

# Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

VOL. XX, No. 17

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

APRIL 30, 2009



PHOTOS BY CALE CURCIO

Marking the organization's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, UCM Friends gather for a group photograph.

## 40 Years of Helping the Community

Two hundred guests gathered at Mount Vernon Country Club last weekend to celebrate United Community Ministries' 40th anniversary. Joining the celebration was Sharon Kelso, former executive director; Warren Cikins, former Mount Vernon District supervisor; Gerry

SEE UNITED COMMUNITY, PAGE 18



Sharon Kelso (right) enjoys dancing with Joe and Marie Canny.



Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay takes a moment to talk about the auction with Jeff Todd, owner of Roy Rogers.



Gene and Addy Krizek enjoy the evening.

## Postal Relief

Letter carriers will be collecting for a food drive on May 9.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE

### How To Help

This weekend, mailboxes throughout the Alexandria area will be receiving a post card letting them know about the annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive next weekend. The event is conducted by members of the National Association of Letter Carriers together with the United States Postal Service, who will pick-up donations of nonperishable food along their delivery routes. The food donations will be distributed through ALIVE!; The Capital Area Food Bank; The Koinonia Foundation; Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church; and United Community Ministries.

"We've been experiencing a noticeable increase in requests for food," said ALIVE! executive director Ken Naser, adding that one of his programs has experienced a 90-percent increase since last year. "The demand for food has never been higher in the 40-year history of this organization."

This year's food drive is being planned against a backdrop of a world economic crisis. The local economy has been somewhat less strained than exurb communities, yet food banks across the region are struggling to make ends meet

All Alexandria zip codes will be participating in a food drive on Saturday May 9. To participate, place Bagged, nonperishable, items near your mail box by 9 a.m. Items will be picked up throughout the day. Nonperishable items include canned meat and tuna fish, canned soup, canned fruit and vegetables, canned beans, cereal, peanut butter, jelly and baby food. For more information, call Brian McCormick at 571-278-3231.

and supply a demand that seems to grow every day. Fairfax County records indicate that the unemployment rate rose from 2.7 percent in January 2008 to 4.2 percent in January 2009, representing an increase of 8,974 more unemployed residents in the county.

"We had more demand from November to March than I've ever seen," said Alex Pytell, a manager for United Community Ministries. "But people in this area are very generous, and I think there's a real understanding in this community for the need that's out there right now."

The annual food drives began nationwide in 1993, and Alexandria post offices have been participating since then. Last year the springtime food drive collected 25,000 pounds of food. This year,

SEE LETTER, PAGE 18

## Meeting To Detail Lowering Speed Limit on Richmond Highway

The state Department of Transportation (VDOT) is hosting a meeting Tuesday, May 5, on lowering the speed limit on Richmond Highway.

State officials will provide the community with details on low-

ering the speed limit on Richmond Highway from 45 mph to 35 mph.

The meeting will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. in room 221 (second floor) at the South County Government Center.

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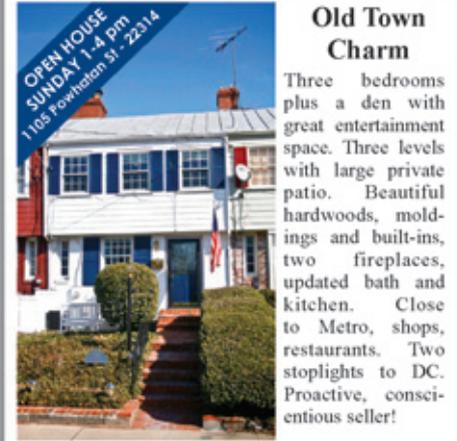
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Robbie Sadlier's father Dave portrays the Ringmaster.

## Kindergarten Circus

St. Aidan's held its annual kindergarten Circus last Friday at the preschool. Dave Sadlier, as ringmaster, led the circus parade into the "big tent." There were tightrope walkers: Lucy Florenzo, Lilly Fowler and Sophia Newman; Isabella Newman arrived as the elephant; Sidney Askin, Elayna Hurley, Winnie Mikulski and Robbie Sadlier were clowns; there were strong men: Harry McInnis, Henry Sage and Colton Thorne and the lion and tiger tamer Anna Christa Cook with her charge Ella Cronin, Evelyn Mulhern, Jared Synnstedt and Jonah Starinchak.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE  
**The tightrope walkers Lucy Florenzo, Lilly Fowler and Sophia Newman carefully step across the balance beam.**



Isabella Newman, as the elephant, parades around the ring.



The clowns giggle as they begin their performance.



The strongmen Harry McInnis, Henry Sage and Colton Thorne show their great strength.

# Bulova Achieves Budget Consensus

Supervisors vote unanimously to back chairman's spending proposal.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE GAZETTE

A year ago, Supervisors Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) and Michael Frey (R-Sully) were so opposed the 2009 Fairfax County budget proposal backed by then-chairman Gerry Connolly (D-At-large) that they came up with an alternative plan.

The only two Republicans on the county board at the time, Herrity and Frey suggested scraping the county's affordable housing preservation program. They wanted to lower how much the average homeowner paid in real estate taxes and allocate fewer dollars to Fairfax County Public Schools.

Herrity and Frey voted against the budget Connolly and other Democratic supervisors supported. The final budget vote tally was eight to two, along party lines.

But in 2009, all the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including Republicans, voted unanimously April 20 to back Democratic chairman Sharon Bulova's 2010 budget proposal. They took a final vote on the spending plan April 27.

"This may be on of the first times we have a possible unanimous vote on the board," said Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D), who has represented the Mount Vernon District for 21 years.

"I think this budget package represents a good start to returning the county to fiscal responsibility," said Herrity.



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE GAZETTE

**Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large).**

split along party lines this year too. Fairfax faced the largest budget shortfall it has seen in recent years. Bulova had to close a \$650 million gap in the county's \$3.3 billion budget, approximately a 19 percent deficit.

"This was not an easy process. It was one of the most difficult budgets you have had to handle," Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) told Bulova.

Even though Democrats still hold the majority of the seats on the board, county Republicans gained momentum in recent months, giving the more conservative supervisors a confidence boost.

Bulova narrowly defeated Herrity in the special election to replace Connolly as county chairman last February. Republican Su-

**THE BUDGET** could easily have

SEE BUDGET, PAGE 4

## Fairfax County Budget Highlights

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to make several changes to county executive Anthony Griffin's 2010 budget proposal. The following are a few of the supervisors' proposals:

- ❖ Raising the real estate tax rate from 92 cents per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.04 per \$100 of assessed value. With this tax rate hike, the average homeowner's bill will be a slight reduction over last year. Griffin proposed a slight increase to the bill with a tax rate to \$1.05.5 per \$100 of assessed value.

- ❖ Holding the county transfer to Fairfax County Public Schools at \$1.6 billion, the same level as last year. The supervisors said the school system could use federal stimulus money to make up the difference. Under the supervisors' proposal, the school system would still receive 53.8 percent of the county's overall budget.

- ❖ Reducing the amount of money the county sets aside to preserve affordable housing units by \$10 million this year. Instead, the supervisors would use this money to restore human services and public safety programs.

- ❖ Giving employees who earn outstanding performance reviews extra administrative leave instead of cash rewards.

- ❖ Restoring park funding to the Fairfax County Park Authority to avoid user fees at Lake Accotink, Burke Lake, Riverbend and Lake Fairfax parks.

- ❖ Holding the athletic participation fee steady at \$5.50 per person for county residents. The supervisors have asked that the athletic participation fee for non-county residents increase to \$30 per person.

- ❖ Restoring funding for satellite ab-

SEE FAIRFAX COUNTY, PAGE 4



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## NEWS

# Budget Agreement

FROM PAGE 3

Supervisor John Cook won Bulova's open seat in the Braddock District last month.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think I was going to get a unanimous vote on this budget," said Bulova.

Republican Supervisors said Bulova made concessions in the budget that made it easy for them to support.

"I don't go into the budget process looking for reasons to vote against it," said Frey.

The chairman proposed raising the real estate tax rate from 92 cents per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.04 per \$100 of assessed value. But a 12 percent drop in housing values across the county overall means that most residents would see a slight decrease in their tax bills.

The Bulova budget also calls for cutting in half funding for the affordable housing preservation program and holding steady the amount of money given to the school system, two measures the Republicans supported last year.

"The previous chairman pretended to listen to me, but he never heard what I was saying," said Frey. "Sharon understood the issues that I raised. She clearly tried to take a balanced approach. She said right up front that everything was on the table."

**THE ONLY DISSENT** on the budget came from within Bulova's own political ranks.

Supervisors Hyland and Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) tried to push for the board to impose a \$25 annual vehicle registration fee to cover the money cut from the affordable housing preservation program.

"There are still over 1,700 people who are homeless in the county and that does not include people living in overcrowded conditions. ... We did not fund one of our core values because we are not committed to it," said Hudgins.

Hyland said he was disappointed that the county would continue to dedicate a penny of the real estate tax rate to storm water management but would not continue to maintain its commitment to affordable housing.

ment to affordable housing.

The reduction in the affordable housing preservation program allowed the county to reallocate money for other housing or housing-related programs that were in danger of being completely cut, said Bulova. She added that the federal stimulus money would allow the county to keep the affordable housing program almost at full funding level in 2010.

Moving forward, Bulova said the county should look at restructuring its affordable housing program to be more flexible.

The affordable housing preservation fund currently has a very narrow focus — to purchase affordable housing units in danger of being converted to higher-end housing. With the foreclosure crisis underway, a greater need may exist to use that funding for other purposes, she said.

**OTHER MEMBERS** of the board supported implementing vehicle registration for different reasons.

McKay wanted the county to impose the \$25 annual fee on each car so that Fairfax could drop the real estate tax rate another cent. Hyland and Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) supported the motion.

"We have the highest foreclosure rate in the county in Lee District and we need to provide some real tax relief. ... I would much rather have people shed a car or two than lose their home," said McKay.

Smyth said she was concerned about senior citizens on fixed incomes who haven't seen a large drop in their home values and may end up paying more in real estate taxes this year because of the rise in the rate.

But Bulova and Herrity said the average household would end up paying more in taxes if a vehicle registration fee were substituted for a penny of the real estate tax rate.

One penny of the tax rate equals approximately \$45 for the average Fairfax household, but most Fairfax families have about three cars, meaning they would be pay \$75 each year if an annual vehicle registration fee was collected, said Herrity.

## Fairfax County Budget Highlights

FROM PAGE 3

sentee voting.

Restoring several senior programs, including those related to transportation, partially through increased fees for services. The Annandale Adult Day Care and programs at the Lorton, Lincolnia and Sully senior centers would remain up and running. Wakefield and

Groveton senior centers would remain open.

Sustaining funding for police officers that monitor some shopping centers and resource officers who work in the county's middle schools.

Keeping the school system's capital budget at \$155 million annually. Griffin had proposed reducing the schools' funding stream to \$140 million per year.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## OUTDOORS

# It's Mulch Madness Time

When the annual rite of spring goes wrong ...

BY MICHAEL K. BOHN  
FOR THE GAZETTE

As spring returns to Northern Virginia, homeowners busy themselves with garden chores. Tune up the lawnmower, rake leftover leaves, and sneeze at the tree pollen. But there is one job that many undertake that can cause more harm than good — mulching.

"Without a doubt, mulching is the most misused horticultural practice in the country," said Dean Norton, chief horticulturist at the Mount Vernon Estate. "Improper mulching will shorten the lifespan of trees and shrubs by half."

James Gagliardi, the horticulturist at the American Horticultural Society's River Farm, agrees. He blames poor mulching habits on homeowners copying what they see commercial landscaping companies do on public and private land. "If people see a 'mulch volcano' around the base of a tree, they are inclined to do the same at home."

Gagliardi explains that there are benefits to mulching:

- ❖ Conserve moisture in the soil.
- ❖ Moderate temperatures — it helps cool the soil in summer, warms it in winter.
- ❖ Suppresses weeds.
- ❖ Provides a unifying look in a garden.

But given Mr. Norton's fairly direct assessment, a few mulching "Dos" and "Don'ts" gathered from local experts might help folks as they prepare to mulch.

### DO:

- ❖ Apply only two or three inches of mulch around trees and shrubs.
- ❖ If planting a young tree, create a donut-shaped mulch well around the trunk to concentrate water on the root ball.
- ❖ If planting annuals or vegetables, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recommends waiting for soil temperatures to rise before mulching.

### DON'T

"Never, ever let the mulch contact the base of a tree or shrub," said Jim Luby, manager of Holly, Woods, and Vines, an Alexandria nursery. A retired supervisor at the U.S. Botanic Garden, Luby says piling mulch up the trunk promotes rot by holding moisture against the bark, deprives the plant's stem of oxygen, harbors disease, and provides a habitat for rodents intent on eating the tree bark. Norton says the practice also invites the tree to seek moisture from the mulch, creating shallow girdling roots instead of spreading the root structure outward.

❖ Using raw, unseasoned mulch or wood chips without adding fertilizer to the soil creates problems. "Organic mulches such as shredded hardwood, need to decompose for a year," Gagliardi says. "If the material is too green, it robs nitrogen from the soil as it decays, thus depriving the plant of the nutrient."

❖ If applying grass clippings as mulch, Luby recommends spreading them thinly. Thick, matted clumps prevent water from reaching the plant, and smell badly when oxygen can't penetrate the mass to aid in decomposition.

❖ Stop piling new mulch over the old. It's true that organic mulches will gradually decay and improve the underlying soil. However, the International Society of Arboriculture recommends removing old



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL K. BOHN

**This is a particularly egregious example of mulch "volcanoes." Even the shrubbery on the left is over-mulched.**



**This tree has sprouted girdling roots under the five inches of mulch covering the trunk stem. Girdling gradually compresses the stem to the point the tree dies.**



**Proper mulching is 2-3" thick and does not touch the trunk stem.**

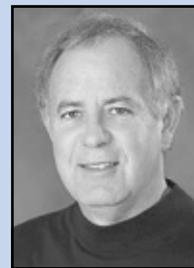
mulch around a tree base before adding new material. If not, repeated applications create the volcano shape. The trunk stem becomes buried and the tree dies.

"It's discouraging that some landscaping companies are creating bad mulching practices," Norton said. "They should be setting a better example."

Mount Vernon resident Sandy Bain has seen it the same way, recently firing her landscaping company for over-mulching. "Look at that mound," she said, pointing at a tree in her front yard. "That's ridiculous."

Lastly, the Landscape Taste Police caution against artificially dyed mulch. They suggest staying with Mother Nature's paint pallet.

For more mulching information visit Virginia Tech's Web site, <http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/>, and click on Home Gardening, and then Landscape Maintenance. Also, see USDA at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/backyard/Mulching.html>.



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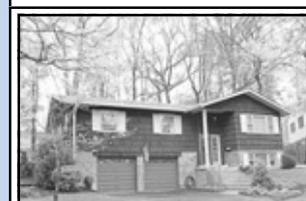
**Alex./Mount Vernon \$550,000**  
**9326 Craig Avenue**

Large brick 5 BR, 3 BA split w/2-car garage on .4 acre in lovely Mt. Vernon area w/lots of trees. 2 fireplaces, energy efficient replacement windows, beautiful refinished hdwd floors on main level, new carpeting, landscaped fenced rear lot w/hugh deck off sun-room addition, freshly painted interior & exterior. Superbly priced so renovate kitchen/baths to your desire. Easy commute to Ft. Belvoir, Alex, Old Town, D.C./Pentagon.



**Alex./Stratford Mid \$500s**  
**8716 Linton Lane**

Coming Soon in Stratford on the Potomac — Lovely 4 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial w/brick front & carport. Very competitively priced in mid 500s. Actually the lowest priced Colonial in 22308! This is not a short sale or bank owned. Fam rm w/FPL off the kitchen. Hdwd flrs on the mn & up lvl w/partial, unfinished basement which can be finished off or left as a workshop/storage area. Just down the street from Ft. Hunt Elem. Minutes to Ft. Belvoir & Huntington Metro.



**Alex./Riverside Ests. \$468,500**  
**8426 Cherry Valley Lane**

Large, lovely, 5 BR, 3 BA Split in popular Riverside Estates. Riverside's largest split w/2-car garage. Spacious FR w/FPL & beautiful sun rm addition. Neutral carpets over hdwd floors on lower lvl & upgraded Berber on lower lvl. Kit remodeled in late 90s. Professional landscaping. Great location—walk to Elem. & High schools. Commute in minutes—Ft. Belvoir (5), Hunting Metro & Alex (12), National Airport (25) Pentagon & D.C. (32).



**Alex./Hollin Hall Village \$389,900**  
**2100 Shenandoah Road**

Lovely, updated 2 BR+Den Rambler on a large beautiful Hollin Hall lot. Numerous updates: kitchen w/C.T. floor, cherry cabinets & granite counters. Newer roof & plumbing, replacement windows & an updated bath. Private, fenced, beautiful garden patio. Waynehood Elementary, easy commutes to Old Town, Ft. Belvoir, Ntl. Airport, Pentagon and D.C.



**Alex./Pinewood Lake \$269,900**  
**4332 Birchlake Court**

Beautifully updated 3-4 bedroom town house w/2.5 baths. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac w/wonderful views of the lake. Shows like a model—fresh paint, newer carpeting & light fixtures. Meticulously maintained & great location by the lake. Commuting minutes: Ft. Belvoir (5), Old Town & Huntington Metro (12), Ntl Airport (27) Pentagon & D.C. (32).

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## PEOPLE



Stratford Landing Elementary Odyssey of the Mind Team members, from left to right, back row, are Jonathan Gannon, Emily Carbone, coach Terri Bell, Jade Schaub, Samantha Kendrick and, in front row, Michael Bell, Alex Richwine, and TJ Ball.



Belle View Elementary Odyssey of the Mind Team members, from left to right, are Jack Apperson, Nick Vance, Claire Sedlak, coach Karen Corbett-Sanders, Annelieske Sanders, Erika Larsen, and Charloette Sofield.

# Local Odyssey Teams To Compete Internationally

## Victories send Belle View and Stratford Landing students to World Finals in Iowa.

BY LAURA CARBONE

In a hot, packed gymnasium in Newport News on April 18, all eyes and ears of seven 5th graders and six 6th graders sat focused on one person: the Odyssey of the Mind judge announcing who would be progressing to the next level of competition: Worlds. Only those teams placing first or second would be competing against teams from around the U.S. and 25 other countries.

Then it came: "Division 2, second place

and going to World Finals ... Belle View Elementary School!" Cheers went up as the six team members competing at the middle school level ran to receive their medals. Then it happened again: "Division 1, first place and going to World Finals ... Stratford Landing Elementary School!" The screams, squeals and applause was deafening. Two neighboring schools were on their way to the biggest international competition in an educational program called "Odyssey of the Mind."

Now the teams face their biggest challenge: how to get the two teams, 11 chaperones and a host of props including a large Parthenon, a 6-foot backdrop, one 2-headed dragon, and a 6-foot book to Ames Iowa by May 27. With estimates of the trip costing

## To Help

Donations to help with the estimated \$9,000 in travel expenses for each team may be sent to the schools' respective PTAs. Write "for Odyssey of the Mind team" on the check's memo line.

Kids asked to speak at the next Kiwanis meeting; others wrote letters and emails to family and friends around the country describing Odyssey of the Mind and asking for help; plant sales, lemonade stands, restaurant nights, were all quickly planned. Both schools' PTA stepped up to offer support by allowing tax deductible donations to be made through their respective PTA — donors just need to note in the memo line for the money to be used toward the Odyssey of the Mind team.

Belle View coach Karen Corbett-Sanders

around \$9,000 per team, this was not going to be an easy task.

One child quickly drafted a letter to a local church asking for space to hold a car wash; another child who is also a member of K-

and Stratford Landing coach Terri Bell began to discuss the possibility of chartering a bus together in an effort to keep travel costs down. "Odyssey of the Mind is all about creative problem solving and teamwork," said Corbett-Sanders. "By combining efforts in fundraising and traveling together, our teams and their parents are putting these skills in practice."

Getting to this point has been a lot of fun but also a lot of work for these students. Both teams began meeting in the fall to present one "long-term" problem and prepare for one on-the-spot "spontaneous" problem at the Regional Odyssey of the Mind competition in March. All competing Odyssey of the Mind teams pick one long-term problem from a list of five. Unbeknownst to the Stratford Landing and Belle View teams they both selected "Problem 5: SEE ODDYSSEY, PAGE 7



## '40 Off' and They're Off

"George Washington" at the Mount Vernon Estate informs contest winners of "Virginia's 40 Off" Travel Deals program where they will be heading for free overnight vacations. The program marks the 40th anniversary of Virginia is for Lovers tourism slogan. Details, trip ideas and travel resources are available at [www.Virginia.org/40Off](http://www.Virginia.org/40Off).



## Out of the Creek

Wastewater Treatment Division employees of Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, from left, Donnie Mock, Lonney Dickinson, Brandon Ferguson, Orazio Robinson and Sherman Scott, volunteered to help clean up Pohick Creek April 2 as part of the Potomac Watershed Clean Up. Trash not disposed of properly is washed by stormwater from roads, driveways and parking lots into streams where it pollutes the water, may kill fish and insects, damages wildlife habitat and eventually finds its way to the Potomac River and to the Chesapeake Bay. The county employees collected 20 bags of trash, two bikes, several plastic buckets, Styrofoam, seating cushions, plastic bottles, plastic containers of all sizes, beer bottles, cans, three grocery carts, assorted paper products and one plastic crate.

# PEOPLE



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

## Celebrating Grand Re-Opening

Friday at noon, the owner and staff of Mt. Vernon Paint Store at 6229 Richmond Highway began their weekend Grand Re-Opening with a ribbon cutting. Established in the early 1990s,

Mt. Vernon Paint has served residents for more than 15 years. The executive director and members of the Mount Vernon - Lee Chamber of Commerce joined the staff at the newly remodeled store. Pictured are Mt. Vernon Paint owner and wife of the store founder Rodney Godwin, Sally Bohn, her son Scott Godwin, store manager Bruce Bunch and his wife Michelle. Mount Vernon - Lee Chamber members included: Holly Dougherty, Katy Fike, Jeff Todd, Tracy Wood, Ginger Krup, John Herrity, Renato Abella, Frank Flaherty and Kelly Greenwood.



# Odyssey Finalists Raising Funds

FROM PAGE 6

Superstition." Their task: without any outside assistance and a not-to-exceed budget of \$125, they were to create and present a performance that included two documented superstitions, an original superstition created by

**"The wonderful part of the World Finals experience is that these kids will compete and celebrate each other's successes with teams from across the country and the world,"**

— Belle View coach Karen Corbett-Sanders

the team, and the events that caused the original superstition to come to be. The performance also had to include a funny narrator, a costume that is worn by two or more team members at the same time, and a stage set. During the performance the same stage set items had to change from one setting to another. Oh, and the entire performance including set up could not exceed eight minutes.

The spontaneous competition is much like the popular Drew Carey show, "Whose Line is It Anyway?" — except with Carey "points don't really matter" but in Odyssey of the Mind points definitely matter. Spontaneous may be a "verbal" problem, "building" problem, or a combination of the two.

Teams are given a challenge with very little time to solve.

Scores from both long-term and spontaneous problems are then tallied with the winners advancing to the next level.

"The wonderful part of the World Finals experience is that these kids will compete and celebrate each other's successes with teams from across the country and the world," said Corbett-Sanders. "The lessons all these kids have learned throughout

this whole process: teamwork, brainstorming, budgeting, learning from both successes and failures, are lessons and skills they will have for the rest of their life."

With the help of the community and all those involved, there is no doubt that on May 27 in Ames, Iowa there will be a group of thirteen 5th and 6th graders who only weeks ago sat in a hot gymnasium with their fingers crossed hoping to hear their names.

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# OPINION

## Call for Mother's Day Photos — and Fathers Too

Also inviting contributions of photos and stories from the community from any local event.

Every year at this time, the Gazette puts out the call for photographs of mothers and their children, grandmothers and their children and grandchildren.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10, and once again the Gazette will publish a gallery of Mother's Day photos.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including names of everyone in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children, a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to include your town name and neighborhood.

We prefer digital photos, but we also accept prints. We will do our best to return hard copies of photos that include a self-addressed-stamped envelope for that purpose, but please do not send us any photos that cannot be replaced.

Email photos to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

Send photos to The Gazette, Mother's Day Photo Gallery, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102.

Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, will be here by the time we blink, and we will also accept Father's Day photos, with the same guidelines.

**EDITORIAL** **THE GAZETTE'S** photographers, Louise Krafft and Robbie Hammer, won almost every possible award this year in the Virginia Press Association news contest. But they cannot attend even a significant fraction of the many newsworthy, photogenic events that occur every week.

Many of our readers are accomplished photographers, and many more perfectly competent with their point and shoot digital camera. We invite you to send us photos and a short write-up of any local event you think might

interest us.

Some examples: events, awards or other happenings at schools; fairs, charity events or any other gathering at a house of worship; a photo celebrating the anniversary of a business; a photo celebrating a local couple's milestone anniversary; engagement and wedding announcements; graduations; Eagle Scout projects and ceremonies; youth sports teams with trophies; community service projects by families, individuals or teams of employees; almost anything else you can imagine.

We prefer digital photos emailed along with the write-up. Be sure to include the name of everyone in the photo including where they live; we will almost certainly not use a photo if people are not identified. Please include age, grade and school for young people. And a paragraph or two that says where and when the event took place and what is happening. Include a phone number in case we have any questions.

Email photos to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM,

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

## Separating Needs from Wants

BY A. L. WILLIAMS  
THE GAZETTE

I walked down King Street in Old Town last month during the annual St. Patrick's Day parade. As I looked around I saw decorated streets and packed restaurants, and it seemed like a day back when things were thriving and the economy was at its peak.

### ONE TEEN'S VOICE

Simultaneously, there was a dog adoption auction going on in front of Town Hall. Almost all the dogs were up for adoption due to the effects the economic downturn was having on their owners. This made me think, and returned me to the reality that we are indeed in a recession.

As the youth of the time, and more specifically this community, advertisers market most products to us. We influence many of our families' large purchases and are consumers of many luxury items. Marketers know how to take advantage of that and gear their products with a certain coolness factor that appeals to the teen mind, and are sending messages our way 24-7.

It is easy to buy things when spending our parents' money, but in times when we are in an economic slump we need to be cautious not to fall into a consumer trap. We need to help to ensure economic stability within our respective households. There are a lot of things we can do to help our families out.

The first thing we need to do is be aware: 73 percent of area-youth asked said that they had not changed their lives or spending habits in any way since the onset of the economic decline. But 55 percent said that their family or someone they knew

was affected by the recession. (Forty Mt. Vernon area youth were polled.)

There is a lot that as a youth community we can collectively do to help. All the small things add up.

Carpooling when driving to school and other places will save money on gas. Rent a movie with your friends instead of going to the theatre. Share a meal with a friend at a restaurant instead of leaving half. Be conscious of turning lights off when you leave a room, or when they are unnecessary. Take advantage of free entertainment in Old Town and D.C. With nicer spring weather, a picnic in Fort Hunt Park is a fun option. All these things which are seemingly insignificant on their own, add up to something much greater.

"I could give up eating out as much, because I can do that at home for less. Instead we could hang out and have dinner at somebody's house," said Caitlin Dougherty, West Potomac junior.

But it is hard to find a balance with spending — if we stop supporting local restaurants and shops all together, it will cause unemployment to rise and businesses to close.

As a community we are one of the more fortunate. The median household income for Fairfax County in 2007 was \$105,241, compared to the median for the state of Virginia at \$59,526, and that of the entire United States at \$50,740 (from the U.S. Census Bureau). And Fairfax County has had a relatively small number of layoffs with only a 2.1 percent net change in the unemployment rate from February 2008 to February 2009. But this doesn't mean that we are not undergoing the same hardships as other areas in the country and don't need to act sensibly. We too,

SEE TEENS' NEEDS, PAGE 9

### LETTERS

## Arboreal Crime Scene

To the Editor:

This week, Ft. Hunt Road travelers have endured a ghastly arboreal crime scene, Fairfax County the perpetrator.

Beautiful, mature oaks, cherry and maples, behind which the Martha Washington Library nestled, have been sickeningly slaughtered, victims of the library's remodeling.

County officials bray about "Green" and its crucial necessity, yet planned for this capital ecological crime. There are barely-used parking lots to the north and west of the building into which, with the slightest architectural sensibility and oversight, it could expand without rendering the library's front a forbidding killing field now depriving citizens of those trees' saving graces.

To despoil and destroy mature oxygen factories, CO2 sumps, and temperature moderating trees by clear-cutting that small strip of land separating the library and Ft. Hunt Road is rank governmental disservice and hypocrisy, as ugly and unenlightened as it is incomprehensible.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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

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A Connection Newspaper



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/ GAZETTE

### Spring's Arrival

Hundreds and hundreds of daffodils singularly and in arrangements arrived at Goodwin House on N. Beauregard St. for the annual Garden Club of Alexandria and Hunting Creek Garden Club Show. After the conclusion of the judging and show, the arrangements and flowers are given to residents in the retirement house.

## Teens' Needs

FROM PAGE 8

need to take action and make sure we remain prosperous. To achieve this we cannot act foolish and ignore the times; we need to make smart decisions and realize that sometimes that means giving up our latest wants.

So, as we continue our lives and the economy remains in its current state let's make a pact not to spend impractically, not to waste recklessly, and to make a conscientious effort to make educated choices.

If nothing else, this would be a good time in life to prioritize. Before you beg your parents for the next "new thing," take a second to ask yourself — do I really need it, or is it just something I just want now? It would be a huge burden lifted from parents to start separating real needs from wants and be careful about what we ask for.

### Write

Letters to the Editor  
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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

Perp sanctions should reflect the fate of those magnificent trees.

**Rocky Curtis**  
Alexandria

## Don't Clog Storm Drains

To the Editor:

Earth Day is a good reminder of the things we should do on a daily basis to protect the quality of our environment. Much of what we can and should do is quite simple, including some basic lawn-care practices. All too often I've seen people in our community blow, sweep, shovel, rake, or dump yard (or pet) debris into storm drains. This debris not only has the potential to clog the storm drains, increasing maintenance costs and the risk of localized flooding, but also results in the delivery of sediment and nutrients to local streams and, ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay where it will contribute to the decline in Bay quality. It would be far better for people to leave the noisy, energy-consuming leaf blower in the garage and grab a broom or rake to collect their lawn clippings and yard debris for recycling or composting. An added bonus is the healthy exercise!

**Steve Dressing**  
Alexandria

## PEOPLE NOTES

**Timothy Hamer** will be the principal of Bishop Ireton High School. Hamer has served as an interim principal since last year when Father Matthew Hillyard, O.S.E.S. was reassigned as the Rector of the Cathedral Parish in Camden, N.J. This follows a nationwide search to fill the position.

Army Spec. **Tamekia A. Powell** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. She is the daughter of Annie Powell of Alexandria. Powell received a bachelor's degree in 2008 from Georgia Southern University, Statesboro.

**John Raney**, Alexandria resident and 30-year Marine Corps veteran, won with D.C. Lottery's Deal or No Deal Second Chance Drawing. He received a trip to Hollywood and a chance to win money on "Deal or No Deal."

**Cadet Margaret Strain**, a junior at Randolph-Macon Academy and the daughter of David and Charlotte Strain of Alexandria, made the president's list.

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# OBITUARIES

## Pamela Davis Alexander

Pamela Davis Alexander (age 56) died suddenly on April 19, 2009 at Alexandria Hospital after a brief illness.

Pam was born in Dundalk, Md. and moved to the Northern Virginia area in 1976. She graduated from the University of Maryland in 1974 and, most recently, from George Washington University with a master's degree in counseling. During her 30-year career as an educator, Pam taught health education at G. Gardner Shugart and Eugene Burroughs Middle School in Prince George's County.

She is survived by her husband, David C. "Beck" Roehrenbeck of Alexandria, and her two daughters, Brooke Byer Alexander and Hollis Alexander Gorham (Richard), both of Fairfax, as well as the girls' father, Brian Alexander, whose marriage to Pam ended in divorce in 1985. Pam had two stepchildren, Anne Ashley Croker (Thomas) and David Roehrenbeck (Cybil). She is also survived by her three sisters, Jacqueline Spaulding of Radford, Va., Susan Barnes of Wilmington, Del., and Deborah Nichols of Arlington, Va.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, April 23, 2009 at Christ Church in Old Town Alexandria. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the

Men's Home, 402 Hume Avenue, Alexandria, VA, 22301.

## Pauline Hall Taylor

Pauline Hall Taylor was born Aug. 6, 1918 in Falls Church, Va. and died April 25, 2009 in her Falls Church home. She was the daughter of Arnold Kellogg Hall and Mattie May Hutton and the wife of John Emory Taylor for 50 years. Pauline is survived by her brother, Raymond Hall, her son John Emory Taylor Jr. of Alexandria, Va. and Sharon Hall Taylor of Arvada, Colo. She is grandmother to four: Daniel Delaney, Elizabeth Reynebeau, Mischa Delaney, and John Emory Taylor III; and the great grandmother to four: Shelby Delaney, Reagan Reynebeau, Catherine Delaney, and Carter Reynebeau.

Pauline was a proud native of Falls Church and had deep roots in her community. Her life was devoted to the welfare and happiness of her family and friends, all of whom will miss her deeply.

All are welcome to her memorial service to be held at her home at 2327 Dale Drive, Falls Church VA 22043 on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 12 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Capital Hospice, 6565 Arlington Blvd, Suite 500, Falls Church, VA 22042.

## FAITH NOTES

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

On the first Monday of each month, the 6:30 p.m. service is a **Requiem**

**Eucharist.** Names of loved ones who died during that month in any year and of our service men and women who died in the previous month are read aloud during the service. To have a loved one added to the list, call the parish office at 703-549-1980 and providing the full name and date of death. Grace Episcopal Church, 3601 Russell

Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.gracealex.org](http://www.gracealex.org).

**Summer Camp** coming to Messiah. Camp will run from June 22 to Aug. 28, 7:30-6 p.m. Full and part time available. Messiah Lutheran Church, 6510 Ft. Hunt Road. Contact Anndra, 703-765-5003.

## North Hill Public Input Meeting Set For May 6, 2009

The Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority will hold a joint Public Input Meeting to gather public comment on the draft master plan and proposed housing development for North Hill, which is located along Richmond Highway, north of Dart Drive and Woodley Hills Estates. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 7 p.m. at the Mount Vernon District Governmental building, located at 2511 Parkers Lane in Alexandria.

North Hill is an approximately 33-acre site which was formerly developed as the Woodley Nightingale Mobile Home Park and is now vacant. An 11-acre portion is proposed to be developed with manufactured homes. The remaining 22 acres is proposed to be developed as a community park. The future park will become the first public open space along Richmond Highway.

This meeting will feature a presentation about the site's current conditions and the proposed future uses. Following the presentation, the meeting will continue with a moderated public comment session to provide input on the draft park master plan and housing proposal.

The draft park master plan and housing proposal are available for review at the project websites or in hardcopy from the Fairfax County Park Authority in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406. Visit the Park Authority website at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/north\\_hill.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/north_hill.htm) and Housing and Community Development website at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rha/north\\_hill/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rha/north_hill/).

Interested individuals and organizations are urged to attend this public meeting to present their views. Comments on the proposed plans will be received by the Park Authority and Housing Authority for 30 days after the meeting. The public comment period for the park master plan will close on June 5, 2009 and all comments must be received by this date in order to be included in the official public record that will be presented to the Park Authority Board to consider when taking action on the park master plan. Comments will be accepted at the meeting or can be emailed to: [Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov). Written comments on the proposed park improvements should be directed to Scott Sizer, project manager, Planning & Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, VA 22035. Written comments on the proposed housing improvements should be directed to Thomas W. Armstrong, senior design and construction manager, Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development, 3700 Pender Drive, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030.

For more information contact the Mount Vernon Supervisor's office at 703-780-7518.

If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least ten working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354 • 703-324-8700 • ONLINE : [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks) • E-mail: [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)

## The Alexandria Choral Society

### Children's Chorus Presents:

## At the Movies...and On Broadway!

Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 4pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church

2701 Cameron Mills Road

Alexandria, VA 22302

Free Concert

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



## Featured Listings

### JUST LISTED!



### WAYNEWOOD • CONOVER PL. JUST LISTED - \$1,097,777

Beautiful new construction in Waynewood from Long Company. Convenient to everything! You'll appreciate the attention to detail on this 5 bedroom 4.5 bath home. Chef's kitchen, luxurious master suite, hardwood floors, extensive molding, 2 car garage and more. May delivery.

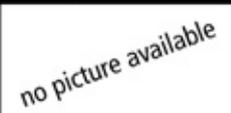
### UNDER CONTRACT!



### RIVERSIDE GARDENS • STABLE DR.

Popular Sweetbriar model lovingly maintained and located on a quiet street just blocks from Stratford Landing and Sandburg schools. Fresh paint, new carpet, hardwood floors, and more!

### SOLD!



### WAYNEWOOD • ALDEN RD.

Popular Mayfield model awaits your personal touches. Hardwood floors, spacious rooms, and beautiful yard just steps from the Waynewood pool grounds and Waynewood elementary school. Bring your decorating ideas and creativity to make yourself a wonderful home.

### UNDER CONTRACT!



### WAYNEWOOD • CULVER PL.

Spectacularly remodeled Mayfield model! Boasts renovated kitchen with maple cabinets, granite, stainless, ceramic tile and more. Renovated bathrooms with granite ceramic and soaking tub. Huge patio, new windows, and designer colors.

### UNDER CONTRACT!



### WAYNEWOOD • POTOMAC LN.

Huge Cambridge model boasts renovated kitchen, renovated bathrooms, and plenty of space for the whole family. Convenient to the pool and school, and with a garage too!

Thinking of buying or selling a home? I specialize in Fort Hunt properties and have represented more buyers and sellers in the Waynewood and Riverside Gardens communities this year than any other agent or agent team. Call me today!



703.946.5298

[jason.quimby@verizon.net](mailto:jason.quimby@verizon.net)

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Your Alexandria and Mount Vernon Area Real Estate Consultant

# GOP Candidates for Attorney General Talk About Who Can Win

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE GAZETTE

Three Republican candidates for Attorney General focused on why they would be the best person to beat Democratic nominee Steve Shannon while speaking in Reston April 17.

Former U.S. Attorney John Brownlee, state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) and former Arlington County School Board member David Foster tried to woo supporters from the crowd of about 40 people at the event sponsored by the Republican Club of Greater Reston at the Reston Community Center. The contest to be the Attorney General nominee is by far the most competitive inter-party battle on the Republican side of the aisle in Virginia. The three candidates will square off at the Republican Party of Virginia's statewide nominating convention

in Richmond May 29 and 30. Local Republican committees have already selected their convention delegates.

**CUCCINELLI** reminded the crowd that he is the only Republican out of the 10 state senators in Northern Virginia. He is also the only person out of all of the statewide candidates on the Republican side who has proven record of winning in Fairfax County. "I win and I have no Loudoun or Prince William County precincts to help me," said Cuccinelli, who represents Centreville, Burke and Springfield.

He added that each of the last five statewide Republican candidates — including Ariz. Sen. John McCain, U.S. Sen. George Allen, former Attorney General Jerry Kilgore — have lost his senate seat. But Cuccinelli continues to win, despite being outspent in campaigns by Democratic opponents.

"I am outspent by the Democrats because

they can't stand me," said Cuccinelli.

"We have learned to run grass roots campaigns better than anyone in Virginia," he added.

Professionally, Cuccinelli is a lawyer in private practice that has represented small and mid-sized businesses, he said. He has also won lawsuits challenging the commonwealth of Virginia.

**FOSTER** is the only Republican to win elected office in Arlington County in 25 years, though, as a School Board member, he was not allowed to officially affiliate with any political party.

"I have taken on the toughest Democratic machine south of the Bronx and east of Chicago," said Foster, referring to the Arlington County Democrats.

Foster, an Arlington native, is partner at Fulbright and Jaworski L.L.P. and has worked at the law firm since 1990.

"I have more legal experience than my competitors combined," said Foster.

Foster has also had to oversee several lawyers at his law firm, which is a lot like managing the 300-plus people in the attorney general's office, he said.

"Bob McDonnell said running the attorney general's office is like running a large law firm," he said.

**BROWNLEE** attended Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax County, though he now lives in the Roanoke area. President George W. Bush appointed him the U.S. attorney for the western part of Virginia in 2001.

"I was the top federal law enforcement officer for half of the state. I have convicted mayors, sheriffs and Board of Supervisors," said Brownlee.

Five out of the last six attorneys general in Virginia have been former prosecutors and Brownlee is the only Republican in the race with that experience. He worries that Shannon, the Democratic nominee, could have an edge over the other Republican candidates because Shannon was also a prosecutor. "You have to be a prosecutor to get elected. Every time, the public picks a prosecutor," said Brownlee. Brownlee is also a veteran. Veterans and military people are more likely to come out and support Brownlee than other candidates, because of his military experience, he said.

# Bulova, Connolly To Attend Commissioning Day

New faces and titles will appear on the program for the Mount Vernon Yacht Club Commissioning Day 2009 on Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m.

Sharon Bulova, the newly elected chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, will make her first appearance at the annual event on the Mount Vernon Yacht Club

Point, according to The Beacon, the MVYC's newsletter.

Former Board of Supervisors chairman Gerry Connolly, the newly elected U.S. representative for Virginia's 11th district including Mount Vernon, will return with his new title.

Also attending this year after having to

miss last year's event for the first time in 20 years will be Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland. Del. Kristen Amundson and state Sen. Toddy Puller will also be attending. Also on the program will be the Mount Vernon Community Band, the Mount Vernon High School Crew Team and the U.S. Coast Guard Color Guard.

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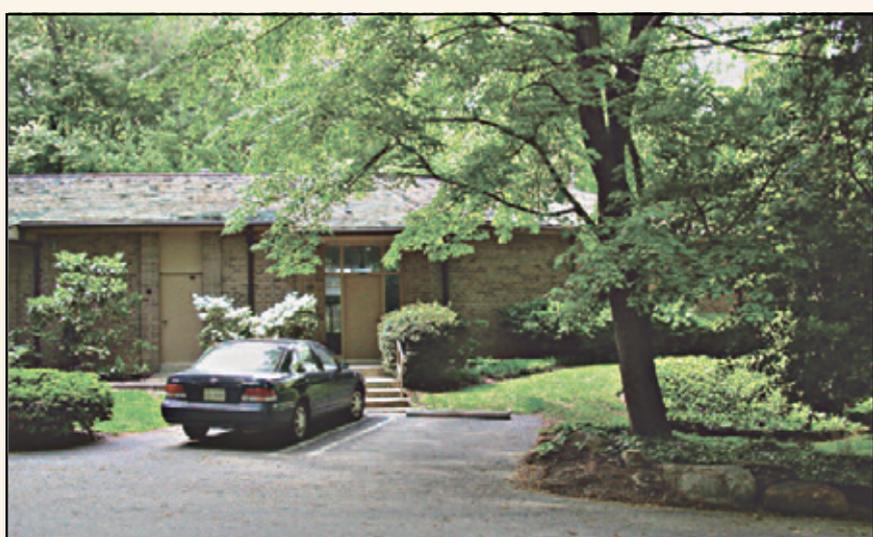
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**Celebrate Mother's Day**

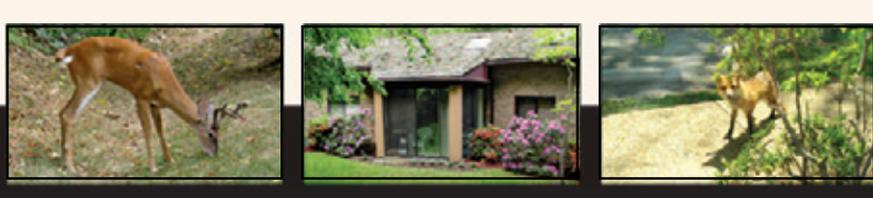
  
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**Yes, It's a Condo...**

But so totally different. This unique home has two bedrooms, two baths, nine foot ceilings, skylights plus all of the amenities of Montebello: indoor/outdoor pools, tennis, bowling, beauty salon, cafe, dry cleaners and the list goes on... Ground to ceiling terrace windows allow access to one's own "private forest" with lush vegetation and wild life. (See FX6971215 for complete printout/CS.) **\$415,000**



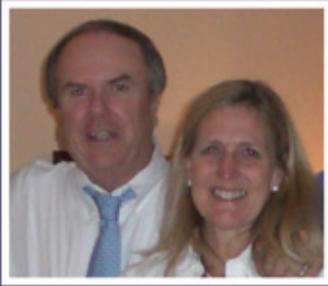
**Lois M. Delaney, CRB, CRS**  
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**703-548-5958 or 800-446-4187**

**PHOTO GALLERY!**

**"Me and My Mom"**

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Mount Vernon Gazette will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to: PhotoAX@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:  
The Mount Vernon Gazette, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 7913 Westpark Dr., McLean, VA 22102  
Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.



# CHRIS WHITE

*Great Home Values – Record Low Mortgage Rates!*



4327  
Ferry Lndg Rd  
\$455,000  
*Yacht Haven Estates!*

Truly special home lovingly maintained by long term owners.

Large room sizes, high ceilings and open floor plan provide unlimited potential! Brick exterior, two fireplaces, hardwood floors, walk-out lower level and gas heat & hot water. Glass walls and private screened porch overlook gorgeous half acre grounds. Super value! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Ferry Lndg Rd.



1210  
N Pegram St  
\$1,351,500  
*Classic Colonial!*

Come see Alexandria's most exciting new home opportunity!

See our top quality construction, open floor plans and magnificent site in the heart of Alexandria's Seminary area. This home is now almost complete and is awaiting your finishing touches! Special financing is available! Open Sun 1-4pm. I-395: Exit Seminary Rd East, R Pickett St, bear right onto Pegram St.



7501  
Park Terrace Dr  
\$1,300,000  
*Stunning!*

Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie style, this 1.13 acre property sits on a bluff

overlooking acres of parkland with seasonal river views! Heart of redwood features, large room sizes, high ceilings and expansive glass window walls capture the natural beauty of grounds. Off GW Pkwy, 3 miles from Old Town. (Adjoining 1.18 acre available for \$975,000).



6906  
Duke Drive  
\$389,900  
*Best Value!*

Hard to find detached home for under \$400,000 in Alexandria area! This gorgeous

4BR, 3BA Cape Cod has been totally remodeled from top to bottom! Features include: brand new baths & kitchen, hardwood floors on two levels, recessed lighting, finished lower level with full bath and prime location on large level lot convenient to everything!



9516  
Mt Vernon Landing  
\$2,900,000  
*Waterfront!*

Waterfront homes rarely become available in Mt Vernon on the

Potomac! Spacious custom Tudor was carefully crafted with the highest quality materials and planned with three levels of Pella window walls to maximize water views. 6BRs, 5BAs, full walk out LL and many rooms with dramatic river views.



9304  
Allwood Drive  
\$698,000

*"Green" House!* Expanded and updated, this spectacular home features uniquely bright, open floor

plan, soaring cathedral ceilings and updated kitchen and baths. Expansion was done with carefully selected natural materials to minimize environmental impact. Prime location on large lot in the heart of Mount Vernon's nicest neighborhoods. "One of a kind" home!



4003  
Belle Rive Terr  
\$4,800,000  
*Riverfront!*

Prime Mt Vernon location with the most breathtaking river views you have ever seen!

Over 11,000 sq ft with five bedrooms including main level river view master suite with enormous luxury bath and huge closets. Extensive balconies, deck and roof deck capitalize on the majestic setting high above the Potomac River.



4307  
Sheridan's Point  
\$859,000  
*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!



8304  
Riverton Ln  
\$825,000  
*Stunning!*

Victorian home combines farm house exterior with stunning open interior. 3 fin

levels, 4BR, 3.5BA, hardwood floors and spectacular kitchen with custom wood cabinets, granite counters & center island. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac within walking distance to highly regarded Stratford Landing and Sandburg schools.

## STRATFORD LANDING!



8826  
Camden Street  
\$899,500  
*Gorgeous Setting!*

There's nothing like it on the market today – fabulous new

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



Brambly Lane  
\$969,900  
FREE FINISHED BASEMENT FOR FIRST CONTRACT IN APRIL – \$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.)



4203 Adrienne Dr  
\$459,000



9405 Ferry Lndg Ct  
\$795,000



9333 Brambly Ln  
\$539,000



9305 Mt Vernon Circle  
\$985,900

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**2106 FORESTHILL ROAD**  
Alexandria / Belle Haven - \$1,549,000

Classic ctr hall Col. 5Br/3.5 Ba, updated kit w/eat-in space, exposed brick FP, butler's pantry & heartpine flrs. Hwd flrs, deep moldings, slate roof, copper gutters & plaster walls, fin rec rm & enclosed garden.  
For a private showing call...

**Betty Quirk 703.851.3447**  
bettyquirk.com or liveinbellehaven.com



**6510 10th STREET**  
Alexandria / Belle View - \$349,000

RARELY AVAILABLE! STUNNING UPDATES! 2Br/1Ba, 3 lvl TH. Cherry/granite Kit, marble BA, French doors, 2 porches & more. Park-like setting. Close to OT, bike path, I-495, shops. Dir: from OT, S on GW Pkwy, R on Belle View, R on 10th Street

Pictures: [www.ijumani.com](http://www.ijumani.com)  
**Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804**



**1105 POTOMAC LANE**  
Alexandria - \$715,000

Exceptional fully fenced backyard & garage parking in this 5-6Br/3Ba home. Beautifully updated country Kit w/brick hearth & FP. Family room w/FP and walk-out. Walk to school, pool & park.

**Catherine.Foltz@longandfooster.com**  
**Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914**



**1915 DUFFIELD LANE**  
Alexandria - \$579,900

Fab new price for this meticulous 3 lvl garage TH in Belle Haven; mins to OT, Potomac, METRO & more! Brand new kit & baths incl lux Master Suite. 3Br/3Ba, private outdoor stone patio, custom built-ins, 2 FP & convenience! Walk to bike path, shops and restaurants!

**Kim Muffler 703.282.7739**



**7020 HIGHLAND MEADOWS COURT**  
Alexandria - \$780,000

Pristine like-new 3 lvl brick Col in enclave of 32 lux homes, mins to Ft Belvoir, METRO & BWay. Almost 5,000 sf of living space, 4Br/3.5Ba, gour kit, walk-o bsmt w/slate patio, extensive landscape, 2 car gar & more! DIR: from BW, Telegraph Rd S approx 3 mi's to R Highland Meadows to 7020 on L

**Kim Muffler 703.282.7739**



**8402 FELTON LANE**  
Collingwood - \$689,900

JUST LISTED! Beautiful 3 level renovated home in the heart of Collingwood. 4Br. gourmet kitchen, large fenced lot, huge deck, open & bright! Walk to river, GW bike path, Waynewood ES District.

[www.WaynewoodRealtors.com](http://www.WaynewoodRealtors.com)  
**Anita D'Antonio 202-460-1809**  
**Elke Kohler 703-967-7633**



**6317 FT HUNT ROAD**  
Alexandria - \$629,000

NEWLY RENOVATED brick end unit TH located off the Pkwy, near OT & DC. Update kit, 2FP & a lg bonus rm off the LL family rm. Deck, lg enclosed garden/patio. Pristine condition. Parking.  
For a private showing call...

**Betty Quirk 703.851.3447**  
bettyquirk.com or liveinbellehaven.com



**3803 COURTLAND CIRCLE**  
Alexandria - \$550,000

3Br, 2.55Ba luxury Townhouse. Dramatic open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings, Palladian windows, built-ins, designer niches & quality upgrades throughout. Mins to Pentagon, DC & OT. Dir: I-395, exit 7/S Glebe, bear R onto W Glebe, L on Charles, bear L on Charles, R on Courtland.

Pictures: [www.ijumani.com](http://www.ijumani.com)  
**Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804**  
**Brandy Buzinski 202.277.5478**



**1302 BELLE VIEW BOULEVARD #C1**  
Alexandria - \$269,000

SELLER TO PAY 6 MOS CONDO FEES! 2Br/1Ba Belle View Condo. Sunny top-floor end unit with porch. Updated kit & Ba. Move-in condition! Plenty off-street parking. Public trans to METRO. Walk to river, bike/jog trail, shops.

**Martha Deal 703.622.6797**



**801 NORTH PITT ST, UNIT 218**  
Alexandria - \$187,000

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! Charming sunny Port Royal corner unit studio w/priv balc. Updated bath, new HVAC. Rooftop grill deck w/smashing views, low condo fee incl all utilities. 24hr concierge. Pet friendly bldg. Plenty of free parking. Fabulous location!

**Martha Deal 703.622.6797**



**1220 TUDOR PLACE**  
Alexandria / Marlan Heights - \$985,000

JUST LISTED! 3lvl, all brick Georgian colonial w/4or5Br, 3.5Ba, full finished LL, 3FP & 2 car side-load garage. Beautiful brick walled formal garden w/terraces, patio, boxwoods, side yd & more! Hwd fls, elegant molding, terrazzo fl LL. One of a kind in the Marlan Forest/Villamay area!

**Gary Ansley 202.288.7946**



**CLASSIC CONTEMPORARY**  
Alexandria / South - \$538,000



Located in Hollin Hills in a park-like setting, this 1 level contemporary has 4Br/2Ba, FP, sky lights & a garage. Floor to ceiling windows allow private views of the wooded lot & parkland. Community pool & tennis club.  
See me on:

[www.marylousage.com](http://www.marylousage.com)  
**Marylou Sage 703.851.5441**



**2509 HUNTON PLACE**  
Alexandria - \$649,900

STONEGATE FABULOUS! Jefferson model, 4 lvls, 3Br/2.55Ba, eat-in kitchen next to FR, sep dining room, hardwoods, extra high ceilings, Palladian windows w/plantation shutters, custom window treatments, brick patio off huge LL rec room, deck off LR, 2 car garage. Many upgrades. Better than a model!

**Rose Mary Cousins 703.627.0404**



**1675 HUNTING CREEK DRIVE**  
Alex / OT - \$875,000

WELCOME HOME! Spectacular price on this elegant & meticulously card for home. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. An inviting open floor plan that works for families as well as guests. Hardwoods, premium carpet, cook's kitchen, deck, patio, gorgeous landscaping & 2 car garage. Only 1 light to DC & airport.

OUTSTANDING VALUE!  
**Ann Logsdon 703.568.8433**



### RENTALS

**5903 Mount Eagle Drive #812 \$1,400**  
Montebello Hi-Rise 1Br/1Ba  
*Patricia Tierney 703.850.5630*

**6803 Kenyon Drive \$1,400**  
Beacon Manor Semi-detached 2Br/1Ba  
*Janice Allen 703.509.0906*

**5938 Cove Landing Road #102A \$1,500**  
Burke Cove Garden 1Br/1Ba 1Pkg  
*Connie McKeen 703.866.8118*

**3326 Lakeside View Drive #3 \$1,850**  
Waters Edge TH 2Br/2Ba/1FP Parking  
*Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914*

### RENTALS

**11325 Bacon Race Road \$2,290**  
Cannon Bluff Rambler 5Br/3Ba/2FP  
*Edrees Amarkhel 571.237.7382*

**8061 Fairfax Road \$4,100**  
Hollin Hall Detached 6Br/5.5Ba/2FP 2 Garage  
*Jill DiPasquale 571.436.8699*

**2106 Foresthill Road \$5,000**  
Belle Haven 5Br/3.5Ba/2FP 1 Parking  
*Betty Quirk 703.851.3447*

**1901 Arlington Ridge Road #04/17/08 \$5,200**  
Top of Arlington Ridge Road Split Level  
4Br/3Ba/2FP 6 Garage Parking  
*Heidi Kohler 703.518.8768*



**6621 WAKEFIELD DRIVE #913-A**  
Alexandria / River Towers - \$149,000

ALMOST NEW! 1Br/1Ba - Shows great - freshly painted, new carpet, new appliances, updated kitchen, bath - great amenities - outdoor pool, tennis, party & exercise rm, free parking picnic areas - and low condo fee includes ALL UTILITIES! Bus transportation at the curb, too!!!!

**Franki Roberts 703.898.0840**



**8311 MOUNT VERNON HIGHWAY**  
Alexandria - \$993,900

NEW HOME NEW PRICE! This light filled new Wakefield Home is loaded with wonderful moldings, arched entry ways, hwd fls, gourmet Kit w/SS & granite, fab screened porch, huge master suite & too many options to mention.

**Mary Rice Prosser 703.625.4461**





RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

# COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

**7905 Ft Hunt Road**  
**\$575,000 | Alexandria South**  
Your Country Escape just minutes from Old Town. Bright open home with one level living on over 1/2 acre. New kitchen with gas cooking, granite and stone floor. Renovated bathrooms. High ceilings, skylights, outdoor sitting areas and peaceful surroundings. Walk to Shopping, restaurants and Parkway. [www.phyllispatterson.com](http://www.phyllispatterson.com).

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



REDUCED \$100,000! OPEN SUN 1-4

**409 North Columbus Street**  
**\$699,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
Great opportunity to get this all brick townhouse! Charm and sunlight abound with its 12' ceilings and original wood floors. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, private patio, new roof and zoned air conditioning. From Washington and King Street, take Washington North, left onto Princess and first right onto Columbus to 409.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

**2121 Jamieson Avenue #1603**  
**\$699,000 | Carlyle Towers/ Greater Old Town**  
180 degree views south, west, and north - skyline, Masonic Temple, and park! Bright 2/3 bedroom unit with 2.5 baths. Eat-in kitchen has extra cabinets, dining room has silver storage, special glass doors to the curved, windowed balcony. Vacant and ready. Garage parking. Call Marie for floor plan or personal showing. MLM1606@aol.com.

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



TOP FLOOR PENTHOUSE

**5250 Valley Forge Drive #805**  
**\$290,000 | Wapleton**  
Fabulous top-floor penthouse corner unit with stunning eastern & southern exposure. Private 400 square foot terrace plus 2 balconies! 2 bedrooms and a den, two separate entrances to the unit, parking space #39 immediately outside the side condo entrance. These top floor units with the terrace rarely come on the market!

Sherry York | 703.625.3377



JUST LISTED - OPEN SUN 1-4

**2215 Lakeshire Drive**  
**\$825,000 | South Alexandria**  
Charming sunny farmhouse with front porch on 1/3 acre; 2 car garage, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 updated baths and plumbing for another. Granite, stainless, refinished hardwoods, new carpet, paint and ready to move into. Even a kitchen garden to plant your own vegetables! Open Sunday 1-4.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



JUST LISTED! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

**6641 Wakefield Drive #703**  
**\$310,000 | River Towers**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath condo with renovated kitchen, updated baths, new interior doors and plenty of closets. Resort living in a peaceful setting located on 26 landscaped acres backs to trees and Dyke's Marsh. Ample parking, pool, tennis courts, picnic grove with grills and more. Convenient to Old Town, shops, restaurants and bus to Metro.

Denise Davis | 571.332.8531



OLD TOWN LIVING

**543 South Saint Asaph Street**  
**\$605,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
Charming 3 bedroom home in desirable Old Town location. Beamed ceilings, exposed brick hearth, hardwood floors, kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, three bedrooms, two and one half nicely renovated bathrooms, neutral paint and fresh décor. Private patio. Shopping, dining and more!

Cindie Fish | 703.201.4451



COMPLETE RENOVATION!

**9334 Old Mount Vernon Road**  
**\$599,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
Beautifully Renovated! Enjoy a lazy summer by the spectacular pool and large deck area, plus screened porch! Appreciate the large open remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors throughout, lovely family room with fireplace, 4 spacious bedrooms and a great multi purpose room with outside access.

Nancy Tompkins | 703.518.2813



JUST LISTED

**1208 Cedar Dale Lane**  
**\$575,000 | Alexandria South**  
Renovated one level living on a country lane just 5 miles south of Old Town on 1/2 acre lot. Eat-in kitchen overlooking fenced yard, spacious master suite with doors to deck, ample closet space, renovated bath. Lower level has two bedrooms, family room, splashy full bath, utility room, storage closet, laundry area. Systems all recently replaced.

Jane Cole | 703.598.6198



JUST LISTED

**6115 Greeley Boulevard**  
**\$475,000 | Springfield**  
Unique and upgraded floor plan. Stainless steel appliances, large family room, guest suite with full bath and private exit to wrap around deck. Master has fabulous closet with many built in areas-this was originally a bedroom. Lower level has 2nd family room, full bath and the 4th bedroom. New entry door and front windows.

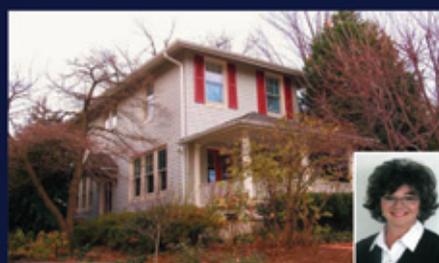
Ann Lockwood | 703.299.8643



UNDER CONTRACT

**5081 Donovan Drive**  
**\$439,900 | Cameron Station**  
Pristine two level, end-unit condo townhouse with garage. Prime Cameron Station location. Featuring 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, warm hardwood floors, and a stylish granite kitchen. Designer touches throughout. Close to community amenities, easy access to free shuttle to Metro. Photos on [www.paddockhomes.com](http://www.paddockhomes.com).

Vaughn & Diane Paddock | 703.628.2828



ROSEMONT BEAUTY

**4 Rosemont Lane**  
**\$849,000 | Alexandria City**  
Classic Rosemont beauty just blocks to Metro. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths. Comfortable, flowing floor plan with sunny living room leading to charming porch, large formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, family room that opens to private patio/ yard. Dir: From King St, N on Russell Rd, R on Rosemont Ave.

Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041



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ESTATE QUALITY HOME

**3616 North Albemarle Street**  
**\$1,800,000 | Country Club Hills, Arlington**  
 Elegant estate home in sought after neighborhood with beautiful formal rooms, handsome moldings and medallions, hardwood flooring and dramatic two story foyer flooded with sunlight. Amazing stone landscaping with patio and walls, detached garage and peaceful garden spaces.

**Nancy Tompkins | 703.518.2813**



CIRCA 1780 - OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA LANDMARK

**414 Franklin Street**  
**\$4,700,000 | Old Town**

This landmark Old Town property originally served as a tavern and it is historically documented that George Washington spent his very last Fourth of July here! Sited on almost a one-half acre of beautifully landscaped gardens with swimming pool, this wonderfully charming four bedroom plus four and a half bath residence boasts original wide plank floors, five fireplaces, original hardware and a recently renovated kitchen with large family room addition. The brick carriage house includes a guest suite, game room plus two car garage. Reasonably priced at \$4,700,000.

**Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

**5116 Kenwood Drive**  
**\$1,399,000 Annandale**  
 Nantucket Estate with wrap porches and cupolas on nearly one acre, heated stone floors, see-thru fireplace, copper roof, gourmet kitchen, exercise/media rooms, private patio and deck. Directions: I-495 West, exit on Braddock Road, left on Kenwood. Additional photos at [www.phyllispatterson.com](http://www.phyllispatterson.com).

**Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!

**1029 Arcturus Lane**  
**\$1,225,000 | South Alexandria / Wellington**  
 Bright and open 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath, 2 car garage on almost 1/2 acre. Over 5100 finished square feet on 3 levels. Sun drenched kitchen, breakfast room and family room. Hardwood floors, high ceilings, custom moldings, open lower level with game/TV/ hobby rooms. Directions: South on GW Parkway, right Wellington, left on West Boulevard, right on Arcturus Lane. [www.phyllispatterson.com](http://www.phyllispatterson.com).

**Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158**



COMING SOON - POTOMAC RIVER VIEWS

**1503 River Farm Drive**  
**\$1,799,000 | South Alexandria**  
 Large luxury home with over 6,500 finished square feet of living space and large sweeping deck with breathtaking views of the Potomac River. 5/6 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms, 4 car garage, elegant tiered decks plus so much more!

**Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158**



OPEN SUNDAY 1-4! GREAT RESIDENCE!

**1250 Dartmouth Court**  
**\$1,200,000 | Alexandria City / Quaker Hill**  
 5 bedroom home near historic Old Town is exquisitely appointed and combines open space with the ultimate in interior and exterior detailing. An exceptional property featuring renovated kitchen awash in natural light. A great room with walls of windows opens to spacious deck. Master suite with super bath and expansive walk-in closets. The only way to describe this stunning home is fabulous!

**Fran Orr | 703.623.4070**

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# Friends of United Community Ministries Gather for Its 40th

FROM PAGE 1

Hyland, Mount Vernon District supervisor; state Sen. Toddy Puller; and Del. Kristen J. Amundson.

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay led the live auction, which had some brisk bidding and added to the grand total from guests, sponsors, silent auction and donations — bringing in much-needed funds for UCM's programs. Black Moon Tonic provided the music for some lively dancing,



UCM Board President Joe Canny introduces Gala Chairs Maureen McGuire-Kuletz, Cleatus Burk and Danae Delman.



PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO

The "Raffle Girls."

# Letter Carriers Will Be Collecting for Food Drive on May 9

FROM PAGE 1

union branch 567 is hoping to help area food banks during a time when the demand has never been greater. Orga-

nizers say all donors need to do is leave non-perishable food items near their mailboxes.

"It's a pretty simple system," said postman Brian

McCormick, an Alexandria native who graduated from Bishop Ireton High School in 1970. "Just leave the food items in a bag and we'll pick them up."

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 Inter-generational Sunday School - after service  
 Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier

www.christthesaviouranglican.org  
**703-953-2854**

**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**

**Mass Schedule**

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

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

## Fine Art For Mom

Just in time for Mother's Day, Del Ray Artisans host spring art sale.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE

So Mother's Day is looming on your calendar, and you want to get her the perfect gift. If you suspect a work of fine art might do the trick, head on over to Colasanto Park at the corner of Mount Vernon and Commonwealth avenues the day before Mother's Day. Vendors will be selling jewelry, soap, sculpture, paintings, photographs, ceramics, fabrics and much more.

"This is a great chance to get art that's less expensive than it would be if you bought it framed from a gallery," said Rob Rudick, who has been organizing the annual sale for the last five years. "And it's so close to Mother's Day that it's a great opportunity to get a perfect gift."

Rudick said that many artists will be offering unframed prints and matted work at prices lower than framed pieces. Overall, the sale will feature original works from more than 20 artists in a variety of 2D and 3D media will be featured. Although Rudick acknowledged art sales have been down in recent months because of the economy, he said that recent weeks have seen more activity. Others agreed that the market for art seems to have picked up lately despite continued economic hardship.

"In times like these, art is a good investment," said Del Ray Artisan Michele Reday, who has been selling paintings in the springtime art sale since it began five years ago. "You could buy fashion, but that will come in and out of style. A painting is forever."

Participating artists say the springtime art show has a much more intimate feel than the larger and more well known Art on the

SEE ART PAGE 20

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## THEATER



The cast of "Heroes."

## Pure Charm Takes The Stage

MetroStage features a terrific trio of "Heroes." Where and When

BY BRAD HATHAWAY  
GAZETTE

Three local actors, Ralph Cosham, John Dow and Michael Tolyado, work wonders as they perform a short and slight comedy of a trio of aging residents in an old soldier's home at MetroStage on North Royal Street. "Heroes," translated from Gérald Sibleyras' original French into English by Tom Stoppard, is a play about French Army veterans of World War One that gives these three veterans of local stages all the bright pithy lines they need to cast a wonderful spell over an audience.

There's Ralph Cosham as an old soldier whose dreams of escape from the home, if only so far as to the poplars he can see from the terrace, form the slender plot of this collegiality confection.

John Dow is a vet with a scrap of shrapnel still in his head, causing him to lose consciousness at various times, only to awake repeating the same line each time: "Captain, We'll take them from the rear." Just what that means only becomes clear half way through the play.

Michael Tolyado, who was so memorably gentle here at MetroStage in "Sea Marks" a number of years ago, returns to play a former soldier who doesn't let his need for a cane keep him from his daily constitutional.

It was Tolyado who discovered the script and brought it to the attention of MetroStage's Producing Artistic Director, Carolyn Griffin. It wasn't the first time he'd brought in a real charmer of a play. He was the one who discovered "Sea Marks" as well. So far, with two plays discovered, he's batting a thousand.

The project is under the direction of John Vreeke, himself a veteran of many wonderful productions in our region, including both "For The Pleasure Of Seeing Her Again" and "One Good Marriage" at MetroStage. He allows his cast the luxury of a leisurely pace for the piece, giving the audience a chance to savor particularly satisfying moments without letting the play appear to drag.

Colin K. Bills, whose many design credits in our region has included a number of productions where he designed both set and lighting, again handles both aspects here, providing a single locale set of the terrace

"Heroes" continues through May 24 at MetroStage, 1200 North Royal Street. Performances are Thursday - Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Call 703-548-9044 or visit [www.metrostage.org](http://www.metrostage.org).

of the old soldier's home which give the actors distinct areas in which to work (just watch Tolyado purposeful cane-assisted stride across the back walkway or Dow droop over the park bench in one of his character's spells).

The simple set, gentle lighting, appropriate chamber-music interludes between scenes and the spot-on costumes provided by Ivania Stack combine to put the attention precisely where it should be: on the performance of the three actors. They deliver gentle, affectionate performances that charm the audience for just under an hour and a half that make this lovely one-act play a delight.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway, and edits Potomac Stages, [www.PotomacStages.com](http://www.PotomacStages.com). He can be reached at [Brad@PotomacStages.com](mailto:Brad@PotomacStages.com).

### THEATER LISTINGS

Tennessee Williams' "Small Craft Warnings" will be performed at the Clark Street Playhouse, 601 S. Clark St., through May 10. Tickets range between \$25-\$35/person. Visit [www.boxofficetickets.com/WSC](http://www.boxofficetickets.com/WSC) or 1-800-494-TIXS.

See "Rosa de Dos Aromas (Two-Scented Rose)" at Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St., from May 21 through June 13. \$25/person; \$20/student, senior. Visit [www.teatrodelaluna.org](http://www.teatrodelaluna.org)

or 703-548-3092.

See "Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde" at Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria through May 9. Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or 703-683-0496.

Synetic Theater, 4041 Campbell Ave., presents "A Swedish Tiger" from April 22 through May 24.

Performances are Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. \$20/adult; \$10/student.

"Giant" through May 31 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Based on the novel by Edna Ferber. \$49-\$77/person. Visit [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org) or 703-573-SEAT.

See "Legacy of Light" from May 8 through June 14 at Arena Stage. Tickets are \$25-\$66/person. Visit [www.arenastage.org](http://www.arenastage.org) or 202-488-3300.

## FINE ARTS

# Art Sale At Del Ray

FROM PAGE 19

Avenue, which takes place in October. The smaller scale allows the Commonwealth Avenue gallery to be featured in a way that larger events won't allow. And participants are limited to active members of the Del Ray Artisans, so the universe of work available is strictly local.

"This gallery has a strong connection with the neighborhood, so people tend to come out," said Michele Banks, a painter who has participated in three of the springtime sales. "It's not a huge crowd, but it's a nice crowd if the weather cooperates."

## Spring Art Sale

On May 9, the Del Ray Artisans will host its sixth annual Spring Outdoor Art Sale at the Colasanto Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Original works from over 20 artists in a variety of 2D and 3D media will be featured. This is a rain or shine event and is free and open to the public. 703-838-4827.



Old Point Bar (New Orleans) by Rob Rudick will be for sale.

## Other Items

**Art at the Center**, 25 S. Quaker Lane, Room 16, classes are forming now for adults and children from 18 months and up. For details go to [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org) or call 703-581-5598.

**Life Drawing (and painting) at Del Ray Artisans** is open to all artists. Short poses scheduled for Mondays May 4 and June 8 and long poses for painting on Mondays May 25 and June 15. Sessions are from 2 – 5 p.m.; \$8 for DRA members and \$10 for non-members. Del Ray Artisans gallery at the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Contact Katherine Rand at 703-836-1468 or visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

## Exhibits

**"Roots and Wings"** is on display at the Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union St. **from April 9 through May 4**. See work by Christine Giammichele. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

See **paintings** by the Potomac Valley Watercolorists at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Runs from April 28 **through June 28**. Visit [potomacvalleywatercolorist.com](http://potomacvalleywatercolorist.com) for more.

**Through May 3**, see the **"April Members Show"** at Gallery West, 1213 King St. See works by new members. Free. Visit [www.gallerywest.com](http://www.gallerywest.com) for more.

See **"Progression"** at The Art League Gallery in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St. Suzanne Yurdin presents abstract paintings **from May 7 through June 1**. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

See **"Fresh"** from the Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St., **from May 6 through May 31**. See the latest trends in the urban contemporary art scene. Free. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org) for more.

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# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

On **Sundays** from noon-5 p.m., visit the Waterfront and see **history-inspired performances** near the Torpedo Factory; do a "meet and greet" of early Alexandria residents and travelers near the Waterfront and lower King Street. Free. Visit [www.historicalexandria.org](http://www.historicalexandria.org) for more.

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

Beginning Feb. 25, the **T.C. Williams High School Planetarium** will welcome the Alexandria community one night each month during the school year for a free hour-long show. Doors will open at 7 p.m. for "A Night With the Stars," which will run from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Advance registration, required, may be completed online at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/tcw/planetarium/> or by calling the planetarium at 703-824-6805, extension 6300.

Mount Vernon will bring back its popular **National Treasure Tour through Oct. 31**. Included in this approximately hour-long walking tour is the Mansion's basement and cornerstone, the setting for a pivotal scene in the movie. This daily tour is

limited to 25 visitors per time slot, takes place at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m., and costs \$5 per tour in addition to Estate admission: \$15 adults; \$14 seniors; \$7 children (6-11); free for children 5 & under. Advance tickets are available online at [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org).

Spectacular gardens are in bloom as Mount Vernon hosts its annual **outdoor garden and gift sale beginning April 11 through May 10** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This annual sale includes ornamentals, perennials and annuals, garden items, books, and heirloom plants propagated from historic cuttings. No admission is required to shop in front of the Gardening Days tent (located in front of the Mount Vernon Inn Complex). Visit [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org) or 703-780-2000.

Join City archaeologists and trained volunteers for a program for children of all ages at Alexandria Archaeology **Family Dig Days**. Monthly Family Dig Days will be held from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, in Alexandria. The 2009 dates are: Saturday, May 30; Saturday, July 18; Saturday, Aug. 15; Saturday, Sept. 12; Saturday, Oct. 17. \$5/person. Registration required, 703-838-4399 or visit [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org).

Mount Vernon commemorates George and Martha Washington's 250th wedding anniversary with a **new collection of fine stationery** available at the Shops at Mount Vernon, open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Visit [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org) or 703-780-2000.

## FRIDAY/MAY 1

**Sing Along with Mr. Skip.** 12:30 p.m. at Spill the Beans Coffee House, 1900 Elkin St., Suite 4. Enjoy singing and dancing with Mr. Skip. \$5 per child. No pre-registration required. More info at [spillthebeansva.com](http://spillthebeansva.com).

**Art show and Sale.** 1-8 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Partial proceeds benefit Lazarus Ministry. Free.

**Theater Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. Watch "Footloose." \$10/person.

**Annual Gala.** Terminal A of Reagan Washington National Airport. \$150/person with proceeds benefiting New Hope Housing. Reservations at 703-799-2293.

**Music Performance.** 8:30 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear music by Cole. Free. Visit [www.themusicofcole.com](http://www.themusicofcole.com) for more.

## SATURDAY/MAY 2

**Kentucky Derby Party.** 4-8 p.m. at an undetermined location. Enjoy food, bets and more. All proceeds benefit the Campagna Center. 703-549-0111 ext. 107.

**Music Performance.** 8 p.m. at Schlesinger Concert Hall, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Hear the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. \$20-\$80/person. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or 703-548-0885.

**Music Performance.** 2 p.m. at St. Paul's Old Town, 228 S. Pitt St. Hear the keyboard scholars. Free. Donations accepted.

**Garden Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Browse shrubs, plants,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 22

**SATURDAY, MAY 9TH**

The National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, will be collecting nonperishable food items like canned meats and fish, canned soup, juice, pasta, vegetables, cereal and rice on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> to help families in need in our community, in ZIP Codes 22301 through 22315.

You can help by placing your bagged food donation at your mailbox on May 9<sup>th</sup> before your letter carrier arrives. It will be taken to the Post Office and then delivered to local food banks or pantries. Please do not include items that have expired or those in glass containers.

Thank you for caring.  
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**Saturday May 9, 2009**  
7pm- *The Birds* screening  
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6pm-7pm  
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Johannes Brahms: Serenade No. 2 in A Major, Op. 16

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Sunday, May 10th • 2:00 pm  
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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 21

flowers and more from local growers. Free. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173.

**Grandma Rita's Children Fund-raiser.** 2-7 p.m. at Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road. Enjoy a crop space, light dinner and more. \$45. E-mail [avonlady\\_jihanna@msn.com](mailto:avonlady_jihanna@msn.com) for more.

**Art show and Sale.** 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Partial proceeds benefit Lazarus Ministry. Free.

**BIG Sale.** Items donation by Washington Metro Chapter of American Society of Interior Designers will be on sale, including wall hangings, blinds, shades and more at Habitat ReStore of Northern Virginia, 7770 Richmond Highway. Visit [www.restorenova.org](http://www.restorenova.org) or 703-521-9890 ext. 105.

**British are Coming.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Carlyle House. Hear stories from British soldiers, view equipment and more. For more information regarding this event, contact the Carlyle House at 703-549-2997 or [Carlyle@nvrpa.org](mailto:Carlyle@nvrpa.org).

**Music Performance.** 8 p.m. at Schlesinger Center, 3001 N. Beauregard St. Season finale of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. \$20-\$70/person. Visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) or 703-548-0885.

**Theater Performance.** 7:30 p.m. at Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road. Watch "Footloose." \$10/person.

**Mother's Day Art Studio.** 10:30 a.m.-noon at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Get ready for Mother's Day by making cards and gifts for mom, grandmas and anyone else. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org)/classes for details.

**Yard Sale.** 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Williamsburg Manor Community. Free. 703-780-5009.

## SUNDAY/MAY 3

**Reception.** 1-3 p.m. see paintings by the Potomac Valley Watercolorists at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Runs from April 28 through June 28. Visit [potomacvalleywatercolorist.com](http://potomacvalleywatercolorist.com) for more.

**Music Performance.** 3 p.m. at Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive. Hear the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra. \$25/adult; \$20/senior; \$5/student. 703-635-2770.

**Opening Day.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Ben Brenman Park. The West End Farmers' Market is open. Free. 703-838-4343.

**Concert with a Cause.** 4 p.m. at Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St. Hear Shaun and Jina Tirrell perform. Free. Donations benefit Faith Ministry. Visit [www.opmh.org](http://www.opmh.org) for more.

**Art show and Sale.** 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 228 S. Pitt St. Partial proceeds benefit Lazarus Ministry. Free.

**Benefit Brunch.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Union Street Public House, 121 S. Union St. Hosted by the Board of Lady Managers. Donations benefit NICU of INOVA Alexandria. 703-919-1149.

**Architecture in the Afternoon.** 2 p.m. at Gunston Hall Plantation, 10709 Gunston Road. Learn about George Mason's home. Admission applies. Visit [www.gunstonhall.org](http://www.gunstonhall.org) for more.

**Family Fun Festival.** Noon-4 p.m. at Browne Academy, 5917 Telegraph Road. Free admission, cost for tickets and food. Enjoy games, rides, and

more. **Mother's Day Art Studio,** 2-3:30 p.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Get ready for Mother's Day by making cards and gifts for mom, grandmas and anyone else. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org)/classes for details.

**Music Performance.** 7 p.m. at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Hear music by South American composers. \$25/person. 703-264-1258.

**Bach Vespers.** 6-6:45 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian, 2701 Cameron Mills Road. Free. [www.wpc-alex.org](http://www.wpc-alex.org).

**Chorus Concert.** 4 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road. Hear the Alexandria Choral Society. Free. Visit [www.alexchoralsociety.org](http://www.alexchoralsociety.org) or 703-548-4734.

**Walk Through Old Town.** Five mile Walkathon to raise funds for the ALIVE! Child Development Center. Starts at 2723 King Street at 1:30 p.m. Community picnic to follow. More information at [www.alive-inc.org](http://www.alive-inc.org) or 703-548-9255.

## MONDAY/MAY 4

**Yoga for Gardeners.** 9:30 a.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Features the Vinyasa method. \$66/six-class session. To register, 703-642-5173.

**Workshop.** Learn how to create spring-inspired centerpieces at 7 p.m. at the Studio, 8088 Danewood Drive. \$25/3 classes. Visit [www.WisteriaFlorals.com](http://www.WisteriaFlorals.com) or 703-336-1042 to register.

**Mother's Day Art Studio,** 2-3:30 p.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Get ready for Mother's Day by making cards and gifts. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org)/

classes for details. **Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. at Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Children 1-2 years can enjoy stories and activities. Free. Registration required, 703-765-3645.

## TUESDAY/MAY 5

**Benefit Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road. Hear Mendelssohn's Octet in E-Flat Major. Donations accepted. 703-933-4135.

**Lullaby Stories.** 7 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Children 1-5 can enjoy stories and activities. Free. 703-339-4610.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 6

**Girls Night Out.** 7 p.m. at John Marshall Library, 6209 Rose Hill Drive. Teens can discuss books. Call for titles. Age 12-15. Registration required, 703-971-0010.

## THURSDAY/MAY 7

**Fiesta Cinco de Mayo.** 6:30 p.m. at Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota, 3750 Jefferson Davis Highway. \$100/person, proceeds benefit health care of low-income families. Enjoy music, raffles, auction, food and more. E-mail [cincodemayoalex@aol.com](mailto:cincodemayoalex@aol.com)

**BBQ.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road. Enjoy bbq pork, chicken, hot dogs and more. \$8/proceeds benefit church. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net) or 703-765-4342.

**Book Discussion.** Noon at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre. Discuss "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe. Free. 703-339-4610.

**Poetry Read-Around.** 7 p.m. at

Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. Adults can share their favorite poems. Free. 703-765-3645.

## FRIDAY/MAY 8

**Music Performance.** 8 p.m. at Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive. See the Alexandria Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus perform. \$15-\$30. Visit [www.harmonizers.org](http://www.harmonizers.org) or 703-910-4600.

## SATURDAY/MAY 9

**Spring Bus Tour.** Meet 7:30 a.m. at Fort Ward Museum, 4301 W. Braddock Road. Visit Richmond area Civil War sites. \$120/FFW member; \$135/nonmember. Deadline is May 1. 703-838-4848.

**Sale.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Browse antiques, collectibles, art and more. Proceeds benefit Friends of Homeless Animals. Visit [www.foha.org](http://www.foha.org) for more.

**Outdoor Art Sale.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Browse works from more than 20 artists. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

**Garden Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road. Browse shrubs, plants, flowers and more from local growers. Free. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) or 703-642-5173.

**Spring Garden Party.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Mount Vernon Estate. Enjoy meeting Mrs. Washington, music, games and more. \$15/adult; \$14/senior; \$7/child. Visit [MountVernon.org](http://MountVernon.org) for more.

**VisionWalk.** Fight blindness by walking at 9 a.m. at Cameron Run Park, 4001 Eisenhower Ave.

# Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

Kim Allen Kluge, Music Director

Saturday Evening  
May 2, 2009  
8:00 P.M.

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# Wild Finish for

## Three goals in three minutes keeps West Potomac girls' soccer afloat in Patriot District.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE

**T**urn on the NBA or NHL playoffs any night this week and a game-saving basket or goal will usually elicit a crazy, childlike celebration from a group of professionals being paid millions.

And yet all West Potomac junior Michelle Gilmore could do after teammate Gabby Katzbahn-Rush scored the game-tying goal with no time left on the clock last Friday night was lay down on the synthetic turf at T.C. Williams, exasperated that her Wolverines had once again narrowly averted defeat.

"We can't keep doing this last minute thing, ladies," she lamented, referencing a goal with 10 seconds remaining to defeat Hayfield, 1-0, back on March 31, as she prepared for the 10-minute overtime period Friday.

Quick glances to the bench can be deceiving, though. When Gilmore and Katzbahn-Rush took the field for the extra session, they left little doubt as to who would win, scoring two goals in a span of 40 seconds to give West Potomac an unlikely and dramatic come-from-behind 4-2 victory over district rival T.C. Williams.

Katzbahn-Rush got the Wolverines started in the overtime, collecting a pass from fellow junior Diana Nolton, and used

her left foot to place the ball perfectly in the top left corner of the Titan goal.

It was her second goal in three minutes of play after she broke free behind the T.C. Williams defense and punched home the team's second goal with zeroes on the

**"We just kind of all put it all out there ... because we had nothing to lose at that point."**

— West Potomac junior  
Michelle Gilmore

clock in regulation. Afterwards, Katzbahn-Rush admitted she had never scored multiple goals that quickly.

"I just really wanted it," she said.

Gilmore provided the finishing touches on the comeback when she collected the rebound of a Katzbahn-Rush shot and put it past the helpless T.C. netminder.

"You push it, you push it and you don't want the whistle to blow and I think that ref was kind of on our side on that



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

**West Potomac junior Diana Nolton battles for a loose ball in last Friday's comeback win over T.C. Williams.**

last play," said Gilmore of the end of regulation. "We just kind of all put it all out there with everything we got because we had nothing to lose at that point."

**PERHAPS** the most surprising part of West Potomac's comeback was that it was able to muster four goals. In seven of the nine games the Wolverines have played thus far, they've registered either just one goal or been shut out.

That script seemed to be playing out Friday after junior Morgan Carter got West Potomac on the board early in the first half. But then T.C. Williams tallied a goal right after halftime and followed it up with 15 minutes remaining to give itself a lead it thought it wouldn't relinquish.

Combined with Tuesday's 2-0 win over

Lee, the ensuing heroics late leaves West Potomac firmly entrenched in the race for fourth place within the Patriot District sporting a 5-4-1 record with just two games remaining.

Pacing the Wolverines throughout has been a talented nine-person junior class that makes up the core of the team.

"As they've gotten more experience, they've gotten more confident, but we still haven't gotten that consistent scoring punch," said coach Jean Coder.

As for the comeback effort from her team, a smiling Coder was simply relieved she walked off the field on the right side of things.

"I've had that happen to us before," she said. "I'm just happy we were on the winning end of it."

# Revival on the Potomac

BY MARK GIANNOTTO  
THE GAZETTE

**B**ishop Ireton senior Clara Candalar was well aware that last weekend's Charlie Butt Invitational is the lone remaining crew regatta to actually take place on the Potomac River every year, but that's not why she loves the event so much.

For her, a member of the Cardinals' varsity four boat, it's all about comfort.

"This is the one place where you can walk in spandex and feel completely comfortable," said Candalar. "It doesn't feel awkward at all, you're just proud of it. If we were to go anywhere else in D.C. and do this, you couldn't. It just wouldn't work."

Thousands of athletes, parents, and rowing enthusiasts — including Vice President Joe Biden — joined Candalar along the Potomac River bank in Georgetown, basking in the glow of the unseasonably warm weather and a crew event that feels more like a festival than a race.

Dozens of tents filled to the brim with food for postrace consumption as 18 teams — including T.C. Williams, West Potomac,

Ireton, and Episcopal — lined a quarter-mile stretch of the district shore while rowers alternated between lounging with friends and cheering on their teammates as they crossed the nearby finish line.

With everything side-by-side, it made for an impromptu tent village along the waterfront.

"We've got 1,000 people waiting for seven minutes of race, so the rest of the time is a bit of a party," said Ireton assistant coach Austin Middleton.

"If I weren't wearing TC stuff, I could probably eat at every tent out there," joked T.C. Williams girls' coach Jon Schildknecht.

**FOR REGATTA ORGANIZER** and Yorktown coach Andy Bacas, the day's event was more like a revival. A Washington-Lee graduate who rowed for the Generals 35 years ago under coach Charlie Butt, Bacas remembers when every crew race in the area took place on the Potomac, either in Georgetown or down by Alexandria. Butt established the W-L crew program as the first in the area 60 years ago in 1949.

## Area crew teams bask in Potomac River's last annual regatta turned festival.

In recent years, though, the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA) has de-emphasized regattas on the Potomac in favor of the Occoquan River, which is larger, and therefore can accommodate more teams.

And while many of the coaches and athletes on hand Saturday agreed that regattas held in the city are logistically more difficult, preserving the tradition and ambiance of crew along the banks of the Potomac is more important.

"The sport needs to keep selling itself as a highly valuable activity with participants and parents, but if we compete in visual obscurity all the time, the city never gets to see what the kids do," said Bacas.

With the Kennedy Center serving as a backdrop, and the lush woods of Roosevelt Island opposite the shoreline, nobody was complaining about the picturesque view along the river.

The course, however, wasn't as smooth. Some coaches complained about river traf-



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE GAZETTE

**T.C. Williams girls' rowing coach Jon Schildknecht stands among the masses at last Saturday's Charlie Butt Invitational along the Potomac River in Georgetown.**

fic like kayaks and yachts as temperatures rose above 90 degrees. They would have preferred a closed route.

Another issue was a lack of docks at the  
SEE REVIVAL, PAGE 24

## SPORTS

# Revival on the Potomac

FROM PAGE 23

starting line, with races beginning on a floating basis. This meant most boats weren't even at the starting gun.

**BUT THE POSITIVE** reviews of a day spent along the Potomac, with familiar landmarks and lots of spectators, far outweighed any negatives.

"I like going under the Key Bridge," said West Potomac sophomore Matthew Bird of the final stretch of Saturday's race that went directly under the arches of the bridge. The Wolverines did not have a boat make the finals.

"I think the setting is one of the best we have, especially in this area if not the whole country," said Episcopal coach Dave Collins, whose women's varsity four boat finished an impressive fourth place against top notch competition, improving their time by 15 seconds. "Logistically, it is a little hard to get around so I don't know if I want to do it every week, but I love coming here at least once a season."

The T.C. Williams crew program certainly made themselves right at home even though they usually practice downstream, where the Potomac hits Alexandria. On the girls' side, the defending state champion T.C. Williams varsity first eight boat cemented its status as a favorite to repeat with a convincing victory over other perceived frontrunners McLean, Yorktown, and Washington-Lee. The Titans also took first place in the women's varsity second eight race. The Titan boys' varsity first eight made the final heat, but finished in fourth.

Ireton was led by its women's varsity first four, which came in third place, while the Cardinals' second varsity four out rowed Madison by a mere 0.6

## Too Many Rowers?

Tired of having to make the trek down to the Occoquan River, many area coaches have been advocating for a new boathouse along the Potomac Rover for years so that more regattas like Saturday's Charlie Butt Invitational can be held. Currently 12 high school rowing teams house their boats at Georgetown's Thompson Boat Center, sharing the space with Georgetown University, George Washington University, and several rowing associations.

To say it's cramped would be an understatement and that was part of the reason Saturday's festivities took all day. T.C. Williams rowing coach Jon Schildknecht graduated from high school in this area in 1992. Back then, he said there were about 12 schools with crew teams.

Now that number is more than double with "30-plus" around the area to go along with a burgeoning rowing scene in the Richmond and Chesapeake areas. And yet, the number of boathouses along the Potomac has remained the same for the past three decades.

"We don't have the infrastructure anywhere," said Schildknecht, whose Titans house their boats at the Dee Campbell Rowing Center, a facility owned and operated by Alexandria City Public Schools in Old Town Alexandria, and not used by other high school crew teams. "Even the Occoquan can barely handle the number of people that use it."

Bishop Ireton rows on the Anacostia, while West Potomac moved to the Mansion House Yacht Club in Mount Vernon to store its boats after having practice time curtailed at their previous home, the Fort Belvoir Marina, three years ago.

"The rowing community around here is in desperate need of a new boathouse," said Bacas, who added that several proposed sites and private funding from Georgetown University have been shot down by the National Park Service, which controls much of the land along the Potomac River. "This is a growing sport and to allow more kids to participate in a complete way, we need to solve the overcrowding."

seconds in the varsity second four race.

"You cheer with everybody, scream at the top of your lungs with the boat coming down the last 500 meters," said Candalar of how she spent her day. "The spirit here, it's like a family and it's always so much fun."

## MOUNT VERNON SPORTS BRIEFS

### West Potomac Eats, Fundraises

As part of its ongoing quest to secure funds for Bermuda grass for its stadium field, the West Potomac athletic department held a lunch sponsored by Outback Steakhouse to honor its varsity captains from all sports this past Saturday. Outback Steakhouse donated 200 meals at \$20 apiece to the Fort Hunt Sportsmen's Club, with all proceeds being turned over to the West Potomac booster club for the field replacement project.

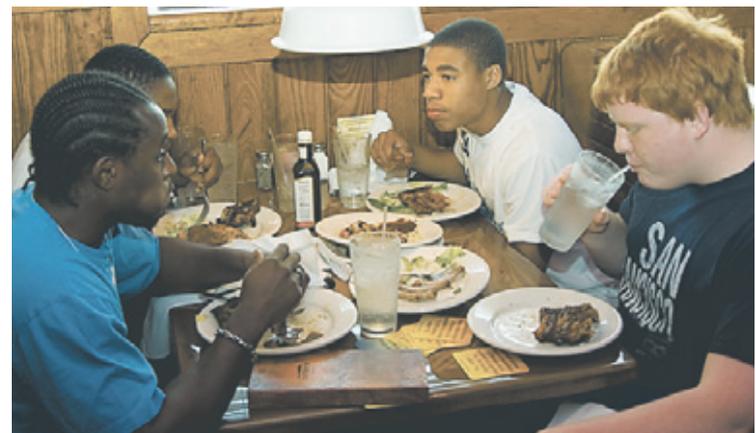


PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

**From left to right: West Potomac football players Aaron Loney, Shak White, Deondre Essex, and Dan Carriker chow down to help raise money for the school's new stadium field.**

### MV Baseball Wins Five Straight

The Mount Vernon baseball team is right in the thick of the National District race with a pivotal game against conference leader and defending champion Yorktown on Wednesday, after the Gazette's deadline.

After beginning the year 4-6, the Majors have reeled off five-straight victories in the past two weeks, including a nail biting 14-13 vic-

tory over Washington-Lee on April 17. With five games remaining before the postseason begins, Mount Vernon has as good a shot as any to reach the regional tournament.

### Conner Wins Pole Vault

While much of the track world was focused on Philadelphia and the prestigious Penn Relays, West Potomac senior Meghan Connor had her sights set closer to home. Competing in last weekend's

Cassels XBC Track Experience in Chantilly, Connor jumped nine feet, six inches to win the pole vault competition.

Other notable performers were senior Alex Triplett, who finished fourth in the 400-meter dash. On the boys' side, senior Peter Stebbins and Ben Hammond finished back-to-back, in third and fourth place, respectively in the 800-meter run. Sophomore Khoki Bernier took third place in the 1600-meter run. As a team, the boys' came in ninth place overall, while the girls' placed 13<sup>th</sup> in the 22-team field.

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28 Yard Sales

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**Giant Yard Sale** Cameron Station community yard sale, 5010 Duke St, 5/2, 8:30-1 rain or shine

15 Getaways

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28 Yard Sales

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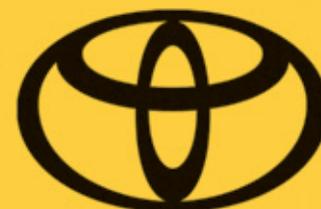
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