

# Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

NOVEMBER 26, 2008

## Linking Belvoir with Community

**Creating the Army's  
21st century premier  
military installation.**

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

**C**ommunity and political leaders from throughout Northern Virginia got not only a statistical briefing but also a glimpse of 21st Century Fort Belvoir during the annual Base Community Relations Breakfast Nov. 20 at the Post's Community Center.

"This morning's program will be a little different than what you have been used to at this breakfast in the past. There will be more focus on the soldiers of this base," said Fort Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Jerry L. Blixt in opening the 90-minute briefing and question/answer session that focused on changes at the base as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Report known as BRAC.

That introduction was followed by a short video identifying soldiers who served under fire in the Iraq and Afghanistan war zones. It was the first showing of the video, which highlighted the valor of individual soldiers, such as Spec. Monica Brown, only

SEE BELVOIR, PAGE 22



## Bringing Beauty — and Beast — to Stage

**Belle (Jenna Kraynak) appears in town to pick up another book to read.**

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6

**"D**isney's Beauty and the Beast" was presented by the Mount Vernon Community Children's Theatre last weekend. The production was directed and choreographed by Gae Schmidt. Willa Brown returned as music director; Cassie Sauer, stage manager; Laura Marshall, assistant producer; Susy Coffey, sound design and Bill Johnson, stage design. Dozens of families and friends volunteered for set construction, the stage crew, lighting, graphic design, props, seamstresses, publicity, make-up, and photography.

For more information on the Children's Theatre, call 703-360-0686 or visit [www.mvccct.org](http://www.mvccct.org).



**The spoon (Sanou Diallo), the knife (William Havranek) and the fork (Lillian Gillard) introduce themselves to their new guest.**

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

## Students Learn Fashion from Behind the Scenes

**West Potomac Academy students work with models at Eddie Van's iKY fashion show.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE GAZETTE

**W**ith Redskinettes and Wizards cheerleaders serving as models, West Potomac Academy fashion design and TV production students got to work behind the scenes at Fashion Forward, a fashion show that benefited the Hoop Dreams Scholarship Fund and featured designer Eddie Van's iKY's clothing line.

**ARRIVING AT** 4 p.m. last Friday and working in the back of the Shadow Room, a lounge at 2131 K Street, NW, until 10 p.m., the six junior and senior girls helped dress and style the clothes for the mod

SEE FASHION, PAGE 3



**West Potomac student Lucy Neer works backstage with the models.**



**Mai Tran shows the outfit that she put together.**

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE GAZETTE



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West Potomac student LaTasja Rousey helps the models for the show.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE GAZETTE

From left: Chyna Johnson-Owens, teacher Nancy Mantelli, and Anjelica Newkirk video-taped the behind-the-scenes at The Shadow Room.

# McKay Seeks Changes to Voting Gridlock

Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, acting in conjunction with Springfield District Supervisor Patrick Herrity and Mason District Supervisor Penelope "Penny" Gross, has requested that the General Registrar and Election Board review absentee-in-person voting procedure to alleviate the near gridlock that occurred leading up to the November general election.

As McKay noted during last week's Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' meeting, 16 percent of active registered voters took advantage of the opportunity to vote either by mail-in absentee ballot or in-person at the county's in-person absentee voting locations. One such location was the

SEE TRYING, PAGE 6

# Learning Fashion, Behind the Scenes

FROM PAGE 1  
els.

Outside, a bouncer checked guests' IDs in a roped-off area. Inside, people mingled under cool shadows and hot music.

"The benefits of having these ladies help is for them to see the hustle and bustle of what the fashion business is really like," said Ron Cooke of Rogue Productions. "It's fun and it's fashion, but in order to do it, you have to be quick and quick-witted."

And once things got started, the pace became quick and exciting. Miss D.C. 2008 Kate-Marie Grinold came backstage to offer advice.

West Potomac's TV production teacher Nancy Mantelli worked with students Chyna

Johnson-Owens and Anjelica Newkirk, both juniors, who filmed and interviewed people to make a promo of the event for Eddie Van. In post production, the students will continue to work with the Hoop Dreams organization and iKY Clothing to produce promo pieces.

"Just being part of this event is very powerful... [Eddie Van] came in and talked to our fashion design students," said Career Experience Specialist Maria Kappel, who helps set up real life career activities for the students at West Potomac.

She says the benefits are enormous because "They're getting real-life learning, working with business people and entrepreneurs and fashion models."

"Depending on the show, they get to model or put their pieces in the show," said Maggy Franco, who teaches 60 students fashion design at West Potomac. So far this year, she has partnered her students with eight fashion shows in the metropolitan area. Students get internship hours for dressing and styling the models, assisting with hairstyling and makeup, learning networking, and assisting with the production.

Her goal, she says is for the students to learn the nitty-gritty of the whole industry — the whole aspect of putting on a production.

"There's always a mission behind the

SEE LEARNING, PAGE 6

## Correction

In "A Child's Place: Now Their Place" [Gazette, Nov. 19, 2008], several details were inaccurate. The center has an enrollment of 80 children in its preschool program which serves ages 2-5 years old. It has 66 children in its after-school program which serves ages 5-12 years old. Full-time teachers are employed in its preschool program. A Child's Place is a privately-run center, leasing space in the county-operated Hollin Hall Senior Center.

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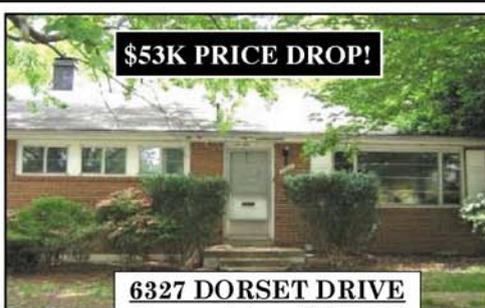


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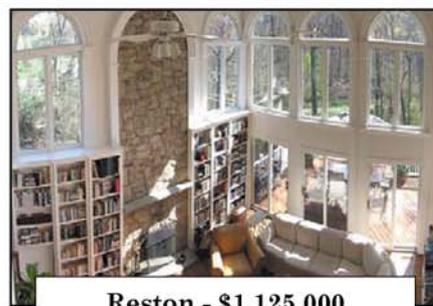


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- \* Making a monetary donation payable to **Long & Foster's "The Giving Tree,"** which will be used to provide food certificates for families.
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*Note . . . all administrative and advertising costs for this program are underwritten by the agents of the Long & Foster, Alexandria / Old Town Office. This means that all of the gift and monetary donations go to the people in need.*

# Murder Re-Trial on Hold

Special prosecutor could be appointed.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE GAZETTE

**M**ohammad Aukif Ahmad, who is charged with and once convicted for the murder of a 21-month-old toddler, wants to bar the Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney's Office from prosecuting his retrial.

Ahmad's second round of defense attorneys, Peter D. Greenspun and Jonathan Shapiro, argued that the Commonwealth Attorney's Office should recuse itself because three prosecutors in the office once worked for Ahmad's original defense attorney, Robert Whitestone, when he represented Ahmad at trial.



"At the time of their employment with the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, it was incumbent upon then Commonwealth Attorney Robert F. Horan Jr. to implement a plan and procedures ... that the new prosecutors be precluded with absolute certainty, from any contact with the Ahmad prosecution," according to Greenspun and Shapiro.

Judge Leslie M. Alden granted Ahmad's motion last week, and a status hearing was scheduled for Monday, Nov. 17, setting the stage for the appointment of a special prosecutor from outside Fairfax County.

Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh said earlier this week that he wanted to challenge the ruling.

Alden will hear arguments Friday, Nov. 21, why a special prosecutor from a neighboring jurisdiction should not be appointed.

**A JURY CONVICTED** Ahmad in May 2007 of second-degree murder of Myles Simon, 21-months old. See sidebar.

The jury took 15 minutes to impose the maximum sentence, 40 years in prison.

One juror put her hand to her heart and looked directly at the toddler's mother as the jury's verdict was read.

## 'Death That No Human Deserves'

Myles Simon, 21 months old, was just 33 inches tall when he suffered one blow to his head that resulted in complex fractures of his skull and instantaneous death. Myles also suffered one blow to the abdomen that resulted in laceration of his liver and bruising of his kidneys, colon, bladder and diaphragm.

"We hate that our son died a horrible death that no human deserves," Myles' mother testified at Mohammad Aukif Ahmad's sentencing hearing in August 2007, before Ahmad was granted a new trial. "Life without him is unbearable at times."

"He was full of life, he had the most infectious giggle. When you heard it, you couldn't help but giggling yourself," she said.

Jillian Ahmad operated an unlicensed day-care center out of the townhouse where she lived with her husband on the 6400 block of Silver Ridge Circle in Kingstowne.

On Sept. 12, 2006, Jillian Ahmad left at 9 a.m. to buy milk, juice and snacks at Wal-Mart, leaving four children under four-years-old in the care of her husband.

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

In one of the calls, Mohammad Ahmad told his wife that Myles was getting tired and sleepy. In another call, he yelled, "Hurry up and get the hell home."

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

She told her husband to call 911.

"He said, 'No, just fix it,'" according to her testimony. Mohammad Ahmad was arrested three days later at the Westway Motor Inn in New York, two miles from LaGuardia International Airport on Sept. 15, 2006.

Alden imposed the full sentence in August 2007.

But 12 months later, Alden granted Ahmad's motion for a new trial. Prosecutors failed to notify Ahmad's defense that Jillian Ahmad, the key prosecution witness, was in possession of approximately a half ounce of marijuana and \$1,200 in cash when she was apprehended by police as a material witness just before Ahmad's three-day trial in May 2007.

"The court concludes that in the absence of disclosure of the evidence, the Defendant did not receive a fair trial ending in a verdict worthy of confidence," the judge wrote. "Had the Defendant been aware of the undisclosed information, he may reasonably have taken different and potentially significant actions which could have strengthened his defense."

Last week, Shapiro and Greenspun also sought to bar the testimony of Jillian Ahmad in the second trial, although the judge denied that motion. "Ms. Ahmad has already shown complete disregard for the truth-seeking process of the judicial system," wrote Greenspun and Shapiro.

**MOHAMMAD AHMAD'S** sister, Adeela Ahmad Khan, has been charged with bribery in connection with the case. She was indicted by a Fairfax grand jury in October, one of the first steps for a felony case to proceed in Fairfax County Circuit Court.

Adeela Ahmad Khan is accused of attempting to pay Jillian Ahmad to disappear at the time of her brother's trial. A special prosecutor has been appointed from Prince William County in the bribery case against Ahmad's sister.

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# Rt. 1 Revitalization Defies Economy

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

ing space.

**D**espite several setbacks this year, such as the collapse of the Kings Crossing Project and the Sept. 12 fire that destroyed the new Marriott Springhill Suites that was under construction, revitalization along Richmond Highway is alive and well, according to the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation.

The revitalized Richmond Highway corridor, is the direct “result of remarkable cooperation between government, local businesses and investors,” according to Lara Fritts, executive director, SFDC. Some of the latest developments include the following:

- ❖ **Fairview Motel Site:** Plans are underway to develop this site with a new 120 room hotel/motel with some meeting space. The plan received a favorable reception from the Spring Bank Community Association when it was presented during a recent meeting. No final details have been released at this time.

- ❖ **Walgreen’s (Beacon Hill):** Construction is nearing completion on this new addition to The Highway at the intersection of Rt.1 and Beacon Hill Road where the former Wachovia Bank Branch and O’s Restaurant were once located. When open it will be the second new Walgreen’s along the Rt.1 corridor. The first new store is now open and operating at the corner of Boswell Avenue and Rt.1.

- ❖ **K&M Shopping Center:** Construction is nearing completion on this 7,000 sq. ft. shopping complex on Fordson Road. The owners have signed a contract for new Greek restaurant and are negotiating for a bagel shop to occupy the remain-

- ❖ **Hampton Inn & Suites:** Construction is well under way on this new hotel/motel addition in the 8800 block of Richmond Highway across from SFDC headquarters in the IMP Building. Having broken ground in March they are scheduled to open in May 2009. A new 60-room hotel is also being proposed for the site next door.

- ❖ **IMP Building:** Owners of this property at 8850 Richmond Highway have filed a site plan to build two hotel buildings on the parking area. No dates or specific plans have been released.

- ❖ **Huntington Reserve:** KB Homes, Inc. has started construction on this residential project which will include 94 new townhouses located on 14 acres along Huntington Avenue.

- ❖ **Ourisman Dodge:** The dealership lost over an acre of land to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. It is now planning to build a four-story parking garage behind its main building.

- ❖ **Huntington Metro Project:** This approved project by Stout and Teague will contain 650 residential units, 23,000 sq. ft. of office space, 30,000 sq. ft. of retail and 10 acres of land designated for public parks.

In addition to all of this is the continued development of Fort Belvoir as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure Report (BRAC) that includes the new DeWitt Army Community Hospital and a host of other projects on base as well as infrastructure and roadway improvements both on and off the base.

Tourism in the area is expected to increase with the addition of the National Museum of the U.S. Army that is planned to be constructed adjacent to Fort Belvoir.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

**Gaston (Anthony Carrell) and LeFou (Melissa Becker) in town for the day with the townspeople.**

## Bringing Beauty — And Beast — to Stage



**Lumiere (Alan Mackritis) and the wardrobe (Chrissy Corl) watch silently as the Beast (Derek Farino) orders Belle (Jenna Kraynak) to come to dinner.**



**Music director Willa Brown works the cast through a few warm-up scales before the performance.**

## Fashion, Behind the Scenes

FROM PAGE 3

shows we do,” she said.

**SENIOR MAI TRAN**, 17, of Alexandria worked backstage mixing together a “punk urban” ensemble with a blue leather jacket, True Religion jeans, a plaid red scarf and jewelry. She says what’s fun about it is “the hands-on experience in the real world.” She wants to study fashion merchandising so that she can become a buyer for Macy’s.

Junior Latasja Rousey, 16, of Alexandria already considers herself a fashion designer. Her motto is: “Don’t let the name brand of the clothes make you, but make your

name the brand.” She says she wants to branch out into interior design. For her model’s outfit, she mixed dark skinny jeans, a graphic iKY “Redemption” v-neck T-shirt and a purple and black scarf — “perfect for chilling” around, she said.

Senior Hope Thomas, 16, of Alexandria wants to go into visual merchandising, where she designs interiors of store layouts. For her model, she put together an urban street look with black leather jacket, black skinny jeans, silver-studded belt and black and white scarf. “The point was to spice up the outfit and flavor to it,” she said, adding her own textures, patterns and color.

## Voting Gridlock

FROM PAGE 3

Franconia Governmental Center on Franconia Road where McKay’s office is located.

“Long lines weren’t the only problem at this location. Parking was an issue, not only for voters, but also for anyone needing to reach the police or my staff. I stopped counting the number of near misses as voters jockeyed for parking spaces,” McKay said.

“It is imperative that voting locations be able to handle expected turnouts — and that was certainly not the case at the Franconia Governmental Center,” McKay said.

## MVHS Boosters Give Grants to Teachers

**T**eachers at Mount Vernon High School were given a financial boost from the MVHS Academic Boosters Corporation. This past week ABC made awards totally \$6,700 through its Teacher Grant Program.

“It is crucial to meet the needs of our teachers. We received some very creative applications and we are happy to help some of the projects that otherwise might have gone unfunded,” said Ron Fitzsimmons, president, MVHS Academic Boosters Corporation.

Fitzsimmons believes the need for such grants will increase be-

cause Fairfax County Public Schools are facing extensive budget cuts. ABC receives support from a variety of businesses and community organization.

“Students’ academic success benefits the entire community. And these grants provide an immediate impact in the classroom,” Fitzsimmons said.

Full or partial grants were awarded to aid in the purchase of a variety of equipment items, support of specialized programs, and to promote field trips that enhance students’ educational experience.

## COMMUNITY

### 'A Celebration Of Giving And Sharing'

Volunteer Fairfax is seeking volunteers for its annual children's program, "A Celebration of Giving and Sharing." Students in select Fairfax County schools will receive backpacks full of books and toys and talk to community volunteers about the importance of giving sharing and giving back. After benefiting from volunteerism, the partner schools engage their students in volunteer projects.

The schools are selected based on need, with nearly half of their students qualifying for the free and reduced lunch program. Two of the three schools selected this time is Weyanoke Elementary, located at 6520 Braddock Road, Alexandria, and Woodlawn Elementary, located at 8505 Highland Lane, Alexandria. The delivery day is Thursday, Dec. 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and the celebration day is Friday, Dec. 12, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

For more information and to sign up, call Samantha Watson at 703-246-3862 or e-mail VolunteerFairfaxCGS@gmail.com.

## SHOPPING ALL DAY?



## VISITING WITH RELATIVES?

## NO TIME TO RELAX?

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Announcing Burke & Herbert's Second Annual

## KIDS' Holiday Art Contest!

**Theme: Holiday Fun!**

**TO ENTER: (For children 12 years and younger)**  
Submit an original illustrated drawing that shows "Holiday Fun" using crayon or marker on white 8½" x 11" paper.  
**Deadline: Friday, November 28, 2008.**

Download entry form from the web site, or pick one up at any of Burke & Herbert's 19 locations. Artwork must be submitted in person to one of these locations. To download entry form, or for office locations, visit [www.burkeandherbert.com](http://www.burkeandherbert.com).

**WINNER:**

The winner will receive a \$100.00 U.S. Savings Bond and be featured in Burke & Herbert's holiday advertisement running in community papers on Thursday, December 18, 2008. Works will be judged by Burke & Herbert personnel and a representative of The Art League (at the Torpedo Factory).

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# OPINION

## Shop Locally Local shops help define community, and this year, they need local support.

The economic situation is daunting, and it's probably true that most families, even families who feel financially secure, will be more frugal in this holiday season than in the past.

But we're pretty sure that almost all of us will be doing some significant holiday shopping in the next month. While you're at it, be sure to spend a portion of your shopping dollars close to home.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of the shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season.

Small retail shops are part of what defines any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fund raising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face some of the toughest challenges imaginable right now. The costs of being in business have grown tremendously while revenues are not.

Competition from Big Box stores, expanded shopping malls and the Internet make the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at

the mall. In this area, almost everyone will do some shopping via the Internet.

But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores.

## Give Locally

Local charities seeing unprecedented demand from struggling families for food and other help.

Putting food on the table for the family. It's such a basic activity and most of us are lucky enough to make choices of what we'll buy at the grocery store, whether this is a carry-out night or an eat-out night one or more days a week.

Meanwhile local charities and food banks are finding it hard to gather enough food to keep up with the demand from people who are suddenly unable to afford enough food to put on the table for their families.

Housing costs, the foreclosure crisis, spiking energy and food costs over the past year and other economic woes have put a tremendous strain on working poor families in Northern Virginia.

Included in The Gazette over the past few weeks and in coming weeks are stories and listings of local organizations that help local families in need and especially nonprofit groups that provide help to families during the holiday season. These organizations report that while demand is up dramatically, contributions are down. They need your help to respond to increasingly needy families.

Here is a partial listing of local organizations

### To Help

- ❖ United Community Ministries, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106
- ❖ FACETS, 703-352-5090
- ❖ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 7205 Old Keene Mill Road in Springfield, 703-569-9160
- ❖ Good Shepherd in the Route 1 area, 703-768-9404
- ❖ The Koinonia Foundation, 6037 Franconia Road, Franconia, 703-971-1991.
- ❖ Christ House, Catholic Charities, urgently needs 19 turkeys and other items for its Christmas dinner for the hungry. 131 S. West Street, Alexandria, 703-548-4227 (monetary assistance); 703-549-8644 (shelter). [www.ccca.net/programs\\_christhouse.php](http://www.ccca.net/programs_christhouse.php)
- ❖ Bethany House of Northern Virginia needs donations and volunteers for its Christmas Shop. Registry of needed items at Target or Wal-Mart under Bethany (first name) House (last name) or contact Jennifer Wassermann, 703-658-9500, [jwassermann@bhnv.org](mailto:jwassermann@bhnv.org).

that help the needy, every one is facing intense and increasing demand for services. Read more at [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## 'Arsenic and Old Lace' at Mount Vernon High

BY JEREMY ROMMEL  
WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Have you ever visited your old aunts and stumbled across a rotting corpse stored inside of their window seat? If not, you can imagine Mortimer's surprise when he does just that in Joseph Kesselring's 1939 dark comedy, "Arsenic and Old Lace." Mount Vernon High School's production

stayed true to the insanity, homicide, and hilariously disturbing characters provided by Kesselring's script.

The plot takes place in the home of Abby (Qudsiyya Hewlett) and Martha (Taylor Wise) Brewster. Among the kooky frequenters of the Brewster home is Teddy Brewster (Andrew McKellips), who thinks he is president Teddy Roosevelt; Mortimer (Malcolm

Montgomery), who can't quite understand how he, a straight-laced drama critic, fits into his nutty family; and Elaine (Katelyn Arthur), who is set on

CAPPIES  
REVIEW

edge by her boyfriend Mortimer's reluctance to marry her. The play kicks off when Mortimer discovers that his seemingly harmless aunts have poisoned 12 men with elderberry wine laced with arsenic. Just as Mortimer is trying to deal with his homicidal aunts, his homicidal brother Jonathan Brewster (Kevin McNelis) returns home with an alcoholic plastic surgeon named Dr. Einstein (Eddie Maldonado), a hatred for his estranged family, and a corpse of his own. The hilarity and confusion that ensues is intensified by unexpected visits from cops and several near discoveries of bodies. It concludes in the only way possible — Martha and Abby Brewster committing themselves to the Happy Dale Sanitarium.

The cast of Mount Vernon's production did a good job keeping up

the pace of a show in which good timing is essential. Several actors used effective physical expression to make the most of their comedic moments.

Among the highlights were the intermittent entrances and exits of Andrew McKellips as the identity-confused Teddy Brewster. From charging up the stairs with sword in hand, to tip-toeing across stage with a body precariously draped over his back, McKellips created a character that was fun to watch from start to finish. Another highlight was Eddie Maldonado as Dr. Einstein. The way he played off his enraged partner in crime, his goofy mannerisms, and his hilarious, yet ethnically-ambiguous accent never ceased to entertain the audience.

By the end of Mount Vernon's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace," after it is made abundantly clear that the Brewster family truly is insane, the audience is glad to discover along with Mortimer, that he is actually not a member of this disturbed and disturbing family.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

**Snapshot** A Persimmon Tree: River Farm, Nov. 24, 4:30 p.m.

### Mount Vernon Gazette

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

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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## HOLIDAY TOURS

# Church To Star in Tour

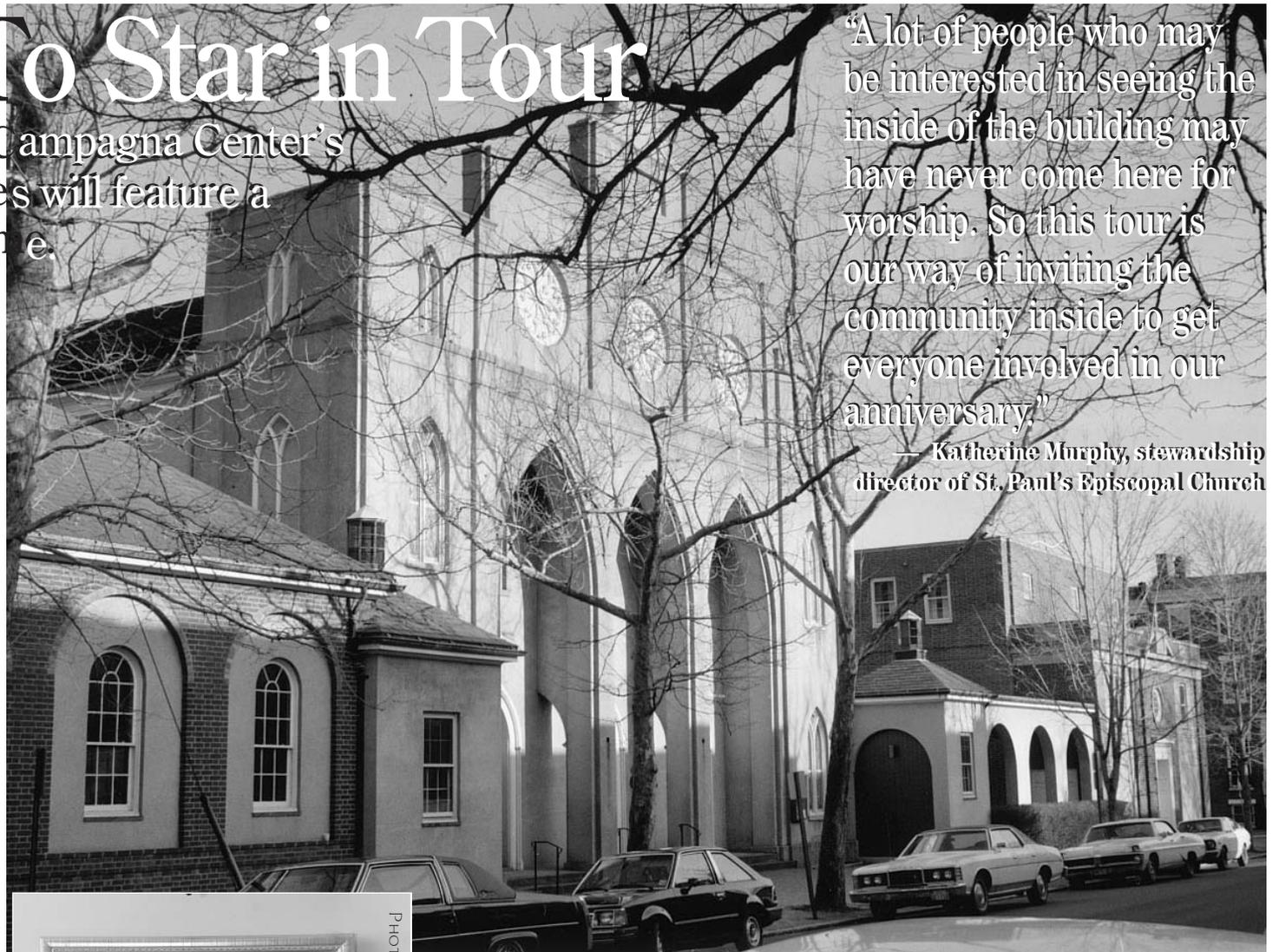
For the first time ever, Campagna Center's Designer Tour of Homes will feature a building that's not a home.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Style has always been at the heart of the mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, with its early origins rooted in an early 19th-century dispute between members of Christ Church about proper clerical garb. One faction of the church preferred the traditional black silk cassock. But when the Rev. William Gibson, a controversial pastor who arrived at Christ Church in 1807, began wearing a white surplice, several congregates considered the new duds popish. In the pulpit, Gibson adopted a high-church style that many longtime members at Christ Church found objectionable.

"A prominent member, Edmund J. Lee, allegedly walked out of the church in protest because of it," wrote church historian Ruth Lincoln Kaye in her 1984 history of St. Paul's Church. "When, in addition, word reached Mr. Gibson through the grapevine that his sermons were considered too abrasive and were delivered with too much frankness, his reportedly excitable nature caused him to mount the high pulpit and resign without prior advice to the vestry, an act which flouted church procedure and further aggravated the situation."

In 1809, Gibson led a renegade group out of Christ Church and into a small building on Fairfax Street, eventually forming a new organization that came to be known as St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Shortly after incorporation, members of the newly created vestry hired famed architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe to design a permanent home on South Pitt Street. Latrobe, known by some as "the father of American architecture," designed the White House porticoes, Statuary Hall and the old Supreme Court chamber in the basement of the United States Capitol.



"A lot of people who may be interested in seeing the inside of the building may have never come here for worship. So this tour is our way of inviting the community inside to get everyone involved in our anniversary."

— Katherine Murphy, stewardship director of St. Paul's Episcopal Church



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

St. Paul's is the featured stop on this year's Tour of Homes. From left, 801 Duke Street gets the decorations ready inside the house, 19 Franklin Street and 209 South St. Asaph Street. These houses will be decorated for the tour.



"His churches were meeting houses, not unlike in plan those built by the Congregationalists in Massachusetts in the 17th century," wrote architectural historian Thomas Waterman in 1939.

**WITH THE CHURCH** on the brink of celebrating its 200th anniversary, modern-day congregates are planning a series of events to celebrate the milestone. The kickoff to the year of celebration will be the first weekend in December, when the historic structure will be featured in the Campagna Center's Designer Tour of Homes. Organizers say this is the first time that a building other than a home has been featured on the tour, opening up the building to people who have never ventured inside the Episcopal church completed in 1818 at a cost of

\$29,000.

"Latrobe's design encourages you to look heavenward," said the Rev. Oran Warder, rector of St. Paul's. "It's a simple, elegant setting that lets you know you are in a sacred space."

The building that visitors will see during the Campagna Center's Designer Tour of Homes will be the result of compromise and development. Although Latrobe did not want galleries, the vestry forced the addition of three overhead seating areas. And

his design for the chancel was radically altered in 1906, when the east wall was pushed back about 40 feet. Earlier this year, the north wall of the building was encapsulated in a controversial atrium that was opposed by many in the historic preservation community. All of these features and more will be pointed out by members of the Altar Guild during the tour.

"A lot of people who may be interested in

SEE TOUR, PAGE 19



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

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For a full list of performers, online badge sales and retail sales locations, visit [www.FirstNightAlexandria.org](http://www.FirstNightAlexandria.org)

## ART & LITERATURE

# Designer Signs Book, China

Book on Washington's life as seen through his objects.

By CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE

In addition to being Commanding General of the Revolutionary Army and the first President of the United States, George Washington was an accomplished host at his Mount Vernon Plantation. For his multitude of guests he required an array of fine china.

Beginning in the spring of 1757 he ordered "white stone" tableware from England, also known as English white stoneware. His first order arrived in December of that year. It consisted of six dozen dinner plates and an array of complimenting pieces.

In the American colonies during the mid 1700's, the relatively inexpensive yet fashionable white-fired English stoneware was the most widely used table setting. It could be molded into a variety of specialized forms, which suited the needs of the bachelor Washington quite well.

One of his favorite patterns was known appropriately, in line with his entrepreneurial talents, as "Prosperity." The pattern was a glossy hard porcelain. It was both elegant and practical.

and two serving bowls — according to Kvalheim. However, there is a wide array of Mottahedeh china in The Shops in different patterns featuring everything from vases and figurines to full table settings.

"I design our various products and my daughter Dana serves as the product coordinator. A given reproduction might consist of one plate or a variety of adaptations," she said.

Her book "From Drawing Board to Dinner Table" explains in detail some of the various reproductions

**"A well-set table was the mark of a gentleman in colonial America."**

— Carol Borchert Cadou,  
director, Mount Vernon  
Collections

produced by her company and the process of successfully achieving an authentic reproduction. The Mount Vernon Prosperity pattern is a glossy hard porcelain reproduction of the Staffordshire English Salt glaze ware.

It is stain proof, dishwasher safe and microwaveable. The unusual contrasting matte finished rim, although unglazed, is non-porous. The pattern was discovered during an archeological dig at the Estate, according to Cardou, who gave a detailed account on the subject during a lecture preceding the signing event.

"A well-set table was the mark of a gentleman in colonial America," Cardou told her audience. "This also applied to tea service. Serving Chinese tea was a note of status."

A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, the reproduction of that stoneware was introduced at The Shops at Mount Vernon by Wendy Kvalheim, the president of Mottahedeh China, and Carol Borchert Cadou, Mount Vernon's director of collections. They also signed copies of the respective books "From Drawing Board to Dinner Table" and "The George Washington Collection: Fine and Decorative Art at Mount Vernon" as well as pieces of Mottahedeh china purchased at The Shops.

Kvalheim acquired the 85-year-old fine china company located in Cranberry, N.J., near Princeton, in 1992 from its founders Mildred and Rafi Mottahedeh. "We specialize in antique reproductions of porcelain, brass, silver and crystal and hold a variety of museum licenses," Kvalheim said.

Right now only four pieces of the Prosperity pattern are available — a service plate, an oval platter,

ing an archeological dig at the Estate, according to Cardou, who gave a detailed account on the subject during a lecture preceding the signing event.

"One of the constant themes throughout the book is porcelain. It defined for those new Americans their standing and their wealth," she said.

Visitors to The Shops at Mount Vernon are able to purchase an array of Mottahedeh china from entire place settings to individual decorative pieces. Copies of both books are also available in the book section of The Shops.

## CALENDAR

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

### OTHER ITEMS

Gadsby's Tavern Museum is now accepting applications for its new Junior Docent Program. After training, Junior Docents will be able to give tours and assist with public programs including candlelight tours, 18<sup>th</sup>-century teas, open houses and other special events. Students in grades 2 through 5 are invited to join Gadsby's staff for a training series Sunday afternoons early next year. Classes will be held from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 18, Jan. 25, and Feb. 1. These free classes will cover

basic history and presentation skills to prepare Junior Docents to help with museum special events. To receive an application, call 703-838-4242. Applications are due by Wednesday, Dec. 17.

This holiday season, River Farm will be a collection site for Toys for Tots, an organization that gives toys to needy children in the United States. To make a donation, drop off unwrapped, new toys in the collection box in the estate house by Dec. 16. 703-768-5700 ext. 114.

### ONGOING

Mount Vernon Community bands need members. All concert band musicians wanted. Most needed are: oboes, bassoons, French horns, saxophones, flutes, trombones, and clarinets. Also needed and welcome are: percussionists, and players of

tubas, euphoniums, trumpets. Visit [www.mvbands.com](http://www.mvbands.com), e-mail [MVSwingBand@Cox.net](mailto:MVSwingBand@Cox.net) or call 703-339-6534 for more information.

On Mondays, through Dec. 1 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., the Green Spring Gardens located at 4603 Green Spring Road, will be having Yoga for Gardeners for adults. The program will offer a series of classes featuring the Vinyasa method to increase your flexibility, strength, and endurance for gardening. \$ 66/ six-class sessions. For more information and to register call 703-642-5173.

On Sundays from noon-5 p.m., visit the Waterfront and see history-inspired performances near the Torpedo Factory; do a "meet and greet" of early Alexandria residents

SEE CALENDAR PAGE 11

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

and travelers near the Waterfront and lower King Street. Free. Visit [www.historicalexandria.org](http://www.historicalexandria.org) for more.

Children enter a world of fantasy and fables when costumed interpreters weave three tales together during Mount Vernon's storytelling session, "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon", held every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. through December at the Hands-On History room in the Donald W. Reynolds Education Center, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. The storytelling program is recommended for children ages three to eight. Parental supervision is required. "Once Upon a Time at Mount Vernon" is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$13.00; youth ages 6-11, \$6.00; and children under 5 are admitted free.

Historic Mount Vernon has commemorative whiskey sets available for sale. The set includes a shot glass and a 50 mL bottle of whiskey consisting of 11 different whiskey brands blended and aged at Mount Vernon in 2005. The gift sets are \$25 and are available for purchase in person with a valid ID at the Shops at Mount Vernon or George Washington's Distillery. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org) or 703-780-2000.

Historic Mount Vernon welcomes all Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Club members (in uniform or wearing an official pin) to free admission during its Scouting Days program beginning Nov. 1 through Feb. 15, 2009. For more information, visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org).

Women can learn how to sing with lessons in a group from 7-8 p.m. on Nov. 19, Nov. 24, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10. Free. Held at The Hermitage, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. 703-764-3896 to RSVP.

Martha Washington hosts an 18th-century Christmas with candlelit walks, fireside caroling, and early American décor during Mount Vernon by Candlelight. The Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings (Nov. 28, 29, & 30; Dec. 5, 6 & 7; and 12, 13 & 14) from 5-8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Ford Orientation Center or through [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org). Admission is \$18 for adults and \$12 for children under 12.

Mount Vernon welcomes former White House pastry chef Roland Mesnier as he creates a gingerbread replica of George Washington's home from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 12 through Nov. 25. The five-foot-wide and two-foot-tall gingerbread Mansion replica will be on display as part of the new Christmas at Mount Vernon daytime event, which begins on Nov. 28. Visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org) for more information.

Gallery West presents "Small Works and Holiday Show and Silent Auction" through Jan. 4 at 1213 King St. Features a variety of art work by members in every size. Silent auction ends Dec. 8. Visit [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com) or call 703-549-6006.

Gather the Family at Woodlawn runs Dec. 14, 21 and 28 at

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

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Waxing

1703 Belle View Blvd, Alex.

703-765-4744

Ample free parking



The Campagna Center

**38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK WEEKEND**

Thursday, Dec. 4 – Saturday, Dec. 6

*A Christmas Marketplace*  
Thursday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 6

*Taste of Scotland*  
Friday, Dec. 5th at 8:00 pm-10:30 pm

*Scottish Walk Parade*  
Saturday, Dec. 6th at 11:00 a.m.

*Designer Tour of Homes*  
Saturday, Dec. 6th 11:00 am-4:00 pm

*More Activities*  
Heather and Greens Sale • Children's Tea • Celtic Concert

Presented by The Junior Friends of The Campagna Center,  
The Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C., and the City of Alexandria.

Join Us Again at  
The George Washington Masonic Memorial!

The entire Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend—including the Scottish Walk Parade—is hosted by The Campagna Center. All of the weekend proceeds benefit The Campagna Center's programs, helping children in Alexandria arrive at school ready to learn and ensuring their academic success. We rely on gifts from individuals and businesses to continue providing these outstanding services. For more information on how you can contribute to The Campagna Center's efforts, please visit [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org) or call (703) 549-0111.

**For more information visit [www.ScottishChristmasWalk.com](http://www.ScottishChristmasWalk.com) or phone (703) 548-0111.**  
Weekend events are Metro-accessible.

**unwined**  
gourmet wine • cigars

**Come Taste the Difference**

**Bradlee Shopping Center**  
3690J King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
**703.820.8600**  
[www.unwinedva.com](http://www.unwinedva.com)

Open 7 Days a Week  
Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Sunday 12-5 p.m.

**OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY**  
For any last minute shopping needs,  
**UNWINED** will be open to serve you  
10am-2pm

**Mark your calendars**  
**for our next tasting event!!**  
Sunday December 14th, 3-7pm  
**SPARKLING WINES OF THE WORLD**

703 518-8300

**cbmove.com**

We know your neighborhood and reach the world

**New Listing**



**8336 Hunter Murphy Circle | \$335,000**

Fantastic three-level brick front town home with three master suites! Featuring a spacious, open eat-in kitchen with 42" cabinets and center island, separate laundry and pantry storage, main level formal living room with crown molding, large family room, huge rear deck and fenced yard with paved patio. Excellent location minutes to Fort Belvoir, the George Washington Parkway and Old Town Alexandria. [www.joydeevy.com](http://www.joydeevy.com) for more photos.

Joy Deevy | 703 930-5198 Alexandria/Mt Vernon

**One Level Living**



**3609 Embassy Lane | \$365,000**

Centrally located, this home is minutes to everything with easy access to shopping, schools, parks, public transportation, community events, and all major commuter routes! A perfect sanctuary, this home is the ideal retreat after a long day's work. The wonderful large lot with mature trees offers the utmost in privacy and the fenced rear yard offers a deck and patio ideal for entertaining. This home offers an updated kitchen with 42" maple cabinets, newer appliances, HW floors, spacious room sizes, & wood burning fireplace. [www.joydeevy.com](http://www.joydeevy.com) for more photos.

Joy Deevy | 703 930-5198 Fairfax

**Elegant Living**



**2205 Sherwood Hall Lane | \$529,000**

Classic colonial 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 family room with sliding door to deck. Four bedrooms on the upper level, including a master suite with sitting room and updated ceramic bathroom. Great South Alexandria location!

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

**Just Listed**



**6481 Cheyenne Drive #203 | \$349,000**

Stylish and rare 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo in conveniently located Windy Hill. Open floor plan with Pergo flooring in kitchen, living room and dining room, 9-ft ceilings, one car detached garage, loads of light and terrific storage. Great space with 1322 sq ft, bright living room with large balcony over looking pool, three nice sized bedrooms, renovated baths, breakfast bar, full size washer/dryer, one detached garage, one reserved parking space and two guest spaces. Welcome home.

Yvonne S. Croft | 703 973-1540 Alexandria

**Land for Sale**



**4800 Old Mill Road | \$425,000**

**Rare find in Mount Vernon!** Spacious half acre lot, already cleared with sewer and water lines in place. If desired, plans for new home available. Application pending with Fairfax county. A rare opportunity to buy land and build the home of your dreams!! Seller is local custom builder and will finance purchase - make it an easy transaction! Take a look today! Take George Washington Parkway south to Mansion, take 235 south to second light. Take right on Old Mill Road, property on right.

Rachel Carter | 703 851-4207 Mount Vernon

**Classic Colonial**



**6154 Old Telegraph Road | \$799,000**

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

**Price Reduction**



**4849 Gainsborough Drive | \$515,000**

Great opportunity to acquire a 2 car garage with room to spare in Kings Park West. Home with large family room addition off the eat-in kitchen and opens to a large private backyard. Enjoy fenced yard, large shed and plenty of firewood for two fireplaces. Hardwood floors at main and upper levels, new CT at LL rec. room and exercise/den. Close to community pool, GMU, shopping and so much more...

Mac Suggs | 703 226-9938 Fairfax

**Fairfax Bank Foreclosure**



**3720 Prosperity Avenue | \$825,000**

Attractive home, private location, set back off of the road. 3,209 sq ft of finished living space, side-load garage, fireplace, deck, two story foyer, family room off the kitchen, sun room and den or library. Master BR suite w/sitting room and huge his/her bathroom. Other two bedrooms have their own baths. Unfinished basement is walks out level to side yard. Shows well. Bank-owned.

Sherry York | 703 625-3377 Fairfax

**Great Rental 15 minutes to DC**



**27 Abingdon Street S | \$2,500**

Spacious, three level town home (2600+ sq ft) close in location with only a 15 minute commute to DC. Three bedrooms, 2.55 baths, two fireplaces, hardwood floors, backyard patio, gas forced air heat, and central AC. Easy access to everything. This home is vacant and ready for new tenants. It wont last! Please call Will Roberts for additional information.

Wil Roberts | 703 477-6556 Alexandria



# Previews International

Marketing the world's premier properties

## City Living At It's Best

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**227 North Lee Street**  
**\$1,250,000**

Beautiful 3 BR, 3 1/2 BA townhouse just steps from King Street and the scenic Old Town waterfront. This home effortlessly blends old and new to create the ideal living space! Handsome moldings, tray ceilings, hardwood floors, plentiful recessed lighting and many elegant details. The luxurious master bedroom suite features a bay window, gas log fireplace, and a shining marble bath with dual sinks, Jacuzzi and separate glass-enclosed shower. There are two additional "bedroom suites", an upper level family room, formal living and dining rooms and a sparkling eat-in chef's kitchen with granite. Two off-street parking places, and come Spring, look forward to enjoying the rooftop skyline from the sunny private patio!

Jane Cole | 703 682-5407 Old Town

## Old Town Classic

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



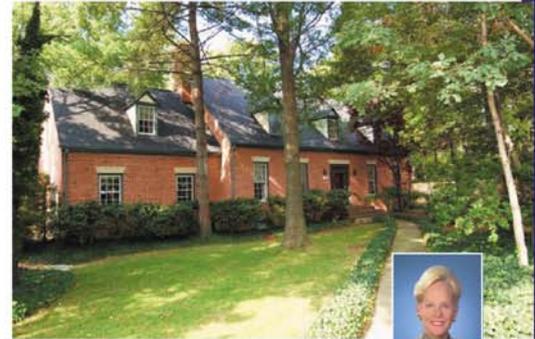
**718 Queen Street**  
**\$859,000**

Impeccably maintained red brick Victorian backing to open parkland in the heart of Old Town. Classic hardwoods, high ceilings, large room sizes. Two large bedrooms upstairs with nice den that could be a third bedroom. Huge gourmet kitchen with 48" maple Shaker cabinets, Sub Zero, Asko, 36" Viking stove and hood. Custom granite. Loads of storage. Delightful brick garden that backs to historic park. Shows very well. **Motivated seller and a great value at \$859,000.**

Clay Schoeffel | 703 518-6166 Old Town

## Reduced

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**3750 Seminary Road**  
**\$1,495,000**

This lovely brick Williamsburg colonial is nestled on a corner lot overlooking the beautiful Seminary grounds. Perfect for gracious entertaining and comfortable family living, this 5 bedroom plus 4 1/2 + 1/2 bath residence features an elegant living room, gracious formal dining room, updated eat-in kitchen, first floor family room plus comfortable den. The finished lower level is a terrific retreat with its large recreation room and game room, plus an au pair or mother-in-law suite. The many special features of this fine home include thick detailed molding, hardwood floors, four fireplaces and a two car garage. Just reduced to \$1,495,000.

Donnan C Wintermute | 703 518-6156 Alexandria

## Model Home Condition

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**6406 Wood Haven Drive**  
**\$850,000**

A new price on this "Like New", four/five bedroom, two and a half bath, two car garage, three finished levels above grade plus storage level, high ceilings, hardwood floors, new kitchen with granite and center island opening to large family room overlooking private deck and yard, designer carpet, master retreat, wine cellar, study, formal living room and dining room. Perfect! [www.phyllispatterson.com](http://www.phyllispatterson.com)

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 New Alexandria

## Gorgeous Belle Haven

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**2003 Glen Drive**  
**\$1,775,000**

A stunning Belle Haven estate in a grand setting that exudes grace and charm with a sophisticated blend of today's comforts. With six bedrooms, including a private au-pair suite, five and a half baths, two fireplaces, welcoming sunroom, dramatic central staircase and a large finished basement leading to private terraces. These are just a few of the features that make this home extra special!

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Alexandria S

## Custom Home

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



**912 Clifton Drive**  
**\$2,795,425**

Gorgeous, new, custom home located just off East Blvd Drive along the GW Parkway, this home has the feel of yesterday with today's amenities. Wide planked floors, coffered ceilings, stone FP, back staircase, archways, multi-piece moldings and hand made paneling on 3/4 acre. Both main and upper level masters plus 4 BR suites, library, catering center, kids mud room, fitness and theater, hobby and reading rooms. Wired for home media/technology, three car garage.

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 Wellington

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



# CHRIS WHITE

*Over \$4,800,000 worth of area real estate SOLD last month!*  
*Call today for a free market analysis of your home.*



**3601 Riverwood Rd**  
**\$749,500**  
*Gem!*  
 Updated Colonial in premier location near the river neighboring homes selling for

\$3,595,850 and \$5,500,000! Owner spent \$175,000 in recent upgrades. Spectacular custom kitchen with granite, stainless & light maple cabinets, 4BRs, hardwood floors, updated and reconfigured baths, large screened porch, oversized garage and fenced yard. **Open Sun 1-4pm.** S GW pkwy, L Old Mt Vernon Rd, L Riverwood Rd.



**1700 River Farm Dr**  
**\$1,975,000**  
*New Estate*  
*Just off Pkwy!*  
 Pre-construction opportunity on rare, exceptionally scenic ¾ acre site

just minutes from Old Town near the GW Pkwy! Exquisite new home by leading builder to feature absolute luxury and virtually every modern amenity. Spectacular floor plan was designed to capitalize on the natural beauty of this gorgeous setting near the Potomac River. One of the last true estate opportunities in a prime close-in location!



**Brambly Ln**  
**\$969,900**  
*Only 1 Available at This Price!*  
 Pre-construction special makes this new luxury home available at a price that is simply incomprehensible

Same model sold a few months ago for over **\$1,600,000!** All the modern amenities: high ceilings, open floor plan, 4BR, 3.5BA, energy conserving features, oversized garage & more! Premier setting where neighboring homes sold for well over \$1,000,000! (Picture of similar home for illustration only.)



**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!



**9003 Patton Blvd**  
**\$479,000**  
*Stunning Value!*  
 Previously listed for \$633,500! Rare large rambler overlooking scenic country club grounds. Main level MBR suite, upgraded roof, gas heat & hot water, full walk-out LL and 2 car carport. Sold in as-is condition. Awaits your finishing touches! Unique opportunity for investors – just 2 miles from Fort Belvoir – huge rental potential!



**1600 Noral Place**  
**\$1,090,000**  
*New Home*  
*Ambiance!*  
 The best of both worlds: the open spacious feel of a modern home

combined with a premier location in the heart of the highly desirable Fort Hunt area! Popular Fairfax model by Wakefield homes offers exceptionally bright open floor plan, 4BR, 3.5BA, high ceilings, dramatic two story family room, gourmet kitchen and large garage. Gorgeous corner lot on quiet cul-de-sac!



**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. **Offers encouraged.**



**6421 Olmi Landrith Drive**  
**\$385,000**  
*Major Updates!*  
 Fabulous property in prime location just a few houses away from Belle 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!



**4307 Sheridan's Point**  
**\$899,000**  
*Georgian Colonial!*  
 Large Price Reduction! Classic Colonial in prime Mt Vernon

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



**8826 Camden Street**  
**\$899,500**  
*New Home –*  
*Gorgeous Setting!*  
 There's nothing like it on the market today –

fabulous new Wakefield Home custom designed for this half acre lot overlooking acres of natural conservation land. Bright and open floor plan, high ceilings, granite countertops and two car garage. Pre-construction sale allows for maximum customization.



**8341 Orange Court**  
**\$398,500**



**2205 Belle View Blvd**  
**\$275,900**

# 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



**Old Town**  
**\$249,900**

**WHY RENT?**

New at Potomac Crossing. This starter features 1 BR with ceiling fan and walk-in closet, white updated kitchen with ceramic floor, new bath with beige designer tiles and fixtures, pedestal sink, living room with built-in, fresh paint, perfect condition, 2nd floor location.

1704 Abingdon Drive #202

**RENEE REYMOND**  
703.507.5330



**Washington DC**  
**\$799,900**  
**DUPONT**

Stunning tree top views from this loft style 2-lvl condo. Hardwood floors, 2BRs/2BAs, gourmet kitchen w/BB, wood burning FP & wood stove in loft bedroom. Perfection in entertaining/stargazing from the 200 SF penthouse deck. Move-in ready. 1 parking space conveys.

1820 T Street NW #6

**SEAN SATKUS**  
**KENDRA CAREY**  
**THE CAREY TEAM**  
703.731.8086



**Alexandria**  
**\$869,000**

**VALUE PRICED!**

Former model home boasts over 5,000 SF of living space on 3 finished levels, in private neighborhood minutes from Fort Belvoir and Metros! 4-5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, sunroom, media and billiards room and so much more. Be in for the holidays!

7032 Clifton Knoll Court

**KIM MUFFLER** 703.282.7739



**Alexandria**  
**\$769,000**  
**FABULOUS**  
**YARD & DECK**

Come see this airy & bright 4BR/3BA home in Monticello Park. Covered patio, deck & wonderfully landscaped yard for entertaining. Other features: hdwd flrs, generous size LR w/fireplace framed by pretty mantle, DR opening to patio/yard plus sunny updated kit. LL Rec. Rm w/FP & 9 Ft. ceilings, with kitchen- an au pair /in-law suite.

507 Monticello Boulevard

**MARY BOURKE** 703.609.5825



**Alexandria Parker Gray Historic District**  
**\$525,000**

1210 QUEEN STREET  
"TRUE LOFTS"

European Feel ~ Parking Now Available  
2BR/2BA, Last chance, Only 1 Left!!

Gold Leed Certified  
First Green Bldg in Alexandria

**MARTINE IRMER**  
703.346.7283



**Alexandria**  
**\$295,000**  
**BELLE VIEW**

Bright 3 bedroom, 1 bath rarely available in Belle View with new windows, almost new appliances, renovated bathroom and lots of kitchen cabinets. Don't worry about your king size bed. It fits beautifully! [www.catherinefoltz.infre.com](http://www.catherinefoltz.infre.com)

6726 W. Wakefield Drive #A2

**CATHERINE FOLTZ** 703.626.6914



**Maryland**  
**\$1,149,000**  
**BEAUTIFULLY**  
**RENOVATED**

3-lvl, brick home with heated, salt water swimming pool, bounded by a natural barrier fence of trees. 2008 renovations include: Updated kit w/granite & new appl. Renovated spa bath on LL, 2 updated 2nd flr BAs/powder rooms. Recessed & new lighting fixtures. Fresh paint, refinished oak flrs, library shelving in Fam. Rm. Patio walk-out & new fence with gated entry & driveway.

9601 Accord Drive

**SEAN SATKUS/KENDRA CAREY~ THE CAREY TEAM**  
703.731.8086



**Alexandria**  
**\$899,999**  
**OFF SEMINARY**  
**ROAD**

Large 3-4BRs/3.5 BAs, 3 level Colonial with fully finished walk-out basement, 2 car garage, 2 fireplaces, spacious room off large gourmet kitchen with granite and breakfast nook, den/study library on first floor, luxury bath with 2 person jetted tub and separate shower, 2 story foyer, central vacuum, dual zone heat/CAC and situated on treed cul-de-sac.

4105 Faith Court

**GARY ANSLEY** 202.288.7946



**Alexandria**  
**\$1,229,000**  
**NEW PRESIDENT**  
**NEW PRICE!**

Move-in ready, spacious brand new home in Wayneswood school district! 5600+ SF, 6BR/5.5BA, hdwds, custom trim package, gourmet kit, w/Wolf, Sub Zero, SS appl., granite, cherry cabinets. MBR w/FP, bonus fin. 3rd flr w/full BA, 9' ceiling in finished basement w/custom gym. Walk to neighborhood pool, shopping. Other models available, call for info.

8061 Fairfax Road

**JILL DIPASQUALE**  
571.436.8699



Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Auxiliary  
Invites you to  
**JOIN US FOR THE 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LIGHTS OF LOVE CEREMONY**



LIVING TREES LIGHTED IN THE MEMORY OF LOVED ONES  
AND TO HONOR SPECIAL FRIENDS  
WILL BE LIT AT THE 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LIGHTS OF LOVE CEREMONY

**Saturday, December 6, at 5:00 p.m.**  
in the Hospital Main Lobby

**Inova Mount Vernon Hospital**  
2501 Parker's Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22306

Mount Vernon community family and friends are invited to join us and welcome the holiday season in a very special way.

Ceremony includes Festival of Music by the Mirage Advanced Women's Chorus and Cleve Francis, MD.

Reception follows in the cafeteria, where Santa will greet our young guests.

For more information on how you can support the 2008 Lights of Love, please call 703-664-7260.



Inova Health System is a not-for-profit healthcare system.

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

Woodlawn. Experience an 1820s Christmas with America's First Family before trees, Santa and stockings. Tours available from 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$15/person; \$5/grades K-12. Visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org) or call 703-780-4000.

**The Alexandria Jaycees** will sell Christmas trees this season, with proceeds in part benefiting the chapter's holiday shopping tour for kids. The annual tree sales support the Holiday Shopping Tour for underprivileged kids and the chapter's general programming funds for community and leadership development. The **Holiday Shopping Tour** gives area kids a fun shopping day with funds provided and pizza party to follow, which allows them to purchase gifts for their families. This year's shopping event is set for **Dec. 13**. The Alexandria Jaycees tree lot is located in the parking lot at the Safeway on the corner of S. Royal and Gibbon Streets in Old Town Alexandria. **Tree sales run Nov. 29** until **Dec. 20** or when trees sell out. Lot hours are: Monday-Friday 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sundays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more details or for membership information, call the Jaycees' 24-hour recorded event line 703-866-7171 or visit [www.alexjaycees.org](http://www.alexjaycees.org).

**Tree Sale.** The Alexandria Police department Christmas tree sale begins on **Friday, Dec. 5** at the Alexandria Union Station parking lot (110 Callahan Drive). The official lot hours are: Monday-Thursday, 3-9 p.m.; Friday, 3-10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. This year's tree selection includes Scotch Pines, Douglas Firs, Fraser Firs, and Concolor Firs. They will range in size from 4 1/2 feet to 10 feet tall. Proceeds benefit the Alexandria Police Youth Camp.

**The Little Theater of Alexandria** will perform "Scrooge! The Musical" from Nov. 22-Dec. 14 at 600 Wolfe St., Old Town. Performances are **Wednesdays-Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.** Tickets are \$18-\$21 and

can be purchased at [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).

The Alliance Dance Institute presents "**Nutcracker**" from **Nov. 29 through Dec. 28** in the Landmark Mall, 5801 Duke St. Performances are Saturdays and Sundays at 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. \$20/person. After the show, stay for photo opportunities. Visit [www.adidance.com](http://www.adidance.com) or 703-354-6000.

This Christmas, arrange for a **personalized letter from Santa Claus**, postmarked from the North Pole. The Alexandria Jaycees are offering customized letters sent directly to children from Santa for only \$5 each. The letter will also include a coupon to a child-friendly restaurant. Letter requests must be received by Dec. 8. Orders received after Dec. 8 will be postmarked from Virginia. For more information or to place an order, visit [www.alexjaycees.org](http://www.alexjaycees.org).

The American Horticultural Society hosts **holiday happenings** at its headquarters at River Farm. **From Dec. 1 to Jan. 16**, River Farm's grounds and estate house will feature lights, poinsettias, and other festive holiday decorations. All are welcome to visit and enjoy Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., but note that the grounds will be closed from Dec. 25 through Jan. 4.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. An evening with B.B. King. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for information and tickets.

**Pajama Party.** 7 p.m. at Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, 4701 Seminary Road. For ages 3 to 6 with an adult.

**Storytime.** 11 a.m. at Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Ages 2 and up with adult. Free.

## THURSDAY/NOV. 27

**Turkey Trot.** 10 a.m. at the Cora Kelly

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

# Shop, Dine, Stroll...

## Visit Del Ray for the holidays!

Find us at Mt Vernon Ave off Route 1, between Glebe Rd to the north and Braddock Rd to the south. Braddock Road Metro.

This advertisement was made possible through the support of the Alexandria Marketing Fund.

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

Shop  
**DEL RAY**  
Where Main Street Still Exists

## Warmer Beach Waters Worth the Drive

Explore golf passion at more than 100 courses



Drive couple hours south of Outer Banks and discover ocean breezes and soothing golf for months longer at quiet, quaint Sunset Beach, NC, located just across the state line and 30 minute drive time from airport in busy Myrtle Beach, SC. Furnished 3 or 4 bdrm, 2 bath, \$525,000. Newly remodeled, bright and airy single family, beach island home on a secluded area of the island surrounded by views of the canal, marsh and ocean inlet. Sit on one of the newly built front porches (1 screened) and capture a gorgeous sunrise with your morning coffee or unwind with friends in the evening on the back deck and experience stunning sunset views.

Whether looking for an investment property with excellent rental history, a vacation home on an unique island, or a little bit of both, this is the house for you.

Call Carly or David, 336-282-1870



Presented by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority

## BULL RUN Festival of Lights

A Festival of Lights from the comfort of your car!

**November 26 to January 4**

Admission per car:  
Monday to Thursday: \$15  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday: \$20

**\$3 off**

weekday admission price. Coupon good Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Holidays include Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1. Offer valid for 2008 season. Coupon good for one car only, cannot be combined with other offers.

Bull Run Regional Park  
7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville

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

CON



Sheehy Honda

# 101

# REASONS

## To Drive Honda NOW!

#1

# 1.9%

APR Financing on new 2008/2009 Accord, CR-V, Odyssey, Pilot, Ridgeline, Civic and Element

Special 1.9% APR financing available for 24-36 months WAC on eligible '08 and '09 models excluding 08/09 FCX Clarity, Fit, S2000. Special financing may affect final price. Plus tax, title and processing fee of \$289. Offer good through 1/5/2009.

#2

### 2009 Civic LX

25 36  
CITY HWY.



# \$189/MO.

Model #FA1659EW 2009 Civic LX AT Sedan for 36 months WAC. \$1,999 total due at lease signing (Incls. first mo. pymt., sec. dep., AHFC upfront acq. fee and cap. cost reduction). Plus tax, license, title, and processing fee of \$289 Offer good through 1/5/2009. See dealer for complete details. Photo for illustration only. Based on 2009 EPA mileage estimates, reflecting new EPA fuel economy methods beginning with 2009 models. Use for comparison purposes only. Do not compare to models before 2009. Your actual mileage will vary depending on how you drive and maintain your vehicle.

#3

### 2009 Accord LX

21 30  
CITY HWY.



# \$209/MO.

Model #CP2639EW 2009 Accord Sedan AT LX for 36 months WAC. \$2,899 total due at lease signing. (Incls. first mo. pymt., sec. dep., AHFC upfront acq. fee and cap. cost reduction). Plus tax, license, title, and processing fee of \$289 Offer good through 1/5/2009. See dealer for complete details. Photo for illustration only. Based on 2009 EPA mileage estimates, reflecting new EPA fuel economy methods beginning with 2009 models. Use for comparison purposes only. Do not compare to models before 2009. Your actual mileage will vary depending on how you drive and maintain your vehicle.

#4

### 2009 Odyssey LX

16 23  
CITY HWY.



# \$299/MO.

Model RL3829EW 2009 Odyssey LX & Model YF3829EW 2009 Pilot 2WD LX AT for 36 months WAC. \$2,999 total due at lease signing. (Incls. first mo. pymt., sec. dep., AHFC upfront acq. fee and cap. cost reduction). Plus tax, license, title, and processing fee of \$289. Offer good through 1/5/2009. See dealer for complete details. Photo for illustration only. Based on 2009 EPA mileage estimates, reflecting new EPA fuel economy methods beginning with 2009 models. Use for comparison purposes only. Do not compare to models before 2009. Your actual mileage will vary depending on how you drive and maintain your vehicle.

#5

### 2009 Pilot 2WD LX

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# HOLIDAY TOUR

## Tour of Homes Includes Church

FROM PAGE 9

seeing the inside of the building may have never come here for worship," said Katherine Murphy, stewardship director for the church. "So this tour is our way of inviting the community inside to get everyone involved in our anniversary."

**THE TOUR WILL** also feature four homes in Old Town, stretching from the late 18th century to the late 20th century. Each home will feature its own distinctive interior design and floral arrangements from local businesses. Private homes that will be featured on the tour include the following:

❖ **209 South St. Asaph Street:** Owned by Julie Middleton and Barry West, this mid- to late-19th-century townhouse has Flemish bond brick with an exterior dentil cornice and decorative brackets with scrolls and patterns. During the Civil War, it was confiscated by Union troops and used by Gen. John Slough, who was responsible for the defense of Washington and Northern Virginia. The double parlor on the first floor has 10-foot ceilings, cornice moulding and ceiling medallions complemented by two Corinthian columns.

❖ **404 South Royal Street:** Owned by Kevin and Maura Dunn, this building is known as the "Seaton House" and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Once owned by free blacks, this two-story brick rowhouse was probably built between 1861 and 1866 in an African-American neighborhood then known as "Hayti." It was purchased by George Seaton in 1866, Alexandria's first African-

### Designer Tour of Homes

The 38th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend will culminate on Dec. 6 with a Designer Tour of Homes from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tour will feature historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church and four private residences. Advance-purchase tickets cost \$30, with day-or-purchase tickets available for \$35. For more information, call 703-548-0111.

American City Council member. He was a grocery store owner and master carpenter who built a number of homes and buildings in Old Town during the 1850s and 1860s.

❖ **19 Franklin Street:** Owned by Nancy Appleby and Andrew Palmieri, this property serves as a backdrop to the entrance into Ford's Landing along Alexandria's southern waterfront. Built in 1997, the exterior is in the tradition of classic Old Town architecture while the interior reflects the American Southwest. From the stain of the hardwood floors to the color transitions on the walls, many of the pieces in the home are from New Mexico.

❖ **801 Duke Street:** Owned by Sherry Schiller, this house reflects a classic Federal style. The distinctive "flounder" style section near the back was built in the 1790s, and many of the floors are believed to be original to the house. A walled garden surrounding the home has been developed into a series of outdoor rooms accessible from seven different doorways.

### CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

Elementary School at the intersection of West Reed and Commonwealth Avenues. With two cans of food: \$15/individuals ages 13-21 and \$20/ages 22 and over. Food benefits Alive. Visit [www.visitdelray.com/turkeytrot](http://www.visitdelray.com/turkeytrot) for tickets and t-shirt orders.

#### FRIDAY/NOV. 28

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Seldom Scene and Dry Branch Fire. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for information and tickets.

**Wee Ones Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children up to age 2 can enjoy songs and stories. Free. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

**Reception.** See the Springfield Art Guild's art show through Dec. 15 at the Goodwin House, 4800 Fillmore Ave. Free. All paintings for sale. 703-644-6677.

**Tree Lighting.** 7 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Features performances, guests and more. Free. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com](http://www.visitalexandriava.com) or 703-883-4686.

#### SATURDAY/NOV. 29

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. The Seldom Scene and Dry Branch Fire. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for information and tickets.

**Dinosaur Story Time.** 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books, 1555 King St. Hear stories about dinosaurs. Free. Age 2 and up. Visit [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com) or 703-548-4092.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 20

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E-mail to: [PhotoAX@connectionnews.com](mailto:PhotoAX@connectionnews.com), or mail or deliver contributions by Dec. 5, to 7913 Westpark Dr., McLean, VA 22102. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-917-6444.

Mount Vernon Gazette

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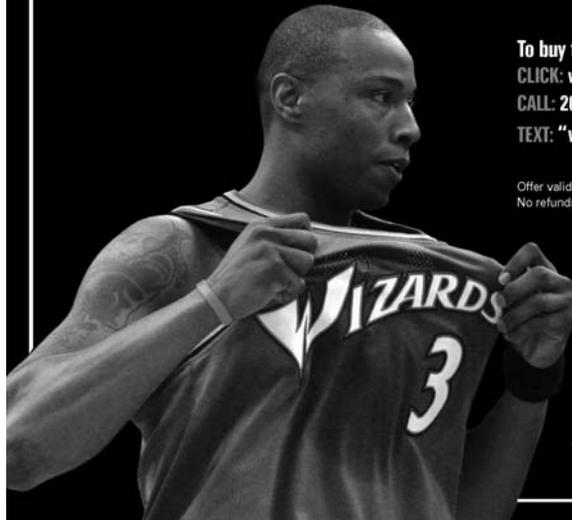
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## HOLIDAY WEEKEND

# Scottish Walk Weekend: Alexandria Tradition

BY CHUCK HAGEE  
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria's holiday season officially kicks off with the traditional 38th Annual Scottish Walk Weekend Dec. 4-6. The highlight of that event is the Scottish Walk Parade on Dec. 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Under the aegis of The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington St., the weekend actually commences on Thursday, Dec. 4, with the opening of the Christmas Marketplace at the Center at 10 a.m. The heather and green sale runs until Saturday at 5 p.m.

The Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C., partners with the Center and the City to sponsor the annual parade which features over 100 Scottish clans dressed in their individual colorful tartans. There are also a variety of pipe and drum bands and a variety of dogs in the parade each year.

The real festivities commence Friday evening, Dec. 5 at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, with the "Taste of Scotland," where festive Scottish attire is encouraged. This year it is presented by The Westin Hotel.

This event features various Scottish distillers presenting their products and a private shopping experience at an expanded Christmas Marketplace. The latter is composed of vendors offering an array of products from holiday ornaments and decorative items to handmade clothing items and art. Greens and heather are also available for purchase from the Center.

An exclusive Patrons Tasting Hour is held 7-8 p.m. with the public event commencing at 8 p.m. and concluding at 10 p.m. Tick-

ets for this event range from \$100 for a single regular admission; \$150 for a single Patrons ticket; and \$250 for a couples Patron ticket. Raffle tickets are also available at \$25 each or five for \$100.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Center at 703-549-0111 Ext. 107; by visiting the Center's Web site at [www.campagnacenter.com](http://www.campagnacenter.com); or in person at the Center. All advanced sale tickets will be held at the door except those purchased in person at the Center. Advanced ticket purchase is advised due to limited space.

In addition to the parade on Saturday, there is the "Holiday Designer Tour of Homes" from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year there are five historic properties professionally decorated for the holidays by acclaimed interior designers and local florists.

Properties open this year are 209 S. St. Asaph St., 404 S. Royal St., 19 Franklin St., 801 Duke St., and St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 228 S. Pitt St. The latter will be open only until 2 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at any of the properties the day of the tour.

From 3-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, is the Annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights on the Potomac River. It commences with entertainment and restaurant tastings on the City Docks behind the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 195 N. Union St. Santa and Mrs. Claus are scheduled to arrive by fireboat at 3:30 p.m.

More than 50 brightly lit and decorated sail and powerboats will cruise along the river beginning at 5:30 p.m. For more information on the event contact the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association at 703-838-4200 or visit

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

**BUT, ALL THE FESTIVITIES** are not limited to Scottish Walk Weekend. They actually get under way this Friday, Nov. 28, at Market Square, 301 King St., with the lighting of Alexandria's Christmas Tree at 7 p.m. The event will be held rain or shine.

Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille will present a holiday message followed by a visit from Santa, a performance by Santa's Frosty's Follies by the Metropolitan Fine Arts Center, and caroling with a community sing along.

On Saturday, Nov. 29, The Lyceum Museum, 201 S. Washington St., will feature a living history event entitled "Scottish Heritage Preview." Meet Scottish Tartan Day leaders and learn about Scottish breed dogs while enjoying bagpipes, highland dancing, historical re-enactors and more. It is free and runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Also this Saturday, and again on Sunday, Nov. 29 and 30, Market Square will be filled with sounds of music of the season. Beginning at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Alexandria Klezmer will present traditional and innovative Jewish music. She will be followed at 2 p.m. by Michael Mulvaney offering holiday and blues selections. Sunday, Nov. 30, Doris Justis will present folk and acoustic holiday music at 2 p.m. At 3 p.m. Lisa Taylor will offer more acoustic holiday selections.

Alexandria is noted for its love of dogs and that is only accentuated during the holiday season. To honor that devotion, the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria will host "Pet Photos With Santa" at the Old Town School For Dogs, 529 Oronoco St.,



FILE PHOTO

**The Scottish Weekend is full of music, animals, guests and more.**

from Friday, Dec. 5 through Sunday, Dec. 7.

Both pets and people are welcome to pose with Santa. All proceeds will benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria and the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter. To schedule an appointment call 703-836-7643.

Scottish Walk Weekend is also the trigger for individual home decorating. For the next month a trip through almost any section of Alexandria is a trip throughout the world holiday decor. That is particularly true in Old Town.

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 19

**Art Exhibit.** See artwork by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Brahler Ltd./Gallery, 1437 Powhatan St., from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call for weekday hours, 703-798-8686. Free.

**Scottish Heritage Preview.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Enjoy music, performances, re-enactors and more. Free. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) or 703-838-4994.

**Holiday Concert.** 1 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Hear Alexandria Klezmer and then Michael Mulvaney at 2 p.m. Free. 703-838-4686.

### SUNDAY/NOV. 30

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Aaron Neville and his Quintet, featuring Charles Neville. Visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com) for information and tickets.

**Bridge Club.** 4 p.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Beginners and advanced players age 12 and up. Free. 703-765-3645.

**Art Exhibit.** See artwork by Yuri Kokoyanin at The von Brahler Ltd./Gallery, 1437 Powhatan St., from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call for weekday hours, 703-798-8686. Free.

**Holiday Music.** 2 p.m. at Market Square, 301 King St. Hear Doris Justis and Lisa Taylor perform. 703-

883-4686.

**Holiday Concert.** 6:30 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Performance by the Dennis J and friends. \$15/person; \$25/couple. 202-438-5704.

### MONDAY/DEC. 1

**Donations Wanted.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Drop off new toy and gift certificate donations (no bikes) for the Alexandria Domestic Violence Program Children's Holiday Party at 421 King Street, Suite 400, Alexandria. Donations accepted Monday - Friday through Dec. 15. 703-838-4911 for information.

**Holiday Trip.** 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Green Spring Gardens sponsors a trip to Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. See Holiday lights and floral displays and a holiday concert. Trip leaves from Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. \$85. Registration required - 703-642-5173.

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

**Noonday Noel.** 12:05 p.m. at The Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax St. Hear A "Colonial Christmas." Free. Visit [www.opmh.org](http://www.opmh.org) or 703-549-6670. Followed by lunch for \$5.

**D is for December.** 10:30 a.m. at

Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Preschool age children can enjoy stories and fun. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

**Lunch Bunnies.** Noon at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Ages 1-5 can bring lunch and enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-339-4610.

**Girls Night Out.** 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Teens can enjoy a book discussion. Call for title. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

### THURSDAY/DEC. 4

**Book Discussion.** Noon at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Adults can discuss "Ethan Frome" by Edith Wharton. Free. 703-339-4610.

**Scottish Christmas Walk Marketplace.** Noon-5 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Shop for a variety of holiday items, visit a café and buy heather and greens. Visit [www.scottishchristmaswalk.com](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com) or 703-549-0111.

**Heather and Greens Sales.** 7-9 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Try a touch of heather and greens to enhance holiday decorations with a Scottish flair. Purchase fresh heather bundles or a

variety of wreaths, garlands, flatwoods and more. Free. For more information on the Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend, visit [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org) or [www.scottishchristmaswalk.com](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com).

**Holiday Pottery Show and Sale.** Noon-6 p.m. at The Art League in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Free. Purchase a variety of items by residents ranging from \$5-\$100. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-5358.

**Celtic Concert.** 8-9:30 p.m. at the Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Listen to fiddlers, pipers, Scottish dancers and more. \$30/person. For more information on the Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend, visit [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org) or [www.scottishchristmaswalk.com](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com).

**Children's Tea Party.** 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. This special event features Santa Claus. \$40/adult and child and \$10/each additional ticket. For more information on the Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend, visit [www.campagnacenter.org](http://www.campagnacenter.org) or [www.scottishchristmaswalk.com](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com).

**Holiday Open House.** Torpedo Factory is holding an open house from 6-9 p.m. at 105 N. Union St. Features music, drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Meet artists and browse gifts. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) or 703-838-

4565.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 5

**ArtFest: Fiber & Form Celebration.** 6-9 p.m. at the Art League's Madison Annex. Join for the relaunch of Springwater Studios at the Art League. Free. Visit [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org) or 703-683-1780.

**Holiday Concert.** 8 p.m. at the Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear music by the NOVA Community Chorus and the Alexandria Band. Donations requested, 703-845-6252.

**Pet Photos.** Pets can take photos with Santa at Olde Towne School for Dogs, 529 Oronoco St. Proceeds benefit Vola Lawson Animal Shelter. \$45/sitting. Visit [www.alexandriainimals.org](http://www.alexandriainimals.org) or 703-838-4774 ext. 216.

**Lunch Bunch.** Noon at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Children up to age 5 can enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

**Scottish Christmas Walk Marketplace.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Shop for a variety of holiday items, visit a café and buy heather and greens. Visit [www.scottishchristmaswalk.com](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com) or 703-549-0111.

# Record Sales at Gun Show

## Fear of gun control under Obama drives firearms purchases.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

Ever since Barack Obama won the presidential election, Dusty Medor's phone has been ringing off the hook.

Medor, a soft-spoken bearded gunsmith, runs D & J Gun Repair out of his home in Sterling.

Prior to the election, he saw sales dropping a bit, which he attributed mostly to the lagging economy. Now, business is booming so much that he is struggling to restock merchandise fast enough for customers.

Gun sales are not only up but Medor is also overseeing more online "transfers," when a person has purchased a gun over the internet and is required by law to send it to a licensed gun dealer for pick-up.

"Everything sky-rocketed after Nov. 4," said Medor, sitting behind a long brown cafeteria table at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly. He was one of approximately 250

vendors at "The Nation's Gun Show," Nov. 21-23.

"That table was completely full when I started," said Medor on the last afternoon of the event. He pointed to an area of his station where only a handful of handguns were on display. That was all he had left to sell, he said.

**HELD IN** Fairfax County every two months, "The Nation's Gun Show" is the largest firearms sale in the mid-Atlantic region. The event has always been popular with dealers because it is well run and attracts wealthier clientele than other gun shows, they said.

"This is the richest demographic for a gun show on the east coast. The buyers tend to be larger spenders because there is a higher per capita income," said Lonnie Maurer, a vendor from Ohio that specializes in ammunition.

Even with high expectations, most vendors still cleared their sales by large margins and broke personal business records. "The Nation's Gun Show" is typically Maurer's most profitable event but he still sold three times more ammunition than he

ever has before.

Another ammunition dealer, Jonathan Krull of www.buyammo.com, was almost out all of his merchandise and had sold more \$100,000 worth by the end of the weekend.

"We sold just about everything. Friday was a record breaker. We sold more on Friday than we have ever done in a whole weekend," said Krull.

**"Obama is hostile to gun owners and we are responding with our wallets."**

— Chuck Nesby, Arlington

**THE PROSPECT** of an Obama presidency and Democratic majority in the U.S. Congress scares many gun enthusiasts, who said Obama supported several gun control measures as an Illinois state senator.

"He had a horrible record on guns. He supported every gun ban you can imagine," said Philip Van Cleave, president of the Virginia Citizens Defense League, a local gun rights organization.

On his Web site, Obama states that he "believes the second amendment creates an individual right and he respects the constitutional rights of Americans to bear arms."

U.S. Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.), who many consider a strong advocate for gun rights, SEE RECORD SALES, PAGE 24

## Schools Cuts Could Limit Public Access

Two services that facilitate transparency in Fairfax County Public Schools are on the chopping block as the school system tries to find cost savings in next year's budget.

Fairfax County is trying to close a projected \$500 million hole in its overall budget next year and has asked its school system, which receives over 50 percent of the county's general fund revenue, to brace for cuts.

Under scenarios in which the school system would have to take reduction of \$123 million to \$219 million, Superintendent Jack Dale has proposed eliminating the "public school profiles" from the school system's Web site and televised school board meetings.

The "schools profiles," found at www.fcps.edu, allow parents to compare information on schools' enrollments, test scores, demographics, staffing and safety. Televised school board meetings give parents and activists the opportunity to watch without attending the meeting in person.

According to school system documents, parents and residents are able to find the "school profiles" informa

SEE NOTEBOOK, PAGE 24

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UNITY IN ALEXANDRIA...703-931-8507

#### SYNAGOGUES

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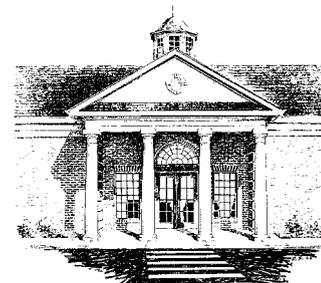
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## COMMUNITY

# Belvoir's Community Outreach: BRAC and Beyond

FROM PAGE 1

the second woman to be awarded the Silver Star since World War II.

The video was followed by six soldiers stationed at Fort Belvoir who related their experiences since joining the U.S. Army. Each put their military service into the perspective of personal service to the nation and the civil community, the one that now surrounds Fort Belvoir and the ones they expect to become part of after their military enlistments.

As noted by Maj. General Richard Rowe, commanding general, Washington Military District, "Fort Belvoir is much more than a military base. It is a community."

Fort Belvoir is the largest employer in Fairfax County, with 23,000 federal employees and service members, and home to more than 3,500 family members.

BRAC will add another 19,300 personnel triggering an estimated \$4 billion construction and infrastructure building boom.

But, "It's not just BRAC that is moving the post into the forefront of the military's installation framework but other defense-related expansion as well," according to Blixt. It is things such as the 450-person Warrior Transition Unit, the National Museum of



**Nat Wilson, board chair, Mt. Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, expresses the Chamber's gratitude to Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Jerry Blixt for keeping the community informed as to changes occurring at the Post as a result of BRAC.**



**Brig. Gen. Dennis Rogers (left), National Capital District Director, joins Ft. Belvoir Installation Commander Col. Jerry Blixt, in outlining the base's increased importance to the region as a result of BRAC.**

8,500, the new home of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency; and at the Mark Center in Alexandria, 6,400, the new home of a composite of agencies known as The Washington Headquarters Services and BRAC 133.

Another 1,000 personnel will be relocated to Rivanna Station, an existing appendage of Fort Belvoir just north of Charlottesville, Va. The latter group is composed of Defense Intelligence Agency personnel and intelligence analysis functions from the National Capital Region and Bolling Air Force Base.

There are 2,140 personnel leaving Fort Belvoir as a result of BRAC. The majority of that group, 1,440 personnel of the Army Materiel Command, were transferred to Belvoir following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 from what is now known as Victory Center on Eisenhower Avenue in Alexandria. They will be relocated to Red Stone Arsenal in Alabama. The other 700 are spread over four additional agencies, according to Moffatt.

**ADDRESSING THE NEW \$1.77 billion**

NGA facility, now rising at the EPG, Moffatt said, "This facility is moving at a very fast pace." Building construction is now eight percent complete.

The other main post facility "moving at a very fast pace" is the new DeWitt Army Community Hospital. This expanded 120-bed facility is scheduled for completion in August 2010. The first patients are expected in April 2011, according to Moffatt.

A critical community element of the BRAC realignment is completion of the last link of the Fairfax County Parkway, on the edge of the EPG. "Construction of this last link will be completed in four phases. But, right now, money wise, we are short of what is required to finish this entire project," he said.

"This road must be completed by the time the 8,500 personnel of NGA arrive at their new headquarters," Moffatt told the audience. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Oct. 31 to mark the commencement of this joint effort of the U.S. Army, Virginia Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration.

**"If you think we've done a lot so far, wait until you come to this breakfast next year."**

**— Col. Mark Moffatt, deputy installation commander, BRAC**

the U.S. Army, and the various infrastructure improvements within the base and surrounding communities that is transforming it into the new century's showpiece.

"We have three basic priorities —

force protection, personnel, and infrastructure improvement. We want to make you feel you are on the best base in the Army when you visit here," Blixt told the breakfast audience.

**WITH THAT** Col. Mark Moffatt, deputy installation commander for BRAC, Fort Belvoir, walked the group through a series of activities now under way or planned to meet the Sept. 15, 2011 BRAC completion deadline. "If you think we've done a lot so far wait until you come to this breakfast next year," Moffatt said.

"BRAC will bring a net gain of 19,300 personnel to Fort Belvoir. This will be in addition to the present post personnel complement of 23,000," he said.

New personnel will be located at the main post, 3,400; Engineering Proving Grounds (EPG) in the Springfield area,



**State Del. Mark Sickles (D-43), left, joins Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay at the annual Ft. Belvoir Community Relations Breakfast.**

## Beyond BRAC

In addition to the BRAC projects, there are approximately 30 to 40 other projects under way at Fort Belvoir that relate to Base improvements as well as project that directly impact the surrounding communities. Some of the latter include:

- ❖ A new state-of-the-art Emergency Service Center with fire and police assets to support NGA, main post, and mutual assistance regional agreements.
- ❖ Construction of the Woodlawn Road replacement artery known as Mulligan Road to connect Route 1 and Telegraph Road.
- ❖ Gunston Road, the major artery on post, will be expanded to four lanes, including the expansion of the bridge over Rt.1, with the potential of accepting future widening of Rt.1.
- ❖ Pohick Road, the post's main artery for

visitors and employees, will be expanded to four lanes from Rt. 1 to Gunston Road. Pohick Road will be initial project followed by improvements to Belvoir Road, according to Moffatt.

❖ Construction of a new 37,000-sq.-ft. state-of-the-art child development/education center for 338 children of service members and eligible federal employees.

❖ A new, fully equipped fire station that will support the main post and Ft. Belvoir regional mutual aid agreements.

In total an expenditure of approximately \$80 million is forecast for base infrastructure improvements. These projects encompass not only transportation arteries but also water and sewer lines and upgrades to electrical facilities and lines.

# Emerging from the Shadows

Area boy's basketball teams must find newcomers to fill void of departed stars.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE

When it comes to now-graduated star guard Marquel DeLancey, **Mount Vernon** coach Alfonso Smith is being realistic. He knows a single player won't just step up and fill the void left by last year's National District Player of the Year, who is now at Old Dominion.

But Smith also understands that if his Majors sit around and lust for the 19 points and four assists per game that DeLancey took with him, no good will come of it. Still, replacing DeLancey is at the top of the to do list for a Mount Vernon team looking to exact revenge after being upset by Yorktown in the National District tournament final for the second-consecutive season.

"It's great for the program as a whole, but it's certainly a loss that you feel," Smith said of DeLancey. "These guys have the challenge that Marquel left his legacy and now these guys have the chance to step up and create one of their own."

One player who Smith has foremost on his mind is junior Skylar Jones, the team's leading rebounder from last season. Always a tantalizing talent, Jones suffered through a devastating knee injury his freshman season, but bounced back with a solid sophomore season a year ago. Now, the coach thinks Jones is on the brink of something special.

"I think he's going to turn a lot of heads this year," said Smith. "He's going to come out of Marquel's shadow."

But it won't be just Jones that will have to shoulder all the scoring burden this season. The Majors also return point guard

## Mt. Vernon at a Glance

**Coach:** Alfonso Smith  
**Player to Watch:** Skylar Jones, junior  
**Last Season:** 16-9 overall, 12-3 National District  
**First Game:** Dec. 2 against South County

## W. Potomac at a Glance

**Coach:** David Houston III  
**Player to Watch:** Martez Redfirm, junior  
**Last Season:** 14-12 overall, 7-10 Patriot District  
**First Game:** Dec. 2 at Washington-Lee

Robert Smith, a back-up behind DeLancey last season, who will be the primary ball handler running the show for the Majors.

Second-team all district forward Robert Coleman also is back, along with guard Jesse Canate, a player Smith singled out as having made significant improvements to his game over the off season.

Six-foot-four senior Kyle Ricks should add some bulk in the interior, a weakness last year for the fast-paced Majors. Ricks did not play on the team last season.

Still, though, the specter of DeLancey remains, and it is up to the current crop of Mount Vernon stars to prove they can fill the void. In terms of talent, there's no question the Majors can do it. But talent doesn't guarantee championships.

"You hope that taste of hunger is still there and I believe that it is, I'm confident that it is," said Smith. "But there's nobody in the district that you can take lightly, so we're really going to have to work."

**WEST POTOMAC** coach David Houston III knows replacing experience can be difficult, but the prospect of a high scoring, albeit less seasoned team this year has him excited about what could be when it's all said and done in the Patriot District.

That also means not necessarily following the same script of last year's senior-

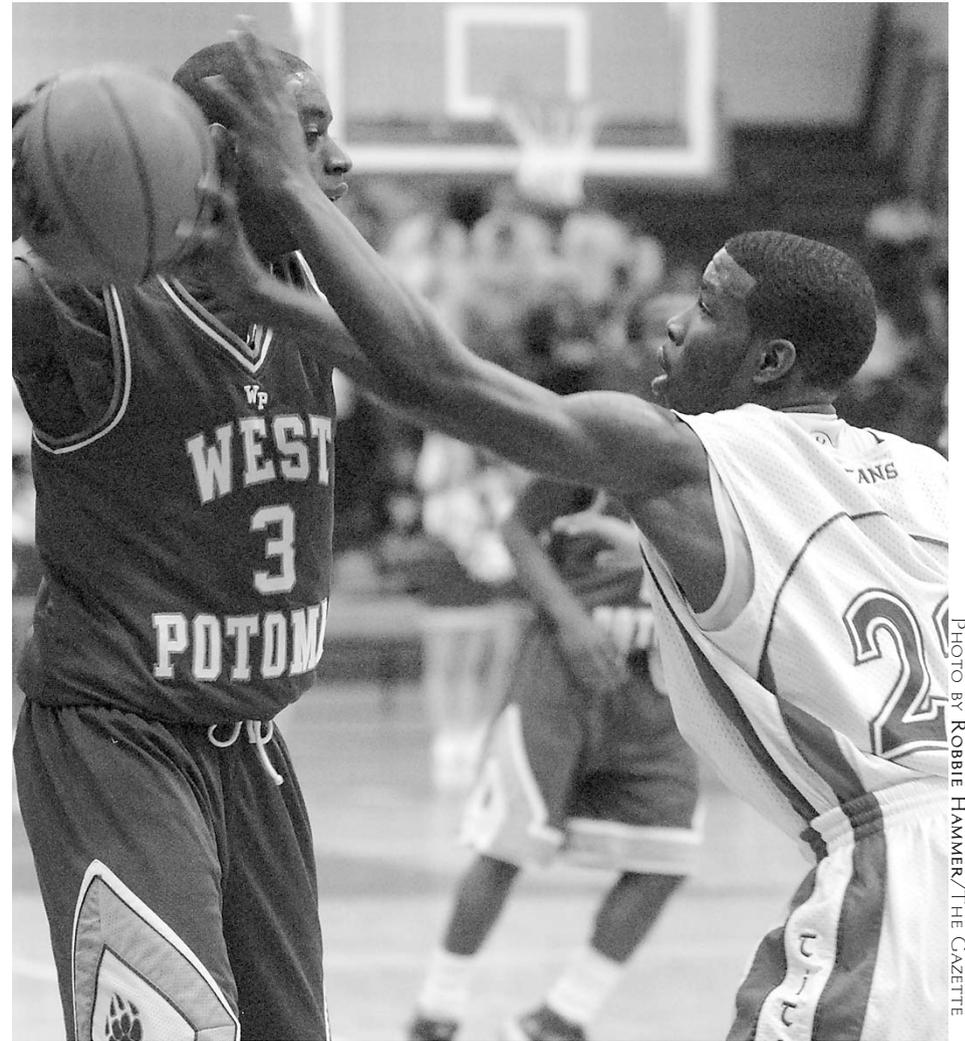


PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE GAZETTE

**West Potomac will rely on youngsters like sophomore Daryl Copeland to help deal with the loss of a seven-member senior class from last season.**

laden team, which started the season slow, ended the regular season as hot as any team in the region, and then fizzled once it faced Langley in the first round of the regional playoffs.

"The goal is to take the baby steps through the end of the year," Houston said of his current squad featuring just two seniors. "This year's team needs to just build every day and when the playoffs come, be at the highest level we can play and ride that

through the playoffs.

In his fifth season at the helm, Houston may just have his most athletic team despite losing seven players to graduation. And while they are young, the Wolverines will depend on veterans like junior point guard Shawn Lee, junior wing Martez Redfirm, and senior Will Kreger to carry them through the early portions of their schedule as a team chock full of youngsters gets acquainted to competition at the varsity level.

## 18 Earn Black Belts

On Saturday, Nov. 15, black belt tests were held at Viet Le's World Karate School, located in the Sacramento Shopping Center at on Route 1. The following individuals passed a series of tests in punching, kicking, forms, sparring, and breaking for their first, second, or third degree black belts: **First Degree** -Christian Escobar, Anavinh Samreth, K. Patrick Perando, Brian Williams, Loyd Coonrod, Joshua S. Wood, Joshua Rios, Phoenix Reeder, Julia Le, Shaine N. Ryan, Christina Ryan, Patrick Rowland, Tommy Reichelt, and Sokhom Samreth, and Deirdre Le; **Second Degree** - Brandon Le, Nicole Le, and Richard D. Dobson; **Third Degree** - John Pringle. Viet Le, Thomas Lucas, and Keith Jones conducted the tests.



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# THE COUNTY LINE

## Record Sales at Gun Show

FROM PAGE 21

also tried to guarantee that Obama would not clamp down on an individual's right to bear arms.

During the presidential campaign, Webb made appearances with Obama in which he assured the crowd that the now President-elect would not implement overbearing gun control laws. The senator also recorded a least one political advertisement for the radio that drove home the same point.

**FEAR OF WHAT** restrictions might be coming has led to an increase gun and ammunition sales, particularly over the past month. Annette Eliot, one of "The Nation's Gun Show" promoters, estimated about 15,000 people attended the show last weekend, nearly 50 percent more than normally show up.

"Obama is the most anti-gun president we have ever had in history and people are afraid," said Eliot of the high attendance. "About two weeks before the election, sales started really picking up and [National Rifle Association] memberships are up."

During the weekend show, some vendors ran out of the background check forms people fill out when purchasing a gun, a shortage Elliot, who has been involved in gun show promotion for three decades, had never seen before. Several dealers have been unable to get more guns and ammunition to sell because of the high demand, she said.

"Manufacturers are running out of certain items. Vendors are telling me that they have only been able to get one or two guns when they can normally get 20. I had one guy who sold out of guns on Friday night right after the show opened," she said.

**SEVERAL** gun rights activists expect Obama to try to revive the "assault weapons ban" that passed during President Bill Clinton's term in office.

The law prohibited the sale of certain semi-automatic rifles to civilians and limited ammunition feeding devices, known as "magazines," to 10 rounds.

These products became legal once again when the ban expired in the 2004, but were in particularly high demand at the gun show.

"The high capacity magazines and guns that go with them, you can't even get them anymore. You have an especially hard time finding anything that was banned," said Medor.

With his eyes glued to the computer screen, Medor, like several other gun dealers, hoped to find a supplier



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE GAZETTE

**Several dealers packed up and left "The Nation's Gun Show" at the Dulles Expo Center before its final day Nov. 23 because they had already sold out of merchandise.**

online who still had "military style" rifles available.

But none of the gun manufacturers appeared to have a single "AR-15," a semi-automatic rifle that resembles the fully automatic "M-16" used by the U.S. military. One supplier told Medor that there was a six to 12-month backlog on that type of gun.

"Everyone wants to buy one before they are told they can't," he said.

Some local gun enthusiasts are freely admitting to hoarding firearms and supplies because of the uncertainty.

"Obama is hostile to gun owners and we are responding with our wallets. I am going to buy as many guns as I can at the Dulles gun show," said Chuck Nesby, an Arlington resident and Virginia Citizens Defense League member.

**NESBY AND OTHERS** admitted that the incoming Democratic administration might not be the only reason people are buying guns in greater numbers.

Nesby said he is also worried about the deterioration of the economy, rising unemployment and what they could do to the crime rate.

"People are aiming to protect themselves," he said.

"Gun sales typically increase when there is a downturn in the economy. People are fearful they are going to get robbed or their car is going to get stolen," said Eliot.

### COUNTY NOTEBOOK

FROM PAGE 21

tion on the Virginia Department of Education's Web site, albeit in a less organized fashion. Cutting the program would save \$389,853 next year, according to school budget documents.

If the school system ceases to televise its meetings, officials could save an additional \$30,800.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

## No New Trailers to Ease Enrollment Increases?

Fairfax County Public Schools has proposed cutting \$250,000 of its \$3.75 million in "temporary classroom funding" for next year, in spite of the fact that school officials expect to gain as many as 5,000 additional students before the fall of 2009.

Reducing money for the purchase of temporary

classrooms, otherwise known as trailers and modulators, is a bit risky given the enrollment projections. But the schools chief operating officer Dean Tistadt said the school system already owns trailers it is not currently using.

"We haven't bought many trailers in quite some time. Some schools with trailers don't really need them," said Tistadt.

The official said proposals to increase class size will also help mitigate enrollment increases, since some existing classrooms should become available as the number of classes becomes fewer in number.

The main impact of the cut would be on the quality of trailers schools would be receiving. Most schools like work with multi-classroom modulators that come with two to four instructional spaces. Tistadt will not be able to purchase those types of classrooms next year if the cuts go through, he said.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

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**NOTICE OF WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2008, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2009, include the following:

1. An increase in the availability charge from \$3,850 to \$3,950†.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$6,400 to \$7,600.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$800 to \$850†.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$28 to \$29.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$6.25 to \$7.05†.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$1.70 to \$1.83 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$2.65 to \$2.70 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Turn Off/Turn On Charge from \$40 to \$42.
9. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and the Peak Use Charge.
10. An increase in the Sewer Use Meters Charge from \$36 to \$37
11. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$13 to \$14.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our website at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

†Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2009 BUDGET**

Fairfax County Water Authority (Fairfax Water) is proposing a \$150.0 million budget for calendar year 2009.

On Thursday, December 11, 2008, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed 2009 Budget in its offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax. The public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. A copy of the proposed budget can be viewed on our website at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed budget should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Revenues are expected to be \$150.0 million in 2009. Water sales are expected to provide \$125.1 million. Approximately \$24.9 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources. The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	2008	2009
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$40,719	\$42,788
Power and Utilities	11,015	13,191
Chemicals	9,288	10,625
Fuel	989	1,028
Postage	419	449
Insurance	1,254	1,289
Supplies and Materials	3,492	3,694
Contractual Services	6,109	6,797
Professional Services	1,321	1,364
Other	1,964	1,981
Sub-Total	76,570	83,206
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(8,574)	(8,667)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$67,996</b>	<b>\$74,539</b>

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$37,687,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$25,710,000

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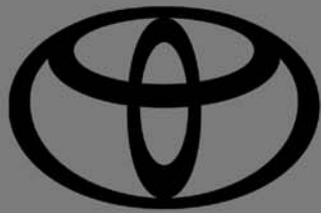
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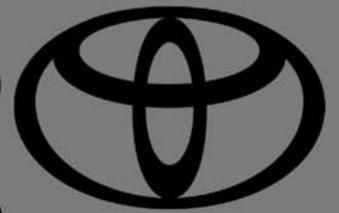
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