum Parkway #220

MIKE LEKAS 703.927.9895



Alexandria  
\$395,000  
**CLASSIC SEARS BUNGALOW WITH UPDATES & NICE YARD**

Excellent location close to restaurants, shopping, Huntington Metro, Beltway & Old Town. This excellent example of yesteryear craftsmanship is just listed. Lovely hwd flrs on main level w/dramatic color scheme. ML also includes 2BR/1FB. The front porch leads to the LR, DR & updated kit w/beautiful cabinets & upgraded appl. The LL consists of a laundry room, Fam. Rm, full bath & large storage spaces. Outside, is a large corner lot w/front & rear yards, an original Sears garage & plenty of space for entertaining or play. Not foreclosure or short sale.

2903 Groveton Street  
BRIAN HONG & JERY BEAMER 703.929.5764  
Visit [www.brianandjery.com](http://www.brianandjery.com)



Alexandria/  
Kingstowne  
\$549,900  
**THE KING'S CROWN JEWEL**

Fabulous 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, 2 half bath, Dunwich Square townhome SHOWS BETTER than when it was the model home. Updated kitchen granite counter tops, custom floor tile, hardwood floors, brand new carpet throughout, 2 wood burning fireplaces, grand 2-story foyer with circular staircase, garage with storage ARE A MUST SEE!

6031 Westcott Hills Way

PHILIP G. MATYAS 703.518.8727



Alexandria  
\$329,900  
**IN OLD TOWN**

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

1200 Braddock Place #310

GEORGE MYERS 703.585.8301



Marina Towers  
Old Town Alexandria  
\$414,900  
**JUST LISTED**

WATERVIEW FROM EVERY ROOM! Watch the boats go by in the 2 BR, 2 FB, 1,195 SF. Totally updated, tons of closets, huge master bedroom. Open floor plan, glass walled LR with 14' glass balcony. HOA inc. all utilities. Fitness center, Convenience Store, 24/7 front desk, security, plenty of off street parking, waterfront pool/deck/grill area. Private access to bike path. Bus stop at corner to DC/Metro. Close to everything, 1 stop light into DC.

501 Slaters Lane #910

DELAINE CAMPBELL 703.518.8740

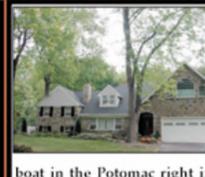


Alexandria  
\$299,900  
**SOUTH MEADOWS CONDOS**

2BR, 2 BA 1,244 SF unit on main level. Bright & spacious, gas fireplace with mantle & sunroom extension backing to open commons areas with lovely view of trees. Perfect roommate unit. Great closet space, MBR with walk-in closet, full size washer/dryer in laundry room. Show beautifully! Close to Huntington Metro, Old Town & Huntley Meadows Park.

7528B Coxton Court

MARGARET RUHE 703.599.7527



Mt. Vernon Terrace  
\$999,900  
**WATER COMMUNITY WITH ACCESS FOR BOATING!**

Live in one of the most unique homes & put your boat in the Potomac right in your neighborhood! A spectacular renovated 6BR home beautifully appointed on a premium 1/2 acre lot backing to woods. Incredible master suite w/spa bath & French doors walking out to private deck w/hot tub. Fabulous Great Rm w/ stone FP, Anderson windows w/ gorgeous views of woods & gardens. Gourmet kit. & separate DR w/ 2nd FP. Hardwoods, custom molding & built-ins throughout. A gem in Mt. Vernon area!

5108 Remington Drive (Owner/Agent)

KIM LILLYWHITE 703.966.2286



Mt. Vernon  
\$1,295,000  
**NEW CUSTOM HOME WATER ACCESS/ POTOMAC RIVER**

New Construction! Elegant stone home, 5,400+SF, Stately setting on rare 3/4 acre level lot, ideal for entertaining, room for pool, guest house, etc. Large front porch, high-end finishes throughout, gourmet kitchen, granite, stainless, hardwoods, finished basement. To be built, OPPORTUNITY TO CUSTOMIZE WITH PRE-SALE. Community boat access, Close to river, bike trails, parks, historic Mt. Vernon. Mins. to Old Town, Ft. Belvoir, DC.

8645 Mt. Vernon Hwy  
JILL DIPASQUALE 571-436-8699



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**Judy Pisciotta**  
 (703) 405-4485

### FAIRLINGTON

**\$465,000 - ABSOLUTELY STUNNING!**

Gorgeous from top to bottom with open gourmet kitchen featuring custom cherry cabinets, granite, stainless, recessed lighting & wood floor. Remodeled main bath with exquisite detail. Replaced windows, AC & furnace. Over \$70,000 in upgrades in this 2BR/2BA home that shows like a model!



**ALEXANDRIA**  
**\$485,000**

### STUNNING TOWNHOME

Beautifully maintained 3BR/2.55BA. Superb MBR has vaulted ceilings, fab bath & walk-in closet. Lovely remodeled kitchen, custom bookcases, new paint thru-out, new roof '07, new HVAC. Extra storage room off garage. Just steps out the front door to the

Metrobus & a short stroll to shops.

**7033 ASHLEIGH MANOR CT**

**Dave Okonsky (703) 585-5268**



**OAKTON**  
**\$1,090,000**  
**SERENITY AT LAST**

Located in an enclave of only 7 homes, this community is set apart from the rest. From a private drive,

this home is nestled in 1.8 acres of serene grounds with landscaped gardens, stocked pond w/ waterfall, Jacuzzi, heated pool & decks, making it a truly stunning home. 4BR, 3.5BA, gourmet kitchen, 3FPs, MBR with luxury bath & dressing room.

**Maude Dixon (703) 628-0096**



**FAIRFAX STATION**  
**\$699,900**

Large brick colonial w/ cedar roof located in beautiful Crosspointe. This former model will be freshly painted, has 2 car garage,

level rear yard, granite kitchen, expanded lower level, sunken sun room addition off the living room, & fireplace in the family room attached to the huge open kitchen. Awaiting your personal decorator touches.

**Richard Rosensteel (703) 850-7899**



**WAYNEWOOD**  
**909 DANTON LN**  
**\$869,900**

5% rate 30yr FIXED

Brand new inside!

Amazing property in Waynewood w/garage, fenced lot, 6BR, deck, 3FP, wine cooler, SS app, granite. Perfect 10! And now Seller offers a great rate buy down!

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

**Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809**

**Elke Kohler 703-967-7633**



**ALEXANDRIA WAYNEWOOD!**  
**\$529,900**

**8615 CONOVER PL**

Expanded and

renovated home with great family room addition, 3BR, 3BA, lower level rec room w/new carpet. Open kitchen, sep. dining room. Large fenced yard & deck. 2 car carpad.

**Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809**

**Elke Kohler 703-967-7633**



**ALEXANDRIA**  
**\$399,000**  
**IDEAL HOME!**

Located in an ideal family neighborhood in desirable school district, this 3BR/2BA home has finished basement,

new cabinets, & kitchen aid appliances, new and refinished hardwood floors, new carrier furnace, new shingled roof, new HEW & entry doors. Shed conveys.

**Heidi Kohler (703) 609-7367**



**ALEXANDRIA**  
**\$414,999**

Expanded Rambler! Large 2 car garage! Lots of updates including: windows, HVAC, HWH, storm

doors, roof, washer and dryer, fridge, garage doors and more. Walk to Huntington Metro! Lots of space and light!

**Phyllis Sintay (703) 472-3563**



**FALLS CHURCH**  
**\$650,000**  
**HUGE LOT!**

This 3BR/3BA rambler nestled on a large prime lot in heart of Falls Church is ready for your

updates. Open rear porch & eat-in kitchen. LR boasts brick fireplace, large picture window & hardwood floors, partially finished basement, plenty of storage space.

**Norma Stratton (703) 966-0756**



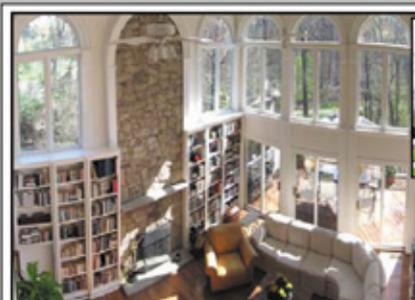
**ALEXANDRIA**  
**\$699,900**  
**STATELY HOME**

4 bedroom, 3.5 bath 9 yr old Colonial offers approx 3,400 sq. ft living space, super open floor plan on

main level, kitchen & breakfast room overlooks large Family Room & fireplace. Formal living & dining rooms, luxurious MBR with sitting room and fireplace.

View at: [www.BobSkinnerHomes.org](http://www.BobSkinnerHomes.org)

**Bob Skinner (703) 585-6683**



**RESTON**  
**\$1,199,900**

Stunning 5BR/5.5BA home on premium corner lot overlooking parkland offers many elegant features for the most discriminating buyer.

**Charlene Schaper (703) 217-3666**



**ALEXANDRIA**  
**\$415,000**  
**SOLID AS A ROCK!**

This solidly built Cape Cod with 4 large bedrooms, 2 full baths, fully finished basement

& huge private yard can't be beat. Hardwood floors & wood burning FP are just some of its period charms. DIR: RT1 S, veer R on S Kings Hwy, R on Memorial to 3521.

**Bette Gorman, CRS (703) 585-2235**

**Betsy Gorman (703) 861-4825**



# SCHOOLS

**West Potomac graduate Ilene Gillispie** won a \$1,000 college scholarship, offered for the second year, from **The Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre**.

Ilene performed with the West Potomac Colonial Singers, an outreach group that performs 18th century a capella music and historic interpretation. She is also a member of the National Honor Society, Tri-M Music Society, Spanish Honor Society and Drama Thespians.

Ilene participated in her first MVCCT production at the age of 9, portraying Ms. Rita, the missionary lady, in "Mr. Popper's Penguins." She had four roles during elementary and middle school. In the spring of 2004, she was cast as Marilla in "Anne of Green Gables" and, later in the year, as Ida in "HONK!"

In the fall, she will be attending New College of Florida, a small, nontraditional liberal arts school in Sarasota. Ilene is considering a double-major in psychology and gender studies, while continuing her studies in music and Spanish.

Every summer for the past nine years, **Groveton Elementary** has offered the Groveton Summer Reading Van program to its students and families. Each Wednesday from July 9 through Aug. 13, teachers from Groveton drive around students' neighborhoods in a van loaned from Tysons Dodge Jeep. They help students choose and check out books in order to continue to focus on literacy and prepare themselves for the coming school year. The teachers also talk to families to stay in touch and encourage children to keep reading over the summer.

**Stratford Landing Elementary** is honoring Safeway for its commitment to education by presenting them with cards of appreciation and gratitude. During the last year, Safeway has contributed \$ 5,527 through the eScrip funding program to the school. The parents, students, and teachers at Stratford Landing Elementary School feel it is important to recognize the positive impact the contributions have had on the school and on the community. Thanks to Safeway and the eScrip program, they have been able to support cultural arts programs and after school enrichment programs, bringing new experiences to many children.

**Christopher Newport University** announces that the following Alexandria students have accepted scholarships for the President's Leadership Program (PLP) beginning Fall 2008: **Heather Drury, Allyson Foreman, Michael Kavros and Ryan Sheldon**. The President's Leadership Program attracts bright, well-rounded individuals desiring to lead and shape their communities, the nation and the world. The students are listed by hometown, and out-of-state students by their home state.

**Rosemary Lena Genuario** has completed a five-year Master's of Art degree in Education from the School of Education at Virginia Polytechnic and State University in Blacksburg. She will receive a Virginia license to teach pre-kindergarten through sixth grade. Rosemary graduated cum laude in December 2006 from Virginia Tech's College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and a concentration in Early Childhood Education. She is a member of the Virginia Association for Early Childhood Education and the Student Virginia Education Association. Rosemary is a 2003 graduate of West Potomac High School in Alexandria. She will be teaching this fall at Belle View Elementary in Alexandria. Her parents are Louis and Laura Genuario.

**Alexandria Archaeology** will be hosting an **archaeology camp** for kids this summer, and registrations are being

## Future Librarians Earn Scholarships

The Fairfax Library Foundation proudly announces the 2008 Friends Scholarship Fund awardees. Four merit-based academic scholarships were awarded to outstanding students pursuing a Masters degree in Library Science. The Friends Scholarship Fund was established to deliver expert library services to County residents by attracting highly qualified future librarians to the Fairfax County Public Library.

Congratulations to **Mary T. Saulsgiver**, Library Aide at Lane Elementary School in Alexandria, attending the University of Maryland. She was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship.

To date, over \$60,000 has been awarded to meritorious individuals pursuing a Masters in Library Science degree through the Fairfax Library Foundation's Friends Scholarship Fund. In an effort to maximize existing resources, nearly \$17,000 more has supported the continuing education of Fairfax County Public Library staff and volunteers.



**Saulsgiver**



## Galdos Receives \$3,000 Scholarship

**Alexandra Regina Galdos of Alexandria** received a \$3,000 educational grant during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Heritage Youth Awards ceremony on Capitol Hill last Wednesday, June 11. She is a senior at Bishop Ireton High School and is one of 21 high school seniors who were honored for leadership in the classroom and community and promoted as a role model for her peers.

accepted now. Campers will learn professional excavating, recording, and artifact-processing methods as they help uncover Alexandria's buried past while protecting historical resources. The camp is open to children ages 12 through 15. There are two one-week sessions, which run from Monday, July 21 through Friday, July 25, and from Monday, July 28 through Friday, Aug. 1. The camp day starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m., and campers supply their own drinks, snacks and lunch. Camp costs \$350 per session and some scholarships are available. Space is limited to just 15 campers per session and a non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required to hold a slot. Each camper will receive a commemorative T-shirt. Visit [www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org](http://www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org) or call 703-838-4399.

**All Fairfax County's 24 high schools** have been designated among

the most demanding public schools in the country and are featured in the 2008 Newsweek-Washington Post list of 1,358 top U.S. high schools, found at [www.newsweek.com](http://www.newsweek.com). The 1,358 schools represent the top 5 percent of high schools nationwide.

Rankings for other Fairfax County Public Schools are: Oakton High School, 103; Centreville High School, 104; Chantilly High School, 122; South County Secondary School, 139; Herndon High School, 141; Westfield High School, 144; Madison High School, 148; Robinson Secondary School, 214; West Potomac High School, 216; West Springfield High School, 244; Marshall High School, 248; Fairfax High School, 252; Stuart High School, 322; Falls Church High School, 383; South Lakes High School, 515; Edison High School, 746; Lee High School, 791; Hayfield Secondary School, 796; Mount Vernon High School, 855; and Annandale High School, 938.

## WHERE SUMMER SCHOOL MEETS SUMMER CAMP.

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

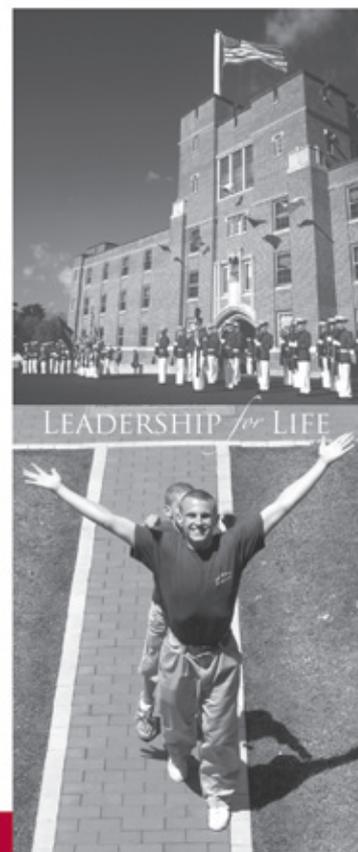
- ✓ **IMPROVE** study skills while earning credits toward graduation. **The Fishburne Summer Experience '08** offers an enriching academic and recreational program set in the mountains of the historic Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.
- ✓ **SELECT** from a range of academic classes in the morning complemented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

For more information, please call toll free 1-800-946-7773 or email Scott Mangum at [SMangum@Fishburne.org](mailto:SMangum@Fishburne.org)



**Fishburne MILITARY SCHOOL**

[www.fishburne.org](http://www.fishburne.org)



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**DRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE**

# FAITH

E-mail announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

Come have a blast at **Power Lab** the week of July 21 - 25. This free week-long Vacation Bible School is open to first through sixth graders. It will be held at Harvest Church each night from 6:30 p.m. until 8:45 p.m. Kids will experience incredible music, hyperspeed games, wacky snacks, mind-blowing Bible adventures, amazing crafts and much more! Pre-registration is suggested by calling 703-971-7070, however walk-ins will be accepted. Harvest Church is located at 7401 Beulah Street in the Kingstowne area of Alexandria.

**Beth El Hebrew Congregation**, 3830 Seminary Road, has special summer hours: services are at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays and at 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Kolot Shabbat (musical service) the first Friday of every month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 703-370-9400 or visit [www.bethelhebrew.org](http://www.bethelhebrew.org).

**Saint James' Episcopal Church of Mount Vernon** will highlight the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding this year with a visit and sermon on June 22 by The Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Virginia, The Rev. B. Kris Kramer, Priest-in-Charge, announced. Assisting in this "Homecoming Celebration" service will be The Rev. Holt Jenkins of Alexandria. Saint James' honored Rev. Jenkins last year with the title of Priest Emeritus for serving as the priest who conducted the first service of

the newly founded parish 50 years ago at Woodley Hills Elementary School in Mount Vernon.

In addition to Homecoming Sunday on June 22, Saint James' calendar for the 2008 celebration includes the following events:

June 27-29 - Region VI Weekend at Shrine Mont: Saint James' has enjoyed this spiritually uplifting and restful weekend for many years. Our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary will make our time together at Shrine Mont even more special this year, with The Rev. Howard Hanchey, formerly Saint James' first professional counseling priest, as our convener.

July 14-18 - Vacation Bible School: Last year was the first time in 20 years that Saint James' conducted Vacation Bible School. The week was highly successful with 30 children participating. This year we are planning for at least 50 children. Adult parishioners are also blessed through their "hands-on" involvement with the children. Public invited.

July 26-27 - Feast of Saint James': We will celebrate with a gala that includes a play, St. James'-A-Lot, a musical based on Camelot, written and produced by members of Saint James', and featuring Saint James' actors and musicians. The play recounts the history of Saint James'. The evening will include a dinner and "surprise" visitors. Public invited.

September 7 - Rally Day: Family Fun Day and kick-off for fall, with children's registration, a picnic, Moon bounce, face painting, cake walk and old-fashioned games for the whole family.

**Kid's Club** will be from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on July 9 and Aug. 13 at Washington Street United Methodist

Church, 115 S. Washington St. The church playground/courtyard and Children's Library will be open all morning for kids and parents to come and go as they please. Visit [www.wsumc.com](http://www.wsumc.com) or 703-836-4342.

**Children** ages 3-through those who have just completed 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will learn what it means to know, speak, and live with God's love. The adventure will be Tuesday, July 15-Friday, July 18 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Washington Street UMC, 115 S. Washington St. To register, visit [www.wsumc.com](http://www.wsumc.com) For more information contact the church at 703-836-4324 or [office@wsumc.com](mailto:office@wsumc.com).

It's time for children from ages 3 through grade six to blaze a trail to **Vacation Bible School**. Gather at the Bible Study Campfire to hear Bible stories and learn life applications, play games at the Recreation Barn, create neat crafts at the Crafts Corral and enjoy some grub at the Chuck Wagon. The adventure begins every evening from 6:30-8:30 p.m., June 23-27, Good News Baptist Church, 5940 Telegraph Road. Pre-register by calling 703-329-2990 or send an email to [Pastoral@goodnewsbaptistchurch.org](mailto:Pastoral@goodnewsbaptistchurch.org). Free. Visit [www.goodnewsbaptistchurch.org/](http://www.goodnewsbaptistchurch.org/) for directions.

**Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church**, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, has a special learning session from 9:45-10:45 a.m. every Sunday starting June 1 through Aug. 24. Children and adults will have the opportunity to learn about traditional Bible-times family life by playing authentic games, being apprentices in the Carpentry Shop, chatting with shopkeepers and tax collectors,

participating in Synagogue School, and sampling food. For more information about this exciting program, or to pre-register, call 703-765-6118 or e-mail [mvpvca@aol.com](mailto:mvpvca@aol.com). Visit [www.mvpconline.org](http://www.mvpconline.org).

**St. Aidan's Episcopal Church**, 8531 Riverside Road has activities. 703-360-4220:

There is also a group of moms and pre-school kids that meets every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. for coffee, muffins, and fellowship and moves into the church at 9:30 a.m. to take part in the Day School's chapel service, which is a short child-friendly service full of singing and silliness.

**Convergence: A Creative Community of Faith** at 1801 N. Quaker Lane, gathers each Sunday at 5 p.m. for a worship gathering. All are welcome. Visit [www.convergenceccf.net](http://www.convergenceccf.net), or call 703-998-6260.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist**, 1509 Collingwood Road, Mount Vernon, is now holding Wednesday evening meetings at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 703-768-2494.

**The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** offers classes in Buddhist Meditation at the Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 North Alfred St. in Alexandria. Classes are held on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. Buddhist Nun Kelsang Varahi will be teaching. \$10/class. Visit [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org) or call 202-331-2122.

**Beth El Hebrew Congregation** holds services at 8:15 p.m. on Fridays

and 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Religious school is on Wednesdays evening and Sunday mornings. Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tot Shabbat on first and third Saturdays. Kolot Shabbat (musical service) the first Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Beth El is located at 3830 Seminary Road in Alexandria. For more information, call 703-370-9400 or visit [www.bethelhebrew.org](http://www.bethelhebrew.org).

**Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church** has worship at informal service on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, or, come to a traditional worship service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Sunday school classes for all ages, start at 9:45 a.m. On Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Church Library, located in the Fellowship Hall, a group gathers together for a time of fellowship and prayer and a light meal is provided. Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church is located at 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. 703-765-6118 or visit [www.mvpconline.org](http://www.mvpconline.org) for more.

**Good Shepherd Catholic Church** on Mount Vernon Highway in Alexandria is offering a "Coming Home" process at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month to ask questions, get an update on the church, and to help decide if it's time to reconnect with parish life. Contact Rob Doerschner at 703-822-0523.

**The Urban Passage Inc.**, a faith-based non-profit organization, seeks adult volunteers, 50 years and older, to mentor high-risk youth at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Home in Alexandria. Volunteers are also needed to serve as youth advisory council leaders and community service project leaders for a program that serves terminally and seriously ill children at Inova Fairfax Hospital.

**The Christian Women In The Marketplace** meets to study God's word at the Royal Restaurant in Old Town Alexandria. The CBWC meets **every Wednesday at 7 a.m.** for breakfast. Additional information contact Pamela Nilsen at 703-660-6759.

**AWANA is an international, non-denominational, Bible centered youth organization** providing weekly clubs and programs for ages three-year-old through high school. Engleside Baptist Church's, 8428 Highland Lane, AWANA club consists of three parts, Handbook Time, Council Time, and Game Time. Club meetings are held every Wednesday night during the school year from 7-8:30 p.m. Call 703-780-5410.

**Up Where We Belong Family Ministry** will hold its Northern Virginia's Super Church event, the **third Sunday of every month** starting at 10:40 a.m., at Mount Vernon High School's main auditorium. Bring the family and participate in their worship celebration. Contact Bishop Robert Lewis Taylor at 703-878-2247.

**Christ the Saviour Anglican Church** will worship at a new location starting Aug. 5. The services will be held at Washington Mill Elementary School, 9100 Cherry Tree Drive, Mount Vernon. A Christian Education Hour for adults and youth starts at 9:15 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10 a.m. Visit [www.christthesaviouranglican.org/](http://www.christthesaviouranglican.org/).

**Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church**, 8220 Russell Road, Alexandria, holds a weekly Sunday celebration service starting at 11 a.m. For more information call 703-360-1976. All programs are free.

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**Sunday**  
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 2:00 pm (en Español)  
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 Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 [www.gs-cc.org](http://www.gs-cc.org)  
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 5614 Old Mill Road, Mt. Vernon, Virginia  
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 All Education Activities & Nursery - 9:00 AM  
 Office: 703-780-3081  
[www.stjamesmv.org](http://www.stjamesmv.org)

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 OLD PRESBYTERIAN MEETING HOUSE...703-549-6670  
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 ALDERGATE UNITED METHODIST...703-765-6555  
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 DEL RAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-2088  
 FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-671-8557  
 ROBERTS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-7332  
 ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-751-4666  
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- WASHINGTON FARM  
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 WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-4324
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 UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST...703-765-5950
- CHURCHES-UNITY**  
 UNITY IN ALEXANDRIA...703-931-8507
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 DEL RAY BAPTIST CHURCH...703-549-8116  
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 FIRST AGAPE BAPTIST COMMUNITY OF FAITH...703-519-9100  
 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALEXANDRIA...703-684-3720  
 PROVIDENCE-ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH...703-683-2565

- SHILOH BAPTIST...703-683-4573  
 MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH...703-256-1239  
 VICTORY TEMPLE...703-370-2233  
 PLYMOUTH HAVEN BAPTIST...703-360-4370
- CHURCHES-BRETHREN**  
 GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH...703-548-1808  
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# HEALTH & FITNESS

E-mail announcements to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

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.

**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.

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.inova.org) and click on "Health Info & Classes."

**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](http://www.bodyinbalancecenter.com) or 703-518-4434.

The **Washington Area Bicyclist Association** (WABA) has scheduled a series of free Confident City Cycling Classes for 2008. The classes, which are free and open to all, regardless of residency, are designed to provide cyclists with the skills they need incorporate bicycling into their daily routines. To register visit [waba.org/events/education.php](http://waba.org/events/education.php). The classes are offered: \*Saturday, June 28 from 1-4 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 Stafford St., Arlington.

**CrisisLink** has been helping people deal with anxiety, stress and crisis throughout the entire metropolitan area for 35 years. Call 703-527-4077 or 1-800-784-2433, or learn more at [www.crisislink.org](http://www.crisislink.org).

**Yoga Classes** are offered by YogaKala at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., on Saturdays, 10 a.m. for intermediate and 11:25 a.m. for beginners, and at the Carlyle Towers, 2151 Jamieson Ave., on Thursday 6 p.m. for

intermediate and 7:15 p.m. for beginners, as well as Fridays, 10 a.m. gentle yoga. Cost: \$15 per class or \$96 for eight classes. For more information, call 703-549-0484 or e-mail [YogaKala@aol.com](mailto:YogaKala@aol.com).

**His Kingdom Ministries**, 2707 Dewitt Ave., Alexandria, will be teaching "Your Best Life Now," on Sunday mornings from 10-11 a.m. Free. 202-409-4761 or 703-329-1594.

**Haven of Northern Virginia** is offering the following Bereavement Support Groups at 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale:

\* General Bereavement Group: First and third Wednesday evening of each month, 7:30-9 p.m.

\* Suicide Survivors Bereavement Group: First Tuesday evening of each month, 7:30-9 p.m.

\* Widow/Widower Support Groups: First and third Thursday evening of each month, 2-3:30 p.m.; Second and fourth Tuesday evening of each month, 7:30-9 p.m.

**Emotions Anonymous** is a 12-Step fellowship for people whose emotions are causing difficulties in their lives. A local group of Emotions Anonymous meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church, 2006 Belle View Blvd. Call 703-660-8798, or e-mail [ea-alexandria@cox.net](mailto:ea-alexandria@cox.net).

**Yoga at Fitness on the Run**, 109 S. Alfred St., offers daily classes at 12:15 p.m. and evenings starting at 6 p.m., 6:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. and on Saturdays at 10:15 a.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Visit [www.fitnessontherun.net](http://www.fitnessontherun.net) and view the online calendar for a complete list of classes and times.

## VOLUNTEERS

Send volunteer notices to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:pchapman@cfnc-online.org).

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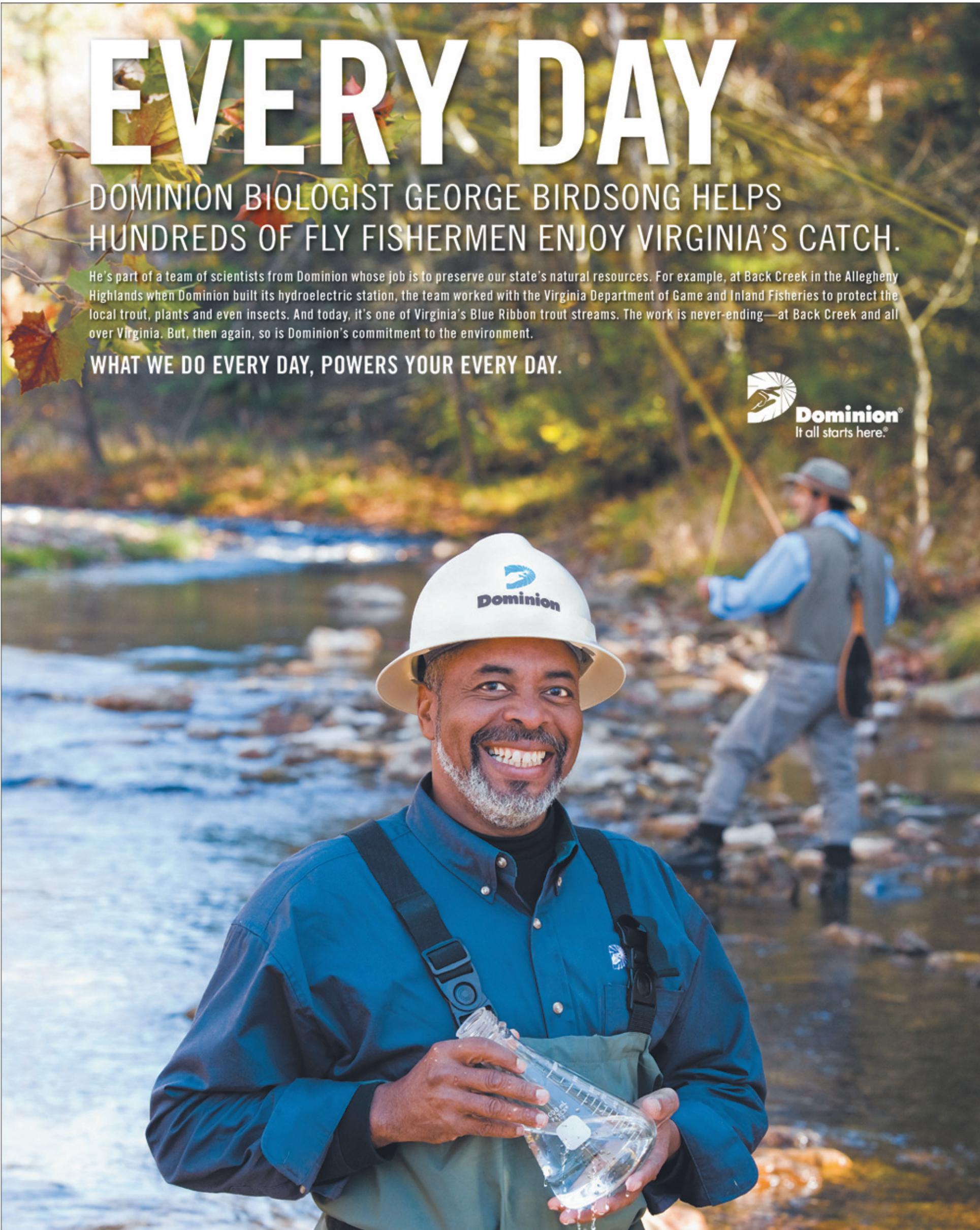
<sup>1</sup> By Thomas Fahey, EdD <sup>2</sup> Susan M. Kleiner, PhD, RD, FACN, CNS, FISSN

# EVERY DAY

DOMINION BIOLOGIST GEORGE BIRDSONG HELPS HUNDREDS OF FLY FISHERMEN ENJOY VIRGINIA'S CATCH.

He's part of a team of scientists from Dominion whose job is to preserve our state's natural resources. For example, at Back Creek in the Allegheny Highlands when Dominion built its hydroelectric station, the team worked with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to protect the local trout, plants and even insects. And today, it's one of Virginia's Blue Ribbon trout streams. The work is never-ending—at Back Creek and all over Virginia. But, then again, so is Dominion's commitment to the environment.

**WHAT WE DO EVERY DAY, POWERS YOUR EVERY DAY.**



# SPORTS

## As the Crowe Flies

Crowe will play softball at Mary Washington next season.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE  
GAZETTE



Believe it or not, but the hard hitting Elizabeth Crowe is a concert cellist.



### 2008 Senior Send-Off

As this year's class of graduating seniors prepare for the next phase of their lives, the Connection Newspapers would like to take one more look at the student-athletes that made a difference, on and off the field, during their four years of high school. Honorees were chosen for a variety of reasons – whether to highlight the top athletes in our area one last time, to shine light on an athlete who may have been overlooked during their time in school, to praise those whose success on the field was matched by their success in the classroom, or just to tell a story that needs to be told.

Special thanks to Robbie Hammer, Craig Sterbutzel, John C. Marcario, Nicolas A. LaMont, Michael Garcia, Andrew Dodson, Greg Rosenstein, John Smith and the entire production staff at the Connection Newspapers.

—PAUL FROMMELT, ERIC J. GILMORE, RICH SANDERS

- Westfield:** Mike Glennon, Kelsey Maloney
- Centreville:** Brienne Pease, Drake Diamond
- Chantilly:** Christina Patton, Ian Mills
- Madison:** A.J. Cybulski
- Oakton:** Ashley Kimener, Joe LoRusso
- Fairfax:** Carlos Perez, Emily Ferguson
- Lake Braddock:** Melanie Akwule, Shane Halley
- W.T. Woodson:** Mike Muldoon
- Robinson:** Katherine Yount, Derek Bui
- South County:** Jesse Beal
- West Springfield:** Jeff Haeuptle, Brittany Klippstein
- Hayfield:** Daniel Mills, Erica Guevara
- R.E. Lee:** Clint Bronder, Brittany Gropp
- Edison:** Tara White, Ademola Titcombe
- West Potomac:** Kelly Carmichael, Elizabeth Crowe
- Mount Vernon:** Beverly Hoath, Bryan Bahr
- T.C. Williams:** Cara Donley, Carlos Canales
- Wakefield:** Ben Huff, Maddie Torres
- Washington-Lee:** Daniel Abecia, Natalie Dahlstrom
- Yorktown:** Maggie Dean, Steven Kouril
- Bishop O'Connell:** Eric Kurtzke, Katie Walls
- Bishop Ireton:** Nick and David Weber, Colleen McFadden
- St. Stephen's & St. Agnes:** James Williams, Annie Taylor
- Episcopal:** Zach Glubiak, Trina Brady
- Marshall:** Samantha Sulser
- McLean:** David Roffman
- Langley:** Alex Meadows
- Herndon:** Marra Hvozdovic
- South Lakes:** Santos Cerda
- Broad Run:** Kelly Smith
- Potomac Falls:** Uche Onyeador
- Park View:** Samantha Louk
- Stone Bridge:** Kevin Elliott
- Dominion:** Dee Dee Fryer
- Briar Woods:** John Maghamez

Standing on the mound, softball pitchers rely on intimidation. They usually grab the surrounding dirt, switch the ball in between gloves incessantly and make ungodly facial expressions.

Elizabeth Crowe was no different. Only West Potomac's blonde ace, armed with a filthy rise ball, had a slightly less intimidating secret — she's a concert cellist. Having taken private lessons through middle school, Crowe performed in Sinfonietta Orchestra, the most advanced string performance class West Potomac offers.

Yes, the same recent grad that torched the Patriot District for 140 strikeouts to complement her 1.42 earned run average went home and practiced the same instrument she once played in the Executive Office Building of the White House.

"All of my friends wanted to play the violin, but I wanted to be different and try the cello," Crowe said. "I like the sound of it a lot better and was immediately attracted to it when I first heard a solo."

As if her reputation was on the line, consider that Crowe still had a .420 batting average, a .620 slugging percentage and 21 RBI's for the second-seeded Wolverines. Even though Crowe was an important cog at the plate, her biggest effect was on the mound. She had seven shutouts, including a four-game district streak when she didn't allow a single run.

"This year, I knew I had to step up and

become a leader," said Crowe, who was voted the team's most valuable player for the past two seasons. "I had a lot more confidence this year than I had my junior year. I would try to pick people up if they made a mistake or let them pick me up if I made a mistake or had a bad inning."

Crowe will bring her talents to Mary Washington, a Division III liberal arts school in Fredericksburg, Va. next season, where she'll join two former Mount Vernon grads in Kirsten Rowell and Catherine Hull, both of whom will be juniors next season.

**ELIZABETH CROWE CARRIES** an honor roll report card, along with three years of experience on the varsity golf team and a 10th grade season on the varsity basketball team. She admits to following a best friend into golf, but cited it as "one of her favorite sports."

For now, she is focusing on a late-sum-

mer trip with USA Athletes International, Inc. (USAAI), a non-profit that gives high school athletes an opportunity to compete around the world. After being admitted through a rigorous selection process, Crowe will play in a tournament in Italy.

But her mind was still on graduation, which was a reminder of Renee Shelkin's tragic death a little over a year ago.

"It was definitely bittersweet because I know it will be tough to miss all of the people who you are probably not going to keep in touch with, no matter how much you say you will," Elizabeth Crowe said. "Once you finally get comfortable when you're a senior, you get pushed right out and you have to be a freshman again. It's tough."

Her father, meanwhile, knows his daughter is ready to go.

"She's ready to take that next step," Michael Crowe said.

## 'Coachable' Carmichael Sets Sights on Seahawks

West Potomac distance specialist will run at UNCW.

BY ANDREW DODSON  
SPECIAL TO GAZETTE

Don Beeby, the West Potomac cross country coach and assistant track coach was not sure if Kelly Carmichael would be in a leadership position during his senior year. He would barely finish in the top-10 in freshmen division races, and he may have even been caught a couple times walking during a workout.

Needless to say, things changed for the recent graduate, who will attend the University of North Carolina Wilmington next

fall in their honors scholar program.

"Over the past two years, Kelly has been our captain," Beeby said. "I put him in a leadership position and he has given back to the community and helped us with recruiting."

He also qualified for the indoor state meet twice and the outdoor state meet this past season. Not bad for an athlete who barely scrapped into the top-10 of his freshmen division.

"He had to build a foundation for himself," said West Potomac track coach Dan Lundin. "He's a great leader, hard worker, and a great competitor."

Lundin said Carmichael's strongest weekend of racing came in the district championships his junior year. Carmichael could have focused just on the mile, his favorite race, but he knew his team needed the ex-

tra points in the two-mile and the 800-meter relay. He ran sub-4:30 in the mile and came back less than two hours later to run a sub 10-minute in the two-mile.

"That was all mental," said Carmichael. "If you know you have to do it for your team, then you have to do it. In the end, it's always about the team."

As a multi-sport athlete, it was a surprise to Carmichael's mom, Rosy Carmichael that he ended up being most successful as a runner.

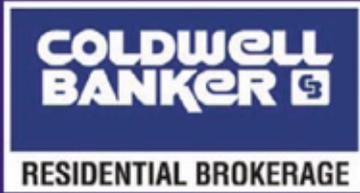
"When he was younger and played baseball, we weren't sure if he would make it to first base off a hit into the outfield because he was so slow," Rosy Carmichael said.

Carmichael began running distance in order to get in shape for basketball, and after a season of cross country, many real

SEE CARMICHAELY, PAGE 29

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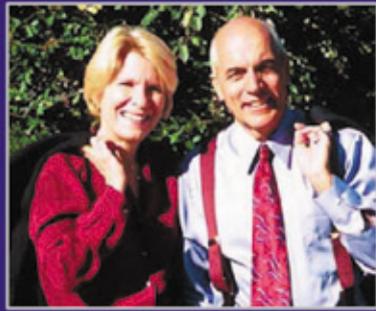


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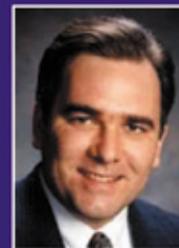
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# A Twist of Fate

Mount Vernon diver first Major individual state champion in nine years.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE  
GAZETTE

On a typical summer day, Bryan Bahr spends three hours at the pool with another tacked on for the commute. Only the recent Mount Vernon graduate isn't lounging or absorbing the sun like most 18-year-olds during the summer.

Bahr dives. And he dives intently, under the instruction of club coach and soon-to-be-college coach Roland McDonald and assistant Tim Fisher. It's what the George Mason-bound bundle of twists, turns and flips breathes for.

Bahr overcame a broken hand last season, which derailed much of his 2007 season to capture the Virginia Group AAA individual diving title. With a score of 454.05, during a difficult inward 1 1/2 somersault pike, the Major senior vindicated a runner-up finish as a junior.

"This year I worked as hard as I ever have and I guess it paid off in me winning the state title," Bahr said. "It felt good to get actual recognition for diving because people really don't focus on how difficult it really is."

At the pool, Bahr spends the first 30 minutes alternating between stretching and

conditioning, before the two-hour instruction session. It's a painful process, constantly molding older dives while still maintaining enough gall to install riskier, more difficult dives.

"The sport is almost all mental," Bahr said. "You have to have a no fear aspect of daily life."

**AT A MEET** last summer and mere months from the prized AAU National tournament, which Bahr probably would have won, the rising senior cracked his hand on the board. It's something he said he's never done before, but the resulting injury kept him from the mid-to-late summer schedule, which included the AAU tournament.

"Right before he broke his hand, he was on the top of his game," said Mary Bahr, who regularly drives Bryan to practice. "To come back as hard as he did and be rewarded for it, especially in his senior year, it was just pure elation and joy for him."

A multiple school record holder, Bryan Bahr was a three-time National District champion, and was named Mount Vernon's most valuable diver for four consecutive seasons.

Bryan Bahr followed a friend into diving at age 11, and never quit. Now, diving consumes a solid five days per week. In addition to spending four days weekly with the Patriot Dive Club at George Mason University, where he'll dive next season, Bahr heads to a one-meter, three-meter and platform facility in Rockville, Md. once a week.

"We would give up anything for the kids, for them to have the opportunity to do something we never got a chance to do," Mary Bahr said about her youngest son. He



COURTESY PHOTO

Bryan Bahr will dive at George Mason next season.

recently competed in a meet in Boston and another one in New York, and will head to Coral Springs, Fla. for the AAU national tournament in late July. The travel is a perk, but it's also taken a financial toll on the family, which has to pay virtually all of it out of pocket.

"We had to do a lot of traveling and all of the traveling was at our own expense," Mary Bahr said. "All the flights, the hotels, the

car rentals, even the apparel for diving, which you wouldn't think would be that expensive...we gave up a lot. We don't do family trips anymore because all of the vacations have been traveling around with Bryan."

But the boasting mother also added one final fact, especially after watching him graduate last week, "I couldn't be more proud of Bryan."

# Hoath Ready To Join Sister

Mount Vernon field hockey, soccer standout heading to Lynchburg.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE  
GAZETTE

For both the Mount Vernon field hockey and soccer teams, Beverly Hoath was a critical last line of defense. An all-district and all-region selection in both sports, the normally reserved senior was charged with uprooting the opposing attack, and reserving field.

Kind of like her older sister, Ashley Hoath, who used to man the Mount Vernon fields in a similar role. Beverly Hoath, continuing in her sister's footsteps will join her sister on a new field, this time as a teammate at Lynchburg College in the fall.

"Ever since her freshman year when she told me how much she loved playing and

going there, I didn't even think of going to another school," Beverly Hoath said on Tuesday. "It's where I wanted to be."

Last season Ashley Hoath, a second-team all-conference selection during her sophomore season, helped the Hornets to a Division III Elite Eight appearance — the school's second-ever. Now the elder sister will be a junior midfielder, with Beverly soon set to join the Hornets' fold.

The college season starts on Aug. 15, and after last season's conference championship — the program's third in four years and seventh overall — Hornet coach, Dr. Todd Olsen, is focusing on advancing past the D-III Elite Eight.

During her senior season, with a new head coach in place, Mount Vernon reached the district finals, only to falter to Yorktown. Beverly Hoath was selected to the first-team all-region and all-district teams.

**IN FIELD HOCKEY**, Beverly Hoath teamed with Meghan MacNair, in morphing the Majors into a legitimate regional contender. Mount Vernon went through the district

regular season undefeated, but couldn't prevent Edison from winning its third straight National District championship.

"She was definitely a quiet leader," said Mount Vernon hockey coach Ellen MacNair. "She's not one of the most outspoken people on the field or off the field, but she is just a stellar player. She's always going to step up to the ball."

Even though Meghan MacNair, the coach's daughter described Beverly Hoath as a 'goofball,' she cited the respect she commanded amongst her teammates.

"She can joke around, but she's always knows when to get everyone serious," said Meghan MacNair, who also heads off to Lynchburg in the fall. "Everyone listens to Bev. She's great to work with."

But Hoath's real forte was in the back line, knowing when and when not to choose her spots.

"She distributes the ball all over the field, lets the players know who's marking and who's not marking," Ellen MacNair said. "She's great to work with as a coach — you just can't have a better player."



COURTESY PHOTO

Hoath was a first-team all-region selection in field hockey and soccer.

# Driven To Succeed

Taylor will try to continue winning ways at U-Va.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE  
GAZETTE

**A**nnie Taylor talks a million miles per hour, almost like she's in a race with an opponent as to who can intelligently articulate and announce the fastest. Racing, competition and sheer sport is what makes the recent St. Stephen's & St. Agnes standout so special.

Swimming for the Belle Haven Country Club when she was younger, Taylor openly admits to throwing tantrums following races, not because she lost, but because she didn't crack her previous record time.

"She is one of those intense, all-around, could play any position type kid who does anything you ask of her," said Cathy Jenkins, the SSSAS girls lacrosse coach who recently cracked the 500-win mark. "She's could have been a top notch athlete in any sport she played. If she concentrated on basketball or field hockey, she would have been as good as lacrosse."

Jenkins can easily imagine it, her ultra intense elite recruit, at six years old, completely flabbergasted that she didn't win — by even more. That's Taylor, who spearheaded an assault on the Saint history books as a key member of the famed senior class.

First, it was field hockey. A four-year player — she played three sports all four seasons — she was the senior captain who helped Marsha Way earned her 500th win. They capped an undefeated season by becoming the first-ever SSSAS team to win

the Independent School League regular season and tournament title, along with the Virginia Independent School Athletics Association state championship.

"We knew it was time to make history or be history," Taylor said. "I was the probably the voice of the team. I am the loudest girl, coaches often tell me that. What I took upon myself was to be the motivator, the encourager and one of the hardest working players on the team so everyday I would try to work my butt off to set an example."

During basketball, the 5-foot-10 Taylor matched up offensively against bigger opponents, but still guarded the shiftier perimeter players on defense. She admits basketball is a distant third, but found similarities between her main sport, lacrosse, and basketball.

"It's so much like lacrosse," Taylor said. "It took me awhile to see the parallels between the two sports, but now I realize that how similar they are."

**HEADING INTO** her senior season, Taylor knew that SSSAS had an opportunity to be an elite team. Having lost 10 Division I athletes from last season's championship squad, however, she never imagined that she'd be a captain and voted the team's most valuable player of the nation's best team.

"I dream about this," said Taylor, who had 36 goals, 14 assists, 35 groundballs and 61 draw controls. "The emotions that are inside of me are overwhelming. It's been such an honor to play for this team. Playing with those girls has been the biggest prize of the

season, and it's only fitting that we end up No. 1."

Taylor, a midfielder, was voted an All-American in lacrosse, all-state in field hockey and lacrosse and was the runner-up for the Heather Leigh Albert Award at the national tournament, an award given to the top player.

As one of the nation's blue-chip recruits last summer, Taylor verbalized on the University of Virginia, which she called her "dream school." She will join four other SSSAS grads already on the Cavaliers.

"She compares to the top players because of her intensity and her work ethic in how driven she is," Jenkins said. "The top players that have done really well at the next level and at the USA level have that intensity that they are not going to lose."

Taylor credits Jenkins, the longtime uber-successful Saint coach for molding her into the player she's become. She cited a specific instance prior to the St. Paul's game this season, when Jenkins didn't start her senior captain because she was two minutes late.

"Words can't even describe what I think of her," said Taylor, who is also the senior class co-president and maintained a 3.85 GPA. "She's been the positive role model in my life. I can't even think of the amount of girls that have gone through her program, but she makes sure that each one feels special. She gives her 100 percent attention to make sure that everyone gets into the right school, making sure they improve themselves as a person. She's amazing."

## Carmichael

FROM PAGE 25

ized he had quite the talent in running.

It is more than just hard work though. It takes a special athlete to develop from essentially nothing into a state-qualifying miler.

"Every coach that Kelly has had said he was very coachable," Rosy Carmichael said "He's been lucky to have great coaches and has always followed their direction."

Next fall at UNCW, Carmichael will run eight and 10-kilometer races for cross country—double the distance of high school meets. He sees the longer distance as a challenge, but feels it will give him a good base for his strongest race.

"The mile is my best race," Kelly Carmichael said. "I'll have to stay mentally tough for those longer races, but come track season it should help me."

In college outdoor track and field, the 1500-meters replaces the mile event, creating an 18-second conversion between the two races. The future Seahawk wants to run sub four-minutes in the 1500 meters.

Carmichael leaves West Potomac as a decorated distance runner, but left the future bright through the freshmen he inspired. Soon enough, he will be the one inspired, at the next stage of his running career.

**"The mile is my best race"**  
— Kelly Carmichael

## A Quick Study Three-sport SSSAS alum headed to Amherst.

BY ERIC J. GILMORE  
GAZETTE

**T**o most nose tackles, James Williams looked like a menacing muscular tower, the kind you don't want to anger. A brute 6-foot, 310-pound captain, the recent St. Stephen's & St. Agnes graduate anchored the Saints offensive line, while also splitting time bull rushing the quarterback as a defensive tackle.

"I kind of saw myself as the leader of my grade, my class," Williams said. "I felt like I've been leading silently when I can."

But behind the mean façade and 320-pound bench press, according to wrestling coach Joe Shabelski, is a gentler thought-provoking athlete, who spends his leisure time in the math and French clubs.

"He's a big teddy bear," Shabelski said. "You wouldn't think he'd be a tough person on the wrestling mat, but when he gets in an athletic competition, he can turn it on. He's tough as nails."

Before dabbling in wrestling as a heavyweight for the first time, Williams was the

linchpin for the run-oriented Saints football team. Behind senior running back Isaiah Carpenter, who averaged over eight yards per game over the first six games, SSSAS opened the season 5-1, including four straight wins to open the season.

Williams cited a home 16-13 victory over Woodberry Forest as a season highlight, and was content that the Saints traveled to Liberty University in the Virginia Independent School Athletic Association semifinals.

As a wrestler, Williams knew little, other than that fact that he had to drop almost 30 pounds to get under the 285-pound heavyweight threshold.

"It's easier for a guy like me because I'm so big already than it is for a little cat," Williams said. "Wrestling was all the exercise I needed. By allowing the coaches to do what they wanted with me, I pretty much got it done."

He proved to be a quick student, catapulting himself to a third-place showing in the Interstate Athletic Conference tournament and a seventh in the VISAA tournament by season's end.

"He's really smart," Shabelski said. "He came out in late December and had never wrestled before. We were estastic with how he did. He became one of our leaders and the kids really gelled with him."

Williams parlayed the momentum into baseball season, where he was a starting first baseman for a team that started the season with nine straight wins. The baseball team finished 20-6 under second-year coach Jim Supple, one of the best in school history.

"We were always playing in big and important games and you can't ask for anything more than that," Williams said. "We felt like this was a season we were ready for and was a long time coming. We were definitely happy with our record and what we did this season."

**THOUGH HE HAD** opportunities to pursue a football career, Williams, who maintained a spot on the Head's List (A average) or Dean's List (A/B average) throughout high school, chose to follow his sister at Amherst College.

"I feel like it's a perfect fit for me. I feel

like if she wasn't there ... I'd still want go," Williams said. "I got to see some stuff that the normal high school senior doesn't normally get to see."

Amherst is a highly selective, private liberal arts college in Amherst, Mass., one that certainly saw Williams' afterschool activities as an admission plus.

At SSSAS, he was a member of GUILD, a signature service organization who run annual food and clothing drives. Williams also spent time last summer working with Habitat for Humanity.

"If you want to get involved, you can," Williams said "I feel like I'd be selling myself if I didn't engage myself in at least a decent number of activities."

Williams, who plans to spend his summer working and relaxing, was excited to finally don his graduation cap.

"You're really excited and that you deserve to be there and have worked hard to end up in some way or the other at that graduation, but at the same time it's sad because you're not really ready to let go of everything," Williams said.

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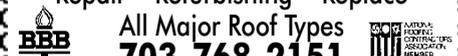


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Edited by Will Shortz  
 No. 0315-3

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Puzzle by Elizabeth C. Gorski

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cuba's Castro
  - 6 Amo, —, amat (Latin exercise)
  - 10 Fishhook's end
  - 14 Positive pole
  - 15 70's-80's TV alien
  - 16 Theater award
  - 17 Place in the news, 3/28/79
  - 20 Genesis son
  - 21 Moderately slow, in music
  - 22 Drink in a mug
  - 23 Helen of —
  - 24 Shady retreat
  - 28 Examiner
  - 30 Shock
  - 32 Duracell competitor
  - 35 Bandleader Brown
  - 36 They're hard to walk on
  - 40 Mel's Diner waitress
  - 41 Baby's room
  - 42 Terriers and toy poodles, e.g.
  - 45 Marvelous, in slang
  - 49 Photographer Adams
  - 50 Air conditioner capacity, for short
  - 52 Scot's refusal
  - 53 Marsh plant
  - 56 Speaker's spot
  - 57 Offside setback
  - 61 Persia, now
  - 62 Clumsy dancer's obstacles
  - 63 Like a lot
  - 64 Not straight
  - 65 Not — eye in the house
  - 66 Legislative aides
- DOWN**
- 11 Lawyers' org.
  - 12 — Tin Tin
  - 13 Retirement locale?
  - 18 Getting hitched
  - 19 Number on a baseball card
  - 23 Sign of weeping
  - 25 Torero's foe
  - 26 Smallest bills
  - 27 Country rtes.
  - 29 Robert Morse Tony-winning role
  - 30 Sounds of relief
  - 31 Amtrak posting
  - 33 Burden
  - 34 TV hookup
  - 36 Spanish custard
  - 37 "Stupid me!"
  - 38 Blows it
  - 39 Iris's place
  - 40 Neighbor of Ga.
  - 43 Clothed, informally
  - 44 Oil of —
  - 46 Not digital
  - 47 — d'
  - 48 Emphatic affirmative
  - 50 Justice Ruth — Ginsburg
  - 51 Sloshed
  - 54 Socialite's "bye"
  - 55 Walked (on)
  - 56 Baby's first word
  - 57 Prevaricate
  - 58 Wrath
  - 59 Vehicle with sliding doors
  - 60 40 winks

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

Theme answers: t(win-e)n(gin)ed plane, (ale)xander (port)noy, d(rum)sticks, max (beer)bohm, hair d(rye)rs

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The winner of puzzle #0313-3 is:

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# Brown Puts CakeLove on Paper

BY GREG PATTON  
GAZETTE

**W**arren Brown is a busy man. The founder of CakeLove is opening his bakery's sixth location later this year, is engaged with a wedding planned for October, and has just come out with a book, *CakeLove: How to Bake Cakes from Scratch*. The lawyer-turned-baker agreed to sit down and answer a few questions during a recent stop on his book tour in Shirlington where a CakeLove bakery is located.

**So you got through law school, you were a government litigator—and cooking was always just in the background?**

In the background, but also really in the foreground in a lot of ways, because I would end up in the kitchen doing something elaborate three or four times a week, whether it was for breakfast, or serving lunch on the weekends—friends coming over, just doing a lot of things. What I discovered was, it's a very easy way to share time and have company over, because I love entertaining. Well, that's the thing, I don't actually love entertaining, but I love cooking.

**What made you decide to make this your day job instead of practicing law?**

The reality that I couldn't do both. The reality that I had to make a choice. There's freedom and liberty in making a choice. Since I have, I've really excelled and been able to not just be at peace but really grow. The problem was, How am I going to pay for anything? How do I pay the rent, how do I buy the ingredients, how do I actually find the resources to make it happen; and secondly, how do we even know that customers are going to keep coming or come at all? Those are answers that no one can provide, really just time will provide.

**How did your family take it when you told them you were going to be a baker instead of a lawyer?**

They were supportive in general. You know, it took some convincing and persuading by way of showing them what I have, what my plan is, what the product is, and my energy and interest level. I took my time, and I think I approached the subject with them in a way where I said, "This is what I'm thinking of doing and what I would like to do, what do you think of it?" and waited for their reply. And then, the next time I saw them, I brought a cake. I guess they just saw from the beginning how much I liked it, and they also have a lot of faith in me. I knew I could do it, too, but knowing you can do it and doing it are two really different things.

**Why did you settle on baking as opposed to any other form of art?**

I tried different kinds of art. I used to draw a lot with oil pastels, a lot with chalks, did a lot with poetry..... I did try, and worked and enjoyed, and I think I've made some pretty interesting stuff with art, and I probably would have continued if I felt like I'd had a better foundation to work with. But I suppose when I looked at it, and I was really looking to make strides with something, I noticed that cooking was something I naturally excelled at.

**You make European buttercream and American cake. Explain that.**

The difference with cake is, typically European cake is like a sponge cake. It's a very low amount of butter relative to the sugar, flour, and eggs. It's a foam-style cake where you're whipping air into the eggs and sugar, then you fold in the flour, then you fold in a little bit of butter. In American cake, you cream the butter and sugar, very slowly incorporate air into the butter and sugar, and then add in eggs, flour, and some kind of milk item. There's a lot more moisture in there from the milk, and the result is that the cake has a great ability to be a platform for supporting other flavors—frostings and fruit fillings.

Buttercreams, there's a lot for that. Essentially, it's American buttercreams, and then European ones. Europeans are Italian, French, Swiss—several different ways. The

one we make the most is Italian meringue buttercream. American buttercream is butter whipped together with confectioner's sugar, add in milk, sometimes cream—some kind of liquid dairy agent, until it's smooth. Confectioner's sugar is ground up so finely that when you bite into it, it just passes right through your mucous membrane and gives you a sugar rush. I don't think it tastes that good. It's just so sickeningly sweet that it's too much to handle. We don't go with that one.

**You're interested in what goes on at the molecular level in your food. Can you explain that for someone who doesn't know anything about cooking science?**

I like to think in terms of the smallest units. I like to imagine myself in the bowl as the mixer is going around, and get a sense of how the ingredients are bonding and coming together with one another. A cake batter is all the ingredients in there mixing around air. As I think myself into the bowl, I feel like I can get an idea of how much more of anything I can add. How much dairy agent can I add before I overwhelm the starch's capacity to absorb moisture and give structure to the cake? I like to think at that level, and watching cartoons when I was a kid actually helps me to imagine that, because you have to have some basis for your imagination. So I guess CakeLove is the way it is because of Smurfs.

**What's your favorite cake?**

New German Chocolate. Without the coconut. The frosting is particularly soft. I think it's a fun construction of cake. It's very liberal, I suppose, because there's no frosting on the sides. And it's not too overwhelming—when you get to the end of the cake, you're not faced with a whole slab of frost-



Warren Brown signs a copy of his new book at Shirlington Library

ing. I guess I like cake more than I like frosting. So yeah, the NGC. Plus, it makes me think of Prince and the New Power Generation.

**What made you want to write the book?**

My interest in getting people into the kitchen, and offering out cake as a means for them to break through some of the barriers to baking that a lot of people have. I always said, "I can cook, but I can't bake," and I know I hear that a lot. What I learned is, it's not as hard to bake as you might expect.

**You've got the blessing of Oprah, which carries a lot of currency in this world. What was that like for you?**

It was great. Meeting Oprah was very much a highlight of my life, and very much a feeling of validation, that what I had done was the right choice and that someone of that stature was recognizing me. It was an incredibly satisfying feeling.

**What would you want to say to your former self, the lawyer, or to someone like you who's up baking at night?**

I'd tell him to get a lot of sleep, get focused on what you want, and make all the moves to get it.

## Saudi Academy Challenged Again

FROM PAGE 4

other Saudi school," Hyland said.

"But, I still want to have the persons who reviewed the textbooks for me originally look at the newly redone texts. I will have my reviewer do just that," he said.

"This is the second time they have changed the textbooks to meet our and the State Department's requests. Not only are we and the Commission looking at the textbooks but also is the State Department and the FBI," Hyland said.

"However, it should also be noted that no matter what the textbook say in print there is really very little control we can exercise over what is actually said or implied in the

classroom on a daily basis. That is true in most situations," he said.

More than 72 percent of the school's employees are American citizens, four are Canadians and two are Saudis. The teaching staff is composed of a variety of religious faiths and ethnic backgrounds that teach children enrolled from kindergarten through 12th grade.

**FURTHER ADJUSTMENTS** to textbooks and curriculum was explained by Director of Education Abdullah. "We are doing a major revision to our total curriculum that includes math, science and Islamic studies. The Islamic Studies texts have been totally redone based on suggestions from a vari-

ety of sources, including many from the outside," she said.

"We intend to have an independent panel composed of college and university academicians review the revised texts before we do the final printing for the new school year," Abdullah said.

Addressing the charges against Al-Shabnan, she noted that the State had sent representatives to the school to conduct an instructional class for faculty on their responsibility to report any suspected or reported case of child sexual molestation. "We are now very well versed in the law and its requirements," she said.

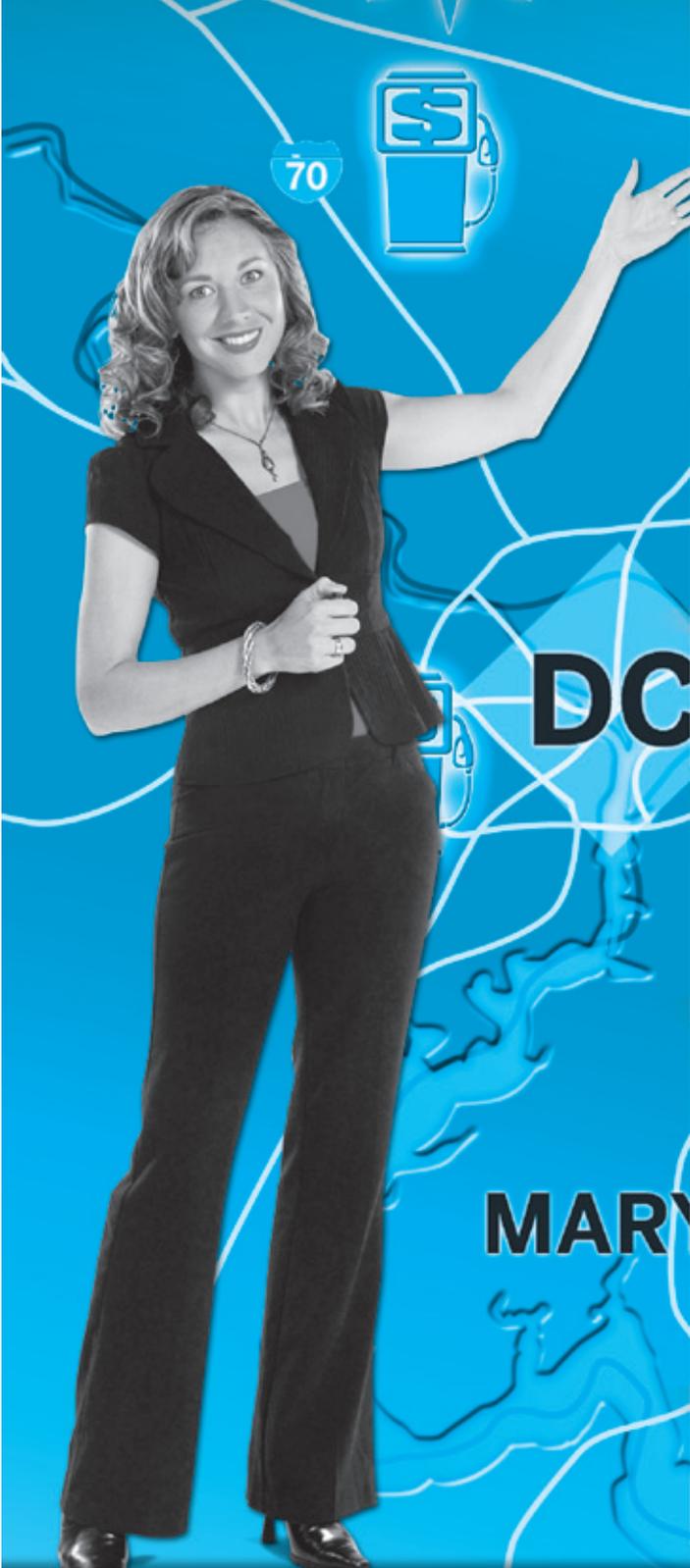
On June 23, Connolly released a letter he sent to U.S. Secretary of State

Condoleezza Rice, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors seeking her analysis and opinion on the ISA lease renewal. In that letter Connolly points out that the Board voted to renew the lease on May 19 following a public hearing on the subject. He also notes that the second Commission report was released June 11.

No communications or speakers expressing concern at the public hearing on the lease renewal was heard "from either the State Department or the Commission regarding the texts or curriculum," according to Connolly's letter. He requests that Rice either concur or nonconcur with the lease renewal since the State Department has the right to make the final call.

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