

Mount Vernon Gazette

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VOL. XIX, No. 27

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

JULY 3, 2008

A Community Farewell Briefing

BRAC brings tomorrow to Belvoir today.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Nearly 100 members of the Mount Vernon-Lee, Springfield, and Fairfax chambers of commerce packed a ballroom at the Springfield Hilton by 8 a.m. June 26 to hear Fort Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian W. Lauritzen give his final community wide assessment of the Base Realignment and Closure Report (BRAC) on the area's military and civilian interests. At the conclusion, he received a standing ovation.

“Outreach to the community has defined my time as Ft. Belvoir's Installation Commander.”

—Col. Brian W. Lauritzen

“This commander cares about the people and gets the job done. He was and is the right man in the right place at the right time for the job,” said Nathaniel Wilson, chairman, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, in introducing Lauritzen for his final non-military public appearance. He will be retiring from the Army after 26 years of service following the July 2 change of command at Belvoir.

“I don't usually find myself in a room filled with people who are opti-

mistic about BRAC. But, we have been successful in implementing the many facets of BRAC because it is a team sport and you have been willing participants,” Lauritzen said in kicking off his review of BRAC and other activities that have taken place at Belvoir during his three year tour-of-duty.

Repeating his oft stated believe that BRAC is only one element of an ongoing Fort Belvoir metamorphosis, Lauritzen said, “We were busy before BRAC and we will be busy after BRAC. Ten years from now this will all be a blip on the screen.”

Emphasizing the point of other Belvoir activities, Lauritzen cited the growth in the base commissary that, at \$95 million a year, is doing twice the business for which it was designed and noted that a recent ribbon cutting marked the 1000th home constructed on Belvoir under the Residential Community Initiative started in early 2001. “Under this program, we are building communities — not just homes,” he said.

“I have had to keep in mind how to accomplish BRAC and not interfere with the primary mission of the Post,” he said in assessing one of the great-



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE

Nathaniel Wilson, chairman, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, presented a plaque of appreciation to Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian Lauritzen following Lauritzen's final community briefing on BRAC developments during a joint breakfast of three chambers of commerce at the Springfield Hilton Hotel.

est challenges of his Belvoir tenure.

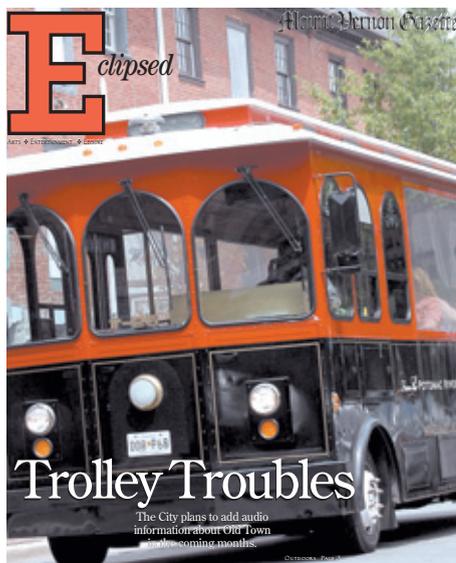
However, Lauritzen also acknowledged the primary “boggy” in the overall BRAC plan. That is the still unresolved location of the Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) element of 6,300 personnel, also known as BRAC 133. The decision as to that location has now been pushed back to this September.

“If the decision is made in September 08 we've got a flat three years to get it done,” he said. Presently there are three sites under consideration — Victory Center and Mark Center, both in Alexandria, and the GSA Warehouses site in Springfield. Mark Center, adjacent to I-395, has the least complicating factors.

Referring to the new campus-style headquarters of the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) headquarters under construction at Belvoir's Engineering Proving Grounds (EPG), Lauritzen said, “This will be a beautiful facility when it is completed.”

He also noted that EPG was originally to have been the site for BRAC 133 as well as the NGA, but traffic concerns changed that decision, according to Lauritzen. “The Corps of Engineers will make the final decision as to WHS's ulti-

SEE FAREWELL, PAGE 4



Food Drive Highlights Growing Demand

One day drive nets 4,000 pounds of food, not even a week's worth.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

United Community Ministries (UCM) was the beneficiary of 4,000 pounds of non-perishable food items and \$165 in cash donations as a result of a food drive conducted by the office of Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland last Saturday.

However, that amount of food will cover only about one half of a week's distribution

to needy families. UCM is presently distributing an estimated 35,000 pounds of food per month, nearly 9,000 pounds per week.

“The demand for food has grown tremendously. We are now feeding about 400 families a week. Three years ago that total was only 250 families,” said Joseph Camy, president, UCM Board of Directors, working as a volunteer.

“But, this has been a united effort by a lot of individuals, businesses and organizations throughout the area today,” said Ron

Fitzsimmons, and aide to Hyland and organizer of last Saturday's drive.

Food items were collected by volunteers and brought to the Mount Vernon Government Center on Parker's Lane where it was loaded onto a UCM truck and taken to the charity's food pantry on Fordson Road. There were also pledges of additional cash donations but they have not yet been collected, according to UCM.

SEE FOOD DRIVE, PAGE 4

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Five bedrooms, 3.5 baths, main level bedroom/full bath, gorgeous renovations throughout including baths, kitchen/FR addition. Formal LR & DR, 3 fireplaces, mud room, 2 dens, wet bar, hot tub, finished LL, patio & deck. On cul-de-sac & just off GW Parkway.

Val Klotz 703-303-9744



Mason Neck 389,950

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Paul 703-960-8900



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Two level detached home with fabulous flat half acre. Close to Metro, Old Town, and D.C. Well-kept home, updated kitchen and bathroom, basement is unfinished and has space for extra rooms.

Manfredy Lopez 571-277-0601



Alexandria/South \$449,900

A MUST SEE

Wonderful home – shows pride of ownership. Freshly painted, hardwood floors on main level. New wall-to-wall carpet lower level. Fully updated kitchen with GE stainless appliances, silestone counters. Baths updated. ADT security. One third acre lot, 2-car detached garage. Flagstone steps at entry. Home Buyer Warranty.

Ann Wynne 703-402-7265

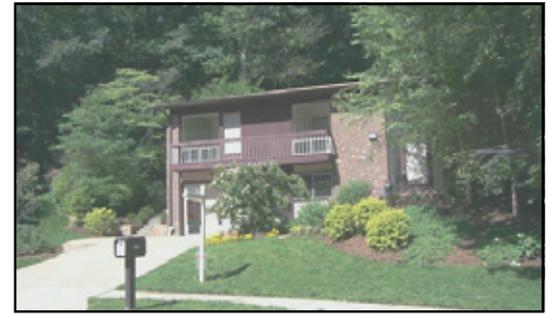


Alex/Virginia Hills \$411,000

PICTURE PERFECT!

Two level remodeled rambler with front porch. Four bedrooms, 2 full updated baths, updated kitchen with granite & Pergo, new carpet & fresh paint. Great fenced backyard with amazing shed/workshop on one third acre lot. Minutes to Metro & shopping.

Pat Grant 703-919-5838



Alex/Wessynton \$649,000

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Elfie Biankini 703-593-2634



Alexandria \$695,803

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Walid Ashoor 703-585-6224



Alexandria \$975,000

COUNTRY LIVING IN THE CITY

Spacious custom-built 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on half acre lot in established community. Luxury first floor MBR suite. 8x60' porches front and rear, workshop and huge two car garage. Very close to Ft. Belvoir. Owner/Agent.

Trina Williams 703-395-2122



Alexandria \$799,000

SERENE SURROUNDINGS

Look no further. This beautiful four bedroom, three and a half bath, stately colonial home boasts a finished walk-out lower level to a landscaped garden with patio. Great kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Oversized garage. Must see!

Nanci Sale 703-960-8900 x 256



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Funds Found For Woodlawn Road Replacement

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay announced Monday that the long awaited funding to make the new "Mulligan Road" a four lane reality had been achieved by expending \$12 million of Fairfax County's commercial and industrial (C&I) tax revenues. Mulligan Road is the connector byway to replace Woodlawn Road that was closed as a Fort Belvoir security measure following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

"The first use of these tax revenues will allow Mulligan Road to be built with four lanes rather than a bottlenecked two-lane road. It would be obsolete on day one," McKay, chair of the Board's Transportation Committee, said.

Use of C&I taxes to generate revenue for transportation projects in Fairfax County was authorized by the General assembly during the 2007 session. They were implemented by the BOS as an 11-cent commercial and industrial real estate tax rate that became effective July 1. They are estimated to raise approximately \$52 million a year.

Under the Base Realignment and Closure Report (BRAC) the new road connecting Route 1 and Telegraph Road, adjacent to Woodlawn Plantation, was proposed to have two lanes built with BRAC appropriated funds with the remaining two lanes to be funded by the State or County in the future. BRAC funds will also finance the four lane right-of-way.

"Building Mulligan Road with four lanes will be more cost effective than building a two-lane road and trying to retrofit an additional two lanes at some later and undetermined date. We have an obligation to our taxpayers to use their hard earned dollars wisely and with this new revenue we will be able to complete the four-lane road as a single project," McKay said.

"We cannot afford to wait any longer for this critical road. We have to use all the tools at our disposal to break loose from our traffic congestion. This is an example of the County stepping up to the plate in a big way," he said.

"I am very happy that Supervisor McKay was able to secure the critically needed balance from the new commercial property transportation tax. This project will help everyone who lives along Telegraph Road by reducing the amount of traffic headed north on South Kings Highway and the Harrison Road/Lockheed connection to Richmond Highway," said Delegate Mark Sickles (D-43) who represents the area in the Virginia General Assembly.

In addition to the \$12.1 million from C&I revenues, funding for the \$54.9 million project will come from \$8 million in federal earmarked funds and \$34.8 million in federal Defense Access Road funds.

—CHUCK HAGEE

Freedom Will Ring July 4

Independence Day weekend will be the last chance for Mount Vernon Estate visitors to see the full-size replica of the Liberty Bell. On loan from the Providence Forum until July 7 it is housed in a special tent just off the Bowling Green and rung every hour.

July 4 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. there will be a host of activities at the Estate including military reenactments, patriotic music by the National Concert Band of America, a special wreathlaying ceremony, free birthday cake for everyone while it lasts, and photo opportunity visits throughout the day by "General and Mrs. Washington."

The schedule of events is as follows:

9:45 a.m. - Military reenactors assemble for inspection by "General Washington" on the Bowling Green, where the Declaration of Independence will be read.

10 a.m. - A procession to George Washington's Tomb for a special wreath laying ceremony.

11 a.m. - Annual Red, White and Blue Concert by the Concert Band of America, an 80-member company of retired musicians from each of the U.S. Armed Forces, playing patriotic favorites.

1 p.m. - A Revolutionary War military demonstration by the First Virginia Regiment on the Bowling Green.

All July 4th activities are included in the regular admission of \$13 adults; \$12 seniors; \$6 children (6-11); Children five and under are free.

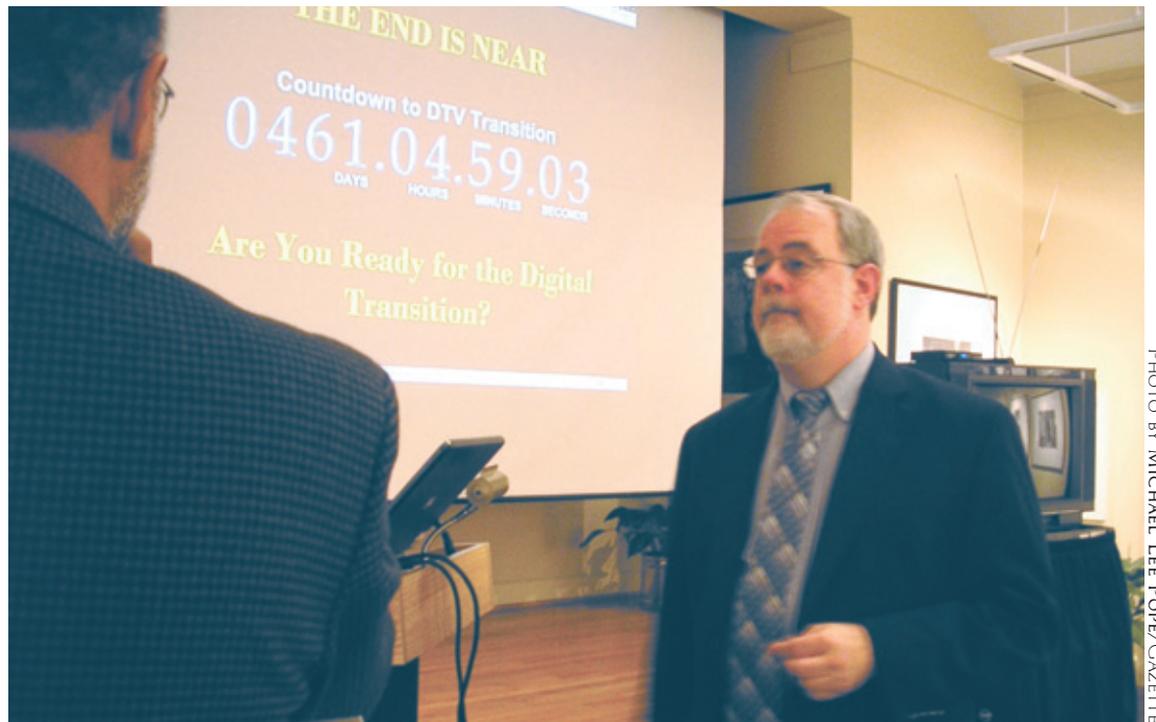


PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/GAZETTE

Daniel Rumelt, senior outreach advisor for the Federal Communications Commission, speaks to Alexandria NAACP President S. Howard Woodson about digital broadcasting during an outreach session last year.

Preparing for the Transition

Federal officials increase outreach as television viewers ready themselves for going digital.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE

Gerry Grant can still remember the first show he watched on television: the 1954 World Series. Grant's father took him to a bar to watch the game even though he was not yet old enough to drink. Since that time, the technology that delivers television to viewers has advanced tremendously, although the most dramatic transformation has yet to happen. On Feb. 17 — just seven months from now — old-fashioned radio-wave transmission of broadcast network shows will cease, pushing television viewers into a brave new world of digital broadcasting. And Grant will be ready for the transition.

"I'll be sending off for one of those coupons," said Grant, now a 68-year-old Franconia resident, after attending a presentation on the federal coupon program at the Hollin Hall Senior Center last week. "And if it improves emergency communications, I'm all for it."

Congress mandated the conversion to all-digital television broadcasting in 2005, and the bill was signed by President George W. Bush in 2006. In addition to the consumer options created by multicasting technology, the transfer to digital-only broadcasting will free up a significant number of frequencies that can be used for public-safety uses such as police, fire and emergency rescue. Those frequencies not used by public-safety officials will be auctioned off for the next generation of wireless services.

"One of the things we learned on 9/11 was that many of our public safety officials were not using the same frequencies," said David Rumelt, a senior

How to Get A Coupon

Until March 31, 2009, all households in America will be eligible to request up to two coupons — worth \$40 each — toward the purchase of analog-to-digital converter boxes through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The converters are designed to make over-the-air digital television signals viewable on analog-only televisions. For more information, call 1-888-DTV-2009 or visit dtv2009.gov.

outreach advisor with the Federal Communications Commission, during a presentation in Alexandria last year. "After television stations free up the frequencies used in the analog transmissions, public safety officials will be able to better coordinate communications."

FEDERAL OFFICIALS in charge of the outreach program say that they are particularly concerned with reaching out to populations that are not traditionally cable subscribers, such as the elderly, minority groups and people who speak English as a second language. That's why much of the effort has been coordinated through groups such as the Hollin Hill Senior Center, which organized last week's forum.

"I have cable, but I also have two televisions that aren't hooked up to cable," said Elaine Throm, assistant director at the center, who organized the informational session. "So I've already received my two coupons for those televisions."

Televisions that are hooked up to cable or satellite services will not need a converter, which is needed only for sets that receive broadcast signals through the air. Federal officials say 18.7 million coupons have been requested and 4.6 million have been redeemed. The coupons are free, and can be ordered online at dtv2009.gov or by calling 888-DTV-2009. Todd Sedmak, a spokesman for the federal television converter box coupon program, said that those who receive a coupon must use it within 90 days or it will expire.

"The biggest misconception people have to run out and buy a new television," he said. "But you don't need a new television. You just need a coupon."

Food Drive Highlights Growing Demand

FROM PAGE 1

"I don't think that donations are down it's just that the demand is so much higher. We've had to start disbursing smaller amounts of food to families in order to have enough so as not to turn people away," said Cynthia Hull, executive director, UCM.

"We try to give each family who comes to us a three day supply each week. There are some perishable food items, such as milk, that we have to buy and we have had to stop doing that due to escalating costs on some of those items — milk is one of them. We are not giving milk any longer," Hull said.

One of the reasons this drive was organized is that the demand for food is higher in the summer when children are home from school, according to Hull. During the school year they are able to get school meals.

"The demand for food has grown tremendously."

—Joseph Camy, president, UCM Board of Directors

"We have 17 volunteers here at the Government Center plus UCM staff helping. The truck will hold about 10,000 pounds which would cover the demand for just over a week," Fitzsimmons said about half way through the drive which ran from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There were also some very innovative methods employed to get people to donate. Jeff Todd, owner of Roy Rogers Restaurants on Route 1 and Belle Haven Shopping Center, gave customers a \$5 gift certificate for every 10 food items they donated. When he pulled into the collection area his SUV was loaded with an estimated 200 pounds of food.

"People coming into the restaurant really came through for us," Todd said. All charities that distribute food to the needy are facing the same escalating needs as the economic picture continues to worsen.



Ron Fitzsimmons, aide to Mt. Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland and member of the United Community Ministries Board of Directors, joins Jeff Todd, Mt. Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Vice President and owner of Roy Rogers Restaurants, after unloading Todd's SUV full of donations to the UCM Food Drive.

A Community Farewell Briefing

FROM PAGE 1

mate location. But, wherever that is it will have to pass the smell test," he said.

That smell test means that the site must be owned by the U.S. Army and be a part of Fort Belvoir. "It might be nice to have it at a good vacation spot so that future Commanders could take an occasional TDY (Temporary Duty) travel, but that won't pass the smell test," Lauritzen told the crowd.

Another element encompassed within the BRAC mission is completing the final link of the Fairfax County Parkway at the EPG. "We have a signed memorandum of agreement. It will be a phased operation with the cost now estimated at \$174 million — up another \$60 million," he said.

"There will be pain with its construction as there is with any project like this. But, at the end of the day it will be a benefit to everyone," Lauritzen said.

ONE OF THE crown jewels of BRAC at Belvoir will be the new DeWitt Community Hospital, according to Lauritzen. "It started out as a world class vision and we have been fighting to keep it that way," he said flashing various images of the new medical center now under construction on the main post just inside Pence Gate off Route 1.

"DeWitt's design is engineered to enhance the healing process. There is plenty of glass to bring the outside in and all rooms will be single occupant rooms," he said. The construction of DeWitt and NGA account for a total expenditure of \$2.6 billion.

Complimenting DeWitt but separate from it, Belvoir is developing a "Soldier One Stop" Center and a "Warrior In Transition" Facil-



Members of the Mount Vernon-Lee, Springfield and Fairfax chambers of commerce packed the ballroom of the Springfield Hilton Hotel to hear a final update on BRAC by Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Brian Lauritzen who turned over command of the base during an official ceremony July 2.

ity to serve 200 to 300 soldiers and their families. Located near the new DeWitt hospital, groundbreaking for the new facility will occur in late 2008 or early 2009, according to Lauritzen.

Touching on transportation issues, he stated that the Woodlawn Road replacement, known as the Old Mill Road extension, will presently be a two lane project with a right-of-way for four lanes in the future. "Communications is ultimately important in dealing with near term transportation opportunities," he said.

He also cited the development of a Potomac River ferry from Occoquan to the District of Columbia's Navy Yard. "The river was very much a means of transportation years ago. Now a commuter ferry is being developed full bore once again," he said.

A new Missile Defense Headquarters will be built inside Belvoir's historic district near the base headquarters building where ball fields are presently located. Those fields will be moved to another area where they can be enlarged and enhanced, according to Lauritzen.

When it came to the future home of the Museum of the U.S. Army, Lauritzen pointed out, "This is an Army level initiative. It is not part of Belvoir. It just happens to be located here," he said.

"It will be an all encompassing museum. We anticipate a decision on its location by September," Lauritzen said. The preferred location presently is adjacent to Kingman Gate just off the Fairfax County Parkway near its intersection with Route 1. But, as Lauritzen acknowledged, "preferred" is an engineering term not an emotional one.

"In the end we want all the pieces of this puzzle to fit together for everyone's benefit. That is why we created the Board of Advisors at the outset — to bring key community leaders together to be part of this process," Lauritzen said.

"This process will stand the test of time. I will pass it to my successor. Outreach to the community has defined my time as Fort Belvoir's Installation Commander," he said.

"It has been an honor to serve with you. And, we do "serve" together," he concluded as the audience came to its feet with applause.

That mutual admiration was borne out by the presentation of a plaque of appreciation by Wilson for the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce stating that Lauritzen was "The right man, In the right place, At the right time."

He was followed by John D. Pellegrin, president, Springfield Chamber of Commerce, who presented Lauritzen with a model of that Chamber's recently adopted flag. The new symbolic banner was first flown this past Memorial Day at the Springfield American Legion Post, according to Pellegrin.

PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGE/CZETTE

CRIME

Incidents reported to the Mount Vernon district station of the Fairfax County Police Department through June 27.

LARCENIES

Sacramento Drive/Richmond Highway. License plates stolen from vehicle.

8400 block Sky View Drive. Car seat stolen from vehicle.

8200 block Fresno Lane. Bicycle stolen from residence.

4400 block Groombridge Way. Portable radio stolen from vehicle.

2600 block Huntington Ave. License plates stolen from vehicle.

9300 block Old Mount Vernon Road. Kayak stolen from business.

6100 block Richmond Highway. Wallet stolen from residence.

7400 block Richmond Highway. Six license plates stolen from vehicles.

7600 block Richmond Highway. Four mattresses stolen from business.

7700 block Richmond Highway. Cell phone stolen from business.

2400 block Riverview Terrace. iPod, cell phone and money stolen from residence.

7200 block Fairchild Drive. License plate stolen from vehicle.

2000 block Huntington Ave. iPod stolen from residence.

2500 block Huntington Ave. Bicycle stolen from business.

2000 block Kenley Court. Bicycle

stolen from residence.

6700 block Richmond Highway. Beer stolen from business.

7600 block Richmond Highway. DVD player stolen from business.

8500 block Richmond Highway. Gasoline stolen from service station.

VEHICLE THEFTS

7100 block Fairchild Drive. 1994 Honda Accord reported stolen.

6200 block Richmond Highway. 1973 Honda motorcycle reported stolen.

8800 block Fircrest Place. 1992 Honda Accord reported stolen.

7400 block Fordson Road. 1995 Honda Accord reported stolen.

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Before Savings **\$899** #MED600TQ

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- Light Wash Cycle
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- 1000 Watts Power
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Before Savings **\$279** #JVM1740DMWW

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Alex/Mt. Vernon \$689,900
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 garage & a stunning family room 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.



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/inviting hot tub overlooking a large fenced back yard. Updated kitchen w/granite counters & opens to breakfast & dining rms. A huge great room w/wet bar & vaulted ceiling 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 Terrace

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



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

Gorgeous 3BR+loft, 3.5BA, 2 Car Garage Colonial backing to a wooded area in a 55+ community. Gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, extra large MBR, maple cabinets, stainless steel appliances, island, two wall ovens & cooktop. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors-main level, recessed lighting, beautiful window treatments & plantation shutters, security system & so much more. You must see to believe.



Alex/Belle View \$209,900
6603 Wakefield Drive - A-1

Sunny 1st floor unit w/washer/dryer in the building. Carpet, stove & refrigerator replaced in '06. Excellent condition & price. Superb community, many amenities including outdoor pool, tennis, basketball, volleyball, tot lots & picnic areas. Walk to shopping, rec center (indoor pool & skate rink), library, jogging path & marina. Great buy whether you're occupying or investing. 3 minutes to Old Town, Alex.



Alex/Sacramento \$264,900
8702 Village Green Court

Owner said price it to sell-We did!!- Price slashed from \$350,000 to \$249,900! Best buy in the Villages of Mt. Vernon. Meticulously maintained home w/new carpet, newer kitchen appliances & a ceramic tiled floor. Cozy FPL in Fam room w/walk-out to fenced back yard. Walk to Metro bus stop & shopping. Minutes to Ft. Belvoir. A buying opportunity comes along like this once every 15 years or so - Grab it!

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COMMUNITY

Girl Scouts Focus On 'Dream Catcher'

Campers enjoy the outdoors while making a cultural journey.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Fort Hunt Park, home to one of the nation's most secret clandestine intelligence operations of World War II, was a beehive of activity last week as a sea of red, green, purple and other color bandannas could be seen from the old battlements to the Park Police stables. They covered the heads of more than 150 Girl Scouts and Brownies on their annual day camp adventures which dates back to 1955.

An activity of the Girl Scout Council of

the Nation's Capitol, one half to two thirds of the campers come from the Mount Vernon/Fort Belvoir area, with other large contingents from Alexandria, Arlington and across Northern Virginia, according to Camp Director Jeanne Rexroad, who, in her other life, is the Alexandria Fire Department's Communications Supervisor.

"Our camp is exceptional and available to many girls who could not otherwise afford it. We have the advantage of being able to use a portion of a National Park at no charge. Other groups have to pay for their camp space," she said.

Rexroad is a third generation participant in the camp. "My older sister and I went when we were girls and so did my daughters. This year, each of us have a granddaughter attending the camp," Rexroad said.

SEE SCOUTS, PAGE 21



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

Tim Harper "Running Wolf" performs a few traditional dances for the campers.



Each group of scouts take turns performing musical skits that they worked on throughout the week.



Lakota Indian Rachel Morgan concludes the performance with a tradition women's dance.

PROFILE

Getting to know... Kathryn Alleman

BY GREG ROSENSTEIN
GAZETTE PACKET

Despite entering Elmira College in Elmira, New York as an accomplished flutist, Kathryn Alleman knew all along she wanted to be a librarian. After receiving her undergraduate degree in music, Alleman attended Drexel University in Philadelphia for her Masters in Library Science. Alleman, the current branch manager for John Marshall Library in Franconia, talks about her position at John Marshall as well as her favorite movies and books.



Kathryn Alleman

Why did you decide to become a librarian?

I like to help customers of all ages find the answers to their questions...It's like doing a jigsaw puzzle.

How did you get where you are today?

Perseverance.

How many years have you been director?

I've been a branch manager since 2005.

What is the best part about your job?

Sharing my favorite books with customers of all ages.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

When I can't help someone.

What is your worst experience as librarian?

When I can't help someone.

Books you would recommend and why?

I like historical fiction and biographies. I like learning about that period of time and the events that took place during the story or

that person's life.

What are you doing to promote reading in your area?

We provide programs for all ages including story times and book discussion groups. We visit the schools this time of year to promote the FCPL Summer Reading Program for all ages.

Favorite movie?

Stanley and Iris (1990)

Favorite local restaurant?

Stardust Restaurant

Favorite thing to do on weekends?

Bike and garden.

Best part about Alexandria?

Attending the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra outdoor concert along the Potomac River in Alexandria.

Hyland Proposes Possible Meals Tax

In order to lessen some of the anticipated Fairfax County budget shortfall for Fiscal Year 2010, now predicted to be "at least \$350 million," Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland asked the County Board of Supervisors Monday to discuss a possible Meals Tax during the Budget Committee's Lines of Business review.

"I know the restaurant industry will oppose this initiative that will diversify our tax base, reduce the tax burden on our Fairfax County homeowners, and provide our first dedicated revenue stream for education. However, I would hope they will come to the

table to discuss this proposal in a meaningful dialogue as to how best to provide quality education and balance our budget," Hyland said in his Board Matter on Monday.

He noted that the Virginia General Assembly has given local governments the power to adopt a Meals Tax with the requirement of it being approved by referendum prior to adoption. He noted this was just one measure the BOS should consider in exploring various possibilities to diversify revenue sources "to ease the tax burden" on homeowners.

—CHUCK HAGEE

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OPINION

Children and Teens at Risk

Summer in the suburbs shouldn't mean biking, skateboarding head injury.

No typical Northern Virginia parent would knowingly expose his or her children to, say, a virus that had a low but significant chance of causing brain damage.

We are affluent, educated, hyper-involved parents. We worry about who might be contacting our children in cyberspace, about stranger abductions, water quality, salmonella, even about whether a system of lower grades might be hurting teenagers. There is nothing, it would seem, that we would not do to protect our children.

So why is it that during summer in the suburbs you see a steady stream of children of all ages flying up and down the rolling hills of their communities on bikes and skateboards and scooters, but often not a helmet in site?

Thousands of children and teens each year sustain a major brain injury in Virginia, and the consequences can be devastating.

Bicycling injuries account for a very large percentage of the injuries, and while wearing a bicycle helmet reduces the risk of brain injury by approximately 90 percent, according to a Virginia survey, only half of Virginia's children between 5 and 15 always wear their helmets. Casual observation would lead one to believe helmet use is a lot lower than 50 percent.

A nationwide study found that only 24 percent of U.S. children regularly wear a helmet when riding a bike, and that passing and enforcing local ordinances requiring children to wear helmets significantly increased the rate.

Most of us have seen television reports

Protect Their Brains

The Brain Injury Association of Virginia, www.biav.net, recommends:

Always wear a helmet:

- * when riding a bike, scooter, motorcycle, or horse;
- * when playing football, ice hockey, baseball, or softball;
- * when skating, skiing, or snowboarding.

HELMET SAFETY

- * A bicycle helmet should fit comfortably and snugly.
- * The helmet should sit level on the head about two finger widths above the eyebrows.
- * The side adjuster buckles should form a "V" directly under the ear lobe.
- * Only two fingers should fit between the chin and strap.
- * Helmets should be labeled as meeting the Consumer Product Safety Commission standard for bicycles.
- * Replace any helmet that is more than five years old, and always replace a helmet after a crash.

recently about the after effects of head injuries in soldiers injured in Iraq. But if your child crashes while he or she is riding a bike or skateboard without a helmet, you could be living with the same outcome.

CDC estimates that at least 5.3 million Americans, approximately 2 percent of the U.S. population, currently need lifelong help to perform activities of daily living as a result of a head injury.

The two age groups at highest risk for

brain injury are children under 4 years old, and 15-to-19 year olds.

And it's good practice: Telling your 10-year-old he or she must wear might not be comfortable or fun at first, but it paves the way for discussions about driving safety and other risks when they're teenagers.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
703-917-6416

Citizens Outraged over National Park Service Actions

A few years back the Mount Vernon Estate announced a major expansion and construction program designed to exhibit archives unseen by the public that would attract added visitors to learn about our first President. This expansion projected longer visits and therefore additional parking requirements. Concurrently, the National Park Service (NPS) wanted to eliminate the overflow parking on the Mount Vernon Traffic Circle. Many plans were circulated and some members of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) became concerned that options were being considered to bypass the Mount Vernon Traffic Circle with concomitant increase in commuter traffic on the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

With rumors flying and tempers short, the Mount Vernon Supervisor wisely created a Stakeholder Participation Panel (SPP) with membership from the MVCCA, neighboring Citizen Associations, as well as advisory participation by representatives of the Federal Highway Administration, the Mount Vernon Estate, and the NPS. This effort was to ensure that the voice of the affected citizenry would be heard. Against

all odds, the negotiations ended with a compromise to which all attendees could subscribe. The Mount Vernon Estate accepted about half of the required additional parking by placing those spaces behind the Estate wall; the NPS agreed to enlarge the lot on the west side of the Parkway, far enough away from the nearest residential neighborhood; the emergency parking on the Mount Vernon Traffic Circle was to be eliminated; and lastly the quest for a by-pass was squelched.

As the SPP prepared for what was considered to be its final meeting, the NPS displayed their plans for the enlarged parking lot; it showed its general configuration with screening along the Western lot boundary, as it approached the Mount Vernon Highway, VA Route 235. Specific parking spaces were not shown since the NPS wanted some leeway to rearrange parking spaces in an effort to save as many trees as possible. Since the NPS was deemed to be a steward of natural resources the citizenry trusted their intentions.

Time passed. The Mount Vernon Estate completed its construction as well as its parking expansion behind their wall on time. The NPS on the other hand, with a

change of leadership in charge of the George Washington Memorial Highway, faced delays. Early this year, the contract for the expanded Western Lot was finally approved and construction commenced.

To our horror, we witnessed the clear-cutting of trees throughout the expanded lot, including the removal of trees which served as a screen and buffer along VA Route 235. The SPP immediately reconvened and requested an explanation, since prior plans had provided no indications of a clear-cutting operation. NPS representatives explained that the plans which showed screening along VA Route 235 never intended to imply that the existing trees would be retained, since a retaining wall, required to protect the lower level lot, precluded the retention of trees in the residual space between the road and the retaining wall; only shrubbery was deemed appropriate in that space. A very polite on-site meeting with working-level NPS personnel was indeed very informative but failed to quell our concerns.

A letter was formulated, under a MVCCA letterhead, to the Acting Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, requesting a quick re-examination of the

existing plan and the need for the replacement of trees along VA Route 235. However, we failed to receive even the courtesy of a response. Our subsequent appeal to the Supervisor caused him to follow-up on our letter, with a detailed optional plan for tree plantings, to the NPS. While he did receive a response, the NPS maintained that the project was too far along to institute any changes.

We, as citizen representatives on the SPP and on behalf of the residential neighbors of the Mount Vernon Estate are outraged at the 'imperial' posturing by the National Park Service leadership. The current NPS leadership does not appear to be concerned with the wishes and needs of the affected citizenry.

They fail to understand the reason for their existence is to serve the public, not to dictate their ideas, without question. We had believed that the NPS would be a true steward for the retention of trees within our Nations Capitals Parkland. We are deeply disappointed to see that this is not true!

FRANK COHN
CHAIR, SPP
MOUNT VERNON

Mount Vernon Gazette

A Connection Newspaper

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is published by Connection Newspapers, L.L.C., of Alexandria at 1604 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
E-Mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com Web Site: www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Newsroom: 703-821-5050 Circulation: 703-917-6481 Advertising: 703-838-0302
Member Virginia Press Association

Senate Acts on Transportation

SENATOR TODDY PULLER
(D-36)

Governor Tim Kaine called a Special Session of the General Assembly on June 23 to deal with our transportation crisis. This was necessitated after the Virginia Supreme Court declared much of last year's transportation compromise bill unconstitutional. Working to find a solution, the Senate passed a bill to provide transportation funding on both a statewide and regional basis.

The statewide component of the bill would provide funds for road and highway maintenance and mass transit by:

Increasing the state motor fuels (gas) tax by 1 cent per gallon each year for 6 years (Virginia's gas tax is now 17.5 cents per gallon, one of the lowest in the nation);

Increasing the state retail sales and use tax by 1/4 of 1 percent (excludes food and drugs); Increasing the motor vehicle sales and use tax by 1/2 of 1 percent; and

Eliminating the present 1/2 percent tax on food.

The bill would also provide transportation funds for the counties and cities under the auspices of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority by:

Establishing an additional 1/2 of 1 percent state retail sales and use tax; Establishing a \$5 per day hotel tax; and Increasing the grantor's tax (a tax on the seller of a home) by 40 cents per \$100 of value.

All funds collected would be spent for Northern Virginia transportation projects.

Revenues collected under the statewide component would be deposited into the Supplemental Highway Maintenance and Mass Transit Fund. Each year 25 percent of the fund would be used for mass transit to be distributed to the Commonwealth Mass

Transit Fund and the remaining 75 percent for road and highway maintenance in the construction district in which the funds were generated.

The Senate also passed a Constitutional amendment (first resolution) to require the General Assembly to maintain permanent and separate Transportation Funds, limiting the use of these funds to transportation and related purposes. In addition, this would prohibit the General Fund from being raided for transportation. The "double lock box" amendment must be passed by the House of Delegates and again in the next session before it would be placed on the ballot for a vote.

Unfortunately, partisan political gamesmanship prevailed in the House of Delegates. Governor Kaine's transportation bill was killed in committee. The committee passed on a bill to address regional transportation problems only with no statewide component. The Governor has said he would veto such a bill if it came to his desk. And, the Senate bill was also sent to the floor without any recommendations for action. These are to be voted on when we return on July 9. Word from House members is not optimistic at this time.

However, the House can amend these bills in any way they like. Once something is on the table, even major surgery can be performed. It is important that we try to work together to reach a compromise to find a viable transportation solution.

A number of House members are calling for another audit of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to look for savings rather than working for a reasonable



fix to fund our transportation problems. Since 2001, VDOT has undergone at least eight audits and performance reviews. I called for a review of VDOT to check on the cost overruns and delays in the Springfield exchange (mixing bowl) project back in 1999. Since that time VDOT has made remarkable improvements.

Audits have shown the following improvements since 2002:

On-time delivery increased from 20% to 90%

On-budget delivery increased from 51% to 90%

2,000 fewer employees (10,500 to 8,500)

87 fewer maintenance facilities (335 to 248)

Won 3 national awards for the: Wilson Bridge, fleet management, and knowledge management.

The 16th Annual Report on the Performance of State Highway Systems by the Reason Foundation, a public policy research institution, concluded that: "Virginia has good system condition managed on a thin budget."

A recent editorial in the Washington Post reminded readers that: "Lawmakers haven't approved significant sources of new funding for VDOT since Ronald Reagan was president. It's galling to consider that the legislature acknowledged transportation shortfalls last year when it passed a \$1.1 billion plan that was eventually voided by the Virginia Supreme Court. Has the transportation system improved dramatically since then?"

There has been no major increase in transportation funding in over 20 years! Virginia's gas tax, one of the lowest in the nation at 17.5 cents a gallon, hasn't been raised since 1986. Adjusted for inflation that would be the equivalent of only 8 cents a gallon to-

day. Cars have become more fuel efficient, using less gas, and the economy has weakened. Therefore, sufficient funds are not coming into the Highway Maintenance and Operating Fund to pay for maintenance. Currently, money is being shifted from the construction fund to maintenance. If this shift continues at the same rate, the construction fund will soon be bankrupt.

For the past few years, I have strongly supported increasing the gas tax to pay for transportation. The gas tax is the simplest, fairest, and easiest to administer.

Gas prices are market driven. For instance, the state gas tax in North Carolina is 30.15 cents per gallon and in Virginia 17.5 cents yet the price of gas at the pump is about the same. Therefore, oil companies must make more profit in Virginia than in neighboring states such as North Carolina. It is also important to note that out-of-state drivers comprise some 40 percent of the traffic on I-95 and I-81. Their Virginia gas purchases help pay for our road maintenance.

I do not want to increase the burden of the average taxpayer and worker. But, neither do I want to take away dollars from the General Fund now used for education, public safety, and other core needs. New money to meet our transportation needs will require raising some taxes and/or fees. To protect our quality of life and our strong economic future, we must invest in a long-term, comprehensive, sustainable transportation plan.

Numerous individuals and businesses in my district have contacted me urging that we pass a viable transportation plan in this Special Session. I believe that we as elected officials must work together to find a compromise and do what is best for the people of Virginia.

MOUNT VERNON BULLETIN

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

There will be a meeting on **waterfowl hunting** on Wednesday, July 9 at Belle View Elementary School, 6701 Fort Hunt Road, from 7-9 p.m. Free. Learn the rules of hunting and more.

On Tuesday, July 15, the **Mount Vernon Genealogical Society** (MVGS) will meet in room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road.

The meeting will start at 1 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The meeting will feature a presentation entitled "Garden Stones Long Forgotten." by Kay Cogswell. Additional information about the meeting and MVGS can be found at <http://www.MVGenealogy.org/>. Any questions about the program should be directed to Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com

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 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.novaseniorolympics.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.

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 through 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. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/perfor mances for more.



Members of the Alexandria Harmonizers chorus were putting the final polish on their vowel-matching, stage presence and uniform shoes this week before they depart for the Barbershop Harmony Society's 70th Annual Convention and quartet competition in Nashville, Tenn. The group of 80 singers will compete July 4 in Nashville against 28 other choruses from throughout the U.S., Germany and Sweden. There are two competition sessions, with the final showdown in the evening to be named the "best of the best" in barbershop harmony. Directed by Joseph Cerutti, the Alexandria Harmonizers have won 15 international chorus medals, including four first place finishes, during their 60-year history. Upon returning from Nashville, the chorus will entertain local audiences at Fort Ward Park on July 24 and Market Square on Aug. 22

County Might Buy Foreclosures

Most members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors support the idea of addressing the local foreclosure problem with county resources, even if several had questions about the most controversial aspects of the proposal during a June 30 meeting. A vote on the proposal will come later this summer.

At the direction of county chairman Gerry Connolly (D), staff has looked into the possibility of Fairfax County purchasing 10 foreclosed or abandoned detached homes considered neighborhood nuisances. The county would fix up the homes and sell them to people who could not afford a freestanding house in Fairfax otherwise.

Supervisor Pat Herry (R – Springfield) questioned whether the real estate market might take care of the foreclosure problem on its own.

“This might be just a solution looking for a problem,” said Herry. At Herry’s request, the board asked staff to reexamine how it gathers foreclosure statistics.

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D – Lee) was in favor of the county buying up foreclosed homes but wanted to make sure the 10 homes would spread across many ZIP codes.

Ten percent of the Washington region’s total foreclosures took place in Fairfax County, according to the report. Of the 2,058 Fairfax foreclosures, about 22 percent took place in four parts of the county – Herndon, Centreville, Route 1 and Lorton.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

School Board Nixes Morality Report

The Fairfax County School Board voted June 19 to indefinitely postpone a staff report on students’ character and morality development, two months after the same report spurred widespread public outrage.

In late March, school officials presented data that showed white and Asian students performing better in areas like “demonstrating sound moral character and ethical judgment” than their peers who are black, Hispanic or qualify for special education services.

The school system relied on “soft” information from sources like elementary school report cards and student surveys to determine character performance.

School board member Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence) said he had regretted that such a report had ever seen the light of day.

Over the past two months, some members of the African-American and Latino communities have come forward to disparage the report and the school system for airing it publicly.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

THE COUNTY LINE

Sacrifice for Wider Beltway?

Five-year project comes with tree loss, traffic and noise.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
GAZETTE

Like many local mountain bike enthusiasts, Kathy Levy is making frequent trips to Wakefield Park this summer.

Levy and her two sons live in Vienna but regularly drive to the park, just outside the Capital Beltway, because of its trails. Wakefield offers some of the only trails for mountain bikers near the core of the Washington metropolitan area.

“It is the only place to do technical riding that is close in,” said Levy. The park, located at 8100 Braddock Road, is home to several mountain bike events during the summer.

But at least a portion of the mountain bike trails will succumb to the expansion of the Capital Beltway, set to start this month.

Virginia Department of Transportation and its private partner, Fluor-Transurban, will permanently close some trail areas to add four “high occupancy toll” (HOT) lanes to Interstate 495.

THE BIKE TRAIL is one item in a long list of community amenities that the HOT lanes project could affect. The construction will force clearing of almost every tree within 50 feet of the Beltway on both sides. Sound walls that protect residential neighborhoods from Beltway noise will come down, possibly for several years, and the criteria for replacement is still unclear. And traffic along the Beltway will slow as construction moves forward.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors sent a list of dozens of issues it would like VDOT to address before kicking off the construction later this month. Many residents are up in arms already about trees VDOT and Fluor-Transurban have cut down, even though the actual project has not started.

“That was the tip of the iceberg of a project that has been pretty non-controversial to date because of a lack of information. We are going to start hearing from more people,” said supervisor Jeff McKay (Lee), head of the board’s transportation committee.

THE HOT LANES project is set to expand the Beltway from eight to 12 lanes, with two new toll lanes in each direction from the Springfield interchange to just north of the Dulles Toll road near the American Legion Bridge.

Buses, motorcycles, emergency vehicles and cars with three people or more would use the HOT lanes for free. All other motorists can opt to pay a toll that will vary by the level of congestion to travel in the new lanes. The lanes will cost an estimated \$1.4 billion in total, with Virginia paying for approximately \$400 million and the federal government covering \$587 million through a grant. Fluor-Transurban, an Australian company, will provide the rest of the financial backing in exchange for being able to collect and keep all the HOT lanes tolls for the more than 50 years.

The project is appealing for some people because it could allow for mass transit — buses — to move along the Beltway, although the project does not provide any transit or buses. “I am not an enormous proponent of the concept of HOT lanes to begin with but we have to have mass transit on the Beltway,” said McKay.

The highway expansion also comes with \$250 million worth of upgrades to the Beltway’s aging infrastructure. VDOT and Fluor-Transurban have committed to replacing more than 50 bridges and overpasses, replacing and adding new sound walls, and upgrading 12 of the interchanges along the HOT lanes stretch of the



Much of the tree canopy that separates Wakefield Park from the Capital Beltway could disappear when they add four additional lanes to the interstate.

What Are HOT Lanes?

The Beltway plan calls for adding two outside lanes in each direction, then dedicating the two inside lanes as “High Occupancy Toll” Lanes, or HOT Lanes. These expanded lanes will function in part like carpool lanes, free for cars with three or more people in the vehicles. But the HOT lanes will also be open to vehicles with one or two occupants for a fee. The toll rate will vary based on traffic congestion, with the price rising to keep traffic flowing in the HOT lanes. The contractors, Fluor and Transurban, will collect and keep the toll revenue, but have yet to finalize many specifics, including how tolls will be collected or methods of enforcement.

For the unabridged story, maps and more photos, see www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Beltway.

But even people who support the HOT lanes expect the project’s construction to cause a lot of pain over the next several years. “I do think the pay off is going to be worth it in the end but that end is a long way out,” said supervisor John Foust (Dranesville), who represents McLean,

Great Falls and Herndon.

According to VDOT spokesperson Steve Titunik, in general, all the trees within 50 feet of the Beltway on either side will be taken down. “Is it going to be severe? Yeah. Are we going to take down a lot of trees? Yeah,” he said.

“You cannot take all the trees out and have the Beltway bare to the community,” said supervisor Sharon Bulova (Braddock.) Bulova said it is unacceptable that the park could be left with potentially no barrier between it and the highway.

Wakefield is one of the most popular parks in the system, according to Winnie Shapiro, Braddock representative on the county park authority board. “I think people are going to be shocked by the tree loss,” said Shapiro.

BUT THE HOT Lanes construction will have the most dramatic effect on local traffic patterns and congestion.

Officials plan to start work on every single interchange and bridge along the portion of the Beltway that includes the HOT lanes at the same time. “While work may be going on at all the bridges, some bridges will have more work than others,” Titunik, said.

Construction will stop and no lanes will be closed on the Beltway between approximately 5 a.m. and 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Motorists who are trying to cross over the Beltway between Braddock Road and Route 123 may see more severe impacts than Beltway commuters. Some bridges could have lane closures for long stretches, said Titunik.

He added that motorists living in this area should consider alternative routes. Some supervisors fear the effect on neighborhoods of thousands of commuters seeking alternative routes.

“The only realistic way to avoid the Beltway is to cut through neighborhoods,” said Foust.

County officials and the public have not had much advance notice of new aspects of the HOT lanes plans and sometimes they don’t have enough time to adequately respond to new information. Not even Foust, the local supervisor, found out about VDOT’s plan to clear acres of trees across from Cooper Middle School before it had already happened. Several community members said the lack of communication has made them skeptical of how VDOT will handle similar situations in the future.

“When overnight, they clear an area across from a middle school, that kind of thing makes you lose trust. We would have worked with them in good faith to come up with another solution,” said McLean resident Mary Anne Hilliard.

Supervisors set up an ad hoc committee to meet regularly with VDOT about the HOT lanes project and strengthen the lines of communication between the agency and local government.

“You cannot take all the trees out and have the beltway bare to the community.”

— Supervisor Sharon Bulova (Braddock)



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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! **Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, R Peartree Lndg.**



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.



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.



NEW LISTING

8620
Curtis Ave
\$495,000
*Large Home!
Small Price!*
This is one of
Mount Vernon's
most exciting
opportunities!

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



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$939,000
*Georgian
Colonial!*

Large Price
Reduction! 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

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McENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS

ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN \$679,000



Charming Old Town Home w/ Off-Street Parking!
Located in the heart of Alexandria, this cozy Old Town home built in the 1700's has plenty of charm--and off-street parking! Lovely hardwoods, crown moldings and French doors leading to a quaint patio add to the home's classic ambiance. Take advantage of this rare opportunity to live in a home from George Washington's era!

Sue Goodhart
703.263.8321
www.suegoodhart.com
MLS ID # AX6690978



ALEXANDRIA \$525,000



OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY 1-4 pm
908 Penderhaken Street

Just Listed!
Freshly renovated brick townhouse with off-street parking is centrally located close to Braddock Metro and North Old Town. Features reclaimed heartpine floors, kitchen cabinets and counters, 2 bedrooms and 2 baths.

See pictures at
www.paulvanderon.com
today!

Paul Anderson
703.408.0676
www.paulvanderon.com
MLS ID# AX6803239



ARLINGTON \$324,900



PRISTINE!
2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 2-level condo in THE ARLINGTON in quiet location facing south to woods. Exquisite upgrades include granite & glass tiled kitchen, pedestal sink, Art Deco lighting, fireplace, wood floors & molding. Tennis courts & swimming pool. Walk to shops.

See pictures at
www.barbaracousens.com

Barbara Cousens
703.966.4180
www.McEneaney.com
MLS ID# AR6802174



ALEXANDRIA/BEAUMONT \$375,000



Polished and Pristine in Del Ray

Charming Del Ray bungalow with brand-new kitchen and bath among many upgrades. Sumptuous hardwood floors throughout; lovely original architectural lines add distinctive flair. Professional landscaping highlights huge back yard; two-car driveway provides coveted off-street parking. Front and back porches perfect for entertaining!

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
www.LizLuke.com
MLS ID # AX6763070



ALEXANDRIA/FAIRLINGTON MEWS \$379,000



YOUR Fairlington Future!!!

2 level Fairlington condo! 1 bedroom & 2 baths with den & family room. Updated kitchen with granite counters and new appliances. Great outdoor patio off the kitchen. Easy access to all cool things in life from Old Town, to DC, to Bradlee Shopping, Shirlington, pools and tennis courts. Commute with ease! 395 is right THERE.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
www.LizLuke.com
MLS ID # AR6775664



ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN \$525,000



With Parking

New Listing in the Heart of Old Town with off street parking space. New kitchen with beautiful tile work. Large deep garden. New Bathroom. New Heating and AC. Large Master Bedroom!

See pictures at
anndoziernichael.com
today!

Ann Michael
703.515.9749
www.anndoziernichael.com



SPRINGFIELD \$453,900



Just Reduced!

Motivated seller has just reduced the price 10K! This is truly a diamond in the ruff. Call or just go by and see this quaint and beautifully maintained home. Move-in ready!

Nora Lopez
571.230.7770
www.McEneaney.com
MLS ID # FX6704730



ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN \$897,500



Advantage Price, Size and Location

What a great way to get into a plaqued house in the Southeast Quadrant on Lee Street with off-street parking! Beautifully maintained historic semi-detached house features two master suites upstairs, large country eat-in kitchen with wood fireplace and adjacent sitting area, heart pine floors, two additional fireplaces, exposed brick walls, beamed ceilings and a copper roof.

Paul Anderson
703.408.0676
www.paulvanderon.com
MLS ID # AX6425147



ALEXANDRIA \$749,000



Just Listed!

Wonderfully remodeled free-standing townhouse just off King Street steps from Metro and Whole Foods features spacious rooms, marble baths, a Juliette balcony, an eat-in gourmet kitchen and two car off-street parking.

Paul Anderson
703.408.0676
www.paulvanderon.com



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FAITH

E-mail announcements to 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.

Saint James' Episcopal Church of Mount Vernon will highlight the 50th anniversary this year. In addition to Homecoming Sunday on June 22, Saint James' calendar for the 2008 celebration includes the following events:

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 or 703-836-4342.

Children ages 3-through those who have just completed 2nd 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 For more information contact the church at 703-836-4324 or office@wsumc.com.

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.

Calvary Presbyterian Church, 6120 N. Kings Highway, is a welcoming congregation building a positive ongoing relationship with the community, providing opportunities for spiritual nurture, growth and service in Christ's ministry. Sunday Church Service: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 11:30 a.m.; Ladies Bible Study; Sunday Afternoon Young Adult Women's Bible Study. Pastor is Erin Sharp. Visit www.calvarypres.org or 703-768-8510.



Candace and Jacob

Baumann, Berschauer Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Craig E. Baumann, Esq., formerly of Mount Vernon, announce the engagement of their daughter, Candace R. Baumann to Jacob J. Berschauer, IV, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Berschauer, III of Olympia, Wash. Candace and Jacob (Jake) met in Sydney, Australia while studying abroad in 2003.

Candace is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School class of 2000 and is the current West Potomac Girls' Lacrosse head coach. She is a 2004 graduate of Virginia Tech's Pamplin College of Business and is currently pursuing her master's degree in marketing at Johns Hopkins University. Candace works in the marketing department of the Mathematical Association of America.

Jake is a graduate of Washington State University and is Public Relations Project Coordinator for the Washington D.C. office of Howrey LLP.

The couple plans to be married at St. Louis Catholic Church in Alexandria in May 2009.

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Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening
5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

Sunday
7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon
2:00 pm (en Español)

Weekdays
(Mass or Communion Service)
9:00 am (followed by Rosary)

Children's Liturgy of the World
Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English)

Sign Language Interpreter
Sunday at 9:00 am Mass

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Christ the Saviour Anglican Church

New Location - Washington Mill ES
9100 Cherrytree Drive
Sunday School - 9:15am
Worship Service - 10:15am
Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier
www.christthesaviouranglican.org
703-785-8976

St. James' Episcopal Church

5614 Old Mill Road, Mt. Vernon, Virginia
8 AM - Holy Eucharist
10:15 AM - Holy Eucharist - music
All Education Activities & Nursery - 9:00 AM
Office: **703-780-3081**
www.stjamesmv.org

FAMILY FUN FAIR

Rising Hope
United Methodist Mission Church
8220 Russell Road
Alexandria 22309
(across from Aldi's Supermarket)
703-360-1976

Saturday, June 14
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Come enjoy **FREE**
FOOD, GAMES, MUSIC, PRIZES, FUN!!!
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3806 WESTGATE DRIVE | \$625,000

Classic brick colonial on beautiful half acre lot on one of George Washington's original farms. The 6BR/3BA home features an eat-in kitchen, formal dining room and living room with fireplace. The lower level has a large family room with fireplace. The Master BR suite has its own bathroom and walk-in closet.

CINDIE FISH | 703.201.4451

MT VERNON

GREAT ROYALTON CONDO!



309 HOLLAND LANE | \$475,000

2 BR, 2 BA condo w/10' ceilings, granite counters, SS appliances, wood floors in LR, DR, Kitchen, soaking tub, full size s/bis W/D, 2 doors to balcony, 2 walk-in closets. 1 tandem garage parking (room for 2 cars) & 1 storage locker. Enjoy work-out room, courtyard & lounge. Walk to King St. metro, shops, restaurants, Whole Foods, etc. So close to everything Old Town.

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*Located on
Lovely Country Lane*

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703.518.6156

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AMAZING VALUE!



1101 CROSS DRIVE | \$475,000

An amazing value! This charming three level, brick, detached home is larger than it looks! Offering room to grow in a full basement, large upper level loft, sunroom with fireplace and exposed brick, newer gas furnace & replacement windows. Private, fenced lot with two decks, mature trees. Mins to Old own, 395, Metro.

JOY DEEVY | 703. 930.5198

www.JoyDeevy.com

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



6600 10TH ST #B2 | \$279,000

Beautifully renovated two bedroom home in the heart on Belleview, with fresh decorator paint, refinished hardwood flooring, updated bathroom with ceramic tile, new lightings and modern vanity plus new kitchen with ceramic floors, white appliances and replaced counters. Light and bright with French door to balcony!

GREG DOHERTY | 703.408.5068

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**400 PENDELTON ST
\$899,900**

1 of the largest Chatham Sq homes. Top of the line upgrades & finishes incl: gourmet kit (granite, GE appliances, gas cooking), wood floors, 3 gas FPs, BA on every lvl, HUGE master suite w/ sitting rm & more. End unit floods every room w/light & features a private 2 car garage, rooftop deck, 1st class MBA, etc. You have room for everything! Walk to water, shopping, restaurants!

CHATHAM SQUARE

BRENDA STONE | 703.615.4862

CLOSE IN WATERFRONT W/ DOCK



7607 SOUTHDOWN ROAD | \$3,600,000

Terrific floor plan, high ceilings, spectacular views, 3 BRs, 3.5 Bas, 2 car garage, large rooms, kitchen/family room combo, hardwood floors, gas fireplaces, custom built, custom built- next to parkland and waterfront with private dock. Closest waterfront home to Old Town! Call Marie Louise Meyer at 703.836.2080.

MARIE LOUISE MEYER | 703.836.2080

MLM1606@aol.com

JUST LISTED- FIRST OPEN 7/6



671 S COLUMBUS ST | \$480,000

Fabulous updated two bedroom, one bath 3-level townhouse/condo in the gated community of Arch Hall with hardwood floors throughout, freshly painted, a wood burning fireplace, new granite and a large private brick patio to name a few things. It also includes two off-street parking spaces! Come and see this special property -- it is priced to sell! Call Bonnie Rivkin at 703.598.7788.

BONNIE RIVKIN | 703.598.7788

ARCH HALL/ OLD TOWN

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



1203 ESSEX MANOR COURT

Remarkable 5 bedrooms, four full and one half bath home on a large private lot with custom wood deck and mature trees. Grand foyer, formal living room and dining room, two story family room that opens to chef's kitchen with breakfast room and sunroom with vaulted ceilings and floor to ceiling windows. Designer colors, hardwood flooring / plush carpets.

PHYLLIS PATTERSON | 703.518.6158

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2007 Award Recipient



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5:00pm - closing

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LONG & FOSTER OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

400 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 703-683-0400




Alexandria
\$825,000

UNBELIEVABLE CHARM & SPACE
In this airy & bright 4 BR, 3FB home in sought after Monticello Park. Fabulous covered patio, deck & landscaped yard for summer entertaining plus a interior Jacuzzi off the back of the house. Other features include: hardwood floors, generous size LR opening up to patio & yard plus white sunny updated kitchen. Lower level features its own kitchen, large recreation room with fireplace, office & additional room which could be a game room, perfect for an Au pair/in-law suite.

507 Monticello Boulevard

MARY BOURKE 703.906.5825




Alexandria
\$324,900

NO CONDO FEES
Buy this 3 level duplex and Skip the condo! This bright and updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex has a finished lower level, hardwood floors, screen-in front porch and freshly painted. Deep fenced-in back yard with large deck for easy entertaining. Its ready for you to move in! Just blocks to Huntington Metro!

5814 Edgemoor Drive

MARY TAYLOR 703.785.5619




Alexandria/Belle View
\$295,000

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A 3BR IN BELLE VIEW
Lovingly maintained, this condo really shines! Offers great space, lots of light, updated bath, hardwood floors and bright kitchen. Belle View community features pool, tot lots, tennis courts, picnic areas, retail shops, grocery and dining. Enjoy easy access to the Mt. Vernon Trail, Belle Haven Marina and the quick commute to all that Old Town has to offer. A Must See!
www.twohomepros.com

1100 Belle View Boulevard #A1

RUBY STYSLINGER 703.847.3357




Alexandria/Old Town
\$710,000

CHECK OUT THE ROSES...
at this commercial property in sought after Old Town location. Circa 1890 building boasts 3 finished levels with flexible floor plans. Private offices reception area, conference rooms, kitchenette and 1.5 baths plus the details of an older building, high ceilings, brick walls and large windows. A great value!

809 Princess Street

EMILY CAPELLI 703.472.1282
ANN LOGSDON 703.568.8433





Alexandria
\$669,000

BEST IN ONE LEVEL LIVING
Quality renovation with top of the line appliances, fixtures—Remodeled kitchen/island opens to large tiled floor in family room, perfect for entertaining—oversized living room/dining room—terrific Master Suite/Sitting Room/Spacious Bath with shower—Wooded lot with patio, pond, storage shed—A KNOCK OUT!

2410 Brentwood Place

FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840




Alexandria/Van Dorn
\$255,000

2BR/1.5BA JUST UPDATED! QUIET & SERENE COMPLEX LOTS OF TREES
Move Right In! This lovely condo was completely updated in 2006. Freshly painted. Balcony for grill/table/chairs just off DR. Large LR has office nook near foyer. W/D in unit. Nicely sized bedrooms. Metro stop 1 mile away, Bus at corner. Short distance to Old Town, 395 into DC. Low condo fees include utilities. Unit backs to treed area. Plenty of parking. delaine@inf.com

6155J Edsall Road

DELAINE CAMPBELL 703.518.8740




Old Town North
\$489,900

NORFOLK LANE GEM
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700A Norfolk Lane

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This almost-new end TH has 3 BR/3.5BA. Lovely Bay windows in LR allow extra light. Custom blinds thru-out. Gas cooking, fenced backyard, parking in front plus extra pass. Easy commute to DC & convenient to Bus/METRO/GW PKWY makes this home an ideal property investment.



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ALEXANDRIA
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MOUNT VERNON

Near Mt Vernon Estate. 4BR/3BA beautiful kitchen with newer cabinets, appliances, flooring & granite counter tops. Baths redone/HVAC in 2001, vinyl siding in mid-80s and windows. Deck off-DR, gas fireplace & bar in family room, security system, fenced backyard.



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LORTON
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For the Buyer who wants everything already done, this 2BR/2BA townhouse is beautifully updated with granite/stainless steel and many other touches. Deck off the main level and walkout basement to fenced yard. Backs to trees. Lots of light, storage & in super location!



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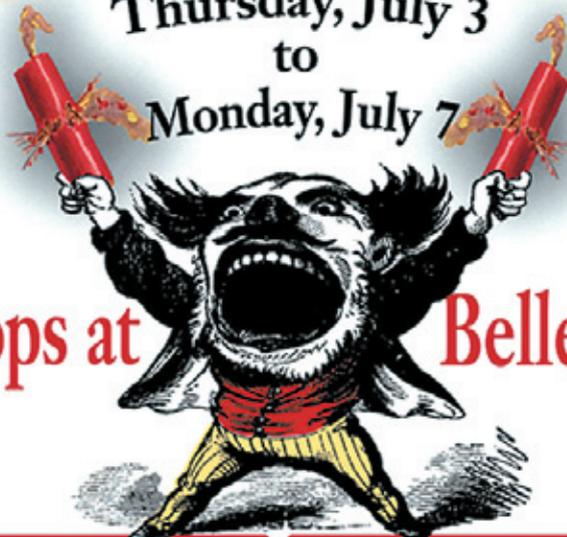
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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

SCHOOL NOTES

Bailey S. Yeager of Alexandria earned a bachelor of arts degree with a major in English from Roanoke College on May 3. Bailey is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Yeager of Alexandria.

T.C. Williams' class of 1998 is holding its 10-year high school reunion on Saturday, Aug. 2 at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn at Key Bridge in Arlington. For details, call 1-800-655-7971 or go to www.GreatReunions.com.

West Potomac Academy recently expanded its partnership with Greenspring Village and signed new partnership agreements with Fairfax Public Access and Just Dance, which will share resources and expertise with students and staff members.

West Potomac Academy's curriculum teaches students the skills needed for various occupations in their field(s) of interest. Students take part in many hands-on activities in and out of their classroom that help provide a realistic view of available jobs. By providing internships, job shadowing, work opportunities, tours of their facilities, and opportunities for involvement in special projects, business partners enhance the learning process at West Potomac Academy with experience in real world settings. More than 80 percent of academy students apply these skills as the foundations for their careers as they continue their studies in college.

West Potomac Academy offers advanced career-oriented electives in 11 subject areas: Fashion Design, Dance, Music and Computer Technology, Professional Television Production, Professional Graphic Studio, Criminal Justice, Dental Careers, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Pharmacy Tech, Medical Health Sciences, and Early Childhood Careers.

Each year more than 400 high school juniors and seniors from approximately 15 Fairfax County high schools attend West Potomac Academy.

Fairfax County Public Schools has been selected as one of the top 100 workplaces for information technology (IT) professionals in 2008 by Computerworld. This honor is based on Computerworld's 15th Annual Best Places to Work in IT Survey, which was published in the issue of Computerworld that can be found online at www.Computerworld.com.

For the 15th year in a row, Computerworld's annual "Best Places to Work in IT" feature has ranked the top 100 work environments for technology professionals, based on a comprehensive questionnaire with categories such as benefits, diversity, career development, training, and retention. More than 31,000 IT employees responded to the employee survey from the final 100 companies selected. This is the second year that FCPS has been selected for this honor. FCPS is the only K-12 school system to make the list.

Approximately 450 people work in IT for FCPS as software developers, project managers, database and network engineers, and technical support specialists.

The Fairfax County School Board has voted to move forward on the proposed South County Middle School project and has directed Superintendent Jack D. Dale to investigate the possibility of exchanging the currently designated property for other county or Fairfax County Park Authority property directly adjacent to the current South County Secondary School site for construction of the new middle school. Building the middle school adjacent to the current South County Secondary School would enable

both schools to share the same athletic fields and, ultimately, reduce the cost of the new school.

The School Board also accepted \$5 million for FY 2009 and \$5 million for FY 2010 from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, approved for the purpose of building a middle school in the South County area. Those funds will be added to \$2 million previously allocated by the School Board. The Superintendent was also directed to investigate sources of additional new funding or financing, which could include bridge financing or public-private partnerships, to cover the cost of the new school.

Dan Storck, School Board chairman and Mount Vernon District representative, thanked Board and community members for their support and said, "I am very pleased that the Board has approved the building of the long-sought-after middle school in the South County community. Since South County is one of the fastest growing areas of Fairfax County and BRAC (the Defense Department's Base Realignment and Closure Commission) is expected to bring many more students to this area, this school will make a real difference in meeting the educational needs of this community and its students."

The School Board motion specified that operating funds would not be used to pay interest on future bond funding. Construction of the new middle school is to be included in the FY 2010-14 capital improvement program (CIP), which will be presented to the Board in December. The School Board intends that the new school be built by 2012.

South County Secondary School, which was originally built to serve as a high school with a capacity of 2,500 students, has been operating as a secondary school with 2,900 students enrolled in grades 7-12 during the 2007-08 school year.

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COMMUNITY

Girl Scout Day Camp Adventures

FROM PAGE 6

"We normally have about 200 girls attend throughout the week. But, this year we have been hit with a lot of stomach flu and many had to stay home," she said.

"We welcome all girls, whether they are presently members of Girl Scouts or not. Our goal is to accommodate those who want to attend and have special needs. We also offer "camperships" to those that can't afford the cost," Rexroad explained.

The normal cost for the week is \$70 except for campers from fourth to eighth grade who participate in an overnight trip to Colestrip Girl Scout Camp in Stafford County. Their cost is \$100 for the week.

The total volunteer staff is composed of both stay-at-home moms and working/professional mothers, including military officers, who take time off from their jobs to make the camp a reality every summer, according to Rexroad. "Some of the girls come every summer of their Girl Scout career and some of us love it so much we keep coming back — even when our children are grown," she said.

THIS YEAR'S THEME of "Dream Catcher" focused on Native American history and culture. "We hope that campers will learn about real American Indians as well as recognize that sometimes our preconceived ideas about people can be unfair," Rexroad said.

To help in that quest she called upon her nephew, Tim Harper of Chesapeake Beach, MD. With a Northern Cheyenne heritage, Harper is very knowledgeable about Native American peoples. He goes by the name "Running Wolf" when participating in Native American activities.

A retired 20 year veteran of the U.S. Army, Harper served in the Gulf War as well as spent nine of his 20 years in Hawaii where he studied that culture as well. "I started doing Native American craft work about 18 years ago and then got into Native American dancing about 12 years ago," Harper said.

Harper lectured about Native

American culture, displayed his hand crafted clothing and taught Native American dances to the campers throughout the week. During the closing ceremonies on Friday, he and Rachel Morgan of Alexandria, whose heritage is Lakota, put on a demonstration of Native American dances dressed in authentic attire.

The various units of campers selected a Native American people to study and then share what they had learned with others during the week. "This is a terrific experience for the girls. It is fun and education at the same time," said Stacy Sangster, a volunteer leader from the Mount Vernon area.

Sherry Parmley, has been a volunteer troop leader at Fort Belvoir for five years. She heads up a Cadet Unit composed of Middle School aged girls.

"I love doing this. I do all the activities to help them earn their badges every year. I would encourage any child to participate. It's a great program," Parmley said.

Some of the activities involved with earning the badges this year included learning how to utilize the sun as a compass; use sign language to communicate between people who speak different languages; and how to develop natural dyes to color clothing.

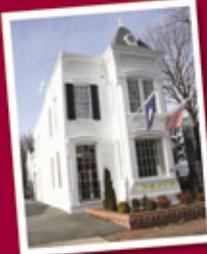
During closing ceremonies Friday, campers acted out original skits and received special recognition for art they had created. Campers range in age from first graders to middle school students.



Camp director Jeanne Rexroad takes a break before the afternoon program begins at Ft. Hunt Park.



Tim Harper hands out the art awards to the campers.



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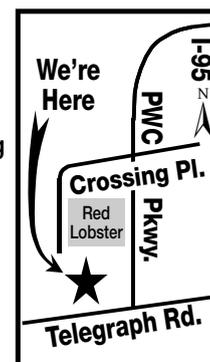
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Keeping us Healthy and Happy

BY DAISY MAE DEL RAY

I have been plagued by hot spots for the past few summers. I am allergic to something in the grass that makes me itch and get little red blisters on my stomach. This year I got treated with a homeopathic remedy and I am so much better. My success gave me the idea to ponder on and share with you some ideas on how you can look after our physical, mental and emotional health. Keeping us happy and young at heart takes effort. Here are 10 tips that will help you do that.

1. Feed us a wholesome diet. It must be hard for you to know what is good for us. Read and understand the ingredients in what you buy and look for products where the meat has a name like, beef, and chicken and lamb. We need vegetables and whole grains in our diet. Please talk to your pet food provider and your vet to find out what is the best diet for each animal family member. We need plenty of fresh water too. Not too many treats (read those ingredient labels too). I'll bet you didn't know that dry cat food is not as good for your cat as wet food. Forget that crunchie treats clean their teeth, they don't. You humans don't eat crackers to clean your teeth. What else don't you know about nutrition???

2. Vitamins can play an important role in your pet's health. Check the labels or provide supplements to make sure we get plenty of anti-oxidants and all the other breed and species requirements. Check with a holistic vet or your pet food provider for specifics. Age and condition will be influencing factors. My person pays attention to

my coat, my hair, my eyes, and my skin condition.

3. Exercise – Keep us moving. We need plenty of exercise to prevent obesity and to keep our

joints, heart and lungs in good working order. Be cautious when it is hot and the pollution levels are high. If it is too hot and dangerous for you or the pavement is too hot for you to run on bare feet, it is bad for us too. One caution, don't overdue it when your pet is just starting an exercise program. Keep ages, condition and breed recommend levels of exercise in mind.

4. Vaccine caution. There are risks associated with over-vaccination. Some are required by law and the rest depend on the condition of the animal. Discuss vaccinations with your vet. I have a titer test every year. This is a simple blood antibody test that will tell you if your pet is still protected by the last series of vaccines.

5. Veterinarian check-ups are really important. Develop a good relationship with your vet and decide together on when check-ups should be. Between visits pay close attention to changes in behavior and do a body check at least weekly for bumps and sores and cuts, etc. Be a partner with your pet's health provider. Look into health insurance to help with major expenses and the unexpected.

6. Teeth care – Periodontal disease is a real problem if not dealt with early. It can



cause pain, gingivitis, tooth loss and infections that can spread to the kidney's heart or other organs. I have a tooth brush and my teeth are brushed daily. My favorite toothpaste is chicken flavored. I also get organic carrots and apples to crunch on and the occasional raw knuckle bone. These help clean my teeth and give my jaw a good work out. There are some products you can use as an anti-bacterial spray if you laughed when I said use a toothbrush.

7. Take caution when using chemical pest controls. If you can, use natural products for prevention of fleas and mosquito repellent. What is recommended for dogs may not be safe for cats. Read the labels. Talk to your vet about your specific pet. Use flea combs, frequent brushing and do not use any product counter to the very specific recommendations for that product. Older, very young and sick animals may not be good candidates for some of these medications.

8. Good hygiene, especially in the Washington area is critical. Many of my friends have allergy problems. Daily grooming, bathing and a healthy diet will all help keep your pet's coat and skin healthy. I like an oatmeal and aloe shampoo because I have that allergy to something in the grass. Because I am a service dog I need a bath every month to stay sweet smelling and shiny.

9. Keep our minds sharp. We need to be

around others. People and other animals and new places and situations keep us sharp and interested. I do some agility training and most of my dog friends have been to obedience school. Basta, our cat, can do some amazing tricks and she has a video on birds that she just loves to watch. Just like most people, we get bored easily and if you don't provide some appropriate toys we will find out own, like your best shoes or new chair.

10. Lavish us with love and attention. Two of my favorite things are massage and Reiki. Just think how much you love a massage, especially after exercising. Massage soothes stiff joints and improves circulation and it feels so good. Reiki I love because of my aging bones and the allergy I have. Let me tell you a little about Reiki. I know about Reiki because my human is a Reiki practitioner and she has a number of animal clients. Reiki is the practice of using energy to facilitate healing. A Reiki practitioner is attuned to this energy on a level that enables them to channel it through their hands and facilitate healing. Reiki is very soothing and it calms me down and I love the warm touch of hands on the places where I feel sore. One of my neighbors, a greyhound has a seizure disorder that, in spite of medication, was manifesting in at least a seizure a day. Regular Reiki treatments have reduced the number of seizures and Avery is feeling much better. Massage and Reiki are only two of the many alternative, holistic health treatment that are being used to improve the lives of pets and humans. Read more about them.

Keep your tail high and your feet dry.

MILITARY NOTES

Marine Corps Pfc. Christopher M. Counts, son of Mary J. and Kenneth L. Counts of Alexandria, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Army Pvt. David P. Selby has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

He is the grandson of Marian Selby of Alexandria, and Catherine Barber of John St., Suitland, Md. Selby is a 2004 graduate of Thomas Edison High School, Alexandria.

Navy Seaman Jermie D. Harris, a 2000 graduate of West Potomac High School, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Paul Chenevert has been promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Army National Guard. Chenevert, an infantry operations officer with 19 years of military service, is assigned to the 29th Infantry Division, Fort Belvoir, Fairfax, Va.

His wife, Michelle, resides in Alexandria. The captain graduated in 1989 from Catholic High School, Baton Rouge, La., and received a bachelor's degree in 1996 from Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

Marine Corps **Pvt. Geoffrey L. Hughes**, son of Vicki L. and John V. Hughes of Alexandria, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S. C.

Alexandria resident **Patricia Bayliss Owens** '62 was awarded the Alumni Medallion from the William and Mary Alumni Association

Marine Corps Pvt. Taytra T. Todd, daughter of Georgia T. Todd of Alexandria, recently completed the Marine Corps Basic Enlisted Supply Course. Todd is a 2006 graduate of The Potomac School of Mc Lean, and joined the Marine Corps in July 2007.

Army National Guard Spec. Joshua A. Price has returned to 116th Brigade Special Troop Brigade, National Guard Station, Fredericksburg, Va., after being deployed to an overseas forward operating base in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Price, a cannon crewmember with two years of military service. He is the son of Andrea K. and Eugene R. Price of Alexandria and received an associate degree in 2006 from Norwich University, Northfield.

Army 2nd Lt. Gabriel L. LaMois has graduated from the Army Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. LaMois' parents, Loyd M. and Eve L. LaMois, live in Alexandria. In 2003, the lieutenant graduated from Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria, and received a bachelor's degree in 2007 from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Navy Seaman Apprentice **Pattama M. Intavong**, a 1998 graduate of T. C. Williams High School, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

HEALTH NOTES

E-mail announcements to gazette@connection-newspapers.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.

Yoga in Daily Life, 2402 Mount Vernon Ave., offers classes for people of all ages and physical ability.

Meditation classes also offered. Free trial class the first week of each session for newcomers - next session begins Aug. 4. Drop-ins welcome anytime. Lunchtime Yoga classes held on Wednesdays 12:15-12:50 p.m. Visit <http://www.yogaindailylifeus.org/> for complete class schedule or call 703-299-8946.

The **Alexandria Health Department** announces new hours for its HIV Testing Clinic, effective immediately. The HIV Testing Clinic is available every Wednesday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The clinic, located at the main Health Department Building, 4480 King St., offers free, anonymous and confidential testing. For more information about the HIV Testing Clinic or other HIV/AIDS services, contact Nechelle Terrell, HIV/AIDS Coordinator, at 703-838-4400, ext. 305.

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 and click on "Health Info & Classes" 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 and click on "Health Info & Classes" 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 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 or 703-518-4434.

EMPLOYMENT

PHYSICAL THERAPIST
Needed in sports rehab clinic in Old Town Alexandria. Looking for experienced, hands-on, and energetic therapist who is looking to grow and learn. Email resume to drseanwoods@cox.net or call 703-739-0456.

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Education INSTRUCTORS
The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation seeks skilled **OUTREACH EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS (OIoNV)** for positions based in Northern Virginia to present hands-on, educational history programs to students in the upper Northern Virginia area. Will work with a variety of ages, abilities and grade levels. Will teach in Fairfax County, Arlington County, Alexandria City, Prince William County, Falls Church City, Manassas City, Manassas Park City and parts of Loudoun County school districts. **For a full job description and to apply:** Log onto www.jyf.virginia.gov and submit your application no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 18** for a training session beginning September 10-19, 2008. For more information call our job line at (757) 988-3107 or call (757) 253-5233. Background check required. EEO/AA/ADA

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Teleconferencing To Save Gasoline

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, in junction with Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerald Connolly, proposed that the Virginia General Assembly provide "enabling legislation for Fairfax County to conduct meetings of its boards, authorities and commissions through video conferencing." That is presently not allowed under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

McKay originally proposed that those bodies be allowed to conduct their meetings by video conference following the February 13 ice storm that virtually paralyzed traffic and led to the cancellation of one such meeting after the participants were already on the road.

He also emphasized that, in this era of escalating gasoline prices, such a change in the law would conserve energy and reduce the financial burden on members of advisory groups.

"It is imperative that we use technology to meet the Board's stated priorities. These priorities have far reaching financial, social and policy effects," McKay and Connolly stated in their joint Board Matter at Monday's board meeting.

Their request was that the matter be forwarded to the County Legislative Subcommittee for review and consideration as a part of the County's legislative package that will be submitted to the next session of the Virginia General Assembly.

—CHUCK HAGEE

CRIME

Police Investigate Abduction

A 23 year-old woman was abducted at gunpoint Saturday, June 21, shortly before 6 a.m. at the bus stop in front of Beacon Center in the 6700 block of Richmond Highway. The suspect forced the victim into his vehicle and drove a short distance when the victim attempted to use her cell phone.

After a struggle the suspect stopped the vehicle and released the victim, according to Fairfax County Police. She was not injured and the suspect fled on Richmond Highway in the area of Popkins Lane, police reported.

He is described as a dark-skin black man in his mid 30's, about five feet 10 inches tall, with a medium build. He had short dark hair and was clean shaven, according to the police report. The vehicle was described as a mid-size, gray SUV, with dark, tinted windows.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

12 Commercial Lease

101 Computers

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S

SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT

6234 QUANDER ROAD, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22307

SALE TO BE HELD AT 4110 CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030

JULY 11, 2008

AT 10:00 A.M.

In execution of the Deed of Trust dated August 9, 2004, and recorded in Deed Book 16387, Page 2016, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), securing The Washington Savings Bank, F.S.B. (the "Noteholder"), default having occurred in the payment of the debt secured thereby, and being instructed to do so by the Noteholder, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale the property described below at public auction on the front steps of the Fairfax County Courthouse located at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030 on July 11, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The real property encumbered by the Deed of Trust that will be offered for sale by the Substitute Trustees is generally known as 6234 Quander Road, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Virginia 22307 and is described in more detail in the Deed of Trust and as follows:

PARCEL 2, containing 2.183 acres, more or less, of the subdivision of the PROPERTY OF ELIZABETH J. QUANDER, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Deed Book 1785, Page 264, among the land records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

LESS AND EXCEPT all of that lot or parcel of land containing 8,750 square feet more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a corner of Parcel 2 of the subdivision of the Residue of the property of Elizabeth J. Quander in the southwesterly line of Quander Road (Route #630) and running thence with a line of said parcel S.44 degrees, 22' 50" W. 160.0 feet to another corner of said parcel thence running through the parcel N. 0 degrees, 37' 10" W. 98.99 feet and N. 44 degrees 22' 50" E. 90.00 feet to a point in the line of Quander Road, thence with the line of said road S. 45 degrees 37' 10" E. 70.00 feet, to the point of the beginning.

TERMS OF SALE

ALL CASH. The property will be offered for sale "AS IS, WHERE IS" and will be conveyed by Substitute Trustees' Deed (the "Substitute Trustees' Deed") subject to all encumbrances, rights, reservations, conveyances, conditions, easements, restrictions, and all recorded and unrecorded liens, if any, having priority over the Deed of Trust, as they may lawfully affect the property.

The Substitute Trustees and the Beneficiary disclaim all warranties of any kind, either express or implied for the property, including without limitation, any warranty relating to the zoning, condition of the soil, extent of construction, materials, habitability, environmental condition, compliance with applicable laws, fitness for a particular purpose and merchantability. The risk of loss or damage to the property shall be borne by the successful bidder from and after the date of the time of the sale. Obtaining possession of the property shall be the sole responsibility of the successful bidder (the "Purchaser").

A bidder's deposit of \$25,000.00 (the "Deposit") by certified or cashier's check may be required by the Substitute Trustees for such bid to be accepted. The Substitute Trustees reserve the right to prequalify any bidder prior to the sale and/or waive the requirement of the Deposit. Immediately after the sale, the successful bidder shall execute and deliver a memorandum of sale with the Substitute Trustees, copies of which shall be available for inspection immediately prior to the sale, and shall deliver to the Substitute Trustees the Deposit and the memorandum of sale. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest at 8.5% per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be paid by the Purchaser. Settlement shall occur within ten (10) days after the sale date, TIME BEING OF THE ESSENCE with regard to the Purchaser's obligation.

Settlement shall take place at the offices of Venable LLP, 8010 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 300, Vienna, Virginia 22182. Purchaser shall pay all past due real estate taxes, rollback taxes, water rents, water permit renewal fees (if any) or other municipal liens, charges and assessments. The Purchaser shall also pay all settlement fees, title examination charges, title charges and title insurance premiums, all recording costs (including the state grantor's tax and all state and county recordation fees, clerk's filing fees and transfer fees and taxes), auctioneer's fees and/or bid premiums, and reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements incurred in the preparation of the deed of conveyance and other settlement documentation.

The Purchaser shall be required to sign an agreement at settlement waiving any cause of action it or they may have against the Substitute Trustees, and/or the Beneficiary for any condition with respect to the property that may not be in compliance with any federal, state or local law, regulation or ruling including, without limitation, any laws, regulation and ruling relating to environmental contamination or hazardous wastes. Such agreement shall also provide that if notwithstanding such agreement, a court of competent jurisdiction should permit such a claim to be made, such agreement shall serve as the overwhelming primary factor in any equitable apportionment of response costs or other liability. Nothing herein shall release, waive or preclude any claims the Purchaser may have against any person in possession or control of the property.

If any Purchaser fails for any reason to complete settlement as provided above, the Deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs of the sale, including Trustees' fees, and the balance, if any, shall be delivered to the Beneficiary to be applied by the Beneficiary against the indebtedness secured by and other amounts due under the Deed of Trust in accordance with the Deed of Trust or applicable law or otherwise as the Beneficiary shall elect. There shall be no refunds. Such forfeiture shall not limit any rights or remedies of the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary with respect to any such default. If the property is resold, such re-sale shall be at the risk and the cost of the failing bidder, and the failing bidder shall be liable for any deficiency between its bid and the successful bid at the re-sale as well as the costs of conducting such re-sale. Immediately upon conveyance by the Substitute Trustees of the property, all duties, liabilities and obligations of the Substitute Trustees, if any, with respect to the property so conveyed shall be extinguished, except as otherwise provided by applicable law.

/s/ Henry F Brandenstein, Jr.

Substitute Trustee

/s/ Jessica L. Sartorius

Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lauren T. Coapstick, Esq.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Thank you Bender Group, Sponsors and Participants

The Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Team wishes to thank Randy Bender and the participants and sponsors of the Randy Bender Golf Tournament held in June in support of the hospital's Emergency Department.

Proceeds from this event will assist in our continuing effort to provide patients and families with an aesthetically pleasing environment for the provision of excellent healthcare services.

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital has undertaken the redesign and update of the entrance into the Emergency Department.

- The entire area will be redesigned to **facilitate patient flow** and **speed patient progress** through the Emergency Department. Old wall paper and paint will give way to bright new wall coverings.
- **Furniture will be replaced.** Lighting will be dramatically improved. The newly renovated area will reflect the excellent level of care provided within.
- A patient discharge lounge will also be added that will result in **better patient flow and higher patient comfort and satisfaction.**

Sponsors of the tournament included:

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Photo captions for some of the golfing team participants: Paul Zielinski, Andy Bilinski, Rick Genuario, Randy Bender, Sue Genuario, Donna Henry, Mary Beth Cutting, April Bender, Jeff Martin, Ernie Tolley, Eric Shea, Julius Ornopia Patrick Hawley, Phil Garrett, David Weintritt, Don Brideau, Jack Bogle, Bruce Henry, Joel Dahnke, Rob Larvey Russ Seneca, Debbie Bendahan, Keith Sterling, Tim Shaver, Eric Steinkraus, Sean Zobaa, Kevin Lombardo, John Lamb

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