

Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

AUGUST 21, 2008

Convicted Killer Granted New Trial

BY KEN MOORE
GAZETTE

Mohammad A. Ahmad was sentenced 12 months ago to 40 years in prison for killing 21-month-old Myles Simon, a toddler his wife cared for in an unlicensed day-care center she operated at their Springfield townhouse.

After convicting Ahmad, then 26, of second-degree murder in May 2007, a Fairfax jury took less than 15 minutes to recommend that the maximum sentence for second-degree murder be imposed.

Myles was just 33 inches tall when he suffered one blow to his head that resulted in complex fractures of his skull and instantaneous death. Myles also suffered one blow to the abdomen that resulted in laceration of his liver and bruising of his kidneys, colon, bladder and diaphragm.

"We hate that our son died a horrible death that no human deserves," Myles' mother, Michelle Leete, testified, at Ahmad's sentencing hearing in August 2007 before Fairfax County Circuit Court Judge Leslie M. Alden. "Life without him is unbearable at times."

ON FRIDAY, Aug. 8, Alden's order granting Ahmad a new trial was entered into the Fairfax County Circuit Court system.

SEE KILLER, PAGE 9



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE

National Democratic Committee Chairman Howard Dean (rear center) is surrounded by admirers following a voter registration rally at Sacramento Center on Rt.1.

Rally To Change The Rolls

Gaining voter registration volunteers was the primary goal.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Even though the Obama "Change" Bus rolled into Sacramento Center nearly 45 minutes later than its scheduled 10 a.m. arrival time Saturday morning, the overwhelmingly partisan crowd greeted it like it was the last life boat off the Titanic.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean and his newfound political cheerleader, Washington Wizards center Etan Thomas, were mobbed as they stepped off the large land cruiser to plead for voter registration volunteers. "Unless you are willing to knock on doors, we are not going to win Virginia. We can't do this without you," Dean told the nearly 150

Obama enthusiasts gathered in front of him on the center's hot parking lot just off the Rt.1 corridor.

"We need your help with every neighborhood. Each of you needs to knock on 25 doors, the same 25 doors, three times between now and election day," Dean said.

"Virginia is a classic state. It has every economic level, every ethnic group, every race. Virginia is a very special place for us. More than one million voted in the Democratic primary here," he said.

"We can't do this without you."

Howard Dean, chairman, Democratic National Committee

THOMAS, WHO SPOKE before Dean, fired up the crowd by spinning off a litany of reasons to vote for Obama and capping

each one with the presumptive Democrat presidential candidate's favorite election campaign slogan that he has used throughout the primary race, "It's time for a change."

"It's time to focus on the issues at hand. We are in desperate need for a new pioneer," Thomas said.

Dean noted the "Change" bus tour began in President Bush's home territory of Crawford, Texas. "We did that on purpose. To show that we can gain public support everywhere. One third of that town's 700 residents came out to greet us," he said.

"This is going to be a very close election. Polls don't mean anything. What counts is getting people to register and then to vote. This election is about

SEE DEAN, PAGE 27



Calling All Shoppers

A new market is open on Upper King Street, serving fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and more.

E



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This classic four-bedroom home has spectacular views of the City. Exquisite detailing transports you to a previous era. However, a gourmet kitchen, new sunroom and other updates give it the comforts of today! The extensive gardens surrounding the home allow for outdoor entertainment. Walk to Metro!

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Amazing 19th century architecture throughout this two-bedroom townhouse with a sun-filled family room overlooking patio and private garden in the back yard. Updated kitchen with double-sided fireplace connects to dining room. Completely refinished master bath and rooftop deck.

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Spacious and light, three-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bath townhouse with pretty porch and deep back yard. Separate dining room, double fireplace. Wide country kitchen, breakfast nook. Tasteful updates include hardwoods, skylights, lights, shutters. Walk to two Metro stations.

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Come home to perfection every night! This three-bedroom home has been expertly renovated from top to bottom. State-of-the-art gourmet kitchen and master bath, wide plank red pine floors, stone fireplaces, and a gorgeous 31-foot x 12-foot back veranda overlooking a huge backyard. Must see!

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You will be charmed by this expanded Cape in Belle Haven with its happy blend of old house details and modern conveniences. Main level bedroom with updated full bath. Lovely back yard with new slate patio and lush green grass. Quiet street with convenient location, one mile to Old Town and Metro.

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There is still time to enjoy the gorgeous back yard, patio, deck and hot tub of this large five-bedroom, renovated split level. Updates include new kitchen with stainless appliances, new garage, new first-floor full bath and mudroom. Flexible floor plan includes a generous rec room and attic expansion bonus room.

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From the outside this brick home seems like just a welcoming cozy cottage, but inside, you'll find all the room you need and more! Six bedrooms (all generously sized), formal living room and dining room. Expansive lower level recreation room...all on 1/3-acre lot. Freshly painted on the outside with new roof.

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This fully updated beauty boasts a gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops, stainless refrigerator, Miele dishwasher, Dacor stove and microwave; granite vanities; wood floors on the main level; built-in bookcases; crown molding; and master bedroom with fireplace, sitting room, and luxury bath.

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An Ace on Ancell

Don't miss this gorgeous Warwick Village end unit townhouse with a great new feel. Kitchen is bright and open with breakfast bar, granite counters, columns, and cabinets galore! Living room with shiny hardwoods and upstairs find three bedrooms with wall-to-wall carpeting. Finished lower level too.

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ALEXANDRIA/DEL RAY \$724,900



Pure Charm, Prime Location

A classic brick four-square (approx 2,000 sq.ft.) with four bedrooms (all up) and two-and-a-half baths on three levels. Nine-foot ceilings. Original transoms, heart of pine wood floors, wood trim. Family room addition with skylights and fireplace. Main level library with custom built-ins. Welcoming front porch.

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THIS WEEK IN MOUNT VERNON

Economic Conditions Add To Charity Needs

More than 10,000 individuals representing an estimated 4,000 households received help from United Community Ministries during fiscal year 2008, according to Cynthia N. Hull, UCM's executive director. That represents an increase of more than 1,000 from the previous year, Hull said.

"At a time when the economy and job market continue to worsen and consumer prices for basic goods continue to increase, more and more families are unable to put adequate food on the table, pay their rent and utilities, put gas in their cars and cover the necessities of life," Hull said.

"UCM's program participants are working, many at more than one job, yet stagnant wages do not stretch to cover high prices," she said. UCM is presently seeking community aid in filling back-to-school backpacks with necessary school supplies. For additional information on how to help visit the UCM Web site at www.ucmagency.org.

SFDC Receives Grant

Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation has received a \$5,000 grant from Fairfax County for its wayfinding signage initiative. Funds will be used for fabrication and implementation of signs designed to guide travelers to destinations along Richmond Highway, according to Lara Fritts, SFDC's executive director.

Facilitated by the County's Neighborhood Services, the grant is part of the Neighborhood Partnership Program. Out of 48 applicants, only 25 were chosen to receive funding. SFDC's application was recognized as "one of the top-ranked proposals," according to an accompanying award announcement letter.

"This is another huge step forward as the Wayfinding Initiative moves closer to fabrication and installation. We are very excited to receive this grant," Fritts said.

SFDC's Wayfinding Initiative is a joint effort with RMJM Hillier of Philadelphia, the Virginia Department of Transportation, Fairfax County, and community stakeholders to aid travelers in locating commercial, historic, and cultural sites along the Route 1 corridor. Using historic images and design elements, the signs also create a consistent image among shopping centers and office buildings that make up the 7.5 mile corridor, according to the grant announcement.

Rt.1 Businesses Receive Facade Improvement Grants

Two businesses along the Route 1 corridor are in line to receive Fairfax County grants to upgrade and beautify their buildings, according to the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) which administers the Facade Improvement Grant Program.

Joe Shifflett HVAC and the Gum Springs Shopping Center will receive up to \$25,000 each. The grants are based on a percentage of what the business invests in the improvements with a \$25,000 grant cap. Thus far, the program has fostered \$1.2 million of private investment in building upgrades since 2002, according to Lara Fritts, SFDC's executive director.

SFDC's Design Review Committee supported architectural renderings and improvements for the Shifflett structure at 8123 Richmond Highway, formerly Casa Furniture, and initial design funding for the shopping center at 7851 Richmond Highway. That committee is composed of SFDC Board members, local business and property owners and Fairfax County staff.

Thus far, five businesses along Richmond Highway have received Facade Improvement grants since the program began. It provides a 50-50 grant up to \$25,000, Fritts explained. The program also includes free conceptual design services provided by an architect.

SEE NEWS, PAGE 10



Donna Adams, a member of Wesley United Methodist Church, offers fresh peaches to those attending the church's 2008 Peach Festival.

PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE

Peachy Stay-cation For All

If it's August — it must be the Peach Festival.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

For the seventh year in a row, residents from throughout southeastern Fairfax County, Alexandria and surrounding areas flocked to Wesley United Methodist Church last Saturday to enjoy and participate in their annual Peach Festival. This year even the weather was peachy.

"We are very thankful for this great, cool weather this year," said Wesley UMC pastor Tony Forstall. "I also think we're more relaxed about this event this year."

Adding to this year's crowd, which usually exceeds 500 over the four hours of the festival, were members of All Nations Methodist Church of Ghana. "We've adopted that church in the last year and many of their members are here today to enjoy the festival and the peaches," Forstall said.

In addition to an array of food including charcoal grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, there was entertainment from Triple I Entertainment "Karaoke and DJ Services," Terry's School of Dance, a moonbounce room, a dunk tank, a variety of children's games, face painting, horseshoes, and a host of other activities for all ages.

The Mason Neck Lions Club offered free vision, hearing and blood pressure testing in a medical van supplied by club's District headquarters. "We have 67 clubs in this District that utilize two of these type vans," said Dave Collyer, a Mason Neck club member and driver of Saturday's van.

"We've been coming to this event for the past four years. But, the vans have been in service since 1975. Both of them are somewhere every weekend," he said. There was also a contingent from the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

OF COURSE, the real draw to the festival is the variety of peach desserts and dishes prepared by church volunteers. They range from peach cobbler to peach pie to peach ice cream sundaes and many other recipes. The peaches for the past couple of years have been purchased from Rohrer's Market on Rich-



Three performers from Triple I Entertainment present their version of The Blues Brothers during Wesley United Methodist Church's 2008 Peach Festival.

mond Highway.

Attendees could also purchase peaches being sold by church member Donna Adams. Sitting in the shade of a large oak tree, Adams had several boxes of peaches available for purchase. "I've been pretty busy so far and we've just gotten underway," she said.

One of the big attractions each year are the model railroading displays in the church's Fellowship Hall. Beginning in 2007 the regular HO Gauge model railroad layout was joined by an entire new display designed and operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Lego Train Club.

Set up on the Fellowship Hall stage, every item in the display is built out of Legos — including the trains. This year's eye-catching attraction was a four foot tall model of the Eiffel Tower.

The HO display featured multiple trains, freight and passenger, as well as other operating features such as a roller coaster and tilt-a-whirl in a model amusement park. Again this year, that display was the work of the Crescent Model Railroaders.

The festival was free and welcomed attendees from near and far. It is viewed by church members as an integral part of their community outreach program. And, judging by the crowd its success is increasing each year.

Fimian Has Cash Advantage over Connolly

Republican campaign is among wealthiest for an open seat.

By JULIA O'DONOGHUE
GAZETTE

Republican Keith Fimian has continued to out fund-raise Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) in the race to replace Rep. Tom Davis in Virginia's 11th congressional district.

Fimian had raised nearly \$1.3 million to Connolly's \$936,484 as of June 30. The Republican, who has never run for public office before, has an even bigger advantage when it comes to "cash on hand" – money that has not already been spent by the campaign.

Fimian, who did not face a Republican primary opponent, still had nearly \$1 million in the bank in the end of June. Connolly, who faced three Democratic challengers in an expensive primary June 9, had only \$275,990 at the same point.

Fimian also performs well in fundraising when compared to his peers across the country. According to Congressional Quarterly, Fimian is the fifth best-financed candidate in the nation competing for an open seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Among Republicans in that same category, he is ranked second.

"Keith is an extremely good networker. Because he started his business from scratch, he had to be a good salesman," said Zack Condry, Fimian's campaign manager, of his candidate's fund-raising success.

THE FIMIAN CAMPAIGN said their candidate's fund-raising ability has attracted

11th Congressional District Top Financial Contributors

This following is a list of the top contributors for Democrat Gerry Connolly and Republican Keith Fimian, candidates for U.S. Congress in Virginia's 11th Congressional district. Data only includes congressional campaign donations from Jan. 1 2007

to June 20 2008.

When a company or organization's donation is listed, the organization itself does not give the money to the campaign. Rather, the money listed is compilation of donations made by the

organization's political action committee, employees, owners, members and those immediate family members of the organization's employees, owners and members. The following is provided by www.opensecrets.org.

Gerry Connolly (D)

| Name | Industry | Money (2007-08) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Lerner Enterprises | Real Estate | \$20,150 |
| Peterson Enterprises | Real Estate Development | \$18,400 |
| SAIC Inc.* | High Tech/Defense/Intelligence | \$15,550 |
| West Group | Real Estate Development | \$9,950 |
| Envirosolutions | Waste Collection/Recycling | \$6,900 |
| MVM, Inc. | Security/Government Contracting | \$6,900 |

* Connolly is an employee for SAIC

Keith Fimian (R)

| Name | Industry | Money (2007-08) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Dittmar Co. | Real Estate Development | \$11,200 |
| Dacor | Not available | \$9,200 |
| IBM Corp. | Software/Computers/Mobile Devices | \$9,200 |
| Park Ridge Community Bank | Banking | \$9,200 |
| Reality Mobile | Communications/Mobile Devices | \$9,200 |

some attention, both from donors and the political leadership of both parties.

Condry said Fimian's financial advantage over Connolly — who has held a elected office in Fairfax County since the mid-1990s — has caused some political insiders to rate the 11th District as a "top targeted race" instead of one that leans Democratic.

"Keep in mind, until a month or month and a half ago, Gerry Connolly was this entrenched politician that couldn't be beat. Now, Keith has a three-to-one cash advantage and they are starting to pay attention," said Condry, adding, "This is definitely a top race. Lots of folks have it rated that way and Keith's fund-raising abilities is one of the reasons why."

Recently, Fimian has started to put his large amount of cash to good work. The campaign announced on Aug. 12 that it would be purchasing advertising time on broadcast television during the Olympics. Condry said Fimian would continue to have presence on television until the Nov. 4 election.

"The [television ad] helps us draw a great contrast between Keith and career politician Gerry Connolly," said Condry.



Keith Fimian



Gerry Connolly

BUT IT IS going to take a lot more than a fund-raising advantage or television advertising to beat Connolly, according to the Democrat's campaign.

"He would have to spend \$100 million to even compete with the reputation Gerry has," said James Walkinshaw, Connolly's campaign manager.

Two-thirds of the 11th Congressional District is located in Fairfax County, where Connolly has served as chairman since 2004. Walkinshaw said Connolly is popular, winning his last election for county chairman in November 2007 with nearly 60 percent of the vote. In the June 10 Democratic primary, Connolly also beat out his three opponents with nearly 58 percent of the vote.

Internal polling in mid-July also showed that Connolly has a 52 percent to 21 percent advantage over Fimian in the 11th Congressional District, said Walkinshaw. He added that this polling shows Connolly farther ahead of his Gary Baise, the Republican Connolly faced in his 2007 election, or Leslie Byrne, his most formidable primary opponent in June.

"The recent polling shows that he is well known and well liked. He starts with a significant lead because he produced results," for Fairfax County, said Kyra Jennings with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

Jennings said that Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and other in the Democratic congressional leadership are not concerned

about Connolly's ability to raise money.

"Chairman Connolly has shown himself to be a prolific fund-raiser before and he will be able to put together a significant amount of resources," said Jennings.

The Democrat Congressional Campaign Committee has already "reserved" \$1.3 million worth television advertising specifically for Connolly, according to documents obtained by The Connection.

FIMIAN'S ABILITY to raise money does not necessarily reflect support in the district either.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Fimian has raised just 41 percent of money inside the state of Virginia. By contrast, Connolly has raised nearly 77 percent of his money in Virginia.

The Center for Responsive Politics also reports that only one of Fimian's top 10 fund-raising ZIP codes is actually located inside the 11th congressional district whereas six of Connolly's top ten fund-raising ZIP codes are located in the 11th congressional district.

Additionally, Fimian, who owns one of the nation's leading home inspection businesses, has contributed \$325,000 of his personal money to his campaign. Connolly works part-time at SAIC, Inc. in addition to his job as county chairman and

has contributed no personal money to the campaign.

"Absolutely not. We do not think his money is an indication of support from the district," said Walkinshaw, adding, "the fact that he has self-financed his campaign has done a lot to motivate our supporters."

Condry said Fimian's successful is a reflection of support both inside and outside the 11th congressional district.

"He is getting support both in the district and throughout the country. He has a lot of friends and those friends support him running for congress," said Condry.

11th District Top Industry Contributions

The following is a list of which industries are contributing most to Democrat Gerry Connolly and Republican Keith Fimian, the candidates running for U.S. Congress in Virginia's 11th Congressional District. The data covers congressional campaign

contributions from Jan. 1 2007 through June 30 2008. It does not include contributions from Connolly's campaign for Fairfax County Chairman.

Information provided by the Center for Responsive Politics, www.opensecrets.org.

Gerry Connolly (D)

| Industry | Contributions |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Real Estate | \$118,500 |
| Retired | \$54,914 |
| Lawyers/Law Firms | \$41,650 |
| Business Services | \$37,000 |
| Defense Electronics | \$17,550 |
| Computers/Internet | \$13,509 |
| Construction Services | \$12,100 |
| Candidate Committees | \$10,000 |
| Unions* | \$10,000 |
| Finance* | \$9,900 |
| Lobbyists | \$9,350 |
| General Contractors | \$9,300 |
| Civil Servants/Public Officials | \$8,600 |
| Automotive | \$7,550 |
| Miscellaneous Business | \$7,101 |
| Education | \$6,600 |
| Public Sector Unions | \$5,750 |
| Securities and Investment | \$5,600 |
| Home Builders | \$5,550 |
| Business Associations | \$5,000 |
| Political Leadership | \$5,000 |

*Excluding some who fit into other categories

Keith Fimian (R)

| Industry | Contributions |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Retired | \$62,100 |
| Real Estate | \$60,050 |
| Securities and Investment | \$45,150 |
| Lawyers/Law Firms | \$32,275 |
| Computers/Internet | \$28,850 |
| Commercial Banks | \$21,650 |
| Finance* | \$19,250 |
| Accountants | \$19,150 |
| Construction Services | \$12,250 |
| Health Professionals | \$11,200 |
| Food & Beverage | \$10,200 |
| Business Services | \$9,450 |
| General Contractors | \$7,600 |
| Air Transport | \$5,600 |
| Republican/Conservative | \$5,450 |
| Candidate Committees | \$5,139 |
| Education | \$5,100 |
| Insurance | \$5,050 |
| Political Leadership | \$5,000 |
| Miscellaneous Business | \$4,850 |

*Excluding some who fit into other categories

"We do not think his money is an indication of support from the district."

— said James Walkinshaw

ENGAGEMENT

Buchholz and Farnsworth Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Buchholz of Mount Vernon, proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeannette Drew to Jeffrey Lee Farnsworth, son of Mrs. Norman Farnsworth of Hallowell, Maine and the late Mr. Farnsworth. The bride to be is the maternal granddaughter of Mrs. Walter Smalling of Alexandria.

Jeannette is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and North Carolina State University and is employed by the Maine House of Representatives Clerk's Office. Jeffrey is a graduate of the University of Maine and of Lesley College and is an operations manager with Fairpoint.

A late August wedding at McLaughlin Gardens in South Paris, Maine is planned.

To have any type of announcement put in the Mount Vernon Gazette, send an e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Obituaries, school graduations, dean's list, weddings, engagements and other accomplishments can be sent. For questions, call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407. Deadline is Thursday at noon for following week's paper. Pictures accepted.

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Alex/Mt. Vernon \$689,900
9200 Forest Haven

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



Alex/Stratford \$649,000
8424 Porter Lane

Large Beautiful Cape Cod-Gramercy Model w/ 5BRs, 4BAs & 2 Fireplaces. 3 finished lvls including main lvl Master BR & MBA plus an office. UL boasts 4BRs & full bath. Beautiful updated country kitchen w/hardwood floor & lovely breakfast room, plus a separate formal dining room. Lower level

offers a family room, den, full bath, 2 lg utility/workshop areas & walk out to a spectacular .34 acre lot backing to woods & Little Hunting Creek. Location, size & beautiful landscaping give this home outstanding curb appeal & value!



Alex/Wessynton \$619,000
8806 Anne Tucker Lane

Lovely 4 bedrooms, 3 bath contemporary on a quiet cul-de-sac in premier water-oriented Wessynton. Pristine-freshly painted interior & newly refinished hardwood floors. 2 FPLs in living room & family room. Tons of storage.

Beautiful patio overlooks designer garden & woods. Totally serene. This is Walden Woods! Community tennis courts, pool & boat ramp. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir; 1 minute to Mt. Vernon Estate & GW Parkway.



Prince William/Four Seasons \$459,000
17185 Four Season Drive

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



Alex/Van Dorn \$394,500
4862 Eisenhower Ave #168

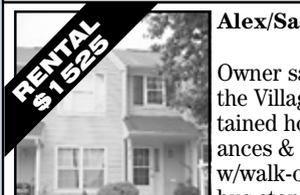
Exchange at Van Dorn's former model & largest unit @ 1284 Sq Ft w/2BRs plus a den! Top of the line granite counters & maple cabinets in kitchen & both bathrooms. tile floors in kitchen, baths & foyer. G.E. profile stainless steel appliances-walk-in closets in both bedrooms. Wood floors in living room, dining room & den-spacious plus prime location: Walk .5

mile to VanDorn Metro, Metro bus to Van Dorn & Eisenhower Metro-Quick access to 495, Kingstown Towne Ctr & Cameron Run Regional Pk-This is a 10!



Alex/Mt. Vernon \$368,500
8700 Oak Leaf Drive

Charming Cape Cod on a large .55 acre cul-de-sac lot abutting county park land. Best buy in Mt. Vernon. Ideal for expansion, newly refinished hardwood floors. Can't find a home in Mt. Vernon any cheaper! Come take a look.



Alex/Sacramento \$244,900
8702 Village Green Court

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

RENTAL \$1525

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From Mount Vernon To Mount Vernon

The ties that bind are strengthened through a family's reunion.

By CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

There are families. And, then there are historical families. Ones that date to the founding of this nation.

Last Saturday at Martin Luther King Jr. Park, adjacent to the Gum Springs Community Center, one such historical family held its 30th reunion within the shadow of where it all began—George Washington's home at Mount Vernon Estate.

The Harrison-Proctor-Carter family traces its roots on this soil to serving on the plantation of America's first President.

Now scattered throughout this nation, and abroad, they convene every two years at different locations to equitably distribute the travel distances. But, Mount Vernon District, and particularly the community of Gum Springs, is ground zero.

“The family originated at Mount Vernon. Our ancestors were early family servants at Washington's plantation,” said life-long Gum Springs resident and an organizer of the bi-annual event, Louis Carter, Sr.

“Our first family reunion was here in Gum Springs in 1978. We meet ev-

“We originally started these reunions ... to strengthen African-American families.”
—Louis Carter, Sr.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE
Louis Carter, Sr., (left) of Gum Springs is joined by his wife Ericka (right) and his brother James (center), from Florida, during the Harrison-Proctor-Carter family reunion at Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

ery two years at a different location. In 2000 it was also here, then in 2002 it was in Buffalo, N.Y. In 2004 we gathered in Boston and in 2006 we held it on Long Island,” he said. “Our family has moved around a lot. We are now spread out across the country,” Carter said.

“We originally started these reunions because we wanted to strengthen African-American families. To prove that we could remain close as a family unit even though we were scattered geographically,” he said.

“It also serves to give our young people a sense of belonging and guidance. It has paid off. Since we have started this custom we have seen a definite increase in our kids finishing high school and going on to college,” Carter explained.

“We also have diversity in our family,” he said. Carter's wife, Erika, is a native of Darmstadt, Germany.

A THREE-DAY EVENT, the reunion began Friday evening

at Woodlawn United Methodist Church with a fellowship dinner and concluded there with a worship service followed by a family awards ceremony. Saturday's outdoor event was a catered Hawaiian Luau.

At each reunion awards are given to recognize various elements of family responsibility. The Nellie Carter Award recognizes a family mother. The Albert Carter Award does the same for a father. And, the Brotherhood Award goes to a family member who has shown particular support for another family member, according to Louis Carter.

This year's Brotherhood Award was given to his brother, James Carter, who resides in Florida. “It encourages family members to look after one another,” Louis said. Their sister, Marian Bouie, from Buffalo, N.Y., was also in attendance.

“When my father died in 1999 he had 78 grand and great-grandchildren. And, the very day he died another one was born,” he said.

Vernell Carter, originally from Newport News, Va., married into the family and now resides in Gum Springs. Her husband, Vincent Carter, began to trace the family through Ancestry.com and eventually got other family members interested and involved.

“So far he has 300 plus names entered into the system. He has traced his family



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE
Booker T and Keyan Washington

thus far to 1850,” Vernell Carter said. She was joined at the reunion by her sister-in-law, Karen Stevenson from Buffalo, N.Y.

The next reunion will be in 2010. The location has yet to be determined.



Dawn Washington waits as a flower is put in her hair.

Huntington Station Garage: Wave Of The Future

As ridership builds so does competition for station parking.

By CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

With gasoline prices higher than ever commuters are not turning to alternative fuel. They're turning to alternative means of transportation. At the top of that list is Metro, primarily Metrorail.

But, there's two hitches — getting to the station and then finding a place to park at the station. For those using the Yellow Line, which starts and ends at Huntington Station and serves many commuters from Lee and Mount Vernon districts in southeastern Fairfax County, the cavalry has arrived to save the day.

On Thursday, Aug. 14, a new \$31.1 million, six-level parking facility for 1,424 vehicles was officially opened. It has 500 more spaces than the 924 space surface lot it replaces. Huntington Station now provides parking for 3,558 vehicles in three garages and two Kiss & Ride lots.

"It's a great day to celebrate the opening of this new garage," said Lee District Su-

pervisor Jeffrey McKay during the ribbon cutting ceremony.

"This new parking garage at Huntington will provide significant benefits to our customers who use this station every day, and it will help alleviate traffic congestion in the Huntington area," said McKay, a Metro Board member.

"We are seeing record numbers of riders in the system. This garage has been long sought-after by commuters. And, it also aids in our revitalization of the Route 1 corridor," he said.

"This project will create a real quality mixed-use center that epitomizes the type of smart growth that we need all around our transit stations," McKay said.

Metro signed a joint agreement with Stout & Teague and Clark Realty Capital in November 2002 to develop a 60-acre parcel of land adjacent to the Huntington Station on Huntington Avenue.

It calls for the development of 55 town houses, 420 low-rise multi-family units, 175 high-rise condominiums, 250,000 square feet of office space and 30,000 square feet of street level retail. It also provides for 12 acres to be set aside for the Fairfax County Park authority.

Part of that agreement called for the construction of the new garage on the east side of the Metro Rail station. The construction



"It's a great day to celebrate the opening of this new garage."
Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The new garage at Huntington Station

began in October 2006.

Funding for the new parking facility comes from a mixture of Fairfax County Transportation Infrastructure Investment Funds, Fairfax County surcharge funds and County capital funds. "We would like to have seen it completed sooner but we're very happy it is open," McKay said.

Parking at Metro-operated parking facilities is free on weekends and holidays. The weekday rate at Huntington Station is \$4.50 if the vehicle owner takes a Metrorail trip using the same SmarTrip card to pay for the rail trip and parking. Riders can also take Metro and Fairfax County Connector buses to and from the station.

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OPINION

Local Olympians

Kudos to them, every one, for being there.

Lost somewhere in the quest for gold and medal counts and world records of the Olympics is appreciation for the effort and talent it takes to qualify, to go, to be an Olympian, whether or not an athlete comes home with a medal of any color.

Last week, we celebrated Justin Spring of Burke who contributed to U.S. winning bronze in men's team gymnastics.

We're proud of Kate Ziegler of Great Falls, who showed wisdom beyond her years in interviews after she failed to make the finals of either of her two events. The 20-year-old George Mason University student was disappointed, but smiled and said: "Even though I had disappointing swims, I still am an Olympian. ... I went to the Olympics. I'm going to enjoy my experience. This is ... the end of this four-year chapter, but I

feel like I'm just ... beginning on my way."

Ziegler's best event actually isn't even an Olympic sanctioned race. The four-time world record holder shattered Janet Evans' 18-year world record time by 10 seconds in the 1,500 in October 2007. (The 1,500 is only for men in the Olympics.)

EDITORIAL

Two McLean High graduates, Giuseppe Lanzone and Sam Stitt, are both members of the U.S.

Rowing Team and are rowing in the Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The two were McLean Highlander rowing team members during the spring of 2000. The Highlanders finished undefeated that season and earned several medals in several major regattas.

Lanzone, an All-Met rower that season, went on to row collegiately at the University of Washington. Stitt, meanwhile, com-

peted in the sport at Rutgers University. Lanzone came to the United States from Peru and eventually became a U.S. citizen.

These two young men spent 10 years of hard work in hopes of making the 2008 Olympics' Team.

Kara Lawson, who enjoyed a standout career at West Springfield and who was named among the Connection's Top-100 Athletes of all time, is on U.S. Women's Olympic basketball team.

Lawson, a 5-foot-10 guard for the WNBA's Sacramento Monarchs, will make her first Olympic appearance. She is a Tennessee graduate.

At West Springfield, she led the Spartans to the 1997 and 1998 Virginia Class AAA state crowns and perfect 30-0 seasons. In college, she led the Lady Vols to a 126-17 (.881) record, four Southeastern Confer-

ence (SEC) regular season titles, the 2000 SEC Tournament crown, and four NCAA Tournaments where UT advanced to the 2001 Sweet Sixteen, 2002 Final Four and 2000 and 2003 championship games.

And Northern Virginia will be represented by at least two athletes in Beijing this year. Tyler Byers of Sterling and Josh George of Herndon were the first two American finishers in the wheelchair division of the L.A. Marathon in March, making them automatic competitors in the marathon event of the Paralympics, which will follow the Olympic games in September.

If you know of local Olympic athletes we've failed to mention (and we're sure there are), please let me know.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM.
703-917-6416

LETTERS

Need Further Analysis

To the Editor:

Your editorial ["Seeking More Diversity at TJ," Connection, July 31-Aug. 6, 2008] demonstrates a lack of understanding of the key difference between TJ and the base high schools.

All Fairfax County high schools offer advanced (AP or IB) math and science classes. All Fairfax County high schools provide students with opportunities to participate in science fairs. However, only TJ offers a multitude of post-AP math and science classes and related co-curricular activities for students who want to go far beyond the normal high school math and science programs.

It makes no sense to reserve seats at TJ for students whose needs can be met at their local high schools just because they live in certain neighborhoods or belong to certain racial groups. Under the admissions process proposed in the editorial, more students who would take advantage of unusually advanced TJ math and science options would be denied that opportunity because they are from "overrepresented" groups.

As a long-time TJ parent and volunteer, I have seen first-hand how TJ students who excel in math are far more likely to take advantage of TJ's most advanced offerings in math and science. TJ students with

weaker math skills often seek out the easiest ways to satisfy TJ's math and science requirements, and gravitate towards activities available in all high schools, such as the yearbook, student paper, student government, and sports.

The Connection's editorial assumes that students who enjoy science in elementary school will become "leaders in math or science" even if they don't have good test scores. There is no proof for that assumption. In fact, research suggests the opposite is true.

Before Fairfax County revamps the TJ admissions process yet again in search of diversity, Fairfax County should gather, analyze and publish data — including middle and high school math test scores — regarding TJ graduates who majored in math, science or engineering, versus TJ graduates who majored in non-STEM subjects such as journalism, business, or history. The results of that analysis should be more important than the percentage of TJ students from "underrepresented" groups.

Louise Epstein
McLean

Build Another TJ

To the Editor:

Your solution to a perceived "diversity problem" at Thomas Jefferson High School

is to discriminate against the most qualified student applicants so as to favor a to-be-determined quota of less qualified applicants through racial and ethnic discriminators ["Seeking More Diversity at TJ," Connection, July 31-Aug. 6, 2008].

If there are 2,400 applicants for 450 slots, it is clear that FCPS needs another high school of science and technology (maybe two or even three with one in each cardinal direction of the county) to accommodate the next 450 applicants who most likely would benefit from the same curricula and level of instruction. Either build another high school of this kind or better still convert a run-of-the-mill high school to the science and technology standards in another geographic part of the county. Then assign students to the closest school of this kind. Not all of the 2,400 applicants may have had a fair chance of admission based on their records, but if most of them were good candidates for admission, the answer is to offer as many as possible the same type of education.

Admitting less-qualified students on the basis of enthusiasm or geographic locations is failed social activism, no stranger to the liberal leadership of Fairfax County. No matter how you phrase it, you advocate letting students in the back door by lowering standards while keeping out those who do meet the standards. No one will question why there are so many white Americans on

the U.S. swimming and gymnastics teams at the Olympics or why there are so many black Americans in track and field and basketball. Excellence is not determined by birthright, it is determined by effort, talent and discipline.

Those who are admitted to Thomas Jefferson are more often than not those who worked the hardest to gain admittance not those who possess the rawest intelligence or the deepest pockets.

Christopher Thompson
West Springfield

Write

The Gazette 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
Mount Vernon Gazette
Call: 703-917-6431.
By e-mail:
maweber@connectionnewspapers.com

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New Trial Granted For Convicted Killer

FROM PAGE 1

Jillian O. Ahmad, the prosecution's key witness, was apprehended by police as a material witness just before the Ahmad's three-day trial in May 2007.

But prosecutors failed to notify the defense that Jillian Ahmad was in possession of approximately a half ounce of marijuana and \$1,200 in cash when she was arrested. She was not charged with any crime.

In granting the new trial, Judge Alden wrote: "The court concludes that in the absence of disclosure of the evidence, the Defendant did not receive a fair trial ending in a verdict worthy of confidence."

"Had the Defendant been aware of the undisclosed information, he may reasonably have taken different and potentially significant actions which could have strengthened his defense," she wrote in her opinion letter dated July 25, 2008.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys are expected to schedule a new trial date later this month.

THE CASE against Mohammad Ahmad rested on Jillian Ahmad, defense attorney Jonathan Shapiro told Judge Alden in arguments last February, during a post-trial "Motion for Disclosure of Exculpatory and Favorable Evidence and for a New Trial."

"Any competent lawyer would have used this information at trial to impeach this witness. It was evidence for the jury to consider," said Shapiro, who began representing Ahmad with Peter D. Greenspun after Ahmad was convicted. "I guarantee it would have been employed to the hilt in this trial."

Prosecutors argued that they had corroborated Jillian Ahmad's testimony, and that disclosing the arrest would not have made any difference in the outcome of the trial.

"The evidence in this case was beyond any doubt, it was overwhelming," said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kathryn S. Swart during the post-trial hearing.

"We corroborated every single thing in this case that Ms. Ahmad said. We wanted to make sure she was telling the truth," she said. "This would not have made any difference in this case."

But Judge Alden wrote that Jillian Ahmad had incentive to help the prosecution obtain a conviction against her husband — to avoid being charged for possession of marijuana.

"This possibility of a reward that Ms. Ahmad perceived gave her a direct, personal stake in the Defendant's conviction. This stake, coupled with the idea that Mr. Ahmad's conviction would satisfy the Commonwealth and deflect attention away from her, gave Ms. Ahmad a powerful motiva-

tion to testify favorably for the Commonwealth," wrote Alden.

This gave Jillian Ahmad "incentive to testify falsely in order to secure a conviction" of her husband, wrote Alden.

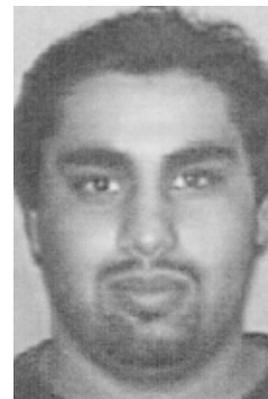
Alden also said that the evidence of Jillian Ahmad's drug abuse would have supported a defense theory. "The Defendant contended that Ms. Ahmad's drug abuse contributed to her lack of credibility and provided a motive for her to abuse the victim," Alden wrote.

But Jillian Ahmad denied that she was a drug user during the trial.

"Ms. Ahmad appears to be the only eye witness to testify regarding the circumstances of the injury, and the only other potential perpetrator in this case, thus increasing the significance of her testimony," wrote Judge Alden in overturning Mohammad Ahmad's conviction.

JILLIAN AHMAD operated an unlicensed day-care center out of the townhouse she shared with her husband on the 6400 block of Silver Ridge Circle in Kingstowne.

On Sept. 12, 2006, Jillian Ahmad left at 9 a.m. to buy milk, juice and snacks at Wal-Mart, leaving four children under 4-years



FILE PHOTO

Mohammad Ahmad

old in the care of her husband.

But Jillian Ahmad first visited a friend before going to Wal-Mart, a friend her husband didn't allow her to call on the phone, she testified during Ahmad's three-day trial in May 2007. Her husband called her on her cell phone almost 20 times while she was at the friend's house.

In one of the calls, Mohammad Ahmad told

his wife that Myles was getting tired and sleepy. In another call, he yelled, "Hurry up and get the hell home," Jillian Ahmad testified during the trial.

When she returned, Myles' eyes were rolled back and his lips were blue. "I started screaming, 'What happened, what happened?' He said, 'I don't know, he just passed out,'" she testified.

She told her husband to call 911.

"He said, 'No, just fix it,'" according to her testimony.

Mohammad Ahmad was arrested three days later at the Westway Motor Inn in New York, two miles from LaGuardia International Airport on Sept. 15, 2006.

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NEWS

FROM PAGE 3

SFDC helps participants locate an architect to design property improvements including signage, site/access design, landscaping and facilities support and funding from the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment. For additional information visit www.SFDC.org.

Fire Damages House

An abandoned one and a half story, single-family house and connected mobile home at 8509 Greenleaf St., Mount Vernon District, were damaged by fire on Sunday, Aug. 17, according to the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department. There were no reported injuries.

Firefighters encountered the blaze at approximately 6:55 p.m. in the Woodlawn area of southeastern Fairfax County. Upon arrival they found fire coming from the front of the house and extending to an abandoned mobile home connected to the house by a covered, attached walkway.

Firefighters brought the fire under control in approximately 30 minutes. It did not spread to other nearby mobile homes, according to the Fire Department. No esti-

mate of damage was reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Suspect Arrested

Fairfax County Police have arrested Donald Lee Hinton, 45, of no fixed address, in the Aug. 17 stabbing of a 45-year-old woman and her seven-year-old son in the 7800 block of Audubon Ave. in Mount Vernon District. He was apprehended at approximately 2:45 a.m. Aug. 18 on a park bench next to the ball field of George Washington Middle School in Alexandria City.

The woman and her son were stabbed shortly before noon Sunday. They were transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital where the woman remains under treatment, according to police. The boy was not seriously injured, police said. Police described the attack as a "domestic incident."

Hinton was arrested after a passing motorist spotted him near the intersection of Patrick and Duke streets in the City of Alexandria at approximately 1:30 a.m. Alexandria City police responded and located Hinton on the park bench. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with malicious wounding.

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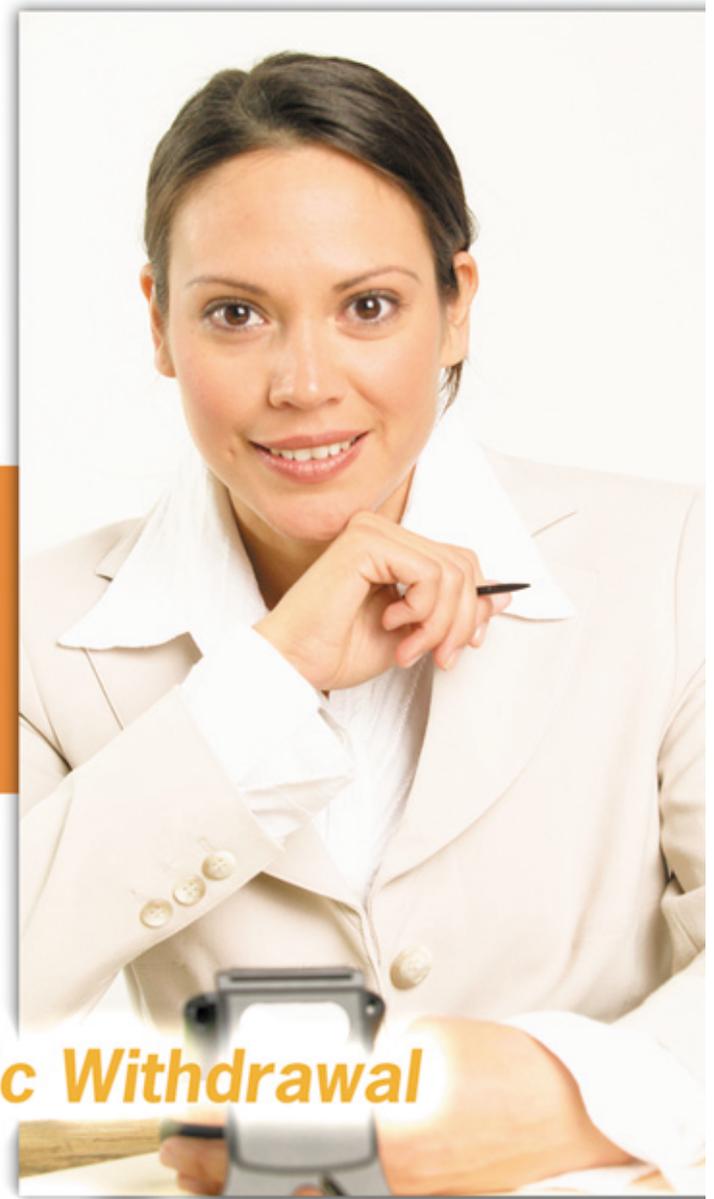
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7501 Stonegate Manor
Drive

Beautiful Buckingham Model on 5+ acres, 3-car side load garage, 4/5 BR, 5.55 BA, rear sunroom, 10' ceilings main level, gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, luxury MBR suite, finished lower level w/recreation room & FB.



Lovettsville, VA
Eagle Creek
\$780,900
38764 Golden Eagle
Place

Custom built luxury home, Preston Model on 3+ acres, 3 levels, 4 BR, 4.5 BA, 2-car side load garage, fireplace, rear sunroom, finished walkout basement w/media room, den and full bath, gourmet kitchen, hardwood flooring throughout main level, tray ceiling in master bedroom suite



Woodbridge, VA
Running Creek
\$734,900
11809 Alford Valley Lane

Large custom built luxury home, Sheffield Model, 3 levels, 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2-car side load garage, fireplace, formal living room and dining room, family room, study, gourmet kitchen w/cook top, breakfast room, granite counters, stainless appliances, large luxury master suite, fully finished walkout lower level.



Alexandria, VA
Stonegate
\$674,900
2613 Gadsby Place

Jefferson Model TH, 3 BR, 2.55 BA, fresh paint inside & out, hardwood floors main level, updated kitchen w/new GE Profile appliances, Corian counters, 14' ceilings LR, gas FP, 3 sets French doors w/Palladium windows walkout deck. Lg MBR w/bay window & luxury bath. Lower level 12' ceilings w/wall of windows & another deck. The entire back faces wooded open space. Original owner!



Alexandria, VA
Mount Vernon Estates
\$629,900
3557 Drews Court

This home is great for entertaining. Formal living and dining room, gourmet kitchen with breakfast bar, outstanding morning room with many windows, and family room with gas fireplace. This home flows perfectly. Upper level has 3 large bedrooms plus grand master suite with large walk-in closet & luxury bath. A must see!



Alexandria, VA
Holland Towne
\$429,000
5432 Wycklow Court

Well-maintained townhome nicely situated in Alexandria City, 3 level, 2 BR, 2.5 BA, garage, neutral paint & carpet throughout, oak hardwood floors, ceramic tile, newer stainless steel appliances, lower level recreation room walks out to large fenced in brick patio.



Alexandria, VA
Valley View
\$324,900
3419 Spring Drive

This is a wonderfully well-maintained all brick & stone home on a beautiful irrigated landscaped 1/4 acre fenced lot with a close-in location. Long driveway, 2 BR, 1 BA, LR, Kit, utility area and more. Why pay for a condo and monthly condo fees when you can own a beautiful single family home.



Alexandria, VA
Reynolds Prospect
\$324,000
244 Reynolds Street, #110

First floor large open condo in excellent location: express Metrobus literally right outside entrance. All new windows, HVAC & Hot Water Heater. Ceramic tile entry foyer steps down into open LR w/FP, mantle & built-in mirror, custom paint, crown moldings, walks out to patio. Kitchen has track lighting, custom ceramic tile and paint. Location, location, location.



UNDER CONTRACT

Stonegate
\$559,900
2440 Garnett Drive

This Madison model is in "New Home" condition. Large living room offers vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace with marble surround and built-in bookshelves. Family room off kitchen. Master is large with separate bath level and extra attic storage area.

Information contained in this ad is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



The #1 Agent in the City of Alexandria
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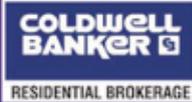
Randy Bender 703.906.1749
Long & Foster - Old Town



500 Montgomery Street, Alexandria, VA 703 . 548 . 3700 x 424



Deborah Shockley, CRB
Branch Vice President



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New Listing



207 Pine Street | \$647,000

Built in pool and hardscape! Maintenance free yard w/ mature landscaping and driveway. Hardwood floors, addition w/ family room, kitchen with stainless appliances, granite and a large eat in area. 3 BR, 1.5 BA and tons of original moldings. Photos at www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com. From Old Town, take King St. West and right on Russell Road. Take a right onto Pine Street to 207.

Bob Woods | 703-244-8726 Del Ray

Commercial Property



**6176 Grovedale Ct #200
\$239,000**

Excellent location plenty of parking and frontage in rarely available office complex. Large welcoming reception area with 2 custom work stations, 3 private offices and kitchen area. All brick construction, well maintained. Move in condition. New carpet, kitchen and work stations utilities approx \$80/mth. 15 min to DC, 10 min to Old Town just off 495. Condo Fee \$103/mth

Phyllis Patterson | 703-518-6158 Grovedale

Close In Location



**1317 S. Walter Reed Dr #301
\$292,500**

Wonderful neighborhood & setting - located just 2 blocks from trendy Columbia Pike revitalization area! Larger than normal 987 sq ft top-floor unit w/FP, open floor plan, lots of light, remodeled kitchen w/granite, wide plank oak floors, tray ceiling in living room & big, bright skylight. New energy efficient HVAC system just installed in April. Picture perfect neighborhood with pool & lots of open green space.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 Commons of Arl

Beautiful Belle View Renovation



**6506 Potomac Ave #B2
\$274,900**

Sensational light-filled top level Belle View condo with \$35k in recent upgrades. All new HVAC system & duct work that allows for greater ceiling height, upgraded CAT-5 lines, updated plumbing & electrical connections. Renovated kitchen with new appliances, cabinets, counters & ceramic tile floor. Washer & dryer in this building! Minutes to Metro, DC, Old Town, & MT Vernon Bike bath. More photos on www.joydeevy.com.

Joy Deevy | 703-930-5198 Belle View

Mason Hill Beauty



1803 Windmill Lane | \$895,000

Loads of Room/Great Price! 5 br, 3 bath colonial on quiet cul-de-sac less than 5 miles from Old Town Alex. Short distance to Metro & access to commuting routes. Gracious foyer entry, flowing floor plan, spacious rm sizes & 3 fps. Large county kitchen w/brick tp & hearth, sunlit family rm w/ add'l brick tp & walk-out to patio & large, custom deck. Illuminated l'scaped yard, 2car side-load garage.

Jane Cole | 703-518-6187 Mason Hill

Bank Owned Property!



7309 Foxe Place | \$329,900

Lovely 3BR/2.5BA split level on quiet cul-de-sac. Main level family room addition, living room with fireplace, updated white on white kitchen, hardwood floors in the living room, dining room and bedrooms. Shows well.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 N. Springfield

Open Sunday 1-4!

Open Sun 1-4



811 Albany Avenue | \$865,000

Nestled on a charming cul-de-sac, this beautiful 1950's colonial offers five bedrooms, three and half baths. Open floor plan allows for easy entertaining. Beautifully manicured lawn in private setting. Many updates. Located in sought after McArthur school district and within one mile to King Street Metro.

Mary Cay Harris | 703-518-2804 Alex City

Custom Built Home

Open Sun 1-4



**9891 Chapel Bridge Estates
\$829,900**

Just listed, Morris Construction builders model. 4 br, den, 4 full baths, 2 car gar, cedar siding, trex deck over looking 3/4 acre, hw floors thru main level and master, chef's kitchen with center island, granite, ss GE Profile appliances, above grade w/o lower level, main level br/ bath. It is all done with all the upgrades! Dir: FF County Parkway, L Lee Chapel, L Chapel Bridge Estates Drive into cul-de-sac

Phyllis Patterson | 703-518-6158 Fairfax Station

Open Sunday 1-4!

Open Sun 1-4



4013 18th Road | \$595,000

Classic brick colonial in sought after Cherrydale. Wood floors throughout (under carpet). Replacement double-glazed windows, patio in large organic yard with fruit trees and vegetable plot. Convenient to Village, metro and I-66. AHS Home Warranty.

John Ronveaux | 703-518-6159 Arlington



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Open Sunday 1-4!

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

Open Sun 1-4



1203 Essex Manor Ct
\$1,499,000

Large bright home in cul-de-sac on nearly 1/2 acre. Renovated kitchen w/ granite, center island, butlers pantry & sunny breakfast rm overlooking large deck & private treed backyard. His/her offices, sunroom and music rm. Remarkable lower level w/ custom library, men's rm, rec rm, play/hobby area, private bedroom and storage/wine cellar. Upper level w/ 4 spacious BRs & 3 full Bas.

Dir: South from Old Town on GW Parkway, Right Morningside Lane, Left Admiral, Left Essex Manor.

Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158 Wellington

Open Sunday 1-4!

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

Open Sun 1-4



9017 Vernon View Drive
\$1,099,000

Stunning 6000sq ft home w/ hw floors on main and upper levels, 3 car garage, private back yard with brick patio and 6 ft TREX fence. Large kitchen w/ granite, viking, sub zero, 2 sinks and breakfast rm. Fam rm w/ vaulted ceiling and flat screen tv. Renovated master 2 w/ closets and new bath, upper level laundry rm, just completed finished lower level. Owner will hold \$60K 2nd trust.

Dir: South from Old Town on GW Parkway, follow river to Right on Vernon View, to 9017 on right.

Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158 River Bend Estates

Closest Private Dock South Of Old Town!

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



7607 Southdown Road
\$3,600,000

Terrific floor plan, high ceilings, & spectacular views. Three bedrooms, three and one half bathrooms, two car garage, large room sizes, kitchen/family room combo, hardwood floors, four gas fire places, custom built. Next to parkland and on the water! Perfect for privacy and entertaining.



Marie Louise Meyer | 703-836-2080 Wellington

Waterfront Community

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



5710 River Drive | \$1,079,000

Brand new on the market, this charming colonial sited on a one acre privacy lot offers timeless architecture in a unique setting surrounded by parkland and the Potomac River. Just 30-40 min's to Old Town & Washington, DC., easy commuting access to I95 & VRE commuter rail. Renovated in 2008 move-in condition. 4 Brm's, 3 1/2 Baths, main flr master bdrm, exceptional gardens, water view, community boat launch, pier, tennis, b-ball & beachfront park. Tucked away in a resort style setting at the tip of the Mason Neck Peninsula surrounded by nature's tranquility, just steps to the Potomac River.

Susan Gray Chambers | 703-203-9900
SusanGrayChambers.com Mason Neck

Gorgeous 1940's Colonial

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

Open Sun 1-4



6124 Edgewood Terrace
\$1,695,000

Gorgeous and meticulously updated 1940's colonial overlooking wooded parkland. Offering five bedrooms, five and one half baths, elegant living room with a fireplace, gracious dining room, custom painting throughout, lovely moldings, chair rail hardwood floors, state of the art gourmet chef's kitchen with a breakfast area, light filled family room, library/den, spacious lower level recreation room, beautiful master suite, lovely decks overlooking wooded vistas, play area and garage. Dir: Belle Haven Rd, R on Radcliff, R on Fort Willard Circle, R on Waltonway, R on Edgewood Terrace

Jeanne Warner | 703-980-9106 Belle Haven

Belle Haven Beauty

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



2003 Glen Drive | \$1,995,000

Stunning Belle Haven estate! Perched on the top of an ivy covered hill in a grand setting, this classic beauty exudes the grace and charm of old with a sophisticated blend of today's comforts. With six bedrooms, including a private au-pair suite with separate above - garage staircase and kitchenette, plus five and a half baths, two fireplaces, welcoming sunroom, dramatic central staircase and large finished basement, this grand home offers plenty of space for comfortable living or gracious entertaining.

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Belle Haven

CBRB is owned and operated by NRT, LLC. Information deemed reliable but is not guaranteed.



CHRIS WHITE

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



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.



Mount Vernon Grove
\$998,900

Stunning New Home Under \$1,000,000!

Wakefield Homes provides potential opportunity to build a truly astounding amount of instant equity! Build this spectacular custom home at a fraction of its originally intended price! Bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, large rooms, granite counters and all the other bells and whistles you would expect in over \$1,000,000 luxury homes! Limited pre-construction opportunity - call today! (Pictures of similar houses in different locations).



8620
Curtis Ave
\$469,900

**Large Home!
Small Price!**

This is one of Mount Vernon's most exciting opportunities!

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



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.



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.



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

Large Price Reduction! Classic Colonial in prime Mt Vernon

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



8824 Stratford
Lane
\$1,275,000

Rare 2 Acre Lot!

Brand new Wakefield Home to be erected on gorgeous over two acre tract just off

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



CHRIS WHITE (703) 283-9028

LONG & FOSTER OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT • 400 KING STREET • ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
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OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

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703.683.0400 · WWW.LONGANDFOSTER.COM



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

S. Alexandria
\$249,990
JUST LISTED- GREAT STARTER HOME!

Another fine example of the great values to be found at South Meadows. Priced accordingly, the basic 2BR/2BA unit is the perfect starter home. Featuring a great room mate layout, W/D, excellent close in community with easy commuting, close to metro, and lots of shopping. 7508 Snowpea Ct., E
BRIAN HONG & JERY BEAMER
703.929.5764



Alexandria
\$1,289,900
NEW HOME

Spacious new home in Waynewood school district! Over 5,600 sf of finished space, 6 BRs, 5.5 BAs, hdwds, custom trim package, gourmet kitchen w/Wolf, Sub-Zero, SS appliances, granite, cherry cabs. Master w/FP, bonus finished 3rd floor w/full bath + more! Neighborhood pool & shopping. Delivery end of August. Call for a showing! 8061 Fairfax Rd
JILL DIPASQUALE 571.436.8699



McLean
\$1,795,000
STATELY COLONIAL

Located on over a half acre lot and backing to trees, this spacious 3 lvl brick colonial has space for everything! Close to downtown McLean, it offers comfort, convenience and privacy-features a marble entry, formal living and dining rms, 9' ceilings- kitchen w/ island & brkfst rm. 2 car garage. 4br/4.5Ba Make it yours! 1025 Duchess Drive
FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria
\$399,900
ALL THIS UNDER \$400K...

4BR/2BA Rambler with hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, finished lower level, carport, enclosed porch, fenced yard and more! Close to Huntington Metro-walk to park, hiking trails and minutes to major routes & Old Town! Open Sunday 1-4 Dir: From 495: Telegraph South, R Franconia, R Cannon to 5803. 5803 Cannon Lane
PAT WILSON 703.598.7279



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria
\$369,990
JUST LISTED GREAT YARD FOR A POOL!

Bucknell Manor Cape with excellent sized lot, flat & big enough for a pool! 4BRs with 2 BAs. Mature trees & backs to wooded area. Driveway for off street parking. Excellent location - close to Old Town, Beltway, Metro & lots of shopping.
7015 Quander Road
BRIAN HONG & JERY BEAMER
703.929.5764



Del Ray/ Russell Rd.
\$1,250,000
SPECTACULAR

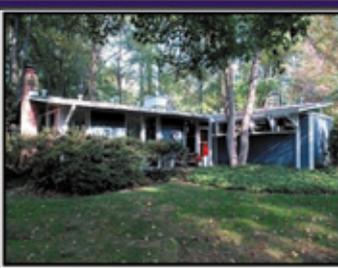
Gorgeous combination of original character, grace and style of spectacular finishes with today's modern living. 24x13 Gourmet kitchen with 6 burner cooking and granite open to FR w/FP and deck overlooking lush landscaping Banquet size DR, screen porch plus so much more!
Dir: Russell Road to Uhler Terrace #201. 201 Uhler Terrace
JULIA MARTIN 703.850.5543



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Alexandria
\$625,000
DREAM HOME

Buyers Can Only Dream of a home that is in perfect, ready to move in condition! This home shines with the care and upgrades that must be seen to appreciate. Hardwoods, granite, large landscaped lot, 2 FP, 4 BR, 3 lavishly renovated baths. Dir: Ft. Hunt to Paul Spring Rd to 7119 Devonshire Road. 7119 Devonshire Road
JULIA MARTIN 703.850.5543



Alexandria
\$669,000
ONE LEVEL LIVING AT ITS BEST

Beautifully expanded and remodeled 2BR/ 2BA contemporary in popular HOLLIN HILLS- woodland community. All newer quality appliances, lighting, fixtures, systems, thermopane windows throughout- Fabulous deluxe kitchen w/ island, SS appliances, frpl, patio and more! 2410 Brentwood Place
FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840



Alex/Mt. Vernon
\$629,000
JUST LISTED

Lovingly updated Wellington split level on professionally landscaped lot. Updated eat-in kit. w/SS appliances & gas cooking. 3 full updated baths (including master bath). 4BR, gas FP in LR & Fam. Rm. Hdwds, crown molding, wainscoting & chair rail. Garage. Sun porch leads to slate double patio. 3 blocks to bike trail.
1130 Cameron Road
RUTH GUIRARD 703.609.3343





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500 MONTGOMERY STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
WWW.OLDTOWNALEXANDRIA.COM • 703.548.3700



ALEXANDRIA - \$389,900 5301 Bird's View Lane #11

2BR/2.5BA unit has all the bells & whistles you love. Crown molding, chair railing, tray ceilings, shadow boxes, custom built shelves, new hwrds & fresh designer paint. Great floor plan offers Fam Rm off kitchen w/marble FP & 1 car gar.

View at: www.BobSkinnerHomes.org

Bob Skinner 703-585-6683



FAIRFAX - \$878,000

BREATHTAKING VIEWS / TRANQUIL & QUIET
5BR/3.5BA with stunning golf course/lake views. Options include granite counters, ceramic & hwd floors, sunroom w/cathedral ceiling, MBR suite has California closet. Basement has FBA & wet bar/granite counter. Deck, patio and more.

Uzi Ogbuokiri (202) 722-4343



ALEXANDRIA / Mt. Vernon - \$499,900

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

Phyllis Sintay 703-472-3563



RESTON - \$1,199,900

Stunning 5BR/5.5BA home offers almost 6400sf of pristine living space on 3 finished levels. Dramatic 2-story family room & huge sunny kitchen overlook parkland. View the elegant master suite & other special features at:

homesdatabase.com/charlene

Charlene Schaper (703) 217-3666



FAIRFAX \$349,900

Located within walking distance to Fairfax Town Center, this 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 level condo has vaulted ceilings & 3 skylights. Kitchen has granite

c/tops & SS app. Separate dining room, large living room w/wood fp. Spiral staircase to loft w/custom closet. Huge MBR, WIC & upgraded MBA.

Cristin Patti 703-638-8395



ALEXANDRIA - \$435,000

Updated 2 BR, 2 BA with dream kitchen, enclosed sunroom with unobstructed treetop views. Award Winning amenities including gyms, in/out-door pools, tennis, café and METRO Shuttle.

www.susanmovesyou.com
Susan Haughton 703-470-4545



ALEXANDRIA - \$249,900

Lovely renovation! Spacious 1,170sf of 2BR/2BA w/balcony on 4th floor of hi-rise has remodeled maple, SS & granite kitchen, new baths, new maple floors, new lighting, & 24hr front desk, pool, tennis, sauna & plenty of parking.

Charlene Schaper 703-217-3666



WOODBIDGE - \$97,900

Reduced price! Recent renovations on this spacious home with fenced yard include new doors, windows, ceramic floors, country kitchen, wooden banisters, ceiling fans, & gas FP.

Maude Dixon 703-628-0096



ALEXANDRIA - \$175,000

Wonderful opportunity to purchase a clean and spacious condo. A little TLC and updating will give you a terrific 2BR/1BA top floor unit with private balcony. Great skyline location just off the 395.

Stephen Hollowell 703-887-2056



Calling All Shoppers

A new market is open on Upper King Street, serving fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and more.

END NOTE, PAGE 24



ART

Up the Hill

Local Jack and Jill chapters celebrated in a new exhibit at the Black History Museum.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE

When Lillian Patterson sent out a request for memories about local Jack and Jill chapters, she was inundated with so many stories and anecdotes she will be able to use only a handful in her new exhibition at the Black History Museum. Patterson, who is curator of the Parker Gray museum, said that several of the written memorials will be available for visitors to peruse during their visit. Other items that will be on display include placards explaining the history of local Jack and Jill chapters and items of clothing worn during formal occasions known as cotillions (for the girls) and botillions (for the boys).

"It's a cultural history," explained Patterson one recent afternoon at the museum. "But there's always some community service attached."

Jack and Jill of America was founded 70 years ago by African-American mothers in Philadelphia who wanted to improve their quality of life and prepare them for adulthood. They founded a group that would combine social networking with childcare needs and community-service opportunities. The Alexandria-Mount Vernon chapter originated in 1964 as a mothers' club. Two years later, the group was officially chartered as a Jack and Jill chapter that remains active today, organizing a variety of activities from community service projects to formal dances to music, craft and holiday events.

"Using photographs, chapter records and the memories of members themselves, the exhibition shows how Jack and Jill empowers children and builds strong African-American communities," said Amy Bertsch, spokeswoman for the Office of Historic Alexandria.

FOR PATTERSON, this is an exhibit that



Memories were sent in from Jack and Jill chapters all over the country.

community.

"This was a time when Alexandria was much smaller than it is now," she said. "Any chance to meet new friends is always good."

When the museum decided to put together the exhibit, she sent out the word to local chapters and was surprised by the wealth of raw material she received. Two chapters sent scrapbooks full of memorabilia, photographs, meeting notes and newspaper clippings. One chapter sent some awards that had been given to members. Another chapter sent a display documenting its history. To round out the offerings, Patterson is hoping to include a female mannequin wearing a white gown that was worn to one of the formal cotillions. She also has a white top hat that was worn at a cotillion, although she said she's still look-

Save the Dates

"Ah! THAT Jack and Jill! Parents Empowering African-American Children" will be open from Sept. 13 to Nov. 15 at the Museum of Black History, which is located at 902 Wythe St. in Alexandria, and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is planning an opening reception on Sept. 13 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Those wishing to attend are asked to RSVP by calling 703-838-4356.

ing for a white tuxedo.

"The main thing I'm trying to show through the exhibit is that there are parents encouraging their children to excel," said Patterson. "They try to train leaders."

documents a history she knows well. As a young mother in the mid-1960s, she was a charter member of the Alexandria-Mount Vernon chapter. It was a time when her 8-year-old daughter, Marilyn, was a student at Minnie Howard Elementary School and Patterson was looking for a way to make friends, have fun and give back to the com-

Revisiting Alexandria's Week Of Shame

The war that gave us "Uncle Sam" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

This Saturday, Aug. 23, Alexandria will revisit its darkest hour — Aug. 29 to Sept. 2, 1814. While Washington, The Federal City, burned and Dolly Madison risked her life to save America's early national treasures, Alexandria surrendered to the British without a single shot.

An historic re-enactment of the British occupation of Alexandria and the circumstances leading up to that event during the War of 1812 will be presented at Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax St., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will include a series of

lectures on various aspects of the war to be given each hour from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the lobby of the historic Bank of Alexandria at the corner of North Fairfax and Cameron streets, immediately adjacent to Carlyle House.

Entitled, "War of 1812 - 'Johnny Bull' Revisits Alexandria," the re-enactment will explore the

"Soon after the British left Alexandria, its inhabitants were branded as cowards and traitors by the Democratic-Republican propaganda machine."

events of those fateful five days and the rationale of City leaders to negotiate surrender. The consequences of those negotiations were noted by James Bartlinski, curator, Carlyle House, in his October 2007 article, "How a Royal Navy Midshipman's Neckerchief Saved Alexan-

dria."

The concluding paragraph of his treatise sets the scene for the re-enactment — "Soon after the British left Alexandria, its inhabitants were branded as cowards and traitors by the Democratic-Republican propaganda machine. Disgraced, the people of Alexandria slowly allowed this humiliating event fade into the murky waters of history."

Triggered by American expansionism toward Canada and Britain's meddling in the new nation's desire to expand its international trade, the U.S. Congress declared war on Great Britain on June 18, 1812— less

SEE WEEK, PAGE 21

HISTORY

Five Day War in 1814

FROM PAGE 20

than three decades after the signing of The Treaty of Paris, officially ending the Revolutionary War. At the time Britain was militarily involved with Napoleon and in no hurry to fight two wars separated by the Atlantic Ocean.

HOWEVER, ALL THAT CHANGED in April 1814 with Napoleon's defeat. In August of that summer, with a victorious, battlehardened Army, the United Kingdom turned it attention to the American declaration.

Although we had naval successes on the Great Lakes and the Atlantic, American ground forces were no match for the Redcoats this time. Meeting the advancing British at Bladensburg, Md., the disorganized and poorly commanded American army, with twice the number of troops as the Brits, were defeated and scattered giving the British a straight shot at the national capital.

While Washington and the White House burned, Captain James Alexandria Gordon, British Royal Navy, brought his 36 gun flagship, "Seahorse," and six other battle and cargo vessels up the Potomac River to Alexandria's front door. There they moored to accept the bounty of the surrender negotiations aimed at preserving the City, if not its honor.

There also commences the story of "A Town Occupied - Aug. 29 to Sept. 2, 1814" and the subsequent embarrassment of Alexandria and her citizens. But,

what role did that play in the British inability to subsequently defeat and occupy Baltimore? — where "at dawn's early light" after a fierce night of bombardment "our flag was still flying."

Those questions and others will be explored during the re-enactment and at the lecture series following. Presenting those insights will be: 11 a.m.- Dan Hicks, PhD, "The Wars of 1812: America's Conflicts with Britons, Creeks, Algerians, Floridians, Shawnees, and Fugitive Slaves from 1811 to 1815;" Noon and 2 p.m. - Christopher T. George, "Terror on the Chesapeake: The War of 1812 on the Bay;" 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - Carole Herrick, "August 24, 1814: Washington in Flames."

Both the re-enactment and lecture series are free and do not require advance reservations. Additional information is available by calling Carlyle House at 703-549-2997 or on their Web site at www.nvrpa.org.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with questions.

OTHER ITEMS

Studio Gold Dance will hold Youth Company auditions for intermediate and advanced youth dancers, ages 16 and under. Dancers are welcome to bring a prepared piece of choreography to demonstrate on Monday, Aug. 23 or Aug.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22



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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 20

30 between 3 and 4:15 p.m. The required group class audition will be on Sept. 22 at 3:15 p.m. Auditions and rehearsals will take place at Gold's Gym, 7770 Richmond Highway. For further information, contact the Artistic Director, Dawn Meadows, at www.studiogolddance.com, or 703-627-4570.

Aldersgate Church Community Theater (ACCT) is holding auditions for "Dearly Departed," on Sunday, Aug. 24 and Monday, Aug. 25 from 7-9 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road. Questions should be directed to 703-660-2611 - please leave a message. Additional information at www.acctonline.org.

ONGOING

Tickets for **Mount Vernon's Fall Wine Festival & Sunset Tour** will go on sale Sept. 1. Tickets are \$30/person. Festival is Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 3, 4 & 5 from 6-9 p.m. Visit www.mountvernon.org for tickets.

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

Children enter a world of fantasy and fables when costumed interpreters weave three tales together during **Mount Vernon's** outdoor storytelling session, "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon", held every Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. **through Sept. 27** at the George Washington: Pioneer Farmer site. "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon" is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$13.00; youth ages 6-11, \$6.00; and children under 5 are admitted free. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

Historic Mount Vernon will have special commemorative whiskey sets available for sale beginning **Aug. 4!** The set includes a shot glass and a 50 mL bottle of whiskey consisting of 11 different whiskey brands blended and aged at Mount Vernon in 2005. The gift sets are \$25 and are available for purchase in person with a valid ID at the *Shops at Mount Vernon* or George Washington's Distillery. Visit www.mountvernon.org or 703-780-2000.

THURSDAY /AUG. 21

Garden Sprouts: Pick a Peck of Peppers. 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. -noon at Green Springs

Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Preschool children (3-5 years) with accompanying adults have fun picking, printing, and playing with colorful peppers and then make salsa. \$6 for participants. For more information visit www.faircounty.gov/parks/gsgp

Just Twos. 10:30 a.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Children ages 24-35 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. 703-768-6700.

Poetry Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "Poems" by A.E. Housman. Free. 703-768-6700.

Discover Art. 2 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-12 can play art bingo and more. Free. 703-765-3645.

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Discuss "Death in the Woods" by Sherwood Anderson, part of the collection of "The Egg and Other Stories." Free. 703-931-3559.

FRIDAY/AUG. 22

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

Friday Flicks. Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can bring lunch and enjoy a short movie and stories. Free. 703-971-0010.

Lunch Bunnies. Noon at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 1-5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. 703-765-3645.

Music Performance. Rick Whitehead Jazz Trio will perform at 219 Restaurant, 219 King St. at 9 p.m. \$5/person. 703-549-1141 for reservations.

Art Exhibit. See works by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Brahler Ltd./Gallery from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. See paintings on wood and canvas, sculpture and more. Free. 703-798-8686.

Beach Party. 6-9 p.m. at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Enjoy games such as "Guitar Hero," play in sand and watch dancers while drinking lemonade. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 703-838-4565.

SATURDAY/AUG. 23

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

Terrarium Workshop. 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Create your own

terrarium with Johanna Zinn. Terrarium, plants, and soil provided. \$20 for Adults. Visit www.faircounty.gov/parks/gsgp

Annual Begonia Shoe and Sale. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Attend the Annual Begonia Show and Sale. Free. For more information visit www.faircounty.gov/parks/gsgp

Garden Sprouts: Pick a Peck of Peppers. 10 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Children ages 3-5 can pick a variety of peppers and make salsa. \$6/person. 703-642-5173 to register.

Pinewood Derby. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Good News Baptist Church. \$5/car. www.goodnewsbaptistchurch.org or 703-619-1121.

Summer Green Craft. 2-5 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 5-12 can enjoy crafts and stories. Drop-in. Free. 703-519-6000.

Art Exhibit. See works by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Brahler Ltd./Gallery from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. See paintings on wood and canvas, sculpture and more. Free. 703-798-8686.

Once Upon a StoryTime. 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and up can bring a tiara and shield and enjoy a journey into fairytale land. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

SUNDAY/AUG. 24

Music Performance. The Covington String Quartet will perform at 3 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. Visit www.wmpa.us for more.

Annual Begonia Shoe and Sale. Noon -3:30 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Attend the Annual Begonia Show and Sale. Free. For more information visit www.faircounty.gov/parks/gsgp

End of Summer BBQ. 5-7:30 p.m. at Agudas Achim Congregation, 2908 Valley Drive. Free. Includes food, games, music and more. Free. 703-998-6460 to register.

Poker Run Fundraiser. 12:30 p.m. at Old Dominion Boat Club in Alexandria. Boaters can assemble "poker hands" based on the cards they receive. \$50/boat. Visit www.leukemicup.org/nca or 703-960-1100.

MONDAY/AUG. 25

Mystery Group. 7 p.m. at Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Road. Discuss "The Perfect Flake" by Barbara Parker. Free. 703-768-6700.

TUESDAY/AUG. 26

Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. at

SEE CALENDAR. PAGE 23

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CALENDAR



Siblings David and Christine Hagan will be performing at the Schlesinger Center on Thursday, Aug. 28. Visit www.connectionnewspapers.com to learn more about the pianists and other bands that will be performing in the area.

FROM PAGE 22

Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Adults discuss "The Jane Austen Book Club" by Karen Joy Fowler. Free. 703-339-4610.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 27

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Lee District Park Amphitheater, 6601 Telegraph Road. Hear Sol Y Rumba perform. Free. 703-922-9841.

Peer Review. 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Get reviews on your work while reviewing others. Free. 703-339-4610.

Animal, Vegetable, Mineral. 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children ages 6-12 can enjoy nature stories and activities. Free. 7-3-765-3645.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

Time for School. 1 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children ages 3-5 can enjoy stories and activities about starting school. Free. 703-339-4610.

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

Short Story Discussion. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Discuss stories by Borges and Camus. Free. 703-519-3498.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Free. Hear Christine and David Hagan perform duets on the piano. 703-845-6156.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

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

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

Lee District Nights. 7:30 p.m. at Hayfield Elementary School, 7633

Telegraph Road. Hear Hawaiian music. Free. 703-324-SHOW (7469).

Closing Ceremony. 4-9 p.m., see work by Pridon Goisashvili at Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112A Mt. Vernon Ave., from Aug. 16 through Aug. 31. Free. 703-894-8854.

Art Exhibit. See works by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Braehler Ltd./Gallery from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. See paintings on wood and canvas, sculpture and more. Free. 703-798-8686.

SUNDAY/AUG. 31

Music Performance. Soprano Tia Wortham with pianist Caroline Williams will perform with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic at 3 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. Visit www.wmpa.us for more.

Closing Ceremony. 4-9 p.m., see work by Pridon Goisashvili at Blueberry Art Gallery, 3112A Mt. Vernon Ave., from Aug. 16 through Aug. 31. Free. 703-894-8854.

Art Exhibit. See works by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Braehler Ltd./Gallery from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. See paintings on wood and canvas, sculpture and more. Free. 703-798-8686.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

International Festival. 12:30-6 p.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway. Free. Includes music, food, rides, games and more. Visit www.gs-cc.org or 703-780-4055.

SATURDAY/ SEPT. 6

A Lesson on Gardening. The Green Spring Gardens located at 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria will be holding Propagation Series Part: Seed Saving from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mary Frogale a propagation horticulturist will be showing participants the gardens and collect seeds to take home. \$22/ Adults. For more information and to register call 703-642-5173.

Family Fun. The Green Spring Gardens located at 4603 Green Spring Road, will be having Family Fun: Monarch

Magic from 2-3:30 p.m. Children will be given the opportunity to explore the fascinating life cycle of monarch butterflies and make a caterpillar cage to watch the cycle themselves. \$10/ project. For more information and to register call 703-642-5173.

Soldier-led Tour. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. See a soldier's life, weapons and more from the Civil War. Free. www.fortward.org or 703-838-4848.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Music Performance. Violists Tsuna Sakamoto and Eric DeWaardt will perform with the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic at 3 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Free. Visit www.wmpa.us for more.

WEDNESDAY/ SEPT. 10

Spend the Day exploring Surreybrooke. The Green Springs Garden will be spending the day exploring a historic family farm in Middletown Maryland. The day will include a guided tour through the gardens, lunch, and shopping. \$65/ adults, lunch is included. Call 703-642-5173 for information.

THURSDAY/ SEPT. 11

Take A Stroll. Take a relaxing stroll through the gardens and tea at The Historic House with The Green Spring Garden's Garden Stroll and Tea which will be at 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. From 1 to 3 p.m. Individuals and Groups are welcome. \$12/ individuals. Form more information and to register call 703-642-5173.

FRIDAY/ SEPT. 12.

Ornamental Grasses. Learn about Ornamental Grasses with The Green Springs Garden located at 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. The event, Basic Gardening Series: Introduction to Ornamental Grasses, will show gardeners how to select, plant, and maintain the best ornamental grasses available. \$12/ adults. For more information and to register call 703-642-5173.



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New Market Now Open

Browse fruits, vegetables and more at the new market on Upper King Street at King Street Gardens Park on Wednesdays 3-7 p.m. through October.



Calvin Riggelman of Bigg Riggs' talks to a customer about his family farm in Augusta, W.V.



Flowers, produce and bakery stands fill the park now on Wednesday afternoons at the new open-air market.



Red-Free Apples



Paula Red Apples



The girls at Bigg Riggs stand weigh up the produce for the new customers. Bigg Riggs also sells their produce at the Saturday market at Market Square.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE
KRAFFT/
GAZETTE



A medley of fresh peppers.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE PACKET

ON THE COVER: Barbara Lamborne arranges flowers for a bouquet at her Greenstone Field farm stand at the upper King Street Farmer's Market. Greenstone Field is located in Wheatland, Va.

EStaff

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Local Players Littering College, Pro Rosters

West Potomac's Johnson among slew of former area players excelling in college and pro's.

Last season with mammoth offensive lineman Jimmy Bennett, speedy and rangy receiver Robert Byrd and tough-nosed running back Josh Wells leading the offense, West Potomac's football team was hoping to have three Bowl Subdivision players. That didn't happen as Wells suffered an injury-plagued 2007 season, but the fact that coach Eric Henderson was championing the cause of all to colleges is a testament to the quality of play in Northern Virginia.

Looking at collegiate rosters, there are nearly 50 alums from Northern Region schools, including three potential quarterback starters in ACC conferences, and numerous other spot starters.

Former West Potomac standout and projected starting offensive guard for the University of Kentucky Christian Johnson has been sidelined by a back injury and also is dealing with an eligibility issue. He's currently suspended and his status is up in the air for the season opener, but his brother Micah Johnson, a Wolverine for two seasons, is UK's slated starter at middle linebacker. A former top recruit, Micah Johnson has appeared in 25 career games, and had 58 tackles and two interceptions last season.

Byrd, a 2008 graduate struggled with a

shoulder injury throughout his senior season, but still signed with Troy University, where he will likely redshirt. Wearing No. 82, Byrd, had 40 receptions for 850 yards and school-record 11 touchdowns last season, is not currently listed on the three-deep preseason depth chart.

Prized recruit Jimmy Bennett, the standout West Potomac offensive lineman, also started fall camp on Aug. 1 at the University of Connecticut. Bennett, listed at 6-foot-7, 300 pounds, will wear No. 72, but recently told the "New Haven Register" that he will likely redshirt.

FOUR YEARS AGO, Kevin Grant was preparing for Herndon's football season, trying to terrorize Chantilly's offense. Now, he's being named to preseason award lists and preparing for his senior season at the University of Akron.

Grant, a starting senior linebacker has 234 tackles in three seasons — best among the returning Zips. He's yet another recruit from Northern Virginia that has gone on to excel on the College Bowl Subdivision level.

Grant used to tackle Westfield's Sean Glennon and Eddie Royal, who led their Bulldogs to the 2004 Virginia Group AAA state championship. Now Glennon, older



Former Westfield quarterback Sean Glennon is now battling for the starting quarterback position at Virginia Tech, where he ranks seventh in both career passing yards (3,964 yards) and career touchdown passes (24).

brother of N.C. State potential starter Mike Glennon, is slated to again share the quarterbacking duties at Virginia Tech after starting for much of the last two years.

Royal, on the other hand, is impressing scouts and coaches in the Denver Broncos training camp and has potential to be the No. 1 starter while Brandon Marshall is suspended for the season's first two games.

Considered too short by some, the 5-foot-10 wide Royal was selected in the second round of the 2008 NFL draft after a four-year career at Virginia Tech. And in a short time, he's already making an impression in the NFL, earning 35 and 32-yard catches against the Dallas Cowboy secondary during Denver's second preseason game.

SEVEN SENIORS have already committed to college, including one of the country's premier quarterbacks in West Springfield's Bryn Renner.

David Wang, a senior defensive tackle at Stone Bridge is one of the Stone Bridge quartet to already verbally pledge his collegiate allegiance. Wang will follow his brother, and 11 current Northern Region alums to Virginia Tech next season.

Mount Vernon's Kyle Ricks and Zach Quigley could potentially ink a Bowl Subdivision scholarship, as could Wolverine wide receiver Kristian Rodriguez, who Henderson considers to be among the best receivers in the Northern Region.

—ERIC J. GILMORE

Area college players like former Yorktown star Max Milien are anxiously awaiting the season openers. Other local college players include Christian and Micah Johnson (University of Kentucky/West Potomac), Jimmy Bennett (University of Connecticut/West Potomac) and Robert Byrd (Troy/West Potomac).



PHOTOS BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
GAZETTE

PATRIOT DISTRICT

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Josh Czajkowski | W. Springfield | N.C. State | K | 5-9 | 184 | Sophomore |
| Peter Lalach | W. Springfield | U-Va. | QB | 6-5 | 225 | Sophomore |
| Tyler Bitancurt | W. Springfield | West Virginia | K | 6-0 | 180 | Freshman |
| Larry Asante | Hayfield | Nebraska | S | 6-1 | 210 | Junior |
| Carlos Sandiego | Hayfield | Army | RB | 5-6 | 176 | Senior |
| Jonathan Bulls | Hayfield | Army | P | 6-1 | 215 | Sophomore |
| Jimmy Bennett | West Potomac | U-Conn. | OL | 6-7 | 300 | Freshman |
| Robert Byrd | West Potomac | Troy | WR | 6-3 | 185 | Freshman |
| Christian Johnson | West Potomac | Kentucky | OG | 6-4 | 325 | Senior |
| Nobel Iyebote | South County | V-Tech | CB | 5-8 | 165 | Freshman |
| Matt Vane | South County | Army | WR | 6-4 | 214 | Sophomore |
| Dean Muhtadi | T.C. Williams | U-Md. | WR | 6-3 | 295 | Senior |
| Ezra Tilaye | Annandale | West Virginia | WR | 6-1 | 183 | Junior |
| Kyle Bates | Lee | Army | LB | 6-2 | 232 | Junior |

NATIONAL DISTRICT

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------|------------|----|------|-----|-----------|
| Max Milien | Yorktown | U-Va. | RB | 6-0 | 215 | Freshman |
| George Pierson | Yorktown | Kansas St. | P | 6-0 | 201 | Junior |
| Ben Barber | Edison | V-Tech | WR | 5-10 | 190 | Freshman |
| Devon Clark | Edison | Navy | FB | 5-10 | 210 | Sophomore |

SENIORS ALREADY COMMITTED TO COLLEGE

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Bryn Renner | W. Springfield | UNC | QB | 6-3 | 190 |
| Brian Slay | Stone Bridge | N.C. State | DE | 6-2 | 240 |
| Zach Thompson | Stone Bridge | Wake Forest | DE | 6-5 | 240 |
| David Wang | Stone Bridge | V-Tech | DT | 6-2 | 310 |
| Mike Olson | Stone Bridge | Wake Forest | OLB | 6-3 | 200 |
| Luke Buwanko | Centreville | U-Va. | OT | 6-6 | 260 |
| Frank Figueroa | Edison | Penn St. | OG | 6-4 | 275 |

AREA PLAYERS IN THE NFL

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|-----|------|-----|---|
| Eddie Royal | Westfield | V-Tech | Broncos | WR | 5-10 | 180 | R |
| Owen Schmitt | Fairfax | WVU | Seattle | FB | 6-3 | 260 | R |
| Eric Barton | Edison | U-Md. | Jets | ILB | 6-2 | 244 | 9 |
| Tony Hunt | T.C. Williams | Penn St. | Eagles | RB | 6-1 | 233 | 1 |



Last season, Jeron Gouveia-Winslow was running away from tacklers in the Northern Region. This year, the former Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year is battling for the rover slot at Virginia Tech.

SCHOOLS

To benefit a safe All-Night Grad Party, the Parent Council of the Class of 2009 at Mount Vernon High School is sponsoring the political comedy group "The Capitol Steps" on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Little Theater at Mount Vernon High School. The performance is open to the public and the cost of admission is \$30. For more information or tickets, call 703-780-6760.

Fairfax County Public Schools will hold a round-table discussion on FCPS grading policies with college admissions officers from George Mason University, the University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Maryland on Monday, Aug. 25, at 1 p.m. at Jackson Middle School. The event is hosted by FCPS and Fairgrade, a parent advocacy group.

The discussion, which is open to the public, will also include the perspectives of an FCPS student, a teacher, a parent, and a career specialist and will be led by an impartial moderator. Citizens are welcome to submit their questions in advance at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/grading.htm>; those in attendance may also submit questions. College admissions officers will be available

to speak with parents and students following the round table and the question-and-answer period.

FCPS uses a six-point grading scale with an additional weight of .5 for students who take and pass Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses to determine grade point average (GPA). The school system is examining whether its six-point grading scale affects college admissions, merit scholarships, or honor placement for FCPS students.

Fairfax County Public Schools has been named a 2008 Sprint Ahead for Education grant recipient, one of 19 districts to receive up to \$25,000 in grant funds.

The Sprint Ahead for Education grant will support a program called Promoting Character and Moral Development for a Positive High School Climate that will affect all FCPS high schools. The program is designed to enhance existing character education programs in FCPS and includes two pilot programs, revised high school character education plans that reflect best practices, and a High School Character Education Forum. The FCPS grant is for \$23,783.

A service learning pilot program will be established at West Potomac

High School across grade levels, modeled on the service learning program for seniors that is already in existence at the school. As part of the Sprint grant, each participating student at West Potomac will research a social issue or problem, connect with an organization concerning the issue and establish service hours, perform at least 30 hours of service to that organization while keeping a journal about the experience, and assemble a portfolio about the experience. Funding will support training in current research and strategies for teachers, curriculum development, and instructional materials.

A second pilot program will be established at Westfield High School, based on a restorative justice model to establish a process of face-to-face relationships that build trust and a sense of community. Staff members at Westfield have taken the first steps in building a broad coalition of stakeholders including the Northern Virginia Mediation Services Center, the Fairfax County Police Department's Sully District Station, students, and parents. The Sprint grant will provide funding for training for staff members and student mediators, instructional materials, and consultation funds.

Additional information about the

Sprint Ahead for Education grant program can be found at <http://www.sprint.com/citizenship/education/index.html>.

Soussan Bayati, cosmetology instructor at Edison Academy, has been named Teacher of the Year by the Virginia Association of Trade and Industrial Educators at the organization's annual conference in Roanoke. Edison Academy is one of six high school academies in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Bayati has taught cosmetology at Edison Academy since 1997. She was honored by her colleagues for her dedication to student achievement and success. In the past three years, all her students have successfully passed the Virginia State Board examination in Cosmetology. Because Bayati prepares her students well and they successfully pass the state board examination, her students leave Edison Academy prepared to work as professionally licensed cosmetologists in the state of Virginia.

Bayati is dedicated to her profession and to helping her students achieve. She devotes countless hours to ensuring that each of her students is given the necessary instruction and support that he or she needs to be successful both in and

out of the classroom.

Nationally renowned psychologist Sam Goldstein will speak about Raising Resilient Children: Harnessing the Ordinary Magic of Stress Hardiness, on Wednesday, Aug. 27, at 7 p.m. at Oakton High School. Parents and others interested in children's healthful development are invited to attend the free presentation, sponsored by the Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Student Services.

Goldstein will introduce parents to the emerging science of resilience in this multimedia presentation. He will emphasize the critical role of parents in shaping the environment to help children gain happiness, success in school, satisfaction in their lives, solid friendships, and a resilient mindset. Goldstein will also provide a set of strategies and guidelines for parents of young people of all ages, followed by a question-and-answer period.

Goldstein is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Attention Disorders and contributing editor to Attention magazine. He has authored, co-edited, or coauthored 23 clinical and trade publications, including 11 textbooks.

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Dean Encourages More Voter Registration

FROM PAGE 1

policy," Dean said.

THE OBJECT of the rally was to sign up voter registration volunteers and to inspire attendees to work constantly from now until election day, Nov. 4. "We need everyone here to sign up before you leave today," he said.

The latest statistics show that Virginia has added nearly 225,000 voters since the last presidential election. Much of that was in the increasingly Democratic stronghold of Northern Virginia, according to registration figures.

However, Virginia has not voted for a Democrat presidential candidate since Lyndon Johnson in 1964. President Bush carried Virginia in 2004 by 30,000 votes more than the recent increase in registered voters— his margin of victory was a little over 269,000.

While recent statewide elections have gone in favor of the Democrats — two successive governorships and the U.S. Senate — the Virginia General Assembly remains

split. The Democrats control the House of Delegates and the Republican maintained their grip on the Virginia Senate. The vast majority of the state remains red while Northern Virginia and the Tidewater area tilt blue.

"We are privileged to live in one of the most historical areas of the nation," said Mount Vernon District Democratic Committee Chair Janet Myhre in introducing Dean. "It wasn't long ago that Virginia was a dedicated red state. And we can't change that by hoping. It has to be done neighborhood by neighborhood."

Conspicuous by their absence from the rally were nearly all the locally elected Democrat politicians from the immediate area. That included both Mount Vernon and Lee district supervisors as well as all locally elected Democrat members of the Virginia General Assembly.

The only Northern Virginia elected leaders present were Alexandria City Mayor William D. Euille and Fairfax County School Board Chair Daniel Storck, who is known for his uncanny resemblance to Republican Party founder Abraham Lincoln.



Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean addresses the crowd as Washington Wizards Center Etan Thomas listens.



Washington Wizards Center Etan Thomas addresses the crowd as Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean listens.

PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE

MOUNT VERNON BULLETIN

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

Enjoy a **square dance lesson** on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at Lincolnia Center, 4710 N. Chambliss St. Free. 7:30-9:30 p.m. 703-573-8378.

The **Alexandria Workshop of Ikebana International** meets at the Hollin Hall Senior Citizen Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, at 9:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month from September through June except December and January. Ikebana is the Japanese art of floral arrangement. The group makes Ikebana floral arrangements, studies the history of the art and learns new techniques. New members are welcome. For more information call Julie Cimino at 202-544-5331.

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

The **Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club** helps the children of this area enjoy special educational and recreational trips, summer camps, and many other healthy activities. If you would like to give more service to the Mt. Vernon community, meet the first and third Wednesday of every month from 6-8 p.m. for dinner and a program at the Mount Vernon Country Club on Old Mill Road. Contact Bruce or Joanne Malkin at 703-360-7725 or jbmalkin@verizon.net

This August **Parlez Vous** will begin to offer their foreign language instruction online. Their new Live Online Learning program will allow clients access to Parlez Vous instruction from any location. For more information contact Rachael Feinman at 703-838-9683 "info@parlezvous.org" or www.parlezvous.org for more.

The **Fairfax Area Agency on Aging Meals on Wheels (MOW)** Program for all areas of Fairfax County, Alexandria, the City of Falls Church and Fairfax City are in critical need of MOW drivers and deliverers for meal supplements. 703-324-5410 to volunteer.

Driver Coordinator Needed - Mt. Vernon Meals on Wheels is looking for a responsible volunteer in the Mt. Vernon area to manage the volunteer schedule for Meals on Wheels drivers. For more information, please call the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Volunteer Intake Line: 703-324-5406, TTY: 703-449-1186 or email DFSAAAvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov. For information on additional volunteer opportunities with the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, visit our website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa.

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

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

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

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

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

manity of Northern Virginia. The ReStore is run by volunteers that dedicate their time and energy to the work of Habitat and we are in need of more volunteers. Call the store today at 703-360-6700 or stop by. For more information visit: www.restorenova.org.

Band musicians [young or old] bring instruments and play along with the **Mount Vernon Community Band** during their Tuesday evening band practices from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Mt Vernon High School Band Room, 8515 Old Mt Vernon Road. No auditions. Just sit in and play along even if you are "rusty." Music and music stands will be provided. Call Ed Smith 703-768-8278 or Eric Leighty 703-768-4172.

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

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

MOMS Club of Alexandria meet every second Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children are welcome to all activities. Activities include: Monthly Meetings, playgroups, Park Days, Sunshine Committee, Community Service Projects, MOMS Night Out, etc. Visit www.geocities.com/southalexmomclub/index.html for contact information.

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

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.

Sept. 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.

Calvary Presbyterian Church, 620 N. Kings Highway, is looking for additional people with a desire to sing. All sections, soprano, alto, tenor and bass are desired. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings in the choir room and Sunday mornings in the sanctuary prior to 10 a.m. service. Contact Sue at 703-451-1919 evenings or 703-487-3948 daytime.

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

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Reservations Coordinator
General Description: This position will serve as primary contact responsible for coordinating reservations for pre-purchased admission tickets, meals, and guided services with tour operators, group leaders, teachers and education groups.

Essential Functions: Responsible for inbound calls and enters orders into reservation system; Up-sells programs and encourages sales; Assists clients in planning daily itineraries and answering questions; Communicate with various MVLA departments including restaurant, Food Court, and Education Provides utmost customer service to ensure a positive visitor experience; Sends client proper information (contract, menus, etc.) as needed for each individual order; Ensures proper payment is made on time, working with Finance Department as needed Researches discrepancies with group payments; Manages group ticket windows and accommodates arriving groups with tickets and guidelines; Answers ticketing group hotline, monitors voice mail on this line, processes ticket orders accordingly, returns voice mails within 24 hours; Maintains supplies for group sales functions including ticket stock for Food Court vouchers and hotel vouchers; Coordinates fulfillment of tickets and programs sold through Education; Communicates arrivals with support departments; Books special event programs for tour groups; Meets and greets groups as necessary.

Required Qualifications:

- Three years experience in a guest service environment
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point)
- Proven skills in verbal and written communication
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude in a hectic environment
- Experience in a call center environment and/or report writing experience is a plus
- Experience with ticketing processes and systems preferred
- Must be able to perform normal physical activity for an office environment

Ticketing Lead
General Description: The ticketing lead will serve as primary contact and support for ticketing staff, answering questions and concerns, assisting with transactions, encouraging sales and setting the standard for guest service. Leadership responsibilities include daily balance of cashier sales and estate attendance/activities reporting, employee scheduling, coaching and communications, as well as customer service and issue resolution; Candidates should have previous ticketing experience, preferably in the museum or similar tourism community; position requires availability on weekends, holidays and other non-traditional work hours as Mount Vernon is open 365 days.

Essential Functions: Production and maintenance of daily and monthly sales and cashier reporting; Creation of weekly staffing schedule inclusive of adjustments, breaks, etc...; Maintenance and distribution of daily attendance/activity and sales reports; Distribution of departmental communications to staff inclusive of memos, policy information, Complimentary ticket requests, Current activities, Special events and promotions, and Assist "Group Sales" with phone calls and messages.

Required qualifications:

- Proven leadership track record
- supervisory experience (one year minimum)
- positive attitude and excellent customer service skills
- ability to perform routine office activities inclusive of proficiency in MS Office suite
- a high school diploma

Please send a cover letter and resume with salary history to Human Resources: hmail@mountvernon.org, by fax to 703.780.8320 or by US Mail to POB 110, Mount Vernon, VA 22121. Mount Vernon is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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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.
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Association Account Manager
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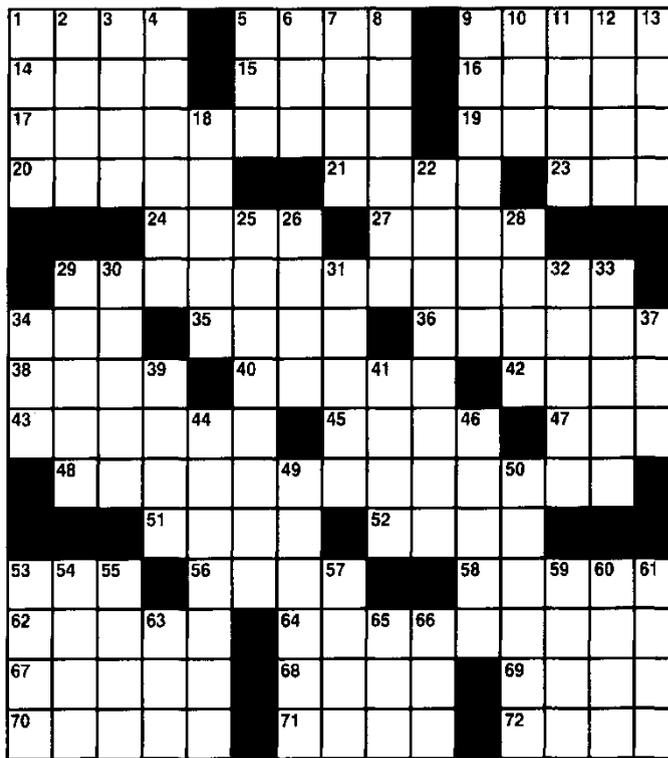
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No. 0324-3



Puzzle by Nancy Salomon

ACROSS

- London Fog, e.g.
- Multigenerational story
- Betray, in a way
- Up to the task
- Zippo
- Play hard to get
- Sage lands?
- Torments
- Barfly's roost, perhaps
- "... blackbirds, baked in ____"
- Professional suffix
- Do a post-laundry job
- Poet — St. Vincent Millay
- Joe's lands?
- de mots (pun)
- Feds
- Looked with desire
- Makes a scene?
- Largest Cornhusker city
- Have on
- Hotel Bible
- Peewee people
- One of the "Little Women"
- Dieters' lands?
- Last name in cruelty
- Took note of
- Pa!, rapper-style
- Spot in the Senate
- Arab emirate
- Sly character
- Bad lands?
- Slicker in the winter
- Superior's inferior
- Gold medalist Lipinski
- Insinuate
- Dummy
- Command to a boxer

DOWN

- Crow calls
- Parting words
- Plus
- Make mad
- Env. stuffer
- Hole number
- Inspiration
- Comics ghost
- Money coming in
- Ancient greeting
- It has a prominent horn

- Like some humor
- Uses a Singer
- Crossed fingers symbolize it
- Somewhat
- Like rye, usually
- Kidded around
- Full-price payers
- Sailor's stir
- Gallop
- Forget about
- Dangerous charger
- Go sailing
- Gillette product
- Brit's interjection
- Emmy winner Arthur
- Free
- Speedwagon

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

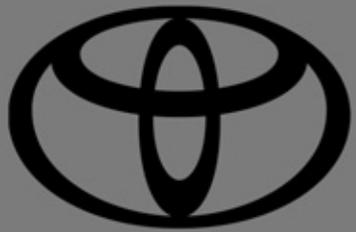
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