

Mount Vernon Gazette

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VOL. XX, No. 3

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

JANUARY 22, 2009



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE

TeenSpace youth perform a song written especially for the event called, "Because of Him" The song points out that "Martin Luther King paved the way for Obama" and was performed in English and in Spanish.

Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Kaneko Ahn collects donations for the center at the conclusion of the program.



Sally Waller, director of the United Community Ministries' Sacramento Community Center, opens up the community forum.



Kiwanis Club president Bruce Malkin spoke of many activities available at the center through the Kiwanis Club.

Mulligan Road Now Under Way

Not scheduled for use until 2011.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
CAZETTE

After nearly seven and a half years, the replacement for Woodlawn Road, permanently closed following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, is now under way. Work on the long-awaited Richmond Highway/Telegraph Road connector officially commenced Jan. 5 when the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a notice of construction.

The closure of Woodlawn Road, due to security concerns associated with Fort Belvoir, has irritated residents and local officials. It was

one of the factors cited by both Inova Mount Vernon Hospital administrators and the Southeast Health Planning Task Force as a contributing factor to the hospital's revenue shortfall.

Both Mount Vernon and Lee district supervisors Gerald Hyland and Jeffrey McKay, as well as McKay's predecessor Dana Kauffman, have sought approval of a replacement road. It has been a primary topic of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) discussions since that process began in 2005.

UNTIL ITS CLOSURE, Woodlawn Road was widely used by area traffic as a route between Telegraph Road and Richmond Highway through a portion of Fort Belvoir. Since then traffic has had

SEE MULLIGAN, PAGE 26

Protecting Streams

Triple watershed meeting held at Huntley Meadows.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
CAZETTE

Watershed management and planning remains an ongoing challenge for both concerned Fairfax County citizens and the county's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services Stormwater Management staff. That was apparent at the Jan. 14 public input meeting on three county watersheds.

Held at Huntley Meadows Park community center, the public meeting focused on the Belle Haven, Dogue Creek

and Four Mile Run watersheds and drew about 40 interested citizens to the scheduled two-hour session. The meeting was part of an ongoing process to develop comprehensive watershed management plans for each of Fairfax County's 30 watersheds.

"There is a lot of frustration with the county and state when trying to cope with environmental issues ..."

— Martin Tillet, vice president, Spring Bank Community Association

These meetings are a tool to identify and address issues affecting the environment and to protect and restore streams and other water resources, according to Fred Rose, PE, chief, Watershed Planning and Assessment Branch,

SEE WATERSHEDS, PAGE 26

Attempted Robbery in Hybla Valley Area

A 62-year-old woman was the victim of an attempted robbery on Sunday, Jan. 11, in the 3400 block of Audubon Avenue in the Hybla Valley area of Mount Vernon District, according to Fairfax County Police.

At approximately 8:25 p.m. the woman had parked her car when a man approached and knocked on the window. When she lowered the window, the suspect brandished a handgun and demanded her purse. The victim closed the window and the suspect fled on foot when he was un-

able to open the car door, police reported.

The suspect ran toward Finch Street, met up with two other males and all three fled, according to police. The primary suspect was described as black, in his late teens, about six feet tall, wearing a black, hoodie sweatshirt and dark colored pants. The other two suspects were described as black males in their late teens.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.



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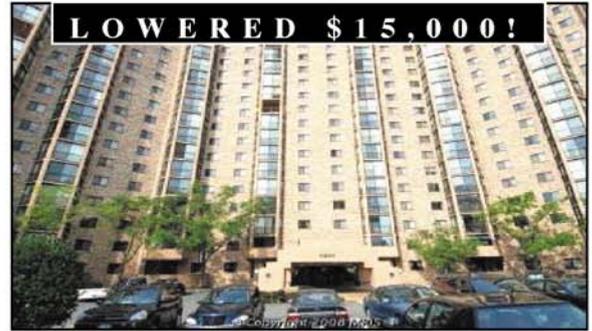


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Budget Dominates

Increased environmental legislation offers bright spot at legislators' town meeting.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

State Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller (D-36) kicked off the joint Legislative Town Meeting with Del. Kristin J. Amundson (D-44) last Saturday with a plea for voters to get out and vote in the Feb. 3 special election for chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

"We can't let happen in Fairfax County what happened in Alexandria," she said referring to the contested race in the 46th House of Delegates District for the seat relinquished by former Del. Brian Moran. That special election ended up with a 17-vote spread between the Democrat and Republican candidates leaving the district without representation at the commencement of the 2009 General Assembly session due to the ongoing challenge.

As for that new session of the General Assembly, which got under way officially Jan. 14, Puller said, "Most of what we are going to be doing this year is not going to be fun. In the House [of Delegates] it's going to be very partisan."

That was buttressed by Amundson when it came to evaluating the proposed increase in the cigarette tax. "I don't think I'll even get a chance to vote on this. This is going to be a regional vote much more than a party vote," she said.

"Legislators from the tobacco growing areas of the state are absolutely opposed to this and I believe will not let it come to a vote. And, they are joined by the people who signed the no tax pledge," Amundson said.

"I think it will pass the Senate. But, the Speaker of the House has already announced that he is against it," Puller added.

Gov. Timothy Kaine has proposed raising the cigarette tax from the present 17 cents to 30 cents. All the new revenue would be dedicated to Medicaid and would generate an estimated \$155 million, according to the legislators.

JOINING Puller and Amundson for the Town Meeting at the South County Government Center on Richmond Highway were Barbara W. Reese, deputy director of policy, Governor's Office, and Nikki Rovner, deputy secretary, Natural Resources, Governor's Office. Reese started her presentation by referring to last Wednesday's headline in the Richmond Times citing the loss of 30,000 more jobs due to Circuit City's decision to go into liquidation.

"This is going to be the longest and deepest recession since the Great Depression. This is a time when we all have to work



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

Del. Kristin Amundson (D-44) opens the joint Town Meeting with state Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller (D-36) with her annual art contest for elementary school students.

together. We aren't like Washington. We can't just print money. We have to have a balanced budget," Reese said in outlining Kaine's legislative priorities for this session.

Some of the legislative areas she touched upon included:

- ❖ No excuse absentee voting, which has "been introduced by the Governor," will provide anyone the opportunity to vote in person prior to a given election day without having to meet existing absentee voting requirements.

- ❖ Economic development: "We have been fortunate to have had some good economic development wins in the state. The Governor is seeking a \$5 million increase in this budget item," she said.

- ❖ "Transportation funds have just plummeted. People driving less is an overall good thing but it also means less revenue coming in from the gasoline tax," according to Reese.

- ❖ There is no reduction planned for education funds in K through 12 in this budget. But the upcoming budget proposes cuts in the areas of administrative positions, according to Reese.

- ❖ The 2010 Fiscal Year budget cuts have been made in school construction "to have the money to keep teachers in the classroom," Reese said.

IT TURNED a little more upbeat when it came to Rovner's presentation. "This is an exciting year because Governor Kaine is

SEE LEGISLATORS, PAGE 9



PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

First place winners of Del. Kristin J. Amundson's (D-44) annual art contest for elementary school students display their creations for the audience at the South County Government Center attending the Legislative Town Meeting of Amundson and state Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller (D-36).

Amundson Honors Junior Artists

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Five budding artists received recognition last Saturday morning from Del. Kristin J. Amundson (D-44) prior to a joint legislative town meeting with state Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller at the South County Government Center on Richmond Highway.

Each of the fourth and sixth grade student winners had submitted entries to Amundson's annual contest, which she initiated in 2000, to promote and recognize art in elementary schools. This year's theme was "What I like best about living in the 44th District."

Elementary school students living in the district are encouraged by their art teachers to create individual works depicting the theme. Winning entries are framed and displayed in and immediately outside Amundson's General Assembly Office in Richmond throughout the legislative session.

Several local artists judge the entries. Each first place winner receives a trip to Richmond to be recognized and a \$100 saving bond.

The works of the first place winners and those of all 85 second place winners will be on display at the Sherwood Regional Library, Sherwood Hall Lane, during March. A special reception for them will be held there March 22 at 2 p.m., according to Suzanne Parrish, a local artist/teacher who oversees the project.

"Announcing these winners is really one of the fun things we get to do every year. Their work is amazing and a prime example of the excellence of our Fairfax County school system," Amundson said.

This year's winners came from five schools throughout southeastern Fairfax County. They were:

- ❖ Tyler Choi, fourth grade, Fort Hunt Elementary School, for his painting of the dock at Mt. Vernon Estate.



Suzanne Parrish, artist and art teacher, introduces the first place winners of Del. Kristin Amundson's (D-44) annual art contest for elementary school students at the commencement of the Legislative Town Meeting held by Amundson and state Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller (D-36)

- ❖ Jennifer Tieu, fourth grade, Hybla Valley Elementary School, for her painting of the view from the Piazza, or porch, of Mt. Vernon Mansion.

- ❖ Aaron Moore, fourth grade, Riverside Elementary School, for his painting of his own home.

- ❖ Connor Sadler, fourth grade, Waywood Elementary School, for his painting of "George," the eagle that nested near the Woodrow Wilson Bridge during construction.

- ❖ Katie Panagopoulos, sixth grade, Stratford Landing Elementary School, for her painting of the Mount Vernon Mansion which detailed every pane of glass in all the windows facing the Bowling Green.

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LOCATION & DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, February 9, 2009, 5-9 p.m.
(Snow Date: Thursday, February 12)
Potomac High School
3401 Panther Pride Drive, Dumfries, VA 22026

Tuesday, February 10, 2009, 5-9 p.m.
(Snow Date: Thursday, February 19)
Robert E. Lee High School
6540 Franconia Road, Springfield, VA 22150

Wednesday, February 11, 2009, 5-9 p.m.
(Snow Date: Wednesday, February 18)
Minnie Howard School
3801 W Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302

(In the event of inclement weather the public hearings will be held on the scheduled snow dates. Please call the INFO line at 1-877-395-95VA to confirm)

Stop by anytime between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. to visit displays and learn more about the proposed project. A presentation begins at 7 p.m. to be followed by public comments. Those wishing to speak for up to three minutes may register at the door.

Find out about the latest design plans for the proposed high occupancy vehicle, bus, and high occupancy toll lanes between the Pentagon and Garrisonville Road. Virginia Department of Transportation and Department of Rail and Public Transportation project managers will be available to answer your questions.

Project information may be viewed at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 14685 Avion Parkway, Chantilly VA, 20151 or VDOT's Megaprojects Office, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria VA, 22310 and at 86 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg, VA, 22405. Property impacts and relocation assistance policies, and tentative construction schedules are available for your review at these locations and will be available at the public hearing. You may also call toll free 1-877-395-95VA or visit our Web site at www.vamegaprojects.com.

Give your written or verbal comments at the hearing or submit them by February 21, 2009 to Ronaldo T. Nicholson, P.E., Regional Transportation Program Director, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA, 22310. You may also e-mail your comments to: Meeting_Comments@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "I-95/395 HOV/Bus/HOT Lanes" in the subject heading.

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UPC 70849 - 0095-96A-107, P101; UPC 70850 - 0095-966-109, P101
UPC 77616 - 0095-966-101, P101,
C507, B624, B629, B632, B633, B634, B680, B682

NEWS



PHOTOS BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne formally announces the nomination of Mount Vernon Estate for inclusion on the World Heritage List during a press conference in front of George Washington's home.

Nominated for World Heritage

Decision on Mount Vernon Estate to be announced in summer of 2010.

Kempthorne said.

"If both of these sites are approved, as we expect they will be, they will join the other 20 U.S. site and 878 sites worldwide that are now part of the World Heritage List. These include the Grand Canyon, the Statue of Liberty, and Yellowstone National Park," he said.

SEE NOMINATED, PAGE 21

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens was officially nominated Monday, Jan. 12, for the World Heritage List by U.S. Secretary of Interior Dirk Kempthorne during a ceremony on the Estate's Bowling Green with George Washington home in the background.

"Today is a very special occasion in the long history of this great American home."

— Brian Hook, assistant secretary, U.S. State Department

"For the first time in 15 years, the United States is submitting to the World Heritage List, the official list of the world's most significant and cultural sites," Kempthorne said in making the nomination official.

"The two sites we are nominating include Mount Vernon — America's first home — and the spectacular Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in Hawaii. This is indeed a very special place and special time for all of us,"



PHOTO BY CHUCK HAGEE/THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens Executive Director James Rees emphasizes the importance of Mount Vernon being nominated for inclusion on the World Heritage List.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PEOPLE

A Local Doctor's Tribute

Inauguration and Martin Luther King, Jr., honored in song.

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

This past Monday and Tuesday Americans witnessed a confluence of American history in the inauguration of America's first African American President and the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

That confluence was most evident in the music engulfing both events. From the multi-performer concert at the Lincoln Memorial Jan. 19 to the marching bands parading down Pennsylvania Avenue the afternoon of Jan. 20 to the inaugural balls that night, there was music in the air.

But, there was one particular piece of music, written by a local physician and blended, through technology, with the words spoken by President Barack Obama during his acceptance speech in Chicago's Hyde Park on election night, that bridges the chasm from "dream" to reality. "Martin" was written in 1983 by Dr. Cleveland

"It just came to me. It just flowed out."

— Cleveland Francis, Jr., M.D. and musician/composer

Francis, president of Mount Vernon Cardiology Associates. The original version is one of the main offerings on the CD "March On" produced and distributed by the National Civil Right Museum in Memphis, Tenn. The newly released blended version can be heard and purchased on the museum's Web site civilrightsmuseum.org.

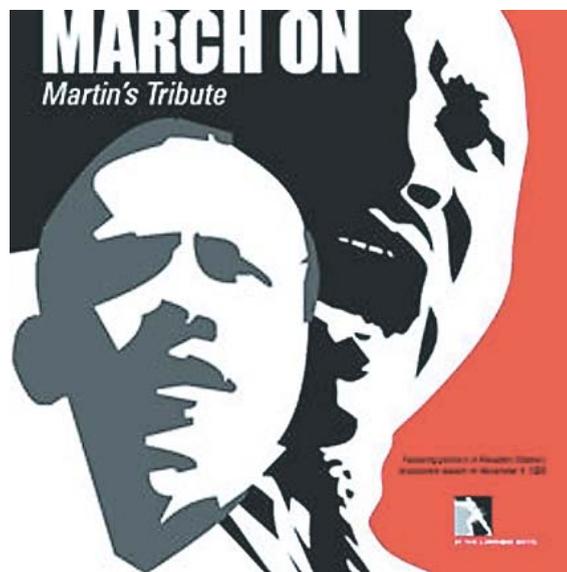
"MARTIN LUTHER KING'S death was a very traumatic experience for me. Now I'm a successful doctor and I wanted to create a tribute to him," Francis said sitting in the physicians' lounge of Inova Mount Vernon Hospital last Sunday afternoon.

"When I sent the piece to music producer Moses Dillard in Nashville he called me back and asked me how long it took me to write it. I said just minutes. It just came to me. It just flowed out," Francis said.

"He was in tears and said, 'This is the song.' He also told me that he had played it for Mrs. King and she said that of all the songs written honoring her husband, 'This was the one,' Francis said.

But, that was in 1983. "Martin" remained popular for a while and became one of the musical standards of the civil rights movement. Then it faded from view — until Sanchez Harley of Warner Brothers Records decided to produce "March On" for the 25th Anniversary of the National Civil Rights Museum.

FOLLOWING THIS PAST November's Presidential election, Harley also decided to blend portions of Obama's acceptance speech with segments of King's "I Have a Dream" speech,



From the Web site: civilrightsmuseum.org

intertwined with Cleveland's music and words which commence with:

"You marched from Selma to Washington hand in hand for freedom's sake, with faith in God and hope in man a sleeping nation yet to wake. You were a soldier in the battle of justice, fighting a battle we all had to win, where a man is judged on character and deeds and not on the color of his skin."

"When I heard it I wanted to do it with various artists. They performed the song and it was one of the best songs I ever produced," Harley said, speaking from Nashville on Monday afternoon — Martin Luther King Day.

"Then after the election in November I tried to think of something to do to commemorate Barack Obama's election and most particularly his acceptance speech in Chicago that night. I put some of his words with King's words and Cleve's song and everyone who heard it went wild," Harley said.

FRANCIS HAS performed his song "Martin," which he originally co-produced with Moses Dillard, at the Martin Luther King Center in Atlanta, the National Theater in Washington, D.C., and at the U.S. Capitol.

"They wrote about it in Jet Magazine. And, then it just faded away until Dillard called me in 1993 and said the song had surfaced at the Civil Rights Museum," Francis said. "And, now there is this new enhanced tribute to our new president."

It was performed at the museum by a 200-voice choir. On the CD album arrangement by Harley and musician Derrick Lee, the lead vocals include such performers as Patti Austin, Vanessa Williams, Cybill Shepherd, Daryl Coley, Will Downing and Francis, himself.

But Francis is no stranger to the ironies of life. Born and raised in the cajun country of Louisiana outside New Orleans, Francis became absorbed by the music coming from his radio.

But, as an eight year old with no musical instrument, he could only dream of the songs trapped within his soul. That is until he got up the nerve to ask his mother for a guitar.

In rural Louisiana, in those financial circumstances, that was no blithe request. However, his mother saw a dual opportunity — further her son's musical ambitions and require him to study very hard to reach, what she perceived, a higher goal. Both happened.

SEE A TRIBUTE, PAGE 25

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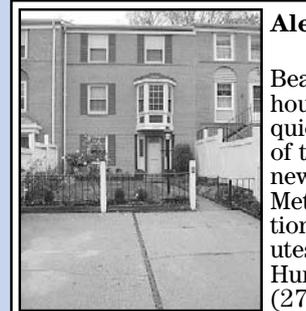
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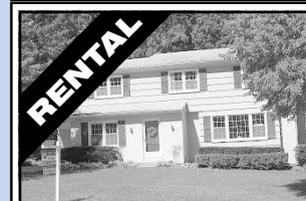
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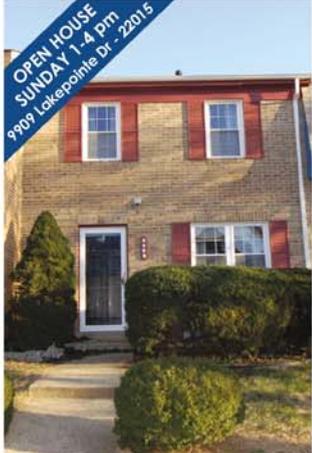
A Touch of the Old World

blends with the twenty-first century in this handsomely renovated and appointed four-bedroom brick home in a quiet mews. Shimmering wood floors, detailed woodwork, two fireplaces and gracious rooms for entertaining all occasions add to the pleasures of this inviting home offering recent systems, a granite and stainless kitchen opening to a large family room with stone fireplace.

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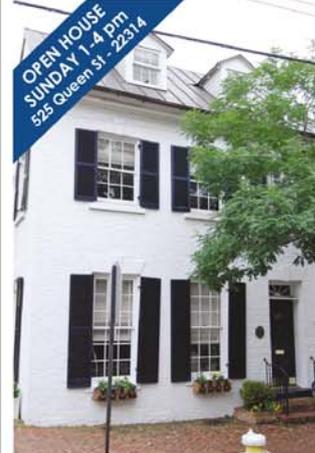


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Hyland Calls for Constituent Aid

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

During last week's Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' meeting, Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland requested actions to aid affordable housing residents and homeowner associations, assess the cost of video conferencing meeting, and making sure Verizon knows where they can and cannot dig on private property to install FIOS.

"Many homeowner associations are dealing with increases in maintenance responsibilities because of foreclosed properties and decreases in revenue because of these vacant homes. Owners of property purchased through the county's ADU program are especially impacted since they pay a relatively greater share of their income toward these dues," Hyland said.

The goal of the ADU program is to provide housing for families and individuals who make considerably less than the Washington Metro Area median income, Hyland said. "The county

needs to determine if there is any financial assistance, tax credits, deductions or other programs available to address recurring costs associated with ADU ownership to ensure sustainability and long-term success of the program," he said.

"The county should also determine if there are any amendments to state or county codes that would provide greater flexibility to the associations in managing the assessment and collection of fees which would ameliorate this issue," Hyland said.

To accomplish this he requested that county staff study the impact of increased fees on units purchased through the ADU program and recommend steps to aid individual homeowners and homeowner associations caught in this dilemma.

NOTING the dire economic situation and the projected county budget shortfall, Hyland requested that county staff "provide a cost estimate and implementation plan" to allow various county meetings to take testimony from video conferencing locations. He noted that the

Environmental Quality Advisory Council recently used this methodology during a public hearing on its annual report.

"It was the first time Fairfax County has permitted live testimony from a satellite location. From all accounts, it proved to be a successful meeting and those who provided testimony enjoyed the shorter commute," Hyland said.

"However, I know that this comes at a cost, both in staff time and equipment. For the board to consider this in better times, I believe it is necessary for us to know the financial impact," he said in requesting a cost analysis of providing the service.

WHEN IT CAME to Verizon's installation of underground cable for their FIOS equipment, Hyland asked that the Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection Division prepare and distribute information on owner property rights and points of contact "should they experience problems with utility installation."

Hyland noted that he and other supervisors have fielded a number of constituent complaints about Verizon subcontractors making attempts to "trespass and dig" on private property where there is no easement.

"Our residents should know what their rights are and who to contact if they experience problems with utility installation," he said. "Verizon

"Our residents should know what their rights are and who to contact if they experience problems with utility installation."

— Gerald Hyland,
Mount Vernon District Supervisor

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SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 8

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NEWS

McKay: Raise Parking Fines

BY CHUCK HAGEE
GAZETTE

Is Fairfax County "subsidizing parking violators?" That was the question posed by Lee District Supervisor Jeffrey McKay to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors during its first meeting of the new year last week.

"In these challenging times, we need to use every tool at our disposal to ensure we don't fall prey to the law of unintended consequences. I specifically refer to our County parking ticket collection," he said.

Most parking offenses are set by the County Code at \$40 with an extra \$20 penalty for late payment, according to McKay. "We may have reached the point where the cost of issuing a ticket — the salary of the police officer and associated administrative costs — is higher than the actual fine," McKay said.

To bring the amount of the fine more in line with those costs, McKay requested that staff review the current fees and "report to the board on which of those fees can be increased to both provide a higher level of deterrence and to fully cover the costs of County enforcement and collection."

He said, "My budget advisory group has been working hard ... to find ways to raise County revenues — starting with moving our fines and fees into a more realistic balance."

McKAY ALSO made two announcements to his constituents. One was that he will chair the board's Legislative Committee, replacing former Board Chairman Gerald Connolly, now a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and will move up from co-chair to chair of the Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Committee. He will continue to chair the Transportation Committee.

"I am very pleased to have these assignments. They cover issues of key importance to Lee District and Fairfax County.

These are critical areas in these difficult times when we are buffeted by the national and state financial meltdown," McKay said.

Finally, McKay announced that he will host "the traditional Lee District New Year's open house" on Saturday, Jan. 31, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the community room of the Franconia Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road.

Residents Need County's Support

FROM PAGE 7

needs to continue to ensure compliance with state laws and control the abusive behavior of their subcontractors. Obviously not enough is being done."

In addition to disseminating the property owner information, Hyland also requested that county staff meet with Verizon representatives to help remedy "problems associated with the FIOS installation."

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Legislators Discuss State Budget

FROM PAGE 3

focusing on the environment. There are a variety of legislative proposals this year on environmental issues," she said.

"One of the primary reasons we have greenhouse gases is due to our energy use. If we can get a handle on that we will be able to significantly reduce those greenhouse gases," Rovner said.

"Our goal by 2025 is to make Virginia 19 percent more energy efficient. Utilities will be the most im-

pacted by this goal. That's why it will be difficult to get some of these energy efficiency bills passed," she said.

Rovner also noted that most of Virginia's renewable energy requirements are voluntary — not mandatory. "The Governor wants to look at the connection between cleaner energy and more jobs," she said.

"We are trying to move away from food-based energy sources such as ethanol and more toward other sources. We are also looking at potential tax credits for development of renewable energy," Rovner said.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

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.

THURSDAY/JAN. 29

Energy Talk. 7 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School, 6560 Braddock Road. Hear about energy efficiency. Free. 804-335-0915.

SATURDAY/FEB. 7

Tax Assistance. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane. Households that have a total income of \$40,000 or less can get free assistance with federal and state tax returns. Childcare available. 703-660-2000.

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.

MONDAY/FEB. 16

Trial Class. Yoga in Daily Life, 2402 Mt. Vernon Ave., can drop in for free trial classes. Meditation and lunchtime yoga also offered. Visit www.yogaindailylife.org or 703-299-8946 for schedule.

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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OPINION

Watch Them Live Two steps for more openness in General Assembly.

This year for the first time, Virginians can check in on what their state representatives are up to without a trip to Richmond.

The House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will offer live streaming video of the 2009 legislative session, broadcasting from each chamber every day of the session.

The daily broadcasts will begin when each body convenes.

The 2009 legislative session Virginia General Assembly convened Jan. 14, and will run 45 days.

Go to <http://legis.state.va.us/>. Links for streaming video and also an audio-only option, are appropriately front and center.

EDITORIAL

More than one-third of all legislation proposed in the Virginia General Assembly dies in subcommittee. And in previous years, the votes of the subcommittee members were not recorded. There was no accountability for legislators who “tabled” proposals that were important to Virginians.

This year, subcommittee votes will be recorded and available on the General Assembly's Web site. It's an important step.

TIME FOR SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Gov. Tim Kaine (D) is promoting legislation that would ban smoking in restaurants in Virginia. We support his efforts.

Secondhand smoke kills 1,700 Virginians per year, according to the Virginia Department of

Health. Levels of secondhand smoke are up to five times higher in restaurants than in homes with smokers, according to the American Lung Association.

If the General Assembly doesn't pass legislation banning smoking in restaurants, it should at least allow localities the power to restrict smoking within their borders.

CONSTITUENT VIEWPOINTS

The House of Delegates and Senate of Virginia operate a toll-free message center to accept calls from citizens who want to express an opinion on legislation. The messages are relayed to the members' offices as requested. Call the Constituent Viewpoint line at 800-889-0229.

Nothing Private on the Web

BY A. L. WILLIAMS
THE GAZETTE

Recently, I took a history quiz and I was asked an interesting question: Was everything Abraham Lincoln did in his life in preparation for his future political career? It started me thinking: Is everything we do today going to affect our futures? As a college post-graduate, one could find one's life drastically altered with the uncovering of a bad decision of one's youth.

ONE TEEN'S VOICE OK, we've all done “stuff” that's questionable, on the edge of common sense. Maybe we do it because we're teens, maybe just because it feels fun at the time. Some have gotten away with it, but more and more we're being caught by the click of a camera. So why aren't we getting smarter about our behavior when faced with the obvious? If you go to a party and drink, do drugs, dance naked or moon your friends, then expect to have pictures of yourself holding beers plastered all over Facebook. How do you think that will influence your future? What about applying to college, or a job or even if you decide to run for a political office? Our parents could go to parties and be the entertainment and when the laughter and gossip died down it was forgotten. Even something as seemingly trivial as pushing someone in the hall or getting into a fight — physical or verbal — could put you in a bad position if the confrontation is caught on camera, which is always nearby on our cell phones. Things that compromise your character often catch up to you.

WITH TECHNOLOGY so common in our lifestyles, our privacy is being compromised; however, this is a small price to pay. The benefits of technology far outweigh the small percentage who abuse the privileges. It has enhanced our lives by allowing us to do exactly the same thing that can take us down — sending fun pictures to relatives is great. But, when it's used against us — whether you are responsible for the content being viewable, or someone else is — is when it becomes an enemy.

On a regular basis, we see documentation,

generally through pictures, of our peers making stupid decisions. While it may not be the action itself, the potential negative aspect is often the fact that it is available for the world to see.

Almost every high school and college student has either a Facebook, MySpace or an equivalent personal networking Web page. Everything can be documented; everything can be spread via computers and cell-phones; and everything can be just a click away. Documentation of our every act is ever-present whether it's a home movie for your private entertainment or a secret/unknown, uncensored taping exposed to the world through cell phones, YouTube, Facebook, and other similar Web sites.

Life is being documented in ways never thought possible by previous generations. Long gone are the days when the actions of youth went unnoticed; we are all proud to live in what has come to be known as “iGen” (Internet Generation) but when the ramifications become too personal we are quick to consider this privilege less desirable, or useful than before.

EVERYONE SEEMS to have the feeling: “It won't happen to me.” But in our generation of mass media, did you really think no one was looking? This really is the time when we need to be responsible for our own lives, in a way different than before. And one other thing to be said about this is, if you think it's unfair your parents didn't warn you, they couldn't have because they have no frame of reference for the effect today's technology would have on our teen indiscretions.

How we act, and the documentation, is also having an effect on our near future — college.

The College of William & Mary's Senior Assistant Dean of Admissions Steve Hairston stated, “Our office, all college admissions offices, are technologically savvy. If a student conveys negative info — because the internet information is public — different actions could be taken.”

While other schools do not look beyond the

SEE PRIVACY, PAGE 28

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time To Heal Watersheds

To the Editor:

On Jan. 14, the Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division (FCSPD) hosted the first Belle Haven, Dogue Creek, and Four Mile Run Watersheds Issues Forum. The goals of the FCSPD to restore streams, improve water quality and reduce neighborhood flooding through development of a Watershed Plan are worthy objectives that if accomplished will do much to aid in the restoration of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

A successful plan will also restore public trust in local, state and federal government and their agencies to accomplish something more than the green washing tactics of the past several decades in which six billion taxpayer dollars were spent with no progress and a public admission in late 2008 that 20 years of progress reports painted “Too Rosy a Picture” as pollution reduction deadlines passed unmet.

To their credit, representatives of FCSPD spoke frankly about the challenges ahead and I believe answered as best they could the skepticism expressed by many citizens representing the three watersheds. Several important points were raised that in the view of this participant will result in no progress with this venture unless they are fully addressed.

It was stated several times that economics under the current fiscal crisis would be a factor in plan implementation and that even though Fairfax County has a penny tax program for stormwater management projects, these funds could be diverted elsewhere. Watersheds are, by the services they provide, essentially ecological utilities. They are a form of natural infrastructure that by our shortsightedness and development practices have been rendered non-functional. If federal, state and local officials are broadminded and creative thinkers, they can make application for money coming from Washington D.C., intended to create jobs, jump start the economy and to rebuild aging infrastructure needed to fix these watersheds. The stormwater systems on the Richmond Highway corridor and in other older

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 30

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OPINION

Somber Times

BY KRISTIN AMUNDSON
DELEGATE (D-44)

Although the opening day of the General Assembly is always filled excitement, the 2009 first day was also marked by some harsh realities. Our economic situation remains challenging, our needs are increasing, and now more than ever, we must work together to find solutions to the problems faced by Virginians across the Commonwealth.

The first order of business, after swearing in two new members (more on that later), was the assignment of committees. I remain a member of the Technology Committee, the Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee, and of the powerful Rules Committee. In addition, I was honored by my colleagues to be elected as vice chairman of the House Democratic Caucus.

Later that night, Governor Kaine gave his State of the Commonwealth address. It was a rather somber affair, but one in which the Governor took time to praise the resilience and strength of Virginians, even in tough times. "We are serving in one of the most difficult times in our nation's recent history," the Governor said. "But we must be mindful that our pressures are no greater than those that our citizens are facing every day ... It is my hope that the size of the challenge ... will inspire our best efforts to cooperate in finding the best solutions."

The latest economic forecast tells us that the upcoming biennial budget may be out of balance by as much as \$3 billion. Unlike Congress, the General Assembly is required by law to adopt a balanced budget. That means that this shortfall must be closed either through reductions in spending or through increases in revenue.

With the exception of a 30-cents-per-pack tax increase on cigarettes (which would bring Virginia's cigarette tax to half the national average), the Governor's budget closes that budget gap with service reductions. His goal was to protect essential services. So while the Governor has for the first time proposed some cuts in K-12 education, his proposals focus on support personnel in central office positions, not on teachers and principals.

SEE LEGISLATURE, PAGE 28

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703-967-7633

AREA SPECIALISTS for
COLLINGWOOD, FORT HUNT,
HOLLIN HALL, MOUNT
VERNON, STRATFORD and
WAYNEWOOD

This Week's Featured Properties:



823 Empress Ct.
\$719,000

A timeless beauty!
Elegant central hall colonial
in the heart of Wayneswood.
4 BR, 3.5 BA, garage,
huge fenced lot

1804 Macadams Pl.
\$439,900

Wonderful home in a
quiet cul-de-sac location
in Hollin Hall Village,
large lot, family room
addition, dining room.



Our Team Listed and/or Sold more homes in Wayneswood over the past 18 months than any other real estate agents! When experience and knowledge REALLY counts, call us! We are just around the corner taking care of all your real estate needs.



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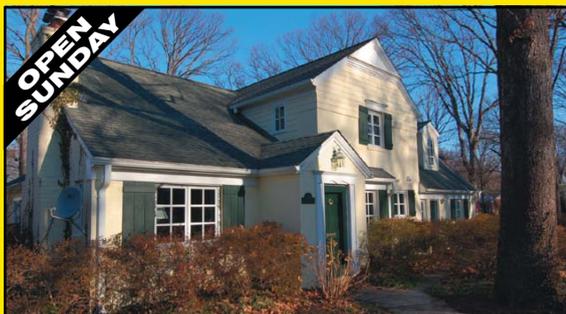
Alex./Rosemont
\$849,000
Lovely 3 lvl, 4
bedrm, 2.5 bath
Colonial w/family
rm & rec rm.
Updated kitchen &
baths! Landscaped
yard w/patio &
vine-covered
pergola. Off-street
parking & blocks
to 2 Metros!
16 W. Myrtle Street
Christine Garner
703-587-4855



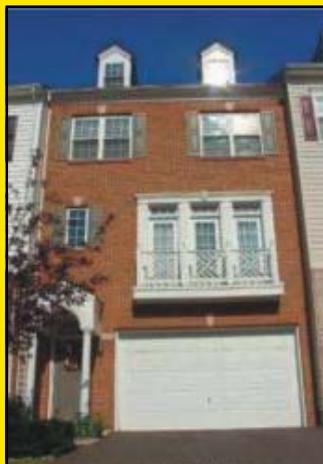
Alexandria
\$549,900
Fantastic 3 bedrm, 2 full & 2 half baths, 2-car garage TH
w/new carpet thru-out. Hardwoods in kitchen, family rm
& breakfast area. All of the Kingstowne amenities.
5306 Sandford Street
Joe Davis 571-338-4989



Alex./Landmark
\$534,900
Completely upgraded 4-lvl, 3,500 SF townhome inside
the Beltway. New kitchen, carpet, & hardwd floors.
Family rm, 2 master bedrms, 3rd bedrm & 2 fireplaces.
5201 Cottingham Place
Nancie Williams 703-608-6959



Alexandria
\$1,124,000
Situating on prime lot in sought-after Beverley Hills. Renovated
& expanded w/4 bedrms, 3.5 baths, family rm off huge eat-in
kitchen w/granite & enormous master suite w/fireplace.
3108 Circle Hill Road
Carlene Bahler 703-338-6636



Alexandria
\$550,000
Stunning 3 bedrm,
3.5 bath, 3-lvl TH
w/full brick front.
Former model
w/huge kitchen
w/brkfst bar & 42"
cabinets. Master
suite w/deluxe
bath & walk-in
closets.
**6866 Rolling
Creek Way**
Marianne Welds
703-869-1320



Alexandria
\$889,000
Fabulous end unit
TH w/2-car garage,
3 bedrms & 2.5
baths. Huge
gourmet kitchen,
LL family rm
w/fireplace & built-
ins. Brick patio,
deck off kitchen &
fenced garden.
701 Arch Hall Lane
Gary Chute
703-371-9926



Alexandria
\$1,549,000
New home! Breathtaking w/custom craftsmanship
thru-out. Huge great rm, 5 bedrms, 5 baths, luxury
master suite, library & office. Space galore!
2500 Crest Street
Lillian York 703-307-2721



Alexandria
\$1,495,000
Stunning Arts & Crafts renovation! A warm family home w/over
5,000 SF including 5 BR, 4.5 BA, library & huge custom kitchen.
Finished LL, deck, stone patio & fenced landscaped lot. A rare
package!
2412 Crest Street
Mary Hurlbut 703-548-4741



Alexandria
\$699,900
Spacious, beautiful brick Colonial on 1/3 acre w/garage,
office, large rms, 5 bedrms, 3.5 baths, French doors to
deck, & country kitchen w/SS appliances & ceramic tile.
919 Kemper Street
Mary Smith 703-626-9207



Alexandria
\$1,350,000
Outstanding renovation w/5,100 SF on small cul-de-sac, 5
bedrms, 3.5 baths, gourmet kitchen & great rm w/fireplace.
In the heart of Jefferson Park w/2-car garage and plenty of
parking.
301 Columbia Road
Mary Hurlbut 703-548-4741



Alexandria
\$1,049,000
Gracious 3 level, 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial w/large
family rm., 1 fireplace & amazing yard. Off-street
parking. Convenient to Old Town & Del Ray.
211 W. Uhler Terrace
Christine Garner 703-587-4855

Visit Us at Weichert.com for a full Listing of New Properties

101 WAYS

THE SPORTING LIFE

Alexandria Sportsman's Club

Meets monthly at Old Dominion Boat Club. The Alexandria Sportsman's Club is a charitable organization which honors the student-athletes of the Alexandria community. The organization, established 50 years ago, holds meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the Old Dominion Boat Club (1 King Street, Alexandria). Special guest speakers from the local sports community highlight the monthly get-togethers. Refreshments are provided at the meetings. All adults, 18 and older, who love sports are encouraged to attend. The organization's annual showcase event is the Awards Night meeting in May where the top athletes of Alexandria's high schools are honored. To learn more about the organization or get information on an upcoming meeting, call Alexandria Sportsman's Club Member Steve Lehman 703-470-4301 (cell).

Fort Hunt Sportsman Association

703-360-3134
Founded in 1963, Fort Hunt Sportsman Association raises money and presents awards to athletes and teams for the schools in the West Potomac High School pyramid and Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association. The group holds a dinner meeting on the second Thursday of each month at rotating locations. For information and a meeting schedule, contact Rick Genuario at 703-360-3134.

Pohick Bay Regional Park Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road
703-339-8585
www.nvrpa.org/pohickbaygolf.html
Pohick Bay Regional Park Golf Course fea-

tures an 18-hole, par 72 golf course, as well as tournaments and golf lessons. Contact Golf Course Manager Craig Palm with questions.

Greendale Golf Course

6700 Telegraph Road
703-971-3788
www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/greendale
Greendale is a municipal course in Fairfax County. It features an 18-hole, par 70 course as well as lessons, on 148 acres of rolling grounds with asphalt cart paths.

Play Soccer

Gunston Recreational Micro Soccer Fields (Grist Mill Park)
703-360-7013 and 703-313-8530
www.playgunstonsoccer.org/fields.php
Join one of the many micro soccer teams that play two seasons (fall and spring) on these fields. Also enjoy the playground and picnic areas and let your dog enjoy the dog park.

Alexandria Soccer Association

Swim Forever

Alexandria Masters Swimming
alexandriamasters@earthlink.net
www.alexandriamasters.com
U.S. Masters Swimming is a national organization which promotes swimming for adults over 18 years old. They offer structured coached workouts with Curl-Burke Swim Club. Workouts are held throughout the year at various local pools and emphasize fitness, conditioning, and stroke mechanics. Swimming abilities range from beginning lap swimmers to college.

Catch a Wave in the Pool

Cameron Run Regional Park
4001 Eisenhower Ave.
703-960-0767
www.nvrpa.org/cameron.html
Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves water park. Catch a wave in the wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, splash in the splash pads, play



Alexandria Potomac Little League at the Bucknell Elementary School field.

with friends in the shallow waters of the play pool. Little ones will enjoy the tad pool. The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course with a pond, a nine-station batting cage, picnic shelters, and a special event pavilion.

Land a Kick-Flip

Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skatepark
3540 Wheeler Ave.
703-838-4343
Visit the Schuyler Hamilton Jones Skateboard Park on Duke Street at the intersection with Quaker Lane. The 11,000 square foot park features 6- and 4-foot half-pipes, a fun box, a 3-foot spine, and rails. It is free and open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Hit Golf Balls at a Computerized Driving Range

TopGolf
6625 South Van Dorn St.
703-924-2600
www.topgolfusa.com
Golfers of all skill and experience levels have the opportunity to work on numerous aspects of their game — chip shots with a nine iron, or long drives. What makes the TopGolf experience original is the fact that golfers receive immediate feedback through the use of a computerized scoring system which measures length and accuracy of shots. Golfers can shoot at various flagged target areas in the large, open range, then measure the results of their shot on a small electronic scoreboard located right next to the shooting area. Also on site are two TopGolf miniature golf courses.

Enlist in a Coaching Clinic

Alexandria Youth Sports Office
703-838-4345
The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities offers coaching clinics for individuals — with or without experience — who are interested in coaching youth sports. The clinics — for those who coach baseball, cheerleading, basketball, softball, and football — are held two times seasonally (spring, summer, fall, winter) at the Lee Center. Sessions are held evenings and are two hours long. There are two types of coaching training offered — Certification through the National Youth Sports Coaches Alliance; and 'Pursuing Victory With Honor,' which focuses on sportsmanship.

SEE 101 WAYS, PAGE 18



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

ATTEND THE OPENING DAY OF LITTLE LEAGUE

Alexandria Little League

703-739-4444
www.alexandriabaseball.com

Alexandria Potomac Little League

(formerly Bucknell Little League)
703-768-5588
http://eteamz.active.com/apll/

Fort Hunt Little League

703-798-0893

Woodlawn Little League

703-780-9682
www.woodlawnlittleleague.com

Someone once wrote that "Time begins on Opening Day." There is something special about Little League Opening Day ceremonies each spring. Ball-playing boys and girls gather for the festivities attired in their brilliant colored uniforms. They, along with parents/guardians, family members and community members, celebrate the start of a new ball season. Visit one of the local Little League Opening Day festivities next spring. Local leagues include Woodlawn, Alexandria Little League, Alexandria Potomac Little League, and Fort Hunt. Who knows, one might even feel younger for it and decide to catch some of the Little League baseball and softball action throughout the playing season. It's never too early to 'Play Ball!'

New Listing



1001 N Randolph St #114 | \$381,850

Rare opportunity to get one of the four Dorchester 1 BD/1BA units in Eastview at Ballston. This first floor unit with sunroom and condo amenities puts you near the Ballston Metro Station, public transportation, and major traffic corridors, shopping, restaurants, and entertainment hot spots. Ask about owner's pre-renovation special offer allowing you to select your own kitchen granite top, cabinets and appliances from a group of pre-selected items or deduct the kitchen renovation value from the list price. This option allows you to save the money now and renovate later.

Bob Kuletz | 703-615-2626

Arlington

Open Sunday 1-4



6903 Brisbane Street | \$439,500

Ready to Move In!
Perfect 5 bedroom home with screened in porch and HUGE recreation room on a quiet cul de sac in W Springfield. New kitchen cabs, new floors, updated baths and priced to sell fast! Floor plan and photos available. For information contact Marie Meyer MLM1606@aol.com
Directions: Old Keene Mill, left on Greely, left on Bellamy, to 6903 Brisbane Street.

Marie Louise Meyer | 703 836-2080

W Springfield Village

New Listing—Open Sunday 1-4



326 East Hume Avenue | \$ 679,900

Nice Del Ray home located between Mt. Vernon Ave. and Rt. 1 on double lot. Brand new kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bathrooms. Main level with high ceilings, oak floors, crown molding and fireplace. Central A/C, new washer and dryer, partly finished basement with lots of room for storage. Total fence in yard and paved driveway. Front porch and full back deck. Come see it! This one won't last long.

Nora Partlow | 703-518-8300

Del Ray

New Listing



6621 Wakefield Drive #502 | \$300,000

Rare three bedroom, two bath condo in River Towers located on 26 landscaped acres backing to wetlands. Beautiful wood floors, renovated kitchen, new convectors, updated baths, and new doors make this move in ready. Amenities include ample free parking, pool, tennis, garden plots, picnic grove with grills, exercise room plus more. Condo fee includes utilities. Convenient location to local shops and restaurants, parkway, Old Town and bus to Metro.

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 Listing



1105 Belle View Boulevard | \$285,000

Two bedroom one bath porch end unit, totally renovated and lovely! This popular village offers easy access, pool, tennis, tot lots, shopping center, great walking/jogging, marina on Potomac and open parking. This home offers great hardwood floors, white kitchen, fresh white bath, fresh paint and rare porch opportunity. The low condo fee covers most utilities.

Nancy Tompkins | 703 518-2813

Alexandria S

New Listing



520 Carlyle Street #233 | \$339,900

Condos of Carlyle Square
Absolutely gorgeous and spacious studio apartment with granite kitchen counters, custom maple cabinets, hardwoods, 10 foot ceilings, floor to ceiling windows, lovely court yard as seen from the unit, assigned space in underground garage. Minutes to King St Metro, Whole Foods and restaurants.

Ed Pagett | 703 528-6161

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

Great Value



1108 Waynewood Boulevard | \$619,000

All-brick Berkeley model with popular floor plan. This home is light and bright, fresh paint, beautiful hardwood floors, new Berber carpet in recreation room, oversized back yard and spacious attic. Wonderful location between Waynewood school, pool, tennis and parks. Enjoy exercising along the beautiful GW Parkway Trail. Convenient to DC, Fort Belvoir, Old Town and Metro.

Sue Dickerson | 703 380-0153

Alexandria S



Previews International

Marketing the world's premier properties

Open Sunday 1-4

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. Dir: S on GW Pkwy, left onto East Blvd Dr, right onto Clifton Dr.

Phyllis Patterson | 703 518-6158 Alexandria S

New Price ! Open Sunday 1-4

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

Everything on Your Wish List

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



610 South Washington Street
\$1,899,000



Every once in a while a special property becomes available that will excite even the most discerning purchaser. This sun drenched brick end townhouse is only 2 years old and has extraordinary attention to detail, from the high ceilings, double crown molding, to the reclaimed pines floors on 3 levels to the media room with it's mini-kitchen and wine closet on the lower level. This home also includes a private gated entrance leading to its' detached 2 car garage. Perfect for entertaining, the gourmet kitchen flows into the family room and the back yard/patio area. Four gas fireplaces, including one on the rooftop deck. 3 BD and 4.5 BA completes the over 3300 finished sq ft. Call 703.598.7788 for more information. Shown by appointment only. www.VirginiaRealEstate4u.com

Bonnie Rivkin | 703 598-7788 Old Town

Open Sunday 1-4

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

Open Sunday 1-4

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



227 North Lee Street
\$1,199,000



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

New Price

PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL



6124 Edgewood Terrace
\$1,495,000



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

Jeanne Warner | 703-980-9106 Belle Haven

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CHRIS WHITE

Great Home Values – Record Low Mortgage Rates!



**3232
Woodland Ln
\$649,900**
Water Access!
Truly special home on 1/2 acre lot just steps from community water access! Bright,

open floor plan, 4BR, 3BA, updated eat-in kitchen, replacement thermal windows, oversized 2 car carport and major updated items. Stunning sunroom built in 2006 overlooks landscaped grounds in prime location just off GW Pkwy. \$40,000 below tax assessment! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, R onto Rte 235 N, R Woodland Ln.



**9405
Ferry Lndg Ct
\$795,000**
Magnificent Setting!
Stately Colonial on highly desirable quiet cul-de-sac near the river.

Traditional exterior is complimented by bright, sunny interior opening to spectacular sun room. Large room sizes, updated baths, elegant trim detail, oversized garage and absolutely pristine condition on beautifully landscaped half acre grounds! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Ferry Lndg Rd, R Ferry Lndg Ct.



**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
\$497,000**
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.



**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 fireplace, walk out lower level, 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!



**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.)



**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

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



Alex/Mt Vernon
\$1,080,000
WYCLIFF ON POTOMAC

Spacious beautiful all brick home located in sought after community. 4-5BR/3.5BA, 2-story entry foyer, formal LR/DR, kitchen w/brkfst bar w/adjoining FR & sun room, library & fully finished walk-out LL w/5th BR, game room & bar. Bordering on Mt Vernon Estate & close to community golf, pools, tennis & boating clubs.

3806 Washington Woods Drive
MARYLOU SAGE 703.851.5441



OPEN SUN. 1-4



Mt Vernon
\$650,000
JUST LISTED
1ST OFFERING

Many improvements made to this 4 bedroom colonial, to include kitchen and bath updates, roof and systems. Located in cul-de-sac near Stratford Elementary School. Dir: From Alexandria/Old Town, GW Pkwy S, R Collingwood, cross Ft. Hunt Rd, L Riverside, R Cavendish, R Camden to 8404.

8404 Camden Street

LEAH CHAPLA 703.929.4875



OPEN SUN. 1-4



Alexandria
\$379,000
FAIRLINGTON MEWS GEM

Fabulous, rarely available 3-level Edgewood, All-brick end townhouse. 1 bedroom, 2 full bath, hardwoods, huge MBR walk-in closet, den plus office, tennis court across street. At I-395 and King street. To view 4665 S. 36th St before open call Philip.

4665 36th Street

PHILIP G. MATYAS
703.518.8727



Alex/Clover
\$799,999
PRICE REDUCTION

Expanded cape with white picket fence in Clover. You'll be amazed what lies behind the front door of this home, 4BR/2.5BA, library enveloped w/bookcases, bright & airy 20x20 family room with FP & French doors opening up to nicely landscaped yard. For an appt. to see this wonderful house, call Mary.

311 Cambridge Road

MARY BOURKE 703.906.5825



OPEN SUN. 1-4



Stratford Landing
\$599,000
JUST LISTED!

Bright & Sunny beautiful hdwd flrs, large foyer, Euro cabinet kit, extended master w/ large walk-in & updated en-suite bath, screened in porch, large lot begging for pool, mature trees, brick patio, pond in front, tandem garage for 2 cars, 2BR/2BA up, 2BR/1BA lower, w/ family rm & laundry/utility rm. EZ commuting to Old Town, DC & South. Huntington Metro. For more information call Brian & Jery or visit www.brianandjery.com

8443 Porter Lane

BRIAN HONG/JERY BEAMER
703.518.8738



OPEN SUN. 1-4



Maryland
\$1,095,000
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. 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



Alex/Stonegate
\$379,000
A LITTLE DRAMA FOR THE NEW YEAR

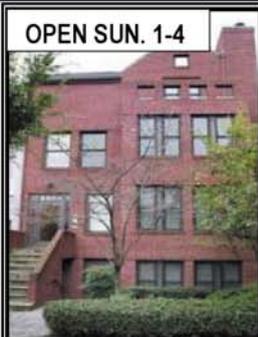
Nine foot ceiling, sparkling hardwood floors & a spacious 1210 SF sets this 2BR/2BA condo apart from the competition. Other features include balcony (w/view of Capitol & Washington from monument), luxury bath & quiet but convenient location. Just listed call JR for details.

4689 Longstreet Lane

JOHN RANDOLPH
703.307.4182



OPEN SUN. 1-4



Washington DC
\$779,900
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

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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.

FRIDAY/JAN. 23

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 2-36 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

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

Theater Performance. Hayfield Secondary School's Middle School Drama Department will present the musical "Oliver!" at 7:30 p.m. in the Rebecca S. Wilburn Auditorium, 7630 Telegraph Road. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.hayfielddrama.com to purchase tickets.

SATURDAY/JAN. 24

Needlework Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Learn about 18th-century needlework and start a project. \$20/person includes a tour. Beginners and intermediate. Reservations required, 703-549-2997.

Magestic 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 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.

Wildlife in Winter. 1-3 p.m. at Huntley Meadows. Children ages 5-10 can play games, make crafts and more. \$4/child. Registration required, 703-768-2525.

In the Jungle Storytime. 11 a.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 2 and up enjoy songs and stories about jungle friends. Free. Visit www.hooray4books.com or 703-548-4092.

Kristin Levine Book Launch. 3 p.m. at Hooray for Books!, 1555 King St. Children ages 10 and up can meet Alexandria author and hear her read from her new book "The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had." 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.

Theater Performance. Hayfield Secondary School's Middle School Drama Department will present the musical "Oliver!" at 7:30 p.m. in the Rebecca S. Wilburn Auditorium,

7630 Telegraph Road. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Visit www.hayfielddrama.com to purchase tickets.

Author Reading. 11 a.m. at Barnes and Noble, 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway. Susan Crites will read from her book "I Love You More Than Rainbows." Free.

SUNDAY/JAN. 25

Open House. 1-4 p.m. at Commonwealth Academy, 1321 Leslie Ave. For students entering grades 6-12. Visit www.Commonwealthacademy.org or 703-548-6912.

Wintering Animals. 1 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe swans, ducks and other waterfowl. Free. 703-339-2385.

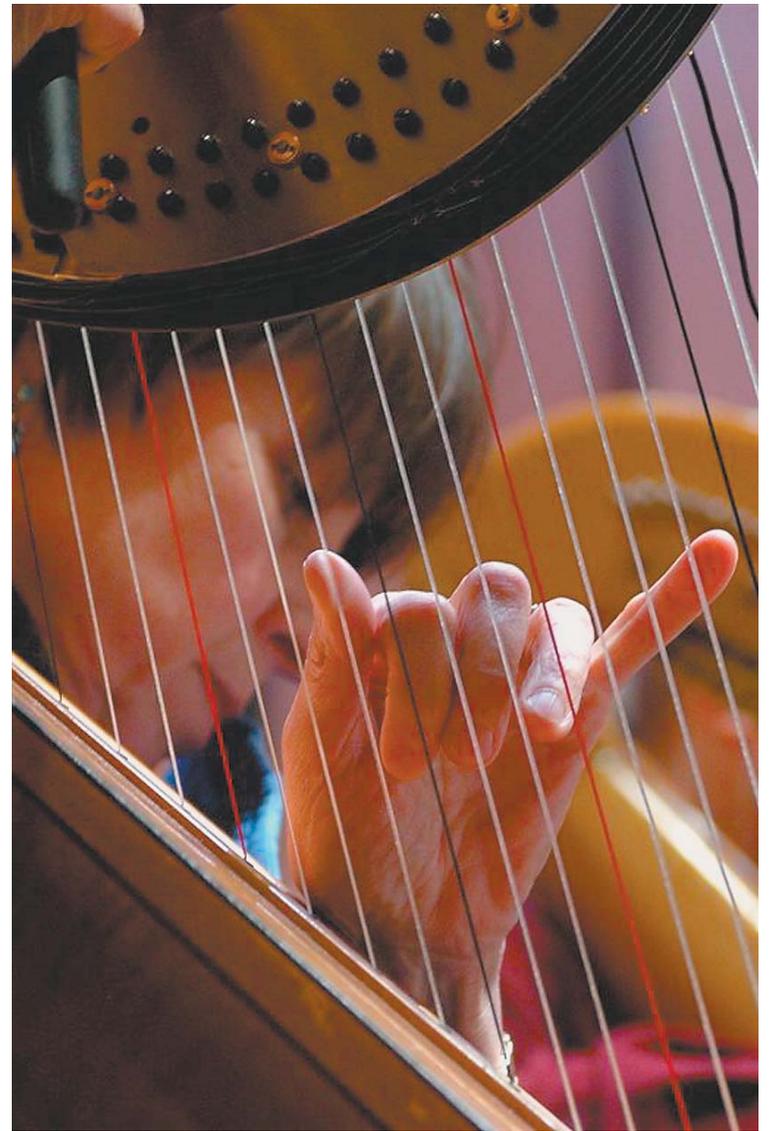
Magestic Eagles. 3 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Observe these birds and learn about their lives. Free. 703-339-2385.

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.

Wildlife in Winter. 1-3 p.m. at Huntley Meadows. Children ages 5-10 can play games, make crafts and more. \$4/child. Registration required, 703-768-2525.

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.

Candlelight Yoga. Experience relaxing and rejuvenating yoga with



The Alexandria Symphony Orchestra will perform Sunday, Jan. 25 at 4 p.m. at The Lyceum.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19



Before I came here, I never thought teenagers had as many tools as adults to make a difference in the world. But we have something significant – the ability to dream, to believe anything is possible.

Beverley

Every Wednesday Madeira juniors work on Capitol Hill as interns in the offices of over 60 U.S. Senators and Representatives for Co-Curriculum, Madeira's experiential learning program.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 18

Carissa Ciuca, Sundays at 6:30 p.m. at Mindful Hands, 211 King St., \$60 for 6 weeks. Drop-ins welcome. Call Carissa Ciuca at 843-906-8784.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Free, donations accepted. 703-505-0700.

MONDAY/JAN. 26

Wildlife in Winter. 1-3 p.m. at Huntley Meadows. Children ages 5-10 can play games, make crafts and more. \$4/child. Registration required, 703-768-2525.

Little One-Ders. 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 12-23 months can enjoy stories and more. Free. Registration required, 703-519-5900.

Family Tale Night. 7 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. All ages. Free. 703-519-5900.

Baby Time. 10 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to 11 months. Free. 703-838-4566.

TUESDAY/JAN. 27

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

Stories and Songs. 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Children up to age 4. Free. Registration required, 703-838-4566.

Tuesday Tots. 11 a.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 2-3. Free. 703-519-6000.

Mother Goose Time. 9:30 a.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. For children ages 12-24 months. Free. 703-838-4555.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. for children ages 2 and up. Free. 703-838-4555.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road. Hear the National Chamber Players. Free. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org or 703-933-4135.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28

Book Sale. 7-9 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Browse a variety of books. Free. 703-838-4566.

Pajama Party. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Children ages 3-6. Free. 703-519-6000.

Mother Goose Time. 9:30 a.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. For children ages 12-24 months. Free. 703-838-4555.

Stories to Grow On. 11 a.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. for children ages 2 and up. Free. 703-838-4555.

Presentation. 7 p.m. at Virginia Tech Alexandria Center, 1021 Prince St. Discuss "Parks, Open Space and Recreation Lands: A Report." Free. 703-706-8132.

THURSDAY/JAN. 29

Cool Papa's Party. Enjoy a musical odyssey at MetroStage, 1201 N. Royal St. Call 703-548-9044.

18th Century Dance Lessons. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St. Learn from instructors. \$12/class or \$30/series. Reservations recommended,

703-838-4242.

Story Time. 10 a.m. or 3 p.m. at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St. Children ages 3-5. Free. 703-519-5900.

Book Sale. Noon-9 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Browse a variety of books. Free. 703-838-4566.

Short Story Discussion. 7 p.m. at Burke Library, 4701 Seminary Road. Call 703-519-3498 for story titles. Free.

Storytime. 4 p.m. at Barrett Library, 717 Queen St. Children ages 3-5 years. Free. 703-838-4555.

FRIDAY/JAN. 30

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.

Book Sale. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Browse a variety of books. Free. 703-838-4566.

Workshop. 7-9 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 2932 King St. Free workshop for parents and teachers. Visit www.celebratecalm.com for more.

Music Performance. Alexandria resident Chris Gekker will perform at noon at the Summer School Museum, 17th and M Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. Hear poetry and music by Eric Ewazen, Katherine Gekker, and others, all with ties to Alexandria. Free.

The Boston Brass. 7:30 p.m. The brass quintet will perform in Springbank Auditorium at West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. \$10/person. Seating is limited. 703-718-2586, or e-mail penelope.bauer@fcps.edu.

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Tuesday - Greek Night
Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours,
Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

Wednesday - All American Night
Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

Thursday - Italian Night
Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

Friday - Fish Night
Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

Saturday -Steak and Chop Night
Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

Sunday
Brunch served 7am - 2pm

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101 WAYS

FROM PAGE 13 Young Athletes Can Improve Their Game

Nannie J. Lee Memorial
Recreation Center
1108 Jefferson St.
703-838-4345

Children can learn the basics of their favorite sport by attending a Fundamentals Clinic through the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. Local coaches or volunteers will teach youngsters the way to play the game the right way through the teaching of basic playing techniques. They will also learn the importance of good sportsmanship. Whether it's learning more about hoops, baseball, softball, or football, youngsters will gain a greater appreciation of their sport.

Attend Amateur/Pro Boxing Events

Dennis Porter
Charles Houston Recreation Center
901 Wythe Street
703-838-4234

The Alexandria Boxing Club is located at The Fred Smith Center, which is an extension of the Charles Houston Recreation Center. Every weeknight, members of the ABC team — both pro fighters and amateurs — practice their craft under coach Dennis Porter. The ABC team competes in numerous boxing fights throughout the year — either in the metro area or statewide. During the last two years the team captured first place at the USA/Virginia State Tournament Championships in Arlington. There is a true love and passion for the sport at ABC. To visit a practice session or to find out when local “Fights Night” events are scheduled, call Dennis Porter.

Hit the Ice

Mount Vernon Recreation Center
2017 Belle View Blvd.
703-768-3224

Ever see one of those “Peanuts” TV specials where Snoopy easily glides across the ice as flawless as any Olympian skater? Well, it's harder than it looks even if “good ol’ Snoopy” makes it look easy. But what a great sport to learn, and what a way to cool off during the hot months. To find out about ice-skating lessons at Mount Vernon Rec Center, go to: www.FairfaxCounty.gov/parks. Or, get a hold of a free Parktakes magazine by calling 703-222-4664.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

There are many options for youth sports, including soccer.

Get Into the Swing Of Things

The StrikeZone Academy
826 South Pickett St.
703-823-0061
www.thestrikezoneacademy.com

The indoor facility is the ideal place for players to practice their baseball and softball skills year round. Three batting cages are available for teams, along with ‘Iron Mike’ automatic pitching machines. And there are other areas to practice pitching and fielding. There are batting, fielding, and catching instructors for beginner-level players on up through high school aged players.

Join the Horsey Set

Woodlawn Stables
8907 Richmond Highway
703-780-4344
www.woodlawnstables.com

With a summer horsemanship camp and group lessons for those over eight years, and classes for adults and children, Woodlawn Stables has been teaching English saddle riding for more than 25 years. For the required goods, trot on over to an associated store, Woodlawn Stablery, which provides English tack, riding apparel and accessories, as well as Breyer model horses, from 8405-J Richmond Highway in Potomac Square (703-360-2288).

Rock On

Sportrock-Alexandria
5308 Eisenhower Ave.
703-212-7625

The closest to a mountain range Alexandria has is the 12,000 square feet of indoor climbing walls at Sportrock Alexandria. A thorough calendar of course offerings for children and adults of all age levels, and the opportunity to walk in and take a beginners' class on the spot, makes any time the right time for a climb.

Jazz it up with Jazzercise

Hollin Hall Senior Center
1500 Shenandoah Road
703-765-0142
www.jazzmtvernon.com

Jazzercise combines elements of jazz dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kick-boxing, to create effective programs for people of every age and fitness level. Increase muscle tone, flexibility, balance, strength and endurance using easy-to-follow movements. Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to class and register; managers are there to advise. Begin at any time.

Playing War Is Better Than Fighting War

Eagle and Empire Game Shop
8405-D Richmond Highway
703-360-5363

Players of miniature war games gather at this shop to play each other. Games played include Warhammer Fantasy, Warhammer 40K, Warmaster Ancients, Flames of War and Command Decision. Meetings are on Friday nights, the weekend and sometimes Wednesday nights. Free, one needs to bring one's own pieces. Call the shop on Wednesdays to find out the weekly schedule.

Knitting Nights

Knit Happens
127A North Washington St.
703-836-0039
www.knithappens.net

The self-described Nirvana for knitters shop Knit Happens hosts a Knit n' Nosh 5-7 p.m. the first Friday of every month, and is open late — until 8 p.m. — every Wednesday for quality after-work knitting time. New classes every quarter allow anyone over 14 to learn how to cast on and cast off, or practice for intermediate purling.

Nominated for World Heritage

FROM PAGE 4

THE UNESCO WORLD Heritage Committee will consider the nominations and announce their decision in the summer of 2010. Chosen sites are designated under the World Heritage Convention, of which the United States was the prime architect. Interior's National Park Service is the principal technical agency for U.S. participation in the Convention.

"Thanks to the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, Mount Vernon Estate has retained more of its original buildings than any other of the U.S. sites," Kempthorne said. There is a core of 16 surviving 18th-century structures situated within a landscape of associated gardens, fences, lanes, walkways and other features.

Kempthorne, a former Idaho U.S. Senator and two-term governor, lived about a mile from Mount Vernon Estate while serving in the Senate. His children graduated from Mount Vernon High School.

"When I was in the Senate I would often just walk over here to sit on the porch and read and look out at the Potomac River. It is truly a beautiful spot," he told the group seated on the Bowling Green on the cold but bright sunlit afternoon.

"We had to make the case why Mount

Vernon is of international significance. We couldn't use George Washington's significance and legacy. We had to look at the site itself regardless of Washington," said Dennis J. Pogue, PhD, associate director, Preservation, Mount Vernon Estate, who had the lead role in producing and assembling the 165 page nomination application.

"Mount Vernon is one of the best preserved sites of British colonization in America. And, we are uniquely qualified to represent that element of history," Pogue said.

"Today is a very special occasion in the long history of this great American home. George Washington created it and it falls to us to promote it. This nomination brings us full circle," said Brian Hook, assistant secretary, U.S. State Department. The nomination will be submitted through the State Department to the World Heritage Center in Paris, France.

"ALTHOUGH WE fully realize this is only a nomination, we will be very thrilled and honored to become a World Heritage site. About 70 million visitors have toured Mount Vernon. In 2008 alone we welcomed 1,150,000 visitors, including 18,000 on a single day," said James C. Rees, executive director, Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens.

Lois M. Delaney, CRB, CRS

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(FX6904737)

5904 Mount Eagle Drive, Suite 1610/1612

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Don't miss seeing this one of a kind unit with beautiful Potomac River views. This 2165 sf unit has 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, separate laundry room, garage and two balconies. It, too, comes with on-site swimming, tennis, bowling, restaurant and shuttle to Metro.

(FX6917536)

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THE COUNTY LINE

Candidates Look at Raising Tax Rate

Bulova, Herrity take different approaches on other budget issues.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
GAZETTE

Both major political party candidates for Fairfax County chairman agree the Board of Supervisors will have to at least consider raising homeowners real estate tax rate to address the locality's looming budget crisis next year.

"When we adopt a budget, there will be a reconciliation to close the projected shortfall and it will include a discussion of a tax rate adjustment," said Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova, the Democratic nominee for the position.

The Republican nominee, Springfield District Supervisor Patrick Herrity, said it is likely the county will have to raise the tax rate. But Herrity also committed to lowering the actual amount of taxes most residents pay, a promise Bulova did not make.

This year, real estate assessments will have dropped significantly for many households, enough that the county could raise the real estate tax rate but not the actual amount of taxes paid by citizens, according to Herrity.

"Due to the extent of the shortfall, it is likely the tax rate (but not the actual taxes paid by homeowners) will need to be increased this year," he said on his Web site.

THE TWO major political party candidates will face Independent Green Party candidate Carey Campbell and Fairfax business owner Christopher DeCarlo in a special election for county chairman Feb. 3.

The previous chairman, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), vacated the position earlier this month to join the U.S. Congress.

Fairfax County government's leadership has to close the \$650 million funding gap in Fairfax's \$3.3 billion budget for fiscal year 2010, which starts July 1. The financial hole is larger than the combined budgets of the police, fire and rescue, sheriff, library, parks and recreation and health departments.

"This is the most serious downturn I have experienced since I have been on the board," said Bulova, who was first elected in 1987.

The circumstances surrounding the county chairman's special election are similar to 14 years ago when, in 1995, the sitting county chairman, Tom Davis (R), left the Fairfax board to join the U.S. Congress, triggering a February special election to replace him.

Just like the Democrats in 2008, the Republican Party had made significant gains at the national and local level in 1995 and appeared to have the advantage in chairman's race. Fairfax County's budget and economic situation, like today, was also tough and residents had just endured a round of cuts to county services.

"I cut everything except [information

PATRICK HERRITY (R)

Age: 48
Current Home: Clifton/Centreville
Hometown/Grew Up In: Springfield, Va.
Education: Virginia Tech., B.S. in Accounting (1982)
Family: Wife Nancy and two high school children
Professional experience: chief financial officer at Arrowhead Global Solutions, government contractor (2005- present)
Political experience: Springfield District Supervisor (2008-present)
Civic experience: former executive committee of Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, former board member of Northern Virginia Technology Council, youth athletics coach



CAREY CAMPBELL (I)

Age: 52
Current Home: North Springfield
Hometown: North Springfield
Education: University of Maryland, B.A. (European Division) University of Freiburg, Germany University of Kentucky – business and accounting
Professional experience: Accountant
Political Experience: State Chairman, Independent Greens of Virginia; National Chairman, Draft Michael Bloomberg
Civic Experience: North Springfield Civic Association Board Member, North Springfield PTA member, past vice president of the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations



technology] and economic development," said Davis, about the 1994-1995 county budget.

With a voter turn out of 17.8 percent, the Democrat, Providence District Supervisor Kate Hanley, beat the Republican, Springfield District Supervisor Elaine McConnell, to become county chairman that year.

Davis said this year's special election for chairman could be a referendum on the supervisors' approach to the budget, especially since Bulova has been intimately involved with the county finances as the board's budget committee chair for more than a decade.

"When it comes to the budget, voters will get a say very early on because of the election," he said.

The two major political party candidates, Bulova and Herrity, agreed that the integrity of Fairfax County Public Schools, which normally receives more than half of Fairfax's annual budget, should be a top priority.

BULOVA said human services would also be another budget priority if she were to become county chairman.

Fairfax has seen a greater demand and need for human services programs, especially since the region started to face a financial downturn. With the faltering economy, it is likely people will need even more from those programs than they have



SHARON BULOVA (D)

Age: 60
Current Home: The Cloisters of Fairfax
Hometown/Grew Up In: Pikesville, Md.
Education: University of Virginia (classes via Fort Belvoir extension campus), Northern Virginia Community College, business management (1977)
Family: husband Lou DeFalaise, two adult children, three grandchildren
Professional experience: book keeper, sales and office manager
Political experience: Braddock District Supervisor (1987-present), former aide to Annandale District Supervisor Audrey Moore (1984-1987)
Civic experience: founding member of Virginia Railway Express Operations Board (1989 – present), Governors Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century (2004 – present)

CHRISTOPHER DECARLO (I)

Age: 50
Current Home: Fairfax
Hometown: Greenwich, Ct.
Education: Georgia Institute of Technology, coursework toward electrical engineering degree; George Mason University coursework toward business administration degree; North Virginia Community College
Family: wife Kathleen and five children, ages 2 years old to 10 years old
Professional Experience: president of DeCarlo Enterprises Inc., which sells propane gas to over 1,000 customers in Fairfax County.



in the past, said Bulova. "The increase in demand and spending in these areas has nothing to do with inflation," she said.

In terms of cuts, Bulova said she hopes to take actions similar to the 1990s when there was a major downturn in revenue and board members eliminated services like satellite tax offices and small "storefront" library kiosks, she said.

Without seeing county executive Tony Griffin's budget proposal, the supervisor could not point to specific cuts she would support at this time.

"It's still a little bit early. We need to give the county executive his opportunity to put something on the table first," she said.

Bulova is pleased with the way county officials and the board addressed the county budget crisis so far. Fairfax started hosting community meetings about the budget in the early fall and has engaged residents earlier than the county usually does, she said.

The supervisors recently implemented more programs focused on preventing home foreclosure and purchased 10 foreclosed properties, with the intention of fixing the

houses up and selling them.

The foreclosure crisis has a direct impact on the county budget since Fairfax County acquires the bulk of its revenue through residential real estate taxes and those collections are linked to home value and assessment.

HERRITY, who is one of just two Republicans on the Board of Supervisors, is more critical of the way Fairfax has handled its budget crisis.

The county should have been more willing to make cuts in its current budget cycle as soon as next year's financial picture began to look so dire. Instead, Bulova and other supervisors opted to wait until the situation got worse, he said.

Herrity has called for more budget transparency. He proposed a county "blue ribbon" budget commission, where a group of citizens would provide advice on how to adjust Fairfax's budget. Herrity also wants to put details of county expenses online for residents to peruse, he said.

When it comes to budget cuts, Herrity has proposed scaling back Fairfax County's affordable housing program – which has received over \$20 million annually in recent years. He wants to limit the scope of Fairfax County's housing program to focus only on people "really in need," such as those with mental disabilities or development challenges that would make it difficult for them to take care of themselves.

The county currently offers housing to some people near or below the county's median household income. The Springfield supervisor also voted against the board's decision to purchase foreclosed homes.

"We are competing with the private sector. ... We need to focus on the people that truly need help," said Herrity.

Over the long term, Herrity hopes to help the county budget by increasing Fairfax's commercial tax base. Commercial property owners tend to contribute more money in real estate taxes than they use in county services, he said. Currently, only 17 percent of Fairfax's tax base is commercial. Herrity would like to increase that number to 25 percent, he said.

In addition to education, Herrity said he is most concerned about cuts to the public safety budget.

AS FOR the two independent candidates, Campbell said keeping Fairfax County Public Schools "strong" would be his number one priority. He would also focus on

trying to build one lane of light rail on the Capital Beltway.

DeCarlo, who announced his candidacy Jan. 10, said the county's main problems were "outrageous taxes" and over-regulation. He also said elected officials had ceded control of the government to special interest groups.

"We need to focus on the people that truly need help."

— Pat Herrity

"This is the most serious downturn I have experienced since I have been on the board."

— Sharon Bulova, elected in 1987

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8709 FORT HUNT RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.52	PLYMOUTH HAVEN		
7218 LUDWOOD CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$860,000	Detached	0.26	POPKINS FARM ESTS		
1797 RAMPART DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$845,000	Detached	0.25	COLLINGWOOD SPRNGS		
9101 PEARTREE LNDG	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$821,000	Detached	0.30	UNION FARM		
6406 TENTH ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.24	NEW ALEXANDRIA		
1803 WINDMILL LN	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$800,000	Detached	0.37	MASON HILL		
3433 SUNNY VIEW DR	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$700,000	Detached	0.28	SUNNY VIEW		
2804 HOLLAND CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$680,000	Detached	0.25	HOLLAND COURT		
1602 COOL SPRING DR	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$678,000	Detached	0.29	COLLINGWOOD SPRINGS		
8823 BLACK ALDER DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$629,000	Detached	0.20	WOODMILL ESTATES		
8721 CAMDEN ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Detached	0.35	STRATFORD LANDING		
9007 CHICKAWANE CT	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$595,000	Detached	0.46	WESTGATE		
9117 VOLUNTEER DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$589,000	Detached	0.79	MT VERNON FOREST		
7119 DEVONSHIRE RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Detached	0.46	WHITE OAKS		
6917 TULSA CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$585,000	Detached	0.38	WESTGROVE		
1608 SHERWOOD HALL LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$575,000	Detached	0.62	HOLLINDALE		
3806 WESTGATE DR	6	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Detached	0.46	WESTGATE		
7609 MIDDAY LN	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$555,000	Detached	0.38	KIRKSIDE		
8502 CROWLEY PL	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$535,000	Detached	0.24	WAYNEWOOD		
5125 REMINGTON DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$535,000	Detached	0.50	MT VERNON TERRACE		
7531 LINDBERG DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Detached	0.12	HUNTLEY MEADOWS		
7533 LINDBERG	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$510,000	Detached	0.11	GROVE AT HUNTLEY MEADOWS		
3779 MARY EVELYN WAY	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$495,000	Detached	0.09	VERNON HEIGHTS		
8018 CANDLEWOOD DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Detached	0.33	KIRK		
5904 MOUNT EAGLE DR #708	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$487,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MONTEBELLO		
3788 MARY EVELYN WAY	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Detached	0.09	VERNON HEIGHTS		
5992 GRAND PAVILION WAY	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$435,000	Townhouse	0.01	PAVILIONS AT HUNTINGTON		
2471 HUNTINGTON PARK DR	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Townhouse	0.03	PAVILIONS AT HUNTINGTON		
1227 MORNINGSIDE LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Detached	0.54	WELLINGTON HEIGHTS		
3783 MARY EVELYN WAY	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$425,000	Detached	0.09	VERNON HEIGHTS		
8722 BRADDOCK AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$420,000	Detached	0.24	MT VERNON ESTATES		
4203 SONIA CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$400,000	Detached	0.07	MOUNT ZEPHYR		
4000 OLD QUARRY TER	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Detached	0.21	STONEBROOKE		
8214 DOCTOR CRAIK CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$385,000	Townhouse	0.04	BRIARY FARMS TOWNHOMES		
5804 CANNON LN	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$350,000	Detached	0.70	CANNON E F		
8586 WYNGATE MANOR CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.06	WYNGATE		
8588 WYNGATE MANOR CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Townhouse		WYNGATE		
2203 BELLE VIEW BLVD	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$345,000	Detached	0.17	BUCKNELL MANOR		
3720 SHANNONS GREEN WAY	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$334,950	Townhouse	0.03	MOUNT VEE MANOR		
8154 BIANCA PL	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$332,500	Townhouse	0.05	ROXBURY MEWS		
6316 CHIMNEY WOOD CT	2	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.03	SOUTH KINGS STATION		
8330 HUNTER MURPHY CIR	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$318,000	Townhouse	0.02	MOUNT VEE MANOR		
8108 LAKEPARK DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.06	PINEWOOD LAKE		
8162 MOUNT VERNON HWY	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Detached	0.44	MT VERNON HILLS		
8313 COOPER ST	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$296,000	Detached	0.76	TIMOTHY PARK		
7113 STRAWN CT	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$291,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODSTONE		
6101 PINE GROVE CIR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$290,000	Detached	0.29	PENN DAW VILLAGE		
8479 HALLIE ROSE ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$290,000	Townhouse	0.03	SKYVIEW PARK		
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #906	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$285,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MONTEBELLO		
8016 STEADMAN ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$281,000	Detached	0.25	MT VERNON VALLEY		
3307 BEECHCRAFT DR	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$280,000	Detached	0.21	HYBLA VALLEY		
2703 WOODWALK CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$279,900	Townhouse	0.03	MT WOODLEY MANOR		
2814 BASS CT	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Detached	0.53	NINE OAKS		
6704 WEST WAKEFIELD DR#A1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
7911 CALEDONIA ST	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Detached	0.20	MT VERNON VALLEY		
7995 AVERY PARK CT	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$272,000	Townhouse	0.03	AVERY PARK		
8201 GLEAVES CT	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$270,000	Detached	0.27	WOODLAWN TERRACE		
3715 HAMPTON CT	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$265,000	Townhouse	0.04	WOODSTONE		
8010 NOEL ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$260,000	Detached	0.24	WOODLAWN TERRACE		
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1515	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$253,150	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		HUNTINGTON		
6404 CAVALIER DR	4	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Detached	0.17	BUCKNELL MANOR		
2612 GROVETON ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$246,400	Detached	0.14	MEMORIAL HEIGHTS		
6939 COLUMBIA DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$239,000	Detached	0.17	BUCKNELL MANOR		
7235 STOVER DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$235,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODSTONE		
3115 HATCHER ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$233,000	Detached	0.26	SOMERVILLE HILL		
4430 SCARBOROUGH SQ	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$230,000	Townhouse	0.05	PINEWOOD LAKE		
4816 WELFORD ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$227,900	Detached	0.20	MT VERNON VALLEY		
7835 GUM SPRINGS VILLAGE DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$225,000	Townhouse	0.04	VILLAGE AT GUM SPGS		
7809 SCHELHORN RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$220,500	Detached	0.77	HYBLA VALLEY FARMS		
6010 PARK PL	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$220,480	Detached	0.15	FAIR HAVEN		
8116 LAKEPARK DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$219,900	Townhouse	0.06	PINEWOOD LAKE		
7145 TOLLIVER ST	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$215,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODSTONE		
4302 LAWRENCE ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.13	PINEWOOD LAKE		
8002 MARTHA WASHINGTON ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$207,500	Detached	0.30	MT VERNON WOODS		
8554 SOUTHLAWN CT	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$207,000	Townhouse	0.02	WOODLAWN MEWS		
5841 MOUNT VERNON DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$205,000	Duplex	0.08	ANNALANE TERRACE		
6616 WAKEFIELD DR E #C1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$205,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #615	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$200,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		RIVER TOWERS		
7010 STANFORD DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$199,900	Duplex	0.11	BUCKNELL HEIGHTS		
5524 WOODLAWN MANOR CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$199,000	Townhouse	0.03	WOODLAWN MEWS		
2102 ARLINGTON TER	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$188,000	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON		
8363 BROCKHAM DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$175,000	Townhouse	0.05	GEORGE LAND VILLAGE		
6425 RICHMOND HWY #302	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$165,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		HUNTINGTON RUN		
4310 PEMBROOK VILLAGE DR#5	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$162,000	Townhouse		PEMBROOK VILLAGE		
3405 ELMWOOD DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$162,000	Detached	0.20	BURGUNDY VILLAGE		
8214 CLAREMONT WOODS DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.03	GEORGE LAND VILLAGE		
4412 BREVARD CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$160,000	Townhouse	0.04	PINEWOOD SOUTH		
4402 WYRES ST	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$157,500	Detached	0.32	MT VERNON VALLEY		
4414 BREVARD CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$145,000	Townhouse	0.04	PINEWOOD SOUTH		
7901 CASA GRANDE PL #121A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$132,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
3809 SEGUNDO PL #22A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$131,460	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
3862 MANZANITA PL #63C	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$130,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
8030 CAPISTRANO PL #7B	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$119,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
8001 CAPISTRANO PL #12D	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$107,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
3856 MARIPOSA PL #45B	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$94,900	Attach/Row Hse		SEQUOYAH		
5804H VILLAGE GREEN DR#03/580	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$92,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		VILLAGES THE		
7911 SAN LEANDRO PL #119A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$92,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
3809 LARAMIE PL #125J	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$87,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
8600D VILLAGE SQ #11/860	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$85,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		VILLAGES THE		
3967 SAN LEANDRO PL #90A	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$84,500	Attach/Row Hse		SEQUOYAH		
3811E EL CERRITO PL #1E	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$80,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
3807 LARAMIE PL #124D	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$79,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
7980 AUDUBON AVE #C1	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$62,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE COND		

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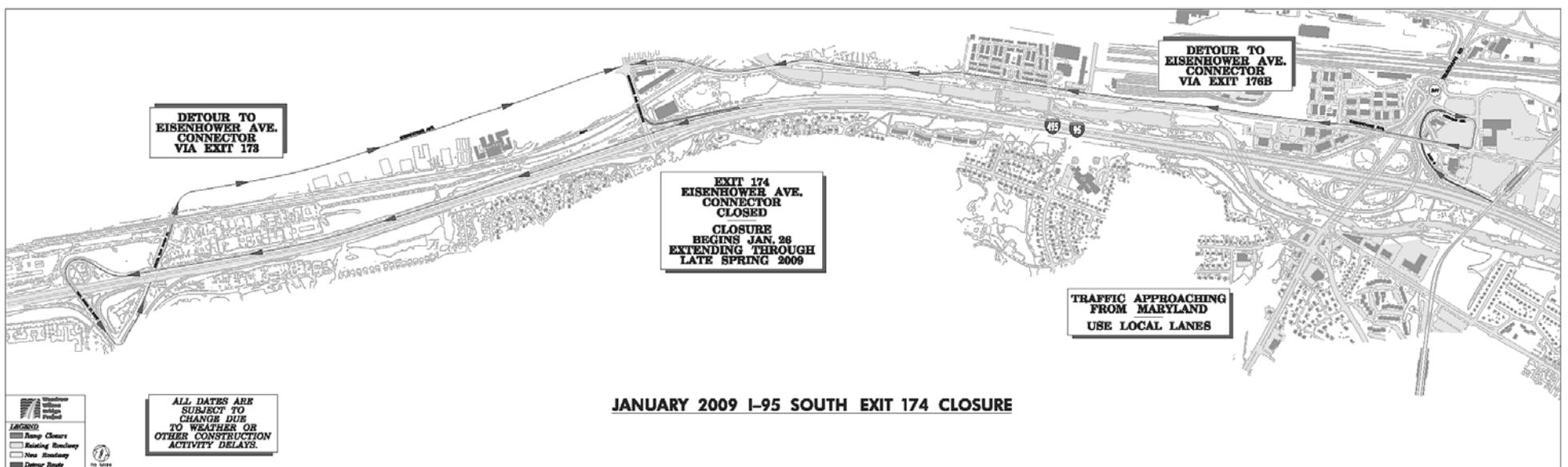
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Detour road caused by closing of exit ramp from Eisenhower Avenue connector from the Beltway's Inner Loop.

Eisenhower Exit Ramp To Close for Six Months

The pain continues for Capital Beltway travelers as a result of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. And this one is "for six months or more."

As President Barack Obama was proclaiming a new day for America, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project return to the old day — delay and frustration. The project announcement issued at 3:40 p.m., Jan. 20,

stated: "Exit ramp from Eisenhower Avenue connector from the Beltway's Inner Loop (I-95/495 Southbound) to be closed for 6 months or more as of 9 a.m. Thursday, January 22."

The reason given was so that the ramp "can be rebuilt to accommodate the widening of the Beltway," according to Johanna Jones, public information, WWB Project.

Inner Loop traffic will be rerouted to

Eisenhower Avenue by taking either the north Telegraph Road/Pershing Road exit, 2.5 miles before the Eisenhower Connector exit, or the Van Dorn Street exit, two miles after the Eisenhower Connector exit.

From North Telegraph Road/Pershing Road exit, traffic will be detoured to make a right onto Stovall Street and right again onto Eisenhower Avenue.

From the Van Dorn Street exit, traffic will

be detoured to make a left onto South Van Dorn Street then a right onto Eisenhower Avenue.

The exit ramp from the Beltway's Outer Loop to Eisenhower Avenue Connector and the on-ramps from the Eisenhower Avenue Connector to the Inner and Outer Loops will remain open, according to Jones.

— CHUCK HAGEE

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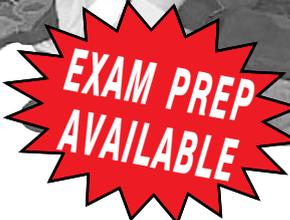
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OBITUARIES

John Walker Gray, Jr.

John (Jack) Walker Gray, Jr. of Alexandria died on Jan. 14, 2009 at the age of 78 after a brief illness. He was born in Atlanta, Ga. and spent his childhood in Newport News, VA. He was the son of John Walker Gray and Nellie Sears.

He received his bachelor of science in business administration from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1952. That same year he married Nancy Valentine Lumpkin of Newport News, Va., and served two years in the United States Air Force. He earned his bachelor of laws from the University of Virginia in 1957, where he was a member of the Law Review. They settled in Alexandria in 1957 where they raised their three sons.

He practiced law in Washington, D.C. with the firm Covington and Burling before moving to the law department of Norfolk and Western Railroad. He spent 35 years in the Bell System, initially with C & P Telephone Company and later as corporate vice president of Federal Governmental Relations at American Telephone & Telegraph (AT&T). He served on the Board of Trustees of INOVA Health System for 18 years, including chairman of Mt. Vernon Hospital. He served on the advisory boards of the Salvation Army in Alexandria and the Pamplin School of Business at Virginia Tech. He was a member of Rotary International, Belle Haven Country Club, and the Metropolitan Club of Washington, D.C. He was a

member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church where he served on the Vestry.

He was a kind and thoughtful person who always brought out the best in those around him. He was well respected by his colleagues and had many friends. He was always happiest with his family and friends at his "county house" in Lottsburg, Va. He had a deep faith in God.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Nancy L. Gray, three sons and daughters-in-law, John W. Gray III and Kimberley of Redmond, Wash.; Burton S. Gray and Donna of Springfield, Va.; David B. Gray and Phyllis of Alexandria, Va. and four grandchildren who knew him as PawPaw. He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. F. Bradley Gray of Irvington, Va.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Alexandria Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 230666, Alexandria, VA 22320 or The Salvation Army of Alexandria, P.O. Box 2245, Alexandria, VA 22301. Demaine Funeral Home in Old Town Alexandria is handling the arrangements.

Charles Craig

Charles H. Craig, husband of Fariss Craig, father of Michael Craig and Nancy Craig Blackburn, all of Alexandria, and grandfather of Craig Blackburn of Alexandria and Blanton Shauinger of Portland, Ore., died at his home Jan. 13, 2009 after suffering cardiac arrest. He was 90 years old.

Mr. Craig was born in Corning, New York on June 21, 1918 and graduated from Syracuse University. Upon graduation he joined IBM in Boston as an IBM salesman. On Dec. 20, 1941, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, he enlisted as an aviation cadet and began pilot training in January 1942 at Maxwell Field Army Air Corps Field in Montgomery, Ala. He earned his pilot wings, as both a twin and four-engine pilot, and his 2nd Lieutenant commission in January 1943.

In October 1943, Lt. Craig married Miss Fariss Fraser of Montgomery. After serving four years in the Army Air Corps, he was discharged as an Army Air Corps captain/pilot in December 1945. He and Mrs. Craig returned to Boston where Mr. Craig rejoined IBM as a salesman. In 1952, Mr. Craig was promoted to a number of IBM marketing and staff positions with assignments on the east coast, including New York City, Miami and Washington, D.C. He retired in August 1983 after a distinguished 44-year career in IBM marketing of data processing machines.

Mr. and Mrs. Craig are long time members of Belle Haven Country Club. During his career at IBM, Mr. Craig and his family left Alexandria four times, but they always returned, establishing new residences each time.

A memorial service was scheduled to be held Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2009 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Alexandria. Interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery.

A Tribute

FROM PAGE 5

"I've been playing music since I was nine. It took her a year to save enough money to buy me a Silvertone guitar from the Sears and Roebuck catalogue," Francis said.

He not only became accomplished in music he also studied hard — went on to graduate from Southern University in Baton Rouge, the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., with a master's degree in biology, and the Medical College of Virginia. He did his residency at George Washington Medical Center.

However, that dual ego, the natural born musician, also demanded time on the stage of life. Thus evolved Dr. Cleveland Francis, a recognized and heralded cardiologist, and Cleve Francis, head of his own renowned musical group "Cleve Francis and Friends."

In either role Francis is dealing with the human heart — saving it for another day of toil or massaging it for another round of melancholy introspection and joy of life. His appearances, with his band, at Alexandria's nationally acclaimed Birchmere, which began in the mid-1980s, offers a glimpse into this man's dualism and personal journey.

Francis, cardiologist and musician, did not physically attend the inauguration of President Barack Obama but his spirit and his music were everywhere. As expressed by both Dr. Cleveland Francis, the cardiologist, and Cleve Francis, the ever present musician/composer: "My hope is that this song will become part of all future Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., celebrations as well as used in schools across the nation."

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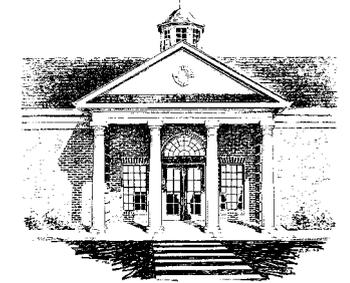
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NEWS



Illegal dumping is common along Richmond Highway, according to a report by Martin Tillet, vice president of the Spring Bank Community Association.

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Speaking Out on Watersheds

FROM PAGE 1

Stormwater Division. "This was one of our better meetings," he said.

"We are attempting to streamline the public involvement process. The main purpose of these meetings is to get the public input," Rose said.

That is also the primary purpose for Martin Tillet, vice president of the Spring Bank Community Association, and a local environmentalist. Prior to the meeting he presented the department with an extensive analysis of just one aspect of the Belle Haven Watershed — Quander Creek.

"A total of 2.62 tons of trash and debris has been removed from Quander Creek. This included such

things as shopping carts, carpeting, furniture, bed springs, a microwave oven, and clothing," he stated in his presentation.

"There is a lot of frustration with the county and state when trying to cope with environmental issues governed through regulatory agencies," Tillet said. He noted that he had voluntarily passed out notices of the meeting to various Route 1 businesses but stated that the county should be doing more to involve the business community.

The next step is the establishment of a Watershed Advisory Group, according to Rose. "This group will be composed of 12 to 20 representatives of the various watersheds. It is anticipated they will meet sometime in late February or early March," he said.

Mulligan Road Officially Under Way

FROM PAGE 1

to use Telegraph Road to its intersection with the Fairfax County Parkway then to the latter's intersection with Route 1. This has resulted in traffic entering Route 1 well south of the Woodlawn Road intersection with Route 1, immediately north of Fort Belvoir's Pence Gate.

The new road, presently designated Mulligan Road, will parallel the north side of Woodlawn Plantation and intersect with Route 1 at the latter's intersection with Route 235, Mount Vernon Memorial Highway.

To be done in two phases, construction on Phase I is scheduled for completion the summer of 2010. Opening the road to the public will not occur until Phase II is completed in 2011, according to Jack Van Dop, senior technical specialist, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division, FHWA.

"Phase I includes rough grading, drainage and bridge construction for a 1.7 mile, four-lane road with accommodation for on-road bicycle use and a trail, from Pole to Telegraph roads, just south of Hayfield Secondary School," Van Dop said.

"Phase I construction will be limited to Fort Belvoir property. However, paving and connections to Telegraph and Pole roads as well as opening the road to the public will not occur until Phase II is completed," he said. Widening Telegraph Road from Beulah Street to Leaf Road will also be completed as part of Phase II.

FHWA HAS RECOMMENDED the following for new Mulligan Road, now known as Old Mill Road, to reduce its environmental and historical impact as well eliminating the need to take and residences or businesses:

- ❖ Realign Old Mill Road with Mount Vernon Memorial Highway at the intersection of both with Route 1,
- ❖ Shift Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway away from the Woodlawn Plantation stables property,
- ❖ Reduce the amount of land required from the Woodlawn Plantation National Historic Landmark by 2.24 acres,
- ❖ Add two lanes and a median for better turning access, and
- ❖ Add a new entrance driveway to Woodlawn Plantation.

Two of the key aspects of the plan are: The transfer of 2.5 acres at Fort Belvoir's existing Woodlawn Gate to the owners of Woodlawn Plantation and that the entire project is designed to minimize environmental impact to the surrounding area including Huntley Meadows Park.

"The ultimate project will include the construction of a four-lane divided roadway with a median on a new alignment, construction of new bridges and large culverts at stream crossings/wildlife passages" and an array of other work, according to FHWA. The project will be funded by the Defense Access Roads Program, in conjunction with other federal, state and local sources, according to FHWA.

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MASON PATRIOTS

SPORTS

The Kings' Court

Mount Vernon junior stars as basketball player and principal's daughter.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon girl's basketball player Tracy King freely admits to being embarrassed when her mother tries to act cool by dancing in front of her friends. Then again, when that means her mom's moves are being broadcast to the whole school, it's a little easier to empathize with the younger King.

The junior is in the position of not only establishing herself the star player for the Majors as they've reeled off a remarkable 14 straight wins following a season-opening loss to South County, but doing so while also being the daughter of Mount Vernon's principal, Nardos King.

Sitting just nine points from eclipsing the 1,000-point mark for her career heading into Wednesday's game against Yorktown,

King has grown accustomed to being the center of attention around the hallways these days — even if it means blushing a bit after her mom does what she considers “crazy stuff.”

“Everyone knows me as the principal's daughter ... but sometimes she'll try to dance at the pep rallies and that's embarrassing because she doesn't know how to dance,” said King before a recent practice. “She tries to be funny but I don't really care anymore because people think it's funny.”

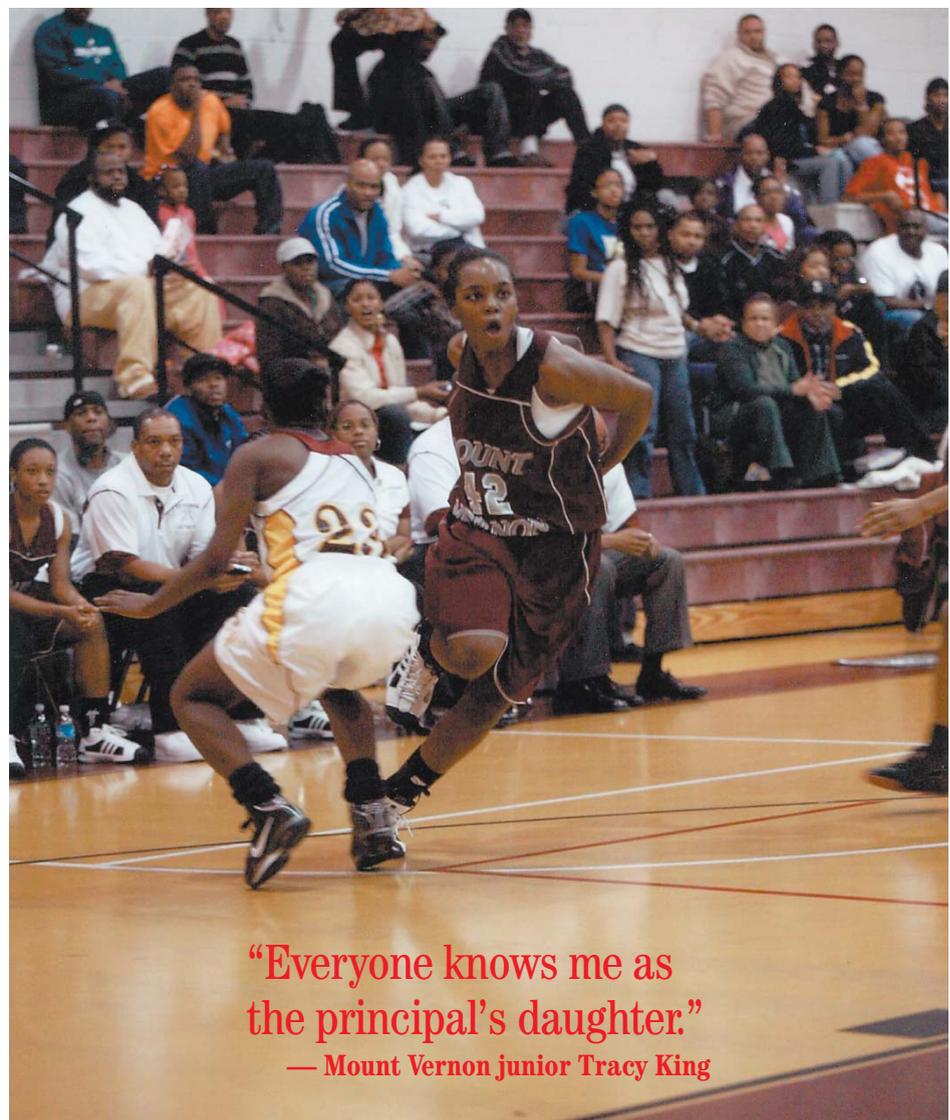
Her mom will only admit that, “A couple days on the morning news I may have done a few dances that she wasn't too happy about.”

THE FAMILY AFFAIR goes beyond mother and daughter, though. Tracy's older brother was a three-sport star at Mount Vernon a few years ago. And before Nardos King took over as Mount Vernon principal three years ago, Tracy's father, Stan King, was also a coach for the Mount Vernon girl's team. Due to county regulations, he had to step down as coach once his wife became principal, but he still coaches his daughter during the AAU season.

“When it comes to her status on the basketball team, I'm mom,” said Nardos King about her relationship with Tracy, who is districted to go to Lee High School, but came to Mount Vernon with her mother. “I cheer the whole team on the same because they're all my kids. When you're principal you take on that role. I'm not pressed for my daughter to be the star.”

She's had no choice this season, though, as Tracy King has averaged close to 20 points per game while making her Majors one of the biggest surprises — and threats — in the Northern Region.

First-year coach Terry Henderson made the preseason decision to switch King from the point guard position, where she played freshman and sophomore year, to a more natural wing position. Alongside Jalinda Venable, a transfer from Paul VI, King says she's “more comfortable” there.



“Everyone knows me as the principal's daughter.”

— Mount Vernon junior Tracy King

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERRY HENDERSON

Mount Vernon junior Tracy King is the daughter of the school's principal, Nardos King, and has also been the star of the girl's basketball team during its 14-1 start to this season.

“She has such an outgoing personality that everyone is just drawn to her,” said Henderson. “But you wouldn't know it from talking to her because she's so humble. She's really made my job very easy.”

KING'S PERSONALITY is probably best described as easy going and while her status at school as star basketball player and principal's daughter often puts her in the limelight, it's hard to tell from being around her.

Last week, Henderson jokingly wondered if his practices were becoming too easy as he watched King munch on a peanut butter sandwich minutes before she took the floor. King simply shrugged off the comment with a smile on her face.

It seems that go-with-the-flow nature is what makes her and her team so successful with the spotlight shining so brightly on

them of late. For instance, King never kept track of her point totals in past seasons and only realized she was closing in on 1,000 points when an assistant coach told her she 29 away. Now she's excited for Wednesday after watching an opposing player reach 1,000 points in the past.

“They stop the game and give you the ball and I thought that was cool,” she said.

Still, mom is worried how King will react Wednesday night with even more pressure on her shoulders, just four or five field goals away from reaching the milestone.

“I hope she doesn't get nervous,” said Nardos King, adding that several family members are coming into town for the occasion. “We want to win the game, that's more important than the 1,000 points.”

Chances are the nerves will be no worse than when she senses mom is about to bust a move again.



“She's really made my job very easy,” first-year Mount Vernon coach Terry Henderson said of star player Tracy King and the Majors' 14-1 record this season.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball Registration

Registration for Spring Baseball is now available. Prior to registering a child for a Fort Hunt Spring sport, review the Spring 2009 Season information for the sport. See the “Baseball” link at the top of the fhyaa.org Web site for general information on the program. Fort Hunt Little League is constrained by geographic boundaries, view the boundary map at <http://www.fhyaa.org/Baseball/>

maps/index_E.html. Register online now at <http://fhyaa.org>.

For more information, contact the appropriate baseball representative: President Paul Murphy (FortHuntBaseball@msn.com), registrar Jeff Lerner (fhll.registrar@verizon.net), or player agent Mike Michell (coachmichell@yahoo.com).

Soccer Tryouts

The Lee-Mt. Vernon Soccer Association (LMVSA) Patriots, a boys U-10 NCSL team, is looking for talented and motivated play-

ers, born after Aug. 1, 1998, who are serious about playing competitive travel soccer.

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Contact Coach Karl Rosenberg at krosenberg@extron.com for more details.

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. All this important information can be found on the individual sport's part of the fhyaa.org Web site. (See sports links at top of Web page.)

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

Privacy

FROM PAGE 10

application they still urge students not to document stupid decisions. Many larger colleges such as JMU and VCU opt not to check students on the internet, for lack of time.

Michael D. Walsh from James Madison University said that, although JMU does not search students on the internet other groups like scholarship committees may, and it can even influence getting a job. However, although Virginia Tech also receives a large amount of applications and cannot afford the time to look each student up, certain cases may call for additional searching: "If something gives us cause, we may look the student up, and something violating the student honor code could have an effect and lead us to contact the student, parents and counselor," said Amy Widner, the PR Coordinator for Undergraduate Admissions at Virginia Tech.

Hairston continued, saying that "we understand some things are not in the student's control, as they are posted by others. But by not taking action and removing those things, it is as though they are accepting the negative thing said."

Widner also warned high-school students to "consider actions and think ahead to possible consequences ..." Colleges can only view what we put up there, and if we are thoughtless enough to post damaging information, we can't be surprised when it comes back and hurts us. Widner continued by saying while at Virginia Tech an internet search is "unlikely ... it's not only colleges who are looking people up now, others may as well."

Legislature

FROM PAGE 11

Kaine is also proposing a series of initiatives designed to address climate change and to promote "green jobs." As he noted, "The development of new energy sources presents dramatic new opportunities for the commonwealth."

One disappointment was the failure to seat Delegate-elect Charniele Herring. Although she was duly elected on Jan. 13 and presented a Certificate of Election to the Clerk of the House, the majority party has thus far refused to seat her.

On Saturday, Senator Puller and I held our annual Town Meeting. Even the icy weather could not discourage citizens from coming to share their views. Special thanks to Barbara Reese, the Governor's deputy policy director, and Nikki Rovner, Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources, for sharing information with all of us.

It's an honor to serve the citizens of the 44th District. Please don't hesitate to contact me. While in Richmond, you can reach me at 804-698-1044 or delkamundson@house.virginia.gov. Also, if you have not yet completed my constituent survey, visit my Web site at www.amundson.org/

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

communities of Fairfax County are examples of aging stormwater infrastructure that are lethal to the streams and creeks flowing to the Potomac River.

Also at issue were missing representatives from state and county agencies as well as members of the business community that are perceived by citizens to be stakeholders in this process but were noticeably absent from the forum. Many attendees were astonished that the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) was not present. It is a no brainer to conclude that all of the impermeable surfaces with adjoining storm water infrastructure under VDOT control have an impact on our watersheds. It was pointed out that VDOT is a state agency and a county agency cannot tell a state agency what to do. VDOT is invited to participate but attendance or participation is up to them.

I have a suggestion to our Northern Virginia legislative delegates and senators and to Governor Kaine. Why don't they demand that VDOT be a part of this and other such watershed restoration processes? Any planning or project implementation excluding VDOT is half baked and taxpayer money down the drain.

Another missing stakeholder was the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment. The Belle Haven Watershed and areas of the Dogue Creek watershed are adjoining the Richmond Highway corridor, a designated revitalization district. Their goal is to bring redevelopment and business investment to the corridor. Their understanding of how previous development and land use planning or lack thereof led to the degraded streams we have today gives them the foundation upon which to seek environmentally responsible corporate citizens to locate and build within the corridor.

To their credit, JBG Rosenfeld the current developer looking to do redevelopment at the Kings Crossing site in the Belle Haven watershed was present at the meeting. The cost to repair the stream killing stormwater infrastructure on this site is cost prohibitive and compels the developer to focus on a by-right development plan that does not require a stormwater infrastructure upgrade. That is an unacceptable plan to the community and if followed results in a failure of the FCSPD plan for restoring that portion of the Belle Haven watershed that includes Quander Brook.

The Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment is the arm of county government that is supposed to develop creative financing and tax incentives to assist developers in overcoming cost prohibitive infrastructure as a means to invest in revitalization districts. It is high time that this end of Fairfax County was on the receiving end of some of the creative financing strategies that are seemingly always available to places like Tyson's Corner, Centreville and the Route 66 and Dulles corridors. This is a case of one county agency FCSPD asking the Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment to be stakeholders or the Board of Supervisors telling them to participate.

A recent walkabout along Quander Brook

from Spring Bank to Hunting Creek revealed that the cleanup done to the stream in 2006 was no longer in evidence since the stream in 2009 once again strewn with trash and debris.

Much of this originates on the streets and parking lots of businesses located in the corridor. Some businesses demonstrate that they are civic minded and maintain their properties by picking up trash and keeping trash containers and dumpsters properly maintained and secure. Others are slovenly and demonstrate little or no effort to maintain an orderly presence. The trash on these properties make their way into the storm drains and into the streams.

At some businesses the parking surfaces are crumbling and the grit and residual macadam wash into the storm drains. Fairfax County has zoning enforcement regulations covering these abuses but enforcement is lax and in my view by complaint with proactive effort non-existent. Zoning enforcement is another agency that has a role in developing and implementing a viable watershed plan.

A watershed plan that engages all of the stakeholders is far more likely to succeed and result in addressing the pervasive and systemic problems under the purview of federal, state, and local government agencies, politicians, corporate citizens and the taxpayers of Virginia. Anything less is as the famous scientist Einstein said, "Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."

Martin Tillett
Alexandria

Let Capitalism Work

To the Editor:

Congressional politicians are at it again. Apparently, many of them believe that the U.S. can spend itself out of a recession that they helped create by pushing Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae to make mortgage loans to people who couldn't afford them. Thus, the downward spiral labeled the housing crises.

These politicians should be aware that overspending only puts the country deeper in debt to a point where it might collapse just like many businesses and families, unfortunately, have experienced during the current recession. The Government already has a trillion or more of debt and is considering adding another trillion in the name of recovery.

Why this Congress and other government officials are afraid of doing what has worked effectively in the past and that is meaningful tax cuts for everyone including businesses that pay taxes. Three presidents, Kennedy, Reagan and Bush, cut taxes and tax revenue boomed. But, Congress went on a spending spree and that's the problem. It seems that Congress is very good at spending, spending and spending.

I urge the Congress to do the right thing and cut taxes as three presidents did and let capitalism do its job. Also, work to balance the budget for the sake of all of us including future generations.

Frank Medico
Mount Vernon

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