

Mount Vernon Gazette

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25 CENTS

Lorton Healthplex On Hold

Inova Mount Vernon's ongoing projects and nurse hiring will continue.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

All Inova Health System capital projects, not already under way, have been put on indefinite hold — including the long awaited Lorton Healthplex. That was the bad news delivered to the Southeast Health Planning Task Force last week on Thursday night by Inova Mount Vernon Hospital CEO and IHS Senior Vice President Barbara Doyle.

“When the economy starts to turn around we will reevaluate everything. All projects
SEE HUMAN SERVICES, PAGE 5

Hyland Hosts Chairman Debate

His annual “virtual bus tour” will follow.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

A debate between the two leading contenders for the chairmanship of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will be the primary focus of Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland's 22nd Annual Town Meeting, Jan. 31, at Mount Vernon High School's Little Theater.

Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D) will square off against Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity (R). The debate will be moderated by Kathryn Falk, vice president, Public and Government Affairs, Cox Communications.

Following the one hour and 45 minute debate, scheduled to kick off at 10 a.m., Hyland will navigate the audience on his annual “Virtual Bus Ride” touring the vari
SEE CHAIRMAN DEBATE, PAGE 3

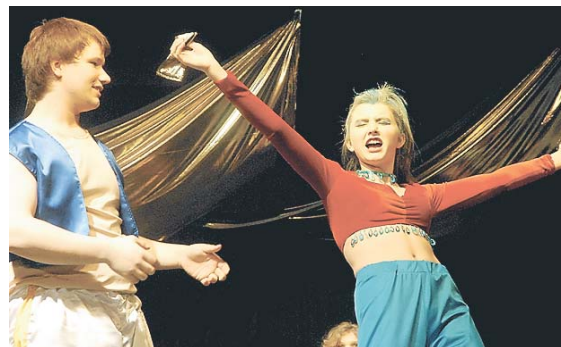


PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Jafar played by William Havranek, a seventh grader at Carl Sandburg Middle School, sings of his ambition to have Jasmine for his own.

‘Aladdin Jr.’ This Weekend

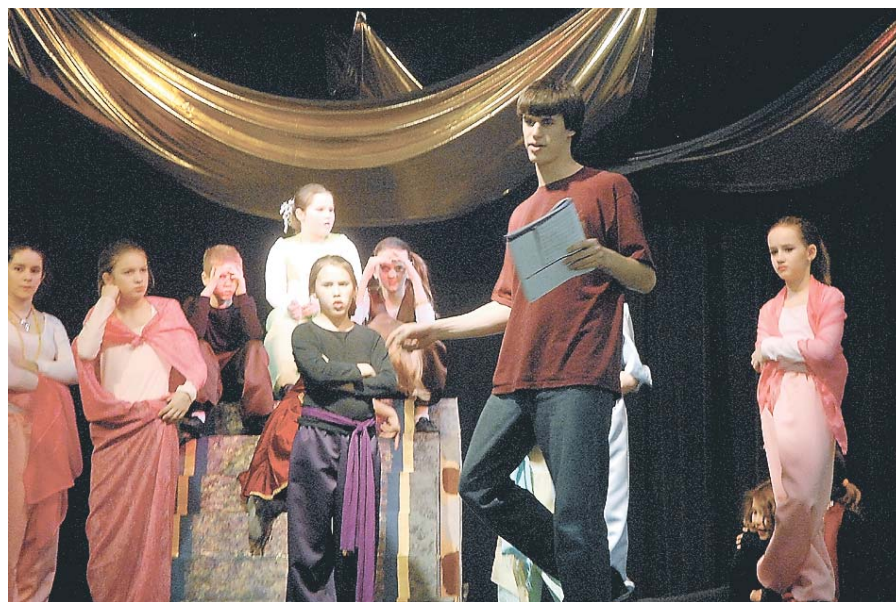
Aldersgate Church Children's Theater is presenting Disney's “Aladdin, Jr.” Shows are at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 17, 23 and 24. Matinees are at 3 p.m. on Jan. 18, 19, 24 and 25. All tickets are \$10 at the door or \$9 if ordered through the Web site at www.acctonline.org. The single exception is the Jan. 24 matinee which has \$7 tickets for those age 7 and below. The cast of 33 youth actors range in age from 8 – 18 years



Aladdin played by R.C. Corl sets the Genie (Emily Whitworth) free.

The performances are on stage in

Wesley Hall at the Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road in Alexandria.



Michael Page, a senior at Hayfield Secondary School, choreographed this performance of “Aladdin Jr.”

Officer Faces Civil Suit

Plaintiffs seek \$6 million in damages and a jury trial.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

On Friday, Jan. 9, John McIntosh and Cynthia Colasanto, parents of the late Ashley McIntosh, and co-administrators for her estate, filed a \$6 million civil law suit against Fairfax County Police Officer Amanda Perry claiming negligence and gross negligence leading up to the automobile accident of Feb. 12, 2008 that resulted in Ashley McIntosh's death.

Filed in Fairfax County Circuit Court by attorney Thomas J. Curcio, P.C., the suit claims “the defendant (Perry) owed members of the general public, including Ashley McIntosh, the duty to exercise ordinary care and the duty to obey the laws for the operation of automobiles.”

The suit also states, “Despite her actual and constructive knowledge of these duties and the dangers posed by a breach of these duties, the defendant, in operating the police cruiser prior to, and at the time of the collision, was guilty of negligence which proximately caused the collision.” The plaintiffs are asking for a jury trial.

“Although there is both a charge of negligence and gross negligence the court can only rule on one,” said Curcio. Both negligence charges are

“I am confident that the civil case will bring to light the reckless actions of Amanda Perry.”
— Meredith Heller, sister of Ashley McIntosh

SEE OFFICER SUED, PAGE 3

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Dance, Dance, Dance

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

Mardelle Kelly, George Hibner and Marie Sharpes dance to the music.



Mardelle Kelly relaxes for a moment between dances. Kelly, better known as the "Drama Queen" as she directs the center's theatre group, spoke of the upcoming performance on Jan. 21 during the monthly potluck dinner at the center. The drama group will perform scenes from the Carol Burnett Show.



Monday afternoon at the Hollin Hall Center on Shenandoah Road, Oldies DeeJay Steve McIntire of "That Oldies Place" entertained the afternoon guests with tunes from the '40s through the '90s. Carl Perkins, Frank Sinatra, Big Band favorites were just a few of the requests sent in to the DeeJay.

Chairman Debate at Hyland's Meeting

FROM PAGE 1

ous revitalization sites along the Route 1 corridor. However, as Hyland stated at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting this past Monday, "This year's bus will have to be handicapped accessible."

Hyland is now traveling in a wheelchair due to injuries suffered in a traffic accident in late November. He is presently undergoing three months of physical therapy for an injured hip. As he stated at this past week's Southeast Health Planning Task Force meeting, "I intend to do wheelies at the Town Meeting."

Starting at 7:45 a.m. the cafeteria area of Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, will feature an array of vendors providing information on services, programs and projects ranging from BRAC developments at Fort Belvoir to updates on the Telegraph Road portion of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. County agencies and an array of non-profit organizations distribute information from 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m.

KICKING OFF this year's Town Meeting at 9:30 a.m. will be a Fairfax County Overview by County Executive Anthony Griffin. Following that Hyland will offer opening remarks and introduce the debaters.

Following the debate, at approximately 11:45 a.m., Hyland will don his "Ralph Klampton" cap and jacket to load the audience onto his virtual bus for a visual tour of happenings and non-happenings along the

Route 1 corridor. This will be followed by a half-hour question-and-answer session.

"This year's Town Meeting will be very special for the Mount Vernon District. Supervisors Sharon Bulova and Pat Herrity have both agreed to a Chairman's Debate to express their views, discuss their stance on the issues confronting Fairfax County and explain their political philosophy," Hyland said.

"The change in our usual format is a rare opportunity for residents of Mount Vernon to listen to and engage in discussion with the two candidates for chairman three days before the special election on Feb. 3. We are very fortunate that Kathryn Falk has agreed to moderate this debate," Hyland said.

Part of the debate will include question from the audience. Residents are encouraged to send questions ahead of time to Hyland at mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov or mail them to Supervisor Gerald Hyland, 2511 Parkers Lane, Mount Vernon, VA 22306

Beverages, donuts and breakfast pastries will be provided before the formal portion of the Town Meeting. Attendees are encouraged to bring canned foods, cell phones, and eyeglasses for donation as well as rechargeable batteries and personal digital assistants (PDA) for recycling.

For more information on this 22nd Annual Town Meeting, call the Mount Vernon District Office at 703-780-7518, TTY 711.

County Police Officer Sued for Wrongful Death

FROM PAGE 1

seeking a \$6 million judgment. That would also include funeral expenses of \$49,650 plus hospital/medical expenses of \$28,594, according to the complaint.

The suit is directed solely at Perry even though she was on duty as a police officer answering a call at the time of the accident. "We cannot bring this action against the County due to the statute of sovereign immunity," Curcio said.

"This is a tragedy that did not need to happen. And, we don't want to see it happen again to any other family. This needs to be decided by a jury," Curcio said.

That was echoed by Ashley's sister, Meredith Heller. "While myself and my family continue to mourn the tragic loss of my sister's life and remain extremely disappointed over the outcome of the criminal trial, I am confident that the civil case will bring to light the reckless actions of Amanda Perry in this clearly preventable collision," Heller said.

Both John McIntosh and Cindy Colasanto emphasized that this was not a suit against the Fairfax County Police Department but against Amanda Perry personally for, in their combined views, allegedly not following established police procedures.

"This has nothing to do with the Fairfax County Police Department. If she [Perry] had followed police department policy this would have never happened. She never hit her brakes or turned on the siren as she approached the intersection," John McIntosh said.

ON THE NIGHT of Feb. 12, 2008, 22-year-old Perry was driving her Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser, north on Richmond Highway at approximately 5 p.m. answering a call about a fight in progress. McIntosh, 33, was exiting the Mount Vernon Plaza Shopping Center in her 2003 Toyota Corolla at the intersection of Richmond Highway and Boswell Avenue in Mount Vernon District, although the shopping center is in Lee District.

"Ashley McIntosh entered the intersection on a green light and was traveling through the intersection on a green light," according to the complaint. The light for north and south bound traffic on Richmond Highway was red, according to testimony during

Perry's criminal trial for reckless driving.

Feb. 12, 2008 was the day of Virginia's Presidential Primary. Polling places were open until 7 p.m. adding to rush hour traffic congestion, the complaint stated.

It was raining and the temperature was dropping adding to the possibility of slick roadway. It was also the night of the ice storm that stalled traffic for hours on the Springfield interchange overpasses.

Route 1 northbound at the Boswell Avenue intersection is four lanes with a left turning lane into the shopping center. Route 1 southbound at that point has four lanes — a dedicated left turn lane and three through lanes.

Northbound traffic on Route 1 was backed up in the left turn lane into the shopping center. "As the defendant approached and entered the intersection with Boswell Avenue at a high and unlawful speed, she knew her view to the left, including her view of eastbound traffic in the intersection, was blocked and/or impaired by vehicles, including those vehicles stopped in the left turn lane on northbound Route 1," according to the complaint.

Perry's police cruiser hit McIntosh's car on the passenger side front. McIntosh was ejected from her car and landed on the highway. She was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital where she died of her injuries two days later.

Perry was eventually charged with reckless driving and tried in September 2008 in Fairfax County General District Court. She was found not guilty of reckless driving by visiting Judge Sarah L. Deneke in the non-jury trial. Local judges had recused themselves.

The primary question raised during that trial was whether Perry was using her siren and lights when approaching the intersection. It was determined, after several viewings of a video, that the emergency lights were on but that the siren was not. It was also shown that she had not applied the brakes of her cruiser.

HOWEVER, THE JUDGE, after a trial of several hours, found within minutes of closing arguments, that Perry was not guilty of reckless driving. "Taking the

SEE CIVIL SUIT, PAGE 16

"This is a tragedy that did not need to happen."

— Thomas J. Curcio, attorney



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PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE

Verdie Haywood (left), deputy county executive, explains the impact of Fairfax County's budgetary shortfall to members of the Southeast Health Planning Task Force as, left to right, Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland, and task force member Anne Andrews listen.

Human Services' Needs Rising

But county budget faces \$650 million shortfall.

Deputy County Executive Verdia Haywood described the county budget problems and their impact on human services to the Southeast Health Planning Task Force at its meeting last week.

"The demand for help from the county for basic needs, like food and rent, is increasing dramatically," Haywood said.

"There has been a 42 percent increase in requests for help since January 2006, but the county's population has grown by less than one percent since then. What many people may not know is that Fairfax County provides human services through nonprofits and faith communities. Therefore, it is vital that we — as a community — address this crisis together," he said.

Haywood circulated a draft of the Fiscal Year 2010 Lines of Business Analysis which addressed the impending \$650 million shortfall envisioned in the next fiscal year. Health care, combined with the needs of the Community Services Board, is a major component of the General Fund Disbursements for Human Services.

Two of the pluses noted by Haywood were that since 1996 "more than \$40 million in recurring savings" have been realized by redesigning 13 departments into eight and the total administrative costs for the Human Services element of the county bud-

get is only two percent.

Proposed cuts to the budget's human services element total \$49.3 million. County direct services account for approximately 57 percent of that total reduction, or \$28.2 million, according to the draft report.

"Our human services system is highly leveraged. County General Fund budget reductions affect the capacity of local systems to serve those in need," Haywood said.

"A reduction of \$49.3 million in general fund support results in a true loss of \$54 million as a result of state, federal and client fee financing. County General Fund reductions affect other revenue sources supporting the human services system," he pointed out.

"The majority of proposed reductions are universal in nature, affecting all county residents eligible for the programs and services offered," he said. Some of the community facilities closures under consideration in the draft report included the Groveton Senior Center and one Head Start classroom at Gum Springs.

THIS CUT IMPACTS not only programs and services but also the infrastructure used to deliver many of those services to the needy. An example of that is FASTRAN. This para-transit is "a basic infrastructure service," according to the draft report.

However, as Haywood pointed out several times during his presentation, "This budget is still a work in progress. It requires everyone's input."

Economy Delays Lorton Healthplex

FROM PAGE 1

that were merely in the planning stage are now on hold. Capital expenditures are frozen," Doyle told task force members meeting at the Mount Vernon Government Center.

All projects already in the pipe line will continue. That includes investments in IT and the hiring of more nurses. "We are continuing to fill all our nursing vacancies," Doyle said.

"If Inova had moved ahead with the healthplex two years ago, as they promised and when it should have been done, it would be well under way by now and not on hold. That healthplex was a major element of our report to Inova years ago," said Anne Andrews, member and former chair of the task force.

"Where are Lorton residents who were counting on that healthplex going to go now? We need to consider how to re-route future patients to the Springfield-Franconia healthplex," said Lee District Supervisor and SEHPTF Chair Jeffrey McKay.

However, task force member and IMVH physician Khosrow Matini, M.D., told task force members, "This

has a good side in that it stops the loss of 50 acute care beds."

At the April 2008 SEHPTF meeting IHS announced its plan to transform 50 IMVH beds, used for community patients, to Long Term Acute Care (LTAC) beds. Presently, IMVH has 237 beds broken down into the following categories: 140 medical/surgical beds; 67 rehabilitation beds; and 30 psychiatric beds. Under the LTAC plan, IMVH medical/surgical beds would be reduced to 90.

Matini and others have maintained that the loss of those 50 beds to LTAC would put an unacceptable strain on IMVH's ability to serve its primary Mount Vernon community patients.

PRIOR to the meeting's start, Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland praised the IMVH staff and administration for the treatment he has received during his rehabilitation from injuries suffered in an automobile accident near the end of last year.

"The care I have received at this hospital has been extraordinary. The staff has handled me magnificently," Hyland said.

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OPINION

It's Not Grade Inflation

Fairfax and Loudoun should change to 10-point grading, add weight for advanced classes; more than 90 percent is an A.

Fairfax County Public Schools, along with Loudoun County schools, have been grading students in a way that puts them at a disadvantage for scholarships, college admissions and college credit compared to other similar school systems.

Right now there is a proposal on the table in Fairfax that would remedy many of these concerns, and the School Board should take this opportunity to do so.

Fairfax has been grading students on a six-point scale, meaning that a student scoring more than 90 points out of 100 could get a B

instead of an A; it takes a 94 for an A, and a 64 to pass.

While most comparable school systems offer extra points for Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and some honors classes, Fairfax has not been doing so.

Will changing the grading scale mean that more students from Fairfax County will head to Harvard? Not at all; many top colleges make their own adjustments to applicants' grade point averages, but not all. While it's easy for some to dismiss this push on helicopter parents who would do anything to further the success of their gifted children, there are some important issues at stake.

There is no question that a lower grade point average as reported by an applicant's school can result in fewer opportunities for merit scholarships. Given the cost of college tuition and the economic challenges facing all families right now, putting Fairfax students at a disadvantage for scholarship money is unfair and unwise.

And at the margins, how the schools calculate and report a grade point average could affect which colleges accept a given applicant,

and these small differences can have a dramatic affect on a student's college experience.

Giving extra weight for the extra rigor and work of AP and IB classes is also critical for our students.

Fairfax County also should ensure that its graduates arrive at college with the most college credit possible for their college level studies in high school. Students taking IB exams should also take the most similar AP exam. In many cases, no additional preparation is required. While IB courses are just as rigorous as AP classes and should result in college credit for the students who have successfully completed them based on test scores, many colleges do not yet recognize IB test scores for credit.

But a student who scores well on the IB test will likely score just as well on the most similar AP test, and almost every college will give credit for high AP scores.

Again this is not a nicety for parents to brag about or students to put on their résumé. Arriving as a freshman in college with college credit gives students a leg up on more advanced coursework, and can in some cases reduce the cost of college by a semester or more.

EDITORIAL

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES



A number of Carl Sandburg Middle School students are participating in an letter-writing effort to address issues that they feel are important. Clockwise, from top: Students in teacher Tory Karg's fifth period, seventh period, second period and third period classes. Letters start on page 7.



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A Connection Newspaper

LETTERS

Support Artificial Turf

To the Editor:

I compete in the National Capital Soccer League and I am on the State Olympic Development Program soccer team. I have seen my fair share of soccer fields. I would like to strongly encourage the local park and recreation authorities to install artificial turf on the area soccer fields. This is good for the environment.

An average soccer field needs as much as 3.5 million gallons of water per year for its grass to remain healthy; that is over 10 billion gallons per year. The solution to this wasteful practice is artificial turf. If only half of the nation's soccer fields are converted to turf, the water saved would provide for the needs of 137 million people for a day. You also don't have to use fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides on artificial turf. These chemicals can be dangerous if they make it into the water supply.

Water supply is a major environmental issue for the planet. It is wasteful to use the water on soccer fields if it can be used to supply the drought-ridden of the world.

Turf is better for the earth and it's the answer for the future of sports in America.

Kurt Anderson

8th Grader, Carl Sandburg Middle School

Conserve Water

To the Editor:

Hello, my name is Daniel Wasserman. I am in the 8th grade at Carl Sandburg Middle School. I believe that the USA is not conserving water wisely. An average bath uses 30-50 gallons of water. The average 4-minute shower uses

20 gallons. Every person that showers instead of washing in a bath every day would save at least 3,640 gallons a year. When people do not conserve water, it wastes fresh water that could be drunk by poor people who have trouble affording it. If Americans do not start conserving water, we will waste energy cleaning wasted water from bathing. Also, Americans will waste their money on water that is not used. This is a very serious matter that will be very disastrous if no attention is paid to it.

Daniel Wasserman

Change Light Bulbs

To the Editor:

I am a student from Carl Sandburg Middle School in the eighth grade and the issue I would like to bring up is conserving energy. Many people on our Earth had forgotten about recycling and conserving energy but, slowly, being green is coming back into style. More specifically, people are trying to find ways to conserve energy to help our environment. One simple way to get started is to change your main lighting fixtures in the house, to fluorescent bulbs. This way you it would stop about 90 billion pounds of greenhouse gas discharge, which is equal to taking 7.5 million cars away and at the same time, Americans would accumulate enough energy to light about 2.5 million homes for a year. I believe the best way to start saving energy is to simply change the light bulbs.

Sohni Shaikh

Ft. Belvoir

Invest In Solar

To the Editor:

I am writing as an 8th grader at

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

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ALIVE WITH SOUND

This is the second in a four-part series entitled "101 Ways to Have Fun."

Alexandria Guitar Festival

Evening performances: Old Presbyterian Meeting House

321 S. Fairfax St.

Classes and afternoon performances: The Athenaeum

201 Prince St.

703-548-0035

www.alexandriaguitarfestival.com

Classical guitar music. Suzuki children's classes, master classes and concerts by internationally acclaimed artists, such as Benjamin Berdery, Ricardo Cobo and Nicholas Goluses. July 15-23.

Relax with Bluegrass Music

Tiffany Tavern

1116 King St.

703-836-8844

Tiffany on upper King Street, the best place in town for bluegrass on Friday and Saturday nights. The crowds range from barely-legal to gray-haired and fill the tavern quickly. The owner and his wife are congenial and the music is great.

Go Hear the Symphony

Alexandria Symphony

2121 Eisenhower Ave. Suite 608

703-548-0885

www.alexsym.org

For music lovers there is of course the Alexandria Symphony now in its own space at Northern Virginia Community College. Summer's Children's Program and Concert held annually in June.

Hear the Local Chorus

Alexandria Choral Society

703-548-4734

www.alexchoralsociety.org

Don't miss their summer garden party as well as their concerts throughout the year.

Twilight Tunes

Music at Twilight

Sundays, June-August

LIVE LOCAL THEATER



Ballet classes are available at the Athenaeum and at Alliance Dance Institute.



The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra has concerts throughout the year, including one on Sunday, Jan. 25 at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. On right is the conductor for the symphony, Kim Kluge.

Fort Ward Park

4301 W. Braddock Road

703-883-4686

From June 18 to Aug. 10 this year, the Music at Twilight series enlivens the evenings at Fort Ward Amphitheater. Relax in the park and listen to good music.

Get Jazzed

St. Elmo's Coffee Shop

2300 Mount Vernon Avenue

Thursdays, 8 to 10 p.m.

The Not So Modern Jazz Band plays straight-up Dixieland at the coffee shop every Thursday nights, purely for the joy. It's not your espresso that's making your feet tap.

A Legacy of Music

Alexandria Citizens Band

Market Square

301 King St.

301-883-4686

Friday nights in the summertime, the city's oldest performing arts organization performs in Market Square.

Joyful Noise

Pipe, Pedals, Praise and Prayer

Sundays

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

321 S. Fairfax St.

The program Pipe, Pedals, Praise and Prayer continues this summer at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House. Half-hour concerts begin at 5 p.m. and are followed by a reception and a church service at 6:30. Upcoming performances will feature Edward Moore of Catholic University (July 9) and Jason Abel of Christ Church (July 16).



Little Theatre of Alexandria

600 Wolfe St.

703-683-0496

www.thelittletheatre.com

Little Theater of Alexandria is the traditional tried and true. The troupe has a deft touch with comedy, their timing is impeccable and the theater itself is charming.

Port City Playhouse

Lee Center

1108 Jefferson St.

703-838-2880

www.portcityplayhouse.com

Port City Playhouse operates in a small theater and does the more avant garde, edgy stuff. Prices are a bit more than a movie and the plays are very good.

Metro Stage

1201 North Royal St.

703-548-9044

www.metrostage.org

Metro Stage, now in its own place, always offers an interesting and different season and does cabaret to boot.

Bask in Ballet

Alliance Dance Institute

5801 Duke St.

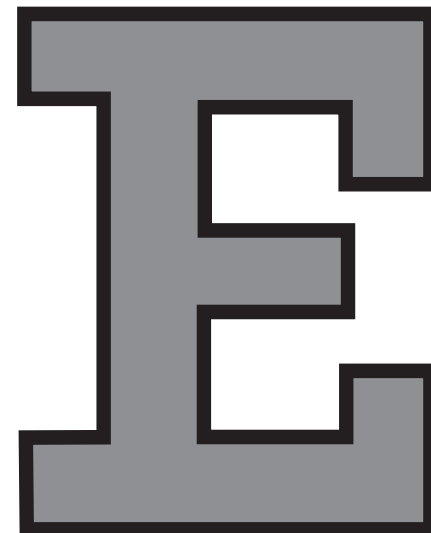
703-354-6000www.adidance.com

The Athenaeum

201 Prince St.

www.nvfaa.org

The Alliance Dance Institute is known for its dance school for ages 3 to 7 and special performances of "The Nutcracker" for young audiences. The Athenaeum holds classes for all ages.



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

CALENDAR

E-mail calendar announcements to the Mount Vernon Gazette, 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.

ONGOING

Historic Mount Vernon welcomes **Inauguration visitors** in January with 20 percent off adult admission. Visitors must print the coupon from Mount Vernon's Web site: <http://visit.mountvernon.org>. January is also the 250th wedding anniversary of George and Martha Washington, and on display Jan. 12 - Feb. 23 are Mrs. Washington's wedding slippers, which have not been exhibited at Mount Vernon in over 30 years. \$15 for adults; \$7 for youth ages 6-11; and free for children five and younger. Visit <http://visit.mountvernon.org> or 703-780-2000.

The public can participate in the second annual "Alexandria Recreation Games for Healthy Living," **Jan. 10 through March 6**. An awards ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, March 28, at the Lee Center Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St. To register, pick up an information packet at the Chinguapin Park Recreation Center, or online at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services present free **dance workshops** at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, from 3:30-5 p.m. on Feb. 13, 27, March 13, 27, April 10, 24 and May 8. To register, 703-324-4386.

FRIDAY/JAN. 16

Opening Reception. 7-10 p.m., see "Nocturne-from Dusk to Dawn" at Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., through Feb. 15. See the effects of light between dusk and dawn. Free. 703-838-4827.

Wee Ones Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and under enjoy songs and stories. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Time for 2s. 10 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Ages 24-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

SATURDAY/JAN. 17

Medieval Madness. 7 p.m. at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. Enjoy comedy, food, drinks, music, sword competition and more. \$49/person. Visit www.medievalmadness.org or 703-329-3075.

Rockin' for the Red Benefit Concert. 6:30 p.m. at T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St. My Favorite Highway and Crash Boom Bang will perform. Proceeds benefit Alexandria Red Cross. \$15/advance; \$20/door. Visit www.alexandriaredcross.org/rockin.html or 703-299-2524.


Majestic Eagles. 2:30 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe these birds and learn about their lives. Free. 703-339-2385.

Bay View Sunset Walk. 4 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe animals as they get ready for bed. Free. 703-339-2385.

Wild For Winter Waterfowl. 10:30 a.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14

Just Gotta See It!



Aldersgate Church Children's Theater
1301 Collingwood Road
Alexandria, 22308
Jan 17, 23, 24 @ 7:30 pm • Jan 18, 19, 24, 25 @ 3:00 pm
Tickets \$10 @ door or \$9 on line
www.acctonline.org

Special price 3 pm matinee Jan 24
Only \$7 for age 7 & below
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- FX6710

Thurs., Jan. 29th @ 11am

12705 Knollbrook Dr., Clifton, VA

Retail Storefronts in Manassas & Automotive Condos in Chantilly **Thurs., Jan. 30th**

NEW MCLEAN HOME

Builder Must Sell

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- Study, media room
- Rec room, 2-car garage
- FX6711



Thurs., Jan. 29th @ 2pm

6530 Chesterfield Ave., McLean, VA

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Tues, 1/20 Inauguration Day	2 - 5
Wednesday - Saturday	10 - 5
Sunday	12 - 5

Open Sunday 1-4



5501 Seminary Rd. #1302S | \$247,000

LUXURY HIGH RISE LIVING!
Conveniently located, this spacious one bedroom and den, one and a half bath condo in Skyline Square has fresh paint throughout, plus brand new carpet and kitchen flooring. Den could be used as second bedroom. Building includes exercise room, party room, outdoor pool, etc. Ownership includes two garage spaces.

Carol Hooks | 703-509-4199 Falls Church

Open Sunday 1-4



114 Hume Avenue | \$849,900

Historic plaqued, charming 1925 colonial with front porch that has been thoughtfully expanded with a rear two story addition. Center hall foyer, four fireplaces, four bedrooms, three and a half baths, pine floors and large rooms. Finished lower level with game room & storage. Screened porch with hot tub, deck, fenced yard and garage.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 Del Ray

Open Sunday 1-4



402 1/2 Royal Street | \$519,900

This historic 1870 home has been totally updated with cherry cabinets, granite, SS appliances. Italian marble, skylight & maple vanity in bath. Atrium stairwell with skylight, newer roof, refinished wood floors, brick patio, fenced backyard, W/D & many built-in bookcases & shelves on the upper level. Home is Bank Owned.

Sherry York | 703-625-3377 Old Town

New Price in River Towers



6631 Wakefield Drive #708 | \$274,000

Everything has been done for you. Don't miss the opportunity to own a two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo at River Towers. Improvements to include the kitchen, baths, blinds, paint, convectors etc. It shows like a model. Ample free parking, pool, tennis, garden plots, picnic grove with grills plus more. Convenient location to local shops and restaurants, Parkway, Old Town and bus to Metro. Located on 26 landscaped acres backing to wet lands.

Denise Davis | 571 332-8531 Alexandria S

Open Sunday 1-4



1209 Duke Street | \$575,000

Circa 1846 brick TH gem, heart of Old Town with garage and driveway parking! Two levels, 2BRs, 1.5BAs. Warm hardwood floors, tasteful moldings, two fireplaces, updated kitchen with granite counters and SS appliances, neutral decor. Walk out to Georgetown patio and carriage house garage with bonus upstairs storage. Just blocks to King St Metro, Whole Foods, restaurants, et al. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703 628-2828 Old Town

New Price For Land



4800 Old Mill Road | \$395,000

New Price on Rare find in Mt. Vernon! Spacious lot, already cleared with sewer and water taps in place. If desired, plans for new home available (model shown in photo). A fantastic 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!

Rachel Carter | 703 851-4207 Mount Vernon

New Listing—Open Sunday 1-4



409 North Columbus Street | \$799,000

Fantastic historic Victorian townhouse that comes complete with elegant crown molding and character, including new zoned central AC, new roof, 2 fireplaces, original wood floors, updated kitchen with corian counters, slate floor, fenced patio and more. This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath has great architectural details, tons of sunlight, 12' ceilings and large rooms. Directions: From Washington and King Sts., north on Washington, left onto Princess, right onto Columbus to 409. For more pictures or information, www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com

Bonnie Rivkin | 703 598-7788 Old Town

New on Market —Open Sunday 1-4



237 Murtha Street | \$665,000

Exceptional Van Metre built "Arthur Allen" model TH in Cameron Station. 2650 sq ft on 4 levels, 4 BRs, 4.5BA, spacious kitchen/family room combo w/fireplace, 2nd family room & office space on LL, deck & patio, garage plus driveway parking. Light filled w/high ceilings, tasteful moldings, hardwood floors. Prime location, 1 block to Brenman Park, fitness center & pool, free shuttle to Metro, et al. Photos on www.paddockhomes.com.

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703 628-2828 Cameron Station

Canterbury Square



5205 Duke Street #303 | \$139,900

Terrific top floor one bedroom in convenient Canterbury Square! Just minutes from Metro and I-395, this home features hardwood parquet floors, great closets, separate dining area, and a lovely courtyard view from the balcony. Summertime brings a refreshing swim in the neighborhood pool, and mature trees give a park-like setting year-round! Condominium fee includes everything except cable and phone.

Mark Souder | 703 518-2800 Alexandria



Previews International

Marketing the world's premier properties

Open Sunday 1-4

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



6406 Wood Haven Drive
\$825,000



Price Reduction

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

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 New Alexandria

Wellington Beauty

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



912 Clifton Drive
\$2,795,425



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

Patterson | 703 518-6158 Alexandria S

Open Sunday 1-4

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



649 First Street
\$1,050,000



A Great New Price!

Spectacular, large brick home on the edge of Old Town. Brick serpentine garden walls, garage parking, three to four bedrooms, four and half baths. Wood floors and high ceilings and quality throughout. Floor plan available. Freshly painted and ready to go! For more information, please contact Marie Louise Meyer at 703 836-2080. MLM1606@aol.com

Marie Louise Meyer | 703 836-2080 Old Town

New Price

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



1500 Grassymeade Lane
\$924,900



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

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Alexandria S

Belle Haven At It's Finest

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



2003 Glen Drive
\$1,675,000



You Don't Have To Be Inaugurated To Live In This White House!

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

Karen Leonard | 703-328-7041 Belle Haven

Coming Soon To Belle Haven

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



Edgehill Drive
\$1,495,000



This Dutch Colonial has been expanded to satisfy gracious entertaining with spacious formal rooms as well as a generous country kitchen with adjoining family room, six bedrooms upstairs, and six full baths. Two staircases and multiple wood burning fireplaces add charm to the classic floor plan. The fully finished basement is complete with an additional kitchen, recreation room, library, full bath, and plentiful storage.

Mark Souder | 703 518-2800 Belle Haven

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



CHRIS WHITE

Great Home Values – Record Low Mortgage Rates!



4203
Adrienne Dr
\$459,000
Updated Home!
Owner's job transfer creates a 'too good to be true' opportunity for this updated

home on 3/4 acre lot! High ceilings, thermal windows, updated kitchen & baths, gas frpl, walk out ll, new a/c unit, 2 car garage, 5 zone sprinkler sys, custom deck with gazebo & hot tub overlook park-like setting. Nothing like it in the area close to this price! **Open Sun 1-4pm.** S GW Pkwy, past estate, R Old Mt Vernon Rd, L Adrienne Dr.



8308
Holland Rd
\$799,900
Bank Owned!
Exceptional price on spacious home built in 2004! Bright, open floor plan, dramatic two

story family room, upgraded modern kitchen, sumptuous master suite, three car garage and huge walk-out lower level. Prime location on approx. 3/4 acre lot just 5 minutes from Old Town. Bank provides opportunity to acquire a home typically priced at over \$1,000,000 for a rock bottom price!



5304
Cedar Ct
\$398,500
Creekside Charmer!
Cozy 3BR, 1.5BA rambler on huge 1/2 acre lot bordering scenic Dogue

Creek. Home has been completely remodeled and updated by leading local craftsman. Stunning updated kitchen with maple cabinets, granite countertops & stainless appliances, LR with fireplace, bamboo floors, updated baths & more! Assessed by Fairfax County for \$439,500!



4300
Neptune Dr
\$559,000
Yacht Haven Opportunity!
Rare 3/4 acre corner lot in prestigious Yacht Haven Estates, one

of the Mount Vernon area's premier waterfront communities! Spacious home combined with exceptionally large building area provides limitless potential on this gorgeous level lot with access to Mount Vernon Yacht Club.



4003
Belle Rive Terr
\$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



4212
Dandridge Terr
\$589,000
Prestigious Southwood!
Price slashed! A \$700,000 home for \$589,000! Nothing like it on the

market today! Owner paid \$699,900 in 2005 and added \$30K in upgrades. Classic Center Hall Colonial in pristine condition has three finished levels including full walk-out lower level. Oversized two car garage, gorgeous lot on cul-de-sac – stunning value!



3601
Riverwood Rd
\$749,500
Riverwood Gem!
Updated Colonial in premier location near the Potomac River

neighboring homes selling for \$3,595,850 and \$5,500,000! Owner spent \$175,000 in recent upgrades. Special features include: spectacular custom kitchen with granite, stainless and light maple cabinets, four bedrooms, hardwood floors, updated and reconfigured baths, large screened porch, oversized garage and fenced yard.



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 lower level and two car carport. Sold in as-is condition. Awaits your finishing touches! Unique opportunity for investors – just two miles from Fort Belvoir – huge rental potential!



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$879,000
Georgian Colonial!
Large Price Reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mt

Vernon location. Home has a combination of location, size and features typically only available in \$1,000,000+ homes! Three finished levels, open kitchen/family room, stunning master suite, two bonus rooms on lower level and dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Just off the GW Pkwy – easy commute to DC!



1600
Noral Place
\$998,500
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!



Brambly Lane
\$969,900
FREE FINISHED BASEMENT FOR 1ST CONTRACT IN JANUARY – \$50,000 VALUE!
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! High ceilings, open floor plan, 4BR, 3.5BA, energy conserving features, oversize garage & more! (Picture of same model for illustration purposes only.)



STRATFORD LANDING!
8826
Camden Street
\$899,500
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.

CHRIS WHITE (703) 283-9028

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WWW.CHRISANDPEGGYWHITE.COM





OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT

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703.683.0400 • WWW.LONGANDFOSTER.COM



Old Town
\$195,000
JUST ABOUT PERFECT!!

Beautiful new kitchen with maple cabinets, black granite counters, stainless steel appliances. New maple hardwood floors. Bath with new soaking tub enclosed with marble. Black granite surrounding fireplace. Completely remodeled and cozy.

529 Bashford Lane #4

SHEILA KOLB 703.201.2334



OPEN SUN

Alexandria
\$715,000
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CALENDAR

Inauguration in Alexandria

Discover Alexandria's rich presidential and African-American heritage during this historic weekend. In tribute to the historic Presidential Inauguration and Martin Luther King Day, several Historic Alexandria museums and sites will be open for special holiday hours on Monday, Jan. 19.

* Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax St., and Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Historic Alexandria History Center & Museum Store, 101 North Union St., will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and will be offering a 10 percent discount on all purchases from Friday, Jan. 15 through Monday, Jan. 19.

* The Alexandria Black History Museum will also be open from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18. All other City museums, including Gadsby's Tavern Museum, the Apothecary, Alexandria Archaeology, Friendship

Firehouse, Fort Ward and The Lyceum, will be operating a regular weekend schedule, and The Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum, located at 201 South Washington St., will be open on Monday with regular weekday hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Historic Alexandria celebrates the Presidential Inauguration with a variety of special events featuring Alexandria's Inaugural Restaurant Week and a simulcast of the swearing-in ceremony and parade on Market Square. Alexandria's Inaugural Restaurant Week, Jan. 17-25, highlights "Choice of Presidents Menus" at 30 restaurants offering either three-course prix fixe dinner or dinner for two, both for \$35.

A jumbotron screen will broadcast the presidential swearing-in ceremony and parade live in Market Square at the City Hall building, 301 King Street, in Old Town Alexandria on Jan. 20, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To find out the latest information about the many events happening in Alexandria surrounding the Inauguration, check out www.VisitAlexandriaVa.com/Inauguration.

FROM PAGE 9

swans, ducks and other waterfowl. Free. 703-339-2385.

Gardening Lecture. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Green Springs Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Learn about how to start a garden, design one and more. \$160 includes all three lectures and afternoon workshop or \$15/lecture. Bring lunch. Registration required, 703-642-5173.

Curious George Storytime. 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 6 and under enjoy meeting Curious George and hear stories starring him. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Saturday Stories. 10:30 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages can enjoy stories. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

Music Performance. 8 p.m. at Tifereth Israel Congregation, 7701 16th St., N.W. Washington, D.C. Hear music by Flory Jagoda. \$22/adult; \$10/student. Free to Folklore members. Visit www.fsgw.org or 703-354-6460.

Dreamwork: Decoding Your Dreams. Learn how to better recall dreams, analyze them for meaning, and apply it to life. 11 a.m. at Mindful Hands, 211 King St., \$5 suggested donation. 703-975-9175 to register.

SUNDAY/JAN. 18

Majestic Eagles. 3 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe these birds and learn about their lives. Free. 703-339-2385.

Wild For Winter Waterfowl. 10:30 a.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe swans, ducks and other waterfowl. Free. 703-339-2385.

Book Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Browse books, tapes, cds, dvds and more. 703-978-3953.

Music Performance. 3 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road. Hear music of Bach with organ, hymns and more. Free. Visit www.wpc-alex.org or 703-549-4766.

Mass to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Church in Alexandria. Free. Bishop Paul S. Loverde will celebrate. Visit www.stjosephva.org for more.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. Deborah Ellis and Barbara Southworth will have artwork on display at the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., through March 8. "Maine Woods and Waters" is free. 703-548-0035.

Music. 7 p.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway. Hear music by choirs from the Mount Vernon community. Free, donations accepted for local non-profits. 703-765-6118.

MONDAY/JAN. 19

Book Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road. Browse books, tapes, cds, dvds and more. 703-978-3953.

TUESDAY/JAN. 20

Servant Forge Inaugural Ball. 8 p.m. to midnight at Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. \$150/person includes dinner, drinks and entertainment. Proceeds benefit Alexandria's Space of Her Own program. Visit www.servantforge.org or 703-624-4549.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 21

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Discuss "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith. Free. 703-838-4566.

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Friday - Fish Night

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Anna Diefendorf 703-725-5116



Alexandria \$1,199,000
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Alexandria \$565,000
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NEWS

Civil Suit Filed Against Officer

FROM PAGE 3

totality of the evidence I find that it does not rise to the level of a guilty verdict," Deneke said in announcing her decision.

"I have to look at the evidence to determine Officer Perry's driving not that of Ms. McIntosh. And, to determine whether the Commonwealth has proven beyond a reasonable doubt that Officer Perry was driving in a reckless manner. This case does not

determine right or wrong or who was at fault," Deneke said.

Following the verdict, the McIntosh family held a press conference outside the courthouse to express their displeasure with the verdict and to vow to press the civil suit against Perry. Once Perry is formally served with the civil suit she has 21 days to respond, according to Curcio.

Perry's attorney, David Fudela, did not return messages left at his office for comment.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have a notice listed in the Bulletin Board, e-mail gazette@connectionnewspapers.com.

TUESDAY/JAN. 20

Support Group. 6:30 p.m. at The Hermitage in Northern Virginia. Meet with other members and get information on Alzheimer's or other memory loss ailments. Free. 703-797-3815.

Meeting. Mount Vernon Evening Lions' dinner at Pema's restaurant. Sharon Schrack will talk on NOVA Lions Youth Camp. 703-960-4973.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 21

Joint Replacements. Dr. Kevin Fricka, will be discussing the latest advancements in joint replacements and osteoarthritis at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital at 7 p.m., 2501 Parker's Lane. Call Inova

HealthSource at 703-750-8800 to register for this free lecture.

THURSDAY/JAN. 22

Pain Management. Dr. Talal Ghazal is holding a lecture to discuss pain management at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, at 7 p.m., 2501 Parker's Lane. To attend this free lecture, contact Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800.

Holistic Moms Network. 7:15 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Learn about the group, meet other moms and more. Visit www.holisticmoms.org or 877-HOL-MOMS.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28

Health Talk. 7 p.m. at Sunrise Assisted Living at Mount Vernon, 8033 Holland Road. Hear "Do You or a Loved One Suffer From a Heart Condition?" by Jason Morda, M.D.

and Lynn Weir. Free. RSVP to 703-780-9800.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 11

Shoulder Pain. Dr. Sameer Nagda, will be discussing new ways to treat shoulder problems at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, at 7 p.m., 2501 Parker's Lane. Call Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800 to register for this free lecture.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 18

Joint Replacement Advancement. Dr. Kevin Fricka, will be discussing the latest advancements in joint replacements and osteoarthritis at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, at 7 p.m., 2501 Parker's Lane. Call Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800 to register for this free lecture.

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Guarding Against Selfishness

Long on talent, four Mount Vernon guards try to weigh playing time with team goals.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

All too familiar with the tenuous egos of high school basketball players, Mount Vernon boy's coach Alfonso Smith is hesitant to call his plethora of quality guards a good problem. He knows it should be, but that would mean his emerging squad has reached a maturity level unbecoming of a group of 17- and 18-year-olds.

With four players that could start in just about any backcourt in the Northern region, Smith has an asset and an issue not many coaches in this area have to deal with. What makes it even more interesting is that Smith has a junior and a sophomore — Robert Smith and Jesse Konadu, respectively — starting over two seniors — Brian Green and Derek Pruitt.

"It gets difficult because they're all competitors," said Smith, whose team upped its record to 5-0 in the National District with wins over Wakefield and Stuart this past week and has won eight straight games after a 2-4 start to the season. The Majors take on Yorktown next Tuesday.

"They are all guys who can play and want to play, so it's a very difficult balance for us to find and it's not always easy. We struggle at times with that."

Perhaps the most talented of the bunch is the youngest, Konadu, who has shown a quick first step to the basket and the ability to knock down outside shots. He's also



Mount Vernon sophomore Jesse Konadu, who stands just 5-foot-9, scored 25 points and had 10 rebounds against Wakefield last Friday.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

"They are all guys who can play and want to play, so it's a very difficult balance."

— Mount Vernon coach Alfonso Smith

proven himself to be more than a capable rebounder.

SMITH ELEVATED the 5-foot-9 Konadu to the varsity late last season after watching him dominate junior varsity competition, but has been shocked to see it translate so easily now that he's playing against foes a year and sometimes two years older. Konadu was the star of last Friday's matchup against Wakefield, scoring 25 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

"He's matured a lot from last year to this year coming off of starting as a sophomore now," said Green, who lost out on a starting spot because of Konadu. "We put a lot on his plate, but I'm actually proud of him being so young and doing well."

The other starter, Robert Smith, of no relation to the coach, doesn't have the athleticism of his starting backcourt counterpart, but a deadly outside shot means teams pay for doubling star player Skylar Jones in the paint.

Then, there are the two veterans of the squad, Green and Pruitt, who have swallowed their pride and done what is best for the team, which means coming off the bench. Pruitt can score in bunches with his decep

SEE GUARD, PAGE 18

A Redfearn Reunion

Playing on same team for first time, Redfearn brothers are making noise at West Potomac.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

Ask West Potomac junior Martez Redfearn how he was able to average close to 25 points per game during a recent three-game winning streak for the Wolverine boy's basketball team and his answer is simple.

"I've been practicing a little harder," said the dreadlocked forward with a smirk.

Why the grin? Well, turns out the best competition for Redfearn in practice has come from little brother Marvel, the lone freshman on West Potomac's varsity squad this season.

The two spend most weekends on the

court at nearby Gum Springs Community Center going at each other in sets of one-on-one contests that have an intensity borne out of a brotherly rivalry no ordinary high school game can emulate. Even their coach has taken notice.

"I match them up in practice on purpose because I know they aren't going to back down from each other," said West Potomac coach David Houston III. "They're going to talk a little trash, but it has helped the team out a lot."

When asked what that chirping on the court entails, Marvel would only smile and concede that "sometimes, when we are in practice scrimmaging I might throw a little shove or something and he gets mad."



Junior Martez Redfearn is leading the West Potomac boy's basketball team in scoring this season averaging more than 15 points per game.

MARTEZ HAS PUT that anger to good use leading the Wolverines in scoring this season, averaging more than 15 points per game helping West Potomac up its record to 5-6 after a 2-4 start to the year. The Wol-

verines lost to Lee Tuesday night, 78-70.

The elder Redfearn, now in his third year on the varsity squad at West Potomac, has

SEE REUNION, PAGE 20

PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

SPORTS

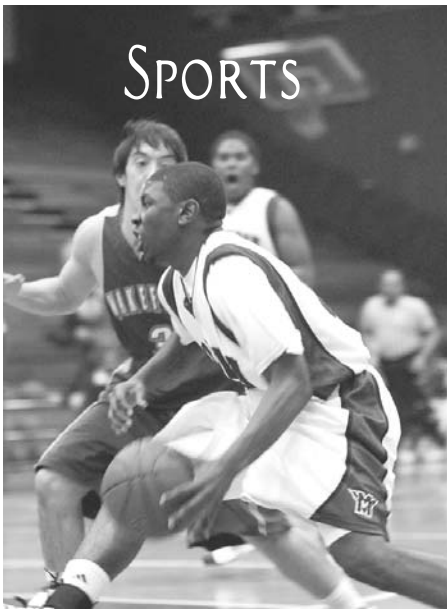


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

“That makes our team better,” said Majors coach Alfonso Smith of senior captain Brian Green’s willingness to accept a role off the bench this season.

On Guard

FROM PAGE 17

tive quickness going to the rim, while Green is just as capable a shooter as the younger Smith.

Green was named captain by his teammates and his willingness to take a step back for the betterment of the team hasn’t gone unnoticed by his coach.

“That’s some selflessness that I value and that makes our team better,” Smith said of Green, who was the starting quarterback for the Majors’ football team this fall. “As long as we are being a selfless team, we can be a great team. At times we don’t do that.”

It means Smith has gone with the who’s hottest approach. Basically, whichever guards are playing the best stay in the game. For now it appears to be the smart

move with Konadu leading the pack of guards in scoring (10.9 points per game), followed closely by Pruitt (9.1), Green (7.7), and Smith (5.1).

“It doesn’t matter who really starts because if one of the starters isn’t doing well, Derek or Brian can come in off the bench and do well,” said Konadu. “It’s just a good chemistry.”

His coach hopes those words bear out over the course of the season. He knows better than to make any assumptions when it comes to teenagers and their playing time.

“I just hope the guys accept the fact that they’ve got some talented teammates and value that and value the goals we have as a team instead of the individual accolades that will come,” said Smith.

“He’s matured a lot from last year to this year.”

— Senior Brian Green on sophomore Jesse Konadu

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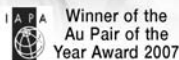
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SPORTS

A Redfearn Reunion

FROM PAGE 17

finally hit his stride after a midseason injury cut short a promising sophomore year. "He can score, he's been able to do that since I've known him as a seventh grader, but he's now learning to score within our system," said Houston of his star player's development.

The true wild card for Houston and his team, though, is Marvel, who is just now beginning to realize the potential he has for the future. Already taller than Martez at 6-foot-3 and the youngest of eight Redfearn children, Marvel, 14 years old, was elevated to the varsity level because Houston thought he wouldn't progress as much basketball-wise dominating freshmen or JV competition.

"He's probably more versatile than his brother," said Houston of Marvel, who has come off the bench this season. "He'll probably surpass his brother middle of next year or so. Not even kidding. He's got it, it's just he's a freshman so he's goofy sometimes. Plus, he's got a lot of pressure being the only freshman on the varsity."

FOR NOW, THOUGH, Marvel, plays second fiddle to his older brother. But the talent both have makes the games at Gum Springs interesting. Marvel already says his outside shot is better than his brother's, but that Martez is the quicker of the two. Their playful back-and-forth can mean some highly contentious and competitive games when the two decide to go full bore.

"I let him know I'm the older brother and you can't beat me," said a laughing Martez.

All kidding aside, the two brothers may be combatants on the practice court, but they've also made it a point to help each other out. As Marvel feels his way out on the court, Martez has taken him aside to give pointers, like where to be on the court and how to deal with being a freshman at a

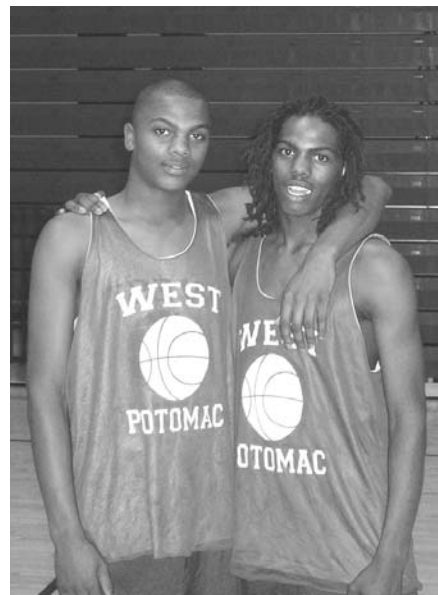


PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE GAZETTE

Brothers Marvel Redfearn (left) and Martez Redfearn have been making each other better by going head-to-head in West Potomac practices and in one-on-one battles at nearby Gum Springs Community Center.

level normally dominated by 17- and 18-year olds.

"I've definitely noticed they've gotten closer because of this season," said their father, Melvin Redfearn. "Seeing them on the floor, it feels good."

Except, that is, when they get together for another round at Gum Springs. Neither Martez nor Marvel knows which one will come out on top, but they both understand it's about more than winning.

"It's not all about getting on each other," said Martez. "It's about bringing intensity because if we keep playing the way we're playing, we could both go far as part of this team."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Majors Continue Streak

The Mount Vernon girl's basketball team continued its streak, winning its 14th consecutive game, this time a 76-45 victory over National District foe Stuart. As usual, point guard Jalinda Venable and junior Tracy King led the way for the Majors.

Venable knocked down six 3-pointers to finish with a game-high 26 points, while King wasn't far behind scoring 20 points. Mount Vernon is now 14-1 overall and 5-0 in National District play. The team doesn't play again until next Wednesday when it faces Yorktown at home with game time set for 7:45 p.m.

Softball Registration

Registration for the Fort Hunt Softball spring season is now available. Prior to registering a child for a Fort Hunt

Spring sport, review the Spring 2009 Season information for the sport. This information can be found on the individual sport's part of the fhyaa.org web site. (See sports links at top of page.)

Register online at fhyaa.org. For more information, contact Ilene Dranoff at fthuntsoftball@yahoo.com or 703-660-6338.

Charity Tournament

Fairfax Adult Softball is hosting its 9th Annual Benefit Bowling Tournament. Proceeds from this tournament will assist Virginia Special Olympics, Area 26 and Fairfax Adult Softball field improvements. Applications are being accepted through Friday, Jan. 16. Activities will be held on Sunday, Jan. 25, at the Bowl America Shirley in Alexandria, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Since its first bowling tournament in 1999, FAS and its participants have raised over \$100,000.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 7

Carl Sandburg Middle School. I'm interested in how we are going to meet our energy needs. You may be surprised to learn the U.S. gets 49 percent of its energy from coal. Coal produces harmful gases and is not a renewable resource. We also rely heavily on nuclear and natural gas. With nuclear power there is the possibility for a nuclear accident, which as we all know, could be devastating. Natural gas although a better alternative to nuclear is not renewable. This is why I am an advocate for solar power.

Solar power is a highly renewable resource and, unlike wind power and hydroelectrics, solar power does not interfere with the natural flow of that resource or disrupt the natural environment. For example disrupting the wind patterns could affect bird migration. The advancement in battery technology and improved solar cells has made solar energy more affordable and efficient with few if any negative impact on the environment. If the United States invested more in solar power our country could have infinitely renewable power produced in our own country. This makes solar the answer.

Louis Michael

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COLLECTION SCHEDULE CHANGES DUE TO INAUGURATION DAY!

The regular schedule for trash and recycling collection for residents receiving collection service from Fairfax County will be changed for the week of January 19th because of anticipated traffic and road closures due to Inauguration Day. The altered schedule is listed below.

Residents receiving their trash and recycling collection from private service providers should contact their service provider to learn of changes in their service schedule, if any, during this time.

SCHEDULE CHANGES ARE FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 19 ONLY!

NORMAL COLLECTION DAY	TRASH COLLECTION	RECYCLING COLLECTION
Monday	MONDAY, JANUARY 19	MONDAY, JANUARY 19
Tuesday	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21
Wednesday	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21	THURSDAY, JANUARY 22
Thursday	THURSDAY, JANUARY 22	FRIDAY, JANUARY 23
Friday	FRIDAY, JANUARY 23	SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Questions regarding trash and recycling collection provided by Fairfax County can be referred to the Customer Service Center at 703-802-3322, TTY 711, Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Please note that the Customer Service Center and administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 19, and Tuesday, January 20. You may also visit us online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling.



A Fairfax County, Va., publication.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call 703-324-5230, TTY 711.



SCHOOLS

The Gazette will continue to publish student art submissions as space permits throughout the year. This week, the student work is from art instructor Virginia Wright's class at Belle View Elementary.



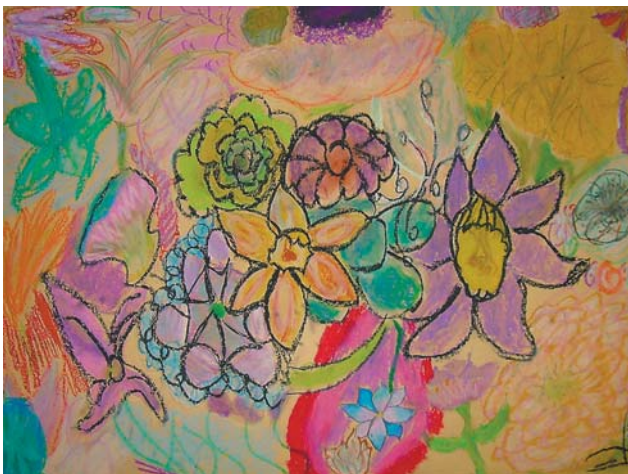
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