

# Alexandria Gazette Packet

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OCTOBER 2, 2008

## Mark Center Chosen As Final BRAC Site

Lack of easy Metro access cited by those opposed to decision.

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

After months of delay and maneuvering the U.S. Department of the Army finally announced Monday afternoon that the Mark Center in Alexandria, just off I-395, will be the site of the new home for the last contingent of 19,300 personnel being transferred to Fort Belvoir as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Report (BRAC). It won out over two other competing sites to house the 6,400 personnel of the Washington Headquarters Services.

Known in military terms as BRAC 133, WHS is a collection of Defense Department-level agencies that have been scattered throughout various rental spaces, primarily in the Arlington area. They will now be concentrated in two high-rise buildings to be constructed on 16 acres of land at Mark Center that will officially become an appendage of Fort Belvoir.

Two other sites under consideration, the Victory Center on Eisenhower Avenue in Alexandria and the GSA Warehouses in the Springfield area, were passed over by the Department of the Army. In arriving at the Mark Center decision, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations

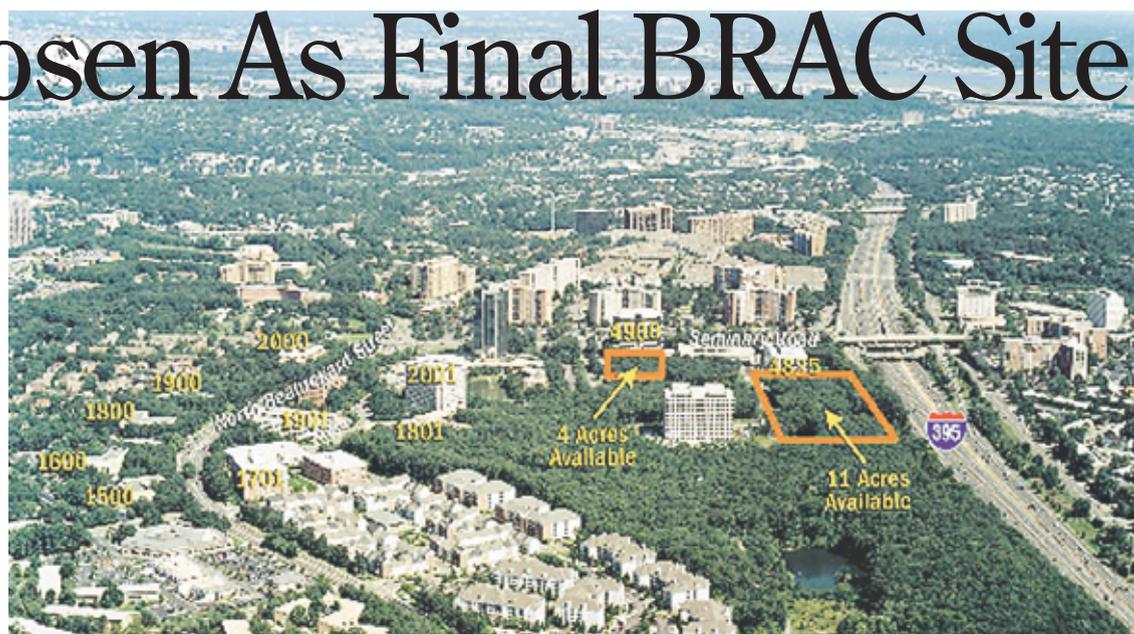
and Environment Keith Eastin, noted "the Army considered multiple factors, including project timelines, transportation management and site adaptability."

Under BRAC law, signed by the President and passed by Congress, all transfers must be complete by Sept. 15, 2011. It is also stipulated that all BRAC sites must be owned by the Department of the Army and become part of Fort Belvoir.

The personnel of BRAC 133 will be the only contingent not located on land which was already a part of the existing Fort Belvoir. The largest element to be transferred to Ft. Belvoir as a result of BRAC is the 8,500 personnel of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency which will be located at Belvoir's Engineering Proving Grounds in the Springfield area adjacent to the yet to be completed final links of the Fairfax County Parkway.

The Army will now buy the vacant acreage at Mark Center owned by Duke Realty Corporation and then sign a construction contract with them to build the 17 and 15 story towers to house the BRAC 133 workforce, according to Peter Scholz, senior vice president, Duke Realty.

"We are extremely excited about being chosen. I have been with the Winkler Com-



The Washington Headquarters Services will be housed in two high-rise buildings to be constructed on 16 acres of land at Mark Center

pany (Mark Center owner) for 16 years and this is one of the most significant events I have been a part of," Scholz said.

"We will have this site constructed and operational by the Sept. 15, 2011 deadline. The land sale will take place prior to January 2009 and construction will begin immediately. Both elements are part of a single agreement between the Army and Duke Realty," he said.

ONE OF THE PRIME criticisms of the Mark Center site, by those pushing for the Victory Center and the GSA Warehouses, was its lack of accessibility to Metro. The GSA site is served by the Springfield Metro located within a block and Virginia Rail Express while the Victory Center is within two blocks of the Van Dorn Metro Station. Neither mass transit facility is close to Mark Center, which is tucked between I-395, Seminary Road, and Beauregard Street in

Alexandria although the site is served by both DASH and Metro bus.

But, right from their initial proposal Duke Realty had developed plans to compensate for the lack of Metro proximity. "We feel we've come up with a very functional multi-model transportation center that will provide access and connectivity to various buses, including the Army transportation system, car pools, and other transportation services," Scholz said.

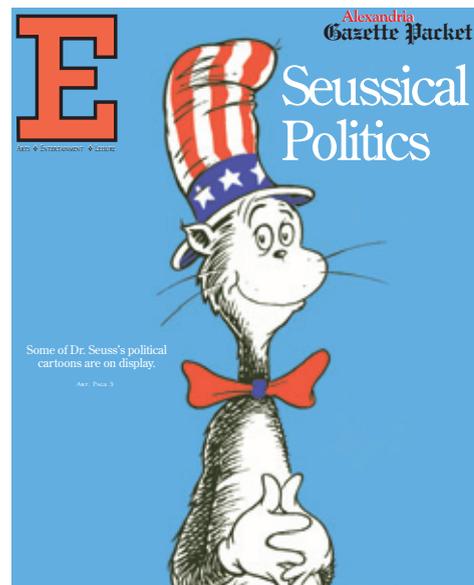
"This center is actually a mini version of the Pentagon Transportation Center. We already have a shuttle system to the Pentagon Metro Station. We will be expanding that," he said.

"The requirement for parking by the government is just over 4,000 vehicles. This is a little less than was approved by the Alexandria planning Commission when we went before them with a plan to expand Mark

SEE ARMY. PAGE 28

"We will have this site...operational by the...deadline"

—Peter Scholz,  
senior vice president,  
Duke Realty Corp.



## Economy in Crisis

As foreclosures rise and housing values slump, budget officials scramble to adjust.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

For Lee Antton, the national foreclosure crisis is looming rights outside his front door. That's where he's expecting the Alexandria Sheriff's Office to post an eviction notice any day now. His rowhouse in the Parker Gray neighborhood went into foreclosure back in January, and

PNC Bank bought it during a "sheriff's sale." Antton is essentially squatting in the building that was once his home, trying to determine his microeconomic situation as Congress debates the national macroeconomic crisis. For a brief moment last month, he thought he might have found a bailout in the form of an investor willing to offer \$350,000 for the house and let him live there for the near term. But PNC declined

the offer.

"My sense is that the bank is trying to hide its losses," said Antton, who has lived in the Madison Street rowhouse since 1987. "This is all about greed."

City land records show that Antton bought the house for \$184,400 in 1987. He said he was able to pay off the original mortgage in 1992, but he took out a

SEE BAILOUT. PAGE 4

"Many of our neighbors moved forward with a lot of rapid development. And they got caught."

— Mayor Bill Euille



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## The Montgomery Candidate

How did things ever get so screwed up? It's a question that's been on the minds of many residents in Cameron Station and Summers Grove in recent months, ever since an ethanol loading station quietly began operations near their homes in April. City Council members didn't even find out about the facility until May, when the situation erupted during a contentious three-hour meeting. Since that time, West End residents demanded an independent inquiry into the city's actions. Last week, council members approved a plan that would launch such an examination and set out a process to select a candidate for the position.

Already, one candidate has emerged as a contender: Montgomery County Inspector General **Thomas Dagley**. The monitoring group overseeing the inquiry is set to consider his resume this week, although the City Council isn't scheduled to start formally seeking candidates until Oct. 14. Dagley has an extensive professional background as a government auditor, including inspector general certification from American University's Department of Public Administration. He's worked as an inspector general for the Maryland Department of Human Resources, a senior performance auditor for the Maryland Department of Legislative Services and as a performance-management consultant to the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. He's been inspector general of Montgomery County since 2005.

"I would feel comfortable with him, and I think other people would as well," said Cameron Station Civic Association Vice President **Joe Bennett**, who has lived in the neighborhood since 1999. "This is not someone who is simply a management consultant or a lawyer. He's someone who has extensive investigative experience in these kinds of inquiries."

## Taking Fewer Home

Although a 1983 administrative regulation authorized 58 individual city employees to drive their city-owned vehicles home after work, a study earlier this year indicated that the use of take-home vehicles has more than tripled since the regulation was written, with 188 take-home vehicles in operation. According to an inventory of the city's fleet conducted by the Matrix Consulting Group, the Police Department authorized the vast majority of the take-home vehicles, with some city-owned cars traveling as far away as Frederick, Md.

Since that time, the Police Department reduced the number of take-home vehicles from 148 to 93 — and more reductions are planned for the near future. According to a September memorandum from Chief **David Baker** to members of City Council, the force plans to cut the take-home fleet by about 33 percent.

"The latest action to reduce 31 out-of-city take homes should result in savings of about \$39,000 per year in fuel costs, after funding the \$16,000 needed for additional parking," Baker explained. "Of the 31 vehicles to be rescinded, two vehicles will be auctioned and six will continue to be parked at various public schools to maintain police presence."

## Laugh About It One Day

One thing about Mayor **Bill Euille** — he doesn't like holding grudges. During a recent presentation of a proclamation honoring Chief Deputy Sheriff **Tim Gleeson**, the mayor decided to let bygones be bygones. Gleeson was being honored for rounding up about 10,000 candles — including many he that he personally purchased — and delivering them to Blacksburg in time for a vigil after the Virginia Tech tragedy last year. But the mayor couldn't let the moment pass without remembering the time when Gleeson held him at gunpoint.

It was all misunderstanding, of course, and fortunately no shots were fired. But it makes for a great story.

The mishap took place in the mid-1980s, when Gleeson was a police officer and Euille was working for a local construction company. Euille and some friends from work were playing racquetball late one evening in the penthouse of their office building when a caller alerted police to potential burglary. By the time the racquetball players exited the building, a swarm of police officers was waiting for them.

"Police officers, led by the honorable Mr. Gleeson, had their guns drawn," explained Euille while honoring Gleeson last week as the city employee of the month. "I will never forget that day."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

# NEWS

ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE EDITOR MARY ANNE WEBER  
703-917-6431 OR MAWEBER@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Discretion or Discrimination?

### Charges and countercharges fly after T.G.I. Friday's restaurant fired a manager who has H.I.V.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Few people seem thankful for the events of Friday July 28, 2006. That was the date when a confrontation took place at a T.G.I. Friday's restaurant on Alexandria's West End between a regional director of operations and a restaurant manager. During a dispute about restaurant operations, the supervisor asked his employee about what kinds of medication he was taking and whether they might be influencing his job performance. That's when the James McCray disclosed to Robert D'Anna that he was H.I.V. positive.

"He physically recoiled," recalled McCray, who now works in the insurance industry. "We were having a conversation with elbows leaning on the table. But I after I told him, he was leaning back as far away from me as he could get."

Shortly after the disclosure, two men in white uniforms from Loyal Service Systems arrived to supply paper products in the restroom. D'Anna became suspicious and asked McCray if the restaurant paid for the service. That's when McCray explained that the service was free — a statement that would later become the core of T.G.I. Friday's defense of its actions. According to testimony in the case, McCray was about to explain that the delivery and installation of the products were free because the restaurant purchased the paper supplies. But D'Anna abruptly walked out before McCray could complete the explanation.

"He was literally in mid-sentence," said Jamison Meadows, who was then an assistant manager at the restaurant. "Jamie never got a chance to explain why the service was free."

**D'ANNA SUMMONED** McCray to the T.G.I. Friday's at National Airport the next day and fired him — ostensibly for lying about the contract, although McCray immediately suspected that he was the victim of discrimination. In November, McCray filed a case with the Human Rights Commission, which conducted a 10-hour public hearing in the case in May 2008. Since then, the commission issued a unanimous decision in favor of McCray and City Manger Jim Hartmann assessed a \$5,000 fine against the restaurant. Meanwhile, McCray is preparing to seek damages in federal court while the restaurant has filed an appeal of the case in circuit court.

"I'm not backing down," said McCray, now 40. "I feel like they're trying to drag this out — hoping that I run out of either time or money, whichever comes first. But I'm not stopping, and I'm going to see this all the way through."

In a circuit-court filing challenging the commission's unanimous decision in the case, an attorney for T.G.I. Friday's argued that the ruling was "unsupported by the evidence on record." According to a motion filed by T.G.I. Friday's in the Circuit Court on Aug. 27 — the last possible day to file an appeal in the case — the restaurant plans to argue that the commission relied on "erroneous facts and circumstances" in its finding that the restaurant unlawfully terminated the former employee. The lan-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

### T.G.I. Friday's in Alexandria

guage of the filing indicates that the restaurant plans to stick by its position that McCray was fired for lying about the contract with Loyal Service Systems.

"McCray was fired because he lied to his supervisor; it had no relation to his having H.I.V.," wrote T.G.I. Friday's lawyer James Coleman. "While the commission may have its own opinions on whether lying to your supervisor should

**"I feel like they're trying to drag this out — hoping that I run out of either time or money, whichever comes first. But I'm not stopping, and I'm going to see this all the way through."**

— James McCray

be grounds for termination, there is no argument or dispute that T.G.I. Friday's is entitled to run its business as it sees fit and that it has specific and well-publicized policies, of which McCray was aware, that lying to a supervisor is grounds for immediate termination."

**THE DISPUTE OVER** whether McCray lied about the contract with Loyal Service Systems is at the heart of the case, and each side has its own version of events. The Human Rights Commission sided with McCray, ruling that he was telling the truth about the cost of the service. One of the pieces of evidence entered into the record was the invoice, which itemized the supply items and their quantity but made no requirement for payment. During the public

SEE RESTAURANT, PAGE 7

## The Bailout Spread

For members of Congress, few moments on the floor of the House hold as much high drama as this week's contentious vote for a \$700-billion bailout of Wall Street. It's the kind of decision known in Washington as a "legacy vote," a position that voters will remember for years to come. U.S. Rep. **Jim Moran** (D-8) made such a vote on Tuesday by casting his lot with the 140 House Democrats who supported the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 — a measure that failed 228 to 205.

Unlike many of the members who voted against the package, Moran is not in a difficult re-election battle this year. But he does have two opponents on the ballot — one who would have supported the plan and one who would have opposed it. Republican challenger **Mark Ellmore** said that he would have reluctantly supported the bill.

"I don't like the idea of governments being involved in any kind of bailout, but we're literally on the verge of encountering a lockdown of our equity markets," said Ellmore, a mortgage banker with Countrywide Bank. "Democrats put into place policies that forced lending institutions to make loans to individuals who weren't able to qualify under traditional guidelines, and so now we in a position where we are left with no choice."

Voters who want a candidate that would have opposed the bailout package before Congress this week have another choice on the November ballot, Independent Green candidate **Ron Fisher**. In a strongly worded letter to Treasury Secretary **Hank Paulson** this week, Fisher laid out his opposition to the bill, which he called "the scam of all scams." Fisher said the federal government should not be in the business of purchasing bad debt from Wall Street, and he was highly critical of those who engineered this week's effort in Congress.

"What they are doing is giving Paulson a blank check to buy mortgage-related securities from whoever he wants to at whatever price he wants to pay," said Fisher. "That money should go to jobs and health care."

## McAuliffe Hires Top Gun

The Democratic primary for Virginia's governor won't happen until next summer, but the campaign has already become a hot topic of conversation within the party. Until last month, Alexandria's hometown favorite Del. **Brian Moran** (D-46) was locked in a heated race against Sen. **Creigh Deeds** (D-25), who represents rural Bath County. But then the race changed dramatically during the Democratic National Convention in August when former national party chairman **Terry McAuliffe** began talking about throwing his hat in the ring.

Now McAuliffe has taken the next step by hiring Virginia political top gun **Mo Elleithe**, a veteran communication strategist who worked for **Mark Warner** in 2001 campaign and **Tim Kaine** in 2005. Elleithe also worked on former Attorney General **Janet Reno's** 2002 campaign for governor of Florida and New York Sen. **Hillary Clinton's** 2008 campaign for president. According to McAuliffe spokeswoman **Tracy Sefl**, McAuliffe hired Elleithe to advise him on Virginia politics.

"He'll be staking out the basics of what a possible campaign for governor would look like," said Sefl. "Terry likes to approach things methodically and carefully with solid advice, and that's what he's going to get from Mo."

## Signs of the Times

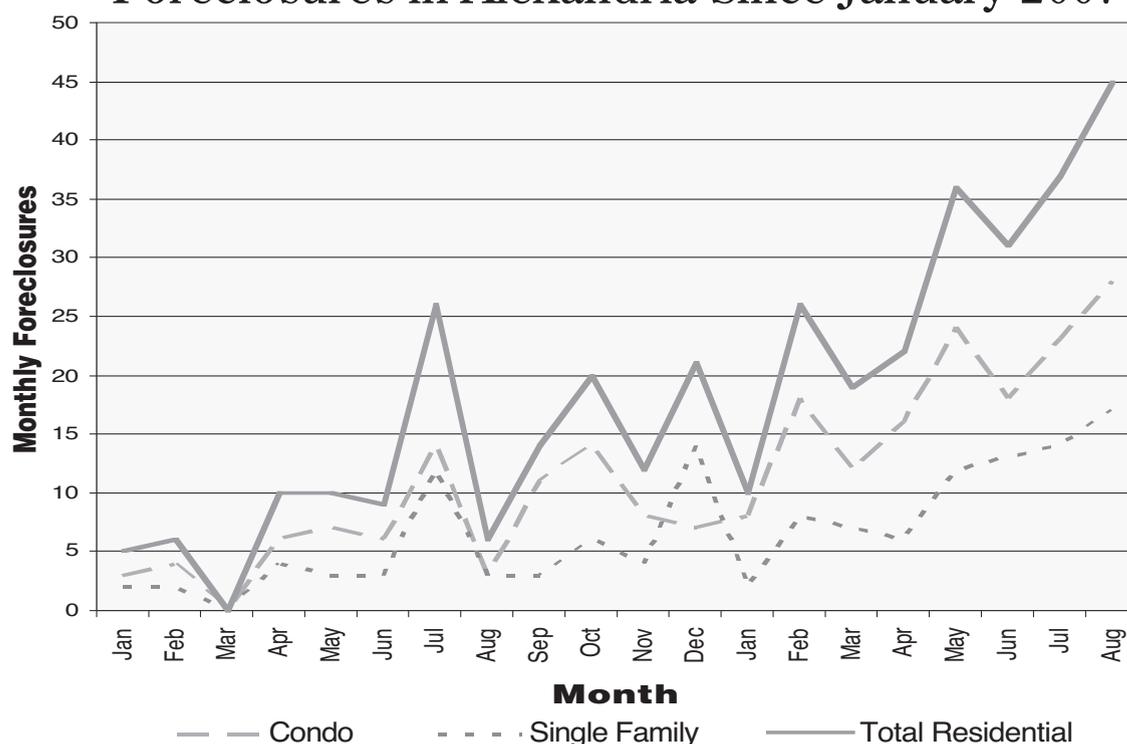
It seems to happen every election cycle — political yard signs are stolen, vandalized or trampled underfoot. Presidential years bring more attention and therefore more signs and therefore more vandalism. But for volunteers who spend countless hours collecting, distributing and planting the signs, it's always a bitter pill to swallow. Just ask **Matt Harris**, the Alexandria Democratic Committee's deputy chairman for precinct operations on the eastern end of the city. He spent a Sunday morning installing about 65 Democratic yard signs on the median of Route One only to find most of them removed within the week.

"I'll give them credit for doing a clean job because they took the wire frames and everything," said Harris, adding that the value of the stolen signs was about \$200. "This is public speech, and we have the right to promote these candidates. But the people who stole these signs are stopping us from doing that."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

## NEWS

### Foreclosures in Alexandria Since January 2007



GRAPH BY STU MOLL/GAZETTE PACKET

## Everybody's Looking for a Bailout

FROM PAGE 1

second mortgage in 2002 to open his own business. Although he said he paid down about \$50,000 of the \$200,000 loan, he started falling behind when his business was slow late last year. He still owed about \$150,000 on the mortgage when he missed several months of payments. Shortly after the property was assessed at \$502,759 in January, Antton's house went into foreclosure. City land records show that PNC Bank bought the house on Jan. 31 for \$381,000.

"PNC generally works with the former owners to provide them with enough time to vacate the premise," said Fred Solomon, a spokesman for PNC. "In terms of considering offers, we would need to recover our investment."

**WHILE ANTON WAITS** for the Alexandria Sheriff's Office to issue a notice that he has 72 hours

**"My sense is that the bank is trying to hide its losses. This is all about greed."**

— **Lee Antton, former homeowner**

to vacate the premise, Washington has been engaged in its own turmoil. Last month, Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson proposed a plan that would allow the federal government to purchase \$700 billion of bad debt. But the House of Representatives rejected the proposal this week after highly contentious negotiations. Ultimately, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) found himself in the minority, voting for the bill that failed in a 228-to-205 vote Tuesday afternoon. Moran voted for the bill even though he would have preferred a version that would allow bankruptcy judges to rewrite the terms of troubled mortgages.

"That part was left out to make the bill bipartisan," said Austin Durrer, a spokesman for Moran. "Ultimately, he would like to see a version of the bill that has that language back in it."

Meanwhile, budget officials at City Hall are dealing with their own crisis. Because real-estate taxes

account for 54 percent of the city budget, the housing slump has already created an \$8 million hole in this year's budget. The Police Department, Fire Department and Sheriff's Office were spared the brunt of the reductions, with public-safety agencies limited to a 1 percent cut. Other city agencies were asked to find reductions by as much as 4.9 percent although no cuts were made to the city's appropriation to the school system.

"This is not a call and response," Budget Director Bruce Johnson told City Council members last week. "We're not asking for ideas. We're saying, 'your budget has been reduced, now tell us what you're going to do.' We're asking departments to prioritize and keep what's most important and let some other things diminish."

**DURING THE FIRST** six months of this year residential sales volume has already gone down 27 percent, and the average sales price for existing properties had gone down 5.4 percent. New construction is expected to be down about 40 percent, with \$230 million this year compared to \$585 million last year. During a presentation of the city's economic situation during last week's City Council meeting, budget officials explained that early projections for next year's real-estate assessments show that single-family houses are expected to decline by 4 percent and condominiums are expected to decline by 8 percent.

"I would characterize the market as emerging," explained Acting Comptroller Ray Welch.

"I think it's submerging," responded Councilman Justin Wilson.

Budget officials told City Council members last week that they should expect some service reductions and tighter controls on budget execution next year. The commercial and residential market is expected to make further declines, and the value of new construction is likely to be low. City officials are quick to point out that Alexandria is in a better situation than other neighboring jurisdictions, with Fairfax County experiencing a \$430 million shortfall and Loudoun County grappling with a \$176 million shortfall.

"Many of our neighbors moved forward with a lot of rapid development," said Mayor Bill Euille. "And they got caught."

## ECONOMY

# ACVA Spotlights Success

## Charlotte Hall named ACVA's Tourism Partner of the Year.

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**R**unning counter to the present economic landscape, Alexandria tourism was actually up 3.84 percent in 2007 compared to 2006, topping \$584 million in visitor spending. That generated \$19.6 million in City taxes and supported 5,600 jobs with a payroll of \$101 million.

That was just part of the good news that greeted those attending Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association's Annual Meeting Sept. 25 at the Crown Plaza Old Town. It was buttressed by the keynote speaker, international tourism expert Adam Sacks, founder and managing director, Tourism Economics, who pronounced Alexandria as being "in very good condition economically" from a tourism perspective.

"Alexandria is a recession proof/counter cyclical destination. It is well located and has a lot to offer to not only visitors but also to residents — both local and regional,"

Sacks told the crowd assembled in the hotel ballroom.

"Virginia traditionally has done very well in tourism and will continue to do so," Sachs said. Addressing the overall economic crunch Sacks said that the picture is "probably not as bad" as it may appear.

"The fact that inflation continues to remain under control is a very good thing. And, the weakened dollar actually benefits tourism because it makes us more attractive to foreign tourists," Sacks said.

Deputy City Manager Mark Jinks, an ACVA Executive Committee member, kicked off the annual meeting by presenting Charlotte Hall, vice president, Potomac River Boat Company, with ACVA's 2008 David Speck Partner of the Year Award. The recognition is presented yearly to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of Alexandria tourism.

"Charlotte has been a true bridge builder throughout her years of involvement with ACVA," Jinks said. "Charlotte Hall is truly a phenomenal woman who has contributed so much to our tourism industry — not just during the past year, but since the very early days of the association, to make ACVA what it is today," added Stephanie Brown, ACVA president and CEO.

Praising tourism's revenue generation for the city, Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille said, "Tourism is economic development." He also noted the recognition tourism has brought to the city both nationally and internationally.



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/GAZETTE PACKET

**Charlotte Hall, vice president, Potomac River Boat Company, center, is flanked by Stephanie Brown, president & CEO, ACVA, and Mark Jinks, deputy city manager, after being named ACVA's 2008 recipient of the David Speck Partner of the Year Award.**

**"We are changing to take a destination approach to our marketing."**

**—Stephanie Brown, president & CEO, ACVA**

"Where ever I travel and people ask me where I'm from when I say Alexandria, Va., they seem to know exactly where that is. And, many of them have been here as visitors," Euille said.

"When I grew up here and went away to college and people would ask where I was from I'd say Washington, D.C., because then I didn't have to explain where Alexandria was. That is no longer the case. And, none of this worldwide recognition would have happened without ACVA's activities," he said.

Continuing those efforts, Brown reviewed ACVA's past year's activities and unveiled the organization's new "Brand and Image Study" that is designed to enhance the city's tourism appeal not only to visitors from afar but also to both local and regional residents.

"We use this new brand and image study everyday when considering how to better attract visitors. Alexandria is now in the top 20 of Travelosity's recommended sites," she said.

"For many years we have focused on events. Now we are changing to take a destination approach to our marketing," Brown explained.

She also announced the slogan "Fun Side of The Potomac" was gone. The new marketing phrase is "Shop, Dine and Celebrate on America's Main Street." The new slogan can be adjusted to fit various segments of the advertising media as well as individu

SEE TOURISM, PAGE 7

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# An Evening With Charlie Wilson— Minus The Angels

The former Congressman offers his opinions on Iraq and Afghanistan.

By CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

It has been said that those who ignore history are doomed to repeat it. That was the core of former Texas Democratic Congressman Charlie Wilson's message to an overflow audience last Wednesday night at Schlesinger Center on the Northern Virginia Community College's campus in Alexandria.

"The United States needs to develop a lot better staying power. We had a chance to save Afghanistan for a lot less money and human sacrifice than what we are now facing," Wilson told the audience that filled the auditorium and spilled out into an adjoining area where they watched on closed circuit television.

**"While we are winning we should get out."**

—Charlie Wilson on Iraq

Booked as a town Hall meeting by U.S. Rep. James P. Moran (D-8) the two hour event, entitled "An Evening with Charlie Wilson," focused on U.S. foreign policy in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East, now and in the past. As with anything in Wilson's approach to life, it was not dull nor a policy wonk recital of the challenges now faced by America in that region of the world.

He reiterated several of the opinions he expressed in an earlier press interview which emphasized the theme, "that a strong military alone is not enough to ensure our long-term national security." His main point being that America has a habit of winning the war and losing the peace.

His maverick approach to intervening in the Afghanistan/Soviet Union 10 year conflict in the 1980's was the theme of the hit movie "Charlie Wilson's War" starring Tom Hanks, as Wilson, and Julie Roberts. He was successful in securing a large appropriation in Congress to supply the Afghans with modern military weapons to thwart the Soviet's invasion of that nation.

As Wilson told the audience that victory by the mujaheddin tribal leaders led to the eventual fall of the Soviet Union and "made the world a safer place." He also noted, "Not long after that victory, the Evil Empire collapsed without spilling the blood of one American soldier."

Referring to a scene near the end of the movie, Wilson took the audience back to when he was pleading with Congress to appropriate additional funds to help the Afghans to rebuild their schools and national infrastructure. But, he was turned down.

"The war was over and, as usual, Congress just wanted to get out. They had had enough," he said.

"If we had continued some of that funding we would not have left the Afghans vulnerable to the Taliban and al Qaeda. It takes more than winning on a battlefield to make this country safe," he said.

When a questioner from the audience asked his appraisal of the Iraq War, Wilson replied, "Right now it's better than we ever thought it would be. While we are winning we should get out."

**WILSON ALSO PRAISED** Afghanistan President Karzi as "doing as good a job as possible" given the circumstances within the

country and the reinvigoration of the Taliban and al Qaeda. He also believed that their resurgence could be stifled with more aid to the country in the form of education and helping them agriculturally to lessen their dependence on poppies, the source of cocaine.

Prior to answering questions, Wilson delighted the audience with a short biographical monologue of his beginnings in politics at the age of 13 in his hometown of Trinity, Texas. It all started because the town secretary at the time, poisoned Wilson's 14 year old dog, Teddy, who died right in front of him.

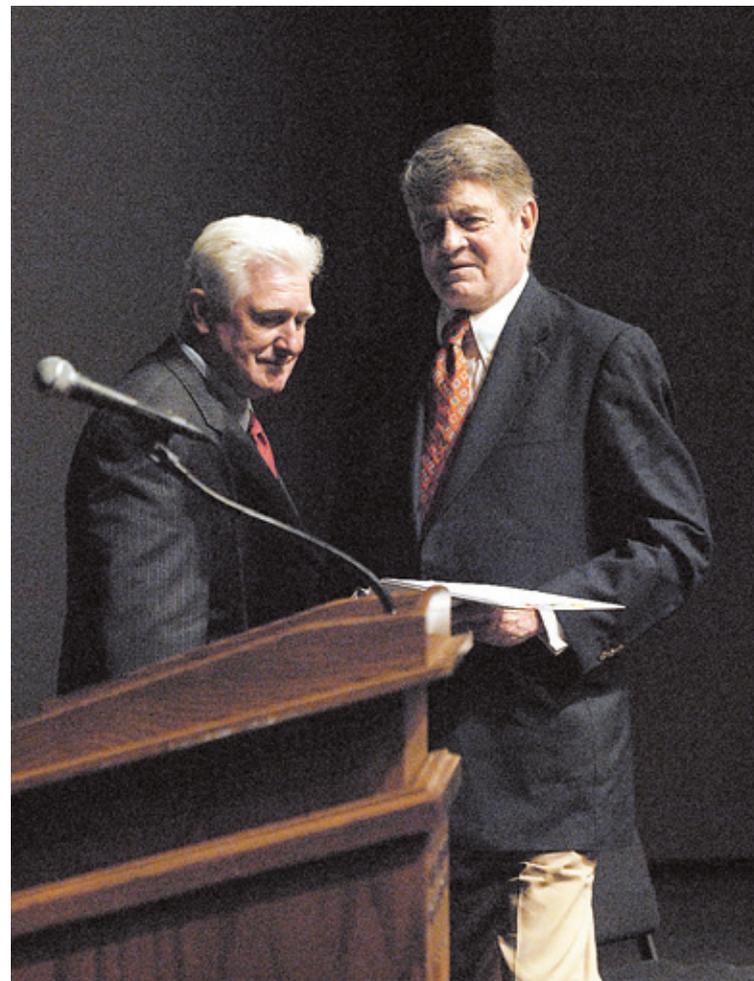
"Then he went around town bragging that he had done it. That made up my mind to run against him. I did and beat him. It also opened my eyes to what can be done through politics," he said.

Wilson eventually went on to serve in the Texas legislature and then Congress. As portrayed by Hanks he was far from the standard issue Congressman.

"Those who saw the movie and/or read the book know that there were a lot of accusations made about me," he said. "I plead guilty to all of them."

The movie not only highlighted Wilson's maverick, unorthodox approach to gain aid for the Afghans and his self-directed visit there to personally meet with warrior tribal leaders, but also his notorious escapades with women, booze and life in general. One particular scene depicts Wilson in a hot tube with several well-endowed showgirls whom he refers to as his "Angels" as he beguiles them with his tales of Washington life in the fast lane.

Wilson also worked for the CIA, specializing in the Middle East. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, he served in the Submarine Corps and at the Pentagon. During his tour at the latter he concentrated on evaluating nuclear forces and capabilities, according to Moran's introduction. It was while on a 30-day leave from the Navy that Wilson first decided to run for Congress. "The second district of Texas is one of the most conservative. But, they elected Charlie Wilson because they trusted and loved him," Moran said.



Former Texas Congressman Charlie Wilson, right, with U.S. Rep. James P. Moran who hosted the event.

"To Charlie, the Russians were always the bad guys," Moran emphasized. That was borne out in a pre-presentation press conference with Wilson who acknowledged, "When I realized how cruel the Soviets were treating the Afghans I needed to change that situation."

**ALSO, DURING THAT** press conference, Wilson spoke about his heart attack a year ago when he almost died and underwent heart transplant surgery. "You don't want to get a heart transplant unless you absolutely need it. I now have a 33-year-old heart," he said.

When asked why he had left Congress his answer was vintage Charlie Wilson. "Congress is just not as much fun as it used to be," he answered. "What we did in Afghanistan was way outside the box. Today, you wouldn't even get out of the committee room before there was a leak to the press or the bureaucracy," he said.

He also chastised government for placing more reliance on military methods than on diplomacy and development in the war on terrorism. "We spend one percent of our budget on diplomacy and helping poorer nations build their infrastructure and 22 percent on the military and weapons development," Wilson said..

The evening was best summed up by Moran at the conclusion of his introduction of Wilson, the man and the former Congressman, "We miss him in Congress," he said as he surrendered the podium to Wilson for an evening of insight to America — past, present and future.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

The crowd, many of whom arrived early at the Schlesinger Center, filled the auditorium and overflowed into an adjoining area.

# Restaurant Accused of Unlawful Discrimination

FROM PAGE 3

hearing in May, D'Anna testified that he believed McCray may have lied to protect his former boss for signing the Loyal Supply contract. But exhibits entered into evidence demonstrated that McCray himself signed a contract, as did other general managers of Friday's restaurants in the Northern Virginia region.

"D'Anna's erroneous assumption raises doubt regarding the reasonableness of his actions," the commission concluded. "The commission finds that the exchange between McCray and D'Anna which Friday's and D'Anna categorize as lying is not that at all — at most it was a misunderstanding and a reasonable person would have sought additional information and considered further explanation."

According to a Supreme Court ruling cited by the Human Rights Commission in its ruling, when an employer's reason for termination has been discredited, "discrimination may well be the most likely alternative explanation, especially since the employer is in the best position to put forth the actual reason for its decision." Yet T.G.I. Friday's petition in circuit court seeks to challenge the notion that their reason for firing McCray has been discredited. In the petition filed as a result of the commission's decision, T.G.I. Friday's argues that the commission overstepped authority by meddling in company business.

"The court's role is not to assess the wisdom of an employer's business judgments or the effectiveness of its procedures, but to narrowly determine whether the employer exercised a discriminatory motive in violation of federal law," according to T.G.I. Friday's petition in circuit court. "The commission ignores this rule by substituting its own judgment, relying on erroneous and irrelevant facts and circumstances, and attributing discriminatory motivations to D'Anna through far-fetched speculation."

**AS THE APPEAL** makes its way through the Alexandria courthouse, the \$5,000 civil penalty has been put on hold for now. In his Sept. 17 letter to the chief operating officer of T.G.I. Friday's, the city manager explained that he is levying the civil penalty but will stay the payment and collection of the civil penalty until the circuit court has reviewed the petition and sided in favor of the Human Rights Commission. Meanwhile, McCray said he is willing to be patient and wait for his day in federal court.

"In my opinion, it seems like T.G.I. Friday's is trying to keep this thing going until Jamie gets tired or runs out of money or dies trying," said Meadows, the former assistant manager who has since left the company. "It's amazing to me that someone can be terminated for this 30 years after H.I.V. entered our society."

# Good Year for Tourism Industry

FROM PAGE 5

alized audiences.

Over the past year Alexandria welcomed 3.4 million visitors that accounted for a revenue increase of 19 percent. ACVA has also expended \$103,598 over the past year on media buys to promote Alexandria as a tourism destination.

Noting that "Where" magazine, which is distributed by hotels nationwide, is one of the most read publications by tourists, Brown stated that ACVA has increased its advertising in that publication to a full page. The ads now focus on what the city has to offer not just what is taking place at a given time.

"We have come to understand our brand as the perfect balance between historic ambiance and contemporary flare. This new brand focus has become a guiding principle. We have introduced a number of new products this year designed to motivate, inform and disperse visi-

tors," Brown said.

Prior to Brown's presentation City Councilman Ludwig Gaines reviewed the activities of the National Harbor Collaborative Task Force in promoting various elements designed to appeal to regional tourism. These have included such things as enhancing the waterfront docks, creating the King Street Trolley, and bringing Alexandria museums to the street through the efforts of the Office of Historic Alexandria.

As stated by ACVA Board Chairman John Varghese, general manager, Westin Alexandria, in welcoming the crowd, "If I had to chose one word for this past year's success it would be "collaboration." He also recognized two outgoing Board members for their years of service to ACVA and Alexandria tourism — Jim Singerling, Club Managers Association of America and Pat Troy, owner, Pat Troy's Ireland's Own Restaurant and Pub.

**William J. Kovatch, Jr.**  
Attorney at Law

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# Give Time to Help a Child

**T**he wake of this past April's citywide focus on service – Spring for Alexandria – was felt along the Potomac River on Wednesday evening, Sept. 24, during a special riverboat tour involving the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership; which was granted Spring for Alexandria's team-fundraising award – a charter aboard the Admiral TILP - through the generous support of the Potomac Riverboat Company.

**COMMENTARY**

The Alexandria Mentoring Partnership,

a collaborative of 10 public and non-profit professionally-managed-mentor programs, sailed into its 3rd year of operation and enjoyed a wonderful dockside reception and tour to the National Harbor with 40 current and potential volunteers in an effort to thank mentors and provide information to newcomers.

In 2006, City government leaders, community members and partners from the private sector came together to form the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership in an effort to respond to residents' recommendations that mentoring be enhanced in our community. Mentoring is proven to be effective in preventing crime, poor school performance, teen pregnancy, drug abuse and gang involvement. Mentoring helps chil-



Alexandria's Mentoring Partnership takes a boat tour along the Potomac River.

dren feel better about themselves and the world around them.

One study showed that a high-school drop-out turning to a life of crime or drugs costs the country 1.7 – 2.3 million dollars. Mentored youth are 60 percent more likely to graduate from high school. However, a recent national statistic indicated that, while some 17 million young people in the country are in need or want of a mentor, fewer than 3 million have one and, despite a 20 percent in-

crease in the number of mentors in the City in 2 years, there is a still a shortage of 200 adults among our 10 mentor programs.

No experience is necessary to become a mentor and the time commitment is about 1 hour a week. Mentors are professional trained and supported. Although I staff the Alexandria Mentoring Partnership professionally, I am also a mentor and tutor. It is, by far, the most worthwhile activity that I have participated in during

the course of the last year.

January is National Mentoring Month. As you consider pending New Year's resolutions, particularly during these economic times, please consider giving an hour of your time a week to help a child. For more information, please go to alexandriava.gov/mentoring or contact me directly.

**Mike Mackey**  
Coordinator  
Alexandria Mentoring Partnership

**LETTERS**

## We Deserve Better

To the Editor:

There are many military families in Virginia. They deserve to know the truth about John McCain. McCain paints himself as a war hero. The facts betray him. As a United States Senator, John McCain sponsored and pushed for the eventual passage of federal laws that prevent all of the Pentagon's information on POWs left behind in Southeast Asia from being released to their families and to the public. Passage of the "McCain Bill" in 1991 prevents information about prisoners of war discovered alive in Vietnam after the end of the Vietnam war from being made public. All of this information, and more, is available online at the Nation Institute, at [www.nationinstitute.org](http://www.nationinstitute.org).

Further information, including Pentagon documents from that

era, are available at <http://www.vietnamveteransagainstjohnmccain.com>.

In addition, McCain's voting record in the Senate speak volumes about McCain's commitment to the military. John McCain voted AGAINST 20 million dollars for veteran care facilities. John McCain voted AGAINST \$322 million for safety equipment for our troops in Iraq. John McCain voted AGAINST \$1 billion dollars in new equipment for the National Guard. John McCain voted AGAINST Jim Webb's G.I. Bill. John McCain voted AGAINST \$430 million for veterans outpatient care. Barack Obama voted FOR all of these troop support initiatives.

Our soldiers deserve better than McCain.

We deserve better than McCain.

**Gail Gordon**  
Alexandria

## A Possible Solution

To the Editor:

Various stakeholders are currently arguing over what should happen to the future of Hunting Towers upon its sale in 2012. The IDI/Kay partnership wants to maximize profits by converting all 530 rentals at Hunting Towers to so-called "affordable" condominiums and building all-luxury at the property across the street, Hunting Terrace. The current owner of Hunting Towers, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), wants to maintain ownership until the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project is complete. While acting as landlord, VDOT has been defraying the cost of bridge construction by receiving net profits to the tune of \$16,000,000.00. Affordable housing advocates want to preserve the remaining 530-units of the previous 1,000

rentals units on site as affordable. Preservationists want to maintain the pleasant historic aesthetics that make Old Town a lovely place to live and visit. The City of Alexandria's Housing Department wants to provide affordable home ownership opportunities for its employees and citizenry. And finally, after nearly a decade of enduring bridge construction, the current residents of Hunting Towers desire to continue living in their homes after so many years of disruption and uncertainty.

I propose a simple solution that may appeal all stakeholders involved. The Virginia Housing and Development Agency (VHDA) in coordination with (or independently) the Federal Housing and Urban Development Agency (HUD) must take ownership of the Hunting Towers property. Virginia state law allows state entities the ability to transfer possession of property from one entity to an

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To discuss ideas and concerns,  
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Fax: 703-917-0991  
e-mail:  
[gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mary Anne Weber**  
Editor, 703-917-6431  
[maweber@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:maweber@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Michael Lee Pope**  
Reporter, 703-615-0960  
[alexandriagazette@yahoo.com](mailto:alexandriagazette@yahoo.com)

**Chuck Hagee**  
Reporter, 703-549-1216  
[cg.hagee@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:cg.hagee@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Rebecca Halik**  
Editorial Asst., 703-917-6407  
[rhalik@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:rhalik@connectionnewspapers.com)

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**Photography:**  
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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

other, or to other municipalities. VDOT should transfer ownership to the VHDA, HUD, or the City of Alexandria Department of Housing. This transfer of ownership will allow each group of aforementioned Stakeholders the capability to satisfy their goals.

The benefits are innumerable:

- ❖ The previous landlord of the Towers, Jack Kay, was paid a lucrative sum by VDOT in 2000 when the Towers/Terrace was acquired to make room for the new bridge. IDI Cos., in their joint venture with Jack Kay, can still redevelop by-right the Hunting Terrace site into luxury condominiums, which would demand top dollar. They could forgo the expensive cost to refurbish the Towers property, and retain the \$20 million they have offered the city to build above by-rights.

- ❖ VDOT will reap goodwill from the residents and citizens of the City of Alexandria who have endured the long construction process. By transferring the property to VHDA or HUD, they can continue to ensure revenue from the Towers can continue to flow into their accounts.

- ❖ Affordable Housing advocates will have successfully retained 530 affordable rentals that would have

otherwise been permanently removed in a condo conversation. To date, a petition signed by over one thousand local citizens insisting that Hunting Towers and Hunting Terrace be preserved as affordable rental housing in perpetuity.

- ❖ Preservationists will have preserved the historical ambiance of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and Old Town. The retention of the Towers by the government, and the by-rights redevelopment of the Terrace site would be in adherence with current zoning regulations.

- ❖ The government of the City of Alexandria will have successfully achieved the retention of 530 units of desperately needed affordable rental units for the citizens and their government employees.

- ❖ Finally, the current residents of Hunting Towers, including many aging and disabled on fixed incomes, will be allowed to stay in the apartments they have called home for so many years.

I don't expect everyone to agree to the proposal I have suggested, but I challenge somebody to provide a better plan that will adequately cater to the wants and needs of all the stakeholders involved. Can you devise an equitable solution for this perplexing

dilemma?

**Lewis Simon**  
Alexandria

## The Growth Pains of Success?

To the Editor:

As a parent of two children in the Alexandria Public School system, I was disappointed by the direction taken in the article last week entitled "Classrooms Bulging." In my opinion the focus was entirely misplaced. While we may not yet know the exact reason as to the increase in attendance in the Alexandria school system, I believe the facts show that individual schools' achievement has played a significant role in attributing to the increase in attendance at our schools.

The assumption that, "everyone would go to a private school if money were no object" is old and tired. Parents make choices for a variety of reasons, but I must think one of the most important is the individual school's record of achievement. When looking for reasons for the dramatic increase in public school attendance, why don't we focus on some of these quantifiable measurements of achievement?

This year all Alexandria City el-

ementary schools received accreditation. While this can be viewed as a minimum standard, nonetheless it is an objective standard that a diverse school district such as ours was able to meet. This was not the case a few years ago, and more importantly many of our schools passed with scores in the eighty and ninety percentile range—an achievement for which we should feel proud.

Let's give credit where it is due. We are seeing an increase in public school attendance this year in great part because of our dedicated principals, overall excellent teaching staff, and involved parents. As long as we are able to retain and recruit these excellent professionals and the City sustains and improves its ability to educate our children, our schools will thrive—regardless of the cyclical swings of the economy.

**Tracy Taylor**  
Alexandria

## Wanted: A New Home

If you are an Alexandrian with children, chances are you have heard of Valley Drive Preschool. For 50 years, we have been pro-

viding an affordable and nurturing preschool experience to hundreds of families with young children. We hope to continue that good work for the next 50 years. But first, we need a new home.

This summer, our landlord—Convergence—asked us to find new quarters by the summer of 2009. Convergence, which was once called Fair-Park Baptist Church, is now being revived as a Christian arts community and plans to rent the space for artist studios.

We have embarked on a vigorous search for new space, and we are exploring a few leads, but we need the help of the Alexandria community. We are a non-profit, cooperative, half-day preschool, and searching for a new home is a huge challenge, especially in a city as dense and expensive as Alexandria. As a co-op school, it is up to our parent volunteers to find a place for Valley Drive to continue to thrive.

We are reaching out to you, Alexandria, for your help, insights and ideas. Are there opportunities for public-private partnerships that could help our city provide

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COMMENTARY

When Dengue Hits Home

BY ANN ANDREWS MORRIS  
GAZETTE PACKET

A few weeks ago I was researching dengue fever for my job in order to create some educational materials about the importance of preventing the disease. Imagine my shock when two days later my husband calls from Dubai, eight time zones away in the United Arab Emirates, to tell me that he had collapsed, was hospitalized and diagnosed with dengue fever (which can be fatal if not caught and treated early). Luckily for my husband, doctors at the American Hospital in Dubai quickly recognized his severe headache, chills, nausea, fever and cramps as symptoms of the mosquito-borne disease and treated him immediately with the simple yet not widely accessible cure of IV antibiotics and simple saline. A few days later he was at home, safe and on the mend.

His story is becoming increasingly more common, but for you who are reading this, it wasn't real until it happened to us. With increased global travel — both of humans and the mosquitoes who hitch rides on international flights — diseases like dengue fever are making appearances in new locales. In the United States, outbreaks have been reported in Texas, Puerto Rico and Hawaii. Recent outbreaks in Vietnam and Rio — with Brazil being a crossroads in South America — demonstrate the impressive jump of this disease.

Many people, especially children in the developing world, don't get even a fighting chance against

this mostly curable disease — and it's only getting worse. World Health Organization (WHO) figures show that about two fifths of the world's population is at risk for dengue. They estimate that there are some 50 million cases each year with 22,000 deaths. Nearly 900,000 cases of dengue were reported in the Americas. If untreated, dengue can progress to something even more frightening called dengue hemorrhagic fever, which is a leading cause of hospitalization and death among children throughout Asia. Yet unlike malaria, there is no vaccine to protect people from dengue. It doesn't have to be this way.

WHO DOES have an Initiative for Vaccine Research, which supports the development of a dengue vaccine, and the United States is working on the development of such a vaccine, but we're not there yet. Earlier this year, Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), sounded a warning saying that "widespread appearance of dengue in the continental United States is a real possibility." He and his co-author Dr. David M. Morens call dengue, "among the most important reemerging infectious diseases." As an answer to that threat, NIAID has allocated \$33.2 million for nearly 60 dengue research projects with the goal of developing the necessary medical tools to fight the disease.

While there is always reason for hope, U.S. health agencies are facing a shrinking brain trust with many

SEE DENGUE, PAGE 24



**Walk Like MADD 2008**  
**Saturday, November 1, 2008**  
**We need your help now more than ever!**  
Drunk driving crashes continue to kill and seriously injure too many people. Survivors, friends and family are left with years of emotional, medical, legal and financial struggles. **It's time to eliminate drunk driving!**

**Who:** Everyone—children, teens, adults, families, pets!  
**What:** 5k non-competitive walk  
**When:** Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
**Where:** Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston, VA  
**How:** Register online at [www.WalkLikeMadd.org](http://www.WalkLikeMadd.org) (select "Fairfax, VA")

- Be a Team Captain!
- Bring Your Dog!
- Win Prizes!
- FREE Food!
- Fun Activities!

For more information, contact: Karen Horowitz  
[Karen.horowitz@madd.org](mailto:Karen.horowitz@madd.org) • Phone: 703-379-1135

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**THE CONNECTION**  
NEWSPAPERS

**Change is in the Air!**



**WE'RE CHANGING OUR PREFIX...**

The City of Alexandria is modernizing its telephone systems over the next two years. Most City telephone numbers will change to a new prefix, 746, and retain the last four digits of their original telephone numbers. Some numbers will change entirely, incorporating the 746 prefix, but all numbers will retain the 703 area code. Most hotline numbers will not change.

Stay tuned to these advertisements in your local paper, the City web site, [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov), and Channel 70 on Comcast Cable for the latest information about new City telephone number changes. For more information, please call Jacqueline Levy at 703.838.4227.



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**20% off on Custom Framing**  
with this ad expires 10-31-08  
excludes certain special order frames



The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.

—William James



## HISTORY

# Celebration Of History

**T**he museum community of Alexandria and their friends gathered at the Torpedo Factory Arts Center Saturday night to celebrate the varied history of Alexandria, to pay tribute to retiring Senator John Warner and to raise money to continue with its work of preservation, restoration and education. The gala, a first was the idea of Mayor Bill Euille and the proceeds will benefit the Alexandria Archaeology Museum; the Alexandria Archives and Records Center; the Alexandria Association; the Alexandria Black History Museum; The Athenaeum; Carlyle House Historic Park; Gadsby's Tavern Museum; Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site; Friendship Firehouse Museum; Historic Alexandria Foundation; Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden; The Lyceum; Northern Virginia Urban League Freedom House; and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.

The evening began with cocktails at the river and tours of the Godspeed, dinner and dancing. Occupying centerstage was an on-going black and white slide show of Alexandria's history from a 13,000-year-old spear point, to a sit-in at the Barrett Library to many of the historic structures that still exist. The show, and all the other visuals were created by Twig Murray



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

**Honorary guest Senator John Warner is congratulated for his years of service to the state and the country by Mayor Bill Euille.**



**Guests at the historic gala listen as the mayor reads a proclamation from City Council in honor of Senator Warner.**

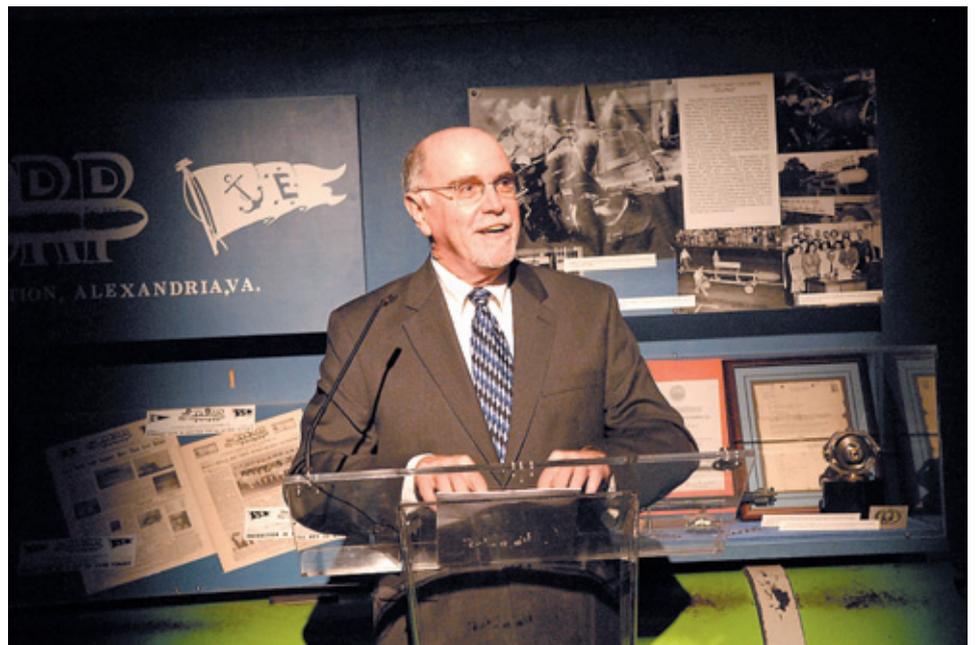


**ACVA director Stephanie Brown and Mt. Vernon Estate executive director Jim Rees.**



**Paul Murphy, a member of the Alexandria Pipes and Drums, leads the guests into dinner at the Torpedo Factory.**

**Special guest speaker, Dwight Young, senior Communications Associate at the National Trust for Historic Preservation.**





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in the Northern Virginia  
Custom Builders Council  
11th Annual

# Parade of Homes

## OCTOBER 4-5

Proceeds benefit  
HomeAid Northern Virginia

For information,  
map & tickets

VAPARADE.COM



# COOPER'S GROVE

*a green community*



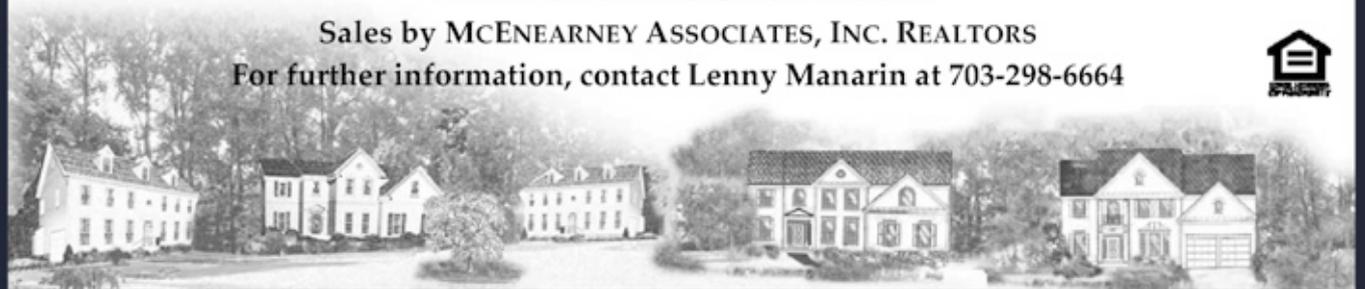
**VISIT US  
THIS WEEKEND**

Welcome to Cooper's Grove ... a new community of distinctive residences designed to reflect the rich history and gracious traditions of Alexandria's past. Nearby, the wooded preserve of Fort Williams Park and Strawberry Run served as a campground for both early Indians and Civil War soldiers ... and borders the former plantation of Cameron, owned by our namesake, General Samuel Cooper. This natural setting is ideally located just outside Old Town Alexandria, near Metro, the Beltway (I-495) and I-395 and an easy commute to everywhere. A limited number of home sites are available with floor plans to fit every lifestyle.

[WWW.COOPERSGROVE.COM](http://WWW.COOPERSGROVE.COM)

Sales by MCENEARNEY ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS

For further information, contact Lenny Manarin at 703-298-6664



# MCENEARNEY

ASSOCIATES, INC. REALTORS

ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN

\$1,299,000



### *Re-Invent Your Life Style!*

Decorator-perfect, 2,800 sq. ft. Patrick model in Old Town Village offers rare opportunity to experience city living with feel of a single family home. Unusual two-level design, this residence showcases the best Old Town has to offer...the charm of "old" plus the amenities of "new." \$150,000 in designer upgrades, property is "buyer ready"...from incredible kitchen to custom-designed baths, media room, MBR retreat w/FP, Charleston porch & two walled gardens.



*Deborah Saunders Manarin* 703-517-5005 [debasold@aol.com](mailto:debasold@aol.com)

703-525-1900

*Specializing in the marketing of fine residential properties*



ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN

\$799,000



### *Own a Piece of History!*

A striking statement of design ... this unique "New York loft-style" residence is the largest unit built within the original walls of Old Town's historic Portner Brewery ... featuring 12' ceilings, Palladian windows, exposed brick walls and fabulous space...3BR/3BA, study with wet bar, family room, two walled terraces & patio, two parking spaces & additional storage convey...walk to shops, restaurants, Potomac riverfront and Braddock Metro!

ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN

\$895,000



### *A Feast for the Eyes!*

Extraordinary Gibbon model is perfectly sited with open vistas of landscaped gardens and swimming pool. A classic floor plan on four, gracious levels, but not your ordinary town home ... one feels welcomed and, perhaps transported to Provence for wine tasting, Paris for dinner, New Orleans for late night jazz. Incredibly rich décor sets a tone of elegance and sophistication showcasing a wide range of amenities to delight the senses!

# COMMUNITY



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Honored** Chief Deputy Tim Gleeson of the Alexandria Sheriff's Office received the City's Star Award for his meritorious service during the Virginia Tech shootings. Mayor William D. Euille presented the proclamation during the City Council meeting on Sept. 23. Gleeson was honored for "going beyond the call of duty in the assistance students in Blacksburg." At left his Gleeson's wife Pamela. Gleeson joined the sheriff's office on Nov. 4, 2006 after retiring as an Alexandria police officer for 25 years. He is a native of Alexandria, graduating from Bishop Ireton High School. He is a 1981 graduate of St. Francis College (Pa.).

## Thank You Northern Virginia



**W**e, at Furniture Medic by DeMay Restorations, LLC, have just completed our twelfth successful year. We owe our success in large part to our friends in northern Virginia. From our humble beginnings, restoring furniture in a two car garage, we have now grown into a 6000 square foot furniture repair hospital.

When we began, we offered a complete 100% satisfaction guarantee, and onsite furniture repair services in Fairfax County only. Now with twelve fully trained expert restoration technicians, we offer the same services, as well as complete kitchen cabinet restoration for both residential and commercial clients throughout the Metro DC area.

We are grateful to all our clients throughout the Northern Virginia and DC Metro area. We could not have done it without you.

*For an appointment with Dr. Bob at Furniture Medic and a free estimate; call 703-339-9736*

*Mark your calendars for the Alexandria Chamber*

## ★ 2008 Small Business Awards ★

**The Mayor's Economic Sustainability Work Group will be honored as this year's Business Leaders of the Year.**

Nigel Morris will be accepting the award on behalf of his fellow committee members James Butler, Lavern Chatman, Stephen Fuller, Dennis Garcia, Charlotte Hall, Mark Kington, Greg Leisch, John Meagher, Lonnie Rich, Mark Jinks, Kendel Taylor, and Stephanie Landrum.

**We will also be honoring The Art League with a special Champion of the Arts Award for more than 50 years of service.**

In addition to honoring these community leaders for their hard work, this event is an opportunity for the Chamber to join with the community in recognizing area businesses that are making a difference. Additional categories include **Retail Business of the Year, New Business of the Year, Professional Service Business of the Year, Hospitality Business of the Year, and the overall Small Business of the Year.**

**Friday, November 7  
6:30-9:30PM  
Crowne Plaza  
901 N Fairfax St., Alexandria**

Sponsorships are available!  
For more information, please contact Special Events Coordinator Ashby Williams at 703.739.3808 or register online at [www.alexchamber.com](http://www.alexchamber.com)



# AUCTION

October 11, 2008 • 11:00 AM

*212 Forest Canopy Drive  
Poplar Grove • Amherst, Virginia.*  
Magnificent home of custom builder. A Must See to appreciate.



**Preview Dates are September 21st, September 28th, and October 5th, from 2:00 PM. thru 4:00 PM. Other times are available by appointment.**

Visit [www.walkerauctionsinc.com](http://www.walkerauctionsinc.com) for more info and a visual tour of this wonderful property with 4 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 2 half baths; and 4,830 square feet of finished living space.

**Directions:** Travel North (from Lynchburg) or South (from Charlottesville) on Rt 29. Exit onto Amherst business and follow signs to Sweet Briar College. Exit onto #661, across from Sweet Briar College entrance. Exit again on Rt 624 East to stop sign. Take a left and then an immediate right. Then follow signs to property.

**Terms:** 10% non-refundable deposit due on sale date with the remainder due at closing in thirty days. Auction day announcements take precedence over other printed or published statements. All information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Property is subject to prior sale. Broker participation encouraged. 3% buyers' premium added to final bid to determine selling price. Successful bidder is offered an opportunity to purchase contents of the home.

**Auction license No. 2908 000760**

Walker Auction, Inc.  
A division of John Stewart Walker, Inc.  
17835 Forest Rd., Forest VA 24551  
Office: 434-385-4100  
Sale Manager: Don Martin, CAI  
For more information call:  
Tom Wolcott 434-258-4472  
Russell Millner 540-875-7578

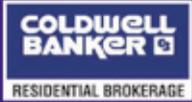





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Branch Vice President



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**New Price Open Sunday 1-4**



**1803 Windmill Lane | \$865,000**

Loads of Room with a Great Price! 5 bedroom, 3 bath colonial on quiet cul-de-sac less than five miles from Old Town Alexandria. Short distance to Metro and access to commuting routes. Gracious foyer entry, flowing floor plan, spacious room sizes and three fireplaces. Large country kitchen with brick fireplace and hearth, sunlit family room with additional brick fireplace and walk-out to patio and large, custom deck. Illuminated landscaped yard, 2 car side load garage.

Jane Cole | 703-518-6187 Alexandria S

**Just Listed**



**4915 7th Road | \$369,900**

**Good Value**  
Charming brick townhouse in small enclave of homes. Great Arlington location - minutes from everywhere! Home in good condition - wood floors on main level, living room with fireplace, updated kitchen, two bedrooms, two and a half baths, upper level family room with balcony/terrace great views of the tree-tops could be used as a third bedroom.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 Arlington

**Just Listed**



**2607 Fort Farnsworth Rd #313 | \$125,000**

**Located Right Next to the Metro**  
One bedroom patio unit in Huntington Club, no stairs, easy access in and out; located right next to the Huntington Metro. Park like setting at the end of Fort Farnsworth Road. Shopping nearby. A great value for \$125,000.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 Alexandria

**Just Listed**



**2205 Sherwood Hall Lane \$549,999**

Classic split foyer home on a large lot with elegant features and charming atmosphere. Grand foyer, decorator paint colors, hardwood flooring and a flowing floor plan make this home an ideal choice. Beautifully maintained and lovingly updated, this home boasts an eat-in kitchen, formal dining space, oversized living room and cozy FR with sliding door to deck. Four bedrooms on the upper level, including a master suite with sitting room and updated ceramic bathroom. Great S Alexandria location!

Cathy D'Antuono | 703-819-3077 Alexandria S

**Great Value**

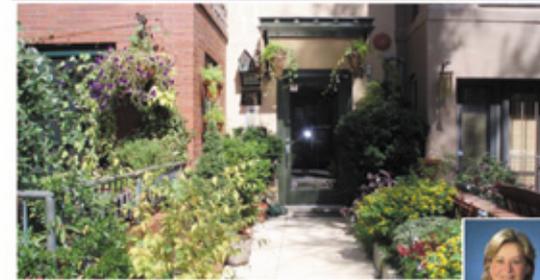


**2500 N Van Dorn St #1020 | \$149,900**

Park Place in Alexandria City  
This home is a Great Price, and is not a short sale. A Sunny, one bedroom, one bath, with walk in closet and balcony overlooking the park. A fantastic value in a convenient location. [www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com](http://www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com)

Bonnie Rivkin | 703-598-7788 Alexandria

**Just Listed Open Sunday 1-4**



**1821 Belmont St NW Unit 4 | \$499,000**

Not your cookie cutter condo - Open Floor Plan - 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwoods, stainless, granite, glass block, wood burning fireplace, and more. Fabulous location near the heart of Adams Morgan. One year's parking space paid for by seller.

Directions: from Dupont Circle, take 18th Street North and left onto Belmont to 1821. [www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com](http://www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com)

Bonnie Rivkin | 703-598-7788 Kalamora/Adams Morgan

**Just Listed Open Sunday 1-4**



**19 A Curtis Avenue E | \$460,000**

Rare Opportunity in Del Ray to acquire a well maintained brick town home. Enjoy the nicely landscaped back yard from your wood deck. Property has large shed and own off-street parking. Hardwood floors throughout main and upper levels, upgraded bath, new paint, lower level family room, ample closets and fully floored attic for additional storage. Close to Del Ray restaurants, shopping and so much more...

Bob Kuletz | 703-615-2626 Del Ray

**Open House Redskins Giveaway**



**4500 Neptune Dr | \$565,000**

**Enter your name to win a Redskins hat at Open House!**  
Beautiful brick rambler in sought after Yacht Haven. 4 BR, 2.5 BA rambler in Mt Vernon. Hardwood floors on the first floor, remodeled kitchen and many other upgrades. Newer doors and appliances. Walk out basement includes recreation room with FP, full wet bar and very large storage space. Near Ft Belvoir, Mount Vernon Yacht Club, Mansion House and more. [www.4500NeptuneDr.com](http://www.4500NeptuneDr.com) Open Sunday 1-4

Rachel Carter | 703-851-4207 Mount Vernon

**Just Listed**



**6154 Old Telegraph Road | \$818,000**

Enjoy private country living in this 5 BR colonial on a quiet street backing to trees. This classic home features hardwood floors, enhanced moldings, gourmet kitchen with beautiful cabinets, large master suite with spa bath plus a dramatic two story entrance flanked by a formal dining and living room lined with windows. A finished lower level recreation room with 5th bedroom and private bath offer a separate front entrance for the independent teenager or au-pair.

Cathy D'Antuono | 703-819-3077 Wilton Woods



Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage · 310 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 · 703.518.8300  
Equal housing representative. Not a solicitation of another broker's listing.





# Previews International

Marketing the world's premier properties

**New Listing**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**908 Clifton Drive  
\$1,195,000**

Spacious rambler on 3/4 acre just off East Boulevard Drive and steps to the river on large level lot with beautiful old trees and mature plantings. Three spacious bedrooms, two and a half baths, large rooms, two car garage, front porch, brick patio, hardwood floors. Plenty of room for expansion or new construction. Quite, private street with park like setting just 10 minutes to National Airport and 20 minutes to DC.

Phyllis Patterson | 703-518-6158 Wellington

**Open Sunday 1-4**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**5211 York Road  
\$850,000**

This home was just completed by Morris Construction and 14 more homes of this quality are to be built in the neighborhood. Minutes to the Beltway, Van Dorn. Stone and hardy plank with front porch and back screened porch overlooking large, private lawn with lush landscaping. Four bedroom, three and half bath, side load 2 car garage, 2 fireplaces, trex decking, chefs kitchen with gas cooking, center island, granite and stainless steel appliances, breakfast room, hardwood floors throughout main level, formal dining room, spacious great room.

Phyllis Patterson | 703-518-6158 Bush Hill

**New Listing**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**1915 S Arlington Ridge Rd  
\$2,400,000**

Located high on the hill overlooking Washington, this lovely colonial boast a grand 38' x 10' entrance hallway, a beautiful wide staircase and wonderfully spacious rooms. Rich in architectural details, this gracious five bedroom plus five and a half bath residence features detailed moldings, extensive wainscoting, sparkling hardwood floors and five fireplaces. Garage parking for eight cars! Sited on a 37,000 square foot lot with towering oaks, this property also includes two charming guest or rental cottages. Reasonably priced at \$2,400,000.

Donnan C Wintermute | 703 518-6156 Arlington Ridge

**New Listing Open Sunday 1-4**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**1500 Grassymeade Lane  
\$ 949,000**

A lovely, all brick spacious colonial featuring 5/6 bedrooms and 3.5 baths with a 2-car garage. Off a "country lane" just down the George Washington Parkway on a wooded lot. Open and spacious with cozy two fireplaces, hardwoods, lovely eat in kitchen with large island and granite countertops inviting family room perfect for gatherings. Dir. South Geo Wash Parkway, right on Collingwood, Left on Ft. Hunt Rd., Right on Grassymeade Lane.

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Alexandria S

**Close In Waterfront with Dock!**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**7607 Southdown Rd  
\$3,250,000**

Terrific floor plan, high ceilings, spectacular views are provided in this three bedroom, three full bath home with two car garage on the Potomac River waterfront! Extra large rooms, kitchen / family room combo, beautiful hardwood flooring throughout, four gas fireplaces. Custom built with elegant details. Next to parkland and on the water! Perfect for privacy and entertaining. The closest single family, waterfront home to Old Town with private dock! Please contact Marie at Mlm1606@aol.com.

Marie Louise Meyer | 703-836-2080 Alexandria S

**New Listing—Open Sunday 1-4**

*PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL*



**6202 Hillvale Place  
\$975,000**

**ABSOLUTELY CHARMING**  
Williamsburg Cape located on a quiet cul de sac offering a gracious living room with a fireplace, elegant dining room, lovely moldings and architectural detail, main level family room with built in bookshelves, updated kitchen, lower level recreation room with a fireplace, three spacious bedrooms, two full baths, two half baths, home office, porch with Potomac River views for most of the year.

Jeanne Warner | 703-980-9106 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!



**NEW HOME!**

1210 North Pegram Street  
\$1,351,500  
*New Home!*

Alexandria's most exciting new construction opportunity! Although the home nearing completion is sold, work is underway on the property next door. Top quality construction, open floor plans and magnificent site in the heart of Alexandria's Seminary area. Pre-construction sale

provides the maximum opportunity to customize. Turn this foundation into your dream home at a price that makes this a truly spectacular value!



**OPEN SUN!**

2505  
Crest Street  
\$469,725  
*Rare Bargain!*  
Very attractive Braddock Heights rambler with all brick exterior, spacious updated

kitchen, replacement thermal pane windows and large attic for great storage. Gorgeous setting on beautiful fenced lot convenient to everything! Live in Alexandria's premier single family neighborhood for less than the cost of a townhouse! Open Sun 1-4pm. From Braddock Metro: W Braddock Rd, R Crest St.



**WATERFRONT**

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 master bedroom suite on the main level with enormous luxury bath and 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!



**OPEN SUN!**

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. Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, R Old Mill Rd, L Adrienne Dr, L Dandridge Terr.

## BANK OWNED PROPERTIES! - LIQUIDATION PRICES! - SINGLE FAMILY HOMES!



**Minutes from Old Town!**  
Stunning value! \$150,000 below Fairfax Co tax assessment! 4BR, 2BA (rough-in for 3<sup>rd</sup>), full basement with outside entrance and fenced lot. Prime location convenient to everything!

2205 Belle View Blvd  
\$275,900



4816 Welford Street  
\$272,900

**Backs to Parkland!**  
Fairfax Co tax assessor values this property at \$429,270 - previously listed at \$479,900. Stunning updated kitchen with granite counters, 4BR, 2BA, family room with brick fireplace and huge rear deck overlooks acres of gorgeous parkland.



8341 Orange Court  
\$398,500

**Riverside Estates!**  
One of this popular neighborhood's largest and most sought after models! 5BR, 3BA, two car garage and gorgeous setting across from water. Bring your contractor - a little work will create thousands of instant equity!

Once in a lifetime opportunity for investors - huge rental potential! Special financing available!  
In a few years, the influx of thousands of new jobs into immediate area through B.R.A.C. will make these prices a distant memory!



**Mount Vernon Grove**  
\$998,900  
*New Home!*  
Wakefield Homes provides potential opportunity to build a truly astounding

amount of instant equity! Build this spectacular home at a fraction of its originally intended price! Bright & open floor plan, high ceilings, large rooms, granite counters and all the other bells & whistles you'd expect in \$1,000,000+ luxury homes! Limited pre-construction opportunity - call today! (Picture of similar house in different location).



**2+ ACRES!**

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

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



**JUST LISTED!**

Haven's multi-million dollar mansions! Recent major updates include: new roof, thermal windows, special insulated siding, refinished hardwood floor & more! Large screened porch & fenced yard. Nothing like it for under \$400K this close to Belle Haven!

6421  
Olmi Landrith Drive  
\$395,000  
*Major Updates!*  
Fabulous property in prime location just a few houses away from Belle

# CHRIS WHITE (703) 283-9028

LONG & FOSTER OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT • 400 KING STREET • ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314  
WWW.CHRISANDPEGGYWHITE.COM





# OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

400 KING STREET · ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

703.683.0400 · WWW.LONGANDFOSTER.COM



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**Porto Vecchio**  
\$815,000  
**MAGNIFICENT WATER VIEW**

Offered for sale for the 1st time, this spacious 2BR, lib. Residence has prime, sought after location. All main rooms open to a huge, private 130 SF solarium w/ sunny exposure & STUNNING river & country club vista. This innovative flr plans offers gracious formal rms, a delightful study w/walls of windows, warm wood flrs & new carpeting in BRs, all freshly painted in a neutral décor awaiting your design touches! 2 garage spaces convey.

1250 S. Washington Street  
PAT TIERNEY 703.850.5630



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**Old Town**  
\$699,000

**WELCOME TO LEE STREET!**

Classic semi-detached plaqued historic home just listed in the desirable SE quadrant; steps to the river, the park and all that Old Town has to offer. Beautifully renovated kitchen, charming bricked walkway & courtyard, separate living and dining area, plus 2 large BRs/1.5BAs. Tons of storage closet space, Many updates.

709 South Lee Street  
KIM MUFFLER 703.282.7739



**Alexandria**  
\$362,000  
**ONE OWNER HOME!!**

Solidly built 3 level brick duplex with large corner lot in the City of Alexandria. Freshly painted throughout, neutral carpet, hardwoods on main and upper level, family room on lower level, walk-out from main & lower levels. 3BR/1.5BA, EZ location to commute from.

2 French Street  
LOUISE DEVERS 703.795.9944



**Falls Church**  
\$398,000  
**SECLUDED SETTING WALK TO METRO**

Located in a Cul-de-sac location backing to park land, this unique, spacious TH has it all. Front garden & landscaped rear private patio area with pool & park access out the front door. Also, plenty of off street parking. Minutes to Vienna Metro or take bus at front entrance. Hdwd flrs, updated kitchen & baths, in-law area on lower level. 3/4 BR/3.5BA, Approx. 2000 SF. See me on [www.marylousage.com](http://www.marylousage.com)

2907 Espana Court  
MARYLOU SAGE 703.851.5441



**Alexandria**  
\$729,000  
**NEW LISTING HOLLIN HILLS CONTEMPO**

For Hollin Hills lovers, don't miss this one! Over 2500 SF- expanded & remodeled 2-lvl- updated kitchen, baths- gleaming hardwood floors- skylights- wonderful family room/ breakfast room with big windows, vaulted ceilings, sunlight streaming thru- large rec. room- FPs- screened porch- & more- freshly painted, newer carpet & ready to move into! Shows great- No wait, no bother, no fuss. 4BR/2.5BA.

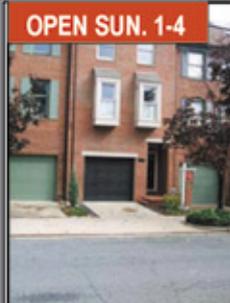
2113 Mason Hill Drive  
FRANKI ROBERTS 703.898.0840



**Alexandria**  
\$419,900  
**DEL RAY**

One level living in Del Ray! Wonderful home on a great street of detached houses. Walk to the Avenue and Farmer's Market. So many upgrades : Roof, fence, side porches, kitchen, bath and more! Low utilities, beautiful landscaped yards and even driveway parking! By Appointment with agent.

17 Groves Avenue  
ELLEN YOUNG 703.930.7617



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**Alexandria**  
\$549,900  
**DRENCHED IN LIGHT!**

This beautiful 3 level TH is totally updated & features 2 MBR suites, 2 fireplaces, powder room, hardwood floors & the family room opens to a lovely patio. A 1 car garage & additional off street parking space convey.

1003 Pendleton Street  
MARTINE IRMER 703.346.7283



**Alex/Old Town**  
\$989,000  
**SURPRISINGLY SPACIOUS**

This Circa 1820 residence has been expanded on 2 different occasions in recent years. Generously proportioned spaces are accented w/heart of pine flooring, double parlor, formal DR w/ skylights, & a sumptuous 26 Ft. long MBR. 3BRs/3BAs. Part of an Estate being sold "As Is." Everything believed to be in working order.

507 South Fairfax Street  
NORMA GANTS 703.408.2560



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**Alexandria**  
\$1,289,900  
**NEW HOME**

Spacious new home in Waynewood school district! Over 5,600 SF of finished space, 6 BR/5.5 BA, 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, 9' ceiling in walk-out bsmt w/custom gym. Walk to neighborhood pool, shopping. New Construction, move-in ready!

8061 Fairfax Rd  
JILL DIPASQUALE 571.436.8699



# COMMUNITY



Marge Beatley talks with Fort Ward Museum assistant director Wally Owen. Both reminisced about former Mayor Chuck Beatley and his contributions to the city and particularly the establishing of Fort Ward as a museum and park.



Bill Schreiner of the Friends of Fort Ward, director of the Office of Historic Alexandria J. Lance Mallamo, director of Fort Ward Museum and Park Susan Cumby, Mayor Bill Euille, Vice Mayor Del Pepper and Alexandria City Manager Jim Hartmann.

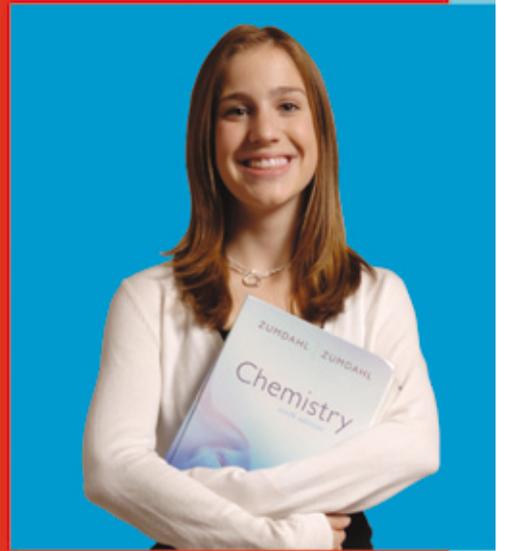
## Fete at the Fort

Saturday evening the Friends of Fort Ward hosted a fete honoring the City of Alexandria for its past and present preservation at the museum and park on West Braddock Road. Entertainment was provided by Douglas Jimerson and the Civil War Comrades. Bill Schreiner of the Friends of Fort Ward presented the City of Alexandria with the General John G. Barnard Defenses of Washington Preservation Award. Mayor Bill Euille accepted the award on behalf of the City. For more information on activities at Fort Ward visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org)



Phil and Nicole Gibbons and John and Rose Marie Favors.

Speak. Declare. Debate. Share.



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- Monday, November 10 • 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, December 7 • 1:00 p.m.

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**Bill Jourdan**  
Branch Manager/Alexandria Old Town



**4660 SOUTH 36th STREET #A**  
Arlington - \$439,000

Sunny end unit town home w/stunning new kitchen including floors, appl. cabinets & granite counters. This beautiful home also has 2 brand new Bas. Attic storage. Relax on the peaceful rear patio. Reserved parking. Pool. Tennis, METRO bus line, shop at the Villages at Shirlington & more!



**Dave Okonsky 703-585-5268**

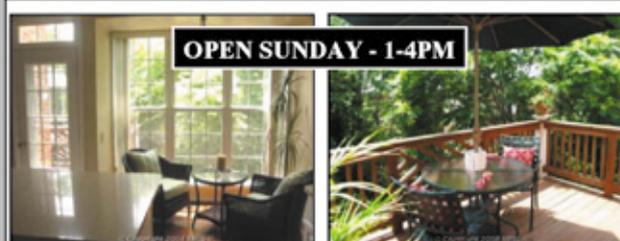


**403 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #106**  
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4 blocks from King St Metro, tucked into the tranquil tree-lined community of Rosemont, this Condo has the best of both worlds! 2BR/1BA, renovated 2005, hardwoods thru-out, and new King St Trolley to Riverfront. View at:



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**Bob Skinner 703 - 585 - 6683**



**OPEN SUNDAY - 1-4PM**

**\$20K PRICE DROP!**

**12 ARELL COURT - \$529,900**  
Alexandria / 1.5 mi to KING ST METRO

Amazing 2000sf 3BR/3.5BA end unit TH, min from DC. Upgrades, 9' ceilings, chef's kit has silestone, hardwoods, 12" molding, tray ceiling. Huge Family Room w/gas Fireplace walk - out slate patio. MBA w/vaulted ceiling, WIC, soaking tub/separate shower. Custom colors. See interior shots at:



[www.salesbysharon.com](http://www.salesbysharon.com)  
**Sharon Edwards 703 - 408 - 8144**



**45 GARDEN DRIVE**

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**OPEN SUNDAY - 1-4PM**

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**Heidi Kohler 703 - 609 - 7367**



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**Patrick Garrity 703 - 298 - 2287**

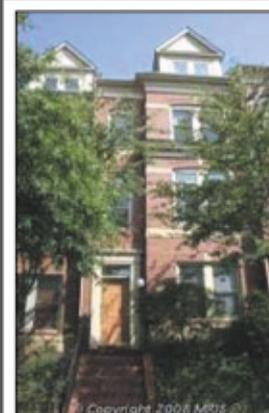


**2596 NICKY LANE W #96**  
Alexandria - \$474,000

Brick end unit town home w/a private garden, gated setting in Old Town. 2 MSTR BR suites w/ private bath. Formal dining room & double French doors. LL 3rd BR/den/office, FBA, family room, wet bar, brick FP. Many upgrades, including new hardwoods & wall-wall carpeting.



**Lorraine Self 571 - 276 - 8960**



**3309 WASHINGTON BLVD**  
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**Jim Crowe 703 - 856 - 8244**

# NEIGHBORHOODS

## Old Town

Our Southern Exposure - A grandiose development plan that would forever change the texture of the south most entry to Old Town — complete with soaring towers and huge structures — may be finally coming down to earth, literally.

The month of October should give "Townners a clearer picture of mega-developer Giuseppe Cecchi's latest plan that would determine what visitors first see as they approach Old Town on the George Washington Parkway. Cecchi and his IDI company are calling their latest effort "Plan B." And many "Townners are breathing a sigh of relief.

The developer's original plan, all but nixed by city fathers (and mothers), called for some 300-plus luxury condominiums on the Hunting Terrace site already owned by Cecchi. The roughly seven acre site also was slated to receive two 15-story towers — a proposal that sent "Townners and the ghost of George Washington to the moon or beyond and far higher than the five-story limit for buildings in that part of town.

Sensing that the Planning Commission and the Board of Architec-

tural Review would never buy the "Twin Towers" scenario, Cecchi late last month cited what he called "Plan B." This effort would have four five-story buildings with a total of 322 high-end condos that would seem to comply with city restrictions. "This new project is our Plan B," Cecchi was quoted. "We're playing by the rules with this."

Cecchi did not say why his company was now "playing by the rules," or what, precisely, that means. Off the table, for now, is Cecchi's original plan to buy Hunting Point on the Potomac and preserve about 530 units of the building for affordable housing. That property, directly across the parkway from Hunting Terrace, is now owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation, which plans to sell it in three or four years.

VAN-ism of the Month - As regular readers of this column well know, we like to keep you up to speed on the latest views of our favorite Old Town watchdog, arbiter, bulldozer and truly engaged citizen — Townsend "Van Van" Van Fleet (somehow I always get one too many "Vans" in his name.

Anyhow, Van's most recent smackdown centered on three of

his favorite targets — the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association and the Alexandria Hotel Association. Says Van Fleet (among many other assertions): "Their desires are stated in the Chamber's July 24 letter to the Mayor in which they essentially rejected every proposed recommendation proffered by the citizens of Old Town. In essence, it was the business community's way or the highway.

"This is real democracy in action! Where is the due process? ACVA is funded as a public/private partnership at a cost of \$2.5 million annually. We, the taxpayers fund their operation, so you would think that their first allegiance would be to the citizens. Not so. They could care less about the citizens' desires. This organization ought to be abolished as it is an impediment to our existence..."

A disclosure, sort of: I served on what was then the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Board several years ago. Van makes some valid points.

Gadsby's Fall Events - Here is a brief look at the calendar of events for Gadsby's Tavern Museum fall events: Tavern Toddlers, Oct. 20 and 27, 7 p.m.; John Yagerline

Lecture Series, Oct. 8 and 15, 7 p.m.; Tea with Martha Washington, Oct. 19, 3 to 4:30 p.m.; GTMS Annual Meeting Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m.; GTMS Murder Mystery, Oct. 11, 7 p.m.; Historic Alexandria ALIVE, Sundays through October, noon-5 p.m.

- BOB FELDKAMP

## Seminary Valley

If you need to get in the mood for the coming election season, look no further than our own community. On Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 7- 9 p.m., the BSVCA will hold its Quarterly Meeting and Annual Elections at the Beatley Central Library. All BSVCA members who have paid their 2008 dues are eligible to vote, and it will be possible for people to renew their dues at the meeting. (If you are not sure whether you have paid your 2008 dues, you can contact Sissy Walker, the BSVCA Membership Secretary, at [sissy.walker@bsvca.net](mailto:sissy.walker@bsvca.net).) The slate of candidates includes:

President, Geoff Goodale, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Joe Grigg, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Jon Sargeant, Secretary, Judy Cooper, Membership Secretary, Christin Nolan, Treasurer, Kristin Stone, Parliamentarian,

Marianne Hetzer, Member-at-Large, Kathleen Burns, Caitlin Engelberg, Randy Krause, Mary Armistead (Armi) Mack and Adam Firestone.

The meeting's featured speaker is Gregg Hamm, Regional Vice President and General Manager for General Growth Properties (one of the three main property owners at Landmark Mall). Mr. Hamm will share GGP's vision for the redevelopment of the Landmark area.

Belated congratulations to neighbor B.J. Sullivan who received the Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission's 2008 CIVIC Award, recognizing B.J.'s 20 years of service to Alexandria. B.J. was recognized especially for her work protecting Alexandria's green and open spaces.

We have a beautiful space in our own neighborhood to protect: the Holmes Run Park. This year's Fall Cleanup will be held on Nov. 1 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. rain or shine. Mary Zoeter continues her role as coordinator of this great activity; you can reach her at [anmintwk@verizon.net](mailto:anmintwk@verizon.net) for further information.

Many West End teens are involved with the T.C. Williams High School Marching Band. The Band recently received some of its highest scores at its first fall competition. The band competed at the USSBA Mid-Atlantic Clinic and Preview in Westminster, Maryland under the direction of their new director, Brian Thomas. (Vaughan Ambrose, our neighbor, has returned to Hammond Middle School to get the Admirals ready to be Titans.) What you may not know is how many Seminary Valley parents head up the band boosters. Yours truly serves as Uniform Manager. Marilyn Horner is doing double duty as Band Secretary for T.C. and Hammond. Kristin Stone co-chaired this past weekend's Band Tag Day. And Sue and Joe Kelly continue to support the band with needle, thread and hammer even though son Drew has departed T.C. Come out to T.C. for homecoming this Saturday to see the Marching Titans in their award-winning performance.

—MIA JONES

MAMAMIAJONES@GMAIL.COM  
703-823-5261

## Taylor Run

Greetings, friends and neighbors: my cat Sam and I have returned from a long vacation at the beach (it took three people and two hours to get him in his travel cage- next time he gets a tranquilizer). I do hope you will call me

SEE TAYLOR RUN, PAGE 22

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ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-780-3081  
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ST. MARK EPISCOPAL CHURCH...703-765-3949  
CHURCHES- CHURCH OF GOD

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EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH...703-765-5003  
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH...703-548-8608  
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI, SYNOD...703-549-0155  
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UNITY IN ALEXANDRIA...703-931-8507

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AGUDAS ACHIM CONGREGATION...703-998-6460

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CHABAD LUVAVITCH OF ALEXANDRIA-ARLINGTON...703-370-2774

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BETH EL HEBREW CONGREGATION...703-370-9400

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FRANCONIA WARD...703-313-6147  
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SALVATION ARMY ALEXANDRIA CITADEL...703-836-2427

## Good Shepherd Catholic Church

**Mass Schedule**

<p><b>Saturday Evening</b> 5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)</p> <p><b>Sunday</b> 7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon 2:00 pm (en Español) 6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 7)</p>	<p><b>Weekdays</b> (Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary) <b>Children's Liturgy of the Word</b> Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English) <b>Sign Language Interpreter</b> Sunday at 9:00 am Mass</p>
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# FAITH

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

**Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 6510 Fort Hunt Road, is hosting a Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. 703-765-5003.

**Beverly Hills Community United Methodist Church**, 3512 Old Dominion Blvd., will hold a Blessing of the Animals service on Sunday, Oct. 5 at 5 p.m. All animals and their humans are invited to participate.

**First Church of Christ, Scientist of Alexandria** will present an important talk by nationally-known speaker and prayer-based healer Don Wallingford on Friday, Oct. 10 at noon and again on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. Both events will take place at Market Square, 301 King St. Free. Call the Alexandria Christian Science Reading Room at 703-683-0129.

Friends and neighbors of **Aldersgate Church** are invited to bring their pets to the annual **Blessing of the Animals** on Saturday, Oct. 4, at 10 a.m. on the church front lawn at the corner of Collingwood and Ft. Hunt Roads. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the animals who share our lives. 703-765-6555.

On Sunday, Oct. 5 at 2 p.m. in the courtyard of **St. James Episcopal Church**, 5614 Old Mill Road, the Annual Blessing of the Animals will take place. Everyone is invited to come and to bring their pet – cat, dog, parrot,

horse, of what have you – to be blessed by Father Kris Kramer, priest of St. James. Besides a blessing of the animals, there be a pet parade and even “paw and finger foods.” Visit [www.stjamesmv.org](http://www.stjamesmv.org) or 703-780-3081.

The **Diocese of Arlington** runs a series of Masses and Prayer Services for healing for victims/survivors of sexual abuse. The Prayer Services include a survivor's sharing of their abuse and efforts to heal. Both the Masses and Prayer Services are followed by a reception.

\*Tuesday, Nov. 18. Mass at 7:30 p.m., St. Mary, 310 South Royal St. Alexandria

Take part in an **Ecumenical Bible Study** on Thursday mornings Oct. 9 through Nov. 13 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6510 Fort Hunt Road. Free.

**St. Aidan's Episcopal Church**, 8531 Riverside Road has a group of moms and pre-school kids that meets every Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. for coffee, muffins, and fellowship and moves into the church at 9:30 a.m. to take part in the Day School's chapel service. 703-360-4220.

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

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

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

**Beth El Hebrew Congregation** holds services at 8:15 p.m. on Fridays and 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Religious school is on Wednesdays evening and Sunday mornings. Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tot Shabbat on first and third Saturdays. Kolot Shabbat (musical service) the first Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Beth El is located at 3830 Seminary Road in Alexandria. For more information on the learning opportunities or services, call 703-370-9400 or visit [www.bethelhebrew.org](http://www.bethelhebrew.org).

**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**, located at 8710 Mount Vernon Highway in Alexandria is offering a “Coming Home” process at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month to ask questions, get an update on the church, and to help decide if it's time to reconnect with parish life. Contact Rob Doerschner at 703-822-0523.

The Church also offers an 8-week **Intro to the Catholic Faith Series** for people thinking about joining the faith and Catholics who want a “refresher” course on its fundamental teachings. The classes meet Sundays through Oct. 26 from 10:15-11:15 a.m. in the Church's Parlor Lounge. To sign up or for information contact Cynthia Drury at 703-780-4055, [cynthia@gs-cc.org](mailto:cynthia@gs-cc.org).



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This event is free to the public  
**Monday, October 6**  
 7pm to 9pm  
**Del Ray Baptist Church**  
 2405 Russell Road  
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## CONNECTION Photo Galleries

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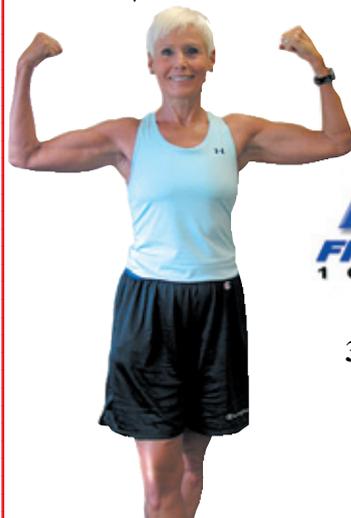
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*“The best customer service of any office by far! You treat your patients with respect and courtesy in a way that is extremely rare.”* — Nancy

# TAYLOR RUN

FROM PAGE 20

up at 548-8165 with anything you want printed in this column.

## GRACE CHURCH CELEBRATES

153 years ago some of the parishioners of Christ Church, the only Episcopal Church in Alexandria at the time, decided to start a free church, one with no pew rents, a revolutionary idea then. Grace Church has flourished and grown to more than 1,000 members

The splendidly congenial people who now attend threw a party to celebrate the founders, bringing excellent food, wine, and the Grace Church Follies.

## GUEST SPEAKER

The Rev. Dr. Francis Wade, formerly rector of St. Alban's at the National Cathedral spoke to us about stewardship.

## WHO WAS THERE

Rector Robert Malm, Associate Rector Caroline Kramer, Jean Reed, Nancy and Evan Robinson, Jackson Fray, Anne Berry, Dabney and Jim Holloway, Barbara Spahr, and Barry Barr were there.

Valerie and Richard Eudy, Nancy and Dan Macklin (she speaking warmly of daughter Sally's show now at the Blueberry Gallery on Mt. Vernon Ave.), Winnie Samuda, Colin Rushing, Rosallen McMath, Michael Jones, Stu Perry, Tricia Bamford, Lenore Funkhouser, and Jo Belser were also present.

Lucy Lee Reed, Gary Carter, and Charlie Iovino were among the hard-working kitchen crew.

Enjoying the whole thing was Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly from Delaware, who will be the seminarian for Grace this year.

The entire gathering threw themselves into singing, to the tune of Edelweiss, a song about stewardship, and a calypso about the difficulties of recruiting volunteers.

— LOIS KELSO

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or call 1.877.VHC.CYBER (1.877.842.2923).



Legal Notices



LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2008 - 7:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, City Hall
Alexandria, Virginia

Information about these items may be obtained from the: Department of Planning and Zoning, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 838-4688

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

BZA CASE #2008-0031
315 LA VERNE AVENUE
R-2-5, RESIDENTIAL
Karl and Lisa Eckhart, owners: Special exception to construct a covered open front porch 18.80 feet from the front property line facing La Verne Avenue. If the special exception is granted, the Board of Zoning Appeals will be granting a special exception from section 12-102(A) of the zoning ordinance relating to physical enlargement of a noncomplying structure.

BZA CASE #2008-0032
630 NORTH COLUMBUS STREET
RB, RESIDENTIAL
James A. Merklinger, owner: Reapproval of a variance to construct a new single family dwelling reducing the required open space to 360 square feet.

BZA CASE #2008-0027

Legal Notices

Legal Notices

116 E. ROSEMONT AVENUE
RB, RESIDENTIAL
Ricardo A. Hendi and Silvia Burstein-Hendi, owners: Variance to construct a second story rear open deck reducing the required open space to 436 square feet. If the variance is granted, the Board of Zoning Appeals will be granting a variance from section 12-102(A) of the zoning ordinance relating to physical enlargement of a noncomplying structure.



Alexandria Board of Architectural Review
Old & Historic Alexandria District

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2008-0131
Request for approval of signage at 101 King St, zoned KR King Street Retail.
APPLICANT: Dorota Gorzala

CASE BAR2008-0162
Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 811 S. Columbus St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Robert Bentley Adams & Associates

CASE BAR2008-0163
Request for approval of addition/alterations at 811 S. Columbus St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Robert Bentley Adams & Associates

CASE BAR2008-0164
Request for approval of alterations at 315 S. Columbus St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Robert Bentley Adams & Associates

CASE BAR2008-0165
Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 833 S. Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Stephanie Dimond

CASE BAR2008-0166
Request for approval of addition/alterations at 833 S. Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Stephanie Dimond

CASE BAR2008-0173
Request for Waiver of Vision Clearance Requirement at 833 S. Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Stephanie Dimond

CASE BAR2008-0167
Request for approval of alterations at 219 S. Royal St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: John Huling

CASE BAR2008-0168
Request for approval of alterations at 408 N. Union St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Elizabeth Reno & Roy Wuchitech

CASE BAR2008-0169
Request for approval of alterations at 728 S. Lee St, zoned RM Residential.
APPLICANT: Richard Metzger & Patricia Tracey

CASE BAR2008-0170
Request for approval of signage at 119 S. Washington St, zoned CD Commercial.
APPLICANT: TD Bank, NA

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 838-4666

ABC LICENSE

Au Domaine, llc trading as Au Domaine, 802 North Fairfax St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a retail wine & beer, off premises; shipping & delivery license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages
Rick Raunswinder, Director

ABC LICENSE

SNSA, Inc trading as Fast Eddie's, 6220 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22303. The above establishment is applying to the DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer & Mixed Beverage on Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Maria D. Aguilar, owner

OPINION

Dengue Hits Home

FROM PAGE 10

esteemed researchers and other medical professionals approaching retirement age. This brain drain combined with the ongoing national shortage of public health professionals could set the U.S. scientific community back several years in developing new methods for the prevention and treatment of diseases like dengue fever, cancer and HIV/AIDS, to name a few. Issues like these need to be at the top of the political agenda. Research (and common sense) tells us that money spent on preventing disease saves lives. Senators McCain and Obama need to move health research to the tops of their agendas. A recent poll shows that 85 percent of American adults agree that the presidential candidates should participate in a debate on how science can be

used to help tackle America's major challenges. The poll found no difference between Democrats and Republicans on this question. A majority also agree that scientific innovations are improving our standard of living. Senators McCain and Obama need to agree to a debate on health and medical issues — there's even a mechanism in place, ScienceDebate 2008.

If they don't, more and more people — Americans and global citizens alike — will have stories like mine to share, but many won't have such happy endings. And it doesn't have to be this way.

Ann Andrews Morris, who lives in Arlington with her husband Bob, works for Research!America, the nation's largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance which is headquartered in Alexandria.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 9

more children with access to preschool? Are there unused pockets of space that may not be on our radar screen? We are in search of a space of at least 1,500 square feet that we could use on weekday mornings, preferably with a nearby playground and parking lot.

Preschools are critical to our community, ensuring that children arrive in elementary school prepared and excited to learn. Worries about the dearth of slots, the number of children on waiting lists, and the lack of inexpensive

alternatives have become perennial topics of discussion among Alexandria's families. If Valley Drive does not find a new home, those problems only become worse. We are determined to find a new place to be. We will do everything we can to avoid shutting our doors. With the input and ideas from the members of our great community, we know we can continue to help our city's children. Please feel free to contact us at 703-379-6918.

With many thanks,
Kelley Maierhofer, president
Leslie Cox, co-president

Write

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

Letters to the Editor
Gazette Packet
Attention: Mary Anne Weber

Call: 703-917-6431.
By e-mail: maweber@connectionnewspapers.com

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

IN RE ADOPTION/GUARDIANSHIP OF :

MAX H. : Case No. A15351

To Father: Brandon and/or JB/Tony (last names unknown); To: Kanesia Denise Hall; To: Unknown Father and to all interested persons: You are hereby notified that a guardianship case has been filed in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Case No. A15351. All persons who believe themselves to be parents of a male child born on August 8, 2008 in Washington, D.C. to Kanesia Denise Hall (born July 6, 1982) and to Brandon or JB/Tony (last names and dates of birth unknown), shall file a written response. A

Legal Notices

copy of the show cause order may be obtained from the clerk's office at the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, 50 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850 and telephone number: 240-777-9422. If you do not file a written objection within 30 days from the later of (A) the date that this Notice is published in a newspaper or (B) the last day that this Notice is published on the Maryland Department of Human Resources website, you will have agreed to the permanent loss of your parental rights to this child.

DAJAUN ROSS
5/20/74-9/24/91 (Past 17 yrs)
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CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
Presidential Election
November 4, 2008

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Voter Registration Deadline
Monday, October 6, 2008, 5:00 PM

Virginians 18 and over may apply to register to vote by mail or in person. To register by mail, applications are available at:

- www.alexandriavoter.org
Alexandria Post Offices
Voter Registration Sites listed below
Call 703-838-4050 to request an application by mail
October 6 - postmark deadline for the Presidential Election

In Person, at the following Voter Registration Sites:

- Voter Registration Office: 132 North Royal St, Suite 100
Alexandria Libraries: Beatley Central Library, Burke Branch, Barrett Branch, Duncan Branch
Citizens Assistance Office: City Hall, 301 King St

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

Registered voters in the City of Alexandria may vote by absentee ballot if they are:
away on business, vacation, active military service, or at school
physically unable to go to the polls or the primary care giver for a family member who is physically unable to go to the polls

To vote absentee by mail:
Download the application from www.alexandriavoter.org, or
Contact the Voter Registration Office and ask for an absentee application
Return your completed application:
By Mail to Voter Registration Office
By Fax to 703-838-6449
Deadlines:
Mailed or faxed absentee application must be received by Tues, October 28, at 5 pm
Return mailed Absentee Ballot by Election Day, Tues Nov. 4, 7 pm

To vote absentee in person:
Vote absentee in person at the Office of Voter Registration
132 North Royal Street, Suite 100
In-Person Absentee Voting Hours:
Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 5 pm
Week day evenings:
Monday, Oct 20, until 7:30 pm
Wed, Oct 22, until 7:30 pm
Thurs, Oct 23, until 7:30 pm
Mon, Oct 27, until 7:30 pm
Tue, Oct 28, until 7:30 pm
Saturdays, 8 am to 5 pm
October, 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov 1
Deadline for in-person absentee voting:
Saturday, Nov 1, at 5 pm

Special Services:
All requests for reasonable accommodation due to a disability should be made to the Registrar of Voters with at least a 48 hour notice.
Call 703-838-4050
TTY number for hearing impaired persons is 703-838-5056.

Alexandria Electoral Board
Anna Leider, Secretary
Donald E. Ledwig, Chairman
Peter Newbould, Vice Chair
Voter Registration Office
132 N. Royal Street, Suite 100
703-838-4050
Fax: 703-838-6449
www.alexandriavoter.org

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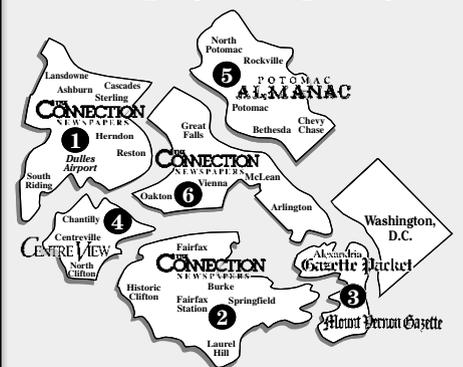
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On September 20, 2008. Devoted husband of Inez Uhlinger. He is also survived by one daughter, Cynthia Bartorillo of Bedford, VA. The family will receive friends at home on Sunday, Oct 12 from 2-5pm in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimers Family Day Center, 2812 Old Lee Hwy, suite 210, Fairfax, VA 22031. Interment was at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA on Tuesday, September 30, 2008.

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# Army Chooses Mark Center

FROM PAGE 1

Center," Scholz said.  
 "The Mark Center site resolves security issues, improves space requirements and mission relationships, and minimizes changes to existing living, working, and quality of life issues," Eastin said.

That was buttressed by James Turkel, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who led the evaluation team on site selection. "Mark Center minimizes to the greatest extent practicable disruption of current commuting needs and mission coordination requirements of the workers. It will also require little or no change in contractor support relationships, as well as changes to residency or schools requirements for workers," Turkel said.

**THAT ASSESSMENT** was not shared by Fairfax County Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay. "This decision is not only devastating to Fairfax County but to all the workers who are going to have to commute to this site. This is a prime example of one dumb land use decision after another," he said.

"I don't care what kind of transportation center they say they have or will be developing. It is not as convenient as simply having easy access mass transit. It's a step backward on work commuting theory," McKay said.

"And, to make it worse they are taking people who have been used to very convenient mass transit in Crystal City and the Pentagon and now telling them they are going to be transferring to buses and other modes. Everyone knows that the secret to mass transit ridership is making it convenient. The Army is doing just the opposite," he said.

"I also don't know how the City of Alexandria can take such a lucrative piece of real estate off their tax rolls in this economic climate. It's just a very bad decision all around," McKay said.

Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille had a very different take. "The Department of Defense's decision to purchase this site and construct a major office building complex, within close proximity to Washington, D.C. and the Pentagon, affirms Alexandria as one of the top locations in the region," he said.

"Our quality of life is unmatched in the region, and the quality of our neighborhoods, vibrancy of our commercial areas, and low crime rate make the city a great place to live and work. We look forward to welcoming WHS's employees in 2011," Euille said.

"It is satisfying to know that when DoD considered many sites in Northern Virginia, Alexandria had both of the top two private sector sites as finalists. This demonstrates our work in expanding Alexandria's economic development opportunities and creating a government responsive to those wishing to relocate their offices," he said.

The most philosophical about the Army's decision to choose Mark Center was Joseph B. Brennan, senior vice president, Government Investor Services for Jones Lang LaSalle, one of the triad owners/developers of the Eisenhower Avenue Victory Cen-

ter. "We basically came in second on price," he said.

One of the basic BRAC requirements is that whatever site was chosen it was to be owned by the Army and become an extension of Fort Belvoir. "All along our strategy has been to lease this site and not sell it. However, during the course of negotiations we made the Army, a purchase offer and that price may have influenced their decision," Brennan said, not divulging that asking price.

"But, just being in the process has helped us with other military and government clients we have been consistently pursuing. We were thoroughly vetted by both the Corps of Engineers and DoD which makes us more desirable to other federal agencies," he said.

The existing 600,000 square foot Victory Center building is presently undergoing massive renovation. There is also space on the site for another multi-level office building plus two parking garages.

**THE AREAS TWO** Congressmen were split in their reaction to the Army's decision. U.S. Rep. Thomas Davis, III, (R-11) "declared victory" over the selection of Mark Center while U.S. Rep. James P. Moran (D-8) expressed disappointment at the Army's failure to locate the Washington Headquarters Services at the GSA Warehouse site.

"It helps because it reduced the number of people who will go to the Engineering Proving Ground facility in Springfield. The bad news is that Mark Center is not served by Metro. But this still represents a huge victory for Northern Virginia commuters," Davis said.

"The Army's decision was predicated solely on meeting BRAC's arbitrary 2011 deadline. While I'm disappointed the GSA Warehouse was not chosen, the push to redevelop that site will continue. A location so close to Metro should be housing workers, not documents and equipment," Moran said.

"Preventing the WHS from moving to the Engineering Proving Ground benefits the region's commuters. Transportation studies showed that locating the WHS there, as dictated by the Army's original plan, would increase commuting time by two to three hours per day," Moran said.

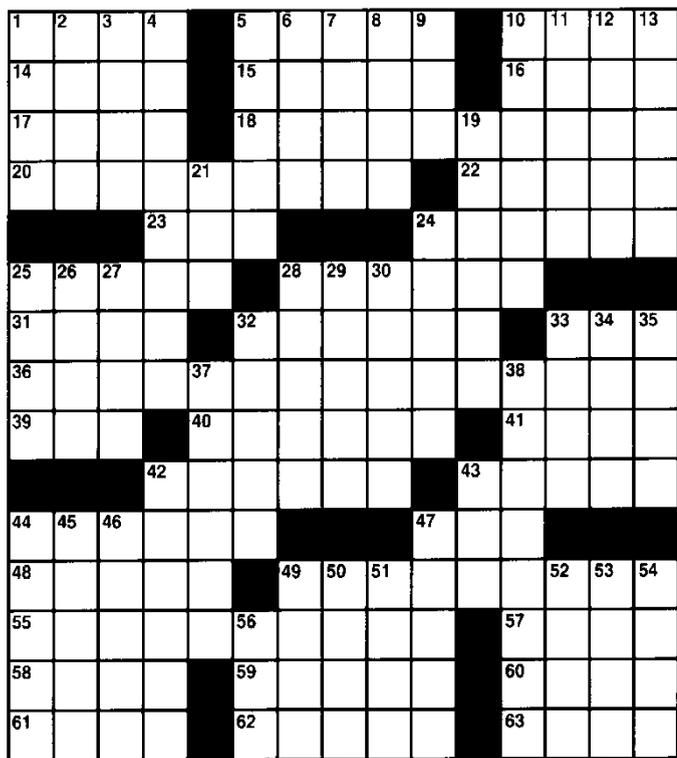
Both seemed to ignore the fact that the EPG has not been one of the actively considered sites since early Spring when the Army, local leaders, and VDOT officials agreed to cap the personnel being transferred there at 8,500 to prevent further exacerbating traffic gridlock. That only provided for NGA, which has a personnel compliment of 8,500.

"This decision again illustrates BRAC's impact on Fort Belvoir becoming the National Capital Region's home to support military leadership. Making the Mark Center site part of Fort Belvoir ensures we are able to place the WHS personnel in a secure facility with no leasing costs while keeping them in close proximity to the Pentagon," said Ft. Belvoir Director of Public Affairs, Donald N. Carr.

## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0331-3



Puzzle by Patrick Jordan

### ACROSS

- 1 Unforeseen difficulty
- 5 Dwelling
- 10 Gauguin or Cézanne
- 14 Soybean dish
- 15 Like lymphatic tissue
- 16 "Giant" author Ferber
- 17 Get
- 18 Start of a joke
- 20 Response to 18-Across
- 22 Big name in computers
- 23 Bell and Barker
- 24 Less slovenly
- 25 Smooth in motion
- 28 Move down the computer screen
- 31 Right on the map
- 32 Deli sausage
- 33 Short punch
- 36 With 49- and 55-Across, response to 20-Across
- 39 Miscalculate
- 40 Made invalid
- 41 Wife in "Finnegans Wake"

- 42 Serving dish
- 43 Gives off
- 44 Hot as a pistol, e.g.
- 47 "Big Blue"
- 48 Makes a cardigan, say
- 49 See 36-Across
- 55 See 36-Across
- 57 Seasick sailor's support
- 58 Yorkshire river
- 59 Gill of country music
- 60 Light brown
- 61 Sediment
- 62 Protected by levees
- 63 Honeybunch

### DOWN

- 1 Lose sleep over something
- 2 Ark architect
- 3 Retro hairdo
- 4 Barrel maker?
- 5 Egyptian crosses
- 6 Matter of contention
- 7 Unpleasant aura
- 8 Small freshwater fish
- 9 — Grove Village, Ill.
- 10 Letter getter, maybe

- 29 Half of a famous outlaw duo
- 30 Japanese noodle dish
- 32 Insomniac's annoyance
- 33 Folk singer Mitchell
- 34 12-Down partner
- 35 Tops
- 37 Tear off with force
- 38 Talked, talked, talked
- 42 Collection plate amounts
- 43 Outward flow
- 44 Cheer with beer
- 45 Bellybutton type
- 46 British bishop's headdress
- 47 Angry
- 49 Sixth-century date
- 50 Sound at Old MacDonald's
- 51 At some prior point
- 52 Filigree
- 53 Milan moola
- 54 Many a campaign tactic
- 56 Hanes competitor
- 11 Assume
- 12 Last word in a wrestling match?
- 13 Adbul-Jabbar, 1975-89
- 19 Kato of Simpson trial fame
- 21 Bit
- 24 One for whom all roads lead to roam
- 25 Honor with a party
- 26 Actor Bert
- 27 Conniver
- 28 Miss Hawkins of Dogpatch

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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# District Games More Important Than Ever

With most Patriot and National District teams off to slow starts, winning district matches have become more vital than ever.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE

When the volleyball coaches of two teams under .500 declare their game against each other the biggest of the season, most would shrug it off to coaches trying every way possible to motivate their players.

In this case, T.C. Williams, led by coach Rhea Butler, had started the year 4-5 and were set to face off against Molly Szychulski's 1-10 West Potomac squad last Thursday night. Not exactly a marquee matchup.

But the caveat was this was each team's first Patriot district game, and with the way the Northern Region volleyball season has gone thus far, every district game counts more than ever.

Since there is a preponderance of good teams in the Concorde and Liberty Districts, it has meant a litany of teams within the Patriot and National Districts whose records look a lot worse than the talent would suggest.

Now they all must try to regain their footing with a clean district slate. With so many teams within the same district currently on the bottom looking up record-wise, it has created what could turn into the most competitive season in a long time.

"This is our first district game, so this is a big one, we need a win," Butler said before the game.

AND IT WAS OBVIOUS just how desperate each team was for that first district win, as both the Titans and Wolverines scrapped and clawed their way through a five-game thriller that saw West Potomac barely survive, securing its second victory this season, winning 25-22, 25-22, 13-25, 12-25, 16-14.

Leading the way for the Wolverines was senior Leigh Blair who finished with 15 kills and 18 digs. Junior Madison Tindle helped the cause with 22 assists. The win ups West Potomac's record to 2-10.

Jumping out to a quick two-game lead was a change of pace for the Wolverines, who have too often started slowly in matches this season.

"I've nicknamed us the comeback girls because a lot of the matches we lose are in five games," said Szychulski, who is in her first season as head coach at West Potomac. "We have the potential, the aggressiveness and when it comes down to the fifth game, we choke. Or we get really aggressive or our nerves get the best of us. (This) was the first night we pushed through those nerves to get the win."

Although the Wolverines had just one win coming into the match against the Titans, most of those losses had come in close matches to the upper echelons of Northern Region volleyball.

But throughout the mounting losses, Szychulski said the team was steadily improving. It just didn't show up in the win column against a non-district slate that was



The West Potomac girl's volleyball team is one of many in the region that has started off the season slowly because of a tough non-district schedule.

too difficult to handle effectively. Now, with a district win under its belt, West Potomac has confidence and momentum that could make them a dark horse towards the end of the season.

"I truly know that West Potomac can hang with a ton of the topped ranked teams," Szychulski wrote in an email looking back on the big win. "In the beginning of our season we were never swept and made a lot of people turn their heads with our scrappy talent. ... The win against TC was not only huge for our division, but for our confidence also."

FOR T.C. WILLIAMS and coach Rhea Butler, the West Potomac game followed an all too familiar pattern for a team loaded with talent.

The Titans dug themselves into a hole, valiantly stormed back, only to watch as

they realized it was too little, too late. The loss dropped T.C. Williams to 4-6 this season, and more importantly, 0-1 in the Patriot District.

"It's just not focusing," Butler said afterwards. "I think they looked at a team and looked at their record and went 'Oh they're 1-10.' ... 'I don't think it has anything to do with skill, it's more a mental toughness. When you think you've got it, volleyball is so mental.'"

The Titans have had plenty of time to regroup, with no games until this Wednesday's district match against Hayfield. West Potomac is back in action Wednesday with a district game against Falls Church.

And after battling each other and their treacherous early-season schedules, both teams know all too well just how important (and how hard) securing a win can be.

## Despite Injuries, Episcopal No Joke

The Maroon have lost half their team to injuries this season, but still sport a 9-2 record.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE-PACKET

Listening to him talk about his promising Episcopal girl's volleyball team this season, it's hard not to think that coach Mike Petock might have a promising career as a doctor.

Petock, along with his already small squad of eight girls, have had to endure a litany of injuries that even the coach has trouble keeping track of.

First it was junior Chelsea Summers, who was lost for the season after re-aggravating an ACL injury in August. Then two weeks ago, it was senior Katelyn Halldorson, who was forced to sit out after injuring her foot from overuse. Then last week, junior Sara Shiels went down with a thumb injury.

If that weren't enough, junior Sarah Dillard came down with an inflamed shoulder this week that has put her availability

into question. The injury bug has forced Petock to elevate three girls from Episcopal's JV squad — and brush up on his medical lingo.

But despite losing half his original team, 11 matches into the season Petock and the Maroon have lost just twice, displaying a resiliency unbecoming of high schoolers.

Tuesday night the Maroon continued their winning ways, scoring a 25-7, 25-14, 25-13 victory over Holy Child

"We try to train players at whatever level they're on to have good skills," Petock said of the JV players he is now using. "And at some point we are going to have to use them and some have had their schedules accelerated."

Through it all, Petock has remained even keeled and kept his team thinking about what's most important: winning and having fun. Although the injuries are nothing to joke about, Petock, who is in his second season at Episcopal, can't help but laugh at



Episcopal volleyball coach Mike Petock and his depleted bench during a recent win over O'Connell. The Maroon have lost half their team to injuries this season.

his team's plight. Last year, when he had more players on the varsity team than he knew what to do with, the Maroon had no major injuries.

He's learned the hard way this season that

luck can be a funny thing.

"It's almost like feast or famine," said Petock, noting that in his 20 years of coaching he's never had this many injuries at one time. "It's just a fluke, I think."

Petock credits the play of his remaining veterans, who have had to pick up even more responsibility than expected, for keeping the team on the winning track thus far. Junior Mary Foran, who had 24 kills in Episcopal's 25-14, 28-26, 25-13 win over O'Connell last week, has been the catalyst and according to Petock, should merit some consideration in conversations about the best volleyball players in the region. Seniors Breanna Jones and Claire Channell have also been steady influences, particularly in integrating all the new players to the team.

And though it has worked thus far, it's a safe bet Petock doesn't want the juggled lineups and newfound medical prowess to turn into a career.

"We're just going to do the best with what we got," Petock said. "Other girls have stepped up trying to help those around them to improve their game, so we don't miss a beat."

# Freddie Mac Troubles Affect Charities

**Dozens of Northern Virginia non-profits rely on funds from Freddie Mac.**

BY DAVID SCHULTZ  
GAZETTE PACKET

**E**arlier this month, the U.S. Treasury took over Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two mortgage lending giants that had been financially imperiled by the subprime lending crisis. Government control of these two institutions immediately sent shockwaves throughout the country's financial system and foreshadowed several weeks of meltdowns on Wall Street.

But the fallout from the collapse of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac isn't just

**"We're nervous. Whenever there's an economic downturn a lot of non-profits suffer."**

— Elizabeth Page,  
Falls Church-McLean Children's Center

a Wall Street problem. The collapse of these two companies poses a serious threat to many local organizations in Northern Virginia.

Freddie Mac's philanthropic arm, the Freddie Mac Foundation, was the largest corporate funder of non-profit organizations in the Washington D.C. region. Last year, the foundation gave approximately \$25 million to local non-profits.

Now, many of those organizations that had received large parts of their operating budgets from Freddie Mac in previous years are facing uncertainty.

"At this point, I don't know," Diane Charles responded when asked if her group, Stop Child Abuse Now, or SCAN, would continue to receive funding from Freddie Mac. "I don't think anybody does."

Shawn Flaherty, a Freddie Mac Foundation spokesperson, said that all of the foundation's charitable donations are currently under review by the organization's director, James Lockhart. No decisions have been made yet about whether funding will be cut, she said, and there was no timeline for when these decisions will be made. "We really don't know at this point," she said. "It's under review and we haven't made a decision yet."

**A NON-PROFIT** child abuse prevention group based out of Alexandria,

SCAN has had a relationship with the Freddie Mac Foundation for more than a decade, Charles, the group's executive director, said. In that time, they have contributed between \$25,000 and \$50,000 to SCAN per year, funding that represents approximately five percent of their annual budget.

Charles said that if Freddie Mac cut off its funding to SCAN, it would be very difficult for her organization to find the funding elsewhere. "We'll be really disappointed," she said. "That's an important piece of what [Freddie Mac has] done in the community ... Relatively, it's a very small amount but that kind of funding allows us to leverage lots of other funding and volunteers. To us, it's critical."

**ELIZABETH PAGE** is the director of the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center, a group that provides childcare to low-income families. For the last decade, the Freddie Mac Foundation has given Page's group \$25,000 a year, one-eighth of their annual operating budget.

"We're nervous," Page said. "Not just with Freddie Mac but with the whole environment these days. Whenever there's an economic downturn a lot of non-profits suffer."

The Falls Church-McLean Children's Center received its funding from Freddie Mac in July, Page said, so they are covered for this fiscal year. "I'm hoping by April when we reapply [for funding] things will be clearer," she said. But Page said that if the funding from Freddie Mac doesn't come through, they would most likely have to layoff one of their teaching assistants.

**LOUDOUN** County-based INMED Partnerships for Children is another local non-profit organization that relies heavily on funding from Freddie Mac. Thirty five percent of their annual budget – \$175,000 per year for a trio human services programs – comes from the Freddie Mac Foundation.

Linda Pfeiffer, INMED's President and CEO, said that her organization has been in close contact with Freddie Mac representatives since their recent financial changes and that "there is no indication" that their funding is in jeopardy. In fact, Pfeiffer said, just a few weeks ago INMED was invited by Freddie Mac to officially reapply for a \$100,000 grant.

"The people at the Foundation are completely forthcoming," she said. "As far as they know things are moving ahead as normal."

But Pfeiffer said that the loss of funding from Freddie Mac would force INMED to "cut down on our services dramatically" because the loss of the Freddie Mac funds



Freddie Mac headquarters in McLean.

PHOTO BY DAVID SCHULTZ/THE CONNECTION

## Non-Profits

The non-profit organizations featured in this story are always in need of donations and volunteers. The following is information on how you can help out these groups:

❖ **SCAN of Northern Virginia**

1705 Fern Street, Second Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
703-820-9001  
info@scanva.org

❖ **Falls Church-McLean Children's Center**

7230 Idylwood Road  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
703-534-4907  
fcmccc@aol.org

❖ **INMED Partnerships for Children**

20110 Ashbrook Place, Suite 260  
Ashburn, VA 20147  
703-729-4951  
contact@inmed.org

❖ **BU-GATA**

927 South Walter Reed Drive, Suite 28  
Arlington, VA 22204  
703-302-5140

❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**

10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100  
Oakton, VA 22124  
703-385-3267  
info@nvfs.org

could trigger a chain reaction among their other funders.

"It's something that's always been crucial for leveraging other funding," she said. "All funders like to see that their funds are being matched by other funding. Freddie Mac has always been wonderful to provide the upfront money that we can use to get state money and county money."

**THE FALLOUT** from the collapse of Freddie Mac is affecting Northern Virginia non-profits both large and small.

BU-GATA is an Arlington-based group that acts as an advocate for the tenants of the Buckingham Village neighborhood. Since

1998, it has run a youth program for Buckingham teens that was funded with a \$40,000 annual contribution from Freddie Mac.

If the Freddie Mac funds were cut off, BU-GATA would have to fire the program's full-time coordinator and would be forced to use part-time volunteers, Lois Athey, the group's executive director, said.

Northern Virginia Family Service is on the opposite end of the funding spectrum. They have an annual budget of more than \$20 million, only \$400,000 of which comes from

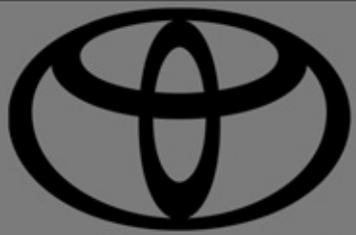
Freddie Mac. Like BU-GATA, Northern Virginia Family Service would have to make layoffs if their Freddie Mac funding was cut off, the organization's President and CEO Mary Agee said.

But if the Freddie Mac Foundation ceases to exist, a lack of funding wouldn't be the only thing that local non-profits would lose out on.

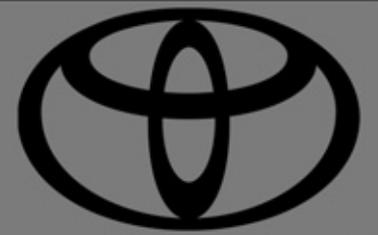
"[Freddie Mac goes] above and beyond just the financial giving," Agee said. "Their staff is involved in working in the community to help build the systems that will improve people's lives. They are in the community rolling up their sleeves side by side with all of us to resolve community issues. We need that. We need their perspectives. It sets them apart from a lot of other foundations."

**"At this point I don't know. I don't think anybody does."**

— Diane Charles,  
SCAN of Northern Virginia



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**Jennifer Walker**  
703.675.1566  
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MLS ID# AX6868982



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$569,000



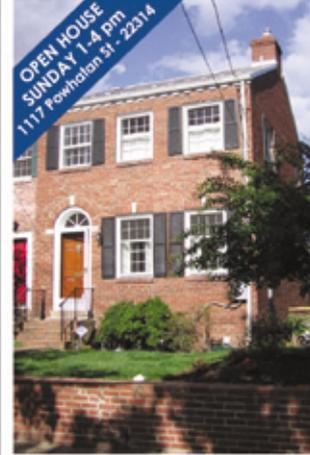
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703.627.9578  
[www.donnacramer.com](http://www.donnacramer.com)  
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**Ginger Quinn**  
703.731.4139  
[www.mceneaney.com](http://www.mceneaney.com)  
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**Margaret Benghauser**  
703.989.6961 [www.mceneaney.com](http://www.mceneaney.com)



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This 1933 classic stone home features three bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths, granite kitchen, a rooftop deck with river view, and lush landscaping! The koi pond, fountain, mature plantings, along with the "Middleburg" front porch and gated off-street parking complete this charming package!

**Janet Price**  
703.960.5858 [www.janetpricehomes.com](http://www.janetpricehomes.com)  
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**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
703.286.1239 [www.LizLuke.com](http://www.LizLuke.com)  
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**Martha Floyd**  
703.408.9478 [www.MarthaFloyd.com](http://www.MarthaFloyd.com)  
MLS ID# FX6868611



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