

# Mount Vernon Gazette

25 CENTS

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION PAPER

OCTOBER 15, 2009

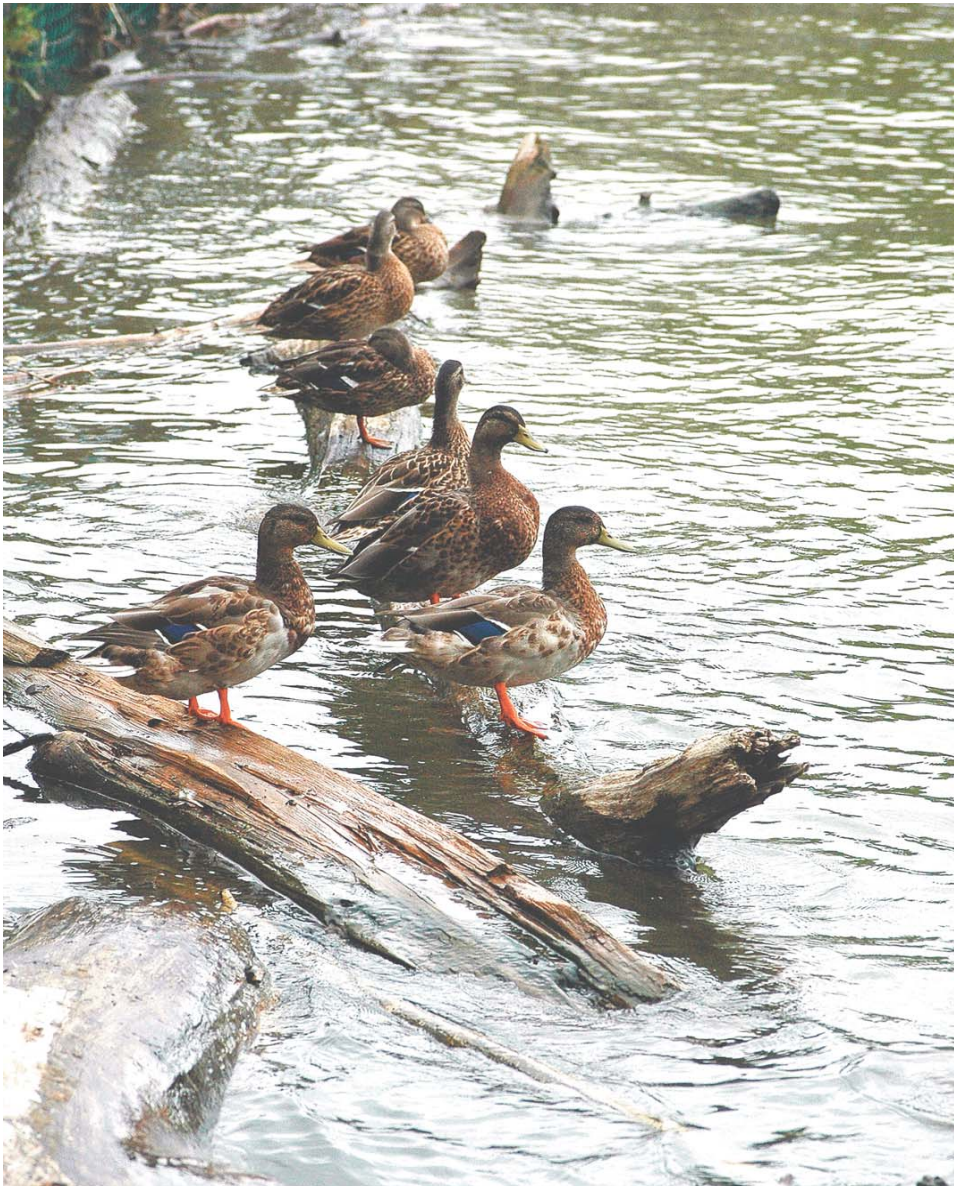


PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Duck hunting season opened last week.

## Gunfire in the Morning

Old debate rekindled as duck hunters return to the area around Dyke Marsh.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

**D**ucks gather in a cluster as the sun peeks out from a cloud over the Potomac River at the southern edge of Dyke Marsh. From his back deck, Tom Depasquale can watch the ducks move from the safety of the federally protected wildlife into the dangerous waters at the edge around Dyke Marsh. This is where hunters wait in duck blinds for waterfowl to emerge from the sanctuary. Depasquale pointed to a duck blind about 50 feet from his house, a wooden frame surrounded by dead branches allowing hunters to aim their shotguns into the nature preserve.

"Is it really hunting when you set your blind on the edge of a game preserve?" asked Depasquale, pointing toward the duck blind on the southern edge of Dyke Marsh. "I don't think you have to be a good hunter to do that. In fact I think you wouldn't have to be a very good hunter or maybe even a bad hunter."

In the eight years he has lived on South Down Road, Depasquale said duck-hunting season has been a lingering hassle. During

duck hunting season, the gunfire near his house begins as early as 6 a.m. and often lingers until 9 a.m. Depasquale says hunters prowl the edges of Dyke Marsh on Christmas and Thanksgiving — even on Sundays, despite rules outlawing duck hunting on Sundays.

"If they're lucky enough to hit a duck, the duck may land in your back yard half wounded," he said. "And then your children get to watch the duck being picked up from your back yard half wounded."

**WELCOME TO** Mount Vernon, a community where duck hunting has a long history dating back to the earliest days of the commonwealth. George Washington himself once hunted waterfowl in the area, and duck hunters say they were here first — long before the multi-million dollar waterfront houses and neighborhood opposition to duck hunting. Hunters say their fees and taxes go to preserve areas such as Dyke Marsh, and they should have the right to hunt there.

"For homeowners to be upset, I want to sympathize with them," said Kevin Paulson, a duck hunter who frequently hunts in the area surrounding Dyke Marsh. "But that would be like me moving to an area near Dulles Airport and then calling up the airport to complain about the jets."

For years, a group known as Friends of Dyke Marsh has advocated for an end to duck hunting near the nature preserve. Their efforts culminated earlier this year

SEE DUCK HUNTERS, PAGE 3

## MS Society Honors Puller

**T**he National Multiple Sclerosis Society named state Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller as Virginia State Senator of the Year for her commitment to enhance and improve the lives of those living with a disability or chronic illness such as Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Puller was honored at the MS Research update meeting held at Potomac Hospital Hylton Education Center in Woodbridge, Virginia, on Oct. 6.

The MS Society recognized Senator Puller for serving:

❖ As Chief Patron of Senate



State Sen. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller

Joint Resolution 321 which designated October as Disability History and Awareness Month;

❖ As Chief Patron for the Livable Home Tax Credit bill in the Senate that will assist people with MS in making their homes more accessible;

❖ As Chief Patron to extend the sunset provision of the Community Integration Advisory Committee that works to ensure Virginia's compliance to the 1999 Olmstead Decision;

❖ And as Co-Patron of the Housing Trust Fund which would have created more affordable housing in the Commonwealth.

## Police Seek Suspect in Bank Robbery

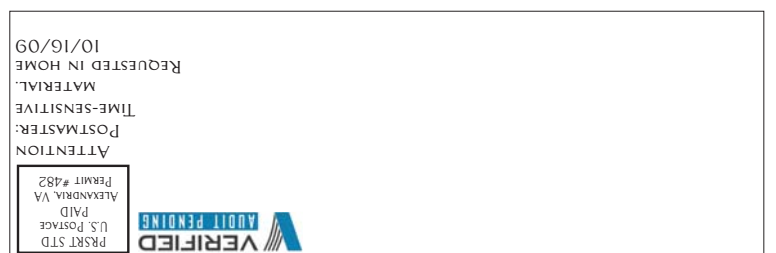
**O**n Saturday, Oct. 10, shortly after 10:30 a.m., a 21-year-old, female teller at the TD Bank located at 6615 Richmond, was robbed. A lone man entered the bank and passed a note demanding money. The teller handed over an undisclosed amount of cash and was not injured. The suspect left the bank and was last seen headed north on Richmond Highway in a dark-colored SUV. He was described as black, late 20s to early 30s. He was approximately 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighed about 210 pounds, with an athletic build. He was also described as clean-shaven.

He was wearing a dark knit cap a dark, warm-up suit, and dark sneakers.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org) or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.



Suspect in the Oct. 10 TD Bank robbery.







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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

**Donna Granahan of Granny's Garden models one of her daughter Ashley's Halloween Masks. The masks are made with dried cones, leaves, flowers and pods.**



**AJ Reiter of Potomac Vegetable Farms in Vienna and Purcellville gathers a bundle of celery, rainbow chard and red Russian kale.**

## To Market, To Market

The Tuesday morning market, located behind the Sherwood Hall Library at the corner of Sherwood Hall Lane and Parkers Lane, will be open through November.



**Filiberto "Hilo" Ochoa adds a few more of the Laurel Grove Farms heirloom tomatoes to the table.**



**Alma Diaz of Westmoreland Berry Farm holds a basket of squash blossoms. Diaz washes the blossoms and then fills with ricotta cheese, dips them in a light tempura like batter and fries them until they are brown.**



**Cindy Avrit shops for fresh produce with her son Adam and daughter Natalie at the Tuesday morning market on Sherwood Hall Lane.**



**Heather Wood carries out a box of ripe tomatoes ready for making sauce with her mom.**



PHOTO BY JOHN RIBBLE

**Maureen Ribble at the National Pageant for Ms America Senior.**

## Ribble Places Fourth In National Pageant

After placing fourth in the National Pageant for Ms American Senior in Atlantic City, N.J. on Oct. 8, Maureen Ribble, the Ms. Virginia Senior winner, returns to Mount Vernon and her Riverside Gardens community to prepare for several local appearances arranged by the Ms. Virginia Senior Pageant organization.

One of those upcoming appearances is an invitation by Mt. Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland and the Board of Supervisors which is scheduled to formally thank Ribble at a regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting on Oct. 19. "In my estimation, and I am confident others in Fairfax county and Mount Vernon agree with me, I am very proud to welcome her back to our community and congratulate her on a great run

for the national title," Hyland said. "Ms Ribble is a wonderful and talented representative of Virginia and all seniors."

Ribble works for the National Theater as a professional singer, performing metro-wide before senior organizations, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and other senior organizations.

"I will continue to encourage seniors to try different things, think out of the box, and strive to continue to be active and live a full life." Ribble said. "No matter what your age, believe in yourself, set goals, and work hard to achieve them; you will be happier and more fulfilled if you do."

She and her husband John live in the Riverside Gardens community.

— GERALD A. FILL

## Duck Hunters Return to Area around Dyke Marsh

FROM PAGE 1

when they asked officials at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to ban duck hunting near the wildlife preserve. Their request was denied, but leaders of the organization say they will continue to press their case with elected officials. Del. David Englin (D-45) said he agrees that duck hunting is not appropriate for the heavily populated areas surrounding Dyke Marsh, with include several neighborhoods and the Mount Vernon Trail. "I would say that given how close every-

thing is there, the right thing to do would probably be to just not allow duck hunting in that area," said Englin.

But Englin admits that ending duck hunting in the residential areas surrounding Dyke Marsh will not be easy. Hunters are a powerful lobby in Richmond, and ending duck hunting near Dyke Marsh would be overturning centuries of tradition. Meanwhile, officials from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries say they have no plans of ending duck hunting in this area anytime soon.

"We feel that waterfowl hunting is a completely legitimate activity," said Bob Ellis, wildlife division director for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. "And we have gone to great lengths to provide identified locations to be hunted at certain hours."

After receiving complaints last year that duck hunting locations were inside the boundaries of Dyke Marsh, Ellis said he worked with officials from the National Park Service to determine the exact boundaries of the federally protected area. When the department realized that four of the eight

buoys were inside Dyke Marsh, the department moved them outside the boundaries. Now, Ellis said, the closest hunting location to the federally protected area is 50 feet from the edge of Dyke Marsh. Friends of Dyke Marsh say they will continue the effort to put an end to duck hunting outside the boundaries of the federally protected wildlife preserve, even if it's after this year's duck-hunting season.

"We're not going to give up on this," said Glenda Booth, president of Friends of Dyke Marsh.



# BULLETIN BOARD

To have a notice listed, e-mail [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

## ONGOING

**Emotions Anonymous** is a 12-Step fellowship for people whose emotions are causing difficulties in their lives. A local group of Emotions Anonymous meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at Mount Vernon United Methodist Church, 2006 Belle View Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22307. E-mail [ea-alexandria@cox.net](mailto:ea-alexandria@cox.net), or call 703-660-8798.

**NAACP, Fairfax County Branch.** 7 p.m. Meets on second Tuesday of the

month at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 7836 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Call 703-591-4488 or send email to [info@naacp.org](mailto:info@naacp.org).

## THURSDAY/OCT. 15

**Mt. Vernon Branch AAUW Meeting.** 7 p.m. Local author Solveig Eggerz will discuss her historic novel, Seal Woman. At the Mt. Vernon Governmental Center on 2511 Parker's Lane, Alexandria. Call Mary Ellen Mehler at 703-780-8494.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 17

**Fund-raiser and Dinner Dance.** \$20 tickets. To benefit the Mount Vernon

High School Lady Majors Basketball Team. At the Village Wharf Restaurant, 7966 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call Lisa Webster 703-477-1283.

## Fort Ward Park History Group

**Forming.** 11 a.m. The Office of Historic Alexandria is forming a workgroup to help document the historic and cultural resources of the Fort Ward site. At Fort Ward, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call Fort Ward Museum at 703-838-4848 or the Office of Historic Alexandria at 703-838-4554.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 18

**Huntley Open House.** 2-4 p.m. The

unrestored house will be open for tours. Children will also enjoy a scavenger hunt and a puppet show in the central room of this circa 1825, Federal-style villa. Sponsored by the Friends of Historic Huntley and the Fairfax County Park Authority. At 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-768-2525.

**Community Kick-Off Event.** 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. For Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritans Purse that collects gift-filled shoe boxes to send to children suffering from terrorism, natural disaster, disease and poverty. At Calvary Road Baptist Church, 6811 Beulah Street, Alexandria. Call 828-262-1980 or visit

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

## MONDAY/OCT. 19

**Parent Information Night.** 7:30-9 p.m. Free. For parents interested in learning about the programs, services and opportunities that are available through advanced academic programs (formerly gifted and talented programs). At West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria.

## TUESDAY/OCT. 20

**Mount Vernon Evening Lions Club**

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 22

## Elect Gail "for Rail" Parker



Virginia House of Delegates, November 3, 2009

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## PEOPLE



Arlington County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Chief Judge George D. Varoutsos; U.S. Magistrate Judge John F. Anderson; Fairfax General District Court Judge Lisa Mayne; and U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas Rawles Jones, Jr. join Boy Scouts from Troop 1509 and Troop 1983.

## Scouts Participate in National Event

Several local Boy Scouts had the opportunity to attend the Attorney of the Year "Good Scout Award" luncheon held in Washington, D.C. earlier this summer. In attendance were Dan Pike, Sebastian Richard and Cullen O'Boyle from Mount Vernon Troop 1509 as well as several Scouts from Troop 1983.

In addition, several local judges attended as guests of Thomas J. Curcio. They included: U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas Rawles Jones, Jr.; Magistrate Judge John F. Anderson; Fairfax General District Court Judge Lisa Mayne; and Arlington County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Chief Judge George D. Varoutsos.

This year's event honored Carolyn B. Lamm, White & Case, LLP, President-Elect of the ABA, and Jack H. Olender, of Jack H. Olender & Associates P.C. They both received the "Good Scout Award," given to at-

torneys who have made extraordinary contributions to local communities and who practice law with the same high ethical standards attorneys hope to instill in our children. Past recipients include Don Dunner, Ted Olsen, Jamie Gorelick, and Bill Lightfoot.

In addition to recognizing the honorees, the luncheon also helps supported two ground-breaking programs of the Boy Scouts of America National Capital Area Council, "Learning for Life" and "Scoutreach."

"Learning for Life" supports schools and community-based organizations in their efforts to prepare disadvantaged boys and girls to manage the complexities of today's world by enhancing their self-confidence, motivation, and self-esteem. "Scoutreach" helps give young people from urban and rural areas the opportunity to experience the benefits of Scouting, regardless of their circumstances, neighborhood, or ethnic background.



## Statewide Volunteer of the Year

During Hollin Meadows Elementary School's "Back to School Night," Sue Bernstein of the Hollin Meadows PTA was recognized for her selection as the Virginia PTA's Primary Level Volunteer of the Year for 2009. From left to right is JP Moery, Hollin Meadows PTA president; Jon Gates, Hollin Meadows principal; Sue Bernstein, Hollin Meadows PTA Volunteer of the Year; Debbie Kilpatrick, Northern Virginia District PTA; Scott Brabrand, FCPS assistant superintendent of Cluster IV. Bernstein has been an instrumental part of establishing the school's nationally recognized "Outdoor Education Program and Gardens." She has served in many PTA capacities during her time at Hollin Meadows, including president, vice-president, and membership chair.



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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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# Battle of Philosophy in 45<sup>th</sup> House District

## Englin seeks his third term.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE

Something about Del. David Englin (D-45) makes Republicans uneasy. Some say he's an interloper who rose into town in 2003 and launched a political career before establishing roots. Others say he's an exaggerator who oversells his role in the legislative process. Whatever his reputation is among opponents, Democrats say Englin is a hard-working member of the Virginia General Assembly who deserves to be returned to Richmond for a third term.

"I'm thrilled that David Englin drives the Republicans crazy," said Susan Kellom, chairwoman of the Alexandria Democratic Committee. "He's got great ideas, and when the Democrats get 51 votes in the House of Delegates then it will be much easier for his bills to get through."

When Englin issued a press release earlier this year announcing his intention to seek a third term in the Virginia House of Delegates, Republican chairman Chris Marston responded with a point-by-point rebuttal. Englin described himself as a "leader who knows how to overcome the partisan rancor in Richmond;" Marston responded that Englin is a "partisan attack dog." Englin said he had a reputation as being a "leader who knows how to deliver

## "I make no apologies for being a strong Democrat."

— Del. David Englin (D-45)

progress;" Marston responded that only four of Englin's 15 bills passed this year. Englin took credit for delivering legislation to "ban smoking in Virginia bars and restaurants;" Marston responded that Englin's bill was incorporated into a different bill, and that "no one who follows the General Assembly would credit Englin with any useful contribution to this effort."

"David claims credit for creating the earth," said Marston. "He's quick to claim credit for things he didn't actually accomplish."

**ENGLIN RESPONDED** to attacks against him with a sense of fatalism. The arena of politics can be difficult, he said, and elected leaders have to have thick skins. Nevertheless, he took issue with Marston's press release as being full of falsifications and mischaracterizations. He pointed to Republican constituents who relied on him for constituent services as evidence of his ability to be bipartisan. And he said that more of his bills would be successful if Democrats were in control of the House of Delegates.

"Chris Marston is trying to tear me down in order to get a Republican elected," said Englin. "I'm not going apologize for being

## David Englin, 35

Born on a United States military base in Germany, David Englin has lived in Alexandria since 2003. Raised by a single mother, Englin is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He joined the Air Force at the age of 17 and was deployed to the Balkans shortly afterward to participate in counter-genocide and peacekeeping operations. On Sept. 11, 2001, Englin was on duty at the Pentagon when the building was struck by terrorists who had commandeered American Airlines Flight 77. In June 2005, Englin beat out five other Democratic rivals to be the party's choice to replace former Del. Marian Van Landingham, who had held the seat since 1981. In November 2005, he received 64 percent of votes against Republican Chris Gregerson. In November 2007, Englin received 61 percent of the votes against Republican Mark Allen. He is currently vice president of Live Wire Media Relations in Old Town.



a Democrat with a backbone."

As to the charge that he didn't make a meaningful contribution to the smoking ban, Englin scoffed at this allegation. He pointed out that Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine joined him in a January press conference in Arlington to support the bill Englin had already filed with the clerk's office. He also pointed out that part of the negotiated settlement leading to the passage of the bill was that the final version should be carried by a Republican in the House, and that his original bill was very similar to the final version introduced by Del. John Cosgrove (R-78).

Ultimately, Englin said, he will trust voters of the 45th District to make a determination about his record.

"I make no apologies for being a strong Democrat," said Englin. "At the same time, it can be difficult trying to make transformational change when you're in the minority."

Englin said a number of his initiatives have been stymied by the Republican majority, including a rental assistance program to help people transition out of homelessness, a plan to eliminate the state food tax and a tax credit to encourage jobs in the renewable energy sector. When asked about his biggest successes over the last four years, Englin mentioned a bill that gives gays hospital visitation rights and the successful passage of the bill banning smoking in restaurants. He also said that he considers the defeat of a bill that would have gutted the powers of the Air Pollution Control Board a major victory.

"I'm not the kind of person who is going to give in without a fight," said Englin. "And I think the conservative Republicans are threatened by that."

## MILITARY NOTES

**Navy Seaman Recruit Shaveta A. Galloway**, daughter of Teresa Downey-Ebner of Alexandria and Allen C. Galloway of Bolivia, N. C., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., with

## Vasques offers fiscal conservatism.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE

After years as political appointee and a career-service employee in Washington, D.C. Vicki Vasques wants to bring her passion for public service to Richmond. She launched a Republican campaign to unseat two-term incumbent Del. David Englin (D-45), who replaced longtime legislator Marian Van Landingham in 2005.

Ousting any incumbent would be a difficult challenge for a first-time candidate, but the difficulties for a Republican are especially perplexing in the 45th District, which includes most of Alexandria as well as parts of Fairfax and Arlington counties. In 2007, Englin received 64 percent while Republican challenger Mark Allen mustered 36 percent. During his first campaign for office, Englin received 68 percent while Republican challenger Chris Gregerson took 32 percent of the vote.

"It's certainly no slam dunk," admitted Chris Marston, chairman of the Alexandria Republican City Committee. "But we think it's a winnable district."

The Republican strategy against Englin is to attack the incumbent's record. In a press release issued shortly after Englin announced for reelection in April, Marston invoked a ranking of legislators issued by a group known as Virginia FREE that placed Englin at the bottom 10 percent of legislators. And he criticized Englin for taking credit for delivering progress when only four of his 15 bills were passed by the General Assembly. Englin dismissed the charges as a misunderstanding of how the legislative process works in Virginia.

"I make no apologies for pursuing an aggressive agenda of legislation to stand up for the interests of our community," said Englin. "And the Virginia FREE rating done behind closed doors for lobbyists for industries like big Tobacco and the Mirant Corporation."

**VASQUES DESCRIBES** herself as a fiscal conservative, someone who would go through budget line items looking for wasteful spending that could be eliminated. When asked about specific examples of wasteful spending, Vasques responded by invoking Alexandria City Public Schools' \$19,000 cost per pupil. She said the fact that the city has the highest dropout rate in Northern Virginia indicated that taxpayers aren't getting enough out of their education tax dollars.

"We're just not getting a return on our dollar," said Vasques, a former assistant deputy secretary in the Department of Education. "I want to go through the budget

honors. Galloway is a 2002 graduate of West Potomac High School of Alexandria.

**Navy Ensign Michael J. Einbinder**, son of Nancy E. Owen of Alexandria, and John C. Einbinder, Jr. of Alexandria, recently graduated

## Vicki Vasques, 55

A native of Fort Campbell, Ky., Vasques grew up in Fountain Valley, Calif., where her father was tribal chairman of San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians. Her first involvement in politics is when she ran for vice president of her high school freshman class, later volunteering for Ronald Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign. She received a bachelor of science in human services from California State University at Fullerton, and taught elementary school in California before moving to Washington, D.C. to take a position as a political appointee in Reagan's Department of Education. She later became a scheduler for the AIDS Commission and the Department of Energy before taking a career service position as director of Indian Affairs at the Department of Energy. During the George W. Bush administration, she was the deputy assistant secretary for the Office of Indian Education at the Department of Education. She is currently a business owner, and she has lived on South Pitt Street since 1998.



from A to Z and find the wasteful spending." She describes many of her views on issues as moderate, and she describes herself as someone who would be willing to listen to the Democratic leaders at the local level who lobby for specific measures in Richmond. For example, she said she would support Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka's effort to force motorists to stop rather than yield when a pedestrian is in an intersection. And she said she would

## "I want to go through the budget from A to Z and find the wasteful spending."

— Vicki Vasques

have voted for Alexandria City Councilman Tim Lovain's effort to restrict the use of plastic bags. In other issues, Vasques said she would support broadening access to public records such as police reports, and she said she would vote for a requirement for motorists to use a hands-free cell phone while driving. Although she said she agrees with the concept of public-private partnerships, Vasques says she does not support the High Occupancy Transit lanes now being considered for Interstate 395.

"I believe that the public sector and the private sector can work together," she said. "But what I've heard from people in neighborhoods surrounding this is that they are concerned about their property values going down, and I don't want transportation projects to have a negative impact on our residents."

from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and was commissioned to his current rank in the United States Navy. Einbinder is a 2004 graduate of West Potomac High School of Alexandria and joined the Navy in May 2009.



# OBITUARIES

## Mary Bassette Bowdring

Surrounded by her family, Mary Bassette Bowdring, 77, died peacefully at home Sept. 29 from complications of congestive heart failure. Mrs. Bowdring had many careers — registered nurse, wife, mother and community volunteer.



Mary Bassette was born and raised in Somerville, Mass., where she graduated from Saint Clement High School in 1950 with her future husband, Howard (Howie). There, Mary was a class scholar and stand out basketball player. Mary and Howie had their first date July 4, 1950, and eventually married in 1954 when Howie completed an Army tour with the 3rd US Infantry, ceremonial guard to the nation's capital and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

As the oldest of five girls, Mary was a lifetime leader and constantly in service to others. Her boundless curiosity and caring nature led her to graduate from Saint Elizabeth's School of Nursing in 1953, in Brighton, Mass. She loved psychiatric nursing: her skills brought great comfort to her patients, and would prove endlessly useful in raising nine children, and in her volunteer work. Her organizational skills, sense of humor, and infinite patience made her the ideal head of a busy household and large extended family.

Mary and Howie moved into the Belle Haven area of Alexandria in 1965. Mary was mother to nine and mentor to countless more. She always made room for extra friends and neighbors at the dinner table. Not only did she serve her famous meatloaf, but she also offered healthy servings of her wit and wisdom. Of all her various roles in her life, Mary took the most pleasure from her career as wife and mother.

Mary had a vibrant mind and was a current affairs junkie her whole life. She once caused a minor sensation at a local radio station by calling in and describing being alone at home with eight small children, all with the chicken pox. She may well be the charter member of the C-Span fan club and always delighted in testing everyone's knowledge of what was new, and more importantly, what was right.

A tireless friend to all, she was part of a group of ladies who met weekly at the now defunct Dixie Pig restaurant. This group was still together 25 years later at other locations. Meeting for breakfast and staying until the lunch service, they were able to solve all the world's problems in several hours. The ladies delighted in calling Mary "Mother Superior," a play on words from many angles.

Mary's third career was volunteering for causes close to her heart. She spent 14 years with the Mount Vernon Center for Community Health. As a volunteer, Mary was at the center every Monday morning for 10 years taking phone calls from distraught clients. Her colleagues described her as a good listener with extraordinary patience who had the ability to impart many words of wisdom. This led to her appointment to the Advisory and Governing Boards to the Mount Vernon Mental Health Center. She also spent a number of years supporting the Mariah Center, a pregnancy crisis shelter in Alexandria as well as co-founding and administering the 500 Club for Saint Mary's Academy, a fundraising arm for the school.

Mary and Howie divided their time between Alexandria and Marshfield, Mass. In her retirement, Mary enjoyed bridge, crossword puzzles, and following her favorite news commentators. She also continued her volunteer work, this time with the Alexandria Police

department. "Nana" was also known as the shout out person for any grandchild stuck on a homework question. A devout Catholic, Mary was a parishioner of Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Alexandria for the past 44 years.

Two daughters, Maryann and Arline, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband of 55 years, Howard P. Bowdring; four sisters: Audrey Williams of Quincy, Mass.; Anna Mae McFadden of Lexington, Mass.; Arline Ballotta of Stoneham, Mass.; Gerri Botsch of Merrimac, N.H.; seven children; Michelle B. Shaw of McLean, Katherine F. Bowdring of Alexandria, Nancy B. Mino of Mayfield Village, Ohio, Howard P. Bowdring of Alexandria, William F. Bowdring of Alexandria, Patricia Shaffer of Sterling, Elizabeth Day of Miami Shores, Fla.; fourteen grandchildren, many nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Demaine Funeral Home, Alexandria.

## Mary P. Bowen

Mary P. Bowen, 81 died peacefully on Sept. 25, 2009. Mary was a devoted mother and wife. She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Glynn Mitchell Bowen. She is survived by five children: sons, Robert Bowen and Mitchell Bowen; daughters, Edwina Rieder, Glynda Hughes and Marylee Bowen; 14 grandchildren; 7 great-children; sister, Shirley M. Hooper.

A visitation was held on Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009 from 7-9 p.m. A life celebration service was held on Thursday, Oct 1, 2009 at 11am. Interment was held at Quantico National Cemetery.

## James D. Houser

James D. "Doug" Houser died on Oct. 2 while working in Saudi Arabia. A lifelong resident of the Fort Hunt area, Doug was a graduate of the Groveton High School class of 1970 and attended Virginia Commonwealth University where he met his wife of 30 years, Eileen. After spending many years abroad as a defense contractor for Raytheon, Doug returned to Fort Hunt to raise his family. He has two sons, Sean and Dustin who are both attending college. He was involved in many activities within the community. He coached and was a board member of Fort Hunt little league baseball and coached basketball for many years. He was an avid dog lover, skier, golfer and Redskins fan and enjoyed spending time with his family and friends on Rampart Drive.



A visitation will be held on Thursday, Oct. 15 from 6-8 p.m. at Demaines Funeral home in Alexandria. A memorial Mass will be said at Good Shepherd Catholic Church on Friday, Oct. 16, at 10:30 a.m. followed by a luncheon at Tom and Karen Shaw's home at 1786 Rampart Drive.

## Walter Patrick Lukens

Walter Patrick Lukens of Alexandria died on Oct. 9, 2009. Mr. Lukens is survived by his loving wife, Sylvia. He is also survived by his brother, Robert Lukens; sister, Elizabeth Lukens; nephews, John and Timothy Noble; and sister-in-laws, Elaine and Ray Biondi.

A funeral service with Full Military Honors will be

SEE OBITUARIES, PAGE 22

**TCN WORLDWIDE REAL ESTATE AUCTION/Oct. 29**

**HOTEL STRASBURG**  
STRASBURG, VIRGINIA  
Estate Planning Requires Sale!  
34-Room Inn, Restaurant  
& Banquet Center  
Shenandoah Valley on I-81  
West of Washington

**AUCTION: 1:00 P.M.**  
Thursday, October 29 — On-Site

**PUBLISHED RESERVE PRICE: \$990,000**



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**HOTEL STRASBURG:** A gracious 1900's vintage Gilded-Age Inn restored to its original Victorian elegance in 1978. Owned by the Rutherford Family since early 1990's, now to be sold due to Estate Planning. Located in Strasburg, the "Antique Capital of Virginia" minutes from Shenandoah National Forest, Massanutten Mountains, Wayside Theatre, Skyline Dr., Stonewall Jackson Museum, Belle Grove Plantation, and other Civil War Memorial Parks. 70-miles west of Washington, D.C., in Shenandoah County, near I-66 at Exit 298 on I-81. South 2 miles on Route 11 to King St., and Left to 213 Holliday St., Strasburg VA 22657.

**Bidding to Commence at: \$735,000**

**SELLER FINANCING WITH 30% DOWN**

**PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:** 34 Rooms, Suites, and Apartments. 29 Hotel Rooms furnished with Queen Anne, Restoration Revival, and Eastlake style accessories and antiques. 17 spacious Standard Rooms; 3 Suites; 9 Jacuzzi Suites; plus a five-unit apartment building for office, rentals, and steady income flow. Amenities include: Elegant Restaurant serving breakfast, lunch, & dinner; the quaint Depot Pub; and three Banquet Facilities in Valley Room (serving 80-100), Front Dining Room (18), & Annex (12).

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**ON-SITE INSPECTIONS:** October 8, 17; & 25 from 12 Noon to 2:30 P.M. & October 29 (Auction Day) from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. See Web-Site at [www.HotelStrasburg.com](http://www.HotelStrasburg.com)

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## Volunteer, Oct. 24 and Beyond

**V**olunteering to help your community, to help people in need, is good for soul and good for families. But often it's hard to know where to jump in, how to be helpful, where your efforts will do the most good.

But many local organizations have geared up for Oct. 24, a national day of volunteerism, providing structured and specific opportunities for people to help out for a day. And by starting on that one day, perhaps your family will find a way to volunteer several times a year or more.

Many families find that they benefit from volunteering at least as much as the organization or people they are helping. Volunteering develops a sense of community in children, and expands their capacity for empathy. In this

area, many families' daily lives only bring them into contact with other affluent families. Volunteer efforts can give children and teens perspective, and more of an ability to count their own blessings.

Some teens might conclude that they are not well off because they drive an older car to high school — a cruise around a local high school student parking area could lead to the conclusion that nearly everyone in our area is a millionaire. A little time helping serve meals to homeless, to collect food for families who are having trouble putting food on the table, to help with repairs in a homeless shelter can have a powerful effect.

Volunteer Fairfax: Saturday, Oct. 24, 15th

annual Fairfax area day of service. VolunteerFest mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to help nonprofits accomplish tasks that they would not have the time, resources or ability to do on their own.

Some local projects:

- ❖ Cleaning the Little Hunting Creek Watershed, Alexandria, Oct. 17
- ❖ John Marshal Community Library Fall Clean-Up, Alexandria, Oct. 17
- ❖ A Day at the Alexandria ReStore, Mount Vernon, Oct. 24
- ❖ Meadowood Restoration Partnership - Ecological Display Project, Lorton, Oct. 24
- ❖ Morning Vine Removal at Huntley Meadows Park, Mount Vernon, Oct. 24

See [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org) for more projects and to register.

### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Support Music In Schools

To the Editor:

I would like to bring to your attention the issue of the No Child Left Behind Act's influence on music education in Fairfax County. While accountability for our public schools that we pay a large amount of taxes for is important, the effect it has on our schools' music programs is unacceptable. Fairfax County is known for their music programs, which are frequently ranked in some of the top ratings in the country. So why would we think it'd be logical to support an act that would cut down on that which this county's public schools are known for?

While in the NCLB Act, it states that music is a "core subject," it doesn't seem that way in the rest

of the legislation. With the continued emphasis on reading and math and preparing children for standardized tests in those subjects, schools are putting more and more time, money, faculty, and resources into those two subjects in order to make AYP and continue to receive federal funding. That, combined with a terrible economy, forces schools to make cuts in certain areas. Among these areas, the first one to get hit, and the one that usually gets hit the hardest, is the music programs. Budgets for music programs are being cut, forcing some programs to raise their dues, which causes more kids to drop the music groups, use out-of-date and damaged instruments, rotting and ragtag uniforms, and cutting out on competitions and trips.

Why should we be saving music in public schools? Because, ironi-

cally, music programs actually help kids excel in core subjects such as math and reading, the two subjects tested the most under the NCLB Act. It also gives students opportunities to perform, meet new children, and have a special bond they can't receive in any other format in public schooling. It teaches them life-long lessons, characteristics, and human qualities that cannot be duplicated in any other program and cannot be measured by a bubble sheet. It's these skills that students desperately need, and, a lot of times, lack, out in the real world with any kind of job or career choice. Usually, the students who were involved in music found it easier to critically think, work with groups of their peers, and get the job done right the first time.

Those who were never involved in music, or whose children were

never involved, may not completely comprehend why the most expensive programs in public schools should be saved. They will come back retorting, "How will this help me or my child?" While it may not directly affect them, it sure affects those around them, which in turn affect them in the long run.

My challenge to you is to do something about this. Make it clear to your politicians that music programs are worth saving in order to bring the best out in students. Spread the word to everyone you know to come out to public school music functions. Whether or not you were ever involved in music, you might still have a great time watching a marching band at a football game, listening to a fine orchestra around the winter season, or enjoying the sound of a energetic choir at their spring show! Support music fundraising whenever you have a spare dollar and some time on your hands. Volunteer to help those programs in your neighborhood. You never know, you might learn something new, meet new people, and have a great time, just like those students involved.

**Margaret Lynn Amos**  
JMU 2012, Music Education

## Who's Best for Northern Virginia?

To the Editor:

In a region dominated by the issue of transportation congestion, it is interesting to note the way the most recent issue of Virginia Business reviewed the candidates' proposals.

The magazine says Democratic candidate Creigh Deeds won't

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10



**Chalk4Peace** Students at St. Aidan's Day School gathered for Chalk4Peace Day (visit [www.chalk4peace.org](http://www.chalk4peace.org)) on Monday, Sept. 21 in celebration of National Peace Day. The entire school took turns using chalk to color in a Peace Sign on the parking lot of the school.



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10 new homes on quiet street, by Morris Construction custom builders. Luxury colonials on large lots.

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**707 EAST TIMBER BRANCH PARKWAY**  
**\$765,000 | Braddock Heights**  
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, pristine condition, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen, den and garage.

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**\$2,795,000 | South Alexandria Waterfront**  
Private estate on the Potomac River with miles of views. Elegant 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath with walk out to patio, deck.

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3 level center hall colonial with river views, 5,100 sq ft of living space, .51 acre lot, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms.

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Classic farmhouse in Rosemont on large lot with hardwoods, renovated kitchen, sunny family room addition.

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4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, luxury townhome. On corner lot, nearly 3,500 sq ft of living space. [www.1111IStreet.com](http://www.1111IStreet.com)

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2 beds, 1 bath, hwdws, fresh paint, washer/dryer, new appliances, granite counters, ample storage, pool.

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**2415 LAKESHIRE DRIVE**  
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Private oasis! Updated and expanded 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath center hall colonial on almost one acre!

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One bed, one bath, granite, hardwoods, stainless appliances, balcony, garage parking, 1 block to metro.

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**\$849,900 | Manors at Mt. Vernon**  
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Total renovation, new kitch, ba, Pella windows, doors, hwdwd flrs, moldings, 2 fps, 2160 sq ft plus full bsmt.

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**Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 9am - 4pm Sunday, 10am - 4pm**



# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

present the General Assembly with a detailed proposal, but instead hopes to develop a "state-wide plan." It goes on to note that the basic tenets of any proposal would likely include funding for the Coalfields Expressway and Hampton Roads — but not one word about Northern Virginia.

The plan of Republican candidate Bob McDonnell, on the other hand, is described as focusing on "projects in highly congested regions such as Northern Virginia." Among the specifics is expediting \$3 billion in bonds that have been approved but not spent, privatizing the state liquor stores and dedicating revenue to transportation, and tolling drivers entering Virginia from North Carolina.

One measure of the concern the candidates have about transportation in Northern Virginia is from their own Web sites. Bob McDonnell's plan references Northern Virginia 15 times. Creigh Deeds references our region only once.

Without specifics, Mr. Deeds is asking voters to buy off on the unknown. But voters in Northern Virginia, who have seen far too much of their taxes stream downstate, deserve better than a "secret

plan to solve transportation" through higher taxes.

**Christian N. Braunlich**  
Alexandria

## Can't Afford To Wait

To The Editor:

It seems that Mr. Medico's lack of attention to detail is demonstrated by the fact that he spelled my name wrong throughout his response. However, that is indeed a most trivial offense weighed against his continued distortion of much more important matters. He again misleads the public. Social Security and Medicare are not going broke. For example, Medicare's shortfall (affecting only the Hospital Trust Fund, Part A, supported by payroll deduction), is expected to be 1.7 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the next 75 years according to its trustees. Not a gigantic problem, Mr. Medico.

Although the Senate Finance Committee voted against a public option, the public option is alive and well in the House bills, which he didn't mention. The health insurance industry currently pays

340 lobbyists to fight against health care reform. Why does he suppose that is? Let me suggest an answer. They know that a public option will provide real competition and would actually lower costs, which is what Mr. Medico says he wants. Of course, competition could also reduce the premiums their customers pay to their insurance companies. According to the American Medical Association, a single insurer controls more than half the market in 16 states, and a third in 38 states. That's some competition! It sure hasn't reduced costs.

According to Medicare's actuaries, as early as 2025, about half of the average Social Security check would be consumed by out-of-pocket health care costs. The Congressional Budget Office projects that without cost controls, total spending on health care will grow to 49 percent of our GDP by 2082, clearly not a good thing. Current health care reform measures will go a long way towards preventing that from happening by providing opportunities for the government to bargain for lower drug prices on behalf of Medicare (as it does with the Veterans Administration), to provide real competition through a public plan, reducing

preventable hospital readmissions, among numerous other measures in the pending legislation. We cannot afford to wait any longer.

**John Glaser**  
Mt. Vernon

## Missing Resource

To the Editor:

In a recent Mount Vernon Gazette in an article headed "Newcomers' Guide," there was a listing of local telephone numbers which might be of assistance to citizens new to our area. The various headings included Emergency, General Information, Driver's Licenses, Utilities, and Government.

Absent from the listing is the Inova Mount Vernon Hospital.

Why?

If I were a newcomer to the area, I would appreciate knowing the location and the telephone number of the nearest hospital. A spouse might be ill, or a child, or a parent who is now lives in my household and who might need medical assistance quickly.

Certainly, I would need to find a local physician(s) for the members in my household.

I would look for a hospital listing under General Information, or, depending on the circumstances, under Emergency.

Thank you for understanding my concern that this very important telephone number is missing from your list.

**Harriet Piper**

## Dyke, Not Dyke's

To the Editor:

The Gazette should be aware that the proper name of our local freshwater tidal wetland on the Potomac River in the Mount Vernon area is "Dyke" Marsh, and not "Dyke's" Marsh, as in your Oct. 8 headline. The name "Dyke" does not refer to a person, nor is it any reference to persons of a gay orientation. Dyke is simply an old spelling of dike, meaning a linear earthen structure used to control water. When European colonists settled this area, they looked at a wetland, saw a wasteland, and wanted farm land. So they diked the area to provide land for grazing and crops. In time the river defeated them, and the marsh re

SEE LETTERS PAGE 18

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*ReStore in Chantilly is Now Open!*

Come out to the store to shop for all your home improvement items and get the best deals in town. You can purchase materials for 50-90% off retail prices. These are bargains you don't want to miss and all proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity. We are also accepting donations! If you have new or gently used materials that you are no longer using, please donate them to our cause.

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www.restorenova.org

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of Northern Virginia

*We pick up donations!  
Call us for a pick up.*

Join us for the Habitat ReStore Grand Opening event in Chantilly  
**Saturday, October 24, 2009, 9am to 5pm!**  
4262-G Entre Court, Chantilly, VA - tel. 703-953-3747

You can also visit our Alexandria Location  
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## Ofrenda – Art for the Dead

### OCT. 31 SCHEDULE

Altars, shrines, art, & multiple performances throughout the night. Public altar by artist Andrea Collins. Anyone can place ofrendas (offerings) throughout the event.

3 p.m. - 4 p.m. — Free sugar skull activity with artist Heather Schmaedeke

3 p.m. - 3:40 p.m. — Mariachi Estrellas (traditional Mariachi music)

4:45 - 5:30 p.m. — Parliament Hill (Acoustic Folk)

5:30 - 5:45 p.m. — Moira (Silk Trapeze Aerialist)

5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. — Wes Tucker & the Skillets (Blues/Rock)

6:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. — Belly Dancing

7 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. — Parade with drummers from Market Square to Torpedo Factory

7:45 - 8 p.m. — Drum Circle at Torpedo Factory

8 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. — Belly Dancing

8:15 p.m. - 9 p.m. — Hootenanny Orchestra (Swing)

9 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. — Moira (Silk Trapeze Aerialist)

9:15 - 10 p.m. — American Sinners (Rock)

10:15 p.m. - 11 p.m. — Demivolt (Rock)

12 midnight — Event ends



Tybalt by Michael Auger



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Torpedo Factory Artists president Rosemary Feit Covey and Art Outlet founder and president Henrik Sundqvist try on a few of Anthony Delfin's hand-made masks for the upcoming parade and masked ball.

# Ofrenda: Day of the Dead

## Masked Ball, Parade, Art Exhibition in the Mexican Dia de los Muertos tradition.

Art Outlet presents Ofrenda 2009, an art exhibition of local artists' shrines, altars, and other art in the Mexican Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) tradition, along with a masked ball and parade. The third annual Ofrenda exhibition is presented in partnership with the Torpedo Factory Art Center on the waterfront in Old Town Alexandria.

A free Masked Ball will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 3 p.m. to midnight. Revelers are invited to come to the Ofrenda reception and parade dressed in the style of Day of the Dead, or decked out in Halloween finery.

An artist-led sugar skull activity and Mariachi performance by Mariachi Estrellas will kick off the celebration from 3 to 4 p.m. Live music including rock, swing, and blues will be interspersed with belly dancing and

silk trapeze performances throughout the event. Guests can participate in the exhibition by bringing personal remembrances — ofrendas — to contribute to the artist-made public altar honoring those who have left us.

The Ofrenda Parade will be held from 7-7:45 p.m., Oct. 31, and is open to anyone. It will be led by drummers, fire dancers, artists in costumes, and Day of the Dead puppets. It will begin at the historic Market Square near City Hall at 301 King Street at 7 p.m. and end at the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 7:45 p.m. with a drum circle.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** wishing to join the parade can come in their costumes, bring puppets, shrines, and noise makers. For details, go to [ofrendaparade@artoutlet.org](mailto:ofrendaparade@artoutlet.org).

An art exhibition will be held from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2. Art Outlet has curated 1152 square feet of wall exhibition space (18 panels, courtesy of Artomatic) and space for sculpture/media on the first floor of the Torpedo Factory Art Center. A public altar outside the Torpedo Factory will include candles and incense. Artist-made Dia de los

Muertos altars and ofrendas will draw the beloved dead to visit their loved ones, feast on their favorite food and drink and listen to their favorite music — remembering the dead and celebrating life. Artwork in a variety of media will be presented.

Exhibiting artists will include: Michael Auger, Kathlyn Avila-Reyes, Jennifer Beinhacker, Jennifer Bishop, Ismael Carrillo, Kate Clark, Andrea Collins, Rosemary Feit Covey, Anthony Delfin, Jackie Ehle, Cavan Fleming, Ric Garcia, Jeannette Herrera, Kevin Irvin, Jessica Jastrzebski, Rebecca Marion Kallem, Lori Katz, Shauna Lee Lange, Emily Green Liddle, Carolina Mayorga, Peggy Meckling, Heather Miller, Mara Odette, Claudia & Sergio Olivos, Chris Peloso, Kevin Chopper Peshkepia, Caren Quinn, Lisa Rosenstein, Skeeter Scheid, Heather Schmaedeke, Hillary Sloate, Kenya Rene Smith, Constance Springer Zabowski, Neil Leon Stavely, Erika Stone, Henrik Sundqvist, Roy Utley, and Alexandra Zealand.

For more information, Art Outlet: [www.artoutlet.org](http://www.artoutlet.org), 571-214-9994; Torpedo Factory Art Center: [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org); 703-838-4565.





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# LONG & FOSTER

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#1 Long & Foster office in Northern Virginia!



**JUST LISTED!**  
1810 Hollindale Dr  
\$675,000  
*Gorgeous Setting!*  
Estate sale of spacious rambler on gorgeous 3/4 acre grounds in premier location just minutes from Old Town in prestigious Hollindale/Mason Hill area! Home features five bedrooms, three full baths, large room sizes, open floor plan and oversized two car garage. Fabulous potential to remodel or build your dream home on this special site with rural ambiance in "close-in" location convenient to everything!



**OPEN SUN!**  
1208 Tatum Drive  
\$875,000  
*Villamay!*  
Magnificent Colonial in exceptional condition on one of prestigious Villamay's nicest streets! Three finished levels, large room sizes, updated kitchen and baths. MBR suite has private balcony which provides panoramic vistas of the area with seasonal river views. Elevated grounds afford the ultimate privacy with gorgeous custom pool. Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, R Tulane, L Park Terr, R Tatum.



**OPEN SUN!**  
7501 Park Terrace Drive  
\$1,150,000  
*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 the grounds. Off GW Pkwy just 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 Terrace Dr.



540 SECOND ST #403  
Old Town  
\$649,000  
Sophisticated light-filled top floor condo with 9 foot ceilings, hardwoods & plantation shutters. This 1,485 sq ft, 2BR, 2.5BA home boasts Chef's kitchen, granite, stainless steel appliances, double sided fireplace and closets galore.



Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144



**OPEN SUN 1-4**  
1923 SHIVER DRIVE  
Alex / South -  
\$699,000  
*QUIET FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD!*  
Beautifully landscaped yard with slate patio & walk, large rear deck & garage. Center hall Colonial with 1st floor bedroom and bath. Granite, hardwood, skylights & more.



www.marylousage.com  
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



9668 HAWKSHEAD DRIVE  
Lorton - \$525,000  
\$69,000 IN UPGRADES!  
5 level Monticello unit that shows like a model. 3,400+ square feet of finished space, 10 foot ceilings, bright and open. Beautiful backyard.



Louise Devers 703.795.9944



8108 East Boulevard Dr  
\$2,395,000  
*Premier Property!*  
Custom Boucher built classic on magnificent full acre lot just 3 miles to Old Town! Spacious residence with elegant Colonial detail, custom brick exterior, 3 finished levels, handcrafted cabinetry and brick work, gourmet kitchen, 4.5 luxurious baths, high ceilings, 4 frpls and 3 car garage. Magnificent private setting on professionally landscaped grounds, convenient to everything!



**JUST LISTED!**  
4821 Stillwell Avenue  
\$499,000  
*Curb Appeal!*  
Character abounds in this fabulous Cape Cod, lovingly maintained and significantly updated by its caring owners. Four bedrooms, two full baths, hardwood floors, elegant trim detail, custom built-ins, updated kitchen and finished lower level. Gorgeous setting on magnificent half acre lot just steps to acres and acres of Fairfax County parkland!



3906 Rive Drive  
\$998,500  
*Stunning Property!*  
Truly the most spectacular property you will ever find! Unique home has been completely updated with breathtaking results! Bright & open floor plan, 3 finished levels including full walk-out lower level, 4/5 BRs, 3.5 BAs, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning master suite and custom river view screened porch house with deck. Expansive glass window walls capture river views and natural beauty of almost full acre site.



**OPEN SUN 1-4**  
8801 THOMAS STOCKTON PKWY  
Stratford - on -  
Potomac - \$850,000  
Almost 4,000sqft, on over 1/3 acre, this beautiful home has been expanded/renovated. Large, luxurious living spaces about including a professional office. Windows & roof replaced. DIR. from Alex/OT: S on GW Pkwy, R on Stratford La, L on Camden St, L on Thomas Stockton



Leah Chapla 703.929.4875



413 MONTECELLO ROAD  
Alexandria - \$634,500  
*DON'T BE DECEIVED!*  
This home has lots of space! 4BR/2BA, refinished hardwoods & fresh paint throughout, fireplace, huge basement family room w/mahogany bar. Large fully fenced rear yard has mature trees. Blocks to MetroBus, Elementary school, & parks.



Jim Crowe 703.856.8244



2403 BEACON HILL ROAD  
Alexandria  
\$465,000  
*BRING ALL OFFERS!*  
Nice, single family home that shows well w/4BR, 2.5BA. First floor BR/BA. 1 car garage. Large lot w/mature trees, fence & patio. Near mall, parkway, interstate & military installations.



Janice Allen 703.509.0906



**JUST LISTED!**  
4816 Stillwell Avenue  
\$575,000  
*Renovated!*  
Unique opportunity! This exceptionally large 5 or 6 bedrooms home is located in a gorgeous setting on a half acre lot bordering acres of county parkland. Renovated throughout, it features an updated kitchen, refinished hardwood floors, finished lower level, in-law suite and large deck. A recently remodeled home of this size in a premier setting creates a truly one of a kind value!



**PRICE SLASHED!**  
4307 Sheridan's Point  
\$794,500  
*Georgian Colonial!*  
Large price reduction! Classic updated Colonial in prime Mount Vernon location. This 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!



**NEW PRICE!**  
4401 Jackson Place  
\$475,000  
*Special Value!*  
Spacious brick home on gorgeous half acre lot with open floor plan, hardwood floors, family room with fireplace, covered parking and extra driveway space. Fabulous custom deck overlooks magnificent level grounds. Rare opportunity to find a well maintained Mount Vernon home for under \$500,000!



**OPEN SUN 1-4**  
1184 N PITT STREET  
Old Town  
\$699,000  
Immaculate 3BR/2.5BA town home on 4 lvs in Canal Way. Features include hwd flrs, elegant living & dining rooms, granite counters, renovated baths, 2 fireplaces, brick patio & parking!



Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams  
703.587.7841



**STUNNING WATER VIEWS**  
• Bright/spacious 2BR, 1,400+ sq ft with a remodeled kitchen. Large rooms make this apt ideal when scaling down. \$699,722  
• Desirable/sunny 1,068sf pied-a-terre w/ perfect layout  
Ready for your design touches. \$399,000  
• 1BR + den waterfront rentals avail. From \$2,200 - \$2,400/mo. Details & private showings, call...



Pat Tierney 703.850.5630



202 SOUTH SAINT ASAPH STREET  
Alex / Old Town  
\$2,999,000  
*ENJOY ALL THE SEASONS* in the heart of Old Town's historic district (circa 1793). 4 levels, 4BR/4.5BA, luxury Master suite, gourmet Kit, heart pine flrs, family/breakfast lead to a stunning brick patio/pool w/gazebo. 2 parking spaces. A perfect 10!



Anne Hambley 703.946.7266



**WATERFRONT!**  
4003 Belle Rive Terrace  
\$4,200,000  
*Riverfront!*  
Just reduced! Prime Mount 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!



**WATERFRONT!**  
9380 Mt Vernon Circle  
\$3,500,000  
*Private Estate!*  
Classic Colonial facade with magnificent interior featuring glass walled addition across the rear. Meticulously maintained four bedroom, three level home is loaded with special features and upgrades. Stunning custom addition overlooks beautifully landscaped yard & the most spectacular custom pool you'll ever find!



9411 Brambly Lane  
\$975,000  
*New Luxury Home!*  
This top quality luxury home is loaded with custom features, including a bright and 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.



3614 OLD VERNON COURT  
Alex / Mt Vernon  
\$925,000  
12 YEARS YOUNG upgraded center hall colonial on quiet cul-de-sac. 4BR/3BA upper plus 2BR/1BA lower. Hardwoods, crown, granite, new appliances & so much more!



Ruth Guirard 703.609.3343



**JUST LISTED!**  
29 SOUTH FRENCH STREET  
Alexandria - \$329,900  
This 3 level, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Duplex is ready for your buyers. Off-street parking space - great size front & rear yards. Owner has done many updates & improvements over the years including windows, kitchen, full bath on lower level & extra storage room/office. Close to everything & an easy commute. Shown by appointment only.



Louise Devers 703.795.9944



**THE TRIPLE CROWN**  
400 MADISON STREET  
Alex / Old Town  
Great views from these sought after Alexandria House units:  
• #1901 2BR / 2.5BA Just Reduced to \$575,000  
incredible views on a high floor  
• #907 2BR / 2BA \$510,000 a must see  
• #1506 1BR / 1.5BA \$389,950 simply great with lots of square footage.

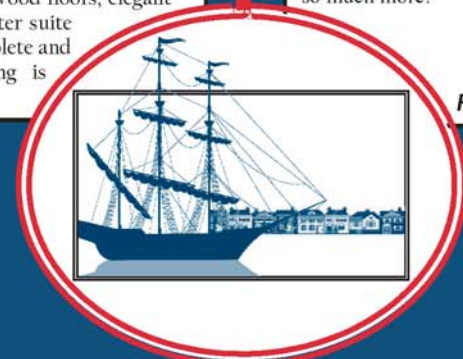


Ann Kavalljian 703.626.9171



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## “What’s for Dinner?!”

You don't have to think too hard, let us solve this classic question.

In addition to our award winning menu, we have added some popular specials that add variety for everybody taste.

**Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.**

### Monday - Kids Night

Burger Night (Kids eat 1/2 price) Each child must be accompanied by adult having entree.

### Tuesday - Greek Night

Lamb Marinated and Roasted for 3 hours, Athenian Roast Chicken, Moussaka!

### Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

### Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

### Friday - Fish Night

Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce

### Saturday -Steak and Chop Night

Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka

### Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

Dine in or call ahead and your dinner will be ready for pick up.

**Dinner hours 2:30-9:30pm**  
**730 North Saint Asaph Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**  
**(703) 548-1616**

Ample Free Parking

# CALENDAR

## NOW THROUGH OCT. 31

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Sale.** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria (Corner of Seminary Road and Quaker Lane). All proceeds go directly to charity (ALIVE, Carpenter's Shelter, Network Preschool, New Mexico Navajo Indians and many more). Contact Susan D. Dawson at 703-931-4349 or SDDawson@comcast.net.

## THURSDAY/OCT. 15

**Jim Stephanson and John Previti.** 7-9 p.m. Free. Guitarist Jim Stephanson and bassist John Previti will treat visitors to an evening of blues, swing and jazz inspired tunes. 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](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## FRIDAY/OCT. 16

**Music for String Quartet.** 8 p.m. Free. Presented by the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players Series. At the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

## OCT. 16-DEC. 11

**Spring Forest Qigong Practice Sessions.** 10-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$10/session. Qigong is the study of energy utilizing mental concentration, breath, and body movement. At the Institute for the Advancement of Service, 111 South Columbus St., Alexandria Call 703-706-5333.

## OCT. 16-31

**“Inherit the Wind”** — a fictionalized account of the 1925 Scopes “Monkey” Trial in Tennessee. Oct. 16, 17, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31 at 8 p.m., and Oct. 18 and 25 at 2 p.m. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church – Wesley Hall, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Go to [www.acctonline.org](http://www.acctonline.org) or 703-660-2611.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 17

**Hollin Hall Senior Center Bazaar.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 30 crafters, huge silent auction with services and new merchandise, a bake sale, door prizes and lunch. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

**Breakfast Reach Out Meeting.** 9:15 a.m. Sponsored by Arlington Aglow with speaker Alice Holland. Breakfast provided for \$3.25 donation. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3439 Payne Street, Bailey's Crossroads. For reservations, call Betty Rose Forsell at 703-671-9264.

**History and Tea.** 2 to 3:30 p.m. \$20/person. Learn about history and the many uses of tea. At the Historic House at Green Spring Gardens. At 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. Call 703-941-7987.

**Family Fall Festival.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entertainment features the Beale Street Puppet Theatre, magic show and karate demonstrations. Activities and exhibits feature the Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center, face painting, pumpkin painting, Robbie the Recycling Squirrel, the Alexandria Fire Dept., an art activity, booth hay rides, among others. At Armistead Booth Park, 520 Cameron Station Blvd. Call the Events Hotline at 703-883-4686 or the Special Events Office at 703-746-5418.

**St. Aidan's Octoberfest and Silent Auction.** 3-7 p.m. German Food and Music. Kinderfest from 3-5 p.m. Games, Pumpkin Patch, Face Painting. Fun for everyone. At St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 8531 Riverside Rd., Alexandria.



## SUNDAY/OCT. 18

**Concert.** 7 p.m. Miche Fambro, and Brad Yoder with Jason Rafalak. \$18 general, \$15 members or in advance. Contact: Kay at [kay@focusmusic.org](mailto:kay@focusmusic.org), 703-501-6061, or log onto [FocusMusic.org](http://FocusMusic.org). At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria.

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

**Fall Festival.** 3-6 p.m. Free. Enjoy Kids Games & Crafts, German Food, Bake Sale, Book Sale, also seasonal flu shots and blood pressure checks. At Nativity Lutheran Church, 1300 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Call Lynne Rizzo at 703-678-9324

**UpBeat OffBeat Auction.** 7-10 p.m. Del Ray Artisans' classic whacky artful fund-raiser, featuring a live auction of home furnishings “extremely made over” by local artists. At the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Details and tickets (\$15 in advance / \$20 at the door) at [www.theDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.theDelRayArtisans.org).

**Wine Party.** 7-10 p.m. “La Fête de Lafayette” wine party in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette, the hero of the American Revolution. After-five attire is requested, and reservations are required. Tickets are \$50 a piece for Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society members and \$65 each for non-members. At Gadsbys Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org) or by calling 703-838-4242.

**Outdoor Craft Fair.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors will feature handcrafted items, including jewelry, fabric arts, knitting, oil & watercolor paintings and more. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum, 514 Oronco St., Alexandria.

**Concert.** 7:30 p.m. A concert of oboe, English horn and pipe organ. Presented by St. Luke's Friends of Music. \$20/adults, \$10/seniors and students. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Contact St. Luke's Church at [www.saintlukeschurch.net/](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net/) or phone 703-765-4342.

## OCT. 17-18

**Mount Vernon's Fall Harvest Family Days.** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The entire family will enjoy autumn activities including horse-drawn wagon rides, wheat treading in the 16-sided barn, a straw bale maze, early-American games, music and demonstrations. \$15 adults; \$14 seniors; \$7 children 6-11; free for children under 5. At George Washington's Farm, Mount Vernon. Go to [Visit.MountVernon.org](http://Visit.MountVernon.org) for more information.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 18

**Anna Mwalagho and the Afro Floetry Band.** 4 p.m. \$15 donation. At Jazz at Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334 or visit <http://meadechurch.org>.

**“Metro Cabaret: A Musical Revue.”** 3 p.m. Free-will offering. With Stephanie Bonte-Lebair, Rachael

Goldman, David McMullin and Mimi Youkles, piano. At Trinity United Methodist Church, 2911 Cameron Mill Road, Alexandria. Call 703-549-5500, ext.103 or visit [www.trinityalexandria.org](http://www.trinityalexandria.org)

**Historic Huntley Open House.** 2-4 p.m. Visit this Federal-style unrestored villa built in 1825 for Thomas Francis Mason, a grandson of George Mason. Kids of all ages will enjoy the puppet show featuring Thomson Francis Mason, as well as guided tours, a scavenger hunt, and light refreshments. At 6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria.

**Concert.** 7 p.m. Miche Fambro, and Brad Yoder with Jason Rafalak. \$18 general, \$15 members or in advance. Contact: Kay at [kay@focusmusic.org](mailto:kay@focusmusic.org), 703-501-6061, or log onto [FocusMusic.org](http://FocusMusic.org). At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria.

**Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic.** 3 p.m. Free admission. With Music Director Ulysses S. James. At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Call 703-799-8229 or visit [www.wmpamusic.org](http://www.wmpamusic.org).

**Bach Vespers.** 6 p.m. Organ music by J. S. Bach, woven into a vesper liturgy in the tradition of ancient worship with Paul Stetsenko, organist. At Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria.

**Zino Bogachek and Friends.** 3 p.m. \$20 suggested donation. Zino Bogachek, violinist with Washington National Opera, is joined by musicians from the Orchestra for an afternoon of classical chamber music. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St, Alexandria. Call 301-229-2615 or visit [www.thewashingtongroup.org](http://www.thewashingtongroup.org).

## TUESDAY/OCT. 20

**Writer David A. Taylor.** 7:30 p.m. Free. Author of “Soul of a People,” hosted by Friends of the Duncan Library. 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. Call 703-838-4566 or visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 21

**West Potomac Orchestra Fall Concert.** 7 p.m. Free. Under direction of Mary Lindsay Wilkerson, it will perform Selected Chorales by J.S. Bach and English Folk Song Suite for String Orchestra by Charles B. Jones. Additionally pieces to be played by the Philharmonic Orchestra are Two Canzonas for String Orchestra by Girolamo Frescobaldi and Adagio and Fugue for String Orchestra by W.A. Mozart. At Springbank Auditorium at West Potomac High School.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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 ONLY EIGHT MILES SOUTH OF OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

*Featured Special Event:*

## Fall Harvest Family Days

OCTOBER 17 & 18, 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

Celebrate the fall harvest with a cornucopia of family fun including free wagon rides and a straw bale maze! Meet General Washington, make a cornhusk doll, and learn to dance 18th-century style. Included in Estate admission.

**Sightseeing cruises are half-price. Free admission to the Distillery & Gristmill with Estate admission!**



FIND MORE SPECIAL EVENTS & VISITOR INFORMATION AT  
[VISIT.MOUNTVERNON.ORG](http://VISIT.MOUNTVERNON.ORG) OR 703-780-2000



# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

## THURSDAY/OCT. 22

**Fall Marketplace.** 9 a.m. to noon. Shop, chat, coffee, bake sale. Sponsored by Plymouth Haven MOPS. At Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, corner of Fort Hunt Road and Plymouth Road. Questions? plymouthhavenmops@hotmail.com or JJ Hogan, marketplace coordinator @ seahorsedesigns@cox.net.

**Big Lebowski Bash.** 9 p.m. \$12 donation. Costume party and screening of the Coen Brothers' movie, "The Big Lebowski," benefitting Community Family Life Services. At the Old Town Theater, 815 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-684-6000.

**Lynn Hollyfield and Grace Griffith.** 7-9 p.m. Free. Lynn Hollyfield and Grace Griffith perform traditional and contemporary folk music. 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/OCT. 24

**Art Exhibition and Sale.** 12-5 p.m. Free. Work in a variety of media will be displayed, including: acrylics, oils, watercolor, mixed media, pastels, photography, pen and ink, digital media, etc. Presented by the Kingstowne Area Artists Association. At the Snyder Center, 6450 South Van Dorn Street, Alexandria. Contact Ginny Sywyj at duchessducky@msn.com or Nancy Hannans at nancy.hannans@yahoo.com.

## Taste for Giving.

7-10 p.m. \$75 tickets. Fourteen of Alexandria's best and most community-minded restaurants will be giving a taste of their dishes, including Jackson 20, Tempo, Finn & Porter, Cafe Pizzaiolo, Union Street Pub, Hard Times, Bittersweet, Del Ray's Del Merie Grill and Pork Barrel BBQ, Geranio Ristorante, The Jamieson Grill,

Overwood and Columbia Firehouse. Prince Michel Winery, Guiffre Distributors and Misha's Coffee House will supply the liquid refreshments. Silent and live auctions will also be held, with a catered Pig Roast as the highlight. At the Torpedo Factory in Old Town. Order online at www.alexandriarotary.org or by calling 703-535-1200.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**EcoVoce Ensemble.** 3:50 p.m. Free. A concert to benefit 350.org's International Day of Climate Action. With special guest Andrew Wingfield, and soprano Denise Freeland. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-6670 or visit www.opmh.org.

**Pancake Breakfast/Silent Auction.** 8:30-11 a.m. \$6/adults, \$3/children. Proceeds benefit Advent's capital campaign to build a new administration/education wing. At Advent Lutheran Church, 2222 S. Arlington Ridge Road. Contact Nancy Jairrels at 703-521-7010 or adventlc@hotmail.com.

**Opera Night.** 7:30 p.m. Classic opera and Broadway selections performed by members of the Washington National Opera Company. At Bishop O'Connell High School. \$20/adults, \$10/students and seniors. Visit www.bishopoconnell.org/operanight or call 703-237-1462.

**Carmina Burana.** 7 p.m. Presented by Choralis with orchestra and soloists. At Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Tickets \$40, \$25, \$5/students. Go to www.choralis.org or 703-237-2499.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 23

**Music for Tuba.** 8 p.m. Presented by the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players Series. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

**Swing for Pink, a Breast Cancer Fund-raiser.** 6:30 p.m. \$25/registration. Activities include round robin tennis, play the pro, tennis games and prizes. There will be special fitness classes which include Spinning, Zumba, Kettlebells, & Court Soccer. All proceeds will benefit breast cancer prevention, education, screening, and treatment. At Mount Vernon Athletic Club, 7950 Audubon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.mtvac.net or call 703-360-7300.

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**Mount Vernon Athletic Club**

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Special thanks to Mount Vernon Gazette. **Mount Vernon Gazette**



# Del Ray Halloween Parade Is Oct. 25

Families and parade enthusiasts will not want to miss the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. Last year, more than 5,000 participated in this annual event which included over 2,000 children, local dignitaries and elected officials; over 50 pets in Halloween costumes; and 25 decorated strollers.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Avenue, south of E. Bellefonte and continue down to the Mount Vernon Recreational Center play fields at Mt. Vernon and Commonwealth Avenues. Children, pets, and strollers in costumes are invited to march and show off their finest and scariest Halloween garb. To register your stroller, look for the registration desk at Bellefonte and Mt. Vernon Avenues beginning at 1:30 p.m. Pet registration begins at 1:30 p.m. at Barkley Square at 2006 Mt. Vernon Avenue.

This year's parade will feature awards for the Best Pet Costume, Best Decorated Business, Best Decorated Home, and Best Decorated Stroller. Judges include local city and community officials, past and

present. Awards will be given out at a brief ceremony at Mt. Vernon and Commonwealth Avenues following the parade, along with refreshments (hot dogs donated by 7-Eleven, cider, and cookies) and goodie bags for the children. Entertainment will be provided by Legend of Lummy Hallin, and again this year, thanks to the Alexandria Jaycees and DC Metro Church there will be games and activities for the children. They will take place at the Mt. Vernon fields immediately following the parade. All activities are free.

For the fifth year, Halloween costumes will be collected and distributed for children who would otherwise have to go without. Donated costumes can be dropped off at the Caboose Cafe, 2419 Mt. Vernon Avenue and A Show of Hands, 2204 Mt. Vernon Avenue. They will be distributed on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2-4 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center.

After the parade, beginning at 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., for the third year, families can enjoy a haunted graveyard that is being constructed by Bean Creative and will be located next to their lot at Mt.

Vernon and E. Del Ray Avenue.° It is definitely a must-do Del Ray tradition.

The parade is sponsored by the Del Ray Business Association (DRBA). Finally, if you would like to help stuff 2,500 goodie bags, join your neighbors on Saturday, Oct. 24, at 2 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center.

Contact Gayle Reuter at 703-684-3535 or gtrdelray@yahoo.com or www.visitdelray.com



LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

A float from last year's Del Ray Halloween Parade.



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# West Potomac's Mathewson Returns from Knee Injury

**Wolverines have dropped five straight games after winning season opener.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**T**he return of quarterback Colin Mathewson from injury is good news in an otherwise disappointing season for the West Potomac football team.

Mathewson was back on the practice field Monday, more than three weeks after spraining the medial collateral ligament in his left knee against Chantilly. The Wolverines were 0-3 in his absence, producing a total of 42 points.

"He knows the offense best," head coach Eric Henderson said. "He came in [Tuesday] and threw the ball all over the place. He was able to deliver it on time, the receivers are in sync with him, he worked with everybody over the summer and the spring. "It's nice to have your starter back."

Mathewson returns in time to face Robert E. Lee (5-1), which lost its first game of the season last weekend against Lake Braddock. The senior said watching from the sideline has had its ups and downs.

"I [got] a different perspective of the game," Mathewson said. "I [got] the perspective as a coach, basically. It helped a lot. [Tuesday] was probably the best practice I had all year.

"It's tough at the end of the game when I just wanted to get out there and bring the team back and win the game, but there's nothing I can do. It's hard just standing there, watching it all happen."

**MATHEWSON'S RETURN** does not guar-



**West Potomac quarterback Colin Mathewson returned to practice this week after missing parts of four games because of a left knee injury.**

PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

antee success for the Wolverines. Even when Mathewson was healthy, the offense was inconsistent. West Potomac scored a season-high 42 points in its opener against Mount Vernon, but followed with 14 against Westfield. West Potomac scored seven points against Chantilly, the game Mathewson was hurt.

Still, the numbers Mathewson posted in the first two games of the season should provide hope to the 1-5 Wolverines. He completed 17 of 28 passes for 295 yards and four touchdowns against Mount Vernon. He was 16 of 30 for 191 yards and two touchdowns, while throwing one interception against Westfield.

The senior was 3 of 10 for 25 yards before leaving the Chantilly game.

Mathewson is one of several key Wolverine players to suffer an injury this season.

West Potomac has been without standout receiver Will Rosenkranz for the whole year after he suffered a knee injury during a scrimmage. The injury situation came to a head at the quarterback situation last week during the Wolverines' 42-7 loss to Woodson.

Nik Dimitrijevic, who took over when Mathewson hurt his knee, tore muscles in the thumb on his throwing (right) hand early in the Woodson game. Adding to the bad news for West Potomac, the third-string quarterback was suspended and the fourth-stringer was out with a concussion.

Henderson used receiver Shawn Lee at quarterback for the remainder of the first half before turning to sophomore Charles Ruiz.

"I've never seen anything like this season,"

Henderson said. "We must have had a dozen concussions, broken thumbs, ribs, hips; people are just dropping like flies. ... [Dimitrijevic] couldn't control the ball [after his thumb injury]. We're a throwing offense. If the quarterback can't control the ball, that kind of destroys it."

Henderson said Ruiz suffered a concussion earlier in the season.

"I didn't want to throw him in at the second quarter and just say, 'Try and win the game,'" Henderson said. "I just wanted to get him mentally prepared. We used Shawn as a spot quarterback. ... Who expects to work on their fifth-string quarterback? That's not an excuse, kids have to perform. You've got to start changing things and doing things that the kids can handle instead of going with your plan. You've got to adjust on the fly.

"It's been a wild, wild year."

**ON THE DEFENSIVE SIDE**, sophomore Kofi Adom will make his first start at linebacker. He, along with the other members of the Wolverine defense, will face a tough task in trying to slow down Lee running back Idreis Augustus, who is considered one of the best backs in the region.

Henderson said other young players are starting to make an impact for the Wolverines.

"I'm not saying we're de-emphasizing the seniors, it's just that younger kids are starting to step up and assert themselves and that's good," the coach said. "You need that competition. You don't want complacent kids on a 1-5 team."

While the postseason is likely out of reach for the Wolverines, Henderson is looking for improvement — something the return of Mathewson should help.

"I think our goals are to re-establish ourselves," the coach said, "to try to get back to where we were at the beginning of the season — playing well, playing confident."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### West Potomac Volleyball To Host DiG PiNK Night

The West Potomac volleyball program will host a DiG PiNK match at 7:15 p.m. Oct. 27 against W.T. Woodson. The event promotes raising funds to help breast cancer awareness.

Admission is \$4 for those wearing pink to the match. Before, during and after the match there will be events such as a raffle, door prizes, serving contest for pizza and other special giveaways. The proceeds from all donations will benefit the Side-Out Foundation. DiG PiNK T-shirts will also be sold for \$12 at home matches on Oct. 20 and 22.

### Mount Vernon Fundraiser To Be Held Saturday

A fundraiser and dinner dance benefiting the Mount Vernon girls basketball team will be held Saturday at Village Wharf Restaurant, located at 7966 Fort Hunt Road.

Tickets are \$20. Contact Lisa Webster at 703-477-1283 for tickets.

Direct donations can be sent directly to: MVHS Athletic Boosters, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA 22309, reference: girls basketball.

### Majors Football Drops to 0-6

The Mount Vernon football team lost to Hayfield, 48-14, on Friday. The Majors (0-6 overall, 0-3 National District) host district opponent Washington-Lee (3-3, 2-1) Friday.

### Wolverine Volleyball Loses

The West Potomac volleyball team dropped to 2-8 with a 3-0 (25-18, 25-10, 25-10) loss to Hayfield on Tuesday. The Wolverines travel to face T.C. Williams today.

**Linnea Markson and the West Potomac volleyball team will host a DiG PiNK match Oct. 27 against W.T. Woodson. Donations will go toward helping breast cancer awareness.**

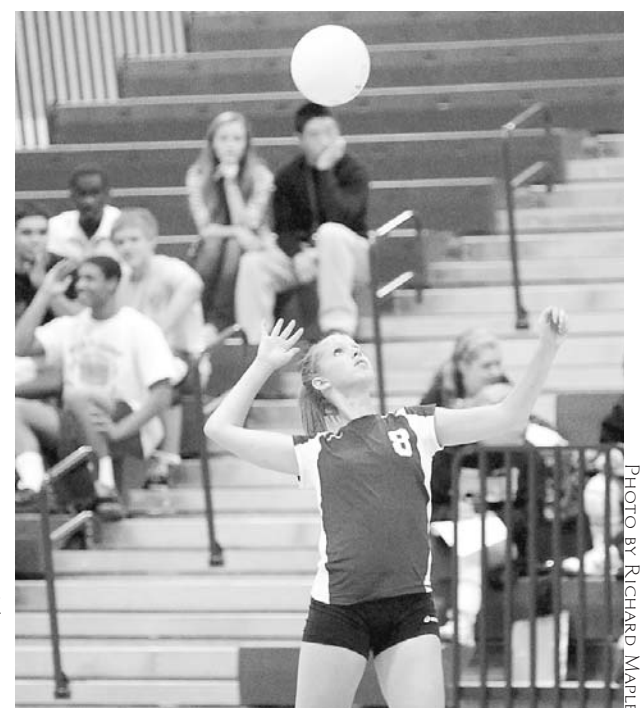


PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE



# PEOPLE



**Vivien Crea**

## Crea Receives Distinguished Alumnus Award

Mount Vernon resident Vivien Crea, former vice commandant and chief operating officer of the United States Coast Guard, was scheduled to be recognized by the Texas Exes at their Distinguished Alumnus Awards Friday, Oct. 9, in Austin. The award, created in 1958, recognizes annually up to six graduates or former students of The University of Texas at Austin who have distinguished themselves professionally and through service to the university.

Crea received her bachelor's degree in biology from The University of Texas at Austin in 1972. She held the second highest position in the Coast Guard and is the first woman to do so. She was confirmed by the Senate to her historic post in 2006 and stepped down from that post in early August. As second in command of one of the United States Armed Forces, Crea was the first woman to be second in charge of a military service.

### LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

verted to a more natural state. Later, lamentably, the marsh was used as a gravel mine and as a dump for construction debris. In 1959 Congress designated the area for preservation as a wetland, and we now have Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve for the benefit of all living things.

**Ned Stone**  
(a Friend of Dyke Marsh)  
Westmoreland Road  
Alexandria

*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. By e-mail: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com*

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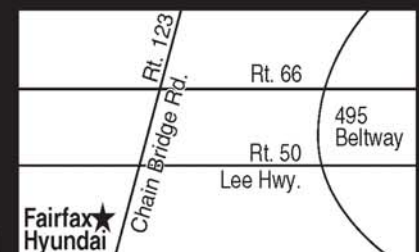


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## OBITUARIES

FROM  
PAGE 7

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day, Dec.  
30, 2009  
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follow at



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## Helen J. Tubbs

Helen J.  
Tubbs, be-  
loved wife  
of 54 years  
to William  
H. Tubbs,  
Sr.,



**Tubbs**

mother of  
Michael A.  
Tubbs and  
the late Wil-  
liam H.  
Tubbs, Jr.,  
died on Oct. 9, 2009.

She is also survived by two  
brothers; five sisters; five grand-  
children and eight great-grand-  
children. Services will be held at  
Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home,  
1500 W. Braddock Road, Alexan-  
dria, on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009  
at 1 p.m. with the Rev. Paul  
Campbell. Interment will be at  
Mount Comfort Cemetery.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

**meeting.** 6:30 p.m. At Pema's  
Restaurant, 8430 Richmond  
Highway. Speaker will be Lion James  
Purton on Canine Companions for  
Independence. Contact Andrea  
Corsillo at 703-960-4973.

**Genealogical Society Meeting.** 1  
p.m. Mount Vernon Genealogical  
Society features a presentation  
entitled "Post Civil War Military  
Records at the National Archives."  
Presented by Trevor K. Plante. At the  
Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 112,  
Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon  
at 703-360-0920 or  
haroldm@erols.com.

**SLCA Candidates Forum.** 7:30 p.m.  
Featuring the candidates for the 44<sup>th</sup>  
District seat in Virginia's House of  
Delegates. Jay McConville and Scott  
Surovell will participate. Supervisor  
Gerry Hyland will open the forum. At  
the Stratford Landing Elementary  
School and organized by the  
Stratford Landing Citizen's  
Association. Visit  
[www.stratfordlanding.org](http://www.stratfordlanding.org).

**Candidates Forum.** 1 p.m. For  
Virginia House of Delegates. At First  
Christian Church Fellowship Hall,  
2723 King Street, Alexandria (west of  
Janney's Lane). Free. Alexandria  
Chapter National Active and Retired  
Federal Employees (NARFE)  
Association. Contact Robert Miller at  
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### Mass Schedule

#### Saturday Evening

5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)

#### Sunday

7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon  
2:00 pm (en Español)  
6:30 pm Mass (Starts Sept. 13)

#### Weekdays

(Mass or Communion Service)

9:00 am (followed by Rosary)  
**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am  
Mass (English)

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Sunday at 9:00 am Mass

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# SCHOOLS

Send announcements to the Mount Vernon Gazette, by e-mail to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper.

Photos are encouraged. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

**Mount Vernon High School Class of 2011** is conducting its fall mulch sale on Saturday, Oct. 24. Pick up in MVHS parking lot. Orders must be made by Tuesday, Oct. 13. Limited delivery area for orders of 10 or more bags. For information call Paula Weinberg at 703-360-4029. email: [MVhSmulchsale@gmail.com](mailto:MVhSmulchsale@gmail.com).

**The Class of 2013** will be running a carwash at Mount Vernon High School on the following Saturdays this fall: Oct. 17, and Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. Donations will be accepted and funds will be used to support the Class of 2013 activities.

**MVHS is in search of its oldest living alumnus.** The Mount Vernon Student Government Association would like to honor them in a parade/showcase to celebrate the 70th year anniversary during Homecoming Week on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 12:30 p.m. and again during the football halftime ceremony on Oct. 16. Respond to [Joy.McManus@fcps.edu](mailto:Joy.McManus@fcps.edu).

MVHS is also searching for all former MVHS Homecoming Kings and Queens. If you have contact information for any former MVHS Homecoming Kings and Queens, have them contact Nardos King @ [Nardos.King@fcps.edu](mailto:Nardos.King@fcps.edu)

**MVHS is in Search of Photographs of its Military Families.** On Friday, Dec. 18, Mount Vernon High School will present its second annual Multicultural Awareness Day Program, "Embracing Seventy Years of Diversity". The program will take place from 7:30 -10:45 a.m. in the Michael Skinner Field House. As part of the program, MVHS would like to do a tribute to its students' parents serving America in the military.

If possible, the pictures should include the Mount Vernon High School students with their parents dressed in their uniforms. If this is not possible, separate pictures can be used. If you would like to be a part of this celebration, please send your pictures electronically to the following email address: [Gayle.Smith@fcps.edu](mailto:Gayle.Smith@fcps.edu). Submit your pictures by Friday, Oct. 23.

**West Potomac's Class of 2010** has begun fundraising to support an All-Night Graduation Celebration (ANGC) at Dave and Buster's on June 20.

Seniors will earn a profit from selling Virginia Diner nuts, Innisbrook wrapping paper and related products, Sees

candies, and van Bourgondien Dutch flower bulbs. The top seller will receive a \$100 prize, and any student selling more than \$300 can attend the ANGC for only \$5. If you would like to support fundraising for the all night grad party, but don't know a West Potomac senior to purchase from, you can order Innisbrook products online. Go to [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) and select Parents EZ . The West Potomac school number for Innisbrook is 105939. Virginia Diner nut products can be ordered at [www.virginiadiner.com](http://www.virginiadiner.com).

All orders must be received by Wednesday, September 30. To order flower bulbs, or if you have any questions, email [angc2010@gmail.com](mailto:angc2010@gmail.com)

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For more information please contact: Bekah Atkinson at 301-592-0567, x12 • [batkinson@thesienaschool.org](mailto:batkinson@thesienaschool.org) or Lois McCabe at 301-299-4602 • [lois@thedienerschool.org](mailto:lois@thedienerschool.org)



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