

# Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

VOL. XX, No. 28

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

JULY 23, 2009



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

**Last one on the bus to the White House, outdoor education coordinator Shawn Akard waves farewell.**

## Off to the White House Hollin Meadows students accept Obama garden invitation.

**T**hirty students from Hollin Meadows Elementary School boarded a yellow bus with their principal Jon Gates and 10 chaperones for a trip July 16 to the White House.

About two weeks ago, the principal received a call from the office of the First Lady, Michele Obama, inviting the students on a tour of the White House gardens. Word was sent out to the current students to enter a lottery; 220 students replied and 30 were picked at random.

Upon hearing the news of the invitation, Laura Marshall started editing her photographs of the school garden and habitat, Cindy Martin and her mom

**The book, the story of the Hollin Meadows Garden, was created especially for the trip to the White House.**



## Rattling State's Cash Jar

**Governor commits to working toward expanding dental coverage to uninsured adults.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**A**s Washington grapples with health-care reform, Willie Jackson is facing his own health-care crisis. He must choose between paying for a place to stay or scraping together enough money to fix his seven rotting teeth. It's a choice that illustrates the difficult real-world decisions people without dental insurance face every day.

"My teeth are loose," said Jackson. "They are so loose, I have to be very careful about what I eat."



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

**Rev. Tuck Bowerfind of St. Luke's Episcopal in Mount Vernon and Rev. Keith Savage of the First Baptist Church in Manassas question Gov. Tim Kaine on action that might be taken on VOICE's proposals.**

Jackson told his story to Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine and 1,100 participants of a new interfaith religious group known as Virginians Organized for Justice and Political Participation — known as VOICE. The group, which was created last October, called a mass

meeting at T.C. Williams High School this week to address Virginia's lack of dental care for low-income residents and the persistent delays in processing naturalization applications of Northern Virginia residents. After hearing

SEE FAITH GROUPS, PAGE 6

## \$3 Million for Route 1 Expansion

**County will pay to design six-lane highway for two-mile stretch.**

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**B**ecause of the lack of commitment by the Virginia Department of Transportation and knowing the military base realignment is on schedule to be completed by 2011, the Board of Supervisors approved \$3 million last week for a Route 1 highway expansion design for six lanes and a median and turnaround lane for a two-mile section of Route 1 beginning at Route 235 south to the Fairfax county parkway. This includes the section of Route 1 that runs through Fort Belvoir where the bulk of the traffic will be moving on and off the base at the entrance gates.

Last week's board action still

### Correspondence

The following summarizes the letters of correspondence marking the history of the Board of Supervisors' effort to obtain the necessary commitment to complete the studies necessary to move forward on an enhanced Route 1 corridor road, light rail, enhanced bus, or combination to prepare for the increase in vehicular traffic beginning in 2011.

**May 25, 2006:** Letter from VDOT to Katherine Ichter, County Department of Transportation, committing \$1 million to fund the transit study but placing the location study on hold. Eventually this money was reallocated to other priorities by VDOT.

**July 25, 2007:** Letter from the Board of Supervisors to the Secretary of Transportation and Director of Rail and Public Transportation requesting an explanation as to why the requested and agreed upon transit study has not been initiated. No explanation has been received by the board.

**Jan. 28, 2008:** Letter from the Board of Supervisors to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation requesting an explanation for why the transit funding is no longer available and why the study has not been initiated. No response has been received as of July 21, 2009.

leaves 7.4 miles of the Route 1 highway north of Rte. 235 to the Beltway needing a transit analy-

sis of the road, light rail, and/or bus needs to accommodate the

SEE COUNTY FUNDS, PAGE 6

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- ALEX. S TH.....3BR/2.5BA.....\$1,950
- ALEX. S TH.....3BR/2.5.5BA.... \$2,150
- ALEX. S. TH.....3BR/1.5BA.....\$1,450
- ARL. DETACH.....2BR/1BA.....\$1,750
- ARL. THE WELDON.....1BR/1BA.....\$2,100
- ALEX. CITY DETACH.....2BR/1BA.....\$1,700
- ALEX. S CONDO.....2BR/2BA.....\$1150



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# Park's Project Under Way

Design for wetlands restoration almost complete, approval process to begin.

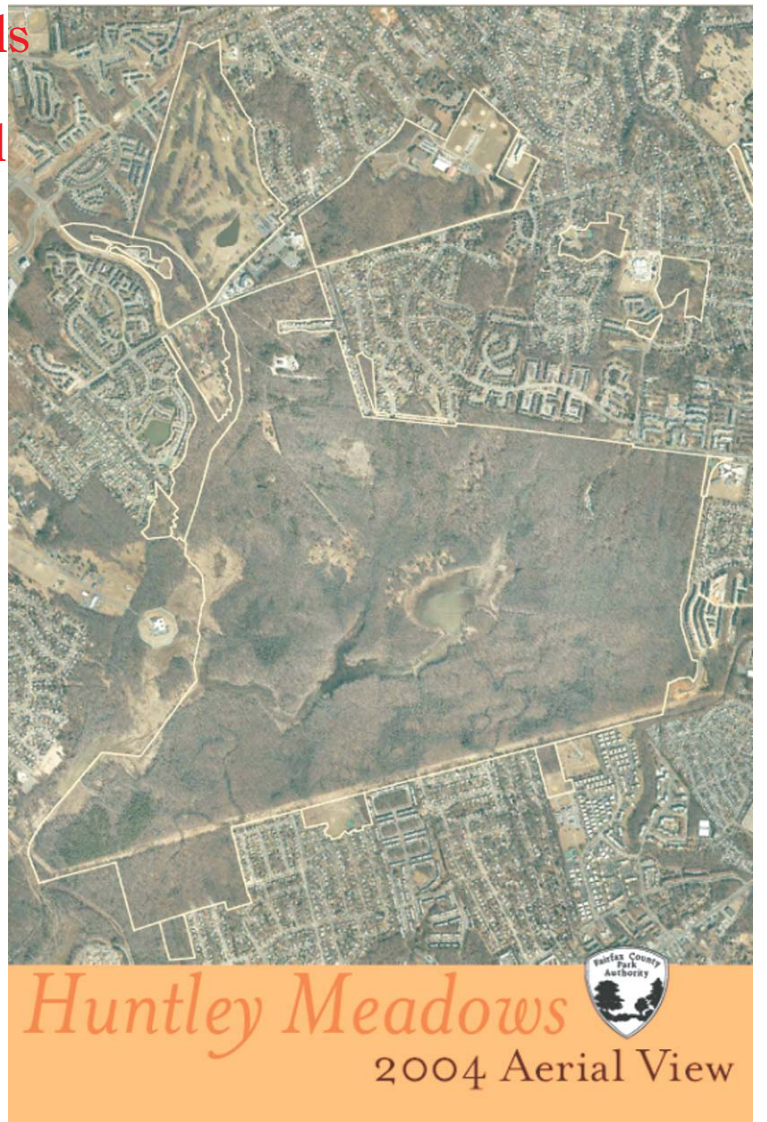
BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

Despite Park Authority cutbacks in staffing and revenue, the Wetlands Restoration Project for Huntley Meadows Park is on schedule. Supported by Bond referenda in 2004 and again in 2008, the park project is immune from current cutbacks.

The restoration project is the first of its kind at the park and, according to county and citizen supporters, is vital to the long-term survival of the park as a non-tidal wetlands habitat.

Huntley Meadows Park, located in the southern Fairfax county area off Route 1, encompasses 1,480 acres of wetlands, forests, and meadows that is teeming with a diverse wildlife population according to park literature and citizen advocates who regularly visit the park. Permanent inhabitants include deer, turkey, beaver, and more than 200 species of birds. It is the only non-tidal freshwater wetlands habitat in the region, and is annually visited by 200,000 visitors.

"The park is a fragile ecosystem which is being stressed by urban development. Asphalt driveways, concrete sidewalks, lawns, pesticides, storm water and non-point runoff, and pollutants dumped into the feeder streams which end



Aerial view of Huntley Meadows Park.

## Details

Huntley Meadows Park is open every day of the week except Tuesdays.

**Park Hours:** Dawn to dark, but vary with the seasons. Please call: 703-768-2525

**Directions:** Richmond Highway, Route 1; take Lockheed Boulevard to the park entrance on the left on Harrison Lane

**Citizen Support:** [www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org](http://www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org)

SEE PAEK'S PROJECT, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY ANSLEY LABARRE/THE GAZETTE

Nationals pitcher John Lannan sits with volunteers from the Washington Humane Society to encourage pet adoption outside Richmond Highway's PETCO on Saturday.

## Lannan Pitches for Pets

Nationals pitcher talks about pet ownership at local PETCO.

BY ANSLEY LABARRE  
THE GAZETTE

A variety of wide-eyed and furry fans greeted Washington National's pitcher John Lannan at the PETCO on Richmond Highway last Saturday, where Lannan joined the Washington Humane Society to sign autographs and promote responsible pet adoption.

Lannan's agent Todd Wiseman noted the event is part of the effort to get the major-league pitcher involved with the community. Lannan spent two hours signing autographs, doling advice for young baseball players, and scratching ears.

Lannan admits he didn't have much exposure to animals as a child aside from the occasional low-maintenance gerbil. "But when his grandmother rescued their first dog, Lannan was hooked." The pitcher bought a French bulldog-beagle mix named Bailey last October. "However, the traveling required with a Major League baseball team makes it difficult for him to give Bailey constant care, so he relies on the support of his family to lend a hand.

"It's a lot of work," said

Lannan regarding dog ownership, "it's a lot of responsibility."

This responsibility is fundamental to the Humane Society's message. Julie Conway, chief development officer for the Society, acknowledges Lannan's support of their organization enhances his ability to act as a role model for young fans.

"If kids see pro-athletes loving animals, they're going to love animals, too," said Conway.

The Humane Society had its "Adoption Mobile" parked outside the PETCO during Lannan's visit to encourage the adoption of young dogs. And Lannan was just as enthusiastic about engaging the animals as he was fans, who often brought along their own pets. While the 24-year-old does admit he is not crazy about cats, he nevertheless welcomed a multitude of Nats enthusiasts — young, old, with fur or scales — to join him.

Lannan acknowledged one of the best parts of being a pet-owner is their ability to bring a family together, as happened with his own dog Bailey.

"You don't just get a pet temporarily," said Conway. "They are a part of your family and they're part of your family for life."



Kevin Munroe, Huntley Meadows Park Manager



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and meticulously cared for is this four-bedroom, three-bath, Cape/Colonial on one of the community's quiet, side streets. A major addition across the back includes a family room just off the kitchen and a master suite above. The gorgeous, flat lot is lushly landscaped with trees, shrubs and flowers; all of which can be enjoyed from the deck and patio.

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Off the beaten path and tucked away in Mason Neck, this Colonial is the perfect getaway. A short but scenic walk to the river, this detached colonial on a corner wooded level lot offers three bedrooms, hardwood floors in the kitchen and dining room, and upgraded baths.

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$925,000



### Semi-Detached circa 1880 Beauty

The southern light permeates this frame and brick home located in the southeast quadrant just a short walk to Lee Street Park, Potomac River shopping and restaurants. The remodeled kitchen has top of the line stainless steel appliances and Brazilian honed countertops which adjoins a family room that over looks a deep and exquisitely landscaped garden. Additionally, there are two wood burning fireplaces and upstairs you will find three bedrooms and two full baths.

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\$699,000 ALEXANDRIA/BELLE HAVEN \$1,095,000



### Before and After! ~ Mirror Image Houses in the Heart of Belle Haven

These mirror-image Dutch Colonial homes were built in 1954. With approximately 3,000 square feet each, these classic structures reflect quality construction and design.

**6015 Grove** is an excellent example of classic features and is in very good condition. With a freshly painted exterior it features three bedrooms and two full baths (including an oversized master suite) on the upper level, and living room with wood burning fireplace, dining room, den, kitchen, half bath and sun porch on the main level. There's a full basement which is ready to become comfortable living space - driveway included! The backyard is brilliant with greenery and color!



Next door at **6017 Grove**, the owners have meticulously renovated this stunning home! Upstairs features four bedrooms and two full baths including a master suite with walk-in closet, balcony and limestone bath. The main level has a chef's kitchen with breakfast room, oversized living room, half bath, year-round sunroom, and dining room. Outside there are three lovely levels of stone terrace, complete with pergola. Downstairs is a family room, guest suite and mudroom. Off-street parking for two/three cars.

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ALEXANDRIA \$449,900



### King Street Treasure!

Beautiful hardwoods in this three-bedroom, one-bath home that is conveniently located. Walls of windows flood this home with natural light and a cozy retreat by the fireplace! The kitchen has gorgeous granite counters and Decora light wooden cabinets. Downstairs you'll find a generous finished basement with plenty of storage. Delightful landscaping and brick patio!

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# Park's Project Under Way

FROM PAGE 3

able tools for preservation and management of the park that we don't have now," said Park Manager Kevin Munroe.

Wetlands restoration doesn't happen overnight. It has taken county managers years of effort to bring them to this historic point in the life of the park. Before Munroe became the park manager two years ago, Gary Roisum was the manager for 30 years before retiring. Munroe credits Roisum as instrumental in making the restoration project a reality. "Because of Gary's vision and commitment, we have an opportunity to sustain the marsh habitat for the long term future," Munroe said.

But according to Munroe, the project is not without its problems. Primarily the permitting process will require perhaps a year to obtain all the necessary environmental approvals before the actual construction work can be started.

The complexity and unique environmental requirements of the water control system design will be a major hurdle in the permitting process that involves federal, state, and county government agencies, he said. The design of the restoration project has required public and expert consultation, and the work of a civil engineering firm. The design work is almost completed and now the approval process is the next step.

Environmental activists have played a major role

## Upcoming Events

**July 25 and 26:** "Bug Lovers Paradise" for children 4 years and up, 10 a.m.-noon. No reservations required.

**July 30:** "Nature Detectives - Butterflies and Moths" for children 3-5 years, 10 a.m. Reservations required.

**Aug. 6:** "Young Explorers - Natures Treasures" for children: 6-9 years, 10 a.m. Reservations required.

**September-October:** "Wild Side Wagon Rides" - A tractor ride with a park naturalist to look for and learn about birds, wildflowers, butterflies, waterfowl, etc., for families with children ages 6 and up.

for years in promoting the need for the wetlands restoration project and influencing the design. Approximately 200 citizens commented on the design.

"The design was modeled after other successful marsh restoration projects elsewhere in the U.S.," said Norma Hoffmann, a member of the Friends of Huntley Meadows. "The key to preserving Huntley Meadow's diversity is to control the rise and fall of the water in the marsh in the park; with the completion of this restoration project, and with continued dedicated stewardship of the park, we will preserve and protect the park and its many inhabitants for many years."

Munroe said, "On behalf of the Park Authority and Huntley Meadows Park we cannot be more excited about this historic project. With the help and support of the community, we will do our part to make a sustainable wetlands habitat a reality for generations yet unborn."



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**Alex./Mount Vernon \$529,900**  
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**Alex./Stratford \$559,900**  
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**Alex./Mount Vernon \$619,900**  
**9005 Nomini Lane**

Large, stately Colonial w/2-car garage on quiet cul-de-sac. Beautifully updated kitchen opens to breakfast area & family room w/fireplace. Gorgeous hwd flrs.Huge bedrooms. Spacious master bedroom w/lg dressing area & walk-in closet. Private, landscaped backyard w/new exquisite patio-great for entertaining. Unfinished basement offers ample storage. Scenic commute along G.W. Parkway—Ft. Belvoir, Old Town, Ntl. Airport, D.C. & Pentagon.



**Alex/Mount Vernon \$539,900**  
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**Alex/Woodlawn Terrace \$239,900**  
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# Faith Groups, Governor Push for Health Reform

FROM PAGE 1

personal and at times emotional testimony, the governor pledged to “rattle the cash jar” for expanding dental coverage for the uninsured.

“Candidly this issue was not on my radar screen before,” said Kaine. “But it’s on my to-do list now because of VOICE.”

Kaine reminded the capacity crowd that in the first year of his administration he worked to expand dental coverage to 100,000 additional low-income children early in his administration. But he admitted that after achieving that victory, the issue of expanding dental coverage to the uninsured was no longer a concern. That’s why VOICE leaders said after the meeting they counted the governor’s commitment to rattling the cash jar as an important victory — even if the governor stopped short of promising he would find funding for the issue.

“To be honest, I would have liked to hear him say he was going to put it in the budget,” said Kerry Kincannon, pastor of Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church. “But I understand his constraints.”

**THE OTHER ISSUE** on the agenda Monday night at T.C. Williams High School was the persistent federal delays in processing naturalization applications of Northern Virginia residents. Although Virginia’s two United States senators were unable to attend the meeting because of business at the Capitol, their representatives were presented with 200 individual cases VOICE leaders said demanded their attention. And they pressed for speeding up the processing time in Northern Virginia, which lags behind other areas of the country.

“We have an immigration backlog in this part of the county that just doesn’t happen in other parts of the county,” said Kincannon. “We’ve heard of cases that can take a year or more to process. That’s just too long, especially for families that might not be able to pay a second application fee after the first one expires.”



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

**Gov. Tim Kaine takes the stage at T.C. Williams joining over 20 religious leaders from Prince William, Fairfax and Arlington Counties and the City of Alexandria and U.S. Sen. Jim Webb’s Chief of Staff Paul Reagan.**

The religious leaders also pressed the senatorial proxies for greater accountability from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service on processing citizenship, permanent residency and asylum applications from families in Northern Virginia. The audience gasped when one woman explained that she wasn’t able to attend the funeral of her son in Indonesia because she was told she would not be able to return to the United States. Kaine agreed that the woman deserved better.

“How hard is it?” the governor asked, his voice cracking with emotion. “It’s not that hard.”

**SINCE ITS CREATION** in October, the multi-faith organization has been pushing for a number of specific action items across the political spectrum. Earlier this year it

was able to persuade elected officials in Alexandria and Fairfax County to maintain funding levels for affordable housing and expand dental coverage locally through the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic. In the future, VOICE leaders say, they would like to meet with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano to press for speedier processing of applications for citizenship, green cards and political asylum. In the future, leaders say, the group will seek to broaden its advocacy for maintaining affordable housing in Northern Virginia. One of the key areas where they plan to focus their efforts in Mount Vernon is a site off Popkins Lane in the area of Woodley Hills Trailer Park known as “North Hill.”

“We are not a single-issue organization,” said Kincannon. “And we plan to be around for a while.”

VOICE was founded on Oct. 5, 2008 as a multi-faith, multi-racial, non-partisan coalition of religious organizations seeking social justice. Participating groups include a range of the Northern Virginia religious community, and has grown from 40 member organizations to 48 since it was created. Leaders say the focus of the group is to advocate for low-income residents of Northern Virginia — specifically on issues pertaining to affordable housing, immigration and health care.

“VOICE has shown we are willing and able to use our power network with elected officials to craft solutions to improve the lives of all our families and communities,” said Leonard Hamlin, one of the chief clergy leaders of the organization. “It is in times like these that we need to stand up with the most vulnerable.”

## County Funds Design of Two-Mile Route 1 Expansion

FROM PAGE 1

projected increase in vehicular traffic. The U.S. Army’s traffic consultant, Jim Curran, estimated peak hour vehicular traffic on Route 1 north and south of Fort Belvoir will increase from 1,800 vehicles per hour to 2,300 vehicles per hour. The traffic analysis was completed in 2007.

**NOW THAT** the funds have been made available by the supervisors to design the highway expansion, when can military employees and dependents, Mt. Vernon area residents, and other area travelers expect the work to be completed? Katherine Ichter, a county transportation official, estimated that it may take two years to complete the design, two more years to acquire the land needed for the highway expansion, and one more year to relocate utilities. Thus, the area is unlikely to see the completion of

construction of an upgraded Route 1 for this segment for five or six years, or 2014-15.

The six-year time frame for a two-mile segment of Route 1 means improvements in the much longer 7.4 mile stretch of highway from the Route 235 and Route 1 intersection north to the Beltway will lag even further behind since transit analysis has yet to be funded and the length of roadway upgrade is almost four times the distance of the Fort Belvoir section of Route 1.

With the completion of the Fort Belvoir expansion well underway and projected to be fully operational by 2011 or 2012, the southern Fairfax county community will be confronted with difficult traffic problems “far beyond what currently exists today,” according to Ichter.

**BRAC MILITARY** spokesman Don Carr  
SEE \$3 MILLION, PAGE 7

### History

Transportation Studies, including transit needs for the Rte.1 Corridor:

**1994: VDOT Route 1 Corridor Study**

Study completed in 1997; Board of Supervisors approved a six-lane road from the Beltway to Rte 235 north/Buckman road; and a six-lane road and two HOV outside lanes (one in each direction) from Rte. 235 North/Buckman road to the Alexandria city line. The Board also endorsed local and express bus service.

**2000: No.Va. Transportation Commission Rte. 1 Corridor Bus Study**

Further defined the scope and magnitude of transit needs in the corridor. It was completed in 2001 and served as the basis for the development of the Richmond Hwy. Public Transit Corridor initiative.

**2003: WMATA Fort Belvoir to Huntington Metro Station Transit Improvement Study**

Completed in 2003, this study recommended phased implementation of enhanced bus service. It also concluded that light rail was a long-term possibility. Fort Belvoir expansion was a consideration at this point.

**2004: VDOT Route 1 Location Study**

Fairfax County and Prince William County requested and VDOT commissioned a multi-year location study including environmental assessment. The study concluded that transit expansion was needed, however, it should not preclude the need to construct the proposed Route 1 highway improvements. The Steering committee approved the location plans for two of the three segments of Route 1; the third northern segment should be held in abeyance until the completion of a long-term transit study for this segment.

**Fall, 2004: Route 1 Cross-Section**  
SEE HISTORY, PAGE 7

# \$3 Million for Route 1 Expansion

FROM PAGE 6

and BRAC hospital representative Dr. Richard Repeta provided these people projections of daily, weekly, and annual visits to the Fort Belvoir main post on Route 1 beginning 2011:

- ❖ Total employees coming daily to the Fort Belvoir Main Post: 3,400.

- ❖ Patient visits at new Ft. Belvoir hospital: 500,000 annually; or 4,000 per week.

- ❖ Eligible medical beneficiaries in the northern Virginia service area who may be coming to the Fort Belvoir Hospital: 225,000 (active duty and depen-

dent; retired military and dependent family).

- ❖ Wounded Warriors Transition Rehabilitation Complex (288 patients); up to 35 percent are projected to be combat and non-combat related patients from Iraq and Afghanistan. No projections available on families visiting annually for this new facility.

In addition, plans are in the works to locate a new military museum. One of the site options being considered is at the main post of Fort Belvoir. The museum would be of interest to visitors from throughout the United States. One BRAC spokesman projected up to 400,000 visitors annually to the museum.

## History

FROM PAGE 6

### Analysis Study

This was a joint community-staff committee which recommended that light rail could be accommodated within the same right of way as a six- or eight-lane cross-section on Route 1 by eliminating two travel lanes, ie., either two additional

lanes or a light rail option could be accommodated within the right-of-way cross-section.

### 2004: Funds Requested for Transit Study

Board of Supervisors requested VDOT funding for the long-term transit study. To date this money has not been made available. No analysis of the alternatives or the basis for the alternatives.

## Loyal Man Arrested for Threatening Federal Judges

FBI officials arrested Stephen H. Rosenberg, 51, at his Alexandria home on July 15 after Rosenberg threatened to kill federal judges in South Carolina through e-mail communication, according to Joseph Persichini Jr., of the FBI.

Since appearing in federal court in South Carolina on May 11, 2009, Rosenberg, a plaintiff in his civil case against South Carolina and the United States, has sent numerous threatening e-mails to the federal judge that presided over his case in the Colum-

bia Division of the U.S. District Court of South Carolina, Persichini said.

A South Carolina federal grand jury indicted Rosenberg on July 7, 2009. He is charged one count of "knowingly transmitting in interstate commerce" e-mail communications threatening to kill judges in South Carolina. He is also charged with one count of threatening to influence and intimidate a federal judge.

— KEN MOORE

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# OPINION

## Some Swine Flu Risks

If you're sick, stay home from work; if the children are sick, keep them home from school.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, Virginia has had more than 300 confirmed or probable cases of swine flu, and two deaths from the swine flu, including one in Arlington. A 27-year-old Alexandria man, hospitalized with a confirmed case of H1N1 flu, died in June.

We suspect the actual number of cases of swine flu in Virginia to be much higher, given the example of other states, e.g. Wisconsin, which reports more than 6,000 probably or confirmed cases of swine flu, but just eight deaths.

Cases have spiked in Virginia in recent weeks according to the Virginia Department of Health, during a time when health officials say anyone with flu symptoms of sore throat, fever and cough almost certainly is infected with swine flu. The regular, seasonal flu is almost unheard of this time of year. The CDC identifies the level of infection in Virginia as "regional," with the level of infection in Maryland as "widespread."

Overall, so far swine flu has been more mild than feared, with most people recovering without hospitalization. Seasonal flu, as differentiated from swine flu, kills about 36,000 people nationwide each year; about 1,000 people die in Virginia each year from influenza and pneumonia.

The CDC is predicting that swine flu will continue to spread through the summer and into the fall and winter, and will be a significant complicating factor when the seasonal influenza strikes when the weather gets cold.

The CDC reports: "The novel H1N1 virus, in conjunction with regular seasonal influenza viruses, poses the potential to cause significant illness with associated hospitalizations and deaths during the U.S. influenza season."

The primary method to avoid the spread of the swine flu is to tell people who are sick to stay home from work, keep sick children home from school or camp. Call your doctor's office, let them know you have flu symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat), so your doctor can determine if you would benefit from an antiviral medication. People who have had the swine flu are deemed contagious for seven days after the onset of symptoms, or until all symptoms have disappeared, whichever is longer.

All of our health in the coming year will depend on people following the advice to stay home if sick and seeking the right medical attention from a doctor's office, not the emergency room.

But what about the millions of workers who have no (or very limited) paid sick leave? What about the millions of people who have no health insurance and have no doctor to consult by phone?

According to a new report from an advocacy group, Health Care for America Now, in Virginia, about 12 percent of whites, 17 percent of African Americans and 45 percent of Latinos lack health insurance.

According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, about half of workers (excluding those who work for government) have no paid sick leave.

## Frequently Asked Questions New H1N1 Virus (Swine Influenza)

### What are the symptoms?

Symptoms in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu: fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported vomiting and diarrhea.

### What is the incubation period after exposure?

About 1-4 days. If a week has gone by from when you know you were exposed, it's not likely you will get sick.

### Are there medicines to treat the new H1N1 virus?

Antivirals don't cure you of flu, but they do work to lessen the duration and severity of symptoms. ... Influenza antiviral drugs work best when started soon after symptoms appear, usually within two days. You must have a prescription to receive these medications.

### How can people decrease the spread of the new (H1N1) virus?

Taking the following steps can decrease the spread of flu: frequent hand washing; covering coughs; having ill persons stay home, except to seek medical care; minimizing contact with others; having household members of cases minimize contact in the community, to the extent possible; reducing unnecessary social contacts; avoiding crowded settings, when possible; keeping children home from school if they are ill. If you are sick, stay home and call your doctor, wash your hands often.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Health  
<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/news/Alerts/SwineFlu/index.htm>

The rest of us who are blessed with access to health care and paid sick days are at risk as other workers are under intense financial pressure to go to work even when they are sick, or their children are sick.

There are no simple answers, but it's also important to recognize the growing costs of the status quo on health care.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Joyful Diversity

Members of St. James' Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon and Holy Trinity Methodist Church, Ghana shared a joint celebration this past Sunday, July 12. The service featured the Holy Trinity Choir and Father B. Kris Kramer, the priest of St. James' who preached a sermon reflecting on truth, civil rights, slavery, and the blessings of diversity and love within the body of Christ. The loose offering from the Sunday service was dedicated to be used to support a small primary school in Krofu, Ghana. The vacation Bible school program throughout the week was also collecting school supplies for this small rural school which are to be hand delivered in August. The service was followed by a West African feast with authentic dishes, right down to the bottled Fanta.

The Rev. John Hammond and his members moved their services to St. James at the beginning of this



year. Hammond and Kramer have become good friends and begun sharing ministry. When Hammond learned of the impending visit of the President of the United States to Ghana he suggested to the leadership of St. James that his congregation prepare a West African feast to follow a joint service on the same weekend. People in

Ghana were certainly in celebratory spirits last week and that spirit of jubilation spilled into the aisles of St. James as the choir and children danced around the church with Kramer and Hammond at the end of the service with drums playing.

An authentic flavor of Africa in the form of Holy Trinity Method-

ist, Ghana continues to be a fixture in the life of this small church on Old Mill Road. They worship each Sunday at 12:30 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Church at 5614 Old Mill Road after St. James' 10:15 a.m. main service. The public is invited to come and join in the dance of this new "beat" in Mt. Vernon.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street  
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**Ann Lockwood | 703.299.8643**



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**Bob Kuletz | 703.615.2626**



**NEW LISTING, OPEN SUN 1-4!**

**300 Princeton Boulevard**  
**\$1,000,000 | Alexandria City**  
Bright and open with designer touches. 4 bedroom/office, studio, 3.5 baths, high ceilings, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, new kitchen with island, stainless steel appliances, granite, breakfast room opens to family room, deck with hot tub, finished lower level, walk to pool and Macarthur Elem. 395 to E on King, R Quaker, L Trinity, R Princeton.

**Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158**



**GLORIOUS RIVER VIEW**

**122 Madison Place**  
**\$1,250,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
Overlooking the Potomac River and Oronoco Bay Park, this four level townhome boasts an open & airy floor plan, high ceilings, fine moldings, spacious room sizes, two car garage. Featuring 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, recently renovated kitchen with adjoining family room with fireplace, this beautifully maintained home is perfect for the most discriminating purchaser.

**Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156**



**GARDEN PARADISE**

**1616 Sherwood Hall Lane**  
**\$595,000 | Hollindale**  
Beautiful and private home tucked on a surprisingly secluded and delightfully large lot, filled with mature trees and flowers in bloom, with two decks, charming shed and an abundance of space. Nicely updated interior, with bright and open rooms, two suites, large rec room, two fireplaces, hardwood flooring and French doors to gardens.

**Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**

**125 North Payne Street**  
**\$699,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
A charming, sunny house with long garden, 2 bedrooms, new eat-in kitchen, 1.5 bathrooms. Close to King Street metro and shops. Exposed brick walls, neutral paint, cathedral ceilings, skylights, hardwood flooring! For information or floor plan call Marie! For more photos go to [www.125NorthPayneSt.com](http://www.125NorthPayneSt.com). [MLM1606@aol.com](mailto:MLM1606@aol.com)

**Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**

**7421 Rebecca Drive**  
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**Nancy Tompkins | 703.518.2813**



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**1205 Stonell Place**  
**\$999,950 | Alexandria**  
Classic center hall colonial with loads of upgrades and designer touches. Spacious, elegant formal living and dining rooms, cozy family room with fireplace, sunny eat-in gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets, stainless appliances, master suite with fabulous bath and huge lower level rec room, bedroom & full bath! 2 car garage, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths.

**Cindee Jackson | 703.518.6157**



**JUST ABOUT PERFECT!**

**519 Alfred Street**  
**\$630,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
Very special 2 bedroom, 2 bath home in historic Old Town. with wood burning fireplace! Perfectly renovated in the past 3 years including ELK, baths, hard woods, exterior and delightful outdoor space. Convenient to all Old Town has to offer. Just 6 blocks to metro! S. on GW Pkwy into Old Town. Rt. on Pendleton, Lt on N. Alfred St. to 519 on left.

**Linda Wolf | 571.332.8531**



**OPEN SUN, 1-4! GREEN OASIS!**

**6123 Stegen**  
**\$849,000 | Wilton Woods**  
The setting on this beautiful house is extraordinary --private, brick patio and walkways, mature trees and plantings, lighting, fountain. Must see this gorgeous landscape. The house feels new with many upgrades and convey items, including three large plasma TVs! Five bedrooms on 2nd level, fully equipped exercise room, 2-car garage.

**Rita McCauley Redmond | 703.447.9114**



**GOLF COURSE VIEWS**

**1727 Belle Haven Road**  
**\$625,000 | Olde Belhaven Towne**  
Great House! Great Location! Great Price! Lovingly maintained and completely updated! The beautiful hardwood floors, great new kitchen, updated baths, fresh paint, 2 fireplaces and large courtyard make this the ideal city home. The million dollar view of the golf course is the finishing touch!! Plenty of parking.

**Nancy Tompkins | 703.518.2813**



**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!**

**2415 Lakeshire Drive**  
**\$1,195,000 | South Alexandria**  
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**Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788**



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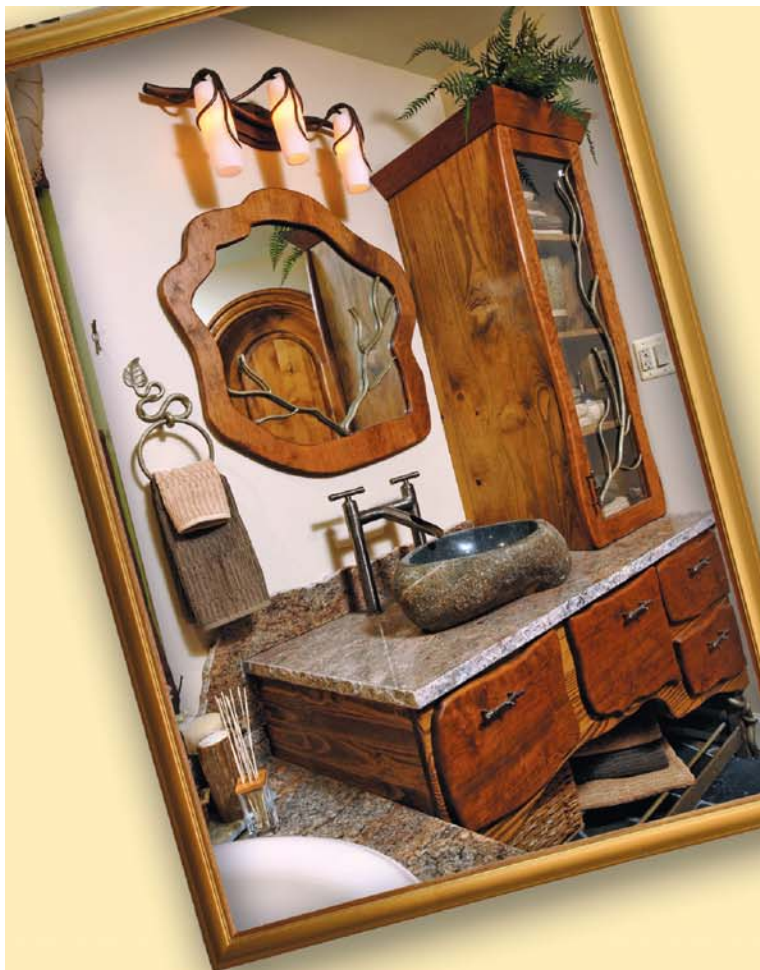
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## OPINION

### NOVA Truly Is a Gem

To the Editor:

I read your editorial in the Mt. Vernon Gazette regarding Northern Virginia Community College this morning with more than usual interest. I may not have a unique perspective on NOVA but believe it may be at least unusual. Thirteen years ago, I decided to teach at the high school level, as a second career. To receive my certification credits, I enrolled at NOVA — at age 55 — and was immediately impressed by the quality and professionalism of every instructor I had. Many of them, in fact, also taught at nearby four-year institutions so the education I received at NOVA was at least equal to what I would have received at George Mason or any of the area universities.

While at NOVA, a professor suggested I take graduate courses at George Mason, which I did and successfully completed a graduate degree in American history. Now, having retired again — from teaching at West Potomac High School — I am now an adjunct instructor at NOVA, Woodbridge. So I have gone full cycle at NOVA.

Now one of the largest colleges in the country with more than 60,000 students, NOVA has evolved into much more than it was originally.

Now, NOVA provides a quality academic program for those seeking the introductory courses during the normal first two years at the university level. And it does so at less than one-third the cost of the four-year universities. NOVA's agreement with the state's outstanding universities for guaranteed acceptance after two successful years at NOVA provides students with an inexpensive route to achieve the dream of a four-year degree. It does so with-

out "dumbing down" the curriculum or "letting students slide." On the contrary, it offers the inquisitive student a rare opportunity to explore the academic world without bankrupting the family budget.

Your editorial highlights NOVA as the hidden academic gem within our midst, a gem that appears to be growing at exponential rates as more and more families seek academically acceptable alternatives to the outrageously expensive four-year institutions in the area.

**Bill Rhatican**  
Alexandria

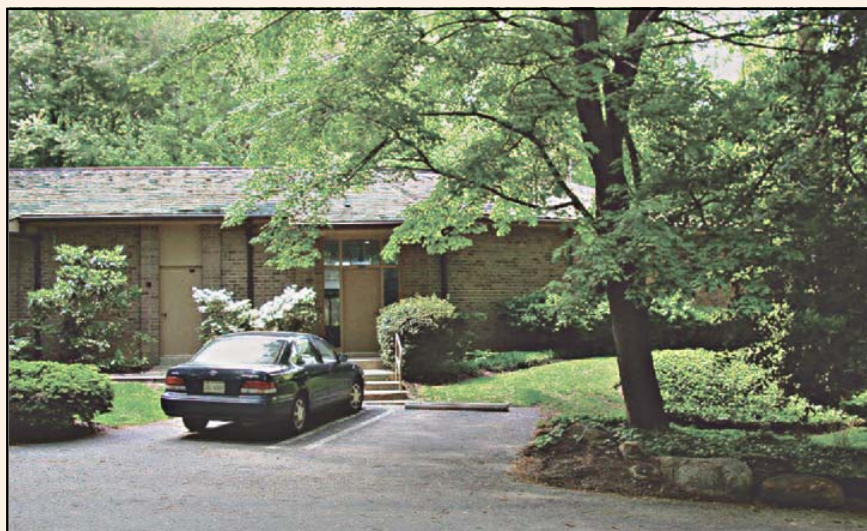
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The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
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# CHRIS WHITE

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Motivated seller wants immediate sale! Exceptionally spacious six level home with huge

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*The Perfect Lot!*  
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**4307**  
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*Georgian Colonial!*  
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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!



**9304**  
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*"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!



**9316**  
Heather Glen Dr  
\$775,000  
*Fantastic Price!*  
Classic Colonial façade with magnificent interior featuring glass walled

addition across the rear. Meticulously maintained 4 BR, three level home is loaded with special features and upgrades. Stunning custom addition overlooks beautifully landscaped yard and the most spectacular custom pool you'll ever find! You won't believe that this extraordinary home can be yours for such a reasonable price!



**9380**  
Mt Vernon Cir  
\$3,500,000  
*Private Waterfront Estate!*  
Stunning value! Majestic Colonial custom designed

to capitalize on panoramic water vistas from all four levels and dramatic riverfront swimming pool! Abundant superlatives include: Over 9,400 total sq ft, 4 levels, 5 BRs, 5.55 BAs, 7 fireplaces, stunning 2 level MBR suite, custom built-ins, dock with power lifts, the list goes on & on! Price slashed over \$200,000 to expedite sale!



**4003**  
Belle Rive Terr  
\$4,200,000  
*Riverfront!*  
Just reduced! 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.



**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.



**9500**  
Ferry Hall Court  
\$1,450,000  
*Dream Home!*  
Builder's loss is your gain! Originally priced at almost

\$2,000,000 - just reduced another \$300,000 to create a once in a lifetime opportunity! Stunning model offers the best of everything: open floor plan, high ceilings, 6BR, 6.5BA, 3 finished levels, top of the line kitchen & baths, 3 car garage and more!



**9403**  
Brambly Lane  
\$975,000  
*Luxury Home! Special Financing!*  
10% down 30 yr fixed low rate makes it easy to

purchase this luxurious brand new home by Wakefield Homes. Fabulous Mason model with bright, open floor plan loaded with upgrades and special features. House will be ready for its new owners by mid-August! Price + Special Terms - Best New Home Value in the Alexandria area!

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bettyquirk.com or liveinbellehaven.com



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## Tavern Day Is at Gadsby's Tavern Museum Aug. 1

Have you passed by Gadsby's Tavern Museum hundreds of times and never gone in? Take this opportunity and experience life in the 18th century, as well as learn about the educational volunteer opportunities at Gadsby's Tavern Museum on Saturday, Aug. 1, from 1-5 p.m. at Gadsby's Tavern Day. Admission is free.

Tavern Day Open House at Gadsby's Tavern Museum will feature continuous tours of the historic site by costumed guides, the opportunity to learn to dance like George and Martha Washington, and much more. This year's highlights include enlightening 18th-century science experiments conducted in the Assembly Room. Light refreshments will be served. Combine this with the Friendship Firehouse Festival and have a great day in Old Town Alexandria.

As America began as a nation during the late 18th century and emerged in the 19th century, Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria as well as the new Federal City of Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents — including George Washington — and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history. Tavern keepers John Wise and John Gadsby hosted balls, performances, and meetings, and their accommodations were known as the best by travelers near and far.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria and is owned and operated by the City of Alexandria. Call 703-838-4242 or visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

# When Yorkies Come to Town

## International YorkieTalk Meetup Comes to Alexandria.

BY ERICA KICAK-VANDERHOEVEN  
THE GAZETTE

It was a friendly atmosphere as online pals finally met up in person, introducing themselves by their screen names, except for the occasional interruptions of yaps, snuffles, and cries of “what are you doing? Come back here!” About 70 humans and more than 100 silky Yorkshire Terriers met at Sheraton Suites Old Town on North St. Asaph Street over the weekend for the International YorkieTalk Meetup.

**FROM THURSDAY** to Sunday, they came from as far away as Arizona and Canada — mostly middle-aged ladies — with their 7-pound blue and gold Yorkies strapped to their arms, some carrying them in rolling baskets and even Barbie totes.

The weekend's events began with a Doggie Happy Hour with dog treats and appetizers followed by a Doggie Cruise on Thursday evening. Other highlights were Q&A sessions and the fashion show on Saturday. The catwalk featured female Yorkies in everything from a purple and gold LSU cheerleader's outfit to lacy gowns complete with accessories from doggie boutiques. “Macho” male Yorkies modeled outfits from green army camouflage, complete with custom dog tags, to more dapper dogs in black and white miniature tuxedos. There was even an owner/dog pair in matching orange and black, tiger print dresses.

Some ladies took dog training seminars called agility for dogs. Some were excited by the chance to learn more about their favorite breed.

“I thought this would be a great place to learn more about Yorkies,” said Margie of Clinton, Md., who has owned her Yorkie, Mimi, for 17 months. Others wanted the chance to meet in person with those they'd connected with so much online. “We've been through a lot,” says Bo, from Havre de Grace, Md., who came with her “babies” — Hotrod and Maggie Mae — of the members of the YorkieTalk forum. “He went through surgery. Everyone's been so supportive. I've just cried on everyone's shoulders.”

**YORKIETALK** posts can be about basic dog care questions to general discussions about anything — even non-canine topics like decorating and reality TV. Breeders go onto YorkieTalk to find homes for their litters. Many of the Yorkies at the Meetup were actually related. An important feature of the forum is doing rescues of Yorkies in shelters.

“I posted about a dog on dogfinder in Texas, who was blind in one eye and she was actually adopted by someone on YorkieTalk,” said Renata, from Des Moines, Iowa. “I have a lot of posts,” she says with a laugh, “probably more than anyone in this room.”

This year was YorkieTalk's second-annual



**Maggie takes a stroll through the lobby of the Sheraton Suites.**



**Daisy is accompanied by Lea Moelk.**

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE



**Maggie and Cory Ciampa.**



**Bubba looks around to see who is to be joining him in the park.**



**Emmett and Cindy Hice**



**Roxie heads back to the elevators to change her dress for playtime in the park.**

meetup. Participants were very pleased with the location. “I love this area. It's so nice. Every store is so dog friendly,” said Kelli, who came down from Buffalo, NY, with her sister and their two Yorkies.

To join the forum or to learn more, go to [www.yorkietalk.com](http://www.yorkietalk.com).

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# THEATRE

## Video Added to the Bard

**Firebelly augments Hamlet with camera, screen.**

BY BRAD HATHAWAY  
THE GAZETTE

It is always a pleasure to find a theater company that stretches its reach, giving artists challenges and, at the same time, audiences a fresh look at some familiar works. With a new view of Shakespeare's "Hamlet," Arlington-based Firebelly Productions continues to meet its mission of giving young performers and designers meaty material on which to cut their teeth, but the results don't give audiences a lot of new insight into a classic work.

Did they reach a bit too far? No. Not really. They manage to provide a clear and consistently watchable presentation of a complex and convoluted story, but they don't add a lot to one of the theater's most oft-produced dramas.

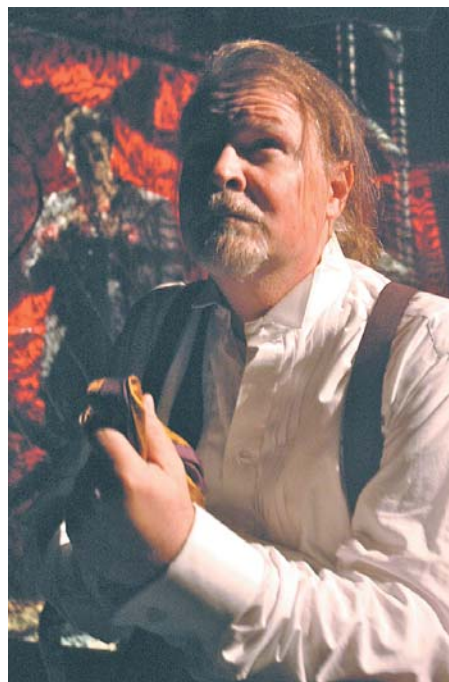
"Hamlet" has been something of a staple for quite a few centuries now. First penned at the start of the 17th century (or perhaps even the end of the 16th) the story of the prince of Denmark who feigns madness in order to unmask his father's killer has been on local stages multiple times in recent seasons, many with satisfying productions and some with stunning ones.

Firebelly's is more a middling one. Lead actor John Bonner of Chantilly plays an easy-to-follow young Hamlet driven by a thirst for revenge when his uncle Claudius murders his father the King and marries his mother, Queen Gertrude. The King may be dead before the play begins, but Matthew Friedman stalks the ramparts as his ghost before re-appearing in the role of one of Hamlet's famous friends as one half of the pair of Guildenstern and Rosencrantz.

The 400-year-old text often falls on modern ears as a bit of heavy going but the cast here does its job



**John Bonner (center) of Chantilly plays an easy-to-follow young Hamlet.**



**Stephen J. Hoochuck**

of first understanding the meaning of the measured verse and then communicating that meaning to modern audiences. Best at this in this cast are Steven J. Hoochuck, as the felonious uncle Claudius; Charles St. Charles, as Polonius, a court advisor who goes with the flow; and Charley Mann, as his son Laertes, who seeks his own revenge when Hamlet mistakenly stabs his father thinking it is the king hiding behind a curtain.

**THE PLAY** only provides two roles for women but they are certainly solid roles. Sonia Justl delivers a high-octane mad scene as Hamlet's girlfriend, Ophelia, while Shelby Sours hits a few nice highly emotional notes as the Queen.

The production is under the direction of Michael Ryan Fernandez, who is currently working on his masters at the Film School at DePaul University after graduating from George Mason's Theatre Department. His interest in film and video technology is clear in this produc-

tion as he uses a screen at the back of the stage to display live images of many of the scenes from video cameras both hand held and mounted on the set. These images don't often add a great deal to the proceedings and often distract when attention should be focused on the action. However, the pre-taped (or filmed) scene of Ophelia's off-stage death by drowning is both effective and particularly memorable.

Since video technology is visible during the production, it seems proper that this is a modern-dress mounting of the venerable classic, using street-style clothing for many of the men, but putting the queen in some outfits that look a bit like out-of-date prom dresses. Stephen Frost provides an almost cinematic musical score that, in keeping with Fernandez's approach, sounds at times like the soundtrack of a Hollywood movie.

No production of "Hamlet" can truly work without close attention being paid to the combat skills of the troupe. Here, in the small black box Theatre on the Run where no seat is more than four rows from the stage, it is even more important. Firebelly was fortunate to obtain the services of Andrew Pecoraro as "fight coordinator," who makes sure that the final scene in which Bonner, as Hamlet, and Mann, as Laertes, go at it with poisoned swords and daggers.



*Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway, and edits Potomac Stages, a Web site covering theater in the region (www.PotomacStages.com). He can be reached at Brad@PotomacStages.com.*

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### Where and When

The Firebelly Productions' "Hamlet" continues through Aug. 9 at Arlington's Theatre on the Run, 3700 South Four Mile Run Drive. Performances are Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 - \$15. Call 703-409-2372 or log on to www.firebellyproductions.net.

# CALENDAR

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### ONGOING

#### NOW THROUGH LABOR DAY

**Michael Jackson's Patent and Trademarks.** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Open exhibit of Michael Jackson's patent and trademarks. At the National Inventors Hall of Fame and Museum, Madison Building, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, in the atrium. Call 571-272-0095.

**The Third Annual Alexandria Film Festival** is soliciting entries from U.S. and international filmmakers. The festival will be held Sept. 24-27 at the George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple. This year, the Film Festival is partnering with Withoutabox, the film industry's premier online service platform. To submit your film online, visit [www.withoutabox.com/login/7816](http://www.withoutabox.com/login/7816). All entries submitted through Withoutabox will receive an additional discount. For more information or to obtain entry forms and submission guidelines, visit [www.alexandriafilm.org](http://www.alexandriafilm.org). Call 703-838-6348.

#### THURSDAY/JULY 23

**Music at Twilight Concert.** 7:30 p.m. The Alexandria Harmonizers (Barbershop) will perform. At Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Rd. Concerts are cancelled in the event of inclement weather and subject to change without notice. Call the Special Events Hotline at 703-883-4686 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

**Cocktails and Conversation.** 6-8 p.m. \$35/person. Led by The Protocol School of Washington-certified Susanna Theo, the program focuses on artful conversation skills for business/social networking. Discussion will include the do's and don'ts of positive conversation; how to correctly handle food and drink while networking; and answer questions like "how can one back away from the incessant talker." At Indigo Landing Restaurant, 1 Marine Drive, Alexandria. Contact Katherine Turner at [turnerk@indigoland.com](mailto:turnerk@indigoland.com) or 703-548-9227.

**Bob Brown Puppets.** 3:30 p.m. Presents "Old MacDonald's Farm." Recommended for children ages 2 & up. At Barrett Library, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4555, ext. 3.

#### FRIDAY/JULY 24

**Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant.** 2-4 p.m. Free admission but suggested donation of \$10. Contestants are Diane Roberts of Staunton, Sue Athanas of Virginia Beach, Charlotte Allen of Falls Church, Maureen Ribble of Alexandria, Joan Phillips of Roanoke and Judith Mudd-Krijgelmans of Reston. The pageant will be co-hosted by Pinky O'Neil of Reston and Jim Seeley of Mt. Vernon. At the Lee Center Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. The winner of Friday's pageant in Alexandria will compete for the title of 'Ms. Senior America' in Atlantic City. Call 703-425-7258 or go to [www.msvirginiasenior.com](http://www.msvirginiasenior.com).

**Pablo Antonio y La Firma.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. 13-piece Latin band specializing in salsa, cumbia, bachata, regaeton and merengue. Performing as part of the Mt. Vernon Nights summer concert. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Concerts are



#### AUG. 7-30

**Illuminations**, an exhibit of painting, photography, gardening, and painted glass, will be on view at the Del Ray Artisans gallery from Aug. 7-30. The works are by members of the DRA Board of Directors who have volunteered in that role for at least two years. Opening reception will be held on Friday, Aug. 7 from 7-9 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Contact co-curator Jeanne Tiff at [jldtiff@cox.net](mailto:jldtiff@cox.net) or 703-960-3873 for information about the artists or visit the DRA web site, [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org), for gallery hours, directions, and special events related to the exhibit.

cancelled if it is raining. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-SHOW (7469) after 6 p.m. for cancellation updates.

#### SATURDAY, JULY 25

**African Heritage Cultural Festival.** 1-7 p.m. The music, culture, and food of Africa takes center stage as the City of Alexandria hosts the African Heritage Cultural Festival. Featured performances include the Prince William County Players, SAMO'O and the band JFC, with Caribbean sound; Elikeh, Afro funk music; Phaze II Jazz; and Nu-Era with contemporary R & B. In addition, the festival features youth performances by Recreation Center participants, Church groups and other local young talent. Alexandria African Heritage Tours will be offered between 10 a.m. and noon, originating from the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Call 703-838-4844 by Friday, July 24. At Market Square, 301 King St. Call 703-883-4686 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

**Beatrix Potter Storytime.** Ages 3 and up. 11:30 am. Snuggle up in storytime corner and read about Peter Rabbit, Benjamin Bunny, and a host of our other favorite friends! Free. 703-548-4092. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com)

#### JULY 25-26

**Auditions.** For "Inherit the Wind," Saturday, July 25 from 2-4 p.m., and Sunday, July 26 from 7-9 p.m. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. The director will be casting 10-15 males (ages 18 - 65), 5-7 females (ages 20 - 65), and 2 children (male - age 13 and female, age 12). All roles are open. Call 703-660-2611 or go to [www.acctonline.org](http://www.acctonline.org).

**Festival for Bug Lovers.** 10 a.m. to noon. At the Visitor Center at Huntley Meadows Park. \$4 per child. Family-oriented exhibits, crafts and games. On Saturday, July 25 from 8-9:30 p.m. families can walk the park after dark with a bat expert Carolyn Gamble. \$6/adults, \$4/children. On Sunday, July 26 from 11:30-12:30 p.m., Ed Eder will introduce families to ambush bugs, owlflies and silk moths. Call 703-768-2525. At 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria.

#### SUNDAY/JULY 26

**Where's Waldo Event.** Ages 6 and up. 2 p.m. Can you find Waldo? Stop by

the store and test your Waldo-locating skills at this special event for our favorite friend in the red and white striped shirt! Free. 703-548-4092. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. [www.hooray4books.com](http://www.hooray4books.com)

**Summer Chamber Music Series.** 3 p.m. Free. Pianist Alex Beresovsky. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

**Fort Hunt Concert.** 7-8 p.m. The Mount Vernon Brass Ensemble will present a free concert at Fort Hunt Park. Visit [www.mvbands.com](http://www.mvbands.com) or call 703-768-4172.

#### JULY 27-31

**Del Ray Artisans Summer Art Camp.** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Kids can get eco-creative with this one week camp which includes painting, drawing, collage, games and more. There is a fee that includes professional artists and instructors, art supplies, and healthy lunches and snacks. The camp is limited to 26 students. Call 693-838-4827 or [www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org).

#### WEDNESDAY/JULY 29

**Stories in the Park.** 11 a.m. Join the Alexandria Library, for ages 2 and up. In Section 7 of Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Road. In case of extreme heat or rain, the event will be at the Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St. Call 703-838-4555.

**Steve Smith & the Meteors Concert.** 7 p.m. Blues music at the Ben Brenman Park Amphitheater, 4800 Brenman Park Drive, Alexandria. Come enjoy a folk rock concert featuring Wes Tucker & the Skilletts. Concerts are cancelled in the event of inclement weather and subject to change without notice. Call 703-883-4686 or visit [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

#### JULY 29-31

**Clio's Kids: A History Mini-Camp.** 9 a.m. to noon. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Camp is for ages 5 through 7. It introduces children to American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, story-telling, singing and dancing, crafts, old-fashioned games, and visits to historic places. Advanced registration is required and there is a fee that includes snacks and souvenirs. Call 703-838-4994 or [www.alexandriahistorical.org](http://www.alexandriahistorical.org).

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# Connolly Opposes Tax on High Incomes

**Connolly: U.S. should pursue more savings in health care costs before turning to additional taxes.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE GAZETTE

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) organized other freshman Democrats to oppose a component of his political party's health care proposal that would have raised taxes on individuals earning \$280,000 or more per year and households earning \$350,000 or more per year, even though these households are among the wealthiest one percent in the country.

"Why are we talking about new taxes at all? We spend twice as much on health care as any other industrialized nation already," said Connolly, who thinks there are more ways to wring cost savings out of the current health care system.

The congressman said the pharmaceutical companies have put \$85 billion worth of savings on the table in terms of health care savings and the hospitals have offered up \$130 billion. But the insurance industry has not offered up any cost savings so far, even though profits for the country's top 10 insurance companies have increased by 428 percent over the last decade, he said.

"The insurance companies have not put a dime on the table. ... We should be looking at new taxes as a last resort. We need to look at savings first before we consider revenue enhancement," said

Connolly.

Still, the original version of the Democratic Party's health care reform plan called for a surtax that increases from one percent for those making between \$350,000 to \$500,000 to over five percent for people earning more than \$1 million.

After the objections of Connolly and some other Democrats, House speaker Nancy Pelosi has proposed bumping up the tax threshold to individuals earning \$500,000 and families earning \$1 million.

Though Connolly would like to avoid a new tax altogether, he said Pelosi's new proposal is more palatable than what was originally proposed.

It would have less of an impact on small business owners, who sometimes have to report their company's earning as personal income, he said.

With a household cut off of \$350,000, the original tax plan would also have affected some of Connolly's constituents, since the congressman represents one of the wealthiest congressional districts in the nation. Connolly said that about 14 percent of households he represents earn more than \$200,000 annually.

The bulk of Connolly's district is in Fairfax County, where the median annual household income was \$102,460 in 2007. In that same year, the nation's median

SEE CONNOLLY, PAGE 18

## Fimian Runs Against Connolly Again

Local businessman Keith Fimian announced that he will run for Virginia's 11th District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives again in 2010.

Fimian, a Republican, lost to U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D) by about 11.5 percentage points in the 2008 election. Connolly replaced Republican Tom Davis, who decided to retire after 14 years in the office.

The 11th Congressional District includes most of central and southern Fairfax County as well as part of Prince William County.

Even though Davis had held the seat as a Republican, Connolly was thought to have a significant advantage over Fimian in the politi-

cal race two years ago.

Connolly had served Fairfax County chairman, the highest elected office in local government, for five years and had been a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 1995.

Fimian had never run for or held elected office before.

But Fimian outperformed Republican presidential candidate John McCain in the 11th Congressional District. President Barack Obama (D) beat McCain by about 15 percentage points in the district compared to Connolly's 11.5 percentage points over Fimian.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
816 ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC	3	4	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$3,700,000	Detached	0.95		WELLINGTON
4705 DOLPHIN LN	4	4	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$1,200,000	Detached	0.49		YACHT HAVEN EST
3805 WASHINGTON WOODS DR	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$995,000	Detached	0.41		WYCLIFFE ON THE POTOMAC
908 CLIFTON DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$945,000	Detached	0.67		WELLINGTON WOODS
1220 TUDOR PL	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$850,000	Detached	0.40		MARLAN HEIGHTS
5108 REMINGTON DR	6	3	2	ALEXANDRIA		\$825,000	Detached	0.53		MT VERNON TERRACE
6917 BAYLOR DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$810,000	Detached	0.27		WESTGROVE
8304 RIVERTON LN	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$790,000	Detached	0.25		MANORS AT MT VERNON
9313 OLD MANSION RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$780,000	Detached	0.39		RIVERWOOD
11261128 GLADSTONE PL	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$779,000	Detached	0.34		WELLINGTON
6423 TENTH ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$775,000	Detached	0.28		NEW ALEXANDRIA
8301 CROWN COURT RD	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$763,000	Detached	0.28		RIVERSIDE
7219 STAFFORD RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$744,685	Detached	0.50		HOLLIN HILLS
2212 GLASGOW RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$735,000	Detached	0.44		HOLLIN HILLS
3618 SOUTH PL #10	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$725,000	Detached			COURT AT MT VERNON
3407 BURGUNDY RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$720,000	Detached	0.28		BURGUNDY WOODS
9301 OLD MANSION RD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$705,000	Detached	0.38		RIVERWOOD
1906 OLD STAGE RD	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$670,000	Detached	0.27		RIVERSIDE GARDENS
8402 FELTON LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$660,000	Detached	0.29		COLLINGWOOD ON POTOMAC
2302 LONDONDERRY RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$635,000	Detached	0.24		STRATFORD LANDING
7701 TAUXEMONT RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$635,000	Detached	0.43		TAUXEMONT
6031 WOODMONT RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$625,000	Detached	0.17		BELLE HAVEN
1122 WAYNEWOOD BLVD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$607,000	Detached	0.32		WAYNEWOOD
8420 SULKY CT	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$600,000	Detached	0.24		RIVERSIDE GARDENS
1201 CEDAR DALE LN	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$590,000	Detached	0.54		BOULEVARD ACRES
7725 TAUXEMONT RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$590,000	Detached	0.46		TAUXEMONT
4114 WESTMAN CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$579,000	Detached	0.28		WOODSTONE
1527 BELLE HAVEN RD	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$570,000	Townhouse	0.07		OLDE BELHAVEN TOWNE
8023 FAIRFAX RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$570,000	Detached	0.21		HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
3912 WOODLEY DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$555,000	Detached	0.50		WOODLEY HILLS
7030 BEDROCK RD	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$553,500	Detached	0.23		WOODSTONE
2509 APPIAN CT	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$545,000	Detached	0.28		MILWAY MEADOWS
2202 YARDLEY CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$515,000	Detached	0.26		RIVERSIDE PARK HESSICK
8403 STOCKADE DR	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$513,000	Detached	0.24		COLLINGWOOD SPRINGS
5809 QUEENS GATE CT	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$500,000	Detached	0.22		NORTON SQUARE
7507 ELBA RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$500,000	Detached	0.35		HOLLIN HILLS
7934 BAYBERRY DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$500,000	Detached	0.35		SHERWOOD HALL
8645 GATESHEAD RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$500,000	Detached	0.35		MT VERNON MANOR
6418 BLUEBILL LN	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$499,000	Detached	0.25		BELLE HAVEN TERRACE
1808 COOL SPRING DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$497,000	Detached	0.26		COLLINGWOOD SPRINGS
1912 SHANNON CT	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$495,000	Detached	0.30		HOLLINDALE
2409 APPLE HILL RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$495,000	Detached	0.27		WILLIAMSBURG MANOR NORTH
6412 16TH ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$485,000	Detached	0.25		NEW ALEXANDRIA
7916 NEW ORLEANS DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$470,000	Detached	0.26		HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
5706 PALIN PL	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$465,000	Detached	0.34		HICKORY KNOLL
8226 CENTRAL AVE	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$465,000	Detached	0.09		VERNON HEIGHTS
1510 SHENANDOAH RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$459,000	Detached	0.25		HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
2307 NORDOK	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$457,000	Detached	0.34		KIRKSIDE
7607 FORT HUNT RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$449,900	Detached	0.50		WELLINGTON HEIGHTS
8808 GATESHEAD RD	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$443,000	Detached	0.52		EASTGATE AT MOUNT VERNON
5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #308	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$415,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
8709 LEA LN	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$410,000	Detached	0.50		MARY LEA PARK
4327 FERRY LANDING RD	3	1	2	ALEXANDRIA		\$410,000	Detached	0.50		YACHT HAVEN EST
6710 BEDDOO ST	5	4	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$408,000	Detached	0.20		BEDDOO HEIGHTS
8403 WAGON WHEEL RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$403,000	Detached	0.25		RIVERSIDE ESTATES
2451 MIDTOWN #713	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$400,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			HUNTINGTON
7416 FAIRCHILD DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$390,000	Detached	0.21		HYBLA VALLEY
6906 DUKE DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$389,000	Detached	0.21		BUCKNELL MANOR
8317 ORVILLE ST	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$385,000	Detached	0.50		TIMOTHY PARK
3651 RANSOM PL	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$380,000	Townhouse	0.03		HUNTLEY MEADOWS
6726 KINGS HWY	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$375,000	Detached	0.34		COUNTRY CLUB ESTS
2817 SCHOOL ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$370,000	Detached	0.19		PENN DAW VILLAGE
1809 SHENANDOAH RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$370,000	Detached	0.23		HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE
6919 DEER RUN DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$365,500	Detached	0.15		DEER RUN CROSSING
8536 MOUNT ZEPHYR DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$365,000	Detached	0.43		MT ZEPHYR
3363 BEECHCLIFF DR	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA		\$357,500	Townhouse	0.04		HOLLY ACRES
2441 HUNTINGTON PARK DR	4	2	2	ALEXANDRIA		\$354,900	Townhouse	0.03		PAVILIONS AT HUNTINGTON
6930 COLUMBIA DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$351,000	Detached	0.17		BUCKNELL MANOR
7555 GREAT SWAN CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$350,000	Townhouse	0.03		HUNTLEY MEADOWS
4620 ODESSA DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$348,000	Townhouse	0.03		SKYVIEW PARK
8449 HALLIE ROSE ST	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$341,000	Townhouse	0.03		SKYVIEW PARK
5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1415	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$340,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
7008 COLGATE DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$340,000	Detached	0.17		BUCKNELL MANOR
8416 ROSEMONT CIR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$330,000	Detached	1.14		WOODLAWN ACRES
6510 10TH ST	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$329,000	Townhouse			BELLE VIEW
6376 CHIMNEY WOOD CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$326,000	Townhouse	0.03		SOUTH KINGS STATION
5845 MONTICELLO RD	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$323,000	Duplex	0.09		JEFFERSON MANOR
2325 RIVERVIEW TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$322,000	Duplex	0.09		HUNTINGTON
7950 HAMMOND ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$322,000	Detached	0.32		MT VERNON VALLEY
5942 MONTICELLO RD	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$310,000	Duplex	0.09		JEFFERSON MANOR
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1207	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$300,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			HUNTINGTON
7983 AVERY PARK CT	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$300,000	Townhouse	0.03		AVERY PARK
4718 LAURIEFROST CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$300,000	Townhouse	0.03		SKYVIEW PARK
2608 FAIRVIEW DR	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$295,000	Detached	0.59		FAIRVIEW
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #703	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$292,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			RIVER TOWERS
7829 MOUNT WOODLEY PL	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$290,000	Townhouse	0.03		MT WOODLEY MANOR
6414 14TH ST	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$290,000	Detached	0.15		NEW ALEXANDRIA
7129 VANTAGE DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$285,000	Detached	0.21		STONEBROOKE
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #701	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$280,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
7131 COLD SPRING PL	2	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$280,000	Townhouse	0.03		WOODSTONE
2805 WOODLAWN TRL	6	3	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$275,000	Detached	0.52		HYBLA VALLEY FARMS
7808 SCHELHORN RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$275,000	Detached	0.78		HYBLA VALLEY FARMS
8124 NORWOOD DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$275,000	Detached	0.33		MT VERNON WOODS
3403 ELMWOOD DR	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$270,000	Detached	0.20		BURGUNDY VILLAGE
6612 BOULEVARD VW #C1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$270,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BELLE VIEW
3004 HERITAGE SPRING CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$267,900	Townhouse	0.03		VILLAGE AT GUM SPGS
5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1003	1	1	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$265,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
3203 PIPER LN	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA		\$260,000	Detached	0.26		HYBLA VALLEY
6705 WAKEFIELD DR W #B1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$257,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BELLE VIEW
3425 BEECHCRAFT DR	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA		\$255,000	Detached	0		



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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE  
Principal Jon Gates talks with the Arnolds before leaving on the bus.



Clair Cushman with her friends Blessing and Mary-Jane Ojuah.

## Students Visit White House Garden

FROM PAGE 1

started writing copy, Sue Bernstien and outdoor-education coordinator Shawn Akard began the editing process and media specialist Linda Carter, on summer leave from the school, returned to put a book together for the first lady. The book illustrated the original plans and work by the parents, faculty and students on creating the school garden.

Bernstien reports that after clearing security, the students toured the south lawn and the garden. The new White House Chef Sam Cass joined them on the tour, explaining the new garden and inquiring about the garden at Hollin Meadows. Bernstien also recalled that one student was overcome by the heat of the day. Upon her falling on the grass, over a half dozen secret service officers

emerged from the surroundings with oxygen and first aid. The student, accompanied by the principal, was taken to the infirmary in the White House where the student was cared for. Before leaving the White House to join the class, the student and the principal were taken to watch President Obama leave on his helicopter for a meeting. After the tour the students walked to Lafayette Park for lunch.

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**21 Announcements 21 Announcements**

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**Draft Finding of No Significant Impact**  
Warrior in Transition Unit Complex  
U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir  
Directorate of Public Works  
Fort Belvoir, Virginia  
**Name of Action:** Construction and Operation of a Warrior in Transition Unit Complex  
**Description of Proposed Action:** The Army proposes to construct and operate a Warrior in Transition Unit Complex at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. The proposed action involves constructing new facilities, including buildings, sidewalks, parking, access roads, and necessary utilities to accommodate the personnel and functions of unit headquarters, two companies of Warriors in Transition and a Soldier and Family Assistance Center (SFAC) that would assist both soldiers housed at the Warrior in Transition Unit Complex and additional recovering soldiers residing off post. Approximate sizes of the new facilities include 194,400 square feet (SF) for the barracks, 15,000 SF for the SFAC, 31,000 SF for the administrative and operations facility, and 412 new parking spaces. The new facilities would accommodate the use by 412 warriors, with 36 personnel staffing the SFAC and 137 personnel for administration.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluated the proposed action Alternative, which sites the project in an area north of 9th Street, on the former South Post golf course. A No Action (No Build) alternative also considered by the Army would not meet the need to provide adequate new facilities meeting current standards for care of Warriors in Transition at Fort Belvoir. Two sites along Gunston Road were considered in earlier phases of the planning process. These alternatives were not carried forward in the EA as they were considered unreasonable alternatives. The Army Material Command site was dismissed due to limited future growth and does not have adequate space without encroachment on sensitive natural resources. The Directorate of Public Works site was dismissed as an alternative due to its greater distance from hospital and safety concerns for wounded soldiers crossing a major roadway.

**Environmental Consequences:** The EA identified and evaluated the following potential impacts:

**Transportation and Traffic:** It is anticipated that the proposed action would adversely affect two intersections during the a.m. peak hour and one intersection during the p.m. peak hour. The proposed action would not adversely affect transit operations in the area or adversely affect bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Construction traffic from the proposed action would average less than 6-percent of the total construction traffic at Fort Belvoir during the period through 2015 and would not be a significant impact

**Air Quality:** Air pollutant emissions from the proposed action would not be significant and would be below *de minimis* levels for general conformity. During construction of the proposed action, the restrictions outlined in the Construction Performance Plan for the Reduction of Air Emissions for Implementation of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Recommendations and Related Army Actions at Fort Belvoir, Virginia would be implemented to offset cumulative impacts.

**Natural Resources:** The proposed action would not have significant impacts on renewable natural resources, wetlands, resource protection areas, topography, or soils.

Leveling and grading of the project site would result in minor impacts to soils or topographic conditions. The required soil erosion and sediment control plan would be implemented to ensure impacts to soils are temporary and minor.

The proposed action would have minor impacts to surface water. Plans for stormwater management, stormwater pollution prevention, and sediment and erosion control would mitigate these effects. The proposed action is not located in floodplains and will have no effect.

The proposed action would be sited in an area that is partially developed and contains semi-improved grounds. Mitigation of tree removal would include tree replacement at 2:1 for trees four inches in diameter or more. Minor impacts to vegetation and wildlife would occur and no impacts to threatened & endangered species are expected.

**Cultural Resources:** The proposed action would not have an adverse effect under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. No cultural resources, including archaeological sites, are present at the project site. The planned building height of no more than four stories would not be visible or affect the setting of any historic property.

**Utilities:** The proposed Warrior in Transition Unit Complex would require a minor increase to overall demand for potable water, sanitary sewers, gas, and electricity.

Sustainable strategies would be included in the proposed project design, construction, and operation to meet or exceed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver rating; the High Performance and Sustainable Building, Low Impact Building Memorandum of Understanding; and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 for reduced energy and water requirements.

The EA concluded there would be minimal impacts for land use plans, aesthetics, coastal zone management, noise, socioeconomics, and community facilities and services as a result of the proposed action.

**Summary of Environmental Impacts:** The proposed action would not generate significant impacts on human health or the environment.

**Conclusion:** On reviewing the EA and other project information, the Installation Commander at Fort Belvoir has concluded that the proposed action would not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not needed.

**Notice of Availability:** The public may review the EA at the Directorate of Public Works, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; the John Marshall Public Library; Kingstowne Public Library; Lorton Public Library; Sherwood Regional Library; City of Fairfax Regional Library, Van Noy Library; or on the installation web site at <http://www.belvoir.army.mil>.

Interested parties may submit written comments for consideration on or before 30 days after publication of newspaper announcements on 23 July 2009, to Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, 9430 Jackson Loop, Suite 100, ATTN: Directorate of Public Works, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5116 or e-mail comments to [environmental-fb-dpw@conus.army.mil](mailto:environmental-fb-dpw@conus.army.mil). For more information, contact Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of Environmental and Natural Resource Division, at 703-806-4007.

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COURTESY OF JEFF BIGLER  
 The Fort Hunt Little League Juniors All Stars team from left: Coach Jim King, Alex Hauser (Catcher), Ben Judd (Left Field), Matt Hrin (Center Field), Nick Cordone (1st base), Joe King (2nd Base), Pat Lynn (3rd base), James Bigler (Shortstop), (Hunter Dennis (1st Base), Connor Pearson (Left Field), Patrick Bensen (Right Field), Andrew White (Center Field), Adam Gauthier (Right Field), Coach Diekemper, and Manager Jeff Bigler.

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**Swim Results**

The Hollin Hills Bluefish finished their season July 18 with a decisive win over long-time rival Rolling Valley Dolphins with a score of 216 to 186. The Bluefish also broke a pool record set back in 1985. The Bluefish are coached this year by Alex Collins and Chris Keany. Double winners included Jennah Tihami, Beata Corcoran, Michael Valceanu, and Jarod Worden.

every game they played throughout the tournament and outscoring their opponents 88-6. The team travels to the state championship next week, where they take on tournament winners representing the other 15 Districts in Virginia. The winner of the state tournament travels to Cartersville, Ga., for the Southeastern U.S. Championship.

**All Star Team Wins District**

The Fort Hunt Little League Juniors All Stars team recently took home the District 9 Championship by beating DTQ, 12-1, in the district championship game, earning the right to represent District 9 in the state tournament. Led by team manager Jeff Bigler, the Ft Hunt Juniors — ages 14 and 15 — sailed through the district tournament by winning

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Registration for Fort Hunt League fall baseball is now open. See the "Baseball" link at the top of the fhyaa.org Web site for information on our baseball program. Register online at <http://fhyaa.org>. For questions, contact the President Paul Murphy (FortHuntBaseball@msn.com) or Registrar Jeff Lerner (fhl.registrar@verizon.net).



COURTESY OF PETER ADAMS  
 The 11-12 year-old boys' 100-meter medley relay team of Hollin Hills broke a pool record set in 1985 this past weekend. From left: Samuel Runner, Michael Valceanu, Henry Luster, and Jarod Worden point at the record they shattered.

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