

Alexandria Gazette Packet

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JULY 24, 2008

Transloading Ethanol Safely

Alexandria battles with Norfolk Southern.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

With federal mandates set to dramatically expand the use of ethanol over the next few years, the city of Alexandria's battle with Norfolk Southern over a West End ethanol loading facility could be at the forefront of a national effort to grapple with difficult land use issues. Alexandria is certainly not the last locality to face dealing with such a facility, and other communities could use the city's actions as a model for their own response in the future. That's why federal regulators are carefully considering how to create a balance between the city's power to control land use within its own borders and the railroad's right to move dangerous chemicals through Alexandria.

"All indications are that we are going to be seeing more ethanol moving through communities, not less," said Charles Nottingham, chairman of the Federal Surface Transportation Board, this week during a public hearing on Alexandria's situation held in D.C.

City leaders asked the federal regulators for an exemption to rules that allow the railroad to act with immunity, permitting a contractor to set up an "ethanol transloading facility" with no oversight by local officials. The board did not make a ruling on that issue this week, but they did hear testimony from a variety of individuals on proposed policy changes that govern



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Trains loaded with highly flammable ethanol, such as the one shown here, are 270 feet from some Cameron Station houses.

companies such as Norfolk Southern, particularly those who wish to initiate the kind of facility now in operation less than 300 feet from residents of Cameron Station. Alexandria Vice Mayor Del Pepper suggested that the board members consider requiring railroads to solicit public comment before initiating operations.

"Under existing rules, state and local governments have the right to receive notice and to comment when a railroad proposes to abandon a railroad line in their commu-

nity," said Pepper. "Doesn't it make sense that we should have an opportunity to comment when a new and potentially hazardous facility like this is going to be opened as well?"

ANOTHER PROPOSAL that emerged from Tuesday's Surface Transportation Board meeting would require railroad companies to submit extensive plans to minimize potential risks to surrounding communities before they are allowed to begin op-

erations. This kind of a policy change might prevent the kind of problem that emerged in Alexandria this spring, when Norfolk Southern began operations seven weeks before the Alexandria Fire Department had the kind of equipment that would be needed to protect residents from danger.

"If the STB were able to provide, in effect, a checklist of items that were a prerequisite before an ethanol transloading

SEE A CORNY PRECEDENT, PAGE 3



Fighting West Nile

Alexandria mosquitoes test positive for the West Nile Virus.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Ever since West Nile virus was first identified in the United States in 1999, the city of Alexandria has been taking steps to identify potential problems and help residents protect themselves. In

2003, officials with the Alexandria Health Department installed several "pools" in different parts of the city. Each year since then, according to city officials, Alexandria mosquitoes have tested positive for West Nile Virus. Last week, the Health Department announced that mosquitoes collected in Del Ray and on Daingerfield Island tested positive for West Nile Virus.

"West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne disease that is endemic in this region," said Alexandria Health Director, Dr. Lisa Kaplowitz in a written statement. "We urge city residents to be proactive in their efforts to eliminate mosquito breeding habitats."

The virus is named after the West Nile region of Uganda where the virus was first isolated in 1937. Humans can catch the virus by being bitten by mosquitoes infected with the virus.

Although an infection usually causes a mild illness, more serious cases could cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord) or polio-like paralysis.

According to the Virginia Department of Health, less than 1 percent of people bitten by an infected mosquito will become seri-

SEE XYXYXYXY XYXYXYXY, PAGE 27



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Joining the Movement

Alexandria streetcar service ended in 1932. Can Councilman Lovain help them make a comeback?

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's streetcars first rumbled along King Street in 1892, connecting the waterfront with the old train station at Cameron and Fayette streets. A few years later the town of Del Ray was constructed around a new streetcar line that connected

"You can't think of the streetcar movement as a transportation movement. It's a development movement with transportation benefits."

— Charles Hales, strategic planner who helped implement a streetcar line in Oregon

Mount Vernon to Washington, D.C. By the time the King Street line was realigned to the newly built Union Station, a majority of Alexandria residents lived within walking distance of a streetcar line. But the streetcar companies started having financial problems in the 1920s, and the last streetcar rumbled through the city in 1932.

"Most people attribute the fall of streetcars to competition from buses, which were becoming popular at the time," said Lee Perna, a Del Ray resi-

dent and amateur streetcar historian. "There was also a lot of mismanagement."

Flash forward to the 21st century, when everything that was once old is suddenly new again and streetcars are making a comeback. The last decade has seen a dramatic resurgence in the use of streetcars as the latest urban transit system — moving people within an urban environment rather than through it. New streetcar lines have popped up in Oregon, Florida, Arkansas and California. Arlington County is currently planning a \$172 million five-mile line that will connect Pentagon City down Columbia Pike to the Skyline area and ultimately into Fairfax County. But what happens when the trolley line ends at the border between Alexandria and Arlington?

Enter Councilman Tim Lovain.

"Ridership is simply higher on streetcars because people who would never take a bus will use a streetcar," said Lovain. "It's just a fact of life."

LOVAIN'S PURSUIT of a streetcar vision for Alexandria's future began during a series of meetings that culminated in the adoption of a "Comprehensive

Transportation Master Plan" back in April. The plan calls for three "transit corridors" in the city that will provide access to the Alexandria's major population and activity centers. The new transit system envisioned by the plan will be linked through circulator shuttles to provide access to all residents who are not located in direct proximity of the newly designated transit corridors. Currently, the plan calls for the three transit corridors to have "secure rights-of-way dedicated exclusively to transit use."

"Our local newspapers would have a headline that said 'Two Lane Duke Street,'"



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Streetcars like this one once dominated public transportation in Alexandria.

Lovain predicted. "Can you imagine the reaction that would have?"

The solution, Lovain said, is streetcars. They can share a lane with traffic, and they have a nostalgic quality that increase ridership to levels no bus could attract. Streetcars also have a much higher capacity than buses, solving the rush-hour problem known as "bunching" in which buses travel one behind the other. This week, Lovain and former City Councilwoman Lois Walker hosted a forum to promote the issue — inviting Alexandria to join the burgeoning "streetcar movement" that's already taken the transit world by storm. "It's not just happening here," said Arlington Transit Bureau Chief Stephen Del Giudice, noting that Dublin has a new streetcar line. "People all over the world are recognizing the need for new surface transportation systems."

UNLIKE STREETCARS of old, modern versions are smooth and quiet. Because they do not use fossil fuels, they are more environmentally friendly because they do not contribute to increased levels of carbon dioxide. And they are popular. According to a recent study by the American Public Transportation Association, ridership on light-rail

systems such as streetcars had the highest percentage of ridership increase of all transit in the first quarter of their year over the same period last year.

"There is a historic shift taking place, one that's driven in part by demographics," said Charles Hales, a strategic planner who helped implement a new streetcar line in Portland. "Young people today grew up watching 'Friends' and 'Sex in the City,' not 'Leave it to Beaver.'"

Hales said several "megatrends" were contributing to a rise in the use of transit systems: concern over global warming, the rising price of gas and a return to urban life in America. In a PowerPoint presentation, Hales explained how the Portland streetcar line moved from a novel idea to a reality in day-to-day life. Because Arlington is already implementing a streetcar line, he said, Alexandria has been presented with an opportunity to become part of the movement — one that he said would present a wealth of development possibilities for areas within a three-block radius of new streetcar lines.

"You can't think of the streetcar movement as a transportation movement," said Hales. "It's a development movement with transportation benefits."

Ethanol Precedent

FROM PAGE 3

facility could begin service, I believe it would significantly reduce the danger in urban areas, especially to the most vulnerable populations," said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) in written testimony provided to board members Tuesday.

Moran said he felt the Surface Transportation Board, created in 1995 as the successor to the Interstate Commerce Commission, was "uniquely situated to be innovative in helping to protect the complex public interests." Now that testimony on the issue has concluded, the three-member board will now confront a difficult balancing act — weighting public safety considerations against a steadily growing need for

transloading facilities. Moran asked board members to create a framework for ethanol regulation similar to recent action taken by regulators to oversee the transportation of solid waste.

"I am concerned because, under current law, no board license is required in the rapidly expanding issue of transload facilities," said Moran. "That means there is no trigger for the STB to conduct a formal environmental or public safety review, nor to impose specific public safety or homeland security, much less environmental conditions prior to putting these facilities into operation."

ACCORDING TO THE Department of Agriculture, ethanol production in the United States climbed to almost 5 billion gal-

lons in 2006, up nearly 1 billion gallons from 2005. To account for this increase, the ethanol industry has been engaged in an effort to step up the pace of expansion, with production expected to top 10 billion gallons by 2009. If global oil prices remain in their current range, that figure could triple within a decade. Because most ethanol is produced in the Midwest and must be transported by rail and truck, the next few years are likely to see a significant increase in rail carriers seeking to construct transloading facilities. As a result, the outcome of Alexandria's dispute with Norfolk Southern may well have an influence far beyond Cameron Station.

"We know there are going to be other Alexandrias across the county," said Frank Shafroth, Moran's chief of staff.

Although creating public disclosure opportunities and safety mandates could ben-

efit future jurisdictions, Alexandria has to live with the existing Norfolk Southern transloading facility — at least for now. In the next few weeks, members of the Surface Transportation Board will consider a petition filed on June 17 by City Attorney Ignacio Pessoa that seeks a declaratory order to subject the transloading facility to the city's special-use permitting process. Meanwhile, Norfolk Southern filed a federal lawsuit challenging the city's "haul route permit," which restricts the number of trucks and the hours of operation that the company would be allowed to operate. City officials maintain that the ethanol transloading facility is too dangerous to be located so close to school children and residents.

"This is just not an appropriate use," Vice Mayor Pepper told board members during the hearing.

OBITUARY

State Senator Joseph Gartlan: Final Farewell

He was a life-long champion of the environment and those who needed help.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Joseph Vincent Gartlan, Jr., the man, died early Friday morning at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital after a short illness. State Senator Joseph Vincent Gartlan, Jr., and his legacy as the consummate elected public servant and man of the Commonwealth, in all that encompasses, will live on in the people he touched and good he did for the state he loved and its people. He was 82.

First elected to the State Senate in 1972 to represent the 36th Senatorial District, Gartlan served 28 years before retiring in 2000. Throughout those years Democrat Joe Gartlan was the unabashed voice and defender of causes ranging from protecting the Chesapeake Bay to advancing women's rights.

He fought for those that often could not fight for themselves — children, people with mentally illness and those with intellectual disabilities. He started that way his first day in the Senate and he ended that way on his last day with a speech that brought both sides of the aisle to their feet with a four minute ovation.

“Senator Joe Gartlan was more than just a friend to me. He was a dedicated, well-respected, progressive public servant who was able to work with his colleagues across the aisle to pass common sense legislation in the best interests of his constituents.”

**Mount Vernon District Supervisor
Gerald Hyland**

Over his long tenure he rose to be the second most senior senator in the Virginia State Legislature. Only Senator Stanley C. Walker (D-Norfolk) had greater seniority.

It was Walker who first noticed Gartlan's propensity for stating his case and defending his causes right from his first day seated in the Senate chamber's front row. And, that was when the Virginia Senate was solidly in the hands of the Republicans.

Upon learning of his death, State

Senator Patricia “Patsy” Ticer (D-30) recalled, “He was a real mentor to me when I first went to the Senate in 1996. He was very passionate about his issues but he was also a statesman of the highest order. He was ahead of his time and he will be very much missed.”

Over the four years they served together in the Senate, Gartlan and Ticer were on several committees and sub-committees together. “I agreed with him on nearly all his issues except when it came to the abortion issue. There we parted. He was true to his Catholic faith. But, he was always a gentleman — even when he disagreed with you. I will miss him very much,” she said.

When he retired from political life, with a capital “P,” because he never really retired from the political challenges of his home area in southeastern Fairfax County, Gartlan's seat was won by then State Delegate Linda T. “Toddy” Puller. She serves in that capacity today as State Senator Puller (D-36)

“I was shocked and saddened when I heard of his death. I didn't even know he was sick. I was supposed to be attending a meeting in New Orleans but I canceled my flight when I heard the news so that I can attend the funeral. He will be very missed by a lot of people,” Puller said.

State Delegate Mark D. Sickles (D-43) served as Gartlan's Lee District coordinator in 1991. It was Gartlan's toughest race, which he won by only 716 votes.

“He was not only an institution in the Senate but also a mentor to many of us and always a friend and aide to any young person who had their eye on public service. Many of us turned to him because he was always a strong voice,” Sickles said.

“One of my fondest memories of him came four years after that 1991 race. The Republicans thought they could gain another seat and had hand picked their candidate. Instead, Joe did very well against that challenge. I'm really going to miss him,” he said.

GARTLAN'S DEPARTURE from the State Senate at age 73 was not followed by a rocking chair on the porch of his Mason Neck home. He took that same dedication and political skills to various causes that met his



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

First Lady of Virginia Anne Holton and former Senator Joe Gartlan at the 2007 Allies in Prevention Awards luncheon.

requirements for protecting both the environment and social services.

When Inova Health System was rumored to be angling to close Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, Senator Joe Gartlan, as he was always referred to, became an active and dedicated member of the Citizens Alliance Rescue Effort, CARE, instigated by Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland, to save the hospital and expand its medical capabilities. He remained an active member of that group when it morphed into the Southeast Health Planning Task Force.

He was scheduled to attend the Task Force's meeting on July 16 when IHS's CEO Knox Singleton spoke on the hospital's expansive future, which Gartlan played an important role in bringing to fruition. Unbeknown to Task Force members, Gartlan was already in that hospital, less than a block away from the meeting site in the Mount Vernon Government Center, as a critically ill patient, and there he died of sepsis two days following the meeting.

“Senator Joe Gartlan was more than just a friend to me. He was a dedicated, well-respected, progressive public servant who was able to work with his colleagues across the aisle to pass common sense legislation in the best interests of his constituents,” Hyland said.

“Mason Neck, Mount Vernon, Fairfax County and Virginia would look very different today if it weren't for his environmental stewardship. He will be sorely missed,” he said.

That sentiment was echoed by Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, who now serves as the task force chair. “Senator Joe Gartlan's death is a loss to all of Virginia,” he said.

“But, on a personal note, my family was very close to Senator Gartlan and I grew up seeing him as the model of what a pub-

lic servant should be. He was in many ways my mentor and I hope I can live up to his high standards and legacy,” McKay said.

Anne Andrews, who served as Task Force Chair from its inception until this year and remains an active member, described Gartlan as a “giant” who cared “passionately about the hospital” and its preservation.

“When I read in the Post that he was retiring from the Senate I actually cried. He protected us in so many areas of social services,” said Andrews, who also serves as convener of the Rt.1 Social Services Task Force.

“He also had a great sense of humor. I once asked him if he would like to come to the Human Services Task Force meeting. His answer was “Is the Pope Catholic?” Andrews recalled.

“When he was in the Senate he would send pictures of his entire family as a Christmas card. I have saved every one of them,” she said.

Neal McBride, a leader in preserving the former Lorton Prison site as an arts center and open space recreation area, knew Gartlan not only as a Mason Neck neighbor but also as an influential, behind the scenes player in the Lorton project.

“When we were working on the prison site project, he performed a lot of background work that helped to make it all come together. He was a very clear-headed guy with a very good historical perspective. That's what I liked and respected about him,” McBride said.

VIRGINIA GOVERNOR Timothy M. Kaine ordered the state flag to be flown at half mast and issued the following statement:

“Senator Gartlan was a true statesman. He wore his heart on his sleeve when it

SEE GARTLAN, PAGE 31

American Dream Walking

Alexandria foreclosures spike in January, although the city remains relatively insulated.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

Like other jurisdictions across the county, the city of Alexandria has been gripped by the foreclosure crisis that has taken the financial world by storm over the last few years. Yet a number of factors have insulated the city from the harshest aspects of trends that have plagued outer suburban areas such as Prince William County. Between March 1, 2007 and Feb. 29, 2008, according to a recent report from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the city of Alexandria had 205 foreclosures. That was more than Arlington, Fairfax City or Fredericksburg during the same timeframe. Alexandria foreclosures spiked earlier this year, with 63 in January alone.

"From everything I've seen, we are going to see this trend continue for a while," said Mildrilyn Davis, director of the Alexandria Office of Housing. "It's a very difficult problem that all jurisdictions are facing right now."

The Council of Governments' report, titled "Foreclosures in the Washington D.C. Re-

gion: Evaluating the Scope of the Crisis," argues that the United States is "in the midst of the largest foreclosure crisis in recent times." Although the Washington region remained relatively unscathed at the beginning of the national crisis, data collected by Council of Government researches indicates that late 2007 marked a turning point for the region. The Washington region now has one of the fastest growing foreclosure rates in the nation, according to the report.

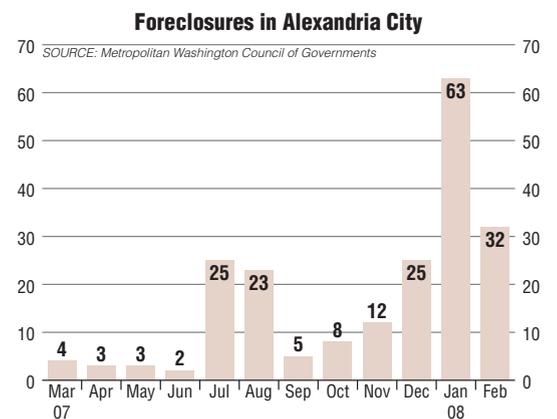
"Prices have fallen off most dramatically in the suburbs where, not coincidentally, the rate of foreclosure has been the highest," according to the Council of Governments report. "Foreclosure activity currently is concentrated in several 'hot spots' across the COG region, primarily in Prince William County. However, several other neighborhoods across the region are 'impending hot spots,' with foreclosure rates on the rise."

THE REPORT identified two U.S. Census tracts in Alexandria where foreclosures are clustered, both of which are located on the West End. In the year examined by the report, 24 percent of the city's foreclosures happened in the Landmark area, including

the part of Alexandria known as "condo canyon." Because condominiums are less expensive than single-family houses, many first-time buyers purchase them as a way to get a piece of the so-called "American Dream." Yet since 2000, many people who bought condominiums on the West End of Alexandria found themselves in the midst of a national nightmare with loans that were impossible to manage.

"There was a lot of pressure put on financial institutions to help people live the American Dream of homeownership," said Mark Ellmore, a mortgage banker who is running a Republican campaign to unseat Rep. Jim Moran (D-8). "So the financial institutions came up with a way to meet that demand. The problem is that people were buying houses without making any investment in it."

Between 2001 and 2005, the housing market in Washington experienced double-digit appreciation as local jurisdictions experienced windfall profits from rising property tax bills. But the housing market began cooling in 2006, and prices began falling just as the number of foreclosures began picking up. By the middle of 2007, lenders that had provided millions to borrowers unable to document their incomes or job status were filing for bankruptcy. Delinquencies and loan defaults skyrocketed



Foreclosure Rates by Jurisdiction

from March 1, 2007 to Feb. 29, 2008

Jurisdiction	Foreclosures
Alexandria	205
Arlington	167
Fairfax City	80
Fredericksburg	48
Falls Church	13

SOURCE: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

to levels not seen in more than a decade. "The argument was that the property would go up in value and the homeowner could refinance," said Joyce Woodson, a former member of the City Council member who has sold real estate for the past 20 years. "But the property values didn't go up and so the people who took out the loans became stuck. But the interest rate kept

SEE AMERICAN DREAM, PAGE 7

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Advisory Group Applauds Report

“De-malling” is now the predominant trend nationwide.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE PACKET

For the first time since its inception the Landmark/Van Dorn Advisory Group finally received information that was not couched in urban planning double speak. They were presented with hard, analytical data that could be directly tied to the retail future of Landmark Mall.

“My job is to analyze what is supportable — not recommend.”

—Robert J. Gibbs,
president,
Gibbs Planning Group

Robert J. Gibbs, president, Gibbs Planning Group, a retail consulting firm based in Birmingham, Mich., that deals in tangible economic realities, spelled out the possibilities and pitfalls of the Landmark/Van Dorn Planning Area’s future development efforts during a 45 minute presentation to the Advisory Group and audience assembled in a Mall meeting room July 17. When he concluded he received applause from both Advisory Group members and the audience.

“When’s the last time you heard a consultant get applause for a presentation,” said Mark Jinks, Alexandria’s

Deputy City Manager, seated in the audience. “It was right to the point. We all think we’re different but we’re not. There are patterns.”

The Advisory Group, which has been meeting since the early Spring, and has been experiencing a declining attendance, has endured many sessions that often seem to fit the Yogi Berra declaration of “It was deja vu all over again.” And, last Thursday’s meeting started off in the same manner — with the boredom getting boring.

Then Gibbs took the floor and told the group what his firm’s research and analysis had concluded. “I’m going to tell you what we believe is supportable in an economic sense in the next five to seven years at this site. I’m not suggesting you do it or don’t do it. That’s your decision. My job is to analyze what is supportable — not recommend,” he said.

“The analysis has been done eight or nine different ways. We look at what you buy and how you buy it. One of the main elements that came to the forefront is that when you want to do serious shopping you go elsewhere,” he said.

Gibbs maintained this could be changed by developing the Landmark/Van Dorn study area as a regional shopping site. It has the acreage, the location, and the accessibility by vehicle or mass transit, he noted. “This site could support an additional one million square feet of retail/restaurant enterprises.



Robert J. Gibbs, president, Gibbs Planning Group, explains his organization’s assessment of Landmark Mall’s future development possibilities as a regional retail center to the Landmark/Van Dorn Plan Advisory Group.

times the national shopping center average,” he said.

Gibbs also noted that the overall cityscape of the shopping center is changing from the traditional mall to more of a walkable town center approach. “And, bigger can be better if it is designed well,” he said displaying slides of various examples of that fact now in operation in various areas of the nation.

According to his firm’s analysis, the Landmark/Van Dorn “trade area” has 800,000 households with an average income of \$90,000 per year. “The Landmark/Van Dorn area is surrounded by regional centers that can actually bring more shoppers to this site with good planning and development,” Gibbs said.

He also cautioned against a negative view of national retailers as opposed to local shops. “National retailers are marketing themselves to not look like a national retailer from the outside. And, large anchor stores are actually very good for small retailers,” Gibbs said.

“If this area shifts to a town center concept our analysis indicates that you will draw some of the area’s wealthiest shoppers to this site. Properly developed this site could support \$322 million in sales per year based on 1,042,000 square feet of retail space.

Having sustainable retail means having stores that satisfy the region,” Gibbs stated.

At the present there are 2,700 large malls operating in the United States, according to Gibbs. “Nineteen hundred of those are presently in the process of what we call “de-malling.” They are changing the traditional shopping mall atmosphere into one more attuned to a town center concept,” Gibbs said.

He also discussed shoppers’ perception when it comes to parking. “Shoppers react to parking based on what they find when they first come to a mall. If they first park on the surface, they will react adversely to covered parking that may be constructed later. And vice versa,” he said.

On-Street parking is the most beneficial to both shoppers and retailers, according to Gibbs. “Every on-street parking space in a retail area generates \$200,000 in retail sales,” Gibbs said.

He concluded his presentation as he began by placing the ball back in the court of the Advisory Group. “I have tried to give you what we have found through our study and analysis. The ultimate decision is up to you,” he said.

The area is significantly undeserved,” he said.

The United States supports 20.2 square feet of retail space per person. That’s larger than any other area of the world. And, the Washington region is seen as the last strong, underdeveloped retail area in the nation. It is among the top five-retail area globally, according to Gibbs.

“Retail is one of the toughest businesses to be in. It has to compete with all the other family budget categories to garner spending. That, along with the constant changing tastes of the buying public, is what make retail a very risky business,” Gibbs emphasized.

THIS ECONOMIC CLIMATE is also changing the way banks and other lending institutions view retail business financing. “Banks like mixed use projects. They want offices and residences mixed in with retail uses. It makes the development more recession proof,” he said.

As an example of one of the most successful shopping areas in the nation Gibbs cited Tyson’s Corner. “There sales average \$750 per square foot per year. That is three

Second Arrest in Royal Street Shooting

For many Alexandria residents, the fear of becoming the victim of a violent crime seems miles away from life on the busy urban thoroughfare of King Street. But a 38-year-old Alexandria man was confronted on King Street last weekend by two young black males, one of whom was armed with a handgun. The victim fought back against his assailants before grabbing the gun, an act that led to his being shot.

Within hours, the Alexandria Police Department arrested an 18-year-old Alexandria resident. Before the week ended,

the police announced a second arrest — a 16-year-old Alexandria resident who will now face charges of malicious wounding and attempted robbery. No arrests were announced in the three other armed robberies that happened over a weekend in which there were four armed robberies.

“I’m concerned that if we continue to have a downward trend in the economy, it could result in a spike in certain events such as larceny,” said Police Chief David Baker.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

2009 Governor's Race Donations To Date

Attorney General Bob McDonnell (R), Charlottesville state Sen. Creigh Deeds (D) and Alexandria Del. Brian Moran (D) have all stepped forward as possible candidates for Virginia's 2009 Gubernatorial election.

McDonnell, the only Republican in the race, raised \$818,122 during the first six months of 2008. Though he has received more donations from the Virginia Beach area, McDonnell's second most prosperous fund-raising spot was Fairfax County, where he raised about \$88,500 of his money. In the City of Alexandria, he received \$40,700 in donations and, in Loudoun County, he received \$38,200 in donations. Arlington

County residents and businesses donated \$5,191 to the McDonnell campaign in 2008.

Moran has raised more money, with the Democrat's funding totaling \$1.38 million for the first half of 2008. But he has also shifted a large sum, about \$447,000, from his delegate campaign to his exploratory committee for a gubernatorial bid. Most of Moran's money came from the City of Alexandria's residents and businesses, which donated \$750,862 in total. Moran's second most prolific locality was Fairfax County, whose residents contributed \$192,110 in the first half of the year. Arlington County has contributed \$129,943 and Loudoun County has contributed

\$16,250 to his campaign.

Deeds has raised \$761,735, with less help from Northern Virginia than either McDonnell or Moran. Deeds raised \$70,175 in Fairfax during the first half of 2008. He

also collected \$10,873 in Arlington County, \$8,750 in the City of Alexandria and \$4,870 in Loudoun County.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

American Dream Walking

FROM PAGE 5
going up.”

THE COUNCIL'S REPORT documented 15,613 homes that went into foreclosure between the period of March 1, 2007 and Feb. 29, 2008. The region's outers suburbs were hit the hardest, particularly Prince William County. By contrast, inner suburban areas such as Alexandria experienced a relatively modest number of foreclosures. According to a recent opinion issued by Moody's Investors Service, Alexandria's

economy is predicted to be resilient because of a number of factors: the city's diverse tax base, above-average wealth levels, economic suability derived from proximity to the nation's capital, sound financial operations, conservative budgeting and strong debt position.

“In my experience, the people who went for the subprime loans are marginal buyers,” said Kate Patterson, a Realtor with McEneaney Associates. “Most people in Alexandria are saavy, and they aren't first-time home-buyers.”

Here are each candidate's top five local donors for 2008:

MCDONNELL:

Name	Occupation	2008 Donation	Total Donations (All campaigns)
Mark Klinton (Alexandria)	investment banker	\$28,500	\$44,500
David Rensin (Leesburg)	information technology	\$25,000	\$30,000
Randy Kendrick (Alexandria)	retired attorney	\$15,000	\$15,000
A & R Foods, Inc. (Springfield)	food processors/distributors	\$10,000	\$17,500
AOL, Inc. (Dulles)	Information technology	\$10,000	\$32,500

MORAN:

Name	Occupation	2008 Donation	Total Donations (All campaigns)
Thomas Depasquale (Arlington)	executive Recruitment/temp agencies	\$60,000	\$71,000
Stefanie Erkiletian (Alexandria)	amusement parks/sports	\$40,000	\$40,000
Janice Brandt (Great Falls)	information technology	\$25,000	\$25,000
Robert Dugger (Alexandria)	investment banker	\$25,000	\$37,000
Albert Dwoskin (McLean)	real estate developer	\$25,000	\$26,250

DEEDS:

Name	Occupation	2008 Donation	Total Donations (All campaigns)
Edward Rice (Vienna)	financial advisor	\$25,000	\$85,000
James Hazel (Oakton)	real estate developer	\$10,000	\$15,000
Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple (Arlington)	state senator	\$5,523	\$5,523
Robert Hovis (Oakton)	trial lawyer	\$5,125	\$20,225
Wesley Foster (McLean)	Realtors	\$5,000	\$10,000

* Information provided by the Virginia Public Access Project



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Memorial for Freedmen Not Enough

Honor their lives by acting as they did.

BY GEORGINA TORO-LUGO

When the Freedmen's Cemetery Steering Committee requested the opinion of the community for the selection of a design for the memorial, I began to analyze each of the finalist entries. Though I have not been an Alexandria resident for long, to voice my opinion on this significant decision was important to me but, after visiting the site, that is no longer the case.

I visited the cemetery on a Sunday afternoon. The empty lot, covered by reddish soil does not show any evidence of what lies underneath it. Only the signs posted on the wired fence provide the visitor with information about its history. It was established in 1864 and closed in 1869. Runaways and contrabands, most of them children, were buried there. The times were ones of hardship, something all of them had

known throughout their lives. Uneducated and lacking essential necessities, they did what they could with what they had. They suffered hunger and cold yet, they escaped a life of servitude so their children would not have to endure the same fate. Their descendants, the result of their fortitude and determination to survive, now form part of the many communities of Virginia. Standing there, acknowledging their triumphs and tribulations, filled me with humility, and I asked myself: would I have been able to do the same?

ACCORDING TO Louis Hicks, director of the Alexandria Black History Museum, the cemetery is now the "sacred ground for our ancestors who came here and [...] helped give us the life we enjoy today." Mr. Hicks' opinion reminded me of a very important fact: through their perseverance and sacrifices, they opened doors for the present generations. What then could be a fitting tribute to the 1,800 runaways and contrabands buried there? Nothing less than the continuation of their legacy and the achievement

of that which was denied to them: "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

The construction of a memorial is important but, it is neither necessary to wait until the memorial is constructed to render the deserving tribute, nor should it be limited to a mere stroll through the park when it becomes open to the public. Since an important criterion of the memorial is to provide a place of reflection, what is it that we should reflect about when we visit that site? Many would say that we should reflect about the horrors of slavery, and the suffering of those buried there. Or, as the mission statement says, that the freedom fighters and their struggle "cannot and will not be forgotten again." I believe it should go further than that. Our reflections should focus on their legacy and, most importantly, what we are doing with it.

WHAT WAS the Freedmen's legacy? The competition's mission statement emphasizes their dignity, perseverance and courage. However, the mere recognition that they possessed these qualities is not a suffi-

cient testimonial; instead, we should attempt to emulate them. Our conduct should display integrity and self respect the same way their's did in spite of their circumstances. We should set goals and stay persistent with the same determination that brought them here. And when a goal seems unreachable because of barriers before us, we need to remember that they did not give up even when the odds were against them. Their legacy is not how far they had to go to reach freedom, but how far they were willing to go to achieve it. All these thoughts came to my mind that Sunday afternoon.

My concern now is if I will be able to pay them the proper reverences. If I will be able to tell them that, though I am not a politician or a hot shot businesswoman I have lived an honorable life. Will I be able to overcome obstacles to achieve that which they could not? And when faced with an unreachable goal, will I be capable to follow on their footsteps and stay persistent. I will most certainly do my best, and every time I reach a finish line, I will come to this site to say to them "these achievements are my tribute to your memory."

GUEST EDITORIAL

Summer Months Expose Easily Treated Problems

CHRISTINE CANDIO, CEO
INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL

As temperatures soar during the summer months, bathing suits and shorts come out, and many people across the country begin to notice problem areas, which were once easy to cover up during the cooler months, now clearly visible as they look at the veins on their legs.

These varicose veins, or spider veins, are caused by a decrease in blood flow in the leg. The pooling of the blood in the veins makes previously, small, unnoticeable veins, thicken and become large and elongated, showing in the legs and feet.

Fortunately, treatment for varicose veins is available at Inova Alexandria Hospital in our Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology Department.

The majority of people who have varicose veins only have to be concerned with the cosmetic issues related to this condition, but for others the veins can cause pain, fatigue, burning and even swelling. Some ways to prevent varicose veins include exercising regularly, maintaining a healthy weight, elevating the legs when at rest and avoiding long periods of standing or sitting. However, if this self-treatment does not alleviate problems and the conditions persist, becoming of serious concern to the patient and physician, medical attention may be needed.

Some risk factors associated with developing varicose veins are age, family history, gender, and pregnancy. The most common risk for varicose veins is having multiple pregnancies, which increases the thickening of the vein walls. Varicose veins affects



Christine Candio

half of all those 50-years-old or older, and nearly 15-20 percent of adults.

Once varicose veins are diagnosed, usually by an ultrasound test, the appropriate treatment options are decided by the patient in partnership with their physician. The most common treatment for varicose veins is vein ablation, which is an alternative to surgery that incorporates the use of a laser or radiofrequency waves to close off the problem veins. This treatment takes less than an hour and requires no overnight stay. More than 90 percent of patients that receive this treatment remain problem-free for years. There may be minor soreness imme-

diately following the procedure but that is overshadowed by no longer having to see the veins when your legs or feet are exposed.

If you wish to get more information about how to rid yourself of spider veins, attend one of our upcoming HealthSource lectures in August. This lecture, presented by Keith

Sterling, MD, medical director of cardiovascular and interventional radiology at Inova Alexandria Hospital, will discuss treatment options for varicose veins.

For more information about this and our many other free health lectures, contact Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open Letter to the Candidates for Alexandria School Board:

We read with interest your profiles and goals for our schools in the Gazette issue of July 10-16. Like any engaged parents, we have our own concerns. Right at the top of our list is this one: What is your position on the role of the arts in the curriculum?

We looked eagerly through your profiles to see how you address this issue. It wasn't mentioned.

What we found instead was either self-evident (money must be carefully managed; there should be transparency in Central Office) or endlessly debatable (how to address the needs of both low and high performers; TAG versus Honors; whether to take algebra in 7th, 8th, or 9th grade). But nothing about the proven benefits of arts and electives in the curriculum.

Active participation in the arts improves academic performance across the board, from underprivileged kids right on up. Kids who study music do better in math, regardless of when they take algebra. Foreign language studies improve speech and writing.

It is distressing that our kids must choose

between art, music, and drama – by 7th grade! Even worse, two years later they have to choose between art and foreign language. (Yes, there are other options. They can take summer school, which crimps family plans, or they can skip the popular, and appropriate, course in Human Growth and Development.)

We cannot eradicate the SOLs, nor circumvent NCLB. We don't ask for the impossible. We just want a school board that can imagine the things that we imagine:

A school where a young musician can take orchestra and art, without giving up a foreign language. A school where a kid with a flair for languages can take Spanish and German, and still play clarinet in the band.

Teachers with the flexibility to be creative both within and outside the confines of the SOLs. Student schedules less weighted with requirements, with more freedom to pursue passions and hone interests.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

That would be a school where all of our children – regardless of privilege and socioeconomic status – would thrive. That would be a place we might all want to send our kids.

Alison Valtin and Steve Erwin
Alexandria

We Support John Leary

To the Editor:

We are three former School Board members who would like to share some of the reasons why we support John Leary in the August 12, 2008 District B School Board special election.

John strongly believes that every child in every school should receive an appropriately rigorous curriculum. He is eager to work with our new Superintendent, Dr. Sherman, to continue the impressive achievement gains in our elementary schools, and to bolster academic excellence in our middle schools and at T.C. Williams. John supports high achievement for all students.

John is the only candidate who has been endorsed by the local teachers' organization. Each candidate had sought this endorsement. Only John received it. The teachers support John.

John is a dynamic communicator, and a person brimming with infectious enthusiasm and energy. His message is one of collaboration and cooperation among the School Board, the Superintendent and the community, and increased transparency of the Board's operations. His experience, skills and demeanor are what we need to help heal the division among the current School Board, improve its relations with the citizens, and to jump-start the Board's long-delayed strategic planning process. John works well with others.

John and his wife Maureen have devoted extraordinary efforts to improving our schools and advocating for City families to "stay public." John is a PTA President-Elect, and served on the School Board's Health Advisory Committee. Indeed, he and Maureen were part of the dedicated community who helped turn Maury Elementary from a school that many neighborhood families tried to avoid, into one that they now readily embrace. John has experience

in building community support for our schools.

Finally, John is the only candidate who is a lifelong Alexandrian and a product of the City's public schools. This gives him a unique and valuable perspective that no other candidate can offer. Moreover, as an involved father of three sons (one of whom attends Maury Elementary, and the other two to follow shortly), he has a vested interest in improving our schools over the long term. John is committed to our schools and our community.

Please vote for John on August 12th. Alexandria needs John Leary on our School Board.

**Mary "Mollie" Danforth
Arthur Schmalz
Mark Wilkoff**

Vote for Marc Williams

As indicated in the recent article in the Gazette, "Pushing Algebra Down" regarding the ACPS policy changes giving more 8th grade students an opportunity to take Algebra, our school system is con-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 12

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

tinuing to respond to the community by making smart curriculum decisions, giving students the option of taking more advanced honors courses. Last fall, honors courses were offered for the first time in Language Arts and Social Studies at the middle school level and according to the Principal, Keisha Boggan, it was very successful. Not only was the attendance high in the more academically challenging courses, but most of the students who enrolled did well in these classes.

These changes have come about as a result of parent and community advocates working with the School Board and ACPS central office to design recommendations to the middle school curriculum. In fact, over 250 parents signed two joint letters in 2006 and 2007 to the School Board asking to develop more rigorous honors courses in language arts, social studies and math. One of the leaders of this effort was Marc Williams, who is now running for School Board. With three children in the public school system, Marc has been involved in educational issues on a district-wide level for many years. Based on his commit-

ment to our public school system and the idea that every child should be challenged to their fullest potential, I am convinced that Marc would make an immediate positive impact as a new member of the School Board. Please consider voting for Marc Williams in the special election on August 12th.

Mary Giordano

Past President of George Washington Middle School

People Care About Election

To the Editor:

Who says no one will care about a School Board election in the middle of August? The good news is - lots of people care about this important upcoming election. The bad news is that passion seems to be manifesting itself in some cases in rumors and falsehoods.

Some of these falsehoods are spread in negative letters to the Gazette. Others are spread through ill-informed gossip. In any case, they all do a disservice to the community. All of our candidates for School Board deserve to have their record and their platforms judged objectively.

A handful of people have repeated reports from this newspaper that John Leary headed a "recall effort" against one or more current School Board members. In fact, the opposite is true. Not only was no recall effort ever launched against any Board member, John prevailed upon citizens who were upset with the manner in which the Board conducted its official business last year to move on and focus on the future of our schools. With three sons who will matriculate through our public schools over the next 15 years, no one has a greater interest in ensuring our schools' future success than John. He has been a visible advocate for transparent governance of our schools because he understands that maintaining community confidence is paramount to our schools' success.

John is looking forward to the arrival of Dr. Sherman, a nationally respected educator who will take the helm of our schools next month. He believes Dr. Sherman deserves the full support of the School Board and our community. If he's elected, I'm certain John will ensure that the School Board and

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 26



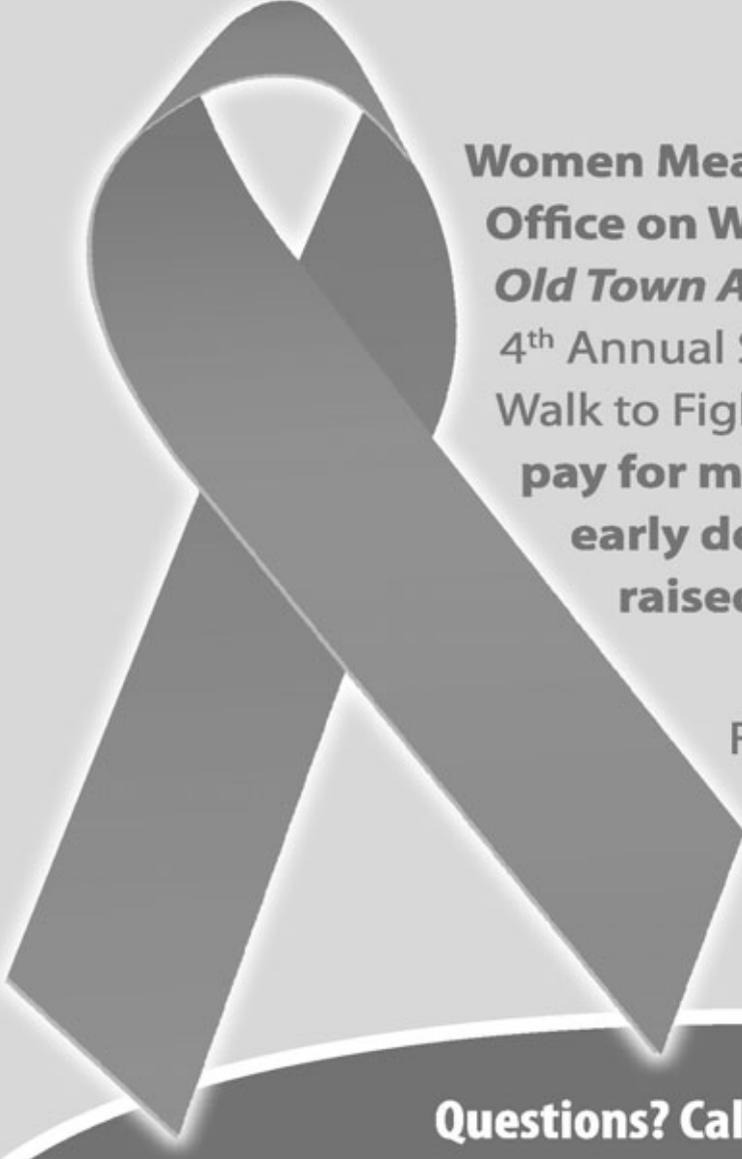
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Join us for an informal tasting of
South America's hearty reds and aromatic whites with
Local Importer Cindy Yim.

Admission is free and reservations are not required.
Call 703.820.8600 for details



Women Mean Business of Alexandria and the Alexandria Office on Women would like to thank the **Crowne Plaza Old Town Alexandria** for generously hosting this year's 4th Annual Silent Auction Event to Support the Alexandria Walk to Fight Breast Cancer. **The event raised \$20,000 to pay for mammograms for uninsured women and for early detection education, doubling the amount raised in 2007.**

For information on **The Walk** on October 25, visit www.alexancerwalk.com. For information about the Crowne Plaza, visit www.crowneplaza.com.

Questions? Call: 703-838-5030

Special thanks to
ALEXANDRIA
Gazette Packet

LIFE

Barbeque At Windsor Firehouse

Sunday afternoon, the Del Ray Business Association challenged the Del Ray Citizens Association to a game of softball at Little Simpson Field. The game was tied when called after an hour due to temperatures in the high nineties. The teams and friends regrouped later at the Windsor Avenue Fire Station for a barbeque with the firefighters. The firehouse is currently undergoing renovation.



Larry and Judy Lowe arrive for the barbeque with bowls of cold salads.



President of the Volunteer Fire Department Jay Johnson and AFD Joseph Hoffmaster attend to the grill.



Vice Mayor Del Pepper has a few words to say. Chief Theil listens with his daughter Sophie.

Firefighter Bethany Richards greets Abby and Debbie Altenburg at the Windsor Fire Station on Sunday afternoon.



Marcia Call and Gayle Reuter get an update from Firefighter Bethany Richards on the renovation progress.



Dishes for the potluck barbeque fill up a table in the firehouse. The station is currently under renovation. The kitchen appliances have not been installed yet.

Battalion Chief John North talks with Town of Potomac Centennial chair Pat Miller.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE
KRAFFT/GAZETTE
PACKET

KEEPING SHOP

Working At ... St. Coletta's Shop

Keeping Shop is a regular feature of the Gazette Packet. To qualify, retail shops should be locally owned or operated; new, expanding, celebrating a significant anniversary or doing something otherwise newsworthy. To nominate your business or another business, contact Mary Ann Weber, editor, Gazette Packet, maweber@connectionnewspapers.com.

Business name: St. Coletta Shop
Address: 207 S. Peyton St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Years at this address: St. Coletta of Greater Washington has owned this building since 1996 but just opened the St. Coletta Shop in June.

Years in business: St. Coletta of Greater Washington has been serving individuals with intellectual disabilities since 1959.

Telephone: 571-438-6940
Web site: www.stcoletta.org

Owner:

St. Coletta of Greater Washington

Short bio:

St. Coletta of Greater Washington is a nonsectarian, nonprofit organization serving children and adults with intellectual disabilities, autism and multiple disabilities. Founded in Arlington in 1959, St. Coletta now operates a school in Washington, DC, two adult day programs in Virginia and will open

an adult program in Rockville in August.

Together these programs serve over 335 individuals from all over the Washington area. A leader in special education, the goal of our programs is to help each individual become as independent as possible and be a true part of their community. Our Old Town Alexandria location serves as an adult day program as well as a St. Coletta Shop. Some of the clients work in the neighborhood at various businesses. The St. Coletta Shop also provides employment and community integration opportunities for our clients. The shop sells fused glass items (plates, coasters, bowls, jewelry) and hand woven items — all made by individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Why did you choose this particular business?

Not only do our clients get to make beautiful items, but they can then get the satisfaction of selling what they make. Many of the people we serve are very talented and this gives them an outlet for their talents.



PHOTO BY NINA TISARA/TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

Opened in June, St. Coletta Shop sells fused glass items (plates, coasters, bowls, jewelry) and hand woven items — all made by individuals with intellectual disabilities. Pictured are directors Jennifer Douglas (L) and Melissa Davis (R) with Alexis Vineyard. Photo by Nina Tisara

What have been the advantages and/or disadvantages of operating a business in Alexandria?

St. Coletta has always loved being in Alexandria. The community has been very welcoming.

Key staff:

Melissa Davis and Jennifer Douglas (Directors)

Description of services and/or products:

Fused glass items including

plates, bowls, candle holders, jewelry, coasters. Also, hand woven items including placemats, napkins, table runners, shawls, scarves, etc. Special orders taken for both the glass and woven items.

BUSINESS

Burke And Herbert Beats The Odds

In an industry beset with bad financial news, Burke & Herbert Bank and Trust Company, Virginia's old bank, established in 1852, and the oldest community bank in the Washington area, bucked the national trend. It announced continued strong quarter earnings, for the second quarter in a row, and excellent Capital-to-Asset ratio.

The bank reported net income of \$11.377 million for the first six months of 2008, an increase of \$2.34 million over the same period in 2007. And, as of June 30, Burke & Herbert's capital-to-asset ration stood at 10.24 percent, more than twice the ratio necessary to be classified as "well capitalized" by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Earnings per share for the private, locally-owned (non-publicly traded) corporation were \$59.17. That was up \$12.40 per share or 26 percent over the same period in 2007, according to the bank's report. Burke & Herbert officials attributed the growth to "a direct result of repositioning its investment portfolio and targeting more profitable loans."

Charles Collum, chairman and CEO, Burke & Herbert Bank and Trust Company said, "Amid all of the negative financial news we have seen recently, I am very pleased to report these results. We are particularly encouraged that our careful stewardship has kept our bank financially strong despite an unpredictable economic climate for other banks."

In addition to strong financials, Collum reported that Burke & Herbert has again earned an "Excellent" rating from TheStreet.com Ratings, Inc. for its second quarter performance. According to the independent rating, Burke & Herbert provides customers excellent financial security. TheStreet.com's "A" rating places Burke & Herbert in an elite group of banks nationwide.

BRAC Assessment Available

The Department of the Army has published the Final Environment Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact pertaining to the final realignment of personnel as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Report (BRAC). It evaluates the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts associated with the relocation of 6,409 Department of Defense personnel referred to as BRAC 133.

Presently located in leased space throughout the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area, BRAC 133 includes activities associated with the Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) at Fort Belvoir. The EA is available for public analysis for 30 days from July 14 until August 13. It discusses three potential sites for BRAC 133 personnel — the GSA Warehouses in Springfield, The Victory Center on Eisenhower Avenue in Alexandria, and the Mark Center adjacent to I-395 in Alexandria.

An electronic version can be downloaded at <http://www.belvoirbrac-eis.net> or http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/env_ea_review.htm. Copies are available at public libraries throughout the area and at government offices in Mount Vernon, Lee and Springfield districts, and the City of Alexandria.

For additional information contact Don Carr, director, Public Affairs, Ft. Belvoir, at 703-805-2583, e-mail address: donald.carr@conus.army.mil during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

Written comments on the EA should be mailed to Fort Belvoir BRAC, ATTN: BRAC 133 EA Comments, 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 340, Fairfax, VA 22030 or by e-mail to brac133eacommments@tetrattech.com or online at <http://www.belvoirbrac-eis.net>. All comments must be submitted by August 13, 2008.

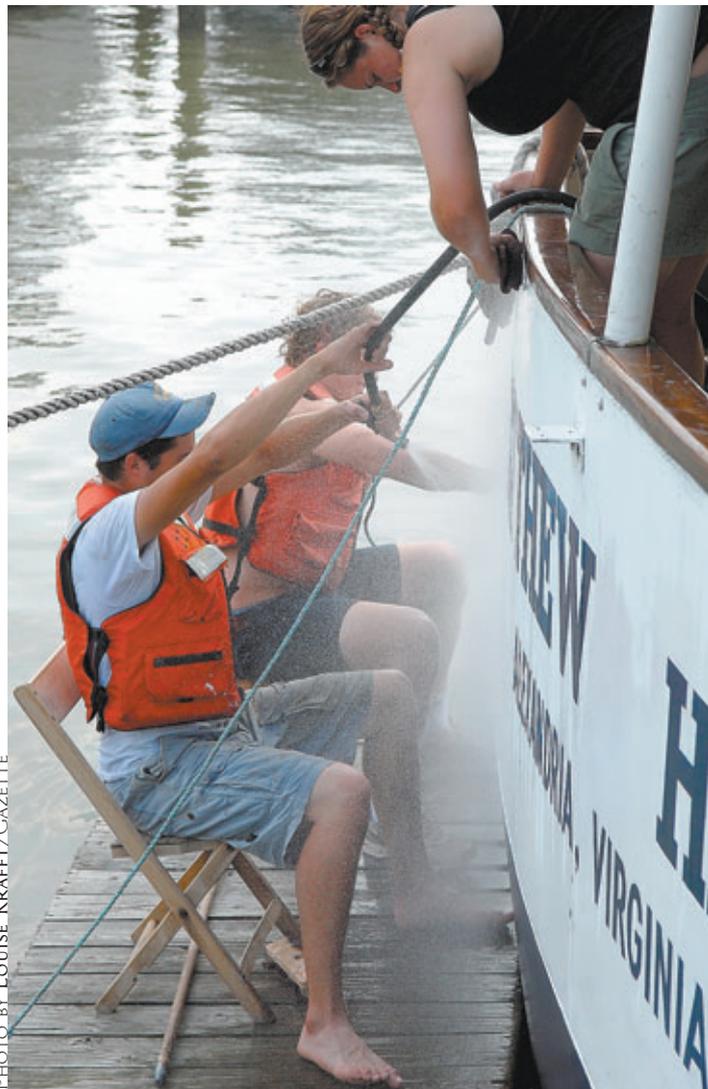


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE

Snapshot The City Dock 7/21/08 3:24 p.m.

ALEXANDRIA BULLETIN

Alexandria citizens residing in **School District B** who wish to vote in the Special School Board District B Election, scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 12, must be registered to vote no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29. Eligible voters who are not currently registered to vote can download a voter registration application from www.alexandriavoter.org. Applications are also available at all four Alexandria public libraries or from the Office of Citizens Assistance at Alexandria City Hall, 301 King St. Applications may be submitted by mail, if they are postmarked on or before July 29, to the Alexandria Voter Registration Office; 132 North Royal St., Suite 100; Alexandria, VA 22314.

Absentee voting began on Friday, July 18. Voters may download absentee applications from www.alexandriavoter.org or request an application by mail. Completed absentee applications may be mailed to the Voter Registration Office or faxed to 703.838.6449. Absentee voters may also vote prior to the special election at the Voter Registration Office. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9. The Voter Registration Office will also be open for absentee voting until 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 5.

For more information, contact Ginny Franco, Deputy Registrar, at 703-838-4050 or e-mail gabby.franco@alexandriava.gov.

The Alexandria PTA Council (PTAC) will be hosting a school board forum on Thursday, July 31 at T.C. Williams High School. The forum - which will include four candidates vying for the slot that was vacated by former School Board Chair Claire Eberwein - will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to the public. For more information, contact Tina Games-Evans, PTAC Director of Communications, at TGEvans8@aol.com or 703-402-2226.

The Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) has awarded the City of Alexandria \$15.2 million in new funding to help make homeownership more affordable for households with members who live or work in the City. To be eligible to participate in the City's homeownership programs, individuals must be first-time homebuyers, and the home to be purchased must be located within the City of Alexandria. For more information, call the City of Alexandria's Office of Housing at 703-838-4622.

The **Space of Her Own** (SOHO) program is seeking adult female volunteers for its art-based mentoring program for fifth grade girls. Each mentor is responsible for designing the new room, incorporating her mentee's artwork, and developing ample lighting and study space, using a shoestring budget of just \$250. Prospective volunteers are required to attend one of two orientation sessions on Thursday, Aug. 14 or Thursday, Aug. 21, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Art League Annex, 1 Duke St. RSVP for one of the two orientation sessions by e-mailing SOHO@alexandriava.gov. This year's program begins on Sept. 25 and concludes on June 11.

The City of Alexandria reminds visitors of its **"Wireless Alexandria"** service. The service allows any user with a wireless device in the coverage area to access the Internet at no charge. Wireless Alexandria is also available at all Alexandria public library branches.

The **Alexandria Community Services Board** is in need of volunteers to serve in the following positions:

* **Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center Board Members:** Friends is seeking new members who will take an active role in fund-raising, building relationships with the business community and helping coordinate Friends community events. The Board meets one Wednesday evening every other month with occasional subcommittee meetings and additional time required for leading or assisting with projects.

* **Mural Artists:** Alexandria Vocational Services is seeking a mural artist or group of artists to paint a portion of a 30'x 60' concrete wall in a warehouse that houses the Sheltered Workshop Program. Program participants complete projects such as labeling, envelope

stuffing and film recycling. Some funds are available for supplies.

* **Representative Payees:** Payees receive Social Security checks and pay bills for persons with an intellectual disability or mental illness. A separate bank account is opened with automatic deposit and there are few monthly transactions. The duties require two hours per month, per account.

For more information about these volunteer opportunities, contact Jennifer Cordero at jennifer.cordero@alexandriava.gov or 703-838-4455, x 161.

Beginning in July 2008, the City of

Alexandria and Arlington County will conduct maintenance work, including the removal of excessive vegetation and sediment along the **Four Mile Run** flood control channel. This maintenance effort is required to ensure flood protection for residents and businesses along lower Four Mile Run.

The **City of Alexandria's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services** will install state of the art multi-space parking meters in the East Eisenhower-Carlyle area throughout July. These meters will provide short-term parking to support ground floor retail space. Effective July 1, all parking meter rates in the city will

be \$1/hour, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

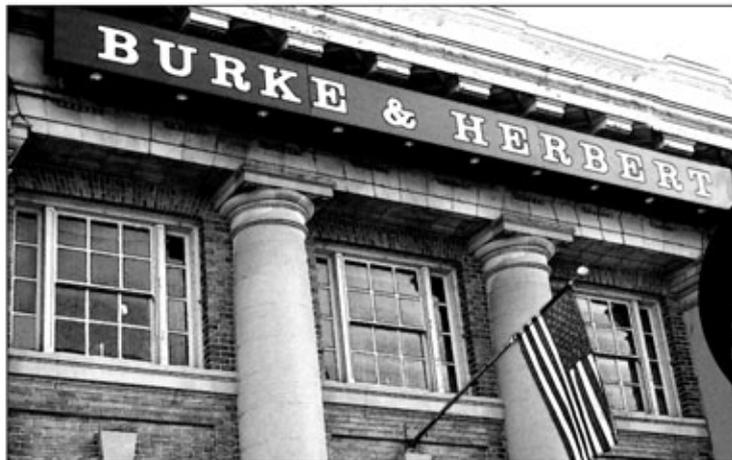
Seniors 50 years of age and over are eligible to enter the 2008 **Northern Virginia Senior Olympics** to be held Sept. 20-Oct. 2. Registration information is available now at local senior centers, community centers, senior residences or by calling 703-228-3600, ext. 9996. They can also be downloaded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

There is a pet calendar contest to ben

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 16

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(1) TheStreet.com Ratings - Second Quarter 2008 (2) Washington Consumer Checkbook Magazine.

FROM PAGE 15

efit the **Animal Welfare League of Alexandria**. All pets are eligible and all entries will appear in the calendar. \$25/pet, which includes one calendar. Entry deadline is Aug. 22. Visit www.alexandrianimals.org or 703-838-4774.

Nonprofit organizations and other grantseekers in Alexandria looking for funding sources now have access to a valuable new collection of resources through Alexandria Library. **The Foundation Center's** core collection includes *The Foundation Directory Online* and *Foundation Grants to Individuals Online*. All four Alexandria Library branches have access to the two databases through their catalog computers. The complete Cooperating Collection of print and electronic resources is held at the Barrett Library, located at 717 Queen St. For more information visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

The City of Alexandria has partnered with Alexandria City Public Schools to obtain a grant for \$70,000 to **retrofit approximately 40 school buses** with clean air technology that reduces pollutants emitted by diesel engine school buses. For more information about the Retrofit Grant Program, please contact Erica Bannerman, Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, at 703-838-4334 or David Rose, Alexandria City Public Schools, at 703-461-4169.

The **Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria** (SAPCA) invites youth (6th - 12th grades)

and adults who live in the City of Alexandria or work with Alexandria youth to complete a short online survey that asks for perceptions and opinions about youth substance abuse in our community. Incentives are provided for youth participants, and adult survey participants have access to recent statistics on youth substance abuse in Alexandria. Community members are asked to complete one of the seven questionnaires, which are all available at alexandriava.gov/sapcasurvey and can be completed in about 10-15 minutes.

The **4Paws Rescue Team** is allowed to keep foster cats at the Petco in Alexandria to increase their chances of finding a loving home. Petco volunteers are asked to commit to one evening or morning each week to care for 2-4 cats. Currently are in dire need of Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning volunteers (until noon), but volunteers for other shifts are encouraged to apply as well. (If interested, contact info@fourpaws.org or by phone at 703-715-6369.

Alexandria Library now offers its patrons a chance to write their own reviews of almost all of the Library holdings (books, movies, music, and other materials) on the Alexandria Library Web site online catalog at www.alexandria.lib.va.us. To access the online catalog, visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us, click on "Library Catalog," and begin browsing. To write a review, simply register and type your review for all to read. For more information, contact Mark Schwartz at 703-519-3498, or e-mail mschwartz@alexandria.lib.va.us



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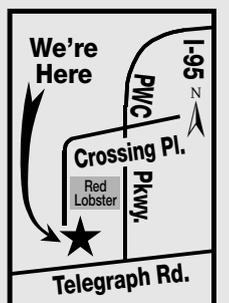
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Sat 9pm-5pm
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CHRIS WHITE

#1 Individual Long & Foster Agent in VA & WV for 2007!



North Pegram Street
\$1,351,500

Classic New England Colonial!

This fabulous property offers a classic Colonial style with a striking open interior floor plan. Numerous special features include: high ceilings, gourmet kitchen with breakfast room, family room off kitchen, elegant trim detail, main level library, five bedrooms, four full baths, two half baths, stunning master suite with sitting room, luxury bath and his & her walk-in closets, stone foundation, stone fireplace and side load three car garage. Prime location on half acre lot in premier Seminary area location. Pre-construction price provides exceptional value!



4003 Belle Rive Terrace
\$4,800,000

Riverfront Estate!

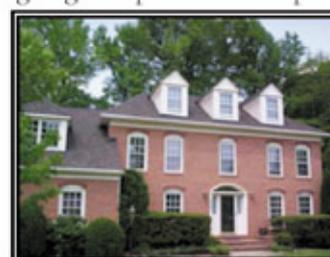
Prime Mount Vernon location with the most breathtaking river views you have ever seen! Over 11,000 sq ft of living space with five bedrooms including river view MBR suite on main level with enormous luxury bath & huge closets. Dramatic river views from every corner of the home! Extensive balconies, deck and roof deck capitalize on the majestic setting high above the Potomac River!



9101 Peartree Landing
\$859,000

Classic Colonial! Gorgeous Pool!

\$110,000 Price Reduction! Stately Georgian Colonial in prime location on quiet cul-de-sac just off the GW Pkwy. Three finished levels, bright and open floor plan, stunning master suite and oversized two car garage. Spectacular open kitchen/family room leads to gorgeous back yard with custom pool. Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, R Peartree Lndg.



1715 Kingsgate Ct #302
\$389,925

Stunning Two Level Condo!

An exceptionally bright upper level Devonshire model - it even has a view of the Washington Monument from the bedroom! High ceilings, spacious great room with fireplace, two master suites, upgraded trim detail, spacious kitchen and deck. Super convenient location in highly sought after Kingsgate community.



2505 Crest Street
\$489,725

Rare Bargain!

Very attractive Braddock Heights rambler with all brick exterior, spacious updated kitchen, replacement thermal pane windows & large attic. Gorgeous setting on beautiful fenced lot convenient to everything! Live in Alexandria's premier single family neighborhood for less than the cost of a townhouse!



4212 Dandridge Terr
\$619,000

Classic Center Hall Colonial!

Great New Price! Spacious 4BR home has master suite with private bath, open kitchen/family room, 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 Southwood cul-de-sac.



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!



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.

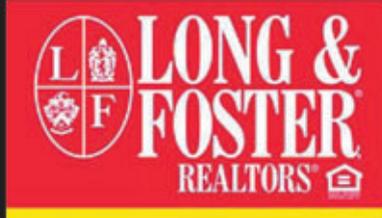


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OPEN SUN 1-4



ALEXANDRIA \$465,000

NOT YOUR TYPICAL HOLLIN HALL

Just listed charming 4-lvl split w/ new kitchen. 3 BR, 2 full updated baths (1 w/jetted tub). Crown molding & hdwd. LR has wood burning FP. Separate DR, finished basement w/ Berber carpet & built-ins. Screened porch. Landscaped corner lot has a "new" shed. 1 block to express bus. Walk to swim/tennis club/shopping.

8044 Wellington Road

RUTH GUIRARD 703.609.3343



ALEXANDRIA \$529,000

BELLE HAVEN

Situated on close to a 1/2 acre, this brick rambler offers easy living on 1 level. Enjoy summer on large brick patio overlooking private back yard with mature trees. 3BR/2BA (luxury MBR) separate dining room & oversized office space can be used as a family room.

7607 Fort Hunt Road

SUZANNE BACKUS 703.338.3594

JILL DIPASQUALE 571.436.8699



OPEN SUN 1-4



ALEXANDRIA \$254,900

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You have to see this renovated 2 BR, 1BA ground floor flat! Almost everything is new & the Brazilian cherry floors are gorgeous. Great dog friendly community, w/tennis courts, 2 pools & just minutes south of Old Town. Dir: Old Town Alexandria, GW Pkwy South, R Belle View Blvd, R Potomac to 6512 on left.

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Beautiful 3BR/2BA Mt. Vernon model in a perfect location in Fairlington Villages. Over 1860 + SF on 2 levels. Features include large updated kitchen, updated baths, refinished hardwoods, tons on closet space & storage, new windows. Fantastic association amenities. Private patio and yard. Dir: I-395 to King St West, R 30th St, L Columbus to 2941 #A1. www.soldbyanya.com

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Courtyard view from this 927 SF, 2 BR, 2 BA condo. Second floor location with covered balcony. Light and bright living room with fireplace—separate dining room—full size stack washer/dryer—bedrooms are separated by hallway and full bath—Many amenities including 2 huge pools, exercise room, sport courts and picnic area and lake. Close to Kingstowne Center—Near 2 Metro rails.

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Dir: GW Pkwy S, R Waynewood Blvd to 915 on left

915 Waynewood Boulevard

LEAH CHAPLA 703.929.4875

ANNE HAMBLEY 703.946.7266



COMMUNITY



After explaining the ritual of ordination and the laying of hands, the children place their hands on the head of Father Kris.

Vacation Bible School “Powerlab”

A vacation bible school was held last week at St. James Episcopal Church in Mount Vernon where over 70 children gathered each morning to learn to be loving, thankful and kind while enjoying themselves.

Fr. Kris Kramer enters the library at St. James speaking many languages. As part of the weeklong bible studies, Friday morning was devoted to understanding the Pentecost.



Thank you cards for the staff and volunteers are signed by the children before going off to the next station.



Retired Col. Robert Fitz USA, revs up the leafblower to send a beachball soaring into the air.



In the Squeaky Beakers 2 preschool station, the three and four year olds try their skills with a game of ‘Bold Breezes.’

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE

LONG & FOSTER

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Elfie Biankini



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Peg O'Connell



Terry Brownfield



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Manfredy Lopez



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Walid Ashoor 703-585-6224



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VOLUNTEERS

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

Destiny's Dream has a public access TV show and is looking for individuals to help with the show. Taping occurs twice a month in Alexandria on select Wednesday evenings from 5-10 p.m. September through December. The TV Studio provides training for \$75 per person for five nights. (We have an immediate need for Camera personnel and Producers. No experience necessary. Producers will work in the control room, help with the overall taping of the shows, and set design. If interested,

complete the Volunteer Form at <http://www.motivationaltv.com>.

The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, located at 201 South Washington St., is in need of volunteers for the upcoming events: Homeschool Day on Thursday, Aug. 21 for two shifts: 9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. & 12:30- 3:30 p.m. For more information contact Kris Lloyd at 703-838-4994 or kris.lloyd@alexandriava.gov

ESL and Immigrant Ministries needs volunteers to teach English to adult immigrants in 17 locations in Northern Virginia. Training is provided in August. Day and evening classes be-

gin in September. For more information or to submit an on-line application, visit <http://eslim.org>.

SARA has a variety of different programs:

Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Assault: A twelve-week group addressing issues facing adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse. All group members must be receiving individual therapy or case management services while in the group, and an assessment is required. Offered winter/spring 2008. Contact the SARA Program: 703-838-5030.

Sexual Assault Survivors Support Group: An eight-week group for

women who were assaulted as an adult or adolescent. This group will address the impact that sexual assault has had on survivors' lives. Offered winter/spring 2008. Contact the SARA Program: 703-838-5030.

Creative Expression Support Group: A support group for adult survivors of sexual assault or sexual abuse that will incorporate nonverbal forms of expression, such as; poetry, art, journaling. This six-week group is for those who have previously participated in a support group. Offered winter 2008. Contact the SARA Program: 703-838-5030.

King Street Cats needs volunteers

to care for abandoned and rescued cats and kittens in its orphanage in Old Town. Help needed with morning and evening feeding/cleaning. If you love cats and want to care for them while a permanent home is being found, contact us at 703-231-7199 or visit <http://kingstreetcats.org> for more.

Doorways for Women and Families is seeking volunteers for its Safehouse domestic violence shelter program. Volunteers are needed for weekend and evening shifts and to answer our 24/7 hotline. Some weekday opportunities are also available. Training begins August-September. Call 703-522-8858 x13 or e-mail volunteer@doorwaysva.org. For more information visit www.doorwaysva.org/volunteer.

CrisisLink's 24/7/365 hotline for the Washington Metro Region is currently recruiting volunteers for their October 2008 training. Visit www.crisislink.org, e-mail volunteer@crisislink.org, or call 703-527-6016 to learn more. Come help CrisisLink continue to save lives and prevent tragedies in our community. Volunteer for three hours a week.

Volunteer Emergency Families For Children (VEFC) needs volunteers willing to open their homes and provide short term (1-21 days) emergency shelter to local children who are victims of abuse, neglect, etc. Volunteers can choose the age, gender, and length of stay for each placement. Local leaders are also needed to serve children in crisis by sharing VEFC's mission within their community. Call 703-200-3700 or email seckhardt@vefc.org for details. Visit www.vefc.org.

Meals on Wheels need drivers to pick up meals at Mt. Vernon Hospital at 11 a.m. and delivering them by 1 p.m. Volunteer drivers can deliver on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, or substitute basis. Other volunteer opportunities for Meals on Wheels in the Mt. Vernon area include back-up Group Coordinator, Group Treasurer, and a volunteer to make monthly delivery of nutritional supplements to a Mt. Vernon resident. For more information, call the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Volunteer Intake Line: 703-324-5406, TTY: 703-449-1186 or e-mail DFSAAvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Parent Leadership Training Institute of Alexandria-Assist with food service needs volunteers for three Friday evenings in April. Includes pick up of food and beverage, transport to and setup at Minnie Howard, serving, and cleanup. Contact: Fay D. Slotnick, 703-739-0233 info@plti-alex.org.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind needs puppy raisers who are willing to open their homes to Labrador Retriever puppies until they are old enough to be professionally trained as guide dogs, usually 16-18 months. Training and guidance provided by local experienced counselors. Volunteer puppy raisers provide love and affection, behavior training and socialization experiences. Call 703-242-2232 or visit www.gebdominion.org. To complete an application, visit www.volunteer.guidingeyes.org.

Goodwin House Alexandria needs musicians to perform during regular Tuesday evening concerts, as well as provide other concerts as available to assisted living, health care, and memory support units. Contact: Patty Butler-Burkhart, 703-824-1239 pbutlerburkhart@goodwinhouse.org.

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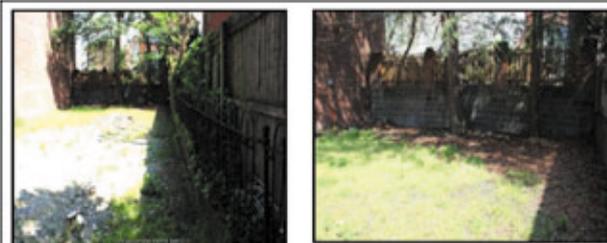
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Garden Named in Honor of Georgette Kohler

Friends, family, dignitaries remember Park Authority Board member.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
GAZETTE PACKET

The sun was blazing hot – temperature already 90 degrees and still morning – yet the colorful flowers growing in Georgette Kohler’s garden remained spunky and bright, much like the woman in whose honor they were planted.

More than 50 people gathered Saturday morning at Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria for a dedication of that garden to Kohler, who died of cancer in March at age 60. A resident of Centreville’s Sully Estates community and a member of the Fairfax County Park Authority, she was also active in Democratic politics and loved to garden.

“We’re here to remember a good friend and a colleague,” said Park Authority Chairman and Sully District representative Hal Strickland. “Georgette was many things – an impassioned member of the park Authority board, a community activist, a caring mother and wife, a businessperson and a very dedicated gardener.”

Calling Green Spring Gardens an “inspiration for gardeners,” he likened it to an outdoor classroom for children and families, as well as a museum and a national historic site offering glimpses into history dating to Colonial times. It contains a wooded stream valley with ponds, a native-plant garden, several demonstration gardens, a greenhouse filled with tropical

plants and flowers, and a horticultural reference library.

Next to speak was county Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerry Connolly who appointed Kohler to the Park Authority Board in January 2004 and reappointed her in 2008. “Georgette was, in her own way, a force of nature, and she was passionate about what she threw herself into,” he said. “She was an avid horticulturalist who believed in the words of Ella Grasso, the former governor of Connecticut, who advised people to ‘Bloom where you are planted.’ And Georgette bloomed in this county.”

Connolly said Kohler was an advocate for the green agenda he set as chairman and shared the Park Authority’s and county’s goals championing the stewardship of nature and promoting the cross-county trail, tree-preservation initiative and the plan to keep one out of every 10 acres in the county as parkland.

“Georgette came through my life like a storm,” he said. “But instead of leaving devastation, she left it a beautiful place.”

Then Ed Batten, Lee District representative on the Park Authority Board, gave an especially moving and heartfelt testimonial. “The Park Authority and its board loved Georgette, and we’re here because she was one of us,” he said. “I had the pleasure of sitting next to her at our board meetings, and we had fun together; we also worked hard.”

“Georgette was enterprising and never one to back down from conflict,” he continued. “Her sudden loss still haunts me.” Referring to a passage by author Nathaniel Hawthorne lamenting a sudden frost on his garden, Batten said, “Georgette’s passing was, and is, a strike to our hearts. But it was also an opportunity for us to focus on the gifts she left us. She always had a smile



BONNIE HOBBS/GAZETTE PACKET

Georgette Kohler’s garden and plaque.

on her face, she cared for the environment, her family and friends – and we wanted to know her longer.”

He said the beauty, sweetness and joy found in her garden at Green Spring are indicative of those attributes that he found in Kohler. “She was a blessing in my life, and she became a counselor and confidant to both my kids. Georgette was someone extraordinarily special to me, and I do and will miss her, and so will my children.”

“When we’re in the boardroom and I look to my left and realize Georgette’s not physically among us, it tugs at my heart,” said Batten. “But I know she’s still with us on the board and with those who knew and loved her. The seeds of beauty, joy and inspiration she’s sown in the garden of my life will forever blossom in my heart.”

He then thanked Kohler’s husband, Frank Ojeda, and their family for sharing her with everyone. Someday, said Batten, there’ll be irises, zinnias, birds and butterflies in her new garden and that would surely please her. “This garden is but a small tribute in her honor,” he said. “When one person lives an extraordinary life, she has no right keeping it to herself. Such was Georgette Kohler, and she shared that life with us.”

Ojeda, who attended the ceremony with his daughter Victoria, her son Mason, 2 Ω, and Kohler’s son Christopher, said his wife’s garden was not only her literal one at home, but her community, family and friends. “She was, to me, a truly wonderful woman, so I’m grateful the Park Authority and Fairfax County are dedicating this garden to her,” said Ojeda. “Thank you; this is a fantastic facility that people will enjoy for years on end.”

Mary Olien, manager of Green Spring Gardens, said Kohler “greeted you with a smile and often brought her grandchild here.” She said the exact place for her garden was chosen because “this is a spot that welcomes you as you walk into the horti-

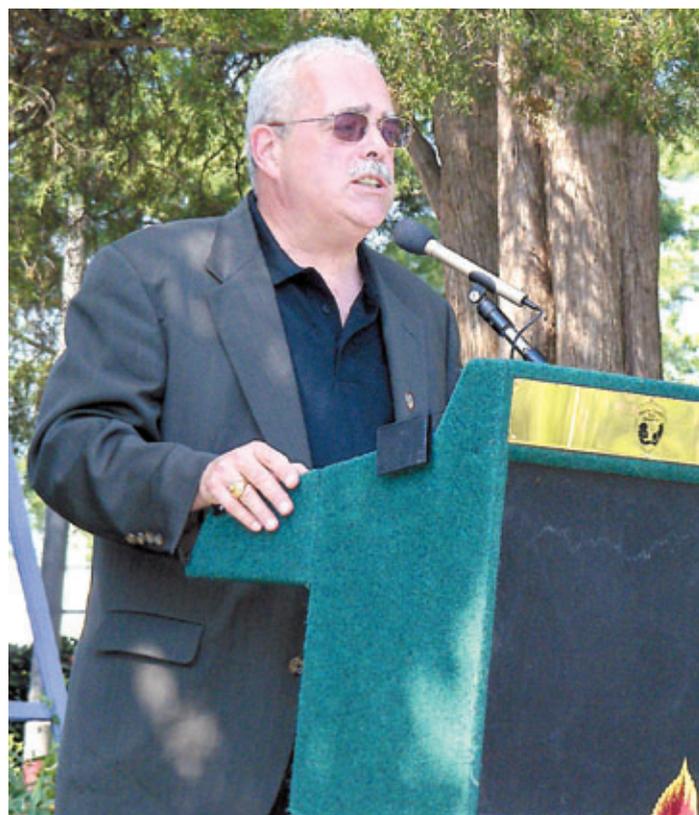
cultural center.”

Everyone then gathered around Kohler’s garden for the unveiling of the plaque in its center. It reads: “Through this garden, we remember Georgette’s passion, humor, service and dedication.” Underneath are the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson, “Earth laughs in flowers.”

Afterward, attendees mingled and enjoyed refreshments and the music of harpist Charlotte Roe. John Dargle, the new Park Authority director, said the Park Authority will continue Kohler’s legacy of preservation, conservation and the protection of open space.”

Christopher Kohler, a business consultant in New York City, was pleased with the tribute to his mother. Calling Green Spring Gardens “absolutely gorgeous,” he said, “I couldn’t be happier with the park and the presentation. When she’d come to New York, we’d go to the West Side Promenade, by the water, and see the flowers and plantings – and she knew the names of 98 percent of them.”

“It was great for me to see the support of the community and how many people turned out for her on this 90-degree day and to hear all their kind words,” he continued. “And what they said was spot-on. Seeing how much she touched people’s lives makes me proud to be her son. Although she’s passed on, it’s nice to know she lives in people’s hearts.”



Gerry Connolly

“Georgette bloomed in this county.”

—Gerry Connolly, chairman, Board of Supervisors

“She was, to me, a truly wonderful woman.”

—Frank Ojeda, husband

“She was a blessing in my life.”

—Ed Batten, Lee District representative, Park Authority

Getting to Know...Alex Totoiu

BY BEN GEIER
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria resident Alex Totoiu, a graduate of T.C. Williams High School, now attending Oberlin College, recently attended the World Student Environmental Summit in Kyoto, Japan. The documents written by the members of the conference will be presented to the G8 at their meeting this month.

If you could start off by just introducing yourself.

Ok, I'm Alex Totoiu, I go to Oberlin College, I'll be a junior this coming year. I graduated from TC Williams in 2006.

How did you first become interested in environmental issues?

A lot of it really had to do with my elementary school. I went to a small private elementary school in Fairfax, Burgundy Farms Country Day School, and environmental issues were always just a focus of everything there, but then, while I was at TC I took the environmental science course, and I thought that environmental science was what I wanted to do, what I wanted to major in when I came to college, so I put that on my Oberlin application, and I ended up paired with one of the environmental

studies professors as my advisor. It turns out once I got here I wanted to major in physics instead, but having him as an advisor, he got me involved with the Oberlin Campus Resource Monitoring system, that we have here. We have a system for monitoring the electricity consumption in most of the dorms on campus, and then displaying that information back in real time to the building occupants through a web page display. So I've been working on that a lot, and it's actually something that's very interesting and very fulfilling to do this kind of technology base environmental work.

How did you end up going to this conference?

Well I suppose it's because Oberlin does do an exchange program with Doshisha University in Kyoto, who hosted the conference and one of their representative was out here. He saw the resource monitoring system, and he invited three students and a faculty member to come out, and at that point they didn't know who was going to go, but they wanted to sort of showcase the Resource monitoring system, so myself and the other guy I worked on the system with got asked- when we first asked if we wanted to go to a conference and present on the Resource monitoring system, and we said yeah that sounds fun and then they told us

we were going to get flown to Japan for it, so that made it a little more exciting too.

What do you, as a college student and a citizen, do to live an environmentally friendly lifestyle?

Actually next year I'm going to be living in our SEED House, which is Student Experiment in Environmental Design, which is the one that was featured on the front page of the "New York Times" a few weeks back. The main goal of that house- we have installed a monitoring system, actually the most in depth monitoring system we have— we are monitoring temperatures of all of the rooms, the electricity consumption of each room individually, natural gas use and water use — both hot and cold, so we can essentially calculate a carbon footprint for the house in real time. And so the main idea behind that is that it's an old house, built in the 19th century and it's pretty similar to a lot of the other houses at Oberlin, and we're just seeing through sort of lifestyle changes, how much can we change our ecological footprint. So it's really just simple things like short showers.

What do you think you want to do in the future, and do you think you will do something involving environmental issues?

I would absolutely love to do something



Alex Totoiu

involving environmental issues. I would love to work for this company called Lucid Design Group. It was founded by several Oberlin Students who had worked on the Resource Monitoring system previously, and they now sell monitoring technology to other schools and other offices that want to monitor energy use. Actually tomorrow I'm leaving for Atlanta to do some work for them for a company called Southface, which has built a new sort of environmentally friendly office, doing monitor display, and it's sort of a showcase office for green design. I would love to work for Lucid design group because I just think what they're doing is really innovative and they also always seem to be swamped with new projects, so it seems like a really good sector to get into.



Join us for the 4th event in our
Hot Topics Series 2008!

7:30 AM, Thursday, July 24th at the Belle Haven Country Club

Please join us as we welcome **Christine Candio, RN, FACHE, the Chief Executive Officer of Inova Alexandria Hospital and Senior Vice President of the Inova Health System.**

Ms Candio, who joined the hospital in February, will brief Chamber members on the hospital's Centers of Excellence (ER, Cancer Center, etc.) and give us an update on Project 2010 - the hospital's capital improvement project. She will also address the broader challenges of hospitals today - specifically, the costs they bear in uncompensated care. Attendees will receive a handout featuring pictures of the construction progress. Candio has 25 years of clinical management experience in a wide variety of healthcare settings, and has led a broad array of health system service lines.

Non-Members Welcome!
Member price—\$25/person
Non-Member price—\$35/person



For more information, or to register, go online to www.alexchamber.com or contact Special Events Coordinator Ashby Williams at events@alexchamber.com or 703.739.3808.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 12

the community are unified to move our schools forward. I know this because John Leary is a stand up guy who is a unifier by nature and a consensus builder by professional experience. He has been an active Alexandria community volunteer for more than two decades. He is a dedicated husband and father and will be a moderating voice on our School Board. John is also a TC graduate and a PTA officer who has a long term perspective on our schools; he's imminently qualified to make a positive

contribution to our School Board. But don't take my word for it, that's the view of Alexandria's teachers: John is the only candidate to earn the coveted endorsement of our teachers.

So as some people's passions soar with the rising thermometer this summer, let's all focus on the facts. Rumors and innuendo are beneath the high standards we should maintain for our community's civic discourse.

Jeff McQuilkin
Alexandria

Write

The Gazette Packet welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
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By e-mail: maweber@connectionnewspapers.com

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Two Cases of West Nile Virus Discovered

FROM PAGE 1

ously ill. Nevertheless, Alexandria officials say residents should be on guard.

"People should definitely be aware," said Tim McGonegal, who works with the city's vector-borne illness prevention program. "We are doing everything we can to get

the word out."

The Alexandria Health Department is encouraging people to do everything they can to avoid mosquito bites, including avoiding outdoor activities at dusk, using insect repellants and checking window screens for holes that might let mosquitoes indoors. People can also take a number of

steps to avoid mosquito breeding:

- * Turn over wading pools, wheelbarrows, canoes, pails, trash can lids, children's toys and any other objects that can hold water, including items stored under decks and porches.
- * Empty birdbaths and other water-holding containers, such as trays under flowerpots, at least

once a week.

- * Properly dispose of used tires.
- * Clean roof gutters and downspouts.
- * Check black corrugated drainpipes for any water collection.
- * Repair dripping outdoor water faucets.
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Senior Sluggers Put on Show

Northern Virginia Senior Softball hosts annual All-Star Game.

BY ANDREW DODSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Ben Fisher remembers playing Little League baseball against Gary Parks in Arlington over a half century. After the days of Little League, they did not see each other until they met up on the diamond again — 50 years later.

“We always played against each other,” Fisher said. “And now we get to play against each other again.”

“Whatever level of play you are and as long as you are in some kind of shape, we’ll have a team for you to play on”

— Dave Scheele, NVSS Publicity Chairman

Fisher and Parks, both 65, are All-Stars of the National League of Northern Virginia Senior Softball (NVSS) along with several others. Teammates and managers elect the best players from their respective team and those players compete for either the Washington or Wilson Division.

NVSS offers a unique opportunity for seniors — who are at least 50-years-old — to continue play the game that they grew up loving.

“Whatever level of play you are and as long as you are in some kind of shape,

we’ll have a team for you to play on,” said NVSS Publicity Chairman Dave Scheele. “It’s great for your health and it’s just a great opportunity to have fun.”

The league has three sub-leagues: Continental, American, and National. The Continental is the equivalent of AA ball, American is AAA, and the National League is the premier division. League managers evaluate players at the beginning of the season to determine which league fits their respected abilities.

Do not let the gray hair fool you; these boys play with as much heart and strength as Major League All-Stars of today. Many of them have the ability to crank the ball over 300 feet out of the park — ask any of the players about Bill Grewe.

“Those are automatic for him,” said outfielder Bob Williams. “He can hit

SEE SENIOR SLUGGERS, PAGE 29



Paul Schmitt makes a pitch during the Northern Virginia Senior Softball All-Star game in Vienna held on July 16.



Tom Garofalo high-fives Jim Ridgell after Ridgell made a nice catch to end the inning.

2008 All-Star Selections

National Conference

Division	League	Player	Location
Washington Division	National League 1	Bill Grewe	Alexandria
		Bob Williams	Washington, D.C.
		Wayne Masefield	Reston
		Tony Giannini	Oakton
	National League 2	Steve Adamson	Sterling
		Mike Kosar	Vienna
		Don Webber	Springfield
		Tom Wells	Aldie, Va.
		Pete Shockley	Alexandria
	National League 5	Ben Fisher	Fairfax
		Jerry Sviatko	Alexandria
	National League 7	Tom Ramberg	Reston
		Jackie Bell	Woodbridge
		Ed Haith	Manassas
		Jerry Sheetz	Lorton
Alan Gillespie		Springfield	

Division	League	Player	Location
Wilson Division	National League 3	Gary Parks	Stone Ridge
		Dave Shultz	Ashburn
		Mike Burchfield	Annandale
		Frank Jacobs	South Riding
	National League 4	Mike Bellows	Fairfax
		David Black	Burke
		Tom Bowers	Herndon
		Donzell Jackson	Fairfax Station
	National League 5	Larry Scarlata	Springfield
		Wayne Cowles	Springfield
		Steve Turchan	Burke
		Dan Barolo	Alexandria
		David Hobson	Arlington
		Paul Math	Annandale
		Jeff Harrison	Springfield
Bruce Remick	Springfield		
Bryon Stiflar	Springfield		

Continental Conference

Division	Conference	Player	Location
Jefferson Division	Continental Conference 1	Roger Redelman	Fairfax
		Don Luhn	Alexandria
		Jim Ridgell	Alexandria
		Bob Cullers	Strasburg, Va.
	Continental Conference 3	Jim Fuller	Burke
		Barry Sidman	McLean
	Continental Conference 4	Bruce Pels	Arlington
		Chuck Teaman	Locust Grove, Va.
		Barry Newman	Annandale
		Lloyd Spafford	Great Falls
	Continental Conference 5	Norman Aronovic	Vienna
		Ron Sarson	Oak Hill
		Tom Garofalo	Great Falls
		Ron Paulson	Springfield
	Continental Conference 8	Rob Stotz	McLean
Henry Ruempler		Alexandria	
Guy Sapienza		Herndon	
Jim Meyers		Annandale	

Division	Conference	Player	Location
Tyler Division	Continental Conference 2	Tom Robinson	Falls Church
		Gene Earl	Gainesville, Va.
		Baz Baziliuk	Burke
		Steve Ordun	Vienna
	Continental Conference 3	Benita Stanley	Lake Ridge, Va.
		John Miller	Lorton
	Continental Conference 6	Ted Ringelheim	Springfield
		Paul Schmitt	Vienna
		Howard Walton	Fairfax
		Pete Hoffman	Oakton
	Continental Conference 7	Dick Peyer	Falls Church
		Ernie Vuley	Haymarket
		Ted Brown	Springfield
		Mark Canoyer	Fairfax
	Continental Conference 9	Baz Bazan	Centreville
Charlie Rainey		Vienna	
John Szpanka		Fairfax	
Don Bartlett		Fairfax Station	

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/GAZETTE PACKET

NVSL Swimming Report

The **Hollin Hills Bluefish** finished the 2008 swim season as Division 17 champions with a perfect 5-0 record. Coached by Alex Collins and Chris Keany, Hollin Hills ended the season with a 206-195 victory over **Rolling Valley**.

First place wins for freestyle include Kylie Bostick, Bradley Speakman, Anna Leonard, and Sergei Sciacca.

Taking first place in backstroke included Beata Corcoran, Audrey Boling, Jarod Worden, Michael Valceanu and Christen Soos.

In breaststroke, Hannah Runner, Sergei Sciacca, Kylie Bostick, Henry Luster, and Sophia Labas earned first-place finishes. In butterfly, first place swimmers were Immanuel Cromley, Caroline Hirt, Michael Valceanu, Barbara Peisch and Anna Leonard.

Riverside Gardens Tsunami earned a share of the Division 10 NVSL title with a 206-196 victory over **Kent Gardens**. Riverside Gardens finishes the season with a 4-1 record and became co-champions (with **Mosby Woods**) of the Division 10 NVSL title.

The Tsunami team turned in 23 first-place finishes in 38 races. Alec Dubois, Paul Dubois, Patrick Schurr, Carolyn Murphy, Sean Heffernan were double winners, while

Audrey Alexander, Patrick Sullivan, Adam Bloom, William Bloom, Elizabeth Dexter, Jimmy Grant, Madison Zdebski, Megan McCormick, Ryan Scott, Carly Stapleton, Kevin Grant, Karley Zdebski and Andrew Swinson each won an event.

Also during the week, Riverside's Patrick Murphy set a new team record in the boys 13-14 backstroke with a time of 32.02.



COURTESY OF JOHN VALCEANU

Hollin Hills 11-year-old Michael Valceanu, competes in the boys 11-12 age group 50-meter butterfly event in a swim meet during a meet on July 12. The Bluefish finished with 5-0, and took home the Division 17 title.

Senior Sluggers Put on Show

FROM PAGE 28
homers at will."

Both dugouts lock focus on his smooth swing each at bat waiting for another ball to go the yard. Last year, Grewe set the NVSS record, clobbering 58 homeruns in a single season.

While other sports like tennis and golf provide great recreational and healthy activity, softball offers something more, according to outfielder Peter Shockley.

"The thing about softball is it's a team sport and you have that atmosphere," Shockley said. "You can make a lot of friends out here."

Shockley sat the all-star game, nursing a back injury. He said he is saving his back for the games that really matter in the coming week. His team currently sits in a tie for first in the division.

DEFENSE WAS PIVOTAL in the first two innings for both teams. The Wilson division All-Stars scored the first run of the game in the third inning.

Powerful hitting continued in the fourth and fifth inning for the Wilson team, racing to a 7-1 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth.

One memorable highlight came when second baseman, 'Crazy' Jerry Sviatko laid out for a diving grab in the infield.

Sviatko threw the ball to the shortstop covering the base for the inning-ending out while still on the ground. Teammates and opponents both applauded the play by the retired schoolteacher and Sviatko walked back into the dugout with a small grin on his face.

Washington Division's All-Stars rallied



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/GAZETTE PACKET

The Northern Virginia Senior Softball (NVSS) recently held an All-Star game among three divisions. The NVSS is looking for players for the fall league, which starts on Sept. For more information, visit www.nvss.org.

for an extra run in the seventh inning, but Wilson's All-Stars answered with two runs. Going into the ninth inning, Washington trailed 9-2.

"Come on guys," one player shouted. "Let's do this one bat at a time."

A controversial out at first caused the Washington dugout to jeer at the first base umpire.

"Come on Blue," shouted one player. "Yeah, we need all the help we can get right now," echoed another.

Power hitter Tom Wells pelted a ball into centerfield. The outfielder quickly threw back to first, causing the first baseman to leap for a catch. When the first baseman came down, Wells collided with him. The collision forced the Washington manager to pull the injured Wells out of the game.

With two outs, the Washington Division All-Stars strung together a slew of hits and pulled in a run, but it was not enough to overcome the 9-3 deficit. The game ended with a grounder thrown to first.

AFTER THE GAME, both teams met at centerfield for a line of handshakes. The game proved that you are never too old to enjoy America's favorite pastime. Each player comes from a different background, yet the 500-plus members of NVSS each join for the same love for the game.

First baseman Jerry Sheetz said he feels privileged to play with some of the greatest guys he has ever met.

"It's amazing when you look around and see that this guy had bypass surgery, or this guy has cancer. It kind of makes it hard to complain about a paper cut," said Sheetz.

A picnic followed the game and as players headed over for it, all they talked about were certain plays during the game and what they would have done differently. It was quite evident these grown boys truly love baseball.

"It doesn't matter who you are," said Scheele. "As long as you love the game, come on out and play ball."

2008 All-Star Selections

American Conference

Madison Division	American League 1	Burke
	Ed Shoemaker	Fairfax
	Tom Horio	Alexandria
	Jim Johndrow	Falls Church
	TedLutz	
	American League 2	Oakton
	Ernie Wakeham	Sterling, Va.
Charlie Green	Arlington	
Jay Kalner	Fairfax	
Glenn Downer		
American League 4	Oakton	
Stever Kopstein	Fairfax	
Al Harvey		
American League 5	Oakton	
Dick Knox	Springfield	
John Ray	Fairfax	
R.C. Phillippi	Alexandria	
John Quast		
American League 7	Gainesville, Va.	
Rob Hanna	Falls Church	
Hal Lippman	Alexandria	
Bill Wells	Sterling, Va.	
C.W. Watkins		

Monroe Division	American League 3	Centreville
	Chuck Cournoyer	Landsdowne, Va.
	Gary Foltz	Arlington
	Ray Holt	Fairfax
	Eric Garand	
	American League 4	Arlington
	Jesse Christian	Vienna
Chuck Leone		
American League 6	Bristow, Va.	
Dean Dickerson	Oakton	
Don Beless	Fairfax Station	
Bob Davey	Fairfax	
Brian Payne		
American League 8	Haymarket, Va.	
Fred Kallmeyer	Fairfax	
Tony DiDonato	Fairfax	
O.D O'Donnell	Falls Church	
Jerry Reichel		
American League 9	Vienna	
Lew Glasener	Annandale	
Don Meli	Sterling, Va.	
Michael Brazie	Fairfax	
Herman Porter		

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OBITUARY

Barbara McBride

Barbara Mullen McBride, 76, of Millville, Del., formerly of Alexandria, died June 28, at Beebe Medical Center, Lewes, Del. She enjoyed her time as a volunteer for St. Ann's Bazaar, assisting with the Bingo at Shady Grove, and helping with the Readings for Visually Impaired. Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Mullen and Josephine Mullen Wells, and her two brothers, Joseph and Karlin Mullen. She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Byron Meredith McBride of Millville, Del., four daughters, Bonita McBride of Clarksville, Del., Donna Nugent of Alexandria, Joanne McBride of Alexandria, and Penny Deith and her husband Roger of Ocean View, Del., two grandchildren, Sgt. Jason Nugent of Texas, US Army and Kelly Nugent of Alexandria, and two great-grandchildren. Jason Nugent, Jr. and Madison Nugent. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial contributions in her memory be made to the Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation, 6707 Democracy Blvd., Suite 325, Bethesda, MD 20817.

FAITH NOTES

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.

Bethany Lutheran Church, located at 2501 Beacon Hill Road, is sponsoring a series of classes on different aspects of U.S. immigration law. The free classes are scheduled for Saturday afternoons in July and August, and will begin at 12:30 p.m. Each class will start with a presentation followed by a question and answer session. Anyone who has questions about the classes should contact Bethany's office at 703-765-8255.

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 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.

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.

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OBITUARY

Gartlan Mourned by Friends and Family

FROM PAGE 4

came to issues of social and economic justice. He was a tireless and effective advocate for the environment, the mentally and physically disabled, and for abused and neglected children. He spearheaded efforts for funding natural resources and human service programs during his almost three decades of public service. His role was critical in galvanizing the regional efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay.

"He earned the respect of both parties for his intellect, integrity, and force of will. Over the years, he served as chairman of three Senate committees — Courts of Justice, Privileges and Elections, and Rehabilitation and Social Services. He was also a bold and active member of the Senate Finance Committee, where he chaired the Human Services Subcommittee.

"This is a sad day for Virginia, and our hearts are with Senator Gartlan's family and many friends."

In all the tributes to Gartlan, what is not mentioned is that he was a futurist. Not in the sense of science fiction, but rather in the sense of legislative intellect, insight and initiative.

From 1981 to 1987 he served as chairman of the Chesapeake Bay Commission which coordinates public policy by Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania on preserving and enhancing the Bay's ecology. It was Gartlan who had the three states ban phosphate detergents that eventually find their way to the Bay.

He recommended ways to bring Virginia's mental health statutes into the modern psychiatric realm. Something that is still pending even after the Virginia Tech shootings.

He co-sponsored legislation that repealed laws authorizing the sterilization of mentally ill patients

without their consent. That was in 1980.

He sponsored legislation that authorized discretionary powers for judges to determine whether to assign foster children to state social service agencies rather than juvenile detention centers. This resulted in juveniles receiving medical and psychological treatment for disorders that previously landed them in juvenile-justice facilities.

Gartlan summed up his political philosophy with the following observance in his farewell address to the State Senate. "At the end of the day, each of us, I suppose, has a point where wisdom and integrity draw the line. Finding that point is, I suggest, a good definition of our responsibility to the people," he told his fellow senators.

As the standing ovation continued that day, Gartlan said to presiding officer Lt. Governor John H. Hager, seeking the latter's aid in ending the tribute, "Are we done?" For all those he inspired, mentored and offered guidance over his long and distinguished career as a servant of the people, the resounding answer would be, "Never, Senator, never."

Born in Glen Head, NY, Sept. 21, 1925, Joseph V. Gartlan served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946 during World War II. He graduated from Georgetown University, College of Arts and Sciences, in 1949 and received his law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1952. He served in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Melrod, Redman and Gartlan until he turned his attention to the Virginia Senate.

He was a member of Mount Vernon's Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce; Virginia Citizens Consumer Council, Inc.; Knights of Columbus; Chesapeake Bay Com-

mission; Social Action Linking Together (SALT); American College of Trial Lawyers; and a lecturer in law at the University of Virginia Law School.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Fredona Manderfield Gartlan; six children, Michael Gartlan of Fairfax; Peter Gartlan of Alexandria; Paul Gartlan of Coral Gables, Fla.; Joseph V.

Gartlan III of Maui, Hawaii; Joan Gartlan of Washington, D.C.; and Ann Gartlan Steele of Yonkers, N.Y. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, Patrick Gartlan of Fairfax; Kendall Gartlan, Rachel Gartlan and Audrey Gartlan of Alexandria; Paul Gartlan and Catlin Gartlan of Coral Gables, Fla.; and Olivia Steele of Yonkers, N.Y.

A wake was held Tuesday, July

22, at the Demaine Funeral Home in Springfield, with Mass celebrated at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, on Wednesday, July 23. Interment was at Mount Comfort Cemetery followed by a reception at the Belle Haven Country Club.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: New Hope Housing, 8407-E Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA 22309 or United Community Ministries (UCM), 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306.

Legal Notices

OBITUARY



Frank Asbury Lockett (Age 84)

Loving Husband, Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather, on Saturday, July 19, of complications from congestive heart failure. Mr. Lockett was a life long Alexandria resident who worked for Southern Railway for 43 years. He was born in Alexandria, VA, and began working for Southern Railway shortly after graduating from George Washington High School. He retired from Norfolk Southern Railway in 1985 after 43 years of service.

He was a member of the Alexandria School Board during the 1960s and was very active in community affairs, serving on the boards of the Alexandria Hospital, the Alexandria Boys Club, Salvation Army, and on the Finance committee of the Alexandria Downtown Baptist Church. He was also a long time member of Belle Haven Country Club, the Gideons, and the Downtown Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Hazel Copeland Lockett, and their sons, Alan Lockett and his wife Maureen of Burke and Douglas Lockett and his wife Pat of Ashburn, VA; five grandchildren, Brandon, Justin, Kimberly, Patrick, and Lauren; and four great grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to the Everly-Wheatly Funeral Home, 1500 West Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA on Wednesday, July 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Services will be held on Thursday, July 24 at noon. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association.



NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW ALEXANDRIA PLANNING DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND/OR MINOR AMENDMENT

The applicants listed below have requested a special use permit for a change of ownership. The Director of Planning and Zoning may approve the permits unless a request that the application be forwarded to City Council is received by August 7, 2008.

For information about this application, call 703-838-4666 or write to the Alexandria Department of Planning and Zoning, Room 2100, City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

SPECIAL USE PERMIT # 2008-0056

ADDRESS: 3101 Park Center Drive

Request for change ownership of a convenience store.

Applicant: Hyun Jung.

Legal Notices

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No JJ010635-08-00
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Alexandria J & DR Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re
BRIAN MARTINEZ
The object of this suit is to:
Approve the permanency plan submitted by Alexandria DHS with the goal of adoption, and terminate the residual parental rights and responsibilities of the unknown father of Brian Martinez, Born June 8, 1992, son of Maria Martinez
It is ORDERED that the defendant Unknown father appear at the above named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 09/05/2008 at 2:00pm

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Case No JJ020649-01-00
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE § 8.01-316
Alexandria J & DR Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court
Commonwealth of Virginia, in re
NATHANIEL Z. WELDEMISKEL
The object of this suit is to:
CUSTODY/VISITATION
It is ORDERED that the defendant YESHIBELAY WELDEMISKEL FERU appear at the above named Court and protect his or her interests on or before 8/8/2008 at 9:00am

LEGAL NOTICE

After 30 years of practicing General Surgery, the office of Dr. Michael F. Nigro, Jr., located at 4660 Kenmore Avenue, Suite 220, will be closing effective September 30, 2008.

Should you need to contact his office, please call (703) 823-5900 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Legal Notices

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce a public hearing and an information briefing on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality for an air pollution source in the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: July 24, 2008 to August 27, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING: Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, located at 435 Ferdinand Day Drive in the City of Alexandria on August 27, 2008, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

INFORMATION BRIEFING: Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, located at 435 Ferdinand Day Drive in the City of Alexandria on August 27, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

PERMIT NAME: Minor Source Construction Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the Air Pollution Control Board

APPLICANT NAME AND REGISTRATION NUMBER: Virginia Paving Company; Registration No: 70579

FACILITY NAME AND ADDRESS: Virginia Paving Company - Alexandria Asphalt Plant; 5601 Courtney Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22304

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Virginia Paving Company has applied for an amendment to their minor new source review permit allowing the facility to modify and operate one of the two hot mix asphalt plants (Plant 1). The facility is classified as a minor source of air pollution. The proposed amendment to the air permit would allow Virginia Paving Company to operate Plant 1 with a low NOx burner; allows both plants to use natural gas as well as recycled/waste oil and distillate fuel oil; and sets emission limits based on stack tests conducted at the facility. The maximum annual emissions of air pollutants from the facility under the proposed permit are expected to be: 23.2 tons per year of nitrogen oxides; 26.7 tons per year of carbon monoxide 16.0 tons per year of sulfur oxides; 12.6 tons per year of volatile organic compounds and 10.6 tons per year of PM-10 (particulate matter of 10 microns or less). The use of low NOx burners by both plants will reduce total annual emissions from the facility.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST BOARD CONSIDERATION: DEQ accepts comments and requests for Board consideration by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for Board consideration must also include: 1) The reason why Board consideration is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requester, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. Board consideration may be granted if public response is significant and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mr. Ali Khalilzadeh, Department of Environmental Quality; 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, Virginia 22193; Phone: (703) 583-3839; E-mail: akhalilzadeh@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: (703) 583-3821. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment; or at Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Central Library, located at 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22304; Phone: (703) 519-5900.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Former Virginia Senator Joe Gartlan is joined by State Senator Patsy Ticer and Congressman Jim Moran at the 2007 Allies in Prevention Awards luncheon.

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This 12-month position requires eligibility for Virginia licensure in special education, master's degree in education or closely related field, five years successful classroom experience, and expertise in at least one major area of the curriculum.

A detail oriented, team player who is creative and a quick thinker a plus! Please fax resume to 703-913-0089

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

The Mount Vernon House is a 130-unit apart. estab. facility that provides low-income housing for those 62 & older handicapped/disabled as part of a medical/profess. Center in Mt. Vernon, VA. The candidate must have good communication and organization skills. Qualified candidate must have experience in plumbing, electrical, and HVAC Systems. Responsibilities include coordination & completion of apt. vacancies, emergency on-call responses & be able to prioritize maintenance tasks. Full Time 40 hours per/wk. Requires High School Diploma or GED and three to five years work-related experience. Knowledge of MS Office a plus. (A SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT) Employment is subject to background check and skills testing. Starting salary \$42K to 45K. Benefits package includes medical, dental, along w/short-term disability and life ins., 401(k), paid holiday, sick and vacation leave. Mail resume and salary req. to Mt. Vernon House, 8199 Tiswell Drive, Alexandria, VA 22306. Email ltimberlake@MVHouse.org or fax to 703-780-2030.

VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Small animal hospital in Mount Vernon area is looking for a F/T permanent assistant to work in all areas of the hospital. Applicant must be great with customers, hard working and detail oriented. Shift will cover evening and weekend hours. Applicant must be at least 18 years old and have own transportation. Experience preferred. Fax resume to 703-360-1310 or email forthuntah@yahoo.com

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Qualifications:

- Minimum two years of Cash Handling experience
- Bank experience preferred; Comfortable working with numbers
- Experience with spreadsheets and word processing
- Professional, excellent Customer Service skills and Telephone Etiquette
- Strong Organization skills and Attention to Detail
- Extremely Organized & Accurate in an environment with multiple demands
- Availability to work weekend hours is a requirement of the position
- High school diploma or G.E.D.

Applicants should send a letter of interest, resume and three references via email to hmail@mountvernon.org or by postal mail to Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 110, Mount Vernon, VA 22121. Mount Vernon is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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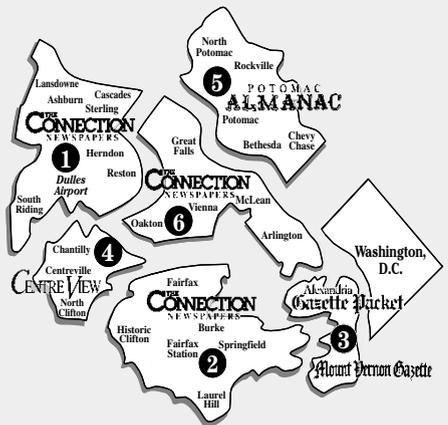
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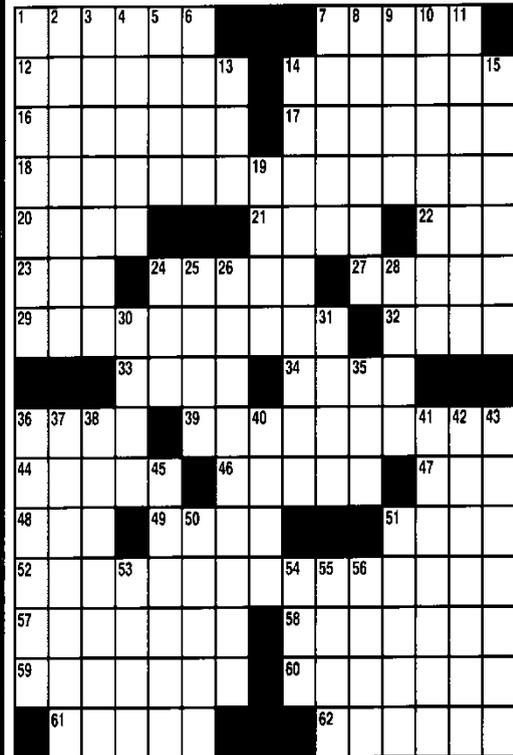
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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0319-3



Puzzle by Mark Diehl

ACROSS

1 Middle name of 7-Across

7 "The Second Coming" poet

12 Like plain paper

14 Monopoly game marker

16 An essential amino acid

17 Sophocles tragedy

18 Place to find keys

20 Scraps

21 One of three pieces

22 Back muscle, familiarly

23 Sport —

24 Son of Indira

27 Kind of pen

29 Place to find keys

32 Hot

33 Buffet

34 Charge too much

36 Riffraff

39 Place to find keys

44 Skater Harding

46 "All That Jazz" director

47 "___ Had It" (1959 hit)

48 Priestly garb

49 Slammer

51 Pianist Gilels

52 Place to find keys

57 Destroyed

58 Take again

59 Keystone Kops producer Mack

60 Distinguishing mark

61 Overhead lighting?

62 Bikini tryouts

9 Chevron competitor

10 Like some heads

11 Notched

13 Center of a ball?

14 Sends by air

15 Sang

19 Pioneer company, since 1972, in computer reservations

24 A.A.A. suggestion

25 Latin conjugation word

26 Canada Day

28 Polynesian carving

30 Prize since 1949

31 Milk dispensers

35 "Where ___ we?"

36 Flow stoppage

37 Cash, in Costa Rica

38 Like rare or medium steak

40 V-chips block it

41 Auto mechanics set them

42 Clear

43 Takes a load off

45 More pale

50 Safari needs

51 Sgt. Bilko

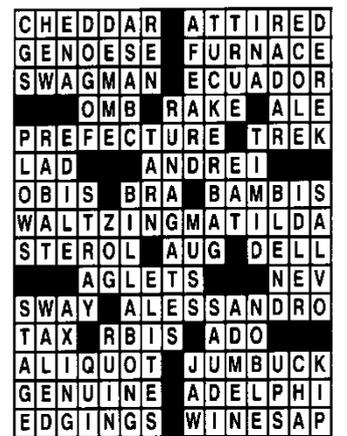
53 Charlie, for one

54 Something many people look forward to: Abbr.

55 River through Yakutsk

56 Kiln

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



DOWN

1 Round

2 Discover

3 Board member

4 ___ into (gets by chance)

5 Artist Nadelman

6 Monthly budget item

7 "Go, team, go!" and others

8 Lifts upright

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Be the first person to fax in the correct crossword puzzle answers each week, and we'll put your name here! Fax the completed puzzle with your name and the puzzle number to the Crossword Puzzle Desk, fax #703-917-0998!

The winner of puzzle #0318-3 is:

F. J. Pepper

Note: Due to space limitations, the crossword may not appear from time to time. In that case, you may look on our Web site: www.connectionnewspapers.com and click on the "Print Editions" button. It should appear in a newspaper from a different Classifieds zone.

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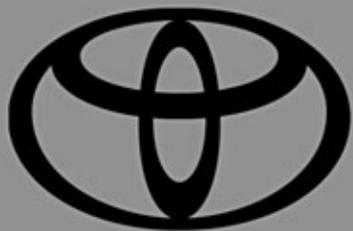
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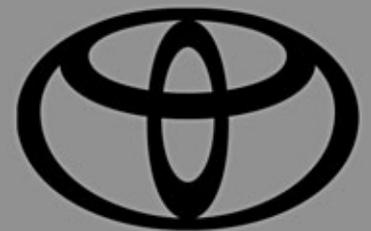
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Russell Road

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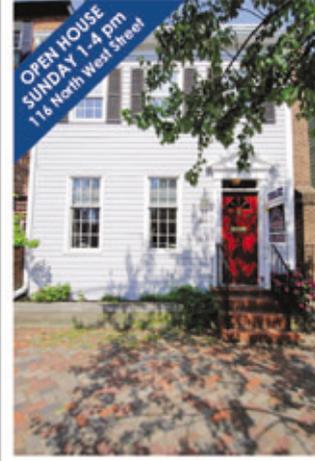
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Wonderfully remodeled, free-standing townhouse just off King Street and steps from Metro and Whole foods. Features include spacious rooms, marble baths, a Juliette balcony, an eat-in gourmet kitchen, and two-car off-street parking. For photos and more information, visit www.paulvander.com.

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8718 Stoneybrooke Lane

Lovely Detached Colonial!

Lovely detached Colonial in Stoneybrooke has so much to offer! This four-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath home is located close to everything including the Metro, Huntley Meadows Park, Fort Belvoir, Old Town, downtown Washington, DC and so much more!

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