

Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

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AUGUST 13, 2009



Gerry Hyland at his desk in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District office.

PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

'I Have the Best Job in America'

Looking back over the past 22 years in office, Hyland looks forward to the upcoming challenges.



Gerry Hyland with his daughter GiGi at her law school graduation.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Supervisor Gerry Hyland, a fixture on the Board of Supervisors for over 20 years, has been called the "Mayor" of Mount Vernon. Supporters and critics alike have characterized him as a master at compromise, energetic, likeable, hard working, and dedicated. He believes he has the best elected job in America. Recently, in a series of conversations with the Gazette he talked about the loss of his wife Carmen, his pride in his daughter GiGi, and the effect of his early years on his decision to eventually pursue a career in elected public office. In looking back on his many years as supervisor he talks about his accomplishments as well as the more frustrating issues which thus far have not been solved. Looking to the future, he outlines what he would like to accomplish during the remaining years of this, his record-setting sixth term representing the Mount Vernon Magisterial District.

Question: What's it like to be a supervisor?

Hyland: Being supervisor is like being an alderman or mayor, or city councilman; the buck stops at your doorstep. It is making sure the snow

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Family's Attorney Cites Negligence

Judge hears arguments on officer's sovereign immunity in 2008 fatal crash.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Fairfax District Court Judge R. Terrence Ney presided over a hearing this week to determine if Fairfax County Police Officer Amanda Perry, involved in a 2008 fatal accident, is entitled to sovereign immunity.

The family of the late Ashley McIntosh contends that Perry was not on an emergency call and, even if she was, she did not conform to the county's mandatory emergency response regulations. McIntosh's attorneys, led by Tom Curcio, argued that she was negligent and not entitled to immunity from prosecution in the performance of her duty Feb. 12, 2008 when her police cruiser struck McIntosh's Toyota Corolla killing her. The hearing began Tuesday, Aug. 11 and was scheduled to conclude Aug. 12.

Curcio argued that Perry ignored Fairfax County Police "General Orders" — standards of conduct when responding to a emergency call — by deliberately failing to use her siren and lights as required in an emergency response, and while traveling at a high speed to



Cynthia Colasanto holds a photograph of her daughter Ashley McIntosh who died in a crash with a police cruiser last year.

get to the assigned destination at Beacon Mall Giant Food Store on Route 1.

What began as a technical discussion of the training manual and emergency response guidelines and whether Perry followed them, quickly turned graphic when the McIntosh legal team led by Curcio used film recorded by the police cruiser camera showing Perry's police cruiser entering the Boswell Avenue and Route 1 intersection without her siren on, did not brake to slow down, and traveled through the intersection at a high rate of speed while the light was red. Curcio pointed out that she was in violation of the police regulations governing the use of emergency equipment and

"... that police car is going to hit someone if it doesn't slow down."

— Harriet Jackson, eyewitness

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Supervisor Hyland Looks Back and Ahead

FROM PAGE 1

is plowed; a stray cat is picked up. I have personally removed a five-foot-long black snake from inside a home; burned out a large tent caterpillar web at the top of a backyard tree; and sprayed Senator Warner's fruit trees with dormant oil. One request in particular stands out in my mind. I was once asked to pass an ordinance banning barking dogs ... when I asked the constituent if she had suggested the idea to her homeowners association

“He and my mother instilled in me at an early age the public service ethic that has served as my moral compass and the driving force behind my own work ethic.”

— GiGi Hyland

she said “oh, heavens no, they would never support it.” In contrast one has to be able to grasp complex land use, tax, and human services policy issues with the patience and political acumen to arrive at a position supported by a majority of your constituents and a majority of the board.

Q: Before we get into discussing your past and present career as supervisor, let's talk about your personal background starting out with your late wife, Carmen. How did you meet her; how important was she to your personal and professional life? Also, please comment on your relationship with your daughter, GiGi Hyland.

A: I met Carmen while attending Georgetown law school. There were only three women in a class of 300 at the time. She was a gem and I fell in love with her the moment I met her. But I had lots of competition. So, un-

like the rest of her suitors I calculatedly paid only casual attention to her. The strategy worked. I won her heart. It was the most important thing I did in my life to marry her. Carmen was and is the love of my life. She was a beautiful person in every sense of the word, and she was an enormously important source of my happiness and the reason for who I am today. Whoever met her agreed with me that she was special. We worked effectively and compatibly in our family law firm. Also, she was a wonderful mother to our daughter GiGi. I miss her terribly. There is not a day that goes by that I don't think about her, the good times, and how important she was and continues to be in my life. Her courage and attitude in fighting a chronic debilitating disease for many years was something I will never forget.

As for my daughter GiGi; I am very proud of her. She is a lawyer and is now serving a six-year term on the federal independent regulatory agency, the National Credit Union Board. Every time I look at GiGi I am reminded about her resemblance to my wife Carmen and what a beautiful person she is both inside and out. GiGi and I are very close and we talk frequently on the phone and get together when our respective busy schedules allow.

Q: When you are not serving as supervisor how do you spend your time? What is your favorite pastime or hobby?

A: I have a 42-acre farm on the eastern shore, 16 miles south of Chincoteague, Va. I lease a good part of the land to a local farmer who grows corn and soybeans. I have planted about 30 different fruit trees, and maintain a large vegetable garden. I enjoy canning, making apple cider, and wine. My favorite pastime is going out there for the weekend or longer and working the farm; going crabbing or fishing; and eating seafood that I caught, and the fresh fruit and vegetables I have raised on the farm. The quiet and solitude, and the ocean breeze relaxes and invigorates me. My personal needs outside of my life's work are simple. I love the independence, beauty, and richness of life, the sense of timelessness



Gerry Hyland and his late wife Carmen.

that comes with working with my hands on the farm. I am in many ways truly blessed. I have a wonderful daughter, a job I enjoy, my farm, many memories of good times with Carmen, and the support and camaraderie of friends and family.

Q: Speaking about your family, tell me about your brothers and sisters, and your parents.

A: My mother gave birth to five children including two sets of twins. I have a twin sister, Carol, a brother, Ted, and my youngest sister, Christine. Another sister, Cecile, who was a twin to my brother Ted, passed away. Growing up I had all the benefits of an extended family. I had six uncles who worked in the state and local police force in Massachusetts, one uncle who was a fire marshal. I had the good fortune to have hardworking parents who always placed their children's welfare first. My dad was a teaching golf pro. However, to make ends meet he always had a second job. My mom took care of our large family. She always found ways to provide for our needs. For example, I remember her canning sessions in which all of us pitched in to help. Later, in the winter, we all benefited from her hard work and foresight at the dinner table.

Q: How did you get interested in politics

and public service. Growing up who was most influential in your life?

A: My uncle, William Shimkus, a Massachusetts State Police Officer who rose to become State Police Chief. He was my hero growing up. I remember him saying repeatedly to me: Gerry, what are you going to do when you grow up? You have to think about that. Also, his sister, my Aunt Albina Shimkus, was an important early influence on me. She was the first woman from New England to join the U.S. Army Air Corps during WW II. Probably her military service influenced me to join the U.S. Air Force. Later on I stayed at her home when I moved to the Washington metro area. They were both wonderful people who I admired very much. There were others in my family who influenced me, but these two had a tremendous impact on my thinking

at an early age. Later on while attending Georgetown Law School I worked as an elevator operator in the House of Representatives. There I had the unique experience of meeting many hard working influential members of Congress and staff. I came to know Congressman Carl Albert, who often worked until 11 p.m. at night. He always had time to stop and say hello. In addition, I became acquainted with Congressman Mo Udall who, when he discovered I was studying at Georgetown law school, gave me a copy of a law book written by his father. I was very impressed that these widely known public figures would take the time to stop and talk to an elevator operator in the middle of their busy schedule. The people I met on the Hill had an indelible impact on me and, coupled with my early experiences with my uncle, influenced me to run for public office.

Q: What has served as the core of your philosophy as supervisor?

A: To be a good listener; to give consideration to all sides of an issue; to maintain confidence in my constituents that I am there to help them solve their concerns and problems, and to make things happen. Being a supervisor is the same as being a coun-

SEE HYLAND, PAGE 6

What They Say About Hyland

John Byers, former Mt. Vernon representative on the Fairfax county Planning Commission (20 years): “Gerry is an effective gate compromiser; he finds ways to bring people of divergent views together ... he is a master at finding ways to satisfy all points of views on complex issues” ... “in my 20 years on the commission he never once tried to influence my position on a land use issue.”

Dana Kauffman, former Lee District Supervisor: “Gerry cares for people. His

signature event is the Town Meeting format. For all supervisors it is a necessary event. For Gerry it is a social event. He demonstrated at these events his enjoyment in interacting with the community”... “Gerry never thought of our common boundary, Route 1, as a wall. He and I worked compatibly on revitalization and law enforcement concerns; the boundary was never an issue. A good example of placing the interests of the community first was the creation of the South County Government Center. Its creation was a tribute to his success as a

politician who was more interested in results rather than who gets credit for what” ... “everyone enjoys being around him because they quickly come to realize that he cares for people.”

Martin Tillett, Springbank Citizens Association: “Gerry Hyland is very personable and always tries to please people ... however, I wish he would spend more time on Route 1 revitalization. I am concerned that he hasn't been effective with the rest of the board in bringing the kind of economic development that is enjoyed by the rest of the

county in the Route 1 corridor.”

Irma Clifton, Lorton: “Although I have not always agreed with Gerry on matters affecting Lorton I respect him and have supported him” ... “he and I have not agreed on the designation of historic sites in the Lorton Prison complex; however, on other matters of historic preservation and issues affecting the Lorton community we have found common ground. Gerry has always been open to suggestions ... he is the consummate politician.”

PEOPLE



The six finalists for the 2009 Ms. Senior Virginia Pageant: Judith Mudd-Krijgelmans of Reston, Joan Karen Phillips of Roanoke, Maureen Ribble of Alexandria, Charlotte Allen of Falls Church, Suzi Athanas of Virginia Beach and Diane Tuel Roberts of Staunton wait to be introduced at the 25th anniversary program.



The judges: co-chairperson Julie Moore, co-chairperson and MSVA 2004 Jackie Bong-Wright, pageant/auditor Ralph Kuethe, Steve Taub, Cheryl Bluford and Kieu Thu.

Pageant Victor

Maureen Ribble of Alexandria won the Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant 2009 held Friday, July 24 at the Lee Center Kauffman Auditorium.

The sash is drawn around Maureen Ribble after being chosen the Ms. Virginia Senior America 2009.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
GAZETTE

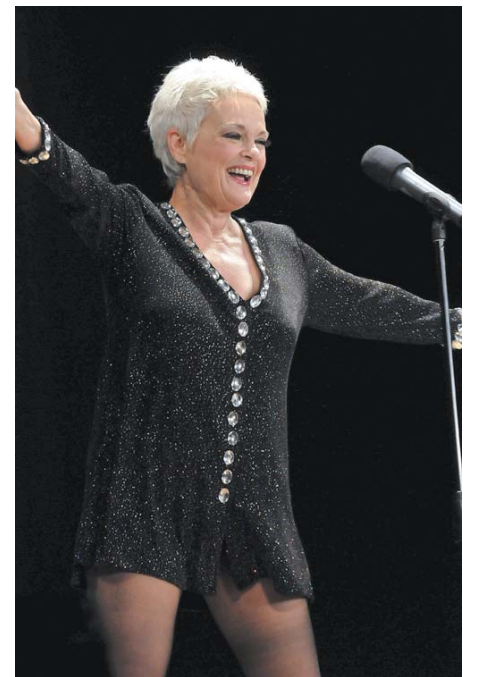


Ms. Virginia Senior America runner-ups Joan Karen Phillips and Diane Tuel Roberts stand with their trophies as Maureen Ribble is announced the 2009 Ms. Virginia Senior America.

Brenda Brokaw of Danville, Va., and MVSA 2007 sings the National Anthem. Brokaw lived in Alexandria when she competed in the pageant and won.



Judith Mudd-Krijgelmans of Reston sings.



Maureen Ribble of Alexandria performs a song and dance routine for the talent portion of the contest.



Pinky O'Neil is joined by her co-host Jim Seeley, producer and host of Forever Young TV.

Judge Hears Immunity Arguments

FROM PAGE 1

due concern for the safety of others. The police camera filmed the cruiser crashing into the Toyota Corolla.

Harriet Jackson gave eyewitness testimony: "I told my grandchildren who were in my car with me as the police cruiser drove by us at the corner of Fordson Road and Route 1 'that police car is going to hit someone if it doesn't slow down.'"

David Fudala, attorney for Perry, made the case that his client's assignment (Dispatch Event 1253) was to proceed north on Route 1 to the Beacon Mall Giant Food Store because of a fight between two white males fighting with one black male, and that the response priority was a category 2, or emergency response, and that she was performing her duties in accordance with proper protocol. He said police emergency response standards allow Perry the discretion of whether or not to use her siren and lights, and referred to the language in the Virginia law which states use of the equipment may be used "as reasonably necessary."

In her testimony and on cross-examination, Perry said that she used her emergency lights and siren only intermittently while driving north on Route 1 (at the intersection of Sherwood Hall lane and Route 1), but then turned the emergency equipment off when she was able to maneuver around traffic and proceed at a high speed toward her assigned destination several miles north. She called her driving a "hybrid" emergency response procedure.

Curcio stated this was a violation of police emergency response protocol. He then questioned Officer Thomas Beckman, instructor of the Fairfax County Police Academy, to verify what the training instruction manual and the police operating regulations require for emergency response. Beckman verified that police officers, when on an assigned emergency response, must use the emergency equipment (flashing lights, siren and/or horn) at all times when driving their police cruiser. Curcio also questioned Beckman about Perry's statement that she was using "hybrid" driving procedures. Beckman replied he never heard of that expression and that there is nothing in the police academy training manual or operating guidelines that mentions such a concept.

Throughout the first day of the trial, Judge Ney remained relatively quiet except for once during the police academy training officer's testimony when he asked Beckman to repeat his statement that the academy instructions and the operating regulations require all emergency equipment to be on all the time when a police officer was on an emergency response assignment. Beckman said that indeed the emergency equipment (flashing lights and siren) was required to be on at all times.

Judge Ney was to hear final arguments from both attorneys on Wednesday, Aug. 12, and render a judgment on whether or not Perry was negligent or not and, if negligent, to what degree. Judge Ney's decision will set the standard that will govern the \$6 million civil suit filed by the McIntosh family. That trial is set for February 2010.

Community Creates Children's Program

The Board of Directors for Terrace Towne Homes of Woodlawn tasked a resident to start a summer recreation program for the young children in the community, with the older teenagers volunteering.

Cecelia Clover, a former Fairfax County Public School employee, enlisted the help of another resident, Kendra Jackson, in starting the program. Jackson manages the program activities and scheduling, with help from Clover and a few parents. Fairfax County Recreation and Park Services provides free breakfasts and lunches for the children — which are served Tuesdays through Thursdays — as well as craft supplies and games.

The children go on daily nature walks, pick up trash, learn the names of common plants, play games, do arts and crafts, and keep a weekly journal. The children will also perform a dance routine at "Community Day" which will be held on Labor Day. To reward the children for their creativity, energy, great ideas, an end of summer field trip to Six Flags is planned. When asked to think of ideas to earn money to pay for admission, the children immediately said a car wash. The children held a car wash on two consecutive Saturdays and earned enough to pay for admission to the park.



The children of Terrace Towne Homes of Woodlawn take part in a car wash.



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OPEN SUN. 1-4

Alex/Mt. Vernon \$949,900
9428 Mount Vernon Circle

Spectacular all brick Colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious water front community Mt. Vernon on the Potomac. Main Level: Den/Study, LR, DR, totally renovated Kitchen (granite, top of line appliances, ceramic tile flr), Breakfast rm & sun rm. 4 spacious bedrooms & large unfin basement w/side entrance. Beautiful in-ground pool w/separate heated Jacuzzi. Superb landscaping. Access to dock & private slip-boaters haven! 5 min to Ft. Belvoir, 15 min to Old Town, 25 min to Ntl Airport.



Alex./Mount Vernon \$529,900
9326 Craig Avenue

Large brick 5 BR, 3 BA split w/2-car garage on a .4 acre lot in lovely Mt. Vernon area w/lots of trees. 2 fireplaces, energy efficient replacement windows, beautiful refinished hwd floors on main level, new carpeting, landscaped fenced rear lot w/huge

deck off sunroom 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./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.



OPEN SUN. 1-4

Alex./Stratford \$559,900
8716 Linton Lane

Lovely 4BR, 2.5 BA Colonial w/brick front & carport. Very competitively priced in mid 500s. This is not a short sale or bank owned. Family room w/fireplace off the kitchen. Hardwood floors on the main & upper levels 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/Mount Vernon \$539,900
9413 Forest Haven

Lovely, renovated, 4BR, 3BA Rambler on a huge .59 acre private & wooded lot. Prestigious Yacht Haven Estates is a premiere waterfront community w/one of the finest marinas in N. VA. 3000 sq.ft. rambler w/updated kitchen & baths, refinished

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Alex/Woodlawn Terrace \$239,900
8214 Ackley Street

Charming Cape Cod on a large, fenced .25 acre lot. Beautifully updated kitchen and baths. Nice addition with family room and workshop. Shows very well. Sold as

is. 3 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 minutes to Metro and Old Town, Alex. Short Sale, subject to third party approval.

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Hyland Looks Back at 22 Years in Office

FROM PAGE 3

cilman, or mayor; this is the level where an elected official is most directly accountable to the public. Stated differently, the buck stops right here at my doorstep every day. You can personally involve yourself and see that you can make a difference in the lives of people. I like that very much about this job and it is a big reason why I have stayed as supervisor all these years.

Q: Who during your career as supervisor have been important allies or role models for you?

A: Over the years I have come to admire and know as political allies and personal friends the late state Sen. Joe Gartlan and the late state Sen. Clive Duval. Clive was the modern day version of the Virginia Gentleman; gracious in defeat, and humble and self-effacing about his accomplishments. Supporters and critics alike respected Joe and Clive. Both men were conscientious public servants. They worked very hard at their jobs and were effective representatives of their constituents' interests in the Virginia General Assembly. I miss them. In the private sector I admire Gerald Halpin, a successful businessman. I can always rely on his word. If I had decided not to go into politics I would have probably enjoyed the creativity and competitive life as a businessman, and Gerry Halpin would be my business role model. There are many more political and personal friends and allies, but these three men stand out in my mind.

Q: What private organizations have you come to rely on for help and advice in the Mount Vernon area?

A: There are many. Several stand out who do a very good job of helping the needy and have influenced my thinking. The United Community Ministries; New Hope Housing; Good Shepherd, and the Lorton Community Action Center. They are terrific to work with and I always remind myself how lucky we are to have these unselfish organizations, and the staff and many volunteers who work to make them effective at what they do. Also, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) is a terrific organization which has for many years provided me with thoughtful policy recommendations. Having said that there are other organizations and individuals who, over the years, have provided many many volunteer hours to various causes. What contributes to making Mt. Vernon special is the grassroots volunteerism that you find everywhere in our community.

Q: In your many years on the board what are some of your most gratifying accomplishments?

A: Perhaps my most important accomplishment is maintaining my constituents' confidence in local government's ability to be responsive to their needs. I feel my most important job is to be a good listener; and to provide an opportunity for public input into my and the board's thinking and deci-

Bio

Name: Gerald W. “Gerry” Hyland
Education: Bachelor's degree, Holy Cross University; Law Degree, Georgetown University; master's in tax law, George Washington University
Hometown: Holden, Mass.
Election History: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors: Six terms — longer than any previously elected member of the board representing the Mount Vernon Magisterial District.

sion-making. However, there are some specific accomplishments that I am proud to have made a reality. They include:

- ❖ Keeping Mt. Vernon Hospital from being moved out of our community. The hospital is so important to the community; closing it down and moving it would have been a devastating blow. It is an important “anchor” in our close-knit community, and I am confident it will continue to be so for a long time to come.

- ❖ Establishing the Lorton Arts Foundation

- ❖ Transferring the Woodlawn Baseball Fields from the U.S. Army to the Fairfax County Park Authority

- ❖ Arranging for the Fairfax county purchasing agency to link up with the National Association of Counties' (NACO) purchasing agency; this linkage is saving the County taxpayers millions of dollars annually through their joint purchasing power.

- ❖ Led the effort to provide money for flood studies for the Belleview/New Alexandria, and Cameron Run/Huntington communities

- ❖ Established the right of local communities to determine traffic safety signage decisions such as four way stops, children at play signs, etc.

- ❖ In one of my first acts as supervisor I arranged to bury a large unsafe open storm sewer culvert on Lafayette street.

- ❖ Led the recent effort to work out an arrangement with the School Board to elevate the priority of building a South County Middle School so that it will appear on the ballot this fall as part of the School Bond referendum.

- ❖ Bringing together the Pohick Bay Regional Park Authority with the Gunston community in a mutually beneficial partnership to save the local swimming pool from being closed.

- ❖ There are many others I could mention; these are representative of what a day in the life of a supervisor involves.

Q: What in your many years on the board have been some of the more frustrating things you have grappled with?

A: Overall, I have been frustrated by constituents who are not prepared to listen to all sides of the issue, but I guess that comes with the territory. In addition, major frustrations which form part of the basis for my current priorities:

- ❖ North Hill Development Site on Route 1. Despite years of debate and planning, is still not developed for its intended purposes: affordable housing at the southern end, and

a park at the northern end.

- ❖ Huntington flooding. We funded the studies but so far no money has been found to pay for remedial construction work necessary to protect the residents from future flooding.

- ❖ Failure of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to fulfill its obligations to provide additional Route 1 transportation funds for design studies and funding for upgrading the Route 1 corridor transportation requirements, particularly to prepare for the massive influx of people and traffic with the BRAC realignment to Fort Belvoir when the new hospital, national Army Museum, and other functions open in 2011 and 2012.

Q: Looking back, what regrets have you; what would you like to have the opportunity to do over again?

A: I should have been able to bring a more enlightened approach to the Commercial and Industrial District regulations developed by the board back in the late 1980's when Audrey Moore was chairman. The result of the board's efforts to control development in designated C&I Districts was canceled out by the General Assembly with the strong lobbying efforts of the building industry. We should have been able to work something out; as it is the building industry continues to have more leeway in what they can do in these designated Districts than they should have. The result is it has placed an enormous amount of pressure on the county government to provide adequate infrastructure to these areas.

Also, I am very disappointed in where we find ourselves on the Kings Crossing development site on Route 1. Now, we are in a difficult position, and may have lost the leverage to influence the use of this property for its highest and best use. I regret not being a more effective and enlightened advocate for the long term commercial, residential, and office use of this site. On the other hand I don't intend to give up trying to influence the use of this site.

Q: What is your position on the so-called Dillon Rule? (State law requiring local governments to seek state approval of changes in taxing and land use authorities, etc.)

A: I have and continue to support amending the Dillon Rule to allow Fairfax County greater latitude to raise money and make land use changes. When I served as president of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) I and others met with the General Assembly leadership on this issue. Unfortunately, there was no interest in making any changes in what I believe is an anachronistic paternalistic law. Its continued existence places Fairfax County and other counties in Virginia in a difficult position of having to obtain Virginia General Assembly approval of policies to generate revenue or to make changes in land use policies. This is an unnecessary infringement on local government self-determination. We shouldn't have to go to the General Assembly every time we want to take

action to create a new policy to solve a local problem.

Q: Looking ahead what would you like to accomplish during the remaining years of your current term of office?

A: In addition to tackling the previously mentioned frustrating issues that have escaped resolution (North Hill Development; Route 1 Transportation Upgrade; finding money to remedy Huntington area flooding) I want to:

- ❖ Set a limit on the rate of real estate tax increases annually

- ❖ Control the infill “looming” problem by discouraging the building practice of building McMansions in older small lot neighborhoods.

- ❖ Make sure the impact of BRAC realignment at Fort Belvoir is minimally disruptive to the Mt. Vernon community

- ❖ Develop additional services for our rapidly growing senior population

- ❖ Educate our increasingly diverse population

- ❖ Reduce the real estate tax burden by finding other sources of revenue such as the meals tax. This would require placing the question to the voters in a ballot Referendum.

This fall I plan to establish an Advisory Commission on the Future of Mt. Vernon. The goal I have for the commission is to prepare a long-range plan that serves as a blueprint for citizens and county planners to use when establishing land use, human service, and other county government priorities. My charge to this group will be to think “out of the box”, and to make bold recommendations to move the county's thinking and planning toward a new concept of residential, commercial, and retail development for the future. I plan on encouraging the Advisory Commission to consult widely, to tap the expertise in our community and elsewhere for ideas and suggestions. In my view we need to rethink the way we plan communities. We need to design communities and services which will foster a sense of belonging, a sense of community, a sense of place in Mt. Vernon. Our present policies are not sufficiently geared to design people-oriented socially integrated communities. In many neighborhoods people don't talk to each other; they don't relate on any level to each other; there is a sense of social isolation among all age groups. My hope is this group will prepare a plan for a new order of physical/architectural, social, and land use development for the Mount Vernon community that promotes community cohesiveness.

Q: Looking at your years of public service to the community and on the board, what would you like to be best known for?

A: That I sincerely care about people and their problems; that I don't take myself too seriously, nor do I attach too much self importance to the position of supervisor. But most importantly I hope people will say that I work hard to make a positive difference in the lives of people, and that I actually do.

PEOPLE



Jeannette Drew Buchholz and Jeffrey Lee Farnsworth

Buchholz, Farnsworth Wed

Jeannette Drew Buchholz and Jeffrey Lee Farnsworth were married on Aug. 24, 2008 at McLaughlin Garden, South Paris, Maine. The bride is the daughter of Roger and Anne Buchholz of Alexandria. The groom is the son of Yvonne Farnsworth of Hallowell, Maine and the late Norman Farnsworth.

The bride is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School, received a bachelor's degree from North

Carolina State University and is doing graduate study at the University of Maine. She is employed by the Maine House of Representatives Clerk's Office. The groom received a bachelor's degree from the University of Maine and a master's degree from Lesley College. He is employed by FairPoint Communications.

The couple honeymooned in Costa Rica and now reside in E. Winthrop, Maine.

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OPINION

Seeking More Information from Police

Candidates for Attorney General, General Assembly should encourage more openness from police.

In Virginia, police are entitled to withhold virtually all information from the public. Broad exemptions for police in the state laws pertaining to freedom of information requests leave it to the police themselves to decide what information from police reports of incidents and arrest can and cannot be released. The result is that the public has virtually no access to actual police reports.

Jody Donaldson, spokesman for the Alexandria Police Department, sums up succinctly: "We have a blanket policy to use the exemption in all cases."

This does not serve the public good. In most states, the public and the press can access the actual reports filed by the police on the scene of an incident, with narrow excep-

tions — to protect the names of victims of sexual assault or undercover officers, for example.

In Virginia, the public, the press and even defendants facing charges based on those reports have no rights to see the actual reports.

Instead they can request a "summary" of the report. There are few requirements or standards for providing information in these summaries. The summary of the suppressed document, known as "criminal incident information," includes a "general description" of the criminal activity, the "general location" and "general description" of the injuries.

There is no reason for this level of secrecy and obfuscation. Law enforcement agencies that serve the public would be well advised to

be open with the public and the press, providing direct access to police reports and documents unless there is a specific compelling reason to redact some information to protect a victim, witness or law enforcement officer. No one would argue to release documents that might endanger someone.

"The exemption for police reports is overly broad, and it should be narrowed," Ginger Stanley, executive director of the Virginia Press Association told Connection reporter Michael Lee Pope. "But police and sheriff associations have very powerful lobbyists, and they do not want this to change," Stanley added.

— MARY KIMM.
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

More

Read Michael Lee Pope's story on suppression of police reports at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Abuse of Parking Area

To the Editor:

One of the major attractions of our area is The Sherwood Regional Library. It has a great staff and a marvelous collection of reading and research material. It also has a large parking lot and a quick return parking area in front of the library — which is abused to a large extent.

A few personal surveys have shown that when I have gone to

the library to search for a book and returned to the parking lot, a quick look at the cars parked in the drop off parking area finds that they still are there — even if I have been in the library for a half hour or more.

There are also ample handicapped parking slots in the big lot. I'd just like to be able to do a quick return of my books without violating the parking rules in front of the library by having to park in the striped area.

Jonathan Abel

Can't Ignore Wahabbism

To the Editor:

On Monday, Aug. 3, the Board of Supervisors voted 6-4 to allow the Islamic Saudi Academy to expand and build a mosque on Popes Head Road, completely disregarding solid neighborhood opposition. The supervisors voting in favor of expansion were careful to say their decisions were based upon traffic concerns and zoning

alone, not the school's radical Wahabbist teachings. Never mind that a Christian school was denied use of the same plot more than 20 years ago, based on traffic concerns. Their little local decision was so out of step with our national security interests that several national media outlets carried incredulous reports on Fairfax County's disconnect.

To review, just days before the vote, the ISA's 1999 valedictorian received a life sentence for an assassination plot against President Bush. Last month a 2003 graduate, Abdul-Rahman Alsaif, was arrested for attempting to board a plane with a large knife.

Gerry Hyland must be aware of these issues, but nevertheless supported expansion, saying at the hearing that he had never had problem with the ISA as neighbors. The four who voted against expansion give me hope that we can correct this long-term blight on Fairfax county — many thanks to Supervisors Bulova, Cook, Herrity, and Smyth. This school is the only Saudi-funded academy in the entire country.

The school has been under pressure for more than 10 years about its anti-Semitic, anti-Christian, intolerant teachings, brought by U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA), Anthony Weiner (D-NY), and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. USCIRF's 2008 report, commissioned by Congress, stated the school's earlier textbooks contained several troubling passages, including one that claims it is permissible for Muslims to kill adulterers and con-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



Parklawn Holds National Night Out

Guitarist J. Lukas Rodriquez smiles while the band "Just 4 Kicks" gives his little brother Alec a chance to sing "1985" at the National Night Out event in the Parklawn community last week. The event was held at the Peace Lutheran Church on Lincolnia Road. Pictured in the band are Max Barret on bass and vocals, Ryan West on drums and Lukas Rodriquez on guitar.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

verts from Islam, and another that claims “the Jews conspired against Islam and its people.” The issue is that the earlier textbooks revealed true Saudi Wahabbist doctrine, which remains unchanged by textbook edits. Removing the offending passages does not change the ISA’s central philosophy, which is antithetical to American free speech, religious tolerance, and equality.

Supervisors Hyland, Foust, Frey, Gross, Hudgins, and McKay turned a blind eye to the neighbors, voters, and traffic problems. The supervisors’ claim that they did not take the school’s radicalism into account proves just the opposite — that they looked and chose not to see.

Valerie Wohlleben

Mount Vernon

The writer lived on Maury Place — two houses away from the ISA — from 2000-2006.

Too Many Hoops

To the Editor:

On July 20, the Spring Bank Community Association (SBCA) passed a resolution expressing its support for a town center concept at Kings Crossing instead of a super Wal-Mart that is being considered for the site. SBCA President David Dale, also a co-chair of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens’ Associations (MVCCA) and the acting chair of their Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committee, expressed the hope that the property owner, JBG Rosenfeld, would hold off leasing to Wal-Mart over the next six to nine months so that community members can seek to add to the Comprehensive Plan additional incentives to develop the town center during the Area Plans Review (APR) for the South County region. In all candor, the current language of the Comprehensive Plan is not the reason the

town center concept failed to achieve fruition the last time.

The overwhelming majority of the Mount Vernon community apparently favors the town center concept over another Wal-Mart but, after years of unsuccessful effort to bring the town center concept to fruition, the developer is likely down to “half a loaf is better than none at all.”

The initial concept for the Kings Crossing town center was opposed by SBCA for reasons including a planned ingress and egress on Fairview Drive. Other issues contributed to the demise of that proposal including the County’s and SBCA’s insistence that the development be no more than 50 percent residential (the developer wanted the development to be up to 70 percent residential and indicated this was necessary for it to be profitable), dealings with the owner of a trailer park at the site (difficulties in land acquisition) and the County’s insistence on

compensating each trailer park resident \$50,000 for relocation (the developer offered \$30,000). It is noteworthy that the Comprehensive Plan, the reflection of citizen desires for the parcels in question, recommends that the level of non-residential development “should not exceed two-thirds of the total gross floor area for the entire mixed-use development.” Thus the County and SBCA were demanding that non-residential development be capped 17 percent below the level authorized by the community’s Comprehensive Plan. The developer’s proposal of 70 percent residential fully comported with the Comprehensive Plan. That proposal would have resulted in non-residential development being limited to 30 percent, less than half the citizen-imposed limit.

During the process, the developer attended numerous meetings of the SBCA and MVCCA and agreed to numerous proffers in-

cluding restoration of Quander Brook at the rear of the site, creation of a park there accessible to SBCA members and significant transportation improvements on Richmond Highway. So frustrated was the developer with the continuing opposition of SBCA and the MVCCA, that in February 2007, it issued a memo after withdrawing its initial concept and in which the following was stated under the category “Community:”

“Fairfax County must take a leadership role with the local citizen groups and reduce their direct influence on the final design of the project. Planning and Zoning comments must be given a greater weight in the process in order to prevent Kings Crossing from being held hostage by individual citizens and minority groups.”

When officials of SBCA and the MVCCA informally complained

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14

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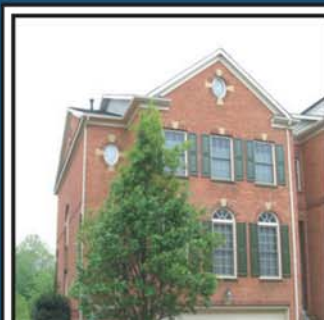
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1110 NEAL DRIVE
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4105 FAITH COURT
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6621 Wakefield Drive, Unit 906 \$1,325
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Circle Woods TH 3BR/2.5BA/2FP
Bob Gering 703.683.0400

5901 Mount Eagle Drive #118 \$1,950
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520 John Carlyle Street #102 \$3,900
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Heidi Kohler 703.609.7367

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

about this expression of the developer's complete exasperation with SBCA and the MVCCA, this section was amended to be more politically correct:

"Fairfax County must be involved in the community outreach process in order to maintain a consistent and expert intermediary with the local citizen groups."

Subsequently, the proposal was retooled, eliminating the ingress and egress on Fairview Drive, and adding parcels at the current location of St. Clair Appliances known as the Fenton properties with the addition of an egress and ingress on Quander Road. After numerous additional meetings with SBCA, the MVCCA, and County Officials, in Spring 2008 just before the developer concluded it could not develop the town center during an economic downturn, SBCA voted not to oppose the development. Too little, too late.

The April 2008 edition of the MVCCA Record reported that at the MVCCA Council Meeting on March 26, 2008, it had been announced that the developer had withdrawn its plan to develop Kings Crossing. At that very meet-

ing, Martin Tillett of SBCA requested that the MVCCA pass a resolution in which the County would be asked to provide the park at the rear of the Kings Crossing property, presumably at taxpayer expense, that would have been provided by the developer at no cost to taxpayers. The MVCCA passed that very resolution the next month identified as "E&R 2008-4."

During the process described above, SBCA was given what appeared to be virtual veto power over the Kings Crossing development. If a new town center development is proposed instead of a Super Wal-Mart, will that be the case again? If so, is there any reason why the developer should delay signing a lease with Wal-Mart, waiting six to nine months for the "opportunity" to be subjected to the same oppressive process again?

At the July 2009 MVCCA P&Z Committee meeting, a resolution was proposed that had not previously been noticed to the membership. The resolution was titled "Draft Urgent No More Wal-Marts on Route 1" and was intended to pressure the developer into not signing up Wal-Mart and reconsidering the town center develop-

ment. The resolution ended with the following clauses:

"A. Therefore, be it resolved that the MVCCA opposes the establishment and expansion of Wal-Mart along the Rt. 1 corridor.

B. Be it further resolved that MVCCA encourages our BOS and Supervisors Hyland and McKay to oppose this expansion by any and all means."

Members of the P&Z Committee had the good sense to decline to vote on the proposed resolution. It does, however, provide a window into the mind set of the current leadership of the MVCCA which proposed that resolution. After SBCA and the MVCCA ran the developer through so many hoops and ran the clock in a manner that contributed to the demise of the Kings Crossing town center concept, they now hope to throw a monkey wrench into by-right development. Heaven help us.

Whether one favors or disfavors the Super Wal-Mart proposal at Kings Crossing, using the mechanism of MVCCA Resolutions to attempt to thwart by right development is an extreme course of action indeed

... David Dale is fond of saying that "by-right" doesn't mean one can build anything one wants to

build. That is true, but it means that so long as the proposed development complies with the Comprehensive Plan, the zoning ordinance and other provisions of the County Code, the development can go forward without any public hearings and without any proffers being required such as for stream restoration, park creation and transportation improvements. The proposed Super Wal-Mart would be by-right.

Make no mistake about it, if the developer wishes to sign a lease and develop a Super Wal-Mart at that site, so long as the building does not exceed 80,000 square feet (the big box zoning ordinance threshold), it can be done as a matter of right. Given the apparent exasperation of the developer as a result of past dealings with SBCA, the MVCCA, and the County, without assurances of a more reasonable reaction to town center development proposals, I would expect the developer to go forward with the by-right development of a Super Wal-Mart at Kings Crossing

... Perhaps a joint public statement by Supervisor Hyland, county staff, SBCA and the MVCCA agreeing in writing to development conditions more favorable

than those that resulted in the demise of the previous town center proposal would encourage the developer to delay signing the lease with Wal-Mart and reconsider the town center option. Don't get me wrong — the proffer system is well-entrenched in Fairfax County. Community members and County officials have every right to request proffers from developers. Developers, by the same token, have every right to determine the economic feasibility of a project. Give and take usually results in a compromise. We do know, however, that in a stronger economy, limiting the Kings Crossing town center proposal to 50 percent residential and requiring \$50,000 compensation to each trailer park resident were deal breakers. As a start, community leaders need to make it plain that the residential component can exceed 50 percent and that a figure closer to \$30,000 per trailer park resident will be acceptable. Promising the developer that residents will seek Comprehensive Plan amendments to render the site more attractive will not work. The Comprehensive Plan was not the culprit.

H. Jay Spiegel

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5710 RIVER DRIVE
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9326 OLD MANSION ROAD
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Build your dream home on this .34 acre lot on the banks of the Potomac River. Enjoy year round panoramic views from this level parcel. Can be sold separately or in conjunction with 9326 Old Mansion. Come visit both properties on Sunday by appointment from 1pm - 4pm.



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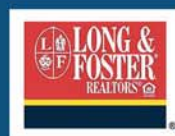


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PROPERTIES OPEN
AUGUST 16TH 1 - 4PM
(unless otherwise specified)
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By Appointment — \$ 3,500,000

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Magnificent custom home on the Occoquan River. 4 yr old builder's residence is sited on 3 acres of private waterfront with panoramic views from entire back of house. 9,000 sf of luxurious living on 3 levels. Incredible great room, stunning gourmet kitchen, paneled library, hobby room & wine cellar. Complete with pool, deck, patio & side porch.

E

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

For Those 'Young at Art'



The winners of the 23rd annual competition pose for a photo. Winners this year include: Barbara Eisenstein, Kay Layne, Cristina Debernardi, Pallayi Dhokai, Jacqueline Elwell, Jeannine E.H. Pappas, and Sy Wengrovitz.



Mary Blair, Diana Ruth and Julie Armington.



Pallayi Dhokai with her mixed media work 'Friend.'



Executive director of the Art League and president of the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Michael Jankowski checks in with the Senior Service organizers at the opening reception for the Young At Art Show.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE



Lillian O. Moraski with her work 'Pagan at Prayer.'



Maria R. Kennedy with 'Still Summer.'

The "Young At Art" exhibit has opened at the Durant Center, at 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria. The exhibit features the work of metro area artists who are 55 and older and will be opened through Oct. 30.

The art show, in its 23rd year, is sponsored by Senior Services of Alexandria and The Goodwin Foundation with additional support from Friends of the Torpedo Factory, The Alexandria Commission on Aging, The Art League Inc., The Alexandria Commission for the Arts, and Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

"This art show is not only a beloved tradition in the community, but the quality and scope of the work submitted is exceptional," said Janet Barnett, executive director of senior services.

A Reception and Awards Ceremony was held on Aug. 6 at the Durant Recreation Center. Isabella Hughes, Associate Gallery Director at The Art League Gallery in Alexandria served as the juror. Over 50 pieces of art are exhibited. The exhibit has something for everyone, is free and open to the public until Oct. 30. Go to www.seniorservicesalex.org.

Winners of Juried Show

♦ **First Prize; Barbara Eisenstein** for "A Mighty Wind," Medium: Fiber;

♦ **Second Prize: Kay Layne** for "Moonrise," Medium: Acrylic on Canvas;

♦ **Third Prize: Cristina Debernardi** for "Doors," Medium: Color Pencil Drawing;

Five Honorable Mentions were also awarded to:
♦ **Nina Tisara** for "Shadow Dance," Medium: Photography Black and White;

♦ **Jeannine E. H. Pappas** for "Double Fantasy," Medium: Water Color;

♦ **Pallayi Dhokai** for "Friend," Medium: Mixed Media;

♦ **Sy Wengrovitz** for "Lunch at Checkerboard Café," Medium: Wood Sculpture;

♦ **Jacqueline Elwell** for "Waiting for Coffee," Medium: Monoprint;

Teens Grow (a Little) in Comedy

Zemfira Stage offers "Vanities" at Lyceum.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

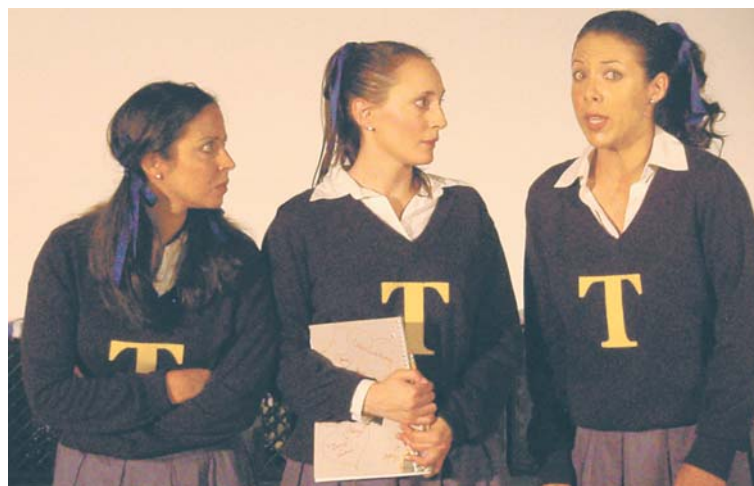
Three air-headed high school cheerleaders grow into three troubled young adults over three scenes in the comedy "Vanities" staged by Zemfira Stage at the Lyceum.

Jack Heifer's three-character comedy was a long-running hit off-Broadway in the 1970s and has been produced countless times in small theaters around the country ever since. It is a piece that gives three actresses a chance to stretch their skills at both comedy and a touch of drama. For Zemfira's production, director Herb Tax has recruited a trio of actresses who are making their debuts with the company.

Pamela Sabella plays the ring-leader of the trio, a planner who insists on organizing everything from the cheer routines for the pep

rally at their high school in 1964 to the reunion for her two friends that she hosts in her living room 10 years later. Although she obsesses over planning things, she never seems to be making plans for very far out into the future. The theme for the prom in high school or the color scheme for the wedding of her roommate in college is about as far as she looks past the present.

Carla Francischetti plays the friend/roommate who is getting married at the end of her college years. She seems the most extreme example of a "valley girl" at the start and doesn't get a great deal deeper later on, even when she's managed to give birth a few times. When the champagne begins to flow at the reunion, she loosens up perhaps a bit too much. Frachischetti has a fine sense for performing a drunk scene, pacing her progressive inebriation in balance with the amount she's drinking.



ZINA T. BLECK/THE GAZETTE

"Vanities" cast members shown are Natalie Christina, Carla Francischetti and Pamela Sabella.

Natalie Christina's character changes more than the other two over the course of the short play. (It lasts less than two hours with two breaks between scenes as the cast changes costumes before the three vanities that give the show its title.) Christina starts off the evening playing a teen with an eye for the boys and ends up as a sex-kitten running a high-end art gallery where the art is high-priced erotica. Christina, who grew up not only here in the D.C. area but in Quito, Ecuador, brings a slightly exotic touch to the final scene.

That final scene is the letdown of the show, coming after two scenes that set up the story with enough clarity that you expect a full resolution before the evening comes to a close. Instead, while the career of one of the friends involves erotica and another's marital frustrations are clear enough, the state of the life of the planner/leader is only hinted at.

The problem of the ambiguity at the end may have been clear to the author, for he added a forth encounter with the three heroines when he adapted his play as a musical which

Where and When

"Vanities" runs through Aug. 22 at the Lyceum, 210 South Washington Street. Performances are Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 - \$15. Call 703-615-6626 or log on to www.zemfirastage.com.

opened in an off-broadway theater in New York in July. In that version, the lives of the trio are revisited a decade or more later. That may not have been quite enough of a fix, however. The musical version closed on Sunday after less than a month.

Zemfira's production of the non-musical play, which continues for another two weekends, is not exactly music-less. A tinny sound system blares out music of the periods such as "My Boyfriend's Back," "It's My Party (and I'll Cry if I Want To)" and "I Am Woman (Hear My Roar)." It is limited however, by the inadequacies of the room on the second floor of the Lyceum where it is performed. The room is usually used for solo or small chamber music group recitals. Without any facilities for theatrical presentations, it makes a difficult venue.

However, the three members of the cast throw themselves into the material with energy and enthusiasm.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-917-6407 with questions.

Through Aug. 23

Bel Cantanti Opera Summer Music Festival. Two-week program for young professionals. Held in Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria. The festival will end with two performances of Donizetti's L'Elisir d'Amore and a performance of selected opera scenes and arias. Contact auditions@belcantanti.com to schedule an audition and reserve an audition slot. Call 301-266-7546.

Aug. 13, 14, 15

"Peter Pan." 7:30 p.m. with Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Presented by Morningstar Productions. At Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Road, Alexandria. \$8/adult, \$5/student/child. Gina Smithers at Smithersgm@gmail.com or 703-577-3966.

Aug. 13, 14, 15

"Vanities" by Jack Heifner. At 8 p.m. A comedy directed by Herb Tax. From high school cheerleaders to independent women, follow Mary, Joanne, and Kathy through high school, college and into the "real" world ... and laugh yourself silly in the process! Featuring Natalie Christina (Mary), Carla Francischetti (Joanne), and Pamela Sabella (Kathy). At The Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. \$15/general admission; \$10/seniors, students, retired or active military. Call 703-615-6626, www.zemfirastage.com.

Thursday/Aug. 13

Second Thursday Art Night: Sultry Summer Nights. 6-9 p.m. Free. An evening of open studios, live music, and refreshments. Check out opening receptions in Target Gallery and The Art League Gallery as you mingle with artists at this free event. From 6-8 p.m., Target Gallery presents the reception for the show *In The Flesh Part II*, an exhibition that focuses on contemporary figurative art. Juror Andrea Pollan will give a gallery talk at 7 p.m. From 6:30-8 p.m., The Art League Gallery hosts the reception for *Scapes: International Landscape Show*, which features artwork inspired by all environments. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Go to www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565

Local Author Reading Series. At 7:30 p.m. Ruth Baja Williams will discuss her new book, *Detour Berlin* at the James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave. Call Ruth at 703-838-4566.

Garden Stroll and Tea. 1-3 p.m. Take a relaxing docent-led stroll through Green Spring Gardens and enjoy a tea at the Historic House. \$25 Call 703-941-7987 to register. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/

18th-Century Dance Classes at Gadsby's Tavern Museum. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Learn the dances of Jane Austen, George Washington, and Abigail Adams in Gadsby's Tavern Museum's historic ballroom. Dance master Corky Palmer will lead this fun and educational series of 18th-century English country dance classes in preparation for the Jane Austen Ball on Saturday, Aug. 15. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. The cost for lessons is \$30 for the series or \$12 per class. Reservations are requested and can be



AUG. 22-23

Summer Dance Concert. CCP, a modern dance company based in Alexandria, will be staging a Summer Dance Concert, "dance4spaces," Saturday, Aug. 22 at 8 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. Choreography is by Danielle Greene, Alicia Luchowski, Mary Jo Smet and Janet Stormes. At Dance Place, 3225 8th Street NE, Washington, D.C. Call 202-269-1600.

made by calling 703-838-4242.
Music at the Athenaeum, 7 p.m. Featuring One Eye Closed with Les Thompson, Stephanie Thompson, and Wyn Walke. At 201 N. Washington Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$10 and are available online at nvfaa.org and at the door.

Second Thursday Art Night at the Torpedo Factory. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Browse open studios, interact with artists and enjoy refreshments. The event is free and open to the public. The Art League Gallery hosts the reception for *Scapes International Landscape Show*. At 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Contact 703-838-4565 or www.torpedofactory.org.

Saturday, Aug. 15

Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m. \$15 donation. Renowned saxophonist and composer Dr. William E. Smith and members of the W.E.S. group with a repertoire of jazz classics, standards and religious inspired works. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred Street, Alexandria. Go to <http://meadechurch.org> or 703-549-1334.

Kinship Respite Day. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. A day of backyard water play activities for children ages 3-12 and for grandparents raising grandchildren. At Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Call 703-324-7723.

Family Dig Day. 1:30 p.m. Alexandria Archaeology, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Help City archaeologists and trained volunteers screen excavated soil for artifacts from a real "dig" which is located on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Call 703-838-4399 or www.historicalalexandria.org.

Young Hearts' Battle of the Bands. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and bands start at 5 p.m. At Kena ballroom, 9001 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. \$5/ person, 6 and under free. Food will be prepared and sold on site by Baja Fresh. Eight bands compete and attendees donate money to vote using cash, check, or credit card for their favorite band. All proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Freedmen's Cemetery Tour. 10:30 a.m. City Archaeologist Pamela Cressey will lead a tour of Freedmen's located at 1001 South Washington Street. After the tour, participants are invited to meet at Perk Up coffee shop, 829 South Washington Street, for discussion of archaeological and historical research and the experiences of freedmen in Alexandria during the

Civil War. Reservations are not required. Call 703-838-4399 or visit www.alexandriarchaeology.org.

First Virginia Regiment. 4-10 p.m. At Carlyle House Historic Park in Alexandria. Live uniformed re-enactors of the First Virginia Regiment with weapons, ammunition, clothing, food, and other items that were supplied by Colonel Carlyle during the American Revolution. Contact the Carlyle House at 703-549-2997 or carlyle@nvrpa.org.

Vinegar Tasting Party. 10:30 a.m.-noon. Balsamic, white, malt, rice, wine — there's a vast array of vinegar types to choose from and a multitude of flavors too. Learn the basics of vinegars and how to use them. \$20. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/

Gardening in Virginia: Light, Movement and Some Remarkable Annuals. 9:30-11 a.m. It's an ideal time to have some of those free flowing, blow in breezes plants in your garden. And early fall seeding provides the gardener inexpensive options for adding noteworthy plants. Cost is \$18. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/

So We Think We Can Dance Storytime. Ages 3 and up. 11:30 a.m. Waltz, foxtrot, or skip your way over to Hooray for Books as we have some fun with one of our favorite ways to move! Free. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. www.hooray4books.com. Call 703-548-4092.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum Family Day Tours. 1-5 p.m. \$5 adults; \$3 kids, age 5-12. The regular tour guides will be replaced with Junior Docents, kids who have been specially trained to explain the history of Gadsby's and life in early Alexandria. At 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Call 703-838-4242

Sunday/Aug. 16

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. Soprano Terri LaGoe, hornist Jay Chadwick, and pianist Thom Robertson and friends. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

Jazz at Meade. 4 p.m. Renowned saxophonist and composer, Dr. William

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SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

E. Smith, and members of the W.E.S. Group, will bring a jazz repertoire of jazz classics, standards and religious inspired works. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. \$15 donation. Call 703-549-1334 or go to <http://meadechurch.org>.

Collingwood Concerts. 3-4 p.m. The Collingwood Library and Museum of Americanism present a free concert on the lawn by the Mount Vernon Concert Band. 8301 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria; George Washington Memorial Parkway at Collingwood Road. Visit www.mvbands.com or call 703-768-4172.

Monday Aug. 17

Duncan Book Discussion Group Meeting. 7 p.m. At the Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. The book to be discussed is "Seabiscuit" by Laura Hillenbrand. Call Ruth at 703-838-4566.

Tuesday/Aug. 18

Mount Vernon Genealogical Society Meeting. 1 p.m. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 112. Free and open to public. Features a presentation entitled "Finding Your Family in the Library: Making the Most of Your Library's Resources." Presented by Don Wilson, librarian at the Bull Run Regional Library in Manassas. Go to: www.MVGenealogy.org or call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com.

Thursday/Aug. 20

Polka, Polka, Polka. 6:30 p.m. Free. Concert under the stars. At the Paul Spring Retirement Community, 7116 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-768-0234.

Papermaking. 7-8:30 p.m. Do-it-yourself recycling! An evening for adults to learn how to recycle paper into pulp and create new sheets. Handmade paper makes beautiful cards, books and collages. Visit www.artatthecenter.org for details.

The Reverie Jazz Trio. 7-9 p.m. Will perform early jazz standards and forgotten favorites in a style reminiscent of a bygone era. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, part of the Thursday Nite Local Spotlight series. At 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565 or go to www.torpedofactory.org.

Aug. 20-22

"Vanities" by Jack Heifner. At 8 p.m. A comedy directed by Herb Tax. From high school cheerleaders to independent women, follow Mary, Joanne, and Kathy through high school, college and into the "real" world ... and laugh yourself silly in the process! Featuring Natalie Christina (Mary), Carla Francischetti (Joanne), and Pamela Sabella (Kathy). At The Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. \$15/ general admission; \$10/seniors, students, retired or active military. Call 703-615-6626, www.zemfirastage.com.

Friday/Aug. 21

Historic Re-Enactment. 10 a.m. Students from Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School will participate in the 70th anniversary of the Civil Rights Sit-In at the Alexandria Library, Barrett Branch, 717 Queen St., Alexandria. The day was Aug. 21, 1939.

City of Fairfax's Saxophone Quartet. 7:30 p.m. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria.

THURSDAY/AUG. 13

Second Thursday Art Night: Sultry Summer Nights. 6-9 p.m. Free. An evening of open studios, live music, and refreshments. Check out opening receptions in Target Gallery and The Art League Gallery as you mingle with artists at this free event. Target Gallery presents the reception for the show In The Flesh Part II, an exhibition that focuses on contemporary figurative art. Juror Andrea Pollan will give a talk at 7 p.m. From 6:30-8 p.m., The Art League Gallery hosts the reception for 'Scapes: International Landscape Show, which features artwork inspired by all environments. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Go to www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565

NOW THROUGH AUG. 23

Vases are budding and pots are flowering this month at the Torpedo Factory's Scope Gallery. More than a dozen Washington-area artists are presenting "Flower Power," a colorful floral-themed exhibition and sale of stoneware, sculpture, raku and pitfired pieces. The show runs now through Aug. 23, Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays open until 9 p.m. The gallery is Studio 19, 101 North Union Street, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

Papermaking, 7-8:30 p.m. Do-it-yourself recycling! An evening for



adults to learn how to recycle paper into pulp and create new sheets. Handmade paper makes beautiful cards, books and collages. Whether you're a Sunday school teacher, preschool teacher, or elementary school teacher, papermaking is a great project to begin the school year with. You'll get to know the children through hands-on learning and experimentation. Visit www.artatthecenter.org for details.

NOW THROUGH AUG. 30

Illuminations, an exhibit of painting, photography, gardening, and painted glass, will be on view at the Del Ray Artisans gallery from now through Aug. 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 or 703-960-3873 for information about the artists or visit the DRA web site, www.TheDelRayArtisans.org, for gallery hours, directions, and special events related to the exhibit.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 2

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 7

'Scapes and Taking Form
Opening Reception: Thursday, Aug. 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Awards presented at 7:30 p.m. 'Scapes: International Landscape Show, the annual August landscape show at The Art League Gallery, exclusively features works by Art League members depicting the theme of landscape. Cross selected "Form" by Kreshnik Xhiku as the Best in Show and winner of the Monkeith Said Memorial Award.

Screenprinting Today — A Regional Survey of Contemporary Screenprints and Related Works, curated by Dennis O'Neil

Gallery Talk: Sunday, Aug. 23, 3 p.m. (free). The Athenaeum Gallery | 201 Prince Street, Alexandria
Show curator, Dennis O'Neil, of the Hand Print Workshop and the Corcoran College of Art + Design, has put together a collection of screenprints and related work representing his view of the very best work currently being done in the region. On Aug. 23 at 3 p.m. Dennis O'Neil and Susan Goldman of Navigation Press will discuss the role of collaboration in the printmaking process in a gallery talk (free).

SEPT. 9 - OCT. 4

Gallery West Presents: Petals and Leaves, Blossoms and Greens
New Paintings by Kathy Guzman
Opening Reception: Saturday, Sept. 12 from 5 - 7 p.m. 2nd Thursday Reception: Sept. 10, 6 - 9 p.m.
The September solo show at Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Alexandria, is called "Petals and Leaves, Blossoms and Greens." The exhibition runs from Sept. 9 - Oct. 4.

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SPORTS

Wolverine Golfers Look To Learn

At annual Cougar Classic, West Potomac gets sneak peak at its competition.

BY REED S. ALBERS
THE GAZETTE

West Potomac's golf team took on the challenging International Country Club in Chantilly during the annual Cougar Classic on Monday, Aug. 10 and learned it has a ways to go to compete with top programs.

The Cougar Classic is hosted by Oakton High School and featured 11 local high school golf teams. West Potomac's golfers faced a challenge at International, which is known for its lightning-fast greens and various water hazards. They also faced near 100-degree heat and sporadic wind gusts.

The team finished with a total score of 392, placing 10th overall. Alex Cheng posted the lowest score for the team with an 87.

"We have a young team," head coach Robert Wallace said. "Last year we lost about seven kids. It's

going to be a rebuilding year."

Wallace said that the weather played a role in making the day on the links tough for his team.

"It's hot and that makes for a long, challenging day," he said. "I definitely think that factored in."

Most coaches use the early-season Cougar Classic to assess their team's strengths and weaknesses and Wallace was no different, al-

ready picking out areas to improve for the coming season.

"We need to work on the short game, putting and getting used to faster greens," he said. "It's the first tournament of the season, so some of the kids are still a bit rusty. It's a young team and I'm sure they're willing to learn."

Westfield finished first in team scoring at 302. Westfield's Tim Ritter finished in first place individually with a 74 and Sarah Stanley,

also of Westfield, took second with a 75. Robinson Secondary School finished second with a 315 and was led by Alex Austin, who placed third with a 75.

"We need to work on the short game, putting and getting used to faster greens."

— Robert Wallace, coach, West Potomac High



PHOTO BY JASON MACKAY/THE CONNECTION

Alex Cheng led the West Potomac golf team to a 10th-place finish at the Cougar Classic on Monday with a team-best 87.000

O'Leary Takes Holden Cup

Alexandria native finishes close behind in ninth.

BY MICHAEL K. BOHN
THE GAZETTE

At the annual Holden Cup golf tournament Aug. 10-11 at Belle Haven Country Club, Reston resident John O'Leary paid handsomely on the exacta wager. O'Leary won the 18-hole pro-am event on the first day, then won the 36-hole pro division on the second day.

O'Leary tied Baltimore pro David Hutsell after regulation play at 6-under 138. Both had been 9-under after the first four holes of the second round, but the hot and humid conditions gradually ground down the players. O'Leary won on the third sudden-death

SEE HOLDEN CUP, PAGE 22



PHOTO BY MICHAEL K. BOHN/THE GAZETTE

Aspiring tour pro and Alexandria native Chris Derby, second from left, played in the Holden Cup with the support of his high school buddies, all from Alexandria — Andrew Stoiber, Brian Soule, and Joe Soule.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Registration Starts Soon

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Fall 2009 Program Guide is now available. The program guide highlights Alexandria city classes, programs, activities and special events occurring September through December. Registration for fall classes and activities begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, August 17 for City residents, and Monday, August 24 for nonresidents. Individuals, who subscribe to receive the program guide by mail, should have received it August 3 - 6. Individuals who did not subscribe can download a free copy by visiting www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or pick up a printed copy at the following locations:

- ❖ Office of Citizen Assistance, City Hall, 301 King St.
- ❖ Lloyd House, 220 N. Washington St.
- ❖ Charles Barrett Recreation Center, 1115 Martha Custis Dr.
- ❖ Chinquapin Park Recreation Center, 3210 King St.
- ❖ Cora Kelly Recreation Center, 25 W. Reed Ave.
- ❖ Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Recreation Center, 1605 Cameron St.
- ❖ Jerome "Buddie" Ford Nature Center, 5750 Sanger Ave.
- ❖ Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave.
- ❖ Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St.
- ❖ Patrick Henry Recreation Center, 4643 Taney Ave.
- ❖ William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Ave.
- ❖ Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen St.
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For more information about Northern Virginia Community College and a complete list of openings by discipline and campus location, visit our website at www.nvcc.edu and choose the link for "Jobs at NOVA."

The Virginia Community College System is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and actively seeks applications from women and minority candidates.

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-Albert Einstein

LEGAL NOTICE

Waiting List for Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority Owned Murraygate Village Apartments to Open August 10 - August 21, 2009

The Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development will be accepting applications from Monday, August 10 through Friday, August 21, 2009 for Murraygate Village Apartments. Applications and information on eligibility will be available by calling 703-780-9574 or visiting our rental office at 7800 Belford Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Interested applicants may obtain the application online at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rha and print it to bring to the office during the above dates and times.

Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-246-5101 or TTY 703-385-3578. Please allow seven working days in order to make the necessary arrangements. Assistance will be available at site locations for those who need aid completing applications.

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SPORTS

O'Leary Takes Holden Cup

FROM PAGE 19
 hole.

"I just tried to play steady in the playoff," said O'Leary, the PGA director of instruction at Chantilly's Pleasant Valley Golf Club. "David and I have been in a couple playoffs this season, and I'm glad to get the win."

Joining O'Leary in the pro-am was fellow Reston resident Danny Ott, a mortgage banker with Wells Fargo. "John did all the heavy lifting today," said Ott over a plate of wings and a cold beer after Monday's round. O'Leary shot a 6-under 66 on the 6,965-yard layout, and Ott contributed two birdies. All the amateurs played at scratch.

Tournament host, Alexandria resident Charlie Holden, said the donations that the charity pro-am attracted had fallen this year from 2008. "The \$75,000 in donations we received is still a great effort considering the economic climate today," he said at the pro-am awards dinner. "I am proud to say that our total for the past 10 years is \$750,000."

Donations go to the Alexandria-based Prevent Cancer Foundation. The organization supports cancer prevention research, education, and outreach programs nationwide and has funded the work of more than 400 scientists. See www.preventcancer.org.

Former Washington Bullet and NBA All-Star Kevin Grevey headlined the amateur field. The part time scout for the Los Angeles Lakers owns Grevey's, a restaurant and sports bar in Merrifield.

Another notable joined the pro field — LPGA player Kris Tschetter. She is trying to get her game back after two successive hip replacements. She has \$3 million in tour earnings, but in 11 starts this year, has enjoyed only middling results. She is married to noted golf instructor Kirk Lucas, and they have two daughters and live in Warrenton.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL K. BOHN/THE GAZETTE

John O'Leary, a PGA golf pro at Chantilly's Pleasant Valley Golf Club, accepts the Holden Cup from tournament host Charlie Holden, right.

Derby's Pro Journey

Alexandria native Chris Derby tied for ninth in the pro division of the Holden Cup. Derby, who is temporarily living with his parents in the city's Beverly Hills neighborhood, is playing on the Hooters Tour this season. He plans to enter the 2010 PGA Tour Q-School this fall. "My goal is to make it far enough through the qualifying stages to gain some status on the Nationwide Tour," Derby said after posting an even-par 70-74 - 144 in the Holden. Derby attended Alexandria Country Day School, and then graduated from Gonzaga High School in 2004. He earned a degree from Loyola College in Maryland last year. He worked in the Belle Haven bag room for four years during high school and college. After the tournament host Charlie Holden introduced Derby to everyone within hailing distance. "This young man is going places," said Holden.

Nordlinger Cup

The female junior golfers led the way at the 39th annual PGA Nordlinger Cup at Mount Vernon Country Club Aug. 10-11. Fifteen-year-old Karishma Thiagaraj of Rockville, Md., won overall honors with the tournament's low score of 8-over, 75-73 - 148. Second in both the Girls 15-18 age division and overall was Clare Connolly of Chevy Chase at 71-78 - 149. Clay O'Connor of Troutville, Va., won the Boys 16-18 and finished low guy with an 11-over, 75-76 - 151. Heat and humidity also finished high during the two sweltering days of the tournament.

"It's exciting," Thiagaraj said afterward, "I didn't know we were playing against the boys."

The Middle Atlantic section of the PGA sponsors the

Nordlinger Cup. Only those players who have excelled on the 2009 MAPGA Junior Tour are invited to join the field.

Other age division winners:

- Boys 10-11: Adam Gray, Potomac, Md.
- Boys 12-13: Edric Wung, McLean
- Boys 14-15: Chas Bassing, Great Falls
- Girls 10-11: Jae Young Jun, Centreville
- Girls 12-14: Bryana Nguyen, Columbia, Md.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MONDAY/SEPT. 7

International Festival. 12:30-6 p.m. Includes live entertainment, children's rides, international food, white elephant sale, beverages, games and more. Tickets must be purchased for some activities. At Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria. Call 703-780-4055 or visit www.gs-cc.org.

ONGOING

School supplies and backpacks are being accepted at United Community Ministries, 7511 Fordson Road, now through Aug. 17 in order for volunteers to sort supplies and pack backpacks.

The Back Porch Thrift Store will accept gently used furniture and clothing. Back Porch is a part of United Community Ministries — the nonprofit agency in southern Fairfax County to whom the community turns during times of disasters. Proceeds made from the Back Porch Thrift Store go directly into UCM's programs and services that help families and individuals in Fairfax County live their best lives. Visit UCMagency.org. Donations are received Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at 7838 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Call 703-799-7015 (in the Crossroads Shopping Center next to A.J. Wrights). Go to <http://www.ucmagency.org/backporch-index.html>.

Hopkins House (www.hopkinshouse.org) is a local charity that provides preschool services for children and offers family education

workshops for parents. This time of year donations of facial tissue, diapers/pull-ups, wipes, batteries, construction paper, and crayons are needed. 703-539-4232 ext. 4086.

The Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Auxiliary is currently accepting applications for adult volunteers. A variety of positions are available and every effort is made to match the volunteer's availability, interest and abilities. The hospital is located at 2501 Parker's Lane. Call 703-664-7260 or visit www.inova.org for more information.

Mt. Vernon Meals on Wheels is seeking a volunteer driver coordinator and a volunteer treasurer. For more information, call Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Volunteer Intake Line: 703-324-5406, TTY: 703-449-1186, e-mail DFSAAvolunteer@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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