

Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

AUGUST 27, 2009

Economy Has Poor's Safety Net Fraying

Local groups serve 20,000 low-income people in Route 1 corridor.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Fairfax County is one of the richest counties in the U.S. on a per capita income basis, according to National Association of Counties statistical data. Yet significant and persistent poverty exists within a few minutes drive from the most affluent neighborhoods in the southeastern part of the county.

The South County Leadership Coalition, a group of non-profits serving needy individuals and families in the Route 1 Corridor, describes the big hurdle in convincing residents and businesses to accept the presence of poverty so near. Most of the organizations estimate a 30-50 percent increase in demand for food, shelter, and other services since the recession began.

"People in Fairfax County don't think of our community as having homeless problems but it does exist and in large numbers," said Pam Michell, longtime New Hope Housing executive director. "There are problems out there facing the needy, but there are also solutions ... we need to convince people to donate money, or in-kind donations such as food or to volunteer time. If they will do so we are organized to deliver the needed services and meet the demand."

"One of the most important services we provide to needy individuals and families who come to us, many of whom have never be-

fore had to seek assistance of any kind, is hope," said Cynthia Hull, executive director of United Community Services (UCM). "Hope that their desperate circumstances will change; hope that someone will care enough to help; hope that all is not lost and that better days are ahead."

WHO PROVIDES assistance to the needy in the route 1 corridor?

"One of the most important services we provide to needy individuals and families who come to us, many of whom have never before had to seek assistance of any kind, is hope."

— Cynthia Hull,
executive director,
United Community Services

What kind of assistance do these organizations provide? What are their most pressing needs?

United Community Ministries, Inc. (UCM)

7511 Fordson Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22306
www.ucmagency.org
703-768-7106

Executive Director: Cynthia Hull

of Employees: 85

Clients Served in FY 2009: 12,500 individuals; an increase of 65% over 2008

Type assistance provided:

Food Assistance: 350 Tons annually

Other Assistance: Clothes; Back to School Supplies; Eviction and utility cut-off prevention assistance; employment counseling, job training (including computer literacy training); child care; tutoring; domestic violence

UCM Prepares For Back To School

More than 716 backpacks have been filled with grade appropriate supplies and are ready to be distributed the upcoming weeks to students in the Mount Vernon area. Donations for the backpacks and supplies came from local churches, community organizations and corporations. Volunteers from local schools — Bishop Ireton, Carl Sandburg, West Potomac High School and Bryant — helped sort and prepare the packs.

Volunteers Molly, Kate and Rebecca finish up with the backpacks before joining the staff in the food pantry. Volunteers not pictured are: Jose, Adrianna, Aaron, Andrew, Philip and Bau.



PHOTO BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE

assistance (transitional housing, homeless families, mental illness or substance abuse); and many other services.

UCM High Priority Needs: Financial assistance; food; truck with a lift; two walk-in commercial freezers; refrigerator; telephone systems; computers; volunteers; and more.

Home for the Holidays Fundraising event: Nov. 6. Public is welcome to participate. Additional information available on the Web site.

Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC)

9518 Richmond Highway; P.O. Box 154
Lorton, Virginia 22199
www.lortonaction.org
703-339-5580

Executive Director: Stephen Rorke
Deputy Director: Maryam Ulomi

Employees: 11
Clients Served Annually: 3,225 individuals in FY 2009; up from 2,750 in 2008

Types of Assistance:

Food Assistance: 144 Tons distributed in FY 2009

Other Assistance: Clothing; Eviction prevention (emergency rent assistance); utility cut-off assistance; back to school supplies, Holiday food assistance; medical assistance; counseling, housing referral, ESL tutoring, computer tu-

toring, etc.

LCAC High Priority Needs: Financial assistance; food; volunteers for a variety of activities, including food distribution.

Deputy Director Maryam Ulomi: "The current volume of clients seeking assistance through LCAC has increased by 40 percent over the previous year. Our food requirements have increased but the

SEE 540 TONS, PAGE 3

Joblessness

According to the most recently reported Labor Department figures, the jobless rate is at 9.4 percent nationally; 26 states report increases in jobless rates; in Virginia the current jobless rate hovers at 6.4 percent as compared to 4 percent in 2008.

A recent survey of the Route 1 corridor service providers universally confirms significant new numbers of jobless people coming through their doors in the past year and further straining resources needed to help them.

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www.lizluke.com

MLS ID# AX7118028



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MLS ID# FX7084165



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The open floor plan of this one-of-a-kind home on the Potomac features high ceilings, crown molding, hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen, breakfast area, sun room and spacious lower level rec room. Beautiful views from each of the seven bedrooms with seven-and-a-half baths. Light filled and so inviting, this home is truly an oasis in the DC area.

703.263.8321

Sue Goodhart

www.suegoodhart.com

MLS ID# FX7099768



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540 Tons of Food Aid — Given Here

FROM PAGE 1

amount of donated food has dropped. We are meeting the increased demand by tapping into our reserves but even that is depleted.”

Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, Inc. (GSH)

8305 Richmond Highway #17B
P.O.Box 15096
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
www.goodhousing.org
703-768-9404

Executive Director: Shannon Michael Steene

Employees: 11

Clients Served: 778 in FY 2009, up from 654 in FY 2008

Core Mission: To reduce homelessness, promote self sufficiency, increase community support.

Good Shepherd housing has access to 68 housing units (30 GSH-owned, 38 rented or subleased). The primary focus of GSH effort is to enable qualified individuals and families to move temporarily into these housing units to avoid being homeless. Typically, the clients they serve are employed but unable to obtain a lease on their own, due to poor credit or another reason. If they are unable to obtain a lease, they may end up in a homeless shelter. GSH helps to prevent that from happening. They also provide credit counseling, financial management counseling, and refer clients to such other services as may be required to help them to “stabilize their housing situation,” according to Steene. The average length of stay in the GSH housing units is two years. If, however, an applicant for their services has no job and cannot afford to pay rent they are referred to one of the local shelters for help.

GSH High Priority Needs: Financial assistance; volunteers needed in the following areas: legal, real estate, financial, marketing, communications.

New Hope Housing, Inc.

8407-E Richmond Hwy.
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
www.newhopehousing.org
703-799-2293

Executive Director: Pam Michell
Employees: 100

Clients Served annually: 822, including 138 children; on any given night over 200 individuals find hope, hospitality, and shelter. New Hope operates six shelter programs which provide 106 beds year round (45 for families; 69 for single adults), plus 47 additional beds during the winter months).

According to Pam Michell: “There are currently 112 families county-wide that are homeless and

on a three-month wait list for shelter.”

High Priority New Hope Housing Needs: Financial assistance; volunteers to help providing meals to residents, tutoring, supervise children’s activities in the evening, and much more.

In-kind donation needs include: towels and twin sheets, vacuum cleaners, over the counter meds, gift certificates to local department stores and grocery stores, and much more.

An upcoming fundraiser, Help the Homeless Walkathon, needs participants and volunteers to manage the walkathon. Volunteers are needed to set up a miniwalk at one’s faith community, sponsor public school walkers, or get a place of business involved in sponsorship or team walking. Walks are being held from September through October, leading up to a BIG Walk on Nov. 21. This Walkathon benefits Good Shepherd Housing, United Community Ministries, and New Hope Housing.

Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church

8220 Russell Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
www.risinghopeumc.org
703-360-1976

Senior Pastor Keary Kincannon
Executive Director: Laura Derby

Employees: 4 full-time; 13 part-time

Assistance Provided:

Food Assistance: 5,000 unduplicated family visits for 2009; estimate approximately one ton of food per week is handed out to approximately 300-350 families (50 tons annually)

Other assistance provided: Eviction prevention, clothing, job referral, job training, family and employment counseling, ESL tutoring, after school programs for children and youth, hypothermia outreach program, emergency housing referrals, holiday gift baskets, back to school supplies, etc.

A central part of the Mission’s effort is Christian prayer, studying the Bible, attending church, Sunday school. Kincannon, the founder of the Mission in 1996, and a native of Mt.Vernon, said, “Our greatest contribution is to provide those who seek our help a faith-based community who cares for them in their time of need.”

Rising Hope Needs: Financial assistance, food, volunteers for a variety of activities.

OTHER IMPORTANT Route 1 Corridor organizations providing



Cynthia Hull, executive director, United Community Ministries, Inc.



Shannon Michael Steene, executive director, Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, Inc.

PHOTOS BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE



The Rev. Keary Kincannon, Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church



Pam Michell, executive director, New Hope Housing, Inc.



Maryam Ulomi, deputy director, Lorton Community Action Center

assistance to the needy include: **Fairfax County Government**, Telly Whitfield, regional director, Human Services, South County area

Responsibilities: Increase access to county services such as family and recreation services, after school care, and to integrate services across county departments
Telephone #: 703-704-6730

Fairfax County Government Co-ordinated Services Planning: 703-222-0880. This telephone number is a “front door to Fairfax county government services or referral to non-profit services,” according to Whitfield.

Progreso Hispano

4100 Mohawk Lane
Alexandria, Virginia 22309
www.progreso-hispano.org
703-799-8830

Executive Director: Cristina Lamar-Schoendorf

Services: Immigration counseling; Spanish language translation services; ESL classes; computer literacy classes, citizenship classes.

Clients Served annually: 1,100
Employees: 3
Needs: Financial assistance, IT volunteers, tutors, pro-bono attorneys.

Beth-El

Domestic Violence Counseling, referral services.
Executive Director: Kari Warren
www.bethelhebrew.org

Kiononia

Executive Director: Amy Lopez:
703-971-1991

Services Provided: Food assistance, clothing.

Brain Injury Services, Inc.

8136 Old Keene Mill Road
Suite B 102
Springfield, VA 22152
Executive Director: Karen Brown
703-451-8881
www.braininjurysvcs.org

Services: comprehensive case management, job training, independent living skills training, pediatric case management and support assistance, counseling and referral services.

Employees: 3
Clients served annually: 538
High Priority Needs: Financial assistance, fund-raising advice and assistance, marketing and communications volunteers, volunteers to partner and support clients.

Fund Raising: Sixth Annual Kit Callahan’s Miracle Mile 10 K Run/Walk and Fun Run. Sept. 27, George Mason University, www.kitsmiraclemile.org

Housing & Community Services of Northern Virginia, Inc.

Executive Director: Irma Garcia, 703-372-5440
Housing Counselor: Thelma Brown
www.hcsnv.org

Services provided: housing counseling; eviction prevention, utility cut-off prevention, holiday gift assistance, rental advisory services, credit advisory assistance, and foreclosure prevention services.

Employees: 4
Clients served annually: 250.

How To Transform Route 1 Corridor?

Special panel hears from public on 12 proposed land use changes.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

The Special Committee on Strategic Planning heard public testimony on Saturday, Aug. 22, by civic association presidents, developers, and affected landowners about the

proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan.

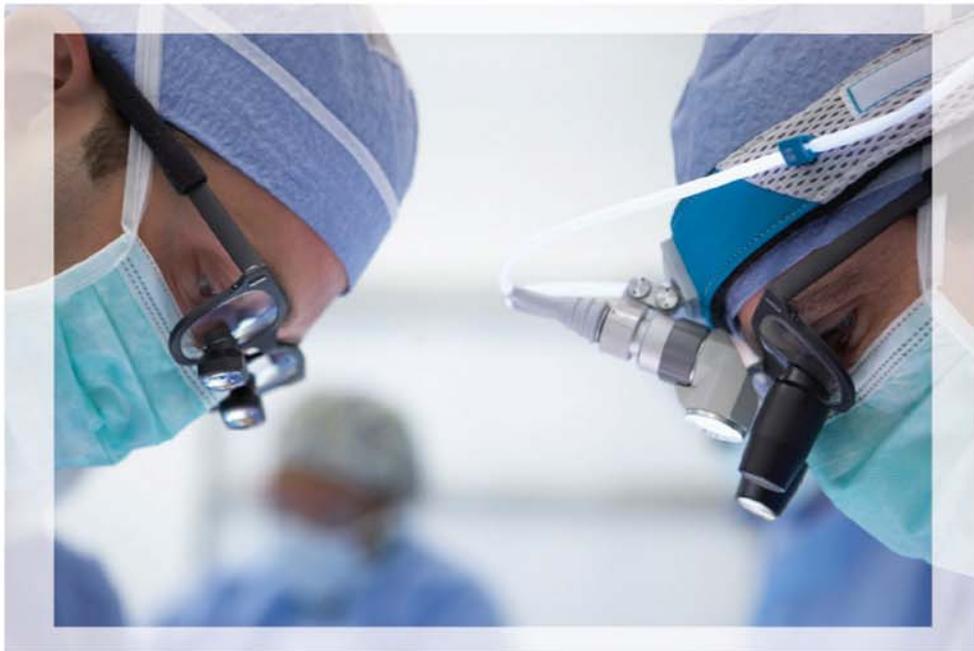
Among the approximately 60 people attending the meeting was Earl Flanagan, the Mt. Vernon representative to the Fairfax County Planning Commission. "In all of my many years living in Mt. Vernon this is the first time the Mt. Vernon Council has been

proactive in reaching out to the public and preparing a list of proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan. The Council and its special committee is operating the way Virginia law on land use planning envisioned when it empowered the citizens to have a say about how their communities should be developed," he said. "Since this takes place

only once every five years it is an important public participation process for the Mount Vernon Council to promote, and it has done a very good job of it."

Another attendee, Terry Jemison, planning and zoning chairman, Hybla Valley Farms Civic Association, said. "The commit

SEE 12 OPPORTUNITIES, PAGE 19



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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

The Rev. Keary Kincannon smiles as Road Diva president Frankie Lowery-Tomlinson, "Torch," says hello to three-month-old Austin.



Thomas Ethan Walls III beams with delight as he finds a backpack with his favorite hero, Spiderman.

Back To School at Rising Hope

The Rev. Keary C. Kincannon, pastor of Rising Hope Mission Church, the church staff and volunteers welcomed a few hundred families and their school age children on Saturday, Aug. 22, into the church for Back To School supplies and new shoes. The Samaritans brought boxes of size-sorted new shoes and socks for the children and their parents. One room was designated for

sizing feet; another for washing and fitting new shoes.

Afterwards the families proceeded upstairs for a backpack with school supplies. The church staff and volunteers also set up games and refreshments for the families in the parking lot. The Northern Virginia and D.C. chapters of the Road Divas joined the volunteers for the distribution.



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Photo by
Jenny Rulley

A Top Consumer-Rated Bank — Washington Consumers Checkbook Magazine



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rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com



Alex/Wessynton \$795,000
3406 Wessynton Way

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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

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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 hdwd 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./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/Woodlawn Terrace \$239,900
8214 Ackley Street

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OPINION

People Need Food

Food pantries can't keep up with surging demand for food; the time to donate is now.

“Right now, things are so very bleak.” That’s how the coordinator of one local food bank described the situation, with demand for food up more than 50 percent from last year, and donations right now dwindling.

Schools and churches often provide the pipeline for food donations to pantries, food banks, but that pipeline runs dry in the summer.

Your family can help right now by donating food or money to your local food pantry. Plan to give again in early fall, and again at Thanksgiving and Christmas. You can organize a food drive at your place of work, or in your neighborhood.

The ongoing recession and loss of jobs are driving the surge in families showing up a food banks. There are more unemployed people in Northern Virginia than in any other part of the state, with more than 80,000 unemployed here according to the Virginia Employment Commission. While the employment rate is lower here as a percentage of the population, this area still has the largest number of people unemployed.

People have lost their jobs, are unable to find

new ones. In some cases people who own homes are stuck, unable to sell their houses because the homes are worth less than they paid for them, and are facing foreclosure as well.

These families have used up their safety net, spent their savings. They find themselves without being able to put food on the table, and they turn to local food banks, food pantries, churches and other charitable organizations for their most basic needs.

“The people coming in the door are people who have lost all their savings. The lack of jobs is the predominant theme we’re hearing,” said Bonnie Inman of Loudoun Interfaith.

The McLean SHARE Food Pantry, located in the McLean Baptist Church, is running low on food and other basic provisions. At this time of the year and because of the economy, food and other donations have fallen off significantly but the need for food and other necessities is growing, the organization says.

The message is the same around the area.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Health Care Security Needed

To the Editor:

The Gazette published a letter on Aug. 20 from former Republican delegate to the Virginia House of Delegates, Frank Medico, opposing the comprehensive health insurance reforms now being developed on Capitol Hill. This former constituent of his wonders why he would oppose the very kind of excellent government insured health care that he and I both enjoy?

Mr. Medico and I have had parallel experiences. We are both 85 years old. Both served in World War II. Both have Harvard degrees. Both come from Massachusetts. Both have had careers in government and in the private sector. Both have had serious surgery after Medicare age. And, I assume, both were and

are covered by Medicare.

My spinal surgery was serious stuff. I was treated not only by my family physician and my rheumatologist, received MRI’s and CAT scans but also consulted nationally renowned neurologists and neurosurgeons in Washington, at the Hopkins in Baltimore and at Mass General in Boston. No “bureaucrat” told me what I could or could not do. I decided on the surgeon, the hospital and the post-operative therapy. The Federal Government agency, Medicare, paid the bill.

I assume that Medicare was also the payer for Mr. Medico. He reports no interference by “government bureaucrats” either. Why should government payment for our healthcare be good but government payment for others needing health care be bad?

In his rejection of comprehensive health care reform, Mr.

Medico makes three spurious arguments.

First, he suggests that the Obama Administration is trying to set up a “government-run healthcare system.” That is simply not true. Presumably he is referring to the proposal to create a public insurance option to compete with the big highly profitable private insurers. It would be similar to Medicare but entirely funded by premiums it collected. It would allow consumers to choose whether it or one of the private for-profit insurance carriers offered the best deal in terms of cost and medical services it would pay for. That sounds like the kind of choice every American should have.

Second, he warns about a “Health Choice Commissioner” “who will make decisions about what kind of health care and treatment we can get, if any, and when.” This is more scare language suggesting the bogey man of a “health commissar.” If he has read any of the bills up for consideration, he will not have found that mythical character. He may be alluding to strengthening an institution created by the Republican Congress in 1997 known as the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPac) to make recommendations about how much Medicare should pay for services and which services to reimburse. Mainstream healthcare econo-

mists and deficit hawks as well as President Obama think that strengthening MEDPac is essential to restrain costs.

Finally, Mr. Medico has invented “government bureaucrats to provide end-of-life counseling.” Again, he has not read the legislation. This is pure malicious invention. Upon the proposal of Republican Sen. Johnny Isakson (GA) supported by Republican Senators Lugar and Collins, and in keeping with the recommendations of the American Medical Association, the AARP and Consumers Union, there is a provision in the House bill that would authorize Medicare to pay for counseling by physicians on life-sustaining treatment and “end-of-life services” including hospice care and living wills when requested by the patient. That is consistent with a provision of law signed by Republican President George W.H. Bush in 1992 requiring hospitals and nursing homes to help prepare advance directives and living wills for Medicare patients.

Mr. Medico is not contributing to a responsible effort to correct some of the serious deficiencies in our health care delivery system. The very government program on which so many of us depend for our excellent medical coverage is endangered by the steep rise in costs that are bound to undermine

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 8

Where To Donate

National Capital Food Bank

6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton
serving all of Northern Virginia
703-541-3063

Food donations accepted Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fully equipped with refrigeration and freezers, so they can accept the usual non-perishable food items, plus produce, any kind of meat or dairy products and frozen food.

www.capitalareafoodbank.org

United Community Ministries

Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106
7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306
(703) 768-7106

UCM’s Food Pantry is open weekdays 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. the first Sunday of each month (except January, July and September, open on second Sunday). Enter through gates on right side of building, drive around to opposite side of building and ring bell at green door.

In Demand

- ❖ Canned proteins (tuna, salmon, chicken, peanut butter)
- ❖ Canned fruits in own juices or light syrup (pineapples, peaches, and pears)
- ❖ 100 percent fruit juices (all sizes including juice boxes)
- ❖ Pasta, whole wheat pasta, rice, brown rice, macaroni and cheese
- ❖ Condiments (tomato based sauces, light soy sauce, ketchup, mustard, light salad dressings)
- ❖ Low sodium/no salt added canned vegetables (mixed, green beans, corn)
- ❖ Soups, beef stew, chili, chicken noodle soup, turkey and rice soup
- ❖ Multigrain cereal (cheerios, cornflakes, granenuts, raisin bran)
- ❖ Hygiene products: diapers, deodorant for men and women, feminine products, toilet paper, tissues, soap, toothpaste, shampoo

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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A Connection Newspaper

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The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue.

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
The Gazette
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



OPEN SUNDAY, 1-4!

3310 Wyndham Circle #216
\$275,000 | Point at Park Center
Beautifully updated 2BR, 2 BA condo. Hardwood flooring in main area, new carpet, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, updated baths, fresh paint, washer/dryer inside unit and a location you can't beat. Free Pentagon Metro shuttle, fitness room, outdoor pool, gated community just minutes from Old Town, Pentagon, and D.C.

Yvonne S. Croft | 703.973.1540



JUST LISTED

2200 Rollins Drive
\$210,000 | Bucknell Manor
Huge corner lot with charming white picket fence, large back deck, expansive front and back yard and an tasteful interior with a timeless appeal. Freshly painted, mellow hardwood floors, four finished levels of living space, 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and a nice lower level den/office. Great location in South Alexandria!

Karen Leonard | 703.328.7041



OPEN SUNDAY, 1-4!

610 S. Saint Asaph Street
\$780,000 | Old Town Alexandria
Historic renovated home, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath-rooms, off street parking. Formal living room and dining room, large kitchen opens to bright family room with French doors to an oversized and private patio. 2 spacious bedrooms, one with a private terrace. Pine floors, 2-sided fireplace.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



JUST LISTED

707 East Timber Branch Parkway
\$765,000 | Braddock Heights
Beautifully maintained, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath brick home oozing with charm! This bright and sunny home features hardwood floors, two fireplaces, built-ins, recently renovated cheerful kitchen, lower level family room, abundant storage, one car garage. Perfect for outdoor entertaining on the deck overlooking the landscaped yard with towering trees.

Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156



3 BEDROOM PENTHOUSE!

2151 Jamieson Avenue, Unit 2101
\$835,000 | Coveted Carlyle Towers in Old Town
Large 3 bedroom, 3 bath + powder room! Beautiful sunset views, bamboo floors, 2 glass enclosed balconies. Kitchen has breakfast room, spacious 17' dining room, main foyer, 2 garage spaces, 2 storage spaces. Master with sitting room and bedroom 3 is a separate suite with full bath. www.CarlyleTowers2-2101 MLM1606@aol.com.

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



PRISTINE OLD TOWN

228 N Union Street
\$1,095,000 | Old Town Alexandria
Beautiful and pristine, this 3 level brick Townhome boasts gracious sun-filled rooms, high ceilings, thick moldings, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, a delightful bay window and inviting patio. The eat-in kitchen boasts new Jenn-Air appliances installed in June '09. 2 off-street parking spaces! Overlooking Potomac River and Founder's Park.

Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156



PARK VIEWS

2151 Jamieson Avenue, #606-607
\$775,000 | Coveted Carlyle Towers in Old Town
Large, bright and open. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, glass enclosed balcony. Sunny views of the fountain park. Wood floors! Large eat in kitchen, expanded master bedroom with extra closet, garage parking, Tennis, concierge, 2 Metro stops, shops, dining and more! www.CarlyleTowers2-607.com MLM1606@aol.com

Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080



GRAND COLONIAL

1250 Dartmouth Court
\$1,175,000 | Alexandria City, Quaker Hill
Elegant five bedroom home located near Old Town is exquisitely appointed and combines open space with the ultimate in interior and exterior detailing. Featuring renovated kitchen awash in natural light. A great room with walls of windows opens to spacious deck. Master suite with super bath and expansive walk-in closets.

Fran Orr | 703.623.4070



POTOMAC RIVER VIEWS

6041 Edgewood Terrace
\$1,895,000 | Belle Haven
Brick colonial with outstanding architectural details. 6,000+ sq ft on four levels. Traditional open floor plan, 10 ft ceilings on main level, elegant archways, intricate moldings, gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets, granite, walk in pantry, family room with columns and built in bookcases, luxurious master suite, recreation room, game room, wet bar and two car garage. www.phyllispatterson.com.

Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158



UNDER CONTRACT

5009 Mt Vernon Memorial Highway
Contract | Stratford Landing
Stunning, custom built home in Mt. Vernon! 5 BR, 4.5 BA home sits on a half acre, with beautiful architectural details, gourmet kitchen and all modern amenities. Fully finished basement with ample storage and bonus room make this home move-in ready! The epitome of casual elegance. www.5009MtVernon.com.

Rachel Carter | 703.851.4207



TOP FLOOR PENTHOUSE

5250 Valley Forge Drive, #805
\$290,000 | Wapleton
Fabulous top-floor penthouse corner unit with stunning eastern & southern exposure. Private 400 square foot terrace plus 2 balconies! 2 bedrooms and a den, 1,374 sq ft, two separate entrances into the unit, and reserved parking. These top floor units with the terrace rarely come on the market!

Sherry York | 703.625.3377



GREAT VALUE, GREAT LOCATION!

2415 Lakeshire Drive
\$1,175,000 | South Alexandria
New Price and new warm neutral colors! Sunny center hall colonial with open floor plan on .97 acres. Expansive master suite, 6 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, sun-room, gourmet eat-in kitchen with center island, hardwoods, numerous upgrades and all the bells and whistles you would expect in this great family friendly home. 5000+ Sq. Ft. Come take a look and be amazed at the value of your own private retreat.

Bonnie Rivkin | 703.598.7788



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WWW.CBMOVE.COM/ALEXANDRIA

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

Medicare unless reforms are made now.

Mr. Medico's and my neighbors along the Route 1 corridor need the kind of health care security that he and I enjoy- thanks to "government." I hope that he will look at the actual proposals before the Congress and decide to support reforms that will offer all Americans affordable insurance and not just those of us who have survived to Medicare age.

Thomas Fina

Loud for a Reason

To the Editor:

This is in response to the article that was written on motorcycles being too loud ["Roaring Thunder or Noise Pollution," The Gazette, Aug. 20]. I have been riding motorcycles for the last 25 years. I own two Harley Davidson motorcycles. I have modified the exhaust on both to make them much louder than a stock bike. I have always done this to the countless bikes I have owned over the years. This is done for several reasons, first it sounds great. Then, there is the main reason and that is that LOUD PIPES SAVE LIVES! In 2006 I was hit on my bike when a man pulled out in front of me. He said he didn't see me and couldn't hear me. I spent eight months in a hospital bed and almost lost my leg.

While most people think I am crazy for riding, it is a way of life for me. When people who don't ride want to make up rules to try to control my actions and take away my freedom a little bit at a time, it really ticks me off. If they would watch out for us while they are driving and pay attention to driving while behind the wheel, we would not need to make our bikes as loud as we can. As long as they want to put on their makeup, text, talk on their cell phones, eat, read, or any other activity while they drive I will continue to keep my bikes running as loud as I can.

I am the kind of guy that will take the shirt off his back if you need it. I am also the kind of guy that takes great offense when you try to take away my freedom. You want me to alter my bike to suit your need and I say not only no, but hell no. If the noise of a motorcycle bothers you, move to another country. This is the United States last time I checked. Get over it. You try to take away our freedoms then maybe we will try to take away yours. How would you like to wear a protective helmet in your car all the time as you make us wear. There are more deaths in cars than on bikes every year. You don't hear us complain about that. Quit your crying and buy some ear plugs already.

Scott (Ketchup) Hagerty
Tradesmen M/C

Price for APR Nominations

To the Editor:

Earlier this year, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Association (MVCCA) created a long-range strategic planning committee intended to review the Comprehensive Plan pertaining to the Mount Vernon District and

to propose and file nominations during the Area Plans Review (APR) process for the Mount Vernon District occurring in 2009-2010. The deadline for filing nominations is Sept. 16. I commend the MVCCA for creating this committee and for using it to educate the public concerning the Comprehensive Plan, its impact on land use and development, and on how citizens may participate in amending the Comprehensive Plan during the periodic APR processes.

When amendments to the Comprehensive Plan are proposed, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-2222.1, any proposed amendment that results in a significant impact on traffic on State highways cannot be enacted until a Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) is undertaken. Such TIAs are commonly referred to as "527 Studies," because they arise from Chapter 527 of the Administrative Guidelines of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The threshold impact is an increase in vehicle trips per day exceeding 5,000 trips for the combined parcels included in the nomination. The increase in trips per day is calculated by County staff using a prescribed formula.

An entity proposing a Comprehensive Plan amendment that is found to require a 527 Study must pay the filing fee of \$1,000 and also must pay for a private traffic consultant to conduct the 527 Study. Such studies typically cost \$15,000 to \$20,000.

When a Comprehensive Plan amendment is proposed, upon its filing, the county staff is required to expend considerable time resources in reviewing the proposed amendment, determining its various impacts including to traffic, environment, national security, recreation, and others including often preparing a staff alternative. The staff in cooperation with its own Fairfax County Department of Transportation and VDOT makes the determination as to whether the threshold has been reached requiring a 527 Study. If the threshold has been reached, the nominator is notified of the requirement to pay the \$1,000 fee and institute the traffic study, which must be completed before the Planning Commission will vote on the nomination, a necessary step before the nomination is considered by the Board of Supervisors.

With this backdrop, during my service as a Mount Vernon representative on the 2008 APR Task Force directed to base relocation (BRAC), we considered a number of creative nominations presented by the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC). After the staff had completed its time-consuming work on those nominations, the task force had approved them and the staff had indicated that several of them required 527 Studies, SFDC withdrew the nominations requiring those studies. I'm not aware whether the SFDC publicly explained why these nominations were withdrawn, but I surmise the expense of the required traffic studies was a factor.

Now the MVCCA is preparing to file up to eight nominations in the current APR cycle and has scheduled a special meeting of its Council in early September, 2009, to consider its proposed nominations and determine which ones will be filed. Apparently, some of the nominations are directed to the Northern Gateway (near the inter-



Snapshot 10:22 a.m., Aug. 22, Mount Vernon Marching Band Car Wash at Russell Road and Richmond Highway

section of Richmond Highway and Huntington Avenue), at Penn Daw (directed to the parcels that were involved in the Kings Crossing Town Center proposal that failed last year), and to the property where Smitty's Lumberyard is currently located. Other nominations are also proposed, but these three proposed nominations would clearly trigger 527 Studies.

I attended the MVCCA meeting on Saturday, Aug. 22, at Mount Vernon High School, during which their long-range strategic planning committee presented the current iterations of the nominations that may be filed by the MVCCA. During a question-and-answer time, I raised the issue of making nominations for which 527 Studies will be required and urged the MVCCA to refrain from making such nominations unless they have agreements in place, in writing, from the affected property owners, in which those property owners agree to pay all of the expenses for the 527 Studies should they be required. MVCCA co-chair Katherine Ward responded to my question by stating that the MVCCA has asked our state legislators to waive the required \$1,000 fee and that the MVCCA is in discussions with property owners concerning paying the expenses of private consultants who conduct the traffic studies. In an era when budgets are being cut locally and statewide, our state legislators are unlikely to be looking for revenue sources to eliminate. Without doubt, the \$1,000 fee will not be waived prior to the filing deadline of Sept. 16. Conversations with property owners do not comprise a written commitment to pay for the traffic studies.

I reiterate, if the agreements are not in place in which the property owners agree in writing to shoulder the expenses of the 527 Studies, the MVCCA nominations should not be made in the first place. Earlier this year, the County cut \$600 million from its budget and more budget cuts are coming. We cannot afford to waste the time resources of our county staff reviewing Comprehensive Plan nominations that will be withdrawn after all the work has been

done by county staff because the nominators can't pay for the 527 Studies. It would be irresponsible for the MVCCA to file nominations without having the funding in place for the 527 studies, with the hope the funding can be secured later. Council Presidents should make sure to attend the special meeting of the MVCCA Council in early September and should vote against any nomination, no matter how meritorious, for which the financing of a 527 Study has not been arranged in advance and in writing with the property owners.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Self-Centered Existence

To the Editor:

I think that the article about Rolling Thunder was just the tip of the iceberg. Stop honoring those dead warriors because they are at eternal rest and we want to forget about their sacrifices. Let's also think about those noisy fourth of July celebrations in D.C. The government can hire computer graphic experts to make a television production that can be viewed in one's home with the windows closed to avoid bothering the neighbors. Those noisy planes from Ronald Reagan National airport need to stop. Close the place down and make it into suitable housing for cranky people who hate celebrations. The idea of celebrating our heritage in a noisy manner makes a few complainers forget about true Americans and what they did to make our country great. Put your fingers in your ears and be ashamed of your self-centered existence. How did you serve your country?

I no longer live in the Metro area but still miss those cyclists who choose to honor our heroes.

Jack Applegate
Broomfield, Colo.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8 Citizen Call To Action

To the Editor:

So many people I talk to across our community express concern about the continued lack of infrastructure investment in Mt. Vernon, and the corresponding decline in quality of life. We should be working to bring people together to protect and improve the unique and beautiful environment we enjoy today and to preserve it for our children and grandchildren.

Mt. Vernon has some of the most beautiful scenery anywhere, and the value of our environment to the region is paramount. I know firsthand, because its beauty is one of the reasons my family decided to settle here when I left military service back in the 1990s.

But the importance of the environment extends far beyond aesthetics. The entire character of our community, the value of our homes, and the health and life of our wildlife depends on our good stewardship of our environment. Our streams and tributaries are central to the health of the Potomac River and Chesapeake

Bay.

Unfortunately our environment is suffering from neglect — neglect directly traceable to a continued lack of infrastructure investment along Richmond Highway. This is not a partisan issue, it is a plain fact without a modern roadway we continue to put our communities at risk.

Many stretches of Rt. 1 between the Beltway and Ft. Belvoir were built before environmental requirements were common and understood, and improvements have not been made. The result of this neglect is not only seen in our continuing traffic and congestion problems, but also in the harmful storm water runoff that erodes our watershed and damages the Potomac River and, eventually, the Bay. Fixing this problem will take a concerted effort from everyone in our community.

I believe strongly in bringing people together to achieve results. All of us citizens, community and business leaders, VDOT; local, state, and federal officials; Republicans, Democrats, and Independents have a role to play. Some will say we cannot do it, I say we need to dedicate ourselves to action.

We need to clarify and simplify the process for government and

industry cooperation for watershed preservation, expand joint investment, and bring our community citizens together to help clean up our at-risk areas. Most importantly, we need get on with making long overdue development improvements to Rt. 1. These improvements are not only central to easing traffic congestion, but also key to protecting our environment, and we need somebody who will fight to make them a county and a state priority.

I believe we need a Citizens Call to Action to clean our communities and parks and a Clean Business program that makes business owners a welcomed part of the dialogue while providing increased tax incentives for environmentally-friendly development. I believe community-led efforts and increased enforcement can curtail illegal dumping and increase public awareness about how to address waste and runoff water.

Mostly, I believe that this is an issue too important, and an opportunity too great, to continue to ignore.

Jay McConville

Mt. Vernon

(Jay McConville is the Republican candidate for state delegate in the 44th district.)



Sadly, Nina's Closet will close its doors on Monday, 8/31/09.

We thank all our wonderful customers (friends) for your loyalty the past 10 years. We will miss you!

Join us for our closing sale. Everything must go (including fixtures).

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7501
Park Terrace Dr
\$1,300,000
Stunning!
Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie style, this 1.13 acre property sits on a bluff

overlooking acres of parkland with seasonal river views! Heart of redwood features, large room sizes, high ceilings and expansive glass window walls capture the natural beauty of grounds. Off GW Pkwy, 3 miles from Old Town. (Adjoining 1.18 acre available for \$975,000). Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, R Morningside Ln, R Park Terr Dr.



4401
Jackson Pl
\$495,000
Special Value!
Spacious brick home on gorgeous half acre lot with open floor plan, hardwood floors,

family room with fireplace, covered parking & extra driveway space. Fabulous custom deck overlooks magnificent level grounds. Rare opportunity to find a well maintained Mount Vernon home for under \$500,000!



4307
Sheridan's Point
\$794,500
Georgian Colonial!
Large Price Reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mt

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



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.



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!



9516
Mt Vernon Ldg
\$2,900,000
Waterfront!
Waterfront homes rarely become available in prestigious Mount Vernon on the

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

STRATFORD LANDING!



8826
Camden Street
\$899,500
Gorgeous Setting!
There's nothing like it on the market today - fabulous new

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



9411
Brambly Lane
\$975,000
Luxury Home!
Top quality luxury home is loaded with custom features, including:

exceptionally bright, open floor plan, high ceilings, gourmet kitchen, fabulous large family room, hardwood floors, elegant trim detail and the most spectacular master suite you'll ever find! This home is almost complete and ready for occupancy! Special financing is available.



1210
N Pegram St
\$1,351,500
Special Financing!
Interest rate as low as 3.78% with just 10% down payment makes Alexandria's most exciting new

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9304
Allwood Drive
\$639,000
"Green" House!
Expanded and updated, this spectacular home features uniquely bright, open floor

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



9500
Ferry Hall Ct
\$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, three car garage and more!



9511 Mt Vernon Lndg
\$900,000



7107 Colgate Dr
\$598,900



6412 Potomac Ave
\$538,900

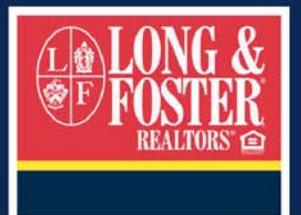


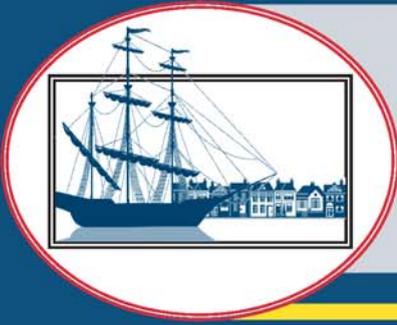
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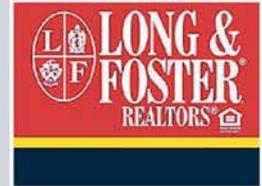
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OPEN SUN. 1-4

**1109 NORTH
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Arlington - \$849,000

3BR/3.5BA townhouse in heart of Clarendon. Home features granite counters, stainless appliances, hardwood floors, deck & rooftop patio, two-car attached garage and more.

**Dayna Blumel
Kerry Adams**
703.597.2252



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**6402 13th
STREET**

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floor plan, high tech, and gorgeous! DIR: S on GWPkwy, R Belle Haven Rd, L Potomac Ave, R Olde Towne Rd, L 13th St

Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264



6023 RICKETTS WALK
Alex / Quantrell Mews - \$429,900

WELCOME HOME! Interior city TH was fully renovated in '08. 4lv1 TH w/2 car gar w/storage. Eco-friendly bamboo, hdwd flrs, granite in kit w/matching granite dinning table, high end newly bathroom fixtures. 15 mins to DC.

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**Sean Satkus
Kendra Carey**
703.731.8086



**1810 COOL
SPRING DR**
Alexandria /
Collingwood
Springs -
\$500,000

Priced to sell, this lovely 4 B R / 2 B A home boasts

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Martha Deal 703.622.6797



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STATION
BLVD, #G10**

Alexandria - \$347,889

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www.brianandjery.com
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**318 PRINCE
STREET #7**
In the Heart of OT
Alexandria -
\$739,000

SPECTACULAR 3 lv1 1,040sqft unit in desirable Prince St Club. 20' ceilings, wood burning FP,

hdwd & mouldings. Eat in kit w/direct access to patio & Royal St. Covered parking at LL entrance.

Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594



OPEN SUN. 1-4

**5432 DAWES
AVENUE**
Alexandria -
\$680,000

QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD! 3 lvls of freshly painted rooms, 4BR/2.5BA - hdwd thru-out

1st/2nd levels. Remodeled gourmet kit w/lots of cabinet space, updated SS. Cozy LR w/FP, sep DR.

Lauren Leggett 703.582.7354



REDUCED!

**4126 NORTH
11th PLACE**

Arlington -
\$579,000

PERFECT "10"! Tastefully renovated townhouse with upgrades: new kitchen: stainless steel, new

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OPEN SUN. 1-4

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OPEN SUN. 1-4

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DUCHESS
LANE**
McLean -
\$1,450,000

A GREAT PROSPECT 3 level classic, 4BR/4.5BA - large gourmet

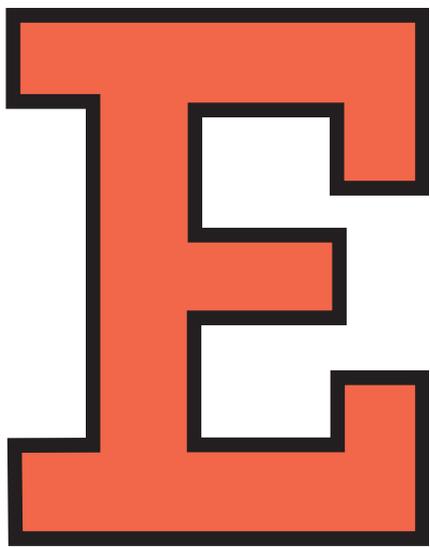
kitchen, library, 2-story family room w/fireplace, huge Master suite w/sitting room plus fireplace.

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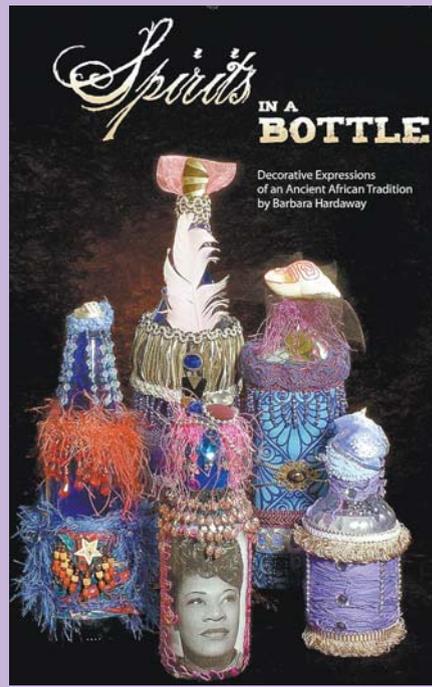
ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Notable Events To Look For...

Spirits in a Bottle

THURSDAY/AUG. 27

Washington, D.C., area artist Barbara Hardaway decorated a hundred Arizona Tea bottles for "Spirits in a Bottle: Decorative Expressions of an Ancient African Tradition," an exhibition opening at the Alexandria Black History Museum on Thursday, Aug. 27. This whimsical show pays homage to the 9th- and 10th-century Congolese tradition of adorning the ends of tree branches with colorful bottles that would catch the sunlight. Barbara Hardaway has updated this ritual by festooning her bottles with feathers, fabric, beads, netting, ribbons and seashells, bestowing each with character and panache. In addition, she has designed bottles featuring Ella Fitzgerald, Langston Hughes, W.E.B. DuBois, Marian Anderson, Sojourner Truth, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other luminaries. A free opening reception will be held on Aug. 27 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling 703-838-4356. The exhibition will be open through Saturday, Oct. 3, and suggested admission is \$2. The Alexandria Black History Museum is located at 902 Wythe Street in the Parker-Gray Historic District. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-838-4356.



The Fish Market Restaurant Re-Opens

The much-anticipated grand re-opening of The Fish Market Restaurant and its new Anchor Bar in Old Town Alexandria, is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 2. A percentage of the proceeds from the grand opening event will benefit the national Multiple Sclerosis Society. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the party kicks off at 4 p.m. Admission is free. Guests will enjoy various samplings of the new Anchor Bar menu prepared by Executive Chef Cory Fey. The owners are Franco and Noe Landini.

The highlight of the grand opening will include an oyster-eating contest, auctioning off new and old Fish Market treasures and customers will also have the opportunity to be entered in a raffle to win prizes including free food and drink. Nashville superstar David Vincent Williams will be appearing in the Sunquest dining room and party jams will spin in the Anchor Bar by local DJ Lyric.

At 5 p.m., the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and Mayor Bill Euille will perform an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Anchor Bar.

Go to the Web site at www.fishmarketoldtown.com, or call 703-683-1135.

Nominations for Living Legends of Alexandria

Nominations for the Living Legends of Alexandria - 2010 are due by Sept. 30. Living Legends of Alexandria is an on-going, not-for-profit project to identify, honor and chronicle those making history in Alexandria today. Criteria are: (1) Individuals who have contributed at least one tangible improvement to the quality of the city's life that would likely be missing without this person's vision and energy, or (2) Individuals demonstrating exemplary service to the city over an extended time (10 years or more). Nominees must live or work in Alexandria. Those currently running for or holding political office are not eligible for consideration. The contributions of City employees should be beyond the responsibilities of their jobs. Nominate as many Legends as worthy of consideration. Use a separate form for each nominee. Nomination forms are available at www.tisaraphoto.com/legends or by calling 703-625-2330. Send nominations to alexandrialegends@earthlink.net or mail to Living Legends, 6408 Hayfield Place, Alexandria, VA 22310.



Dog Days of Summer

TUESDAY/SEPT. 8

Annual Doggie Day Swim. 4-7 p.m. At the Old Town Pool, 1609 Cameron Street, Alexandria. A celebration of the end of the pool season for dogs and their owners. Old Town Pool will remain open for dogs only to swim and play. There is a nominal fee for dog admission. Proceeds benefit the Alexandria Welfare League. Note: Bring your own doggie dish for water. Dog handlers must be 16 or older. All dogs should wear current vaccination tags or proof of vaccinations must be shown. Proceeds benefit the Alexandria Animal Welfare League. Call 703-519-2160.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

Dog Days. Looking for a great way to beat the heat with man's best friend? The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority has announced the return of Dog Days. Visit any NVRPA water park on Saturday, Sept. 12 and let your best friend swim to their hearts' content from noon to 4 p.m. This year's event is bigger than ever, with all five NVRPA water parks open for this great dog swim. Participating parks include Great Waves at Cameron Run Regional Park in Alexandria, Upton Hill Regional Park in Arlington, Atlantis Water Park in Centreville, Downpour Water Park at Algonkian Regional Park in Sterling, and Pirate's Cove at Pohick Bay Regional Park in Lorton. Admission is just \$5 per dog. Dog owners must fill out a liability waiver and the dog must have a current license and rabies vaccination. Visit www.nvrpa.org.



"Bronx Princess"

THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

"Bronx Princess" Screening. 7 p.m. Port of Harlem magazine and the Alexandria Black History Museum will preview the new documentary "Bronx Princess," followed by a short discussion. "Bronx Princess" follows the real-life journey of headstrong 17-year-old Rocky as she leaves behind her mother in New York City to reunite with her father, a chief in Ghana, West Africa. Filmed during the tumultuous summer between high school and college, "Bronx Princess" tells Rocky's coming-of-age story. By confronting her parents' ideas of adulthood, Rocky reconciles her African heritage with her dream of independence. PBS will broadcast the 40-minute TV movie on Tuesday, Sept. 22, at 10 p.m. The Alexandria Black History Museum is located at 902 Wythe Street in the Parker-Gray Historic District. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call the museum at 703-838-4356.



Good Shepherd Catholic Church

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.



"The Musical"

AUG. 27-OCT. 18

Musical of Musicals ("The Musical!") At MetroStage. The play is a parody of five Broadway composers, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, Kander and Ebb, Jerry Herman and Andrew Lloyd Webber, with the music by Eric Rockwell, lyrics by Joanne Bogart, and book by Rockwell and Bogart. Both Rockwell and Bogart performed in the original New York production that began at The York Theatre Company before moving Off Broadway to Dodger Stages. It has been successfully presented on many stages across the country and in London and has a national Web site (www.musicalofmusicals.com). Performances are Aug. 27-Oct. 18, Thursdays and Fridays at 8, Saturdays at 5 and 8:30, Sundays at 3 and 7. Tickets are \$45-50. At MetroStage, 1201 North Royal St. Alexandria. Fully accessible, free parking, great dining. Call 800-494-8497 or go online to www.boxofficecitetickets.com. Call 703-548-9044.

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 703-778-9412 with questions.

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. 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. Call 703-838-6348.

THURSDAY/AUG. 27

The Jefferson Street Strutters. 7-9 p.m. Enjoy traditional jazz and American popular songs from the early years of the 20th century. 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.

Henna Night with Greta Gonzalez. 6-8 p.m. Moms, Dads, and kids alike are all having some fun this summer by donning Greta's one-of-a-kind designs. Greta's designs run from \$5 - \$20, depending on size. At Spill the Beans, 1900 Elkin Street, Suite 4, Alexandria. Call 703-780-3561.

FRIDAY, AUG. 28

Enjoy the fun Music of Billy Otis! 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Beer and wine available. At Spill the Beans, 1900 Elkin Street, Suite 4, Alexandria. Call 703-780-3561.

Sin Fronteras Offers South of the Border Performance. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free mariachi performance is part of the Mt. Vernon Nights summer concert series. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial



THURSDAY/AUG. 27

The Jefferson Street Strutters. 7-9 p.m. Free. The Jefferson Street Strutters will perform traditional jazz, Dixieland, ragtime, and American popular songs from the early years of the 20th century. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565.

Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-7469 after 6 p.m. for cancellation updates.

SATURDAY/AUG. 29

Adult Chorus Auditions. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. With the Alexandria Choral Society for August 2009, under new Artistic Director, Brian Gendron. All dates by appointment only. For details and/or to schedule, email: AlexandriaChoralSociety@gmail.com

Begonias Abound. 10-11:30 a.m. Want to discover more about this fascinating plant family, the different types and species? Begonia enthusiast Johanna Zinn and fellow Begonia society members share expansive knowledge gained from their many years of growing these unique and versatile plants; providing culture, care, and propagation information. A guided tour of the annual begonia show included. \$12. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 or go to

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/

Hooray for School Storytime. Ages 3 and up. 11:30 a.m. Special storytime to celebrate the exciting beginning to the school year. Free. Hooray for Books! Children's Bookstore, 1555 King St., Alexandria. www.hooray4books.com. Call 703-548-4092.

Book Signing. "Mind Your Manners! George Washington's Rules of Civility." 1-5 p.m. Author James Henry II will be signing copies of his book. At the Historic Alexandria History Center & Museum Store, 101 North Union Street. Call 703-706-5262.

AUG. 29-30

28th Annual Begonia Show and Sale. Aug. 29 from 9-4:30 p.m. and Aug. 30 from noon to 3:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Potomac Branch of the American Begonia Society. Expand your plant palette; be tempted with splashes of color for homes and greenhouses that last

long after frosts have put our outdoor gardens to bed! The sale offers a wide variety of begonias, including unusual subtropical species. Free. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/

War of 1812 Historic Weekend Re-enactment. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Visit Carlyle House on Aug. 29 to learn about the events of Aug. 29, 1814. On Aug. 30, visit Pohick Bay Regional Park to see how the Americans fought back at the White House Battery." Call Carlyle House at 703-549-2997 or Pohick Bay Regional Park at 703-339-6104. Visit www.nvrpa.org.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

The Trio Hermitage. 7-9 p.m. The trio consists of Svetlana Nikonova and Varvara Zakharevich of the Washington Balalaika Society, and Zahar Zakharevich of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. 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.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 5

Hollin Hall Annual Sidewalk Sale. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a variety store, blossom shop, gift store, Hollin Hall Pastry Shop, The Dance Studio, Rooga's Sports.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 6

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. Violinist Benjamin Scott and pianist Brad Clark. Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic Association. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

Free Concert. At 10:45 a.m. By the internationally acclaimed African Children's Choir. At Centerpointe Church at Fair Oaks, 4104 Legato Rd, Fairfax. Visit www.africanchildrenschoir.com or call 703-591-4284.

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.

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MONDAY, SEPT. 14

Gadsby's Tavern Museum will be hosting its fall session of Tavern Toddlers, beginning Monday, Sept. 14, and continuing weekly through Monday, Nov. 16. Because it's never too early for children to appreciate history, the museum developed this special program for toddlers (walkers through 36 months) and their caregivers. Tavern Toddlers features a weekly open playtime on Mondays anytime between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Gadsby's Tavern Museum is located at 134 North Royal Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-838-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

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FINE ART

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. 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.

SEPT. 1 TO SEPT. 30

"Creation Sings!!" a journey through the beauty of nature as photographed by Allen Pearson will be at The Gallery at Convergence, Tuesday, Sept. 1 through Wednesday, Sept. 30. The artist reception will be on Sunday, Sept. 13, 3-5 p.m. Pianist Mary Dart will join Photographer Allen Pearson to present the musical "Journey through Creation's Song". The Gallery at Convergence is located at 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria; call 703-998-6260. Gallery hours: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., by appointment at all other times. Visit www.allenpearsonsphotos.com or www.convergenceccf.net.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 2

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

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



"The Special Relationship" by Brenda Barthell

a collection of screenprints and related work representing his view of the very best work being done in the region.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 3

Preview the exhibit, Revenge of the Sequel, Del Ray Artisans' September Art Show. At the Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Exhibit shows artists depicting their uninhibited and unabashed versions of a sequel. It opens on Friday, Sept. 4, and runs through Sunday, Sept. 27. A reception to meet the artists will be on Friday, Sept. 11 from 7-9:30 p.m. Call 703-838-4827 or visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org. The Del Ray Artisans gallery is located in the Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2407 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria; call 703-838-4827.

SEPT. 10 - OCT. 5

"The Special Relationship," in the Art League Gallery: Brenda Barthell's Solo Show.

"The Special Relationship" describes the historic, diplomatic, and political connection between the UK and U.S. These paintings, however, represent a personal bond and one that may be familiar to others who have divided roots.

Opening Reception: Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Hours are daily, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, 12 noon-6 p.m.

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 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 features an exploration of lines, shapes and colors of flowers and greens in different settings and environments by Kathy Guzman. It runs from Sept. 9 - Oct. 4, 2009. A reception open to the public will be held Saturday, Sept. 12 from 5 - 7 p.m. The gallery will also be open on Thursday, Sept. 10 until 9 p.m.

Member work will also be on display at the gallery. Located in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, Gallery West is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2009. An artist owned and operated fine art gallery, it continues to feature a cross section of known and emerging artists whose work in painting, photography, mixed media and clay range in styles from traditional to cutting edge. The gallery is opened 11 - 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Images of member work are on view at the gallery's website: www.gallery-west.com.

Open Life Drawing at Del Ray Artisans — Open life drawing continues on selected Wednesdays from 2-5 p.m. this summer at the Del Ray Artisans gallery. The fee for each session is \$8 for DRA members and \$10 for non-members. Contact Katherine Rand at 703-836-1468 or katherine@katherinerand.com. Go to <http://www.thedelrayartisans.org/index.htm>.

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

Saturday - Steak and Chop Night
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2:00 pm (en Español)
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| 2215 LAKESHIRE DR | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$800,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | MANORS AT MT VERNON |
| 2307 POPKINS LN | 5 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$794,000 | Detached | 0.24 | | POPKINS FARM ESTS |
| 6406 WOOD HAVEN RD | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$735,000 | Detached | 0.24 | | NEW ALEXANDRIA |
| 1106 ALDEN RD | 4 | 4 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$735,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | WAYNEWOOD |
| 8133 MOUNT VERNON HWY | 5 | 4 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$722,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | THE WOODLANDS |
| 8622 BUCKBOARD DR | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$708,000 | Detached | 0.32 | | RIVERSIDE GARDENS |
| 8038 HOLLAND RD | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$657,500 | Detached | 0.68 | | GUM SPRINGS |
| 8705 MERCEDES CT | 5 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$649,900 | Detached | 0.26 | | PLANTATION ESTATES |
| 6417 POTOMAC AVE | 3 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$649,000 | Detached | 0.16 | | NEW ALEXANDRIA |
| 8310 CEDARDALE DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$645,000 | Detached | 0.32 | | COLLINGWOOD ON POTOMAC |
| 8605 CONOVER PL | 5 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$629,900 | Detached | 0.27 | | WAYNEWOOD |
| 2752 SAINT ELLIOTT CT | 5 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$628,000 | Detached | 0.30 | | HOLLAND HOLLOW |
| 2103 POPKINS LN | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$605,000 | Detached | 0.54 | | HOLLIN HILLS |
| 8614 CYRUS PL | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$595,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | WAYNEWOOD |
| 9105 CHERRYTREE DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$589,900 | Detached | 0.53 | | MT VERNON FOREST |
| 1208 CEDAR DALE LN | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$572,000 | Detached | 0.51 | | BOULEVARD ACRES |
| 2110 WILKINSON PL | 5 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$550,000 | Detached | 0.60 | | KIRKSIDE |
| 9334 OLD MOUNT VERNON RD | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$550,000 | Detached | 0.34 | | MT VERNON GROVES |
| 4009 COOL BROOKE WAY | 3 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$549,000 | Detached | 0.26 | | WOODSTONE |
| 8712 STANDISH RD | 3 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$545,000 | Detached | 0.50 | | PLYMOUTH HAVEN |
| 5135 JAMES FRANKLIN CT | 5 | 4 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$545,000 | Detached | 0.46 | | CECIL CASE ESTATES |
| 3107 WATERSIDE LN | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$540,000 | Detached | 0.27 | | RIVERSIDE ESTATES |
| 3583 STEPHIES CT | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$530,000 | Detached | 0.15 | | MOUNT VEE MANOR |
| 2410 BRENTWOOD PL | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$529,000 | Detached | 0.00 | | HOLLIN HILLS |
| 6501 BLUEBILL LN | 3 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$529,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | BELLE HAVEN TERRACE |
| 1830 DUFFIELD LN | 2 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$525,000 | Townhouse | 0.04 | | BELLE HAVEN ON THE GREEN |
| 8506 DOTER DR | 3 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$524,900 | Detached | 0.25 | | WAYNEWOOD |
| 8304 LILAC LN | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$520,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | COLLINGWOOD |
| 3900 WOODLEY DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$510,000 | Detached | 0.79 | | WOODLEY HILLS |
| 8220 CROWN COURT RD | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$505,000 | Detached | 0.27 | | KIRK |
| 8326 FLEETWOOD CT | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$500,000 | Detached | 0.29 | | COLLINGWOOD SPRINGS |
| 8375 WAGON WHEEL RD | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$499,900 | Detached | 0.24 | | RIVERSIDE ESTATES |
| 8727 CAMDEN ST | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$495,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | STRATFORD LANDING |
| 2304 APPLE HILL RD | 5 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$480,000 | Detached | 0.33 | | WILLIAMSBURG MANOR NORTH |
| 7819 YORKTOWN DR | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$470,000 | Detached | 0.30 | | HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE |
| 2412 CAVENDISH DR | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$469,900 | Detached | 0.26 | | STRATFORD LANDING |
| 7587 LINDBERG DR | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$450,000 | Detached | 0.11 | | HUNTLEY MEADOWS |
| 1707 TRENTON DR | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$450,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE |
| 8231 GOVERNORS CT | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$442,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | KIRK |
| 8716 BRADDOCK AVE | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$440,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | MT VERNON ESTATES |
| 6813 STONEYBROOKE LN | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$439,900 | Detached | 0.26 | | STONEYBROOKE |
| 3210 BURGUNDY RD | 5 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$426,440 | Detached | 0.18 | | BURGUNDY VILLAGE |
| 3031 BATTERSEA LN | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$420,000 | Detached | 0.25 | | RIVERSIDE ESTATES |
| 2443 HUNTINGTON PARK DR | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$418,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | PAVILIONS AT HUNTINGTON |
| 5704 TREMONT DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$415,000 | Detached | 0.24 | | HICKORY KNOLL |
| 6903 QUANDER RD | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$414,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | BUCKNELL MANOR |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #914 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$413,900 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | HUNTINGTON |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #914 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$413,900 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | HUNTINGTON |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #914 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$413,900 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | HUNTINGTON |
| 3614 KEOTA ST | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$400,000 | Detached | 0.22 | | BURGUNDY MANOR |
| 7690 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY | 3 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$400,000 | Townhouse | 0.04 | | HUNTLEY MEADOWS |
| 7125 HARRISON LN | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$400,000 | Detached | 1.05 | | MOUNT VERNON SQUARE |
| 2985 HUNTINGTON GROVE SQ | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$400,000 | Townhouse | 0.06 | | HUNTINGTON GROVE |
| 8642 BRADDOCK AVE | 4 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$399,500 | Detached | 0.33 | | MT VERNON HILLS |
| 7549 GREAT SWAN CT | 3 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$395,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | HUNTLEY MEADOWS |
| 5906 EDGEHILL DR | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$385,000 | Townhouse | 0.09 | | JEFFERSON MANOR |
| 7608 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$382,000 | Townhouse | 0.04 | | HUNTLEY MEADOWS |
| 2002 SHENANDOAH RD | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$381,720 | Detached | 0.23 | | HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE |
| 1705 BALTIMORE RD | 2 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$379,900 | Detached | 0.30 | | HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE |
| 1904 COLLINGWOOD RD | 5 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$379,000 | Detached | 0.33 | | TINKLE A H |
| 8207 COOPER ST | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$372,850 | Detached | 0.31 | | TIMOTHY PARK |
| 2100 SHENANDOAH RD | 2 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$372,000 | Detached | 0.30 | | HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE |
| 7640 AUDUBON MEADOW WAY | 4 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$370,000 | Townhouse | 0.04 | | HUNTLEY MEADOWS |
| 5902 MOUNT EAGLE DR #418 | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$365,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | MONTEBELLO |
| 4614 STEADMAN PL | 5 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$350,000 | Detached | 0.26 | | MT VERNON VALLEY |
| 7018 COLGATE DR | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$344,505 | Detached | 0.25 | | BUCKNELL MANOR |
| 5716 EVERGREEN KNOLL CT | 3 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$340,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | LOFTRIDGE |
| 8160 BIANCA PL | 3 | 3 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$340,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | | ROXBURY MEWS |
| 4414 OLD MILL RD | 3 | 1 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$340,000 | Detached | 0.54 | | BADGER PARK |
| 8237 LAMBERTS LN | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$334,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | MOUNT VEE MANOR |
| 7217 STOVER CT | 2 | 2 | 2 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$330,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | WOODSTONE |
| 2716 GROVETON ST | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$330,000 | Detached | 0.29 | | MEMORIAL HEIGHTS |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1111 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$315,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1111 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$315,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | HUNTINGTON |
| 6018 RIXEY DR | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$307,500 | Detached | 0.15 | | FAIR HAVEN |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1611 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$300,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA |
| 8013 IMPERIAL ST | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$299,900 | Detached | 0.25 | | MT VERNON VALLEY |
| 7195 FAIRFIELD CT | 2 | 1 | 2 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$299,000 | Townhouse | 0.04 | | WOODSTONE |
| 6007 RIXEY DR | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$295,000 | Detached | 0.20 | | FAIR HAVEN |
| 8105 MARTHA WASHINGTON ST | 5 | 3 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$290,000 | Detached | 0.26 | | MT VERNON WOODS |
| 6373 CHIMNEY WOOD CT | 2 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$285,000 | Townhouse | 0.03 | | SOUTH KINGS STATION |
| 5520 NORTON RD | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$275,000 | Detached | 0.18 | | BURGUNDY VILLAGE |
| 5903 MOUNT EAGLE DR #206 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$275,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | MONTEBELLO |
| 6721 WILLIAMS DR | 3 | 1 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$275,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | BUCKNELL MANOR |
| 5921 MONTICELLO RD | 2 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$270,000 | Semi-Detached | 0.08 | | JEFFERSON MANOR |
| 2451 MIDTOWN AVE #1125 | 1 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$265,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA |
| 6631 WAKEFIELD DR #708 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$265,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | | | RIVER TOWERS |
| 7913 DONELSON ST | 3 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$264,400 | Detached | 0.26 | | FAIRFIELD |
| 6630 KINGS HWY | 4 | 2 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$260,000 | Detached | 0.28 | | GROVETON HEIGHTS |
| 4201 MAIN ST | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$260,000 | Townhouse | 0.06 | | CHATEAUNEUF |
| 1302 BELLE VIEW BLVD #C1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$259,000 | Garden 1-4 Floors | | | BELLE VIEW |
| 3307 CAMPBELL DR | 3 | 1 | 0 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$258,000 | Detached | 0.17 | | BURGUNDY VILLAGE |
| 4328 BIRCHLAKE CT | 4 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$250,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | | PINEWOOD LAKE |
| 2227 SWEETBRIAR DR | 3 | 2 | 1 | | ALEXANDRIA | \$243,500 | Duplex | 0.08 | | BUCKNELL MANOR |

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Offensive Line Strength of West Potomac Offense

Wolverines, eight returning starters operate out of no-huddle spread scheme.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

A no-huddle offense is at its best when pushing tempo. West Potomac football coach Eric Henderson must have thought his "Air Raid" group needed a boost. "Hurry this up!" he shouted at his offense during the early stages of an Aug. 20 scrimmage against Washington-Lee. "We're a no-huddle offense — hurry this up!"

The Wolverines weren't at their best, but the team's spread offense moved the ball through the air and on the ground against the Generals, showing potential for a successful 2009 season.

West Potomac features some talented skill-position players, including a quarterback and three receivers listed on ESPN.com's college prospect list for Virginia. During the scrimmage, Henderson tried to ensure the team's talent was intense and focused.

"We try and play a style of football that lends itself to these kids," Henderson said after his team outplayed Washington-Lee. "They're tough kids. We condition them to death. We tell them that the third and fourth quarter, that's our time."

While West Potomac fans should be encouraged by the team's healthy supply of playmakers, reason for optimism increases when attention is turned to those responsible for clearing a path to the end zone.

THE WOLVERINES return eight starters on offense, including their entire offensive



The Mount Vernon offensive line returns all five starters from last season. From left: right tackle Sammy Ahmady, right guard Silas Agyemang, center Matt Campbell, left guard Dan Carriker and left tackle Matt Cunningham.

line. The line consists of four seniors, one junior and averages 252 pounds per position, according to Henderson. The unit's experience and ability become more valuable when considering quarterback Colin Mathewson is a first-year varsity starter.

"We knew that with a young quarterback that we'd have to be stronger up front," Henderson said. "The kids responded in the offseason. All the kids dedicated themselves three to four days a week lifting weights, flipping tires, doing exactly what I told them to do. I won't mind putting the game on their shoulders — especially early in the season while the quarterback [develops]."

Matt Cunningham (6 feet 3, 260 pounds) is the left tackle. Henderson said the senior is being recruited by schools in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA),

but added there's a chance Cunningham could play Division I football.

While those who score touchdowns get most of the attention, Cunningham said offensive linemen get their thrills from team success.

"We get our [statistics] from winning the games and our teammates doing well because it all starts with us," Cunningham said. "We feel like without us, the [touchdown] wouldn't have happened. ... We don't necessarily need to be the headline."

Dan Carriker (6-3, 300) is the left guard. Henderson said Carriker is the strongest player on the team — and he's only a junior.

"He's going to be a snow plow," Henderson said.

Matt Campbell (5-10, 205) is the center. What the senior lacks in size he makes up for with intelligence.

Campbell is the "runt of the litter, but a very good technician, very good at setting our offensive line and making line calls," Henderson said. "I can stand behind him and I can think what he's calling. He's right in line with what we have [to do]."

Silas Agyemang (6-0, 260) is the right

guard. Henderson said the senior can squat more than 500 pounds.

"He's a big, rough kid who really took off last year as a varsity football player," Henderson said.

Sammy Ahmady (5-11, 235) is the right tackle. The senior is a wrestler, who Henderson described as having great balance and lower body strength.

"He's a bull," Henderson said. He is "the toughest kid we have on the offensive line, I mean pound for pound."

THE SENIOR Mathewson (5-11, 170) takes over at quarterback having lost only two games at the freshman and junior varsity levels. Henderson said Mathewson possesses the quickness and decision-

making ability to be a threat in the running game, and figures to continue improving in the passing game.

Senior receivers Will Rosenkranz (5-10, 170), Shawn Lee (5-8, 175) and Deondre Essex (5-10, 180) are college prospects for the class of 2010. Junior Jalen Dawson (5-9, 160) is also a pass-catching threat.

Seniors Darel Layne (6-0, 190) and Edward Johnson (5-9, 160) will see time at running back.

DEFENSIVELY, West Potomac runs a three-man front, led by seniors Francisco Jimenez (6-2, 280) and Akram Mohamed (6-4, 360).

The linebackers are led by seniors Shakil White, J.P. Marinelli and Stephen Howell.

"We're going for a district championship this year," White said. "Anything less is a disappointment."

Henderson said the Wolverine secondary is very talented. Senior Colin McConville is the free safety, sophomore Tamaric Wilson is the strong safety, and sophomore Brandon Johnson and junior Denzel Hatch are cornerbacks.

West Potomac opens its season against Mount Vernon at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 3.



The Mount Vernon football team has many talented skill position players to contribute in its no-huddle spread offense.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Basketball Training

Preseason basketball player development sessions are being directed by Mark Vincent. All workouts will be focused on skill development. Each session will include shooting techniques, shooting, ball handling, one-on-one moves, moving without the ball, reading screens, passing, defensive techniques, defensive concepts, speed/agility, and the mental approach to the game. Each player must bring a notebook. There is a four-player limit for each

workout. Location and time will be determined. For more information, e-mail markvincentbasketballcamps@gmail.com

Youth Sports

The local youth football, tennis, volleyball, and cheerleading seasons have started and the Gazette doesn't want any child's accomplishments to go unnoticed.

Email Sports Editor Jon Roetman at jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com

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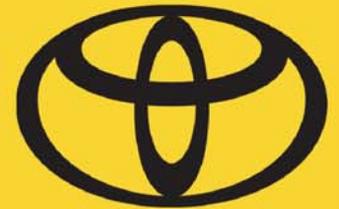
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