



Callie Terrell sings America the Beautiful during the memorial service for City of Alexandria Fire/EMS career and volunteer personnel held Oct. 9 at Ivy Hill Cemetery.

Honoring Firefighters



Retired Alexandria Firefighters Cecil "Bonedust" Carr and Stewart "Apples" DeHaven.



Firefighter Matthew Craig plays Taps.

Alexandria Pipes and Drums piper Homer Babcock performs as the honor guard presents the colors.



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

Don't Cut Here

Council hears request for services while weighing budget shortfall.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

With stimulus funds set to run out next year and the state budget revenues continuing to constrict, city officials are going to have one heck of a budget season facing them over the next few months. The bad news is that City Council will be faced with a choice of raising taxes or additional cuts to services that have already been reduced. The good news? According a speakers who participated in a public hearing on the budget last weekend, there is no good news.

"These hearings are kind of like my birthday," said Sherry Brown,

vice president of the Alexandria Arts Forum. "They come around too often and they are not very much fun."

Budget officials, elected leaders and city residents are preparing for another round of budget discussions that is certain to be short on fun. City revenue collection is down in several areas. Personal property tax collection is down 30 percent so far this year from \$613,000 last year compared to \$517,000 this year, and the motor vehicle license tax revenues are down 47 percent from \$269,000 to \$143,000. Overall, the city has collected about \$800,000 less than last year according to a year-to-

SEE YES, WE HAVE, PAGE 10

Education Policies Divide Candidates

Merit pay and support for private schools separate Democrats from Republicans.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

On Election Day, voters in Alexandria will be choosing between candidates with vastly different opinions about public education. Republicans support merit for teachers and efforts to provide more competition between public and

private schools. Democrats are opposed to merit pay, and they are opposed to any effort to use public money for private schools. Ultimately voters will have the last say on the issue when they cast their ballots, although the elected leaders will still have to scramble for funding schools in an increas

SEE EDUCATION, PAGE 4

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Demolition Countdown

The old American Legion Hall on North Fayette Street has six months to find a buyer. Failing that, the 1940s-era building originally constructed as a nursery will be demolished to make way for an eight-unit condominium building planned by developer **Bill Cromley**.

Members of the Alexandria City Council voted five-to-one Saturday to deny an appeal to the Parker Gray Board of Architectural Review's decision to grant Cromley a demolition permit. Historic preservationist **Boyd Walker** filed the appeal, arguing the structure should be saved because it spoke to an era when African-American women were part of the workforce during World War II. "It may be a simple, modest building," said Walker, chairman of the Greater Alexandria Preservation Alliance. "But there's not another one like it."

Councilwoman **Del Pepper** was the only member to vote against the majority. She pointed out that denying Cromley's demolition permit would not necessarily save the building; it would only create a one-year window for the property to be sold at real-market value. Yet the majority of the City Council sided with the developer, who is a former member of the Parker Gray Board of Architectural Review. Although the council members approved the demolition permit, they also insisted on a six-month grace period for someone to step forward and offer to move the building or purchase the property.

"Six months in an economy like this — it's almost mission impossible," said Pepper. "Six months doesn't really give anyone an opportunity to really get anything done in this kind of a climate."

Making the Case

Vice Mayor **Kerry Donley** knows a good argument when he hears one. After serving on the City Council from 1988 to 1996 and then as mayor from 1996 to 2003, Donley has heard it all. So when speakers arrive at City Hall for a public hearing, Donley wants to hear a solid case. And he's not afraid to make suggestions. When a contractor asked for an exemption from fire-code regulations because Alexandria was the only jurisdiction to enforce fire-code regulation, Donley didn't hesitate to offer his advice for a better argument. "Be careful," warned the vice mayor. "I don't think you want to say it's not being enforced in other jurisdictions. It's just being enforced in a different manner."

Later that afternoon, when a resident of the Carlyle neighborhood announced that he would file an application for a concealed weapon permit as a result of City Council's decision to approve a special-use permit application for a 7-Eleven on John Carlyle Street, Donley didn't like what he was hearing. The vice mayor said he was willing to hear the case against noise, loitering and alcohol sales. But he didn't think concealed weapons should be part of the discussion. "I just don't buy the hyperbolic argument of you feeling the need to arm yourself because a 7-Eleven is coming in there," Donley told the speaker. "I think that line of reasoning isn't helping your argument one bit."

Election Uncertainty

With City Council members set to consider the slate of issues they will seek in the next General Assembly next week, members are divided on potential changes to municipal elections. Three members led by Councilman **Rob Krupicka** want staggered terms. But three other members led by Councilman **Frank Fannon** want to keep the current system of electing all the members at once. After considering the issue several times, the council's legislative committee was not able to come up with a recommendation. That means the legislative packet will include a line item for election reform without specifics as to what kind of charter change is appropriate. Former Republican City Council member **Carlyle Ring** warned that the Republican-dominated House of Delegates could make its own changes if Alexandria's charter amendment doesn't have bipartisan support.

"Asking for a charter amendment is opening the door for Republicans in Richmond to make any changes they want to the city's system of elections," said Ring. "This is going to be viewed as a partisan proposal, and the Republicans are going to have a partisan reaction to that."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

NEWS



George Washington Middle School student Ella Boissonnault has been studying ballet for eight years.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
GAZETTE PACKET

Alexandria Ballet Needs Funds

Holiday show for children cancelled.

BY SANDY LEVITZ LUNNER
THE GAZETTE

There will be no Sugar Plum Fairy twirling or Mouse King leaping for Alexandria children this holiday season. The Alexandria Ballet has cancelled the 2009 Nutcracker performances, another victim of the economic downturn.

In the past, Virginia Britton, owner and artistic director of the ballet, has been able to count on the kindness of "angels" to donate the \$25,000 price tag of the seasonal favorite. This year, however, Britton's angels had to tighten their purse strings, and ballet didn't make the cut.

According to Britton, ticket sales could generate enough money for the company's professional dancers. However, the up-front expense of renting the studio for rehearsals and performances would still need to be covered.

"If a large amount of money did come in at once, I don't think it's too late to salvage The Nutcracker this year," she said. "Most of the performers have danced it before. Everything's done except rehearsal for the young children in her classes who haven't performed it yet."

Britton's version of The Nutcracker, geared to young audiences, has been performed in this region for 19 years, many of those at The Atheneum in Old Town. For the past three years she's been teaching classes and performing The Nutcracker at the Alliance Dance Institute studio at Landmark Mall.

"There are few venues in this area for classes or performances," said Britton. "We are fortunate to be at Alliance Dance Institute where the space has sprung floors."

The Alexandria Ballet offers classes for children from age three through high school. Up to age eight, Britton teaches pre-ballet and creative movement.

BRITTON'S TEACHING methods allow her to include young students in her production of The Nutcracker. Some of the characters they dance include the mice, a little tea girl, and the guards.

One of those young students was Mary Kate Battle who started studying with "Miss Virginia" when she was 8 years old. She's a senior at Notre Dame now, and she still takes dance lessons a couple of times a week — for fun, according to her father, attorney Tim Battle of Mount Vernon.

"Mary Kate was thrilled to be part of The Nutcracker, first as a guard with a moustache. She just stood there, and she loved it," the father shared.

"The next year she was a guard without a moustache. She moved up and up until she was one of the flowers dancing on stage with the professionals. She still says it was the hardest thing she's ever done, but she kept up with the others and did a great job up on point for 4-1/2 minutes."

Battle says he's disappointed Britton's Nutcracker isn't happening this year.

"It's really a nice thing for the community," he said. "It reaches a lot of people who might not be able to afford the Kennedy Center for a ballet."

Another disappointed ballet lover is 13-year old Ella Boissonnault, a student at George Washington Middle School. She's been taking classes at The Al

SEE BALLET. PAGE 22



Ballet instructor Virginia Britton demonstrates the next movement.

Oil and Water

As the campaign between two-term incumbent Del. **Daivd Englin** (D-45) and Republican challenger **Vicki Vasques** heads into the final stretch before Election Day, more policy distinctions are emerging between the candidates. Yet another difference emerged during a candidates' forum this week hosted by the Alexandria Chapter of the National Federal Employees Association. When asked about offshore drilling for oil, Englin said he was opposed to the idea for several reasons. Aside from environmental concerns, Englin said, the United States Navy has opposed offshore drilling as an impediment to training exercises.

"I don't think it's a smart idea," said Englin, an Air Force veteran. "From a revenue standpoint, you can't base a budget on future revenues that may or may not occur."

When the question was directed at Vasques, she supported the idea of drilling off the coast of Virginia. Pointing out that both candidates for governor have supported offshore drilling, Vasques said she would work to find a way to accomplish the job without placing a burden on fishermen or the Navy.

"This is a resource we have not tapped into," said Vasques, a former career service employee in the Department of Energy. "This will create jobs."

Cooking Candidates

Whatever happens in the election for the 46th District of the House of Delegates, both candidates have proven one thing — they love to eat. Democrat **Charniele Herring** displayed her culinary skills at a kickoff event at which she did all the cooking herself. The menu included fried chicken, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, cornbread and traditional Southern rice-and-beans dish known as Hoppin' John.

"Some of these recipes are from my great-grandmother," said Herring, whose mother frequently appears at campaign events. "I love to cook."

Not to be outdone, Republican **Sasha Gong** wants voters to know that she also knows her way around the kitchen. On the campaign trail, Gong has been distributing refrigerator magnets with a headline announcing "making dinner while making history." The magnets feature a photo of the Republican candidate along with a recipe. Three different versions include instructions for making lemon oregano chicken, pan-fried tofu in a light sauce and gefilte fish.

"I've always hated how people throw these campaign materials away," said Gong, adding that the gefilte fish recipe is similar to a traditional Cantonese dish. "This way people will keep my materials around and actually use them for something."

Complaint Dismissed

Speaking of Herring, State Board of Elections campaign-finance manager **David Allen** has dismissed a complaint filed against her campaign by **Mike Ginsberg**, chairman of the 8th Congressional District Republican Committee. The letter of complaint was sent last month after Republicans learned that a nonprofit director sent an e-mail invitation from her work e-mail address to a Herring fundraiser at Tempo Restaurant.

"The e-mail probably should have been sent from her home e-mail address," said Allen. "But people spend so much time in the office these days, the workplace is starting to feel more like home to many people."

Allen responded to the complaint by conducting an investigation to determine the salary of the director and the time it took to write the e-mail. Ultimately, he concluded, the cost of sending the e-mail invitation did not exceed \$200, which was the threshold for requiring a campaign disclaimer under Virginia election law. The State Board of Elections will meet again in Nov. 23 to formally hear the matter, although Allen's recommendation at that time will be that the State Board of Elections take no action on the complaint.

"This was a cheap ploy to tarnish a new delegate's name," said **Jason Bresler**, Herring's campaign manager. "We have serious issues facing Virginia, and they want to play games rather than talking about issues."

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

POLITICS

Support Merit Pay and Competition Between Public and Private Schools



Sasha Gong



Vicki Vasques

Oppose Merit Pay and Public Funds for Private Schools



David Englin



Charniele Herring

Education Divides Candidates

FROM PAGE 1

ingly budget-strapped General Assembly.

"Republicans often portray teachers unions as standing in the way of reform because they are dominated by under-performing teachers," said Isaac Wood, assistant director of communications for the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "But many voters have a soft spot for teachers, so their union endorsements tends to carry more weight than endorsements from other unions in Virginia."

The political action committee of the Virginia Education Association has endorsed both of the Democratic incumbents that will be on the ballot in Alexandria: Del. David Englin (D-45) and Charniele Herring (D-46). According to Rob Jones, director of government relations for the teachers' union, decisions about which candidates to support are based on responses to questionnaires and interviews conducted by local affiliates of the union. The endorsements are awarded based on positions on a number of issues, including opposition for the use of public money for private schools.

"We're not supporting our public schools the way we should be," said Jones, who added that his union is not necessarily opposed to merit pay depending on how the system works. "If people want to support private schools, they should do so on their own dime."

REPUBLICAN CHALLENGERS offer a number of proposals that would change how public-school students are educated in Virginia — many of which are opposed by the teachers' union. In the 45th House District, Vicki Vasques supports creating a system of merit pay for teachers and a program that would provide tax credits for corporations that provide scholarships for tuition to private schools. On the campaign trail, Vasques has frequently raised the issue of expanding the authority to create charter schools beyond local school boards. The Republican says she would like to see nonprofit organizations, universities, corporations and Indian tribes given authority to issue charters.

"School boards have little incentive to be supportive of charter schools," said Vasques, adding that Virginia has only four charter schools. "It shouldn't be about money, but unfortunately it is."

In the 46th House District, Republican challenger Sasha Gong said she would like to find ways to reduce the cost of bureaucracy by shifting more resources to the classroom although she doesn't have any specific proposals for making that happen. Like Vasques, Gong also supports merit pay as a way to use free-market principles to reward teachers who

improve test scores. Unlike Vasques, though, Gong supports changing the Virginia Constitution in a way that would allow a system of vouchers to allow parents to use public funds to send their children to private schools.

"The real problem with education is that there's a lack of competition," said Gong, who said creating a marketplace for tax dollars would ultimately improve public schools. "Parents deserve a choice to take their kids out of bad public schools."

DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENTS oppose efforts to create a system of merit pay as well as any proposal that would use public money for private schools. Del. David Englin (D-45) argues that merit pay decreases salaries of some teachers to fund bonuses for others, a phenomenon he said would undermine recruitment and retention. He also opposes tax credits for corporate scholarship programs, criticizing the effort as a plan that would divert money from public schools to encourage scholarships to private schools. Although he said he's open to giving self-governing Indian tribes the same charter-school authority as other local governments, he does not support Vasques' proposal to expand chartering authority to nonprofit organizations, universities or corporations.

"The change she proposes to Virginia's charter school law would divert money from already underfunded public schools to unelected, unaccountable corporations and non-profits," said Englin in a written statement. "The bottom line is that we need to protect state money for public education, and her proposals in one way or another would take money from public schools."

Del. Charniele Herring (D-46) said she would support a study to investigate the correlation between per-pupil funding and student achievement. She said she would also support a program that would allow localities to offer grants to students who have achieved a 3.5 grade-point-average or higher in college and commit to returning home to teach. Like Englin, Herring opposes creating a system of merit pay and is strongly against any effort to change the Virginia Constitution in a way that allow a voucher system to use public funds toward tuition at private schools.

"Proponents of the school voucher system and tuition tax credits argue that this system would improve schools because it would foster competition among public schools to improve," Herring wrote in one of the responses to the Virginia Education Association. "This argument is flawed because it is based on a principle that a public school has the means to compete with private schools without the support of tax dollars."

PEOPLE

Marine with a Truck

Nick Baucom talks about moving to Alexandria, starting a business and the war in Iraq.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

A native of Memphis, Tenn., Baucom joined the Marines after graduating high school in 2002. He was part of the initial invasion from Kuwait into Iraq, later serving in Wasit Province. He moved to Alexandria in 2008 and founded a company known as Two Marines and a Truck.

Why did you start the business?

A few reasons. One would be solving a personal problem, which is how a lot of entrepreneurs get started. They realize that there's a need out there, and they can't find a way to get it fulfilled themselves. So I was looking for movers when I moved here to Alexandria, and I just couldn't find anyone that seemed like they would be professional and they would be on time. I had heard horror stories from friends about their moves, and I certainly always got a call anytime a friend or family member moved looking for a strong Marine that would be on time and get the job done. So I put two and two together and figured that there was a need for reliable, punctual, professional movers. Of course I had just got out of the Marines, and I wanted to continue working with Marines because of their work ethic.

Why did you move to Alexandria?

I wanted to move to a large metro area, so that would of course be the Washington, D.C. metro area. I liked that Alexandria is a good combination of the world of entertainment and fun as well as a good place to raise a family. I have a two-month old now, and my wife and I knew that was in the pipeline when we moved here. So whether it's going to a park or the schools here or going out on King Street in Old Town and have some fun, Alexandria really has the best of both worlds.

How's business?

It's going extremely well because we've really filled a niche that wasn't being fulfilled. So often other moving companies are two, three or four hours late. You can expect them at 8 a.m. but they



Nick Baucom

won't show up until 2 p.m. That's just not acceptable. Usually a move is also coupled with a divorce, a new child, a death in the family, a job promotion or a lay-off. So it's already stressful enough, nine times out of 10, for our customers. So they don't need the added stress of dealing with whatever most moving companies provide. The people a lot of these moving companies hire are often just a warm body, and they spend their time smoking cigarettes or joking around. They're just not moving with a purpose. Do you really want some guy who's gone to prison going through your stuff? Or do you want to hire Marines who have served their country? So our business has been going extremely well.

How did you get started in business?

I feel like this is in my blood. I've always dabbled in this. It's certainly risky being an entrepreneur. But it can also be more rewarding. I started off with my first business license when I was 15 years old mowing yards in the neighborhood. I had four friends who worked for me. I had to hire friends who were older than me because they had drivers licenses just so we could get around to the yards. I was dealing with management issues and meeting a payroll at 15, then I joined the Marines and got leadership experience. Most people aren't allowed to touch the copier toner at 20 years old, but I was leading Marines in Iraq at that age. So this is who I am. I've always wanted to be an

SEE A MARINE, PAGE 12



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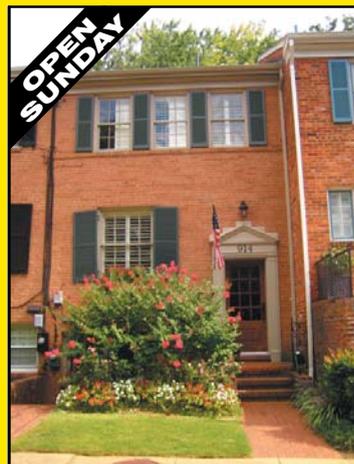
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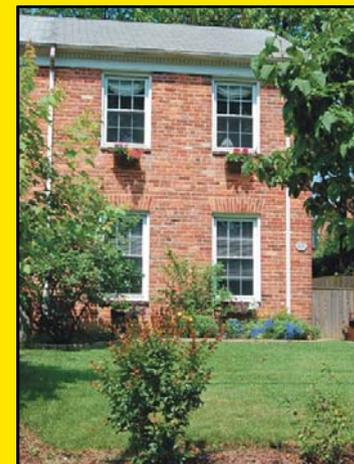
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ONGOING

The City of Alexandria is in search of a Colorado Blue Spruce, Leyland Cypress or other well-formed evergreen tree, approximately 25 to 35 feet tall, to serve as the City's official 2009 Holiday Tree. The City will remove the tree from the donor's property in mid-November and grind the stump at no cost. The tree will be decorated and displayed at Market Square, 301 King St., throughout the holiday season. The lighting of the Holiday Tree officially opens the holiday season in Alexandria. The City's Holiday Tree will be lighted during the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 27, at Market Square, 301 King St. The ceremony will feature a special visit by Santa Claus, along with entertainment and caroling. Persons who are interested in donating a tree should call John Noelle, City Arborist, at 703-746-5499 or e-mail john.noelle@alexandriava.gov.

Late-Night Hang-Out. Every Thursday and Friday nights from 9 p.m. to midnight. At Charles Houston Community Center, 901 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Basketball league games, card tournaments, table game tournaments, DJ music. For young adults, 19 years and up. Call 703-838-4814.

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.

THURSDAY/OCT. 22

Public Forum. 7 p.m. On the City's Strategic Goals for Development and Economic Vitality. In Council Chambers at City Hall. Those interested in speaking should contact Brandi Collins at brandi.collins@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3854.

FRIDAY/OCT. 23

Lecture. 8:15 p.m. With Del. Charmiele Herring. At Beth El Hebrew Congregation. She will address issues of homelessness from her personal and legislative experiences. The evening is to highlight the mission of Beth El House, helping homeless families in transition in the Northern Virginia area, specifically Alexandria. At 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria. Jessica Morton, Beth El House, 703-447-0668 or jessicamorton@hotmail.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 24



PUNTA CANA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, JAN. 16 - 23.....\$1099
Includes Air from BWI, 7-Nights ALL-INCLUSIVE. Sirens Resort Casino & Spa in Punta Cana with All Meals & Beverages, Transfers

GREECE & the Islands, April 13 - 21.....\$2239
Includes Air from Dulles, 4-Nights Athens, 3-Nights Cruise, Daily Breakfast, 3 Lunches, 4 Dinners. Sightseeing & Transfers

IRELAND (Dublin, Cork, Galway), March 29 - April 7.....\$2069
Includes Air from National, 8 Nights Hotel, Daily Breakfast, 7 Dinners, Daily Sightseeing

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PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/CAZETTE

In Performance

TSgt Tyler Sieh plays the viola at the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players Series concert on Friday, Oct. 16 at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Habitat ReStore Anniversary. 11 a.m. Featuring an appearance by TV/Radio personality Jeannie "Kitty of the City" Jones. Storewide sale of 10 percent off everything. ReStore is a resale business that sells new and used building materials and home improvement items to the general public. At 7770 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Visit www.restorenova.org.

Domestic Violence Awareness. 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Pamper yourself, participate in workshops and fellowship with other women. Childcare provided. At Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria. Contact Mattie Palmore at 703-863-2306 or Kari Warren at 703-868-5531.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Meeting. 9 a.m. to noon. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria.

Electronics Recycling Day. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. On-site data destruction will also be available for \$10 for hard drives, blackberries, memory sticks, etc. - wherever you want to ensure that your personal data is wiped out. At Immanuel Church on the Hill, corner of Quaker Lane and Seminary Road, Alexandria.

Hopkins House 70th Anniversary Gala. 6 p.m. Includes a luxury silent auction, reception, dinner, retrospective video, dance, gift bags and musical performance by R&B recording artist Linda Clifford.

Proceeds benefit the Hopkins House Children's Scholarship Fund. At The Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Sq. Visit www.HopkinsHouse.org or call 571-480-4086.

Walk to Fight Breast Cancer. Help raise money for the Alexandria Breast Cancer Fund. Form a walking team, collect pledges and bring the whole family out. Visit www.alexcanerwalk.com or call

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 9

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ON NOVEMBER 3RD RE-ELECT DELEGATE HERRING

Just Elected in January 2009, Delegate Herring:

- Successfully Chief-Patroned Legislation to Help Small Businesses;
- Argued on the Floor of the House for Rental Assistance to Help Struggling Families;
- Led efforts to help prosecute drunk-driving and drug cases in the face of Supreme Court ruling that could have resulted in hundreds of arrests not being prosecuted.

"Charniele quickly earned the respect of her colleagues in Richmond on both sides of the aisle through her grasp of the issues, sense of fairness and integrity."

Senate Majority Leader Richard L. Saslaw

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PEOPLE



Patty Moran, David Speck and Gayle Reuter.



Jen Ohs with Charlie Collum.



Harvey Boltwood, Bill Vosbeck and Marlin Lord.



Christine Candio and Joan Renner.

Honoring Businesses

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce awarded the captains of local industry last week, issuing the organization's annual Business Awards. Burke and Herbert Bank Chairman Charlie Collum was honored as the Business Leader of the Year for 2009 at the Oct. 16 dinner held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Old Town Alexandria. The event was a family affair for Collum, whose son, Charles Collum III, led the invocation. His other son, Joe Collum, honored his father from the podium. Rick Dorman of the Catalyst Group and Sean McLaughlin of McLaughlin Ryder Investments spoke of Charlie's accomplishments in the world of finance and his commitment to the community.

"Friday night's event was something I will never forget," said Collum in a written statement. "Having the room filled with both new and longtime friends was truly humbling. I also appreciate Burke and Herbert for their sponsorship and support for me, not only for this honor, but for the last 38 years."

Six business received recognition in various categories:

- ❖ Sustainable Business of the Year: Maginniss and Del Ninno Architects
- ❖ Hospitality Business of the Year: Kimpton Hotels of Alexandria
- ❖ Small Business of the Year: United States Homeland Investigations
- ❖ New Business of the Year: The Full Cup
- ❖ Retail Business of the Year: Rick's Wine and Gourmet
- ❖ Professional Service Business of the Year: Nova Smiles.



Richard Wyvill and Mike Geissinger.



Marcia and David Speck.



Pat Miller and Linda Hafer.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE PACKET



Janice and Scott McSween, Debbie Holley and Shawn McLaughlin.



Charlie and Sandy Collum.



Asst. City Manager Mark Jenks, John Renner, City Manager Jim Hartmann and Lonnie Rich.

PEOPLE



From the Author
Jefferson-Houston Elementary School students enjoy a reading of "Hilda, A Very Loyal Goat" by author Jennifer Lui Bryan.



Jennifer Lui Bryan introduces her new book, "Hilda, A Very Loyal Goat."

PHOTOS BY
 LASHAWN AVERY
 GAZETTE PACKET

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7
 703-746-5030.

OCT. 24-25

Virginia Tech landscape architecture open house. Tour the Washington Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC) at 1001 Prince Street, Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or Sunday, Oct. 25, from noon to 2 p.m. Meet faculty and view student design work. Registration recommended. Contact Laurel McSherry at lm@vt.edu.

SUNDAY/OCT. 25

Fort Hunt Preschool (FHP) Fall Festival. 3-6 p.m. Moon bounce, pony rides, games, arts and crafts, sing-a-longs and story-telling. At 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, (on Mason Hill Drive off of Ft. Hunt Road). Call 703-768-7584 or visit www.forthuntpreschool.com.

Montessori Open House. 2-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Montessori School of Northern Virginia, Hillbrook Campus, 6820 Pacific Lane, Annandale. MSNV is currently accepting applications for fall 2010 admissions. Visit www.msnv.org.

MONDAY, OCT. 26

"BRAC Attack: Are We Ready?" Your Chance to be Heard" with Don Buch, At-Large Member, BRAC-133, Alexandria Advisory Group; Mike Chipley, BRAC Coordinator; Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager; and James Turkel, U.S. Army Representative. BRAC is coming. What can we afford to do to ameliorate its impact? Holiday Inn Eisenhower Metro Center, 2460 Eisenhower Avenue. Reception at 6:30, Dinner (\$22 members/\$27 non-members) at 6:45; Program (\$5 non-members) 7:15. Dinner reservations required. Contact Sherry Brown, 703-548-7089 or agendaalexandria@aol.com

TUESDAY/OCT. 27

Workshop on Food Cravings. 7 p.m. "Food Cravings: Why We Eat

What We Eat and How to Break the Cycle." The workshop, presented by Mary Porter, a holistic nutrition, health and lifestyle counselor, will explore the physiological, emotional and industry-driven reasons behind our eating decisions. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Registration is encouraged at www.betterplate.com or 703-765-6129.

Prayer Vigil. 7-8 p.m. Sponsored by Bethany House of Northern Virginia, located in Alexandria. Bethany House is a private, faith-based organization providing shelter and services to victims of abuse. At the First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-658-3555 and more information can be learned by visiting the web site at www.bhnv.org.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 28

Author John Kromer. 7-9 p.m. Talks about book, "Fixing Broken Cities: The Implementation of Urban Development Strategies." At the Virginia Tech Alexandria Center, 1001 Prince Street, West Room, first floor. Contact Kris Wernstedt, 703-706-8132 or krisw@vt.edu.

Cemetery Art. Lecture with Dwight Young from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This illustrated lecture explores the history of cemetery design and funerary art in America. Cost is \$12/person. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street in Alexandria.

Marbury v. Madison Lecture. 7:30 p.m. Free. With speaker Cliff Sloan, the co-author of The Great Decision: Jefferson, Adams, Marshall, and the Battle for the Supreme Court. Marbury v. Madison established the power of the Supreme Court to declare acts of Congress unconstitutional. Three of the four plaintiffs (Dennis Ramsay, Robert Townshend Hooe, and William Harper) were Alexandrians, and the attorney for the plaintiffs (Charles Lee) was an Alexandrian. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street in Alexandria. Call 703-683-2636 or visit www.alexandriahistorical.org.

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Linda Silk of the Del Ray Artisans waits for her turn at the microphone during Saturday's public hearing about the budget for fiscal year 2011.

Yes, We Have Few Bananas

FROM PAGE 1

date financial analysis released last week. Several weeks ago, Gov. Tim Kaine announced \$1.6 million cuts to Alexandria.

"I was in a conference call with him several days ago, and he's about to announce another round of cuts," said Mayor Bill Euille. "Rather than the picture becoming rosier, it's becoming much more bleak."

EARLIER THIS YEAR, the previous City Council unanimously approved a \$530-million general fund operating budget, raising the tax rate from 84.5 cents to 90.3 cents for every \$100 worth of assessed value. That increased the average tax bill by \$76 in the final days of a political campaign for City Council, when a Republican and an independent displaced two Democrats. Since then, City Manager Jim Hartmann asked city agencies to create a list of possible reductions. In July, budget officials calculated that they were projecting a \$23-million shortfall even if all the proposed cuts were enacted. Next month, budget officials will be revising that shortfall estimation and presenting it to council members at an annual retreat.

"I think the shortfall may end up being more than \$23 million," said Bruce Johnson, director of Management and Budget. "A lot of these numbers are driven by real estate, which hasn't been getting any better since the summer."

Some departments that were spared cuts last year have been asked to prepare options for potential reductions, such as the public safety. Although funding levels for public safety were virtually untouched last year, Hartmann has these agencies preparing options for a 4-percent cut this year. Other programs that saw heavy cuts this year were not asked to prepare any reduction options this year, such as the Fund for Human Services that aids nonprofit organizations in the city. It was cut 13 percent last year. And although the city manager did not ask the Department of Human Services to prepare any potential cuts for

the fund, several speakers urged the City Council not to consider reducing funding levels again.

"Please do not cut the [Alexandria Fund for Human Services]) budget," said Fay Slotnick, executive director of the Parent Leadership Training Institute. "In fact, I implore you to restore it to the pre-2009 level."

THIRTY-FIVE SPEAKERS appeared at City Hall to ask that City Council not cut funding for services. Eleven individuals opposed cuts to nonprofit organizations; nine speakers spoke against reduction of prevention programs offered by the Community Services Board; four speakers opposed cuts to money for the arts; three people money for senior centers; two supported funding economic development efforts; two advocated spending for mass transit; one speaker opposed cuts to HIV programs; and one individual advocated for increased funding improvements to the city's sewer system. Each made a case that reduced funding levels for their program or service would have drastic consequences.

"I want to remind you that all seven of you are going to get old," said Bill Harris, chairman of the Commission on Aging. "Remember the old people of our city."

At the beginning of the hearing, Mayor Euille asked those who were willing to pay more taxes to say so in their remarks, although only three of the speakers took him up on the offer and voluntarily submitted their willingness to handle an increased tax burden.

Nevertheless, a city-funded survey conducted in September found that 55 percent of respondents would be "very willing" or "somewhat willing" to pay more taxes to meet goals. Determining how to balance those goals with the tax burden the city places on its citizens will be at the core of the upcoming debate about the budget over the coming months.

"Yes, I do support tax increases — especially for the gas tax," said Kathy Burns, vice president of the West End Business Association. "I would also sup

"These hearings are kind of like my birthday. They come around too often and they are not very much fun."

— Sherry Brown, vice president, Alexandria Arts Forum

SEE SOCIAL SERVICE SUPPORTERS, PAGE 15



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE PACKET

Michael Scheurer, Virginia Housing Development Authority; President/CEO of Wesley Housing Shelley S. Murphy; Alexandria director of Office of Housing Mildrilyn Davis; Chairman of the Board of Wesley Housing James Barber; general contractor for the project Phil Gibbs of Hamel Builders, Inc. and corporate sponsors prepare for the ribbon cutting at Beverly Park.

Conversions Complete

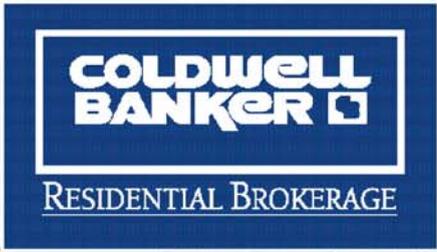
The parking lot at 613 Notebene Drive was taped off and filled with residents and neighbors for a ribbon cutting Friday, Sept. 25, on the recent affordable housing conversions of three garden-style apartment buildings. The buildings originally comprised 41 units and were converted to 33 with larger families in mind. The project was developed and is owned by the Wesley Housing Development Corporation/Wesley Notabene LP. The project architect was Larry R. Barton of Zemaitis & Associates Architects.

Hamel Builders was the general contractor and the property

will be managed by the Wesley Housing Development Corporation. Wesley has also worked on affordable housing units in two other Alexandria locations, one at ParcView Apartments and the other being the Lynhaven Apartments. The grand opening at Beverly Parks also marked the 35th anniversary of Wesley Housing in doing work in the affordable housing industry. On hand for the celebration were event sponsors Citi, Klein Hornig LLP, Reznick Group, P.C., Hamel Builders, Inc., and United Bank — as well as those from the many businesses, corporations, civic groups, and faith communities.



Cheers erupt from the new residents and neighborhood children as cake and ice cream is announced.



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PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LASHAWN AVERY /GAZETTE PACKET

In Concert

National Chamber Players James Lee, cellist, and Mahoko Eguchi, violist, both also members of the National Symphony Orchestra, after a performance of Schumann at Episcopal High School.



Teri Hopkins Lee, a violinist with the National Symphony Orchestra and a member of the National Chamber Players, responds to audience applause after a performance of Schumann's Piano Quintet at Episcopal High School on Sept. 29. For more information on the National Chamber Players concert series visit www.episcopalhighschool.org or call 703-933-4135.

A Marine with a Truck

FROM PAGE 5

entrepreneur and a business owner.

What's your perspective on the war in Iraq?

It's the highest calling that a country can ask of a Marine or soldier to ask him to potentially give up his life or his country. I think that requires a very high threshold and high expectations in terms of the need to go to war. I don't know that threshold was met

with the rationale for the war in Iraq. So I would say I definitely support my Marines and fellow soldiers and veterans. Seeing the consequences and the repercussions of being on the ground in Iraq like post-traumatic stress disorders that a lot of my very close friends have to deal with every day, that lasts a lifetime. There certainly are reasons to go to war, and I'll pick up a rifle again in a heartbeat if I'm asked to. But there needs to be a very good reason to go.

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PEOPLE

Briar, Figer Married

John Preston "Jay" Briar, of Alexandria, and Alvin Jay Figer, of Norfolk, Va., and Cherry Hill, N.J., were married on Aug. 9, 2009 at The Villa in Calverton, Md. The Rev. Gregory Morisse performed the ceremony. Mr. Briar is the son of John Briar III and Ann Smolinski of Alexandria, and is a graduate of Vassar College and George Washington University. He currently teaches history at Sheridan School in Washington, D.C. Mr. Figer is the son of Agustin and Fabiola Figer of Las Vegas, Nev., and is a graduate of Rutgers University. He currently teaches math at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac, Md. The couple resides in Bethesda, Md.



Jay Briar and Alvin Figer

PEOPLE NOTES

To have a People Note published in the Gazette-Packet, send an e-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or call Steve Hibbard 703-778-9412. Pictures encouraged.

Capitol Concierge Inc. honored **Gerard Lehman** with the Evelyn Marelo Service Award, an annual award that celebrates excellence in service, presented to an employee whose efforts set an example for other employees to follow.

Lehman has been a member of the Capitol Concierge team since 2005 when he joined the company as assistant

manager, bringing with him extensive customer service experience. His dedication to top quality performance resulted in his promotion within two months to concierge manager.

Jim Almond, area director, Alexandria-Fairfax Region, and former Alexandria-Olympic Branch Director, has been promoted to vice president of branch operations of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington (BGCGW).

In his new role, Almond reports directly to the President & CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington and will serve as a member of the senior

management team. He will help to set policy and procedure and by managing, mentoring, and coaching close to 150 community-based program professionals. Almond will oversee branch operations for the 17 clubs, four outreach centers, and the summer camp that comprise the Greater Washington region.

Almond will be based at the Alexandria Club's 401 North Payne Street headquarters, owing to a decentralization of Greater Washington's Administrative Service Center operations. He will continue to oversee the renovation of the 1936 building, scheduled to reopen in November.



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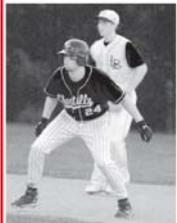
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Keith Sterling, MD, Chief of Cardiovascular & Interventional Radiology, will discuss an innovative technique to remove varicose veins.



11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. • Healthy Meals in 30 Minutes
Robyn Webb, Guest Chef, Cooking Demonstration
Nutritionist, cookbook author and food editor of the award winning *Diabetes Forecast*, Robyn has been featured on Food Network TV and in *Washingtonian* and *Cooking Light* magazines.

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. • Pelvic Floor Disorders
Dr. Alok Desai, a fellowship-trained expert in female urology and pelvic floor reconstruction, will lead a discussion on urinary incontinence, vaginal prolapse, and pelvic pain. He will discuss simple solutions, new medical treatments and minimally invasive techniques.

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. • Free Infant CPR and Safety Class
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November 10, 2009



FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER
U.S. SENATOR MARK WARNER

At the Chamber's 2009 Annual Meeting & State of Business Breakfast, the new Board of Directors and Officers will be announced, Chamber Annual Awards will be presented and United States Senator Mark Warner will be the Keynote Speaker discussing the State of Business in 2009.

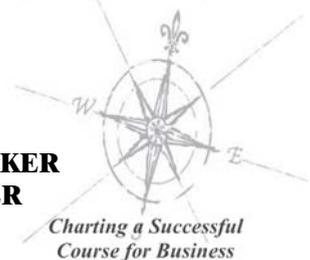
Date: Tuesday, November 10
Time: Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m.
Annual Meeting and Keynote Speaker 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Location: The Westin Alexandria,
400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA

Price: \$35 for members, \$45 for non members
\$5 discounted valet parking.

Reservations should be made online
at www.alexchamber.com

If you have any questions about this event, please contact Janelle Schmidt, Communications and Events Director, at 703-739-3808, or e-mail to jschmidt@alexchamber.com



NEIGHBORHOODS

Old Town

WITHER THE TORPEDO FACTORY?

That's the question being mulled by many folks in our port city and, frankly, I'm worried about the future of this icon where downtown Old Town meets the river.

The Gazette Packet this summer captured the gist of the debate now playing out behind the scenes with a headline: "Has the Torpedo Factory Grown Stale?" The newspaper's story noted that some say it's time "to make drastic changes to Alexandria's waterfront destination."

Those proposed changes are under discussion by citizen groups, private entities, individuals and politicians reflecting a broad range of ideas. Ideas that the Factory may be outgrowing its role as an artists' and cultural center is echoed by, among others, something called the Economic Sustainability Task Force, which leads a steering group to make recommendations on its future.

Councilman Rob Krupicka has gone so far as to suggest the Torpedo Factory has grown stale and isn't drawing the numbers of visitors he apparently thinks is needed.

"It's not supposed to be a shopping mall," former Del. Marian Van Landingham told the Gazette Packet. Van Landingham pioneered changes in the building in the 1970s and laid the groundwork for what it is today.

Now the Old Town Civic Association has plunged into the debate on the side of moderation. OTCA President Paol Hertel, who wields a gentle but potent pen, writes in the Association's newsletter this month that the Factory is perfectly positioned to anchor a crossroads where history meets culture.

"It is no accident that certain prominent proponents of cultural tourism point to the Torpedo Factory as a sterling example," Hertel writes. He goes on to add: "Anything can be made better through insightful and deliberate thought, but may I suggest that the staleness referred to by members of the Sustainability Implementation Committee, is not from the factory, but rather, the self accentuated thinking process by a committee operating in the dark without the benefit of the sunshine of openness."

"There are some big underlying issues hidden here, but for the present, suffice it to say that judg-

ing cultural contributions in terms of direct sales receipts of art works during the largest economic downturn since the depression does not add to the credibility of the committee. By the same token, judging the effect of tourism on the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. by the sales receipts at the gift shop is a bit de-minimus. It is not what Old Town is about and it is not what Alexandria is about. So stay tuned, because this is about the future of the crossroads of history and culture at the crossroads of Old Town and the Waterfront ..."

Paol Hertel came down fairly gently on the Sustainability Committee because of the gentleman he is. I would describe the committee's approach as utterly clueless.

— BOB FELDKAMP

Seminary Valley

Kassie Benson, our Hammond High School Alumni "connection", wants you all to know that the group's annual reunion luncheon is set for Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Stardust Restaurant in Old Town. The cost is \$20; the social hour begins at 1 p.m., followed by lunch and a short meeting. You can RSVP

to Kassie at kassie@generalmicro.com.

Seventy-two Polk Elementary students have signed up for the Marine Corps Fun Run (held in conjunction with the Marathon). Pretty impressive! Polk families can "carb up" for the run at a pancake breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 8 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

We all know that special neighbor who "goes the extra mile" in what is now termed "curb appeal." Congratulations to Rebekah Hersch and Howard Frank, who received one of Alexandria's Beautification Awards. Bekah and Howard live just across from the Polk Elementary School basketball courts at 701 N. Pickett Street. The residential awards are given based on texture, color, plant material, neighborhood context, marked improvements and overall appearance.

Our local high school thespians are at it again. T.C. Williams is presenting William Inge's "Picnic" starting this weekend, Oct. 23-24 and Oct. 30-31 in the school auditorium. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. The cast list is full of West End names: Zachary Frank, Sam Jones, Brielle Welch, Maria Simpkins, Ben Ribler, and Andrew

Flack. Those who attend the Oct. 31 show in costume will receive a free "treat" from the concession stand.

Did you know there is a Beauregard Development Plan? Want to find out more about it? The City's Planning and Zoning Department is holding a community meeting about the Plan on Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at John Adams Elementary School.

The West End Farmer's Market, just a walk or bike ride away in Ben Brenman Park, will be open each Sunday through November from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine. Pick up your baked goods, locally produced veggies and fruits and much more.

— MIA JONES

Taylor Run

CHAMBER MUSIC

Some of the things which make our neighborhood so delightful are the frequent cultural events at the George Washington National Memorial.

Last week the Air Force Chamber Players gave a group of music lovers who had come out despite the disagreeable weather a treat by performing a Bach Partita and a Schubert quartet.

They will return with more free musical offerings on Oct. 23 and 30 and Nov. 13 and 20.

FAREWELL TO PAT

"I really do hate winter," said Pat Butler, who is leaving Alexandria to settle in San Antonio, Texas.

Lots of Alexandrians showed up at Lone Star Steakhouse to say goodbye to the historian at a party organized by Anna Leider and Lois Walker, two very experienced party givers.

That outstanding Alexandria family, Judge Daniel Fairfax O'Flaherty, wife Resa and daughter Lucelle, sat down with Judy Lowe and daughter Melanie Lowe Salzgeber, Margie and Allen Lomax, and Pam and Kerry St. Clair.

BUTLER REGRETS

"I shall miss many people in Alexandria — the Democratic committee and my work for historic preservation," said Pat, "but I won't miss putting up signs for candidates."

Marian Van Landingham, Vice Mayor Del Pepper and husband FJ, Amoret Bunn, Carol Bringham (Lois Walker's sister), Mary Dixon, Ross Davis, Russ Wiley, Bob Batt, Fay Slotnick, Dottie and John Eisenhour also came.

"Pat is one of the biggest historic experts; he leaves a tremendous hole that I'm afraid is too large to fill," opined Paul Hertel, president of Old Town Civic Association.

— LOIS KELSO HUNT

The T.C. Williams Class of 2009 & the members of the All Night Drug and Alcohol Free Graduation Party Committee say a belated but heartfelt

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to the following businesses & individuals for making the event a huge success. It wouldn't have been possible without your contributions.

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• West End Business Association • William Ramsey PTA • Justin Wilson

Social Service Supporters Fear More Budget Cuts

FROM PAGE 10

port a very graduated increase in the city income tax.”

CONCERNS ABOUT CUTS to human services dominated the discussion on Saturday. Ten speakers spoke out against potential cuts to the Community Services Board, a list of possible cutbacks prepared in Sep-

tember as a response to a request in July by City Manager Jim Hartmann to identify about \$1 million potential reductions — about 6 percent of its budget. The list of possible cuts included eliminating eight therapists and increasing fees for services.

“We cannot do more with less,” said Mary Anne Weber, chairwoman of the Community Services Board. “We will do less with less, and it is the city’s residents who will

pay the cost.”

A number of speakers expressed their dismay at the possible elimination of a program known as the “Untouchables,” an after-school club founded in 1988 to combat drugs and promote self-esteem among at-risk boys. The list of proposed cuts prepared as a result of Hartmann’s request included eliminating the city’s \$533,000 contribution to the program. Several speakers warned

that eliminating the city’s contribution to this program would create more problems in the long run that will cost taxpayers more money to solve in the future.

“If you cut back on prevention, you’ll have more kids going to jail and you’ll have the HIV rate going up,” said Lawson Smith, a former participant in the Untouchables program. “And you’ll end up spending more money in the long run.”



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OCT. 29 - 7pm Thursday	Corey Wallach, MD Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital 2501 Parker’s Lane, Alexandria, VA	703-750-8800 inova.org /ask the expert
NOV. 19 - 7pm Thursday	Dhruv Pateder, MD Reston Hospital Center 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston, VA	877-689-DOCS (877-689-3627)

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OPINION

Find Voters Guide Inside

Voters guide by League of Women Voters inside this week's Gazette.

Turn to pages 28-31 in this week's Gazette Packet to see the League of Women Voters guide to the upcoming elections. Here you'll find information on all the candidates who will appear on your ballot, including Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and Delegates.

The guide is produced independently by the League of Women Voters and printed in the Gazette Packet as a public service.

To read coverage of the Connection Newspapers ongoing political coverage, go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click on "latest" in the red bar and click on "Politics."

Or go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/allbysection.asp?cat=109.

Do your part for public service by turning out to vote on Nov. 3. To find your polling place and find information on what exactly will be on your ballot, see www.sbe.virginia.gov and click on "voter information."

Really Scary

With Halloween falling on a Saturday night this year, and Halloween being the sort of holiday that young adults and others can embrace

in the midst of a recession, it could more than live up to its reputation as a holiday associated with drinking and driving.

More than half the fatal car accidents over Halloween weekends are caused by drunk drivers, according to the Washington Regional Alcohol Program.

As a means of making the Washington-metropolitan area's roadways a little less frightening this Halloween, the local organization will sponsor free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout Northern Virginia and Suburban Maryland on Saturday, Oct. 31.

We encourage Halloween celebrants to plan ahead, party near public transportation, bring a designated driver, or make other arrangements to stay off the roads after drinking. But if all of that fails, you can call for a free cab ride home.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the Halloween SoberRide program will be in operation beginning Halloween at 10 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 31, and operate until 6 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1 to keep impaired drivers off the road during this traditionally high-risk holiday period.

During this eight-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older and celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to a \$50 fare), safe way home.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 44,120 free cab rides home to would-be impaired drivers on specific holidays in the Greater Washington area. See www.soberride.com.

Absentee Voting

Virtually any Virginia voter can vote ahead of time in person or by mail if for any reason you expect to be away from home, including commuting to your job, on election day. You can mail in an application for an absentee ballot by downloading it at www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Forms_Publications/Index.html. A ballot will be mailed to you for you to fill out and mail back.

Or you can vote early in person at the local elections office and some satellite locations. Call the registrar or check the Web site for hours:

Office of Voter Registration and Elections
132 North Royal Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-746-4050
alexandriava.gov/Elections

❖ In-person absentee voting in the North Royal Street office: Sept. 18 through Saturday, Oct. 31.

❖ Regular hours for in-person absentee voting: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

❖ Extended hours for in-person absentee voting, weekdays until 7:30 p.m. on the following days: Monday, Oct. 26; Tuesday, Oct. 27; Wednesday, Oct. 28

❖ Saturdays, Oct. 24, 31, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Return To Basics

To the Editor:

I have had the opportunity to

recently review various letters, articles and communications regarding [Superintendent of Schools] Morton Sherman's plan to establish campus type schools

at George Washington Middle School and Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

First, I want to make it very clear that I consider myself fortunate to

be a native Alexandrian who attended public schools and am a graduate of George Washington High School. While attending George Washington High School, I had the distinct honor and privilege to serve as class president for all four years, represented the school at the American Legion Boys and Girls State, and proudly wore the blue and gold on the athletic field.

Since prior communications that I have been privy to have more than adequately set forth the history of Francis C. Hammond Middle School and George Washington Middle School I will not address same. However, at this point I want to interject that the generic response from Supt. Sherman to those who contacted him thus far lacked any substance. After serving more than 35 years in local and federal law enforcement, I feel well qualified to recognize when someone is less than forthright in their responses. If Supt. Sherman wants to help the students in the Alexandria School System succeed in life, I suggest that he dispense with his cosmetic changes and return to the days of

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 18



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Snapshot

Oct. 19, 3:58 p.m., Christ Church.

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

www.AlexandriaGazette.com

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OPINION

Closing the Gaps

BY DR. MORTON SHERMAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

In Alexandria City Public Schools, our moral and educational imperative is to assure that each and every student achieves at high levels. By strengthening our partnerships with parents, community members and organizations who share our passion, we are able to hold honest, courageous conversations about tough issues. One of these ongoing conversations revolves around achievement gaps that exist in ACPS.

This week, we invited Dr. Ron Ferguson, director of the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University, to speak to our students, teachers, administrators, School Board members, parents and community members. Dr. Ferguson's research and writing for the past decade have focused on the factors that create racial disparities in academic performance. He has analyzed various school policies and practices, and the importance of lifestyles and the interaction between children and their parents and peers. More information about his book, "Toward Excellence with Equity: an Emerging Vision for Closing the Achievement Gap," can be found at www.hepg.org/hepg/Book/77.

Dr. Ferguson is also the founder and leader of The Tripod Project, which was inspired by findings from a survey of middle and high school students in school districts of the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN). ACPS has recently become a member of this network. As stated on the Tripod Project Web site, www.tripodproject.org, "The Tripod Project is grounded on the assumption that much of the knowledge necessary for improving student outcomes is already present in most schools. What are lacking, however, are routine mechanisms for documenting student experience and instructional practices in classrooms [using surveys and data] and well-structured ways of sharing ideas and searching together as a school community for ways of improving. A sec-

ond assumption is that teachers are willing and able to learn from one another not only within schools, but across schools as well ... The legs of the "tripod" in the Tripod Project are content, pedagogy and relationships: teachers need to understand what they are teaching (content knowledge); they need multiple effective ways of communicating the material to students (pedagogy); and they need to relate to students (relationships) in ways that motivate and enable them."

In addition to talking about his research and the Tripod Project, Dr. Ferguson spoke to Alexandrians about:

- ❖ Holding the superintendent accountable for increasing student achievement and implementing the strategic plan
- ❖ The "seven strategic propositions" for effective change
- ❖ The features of highly effective school districts (the measurable and observable signals)
- ❖ Accountable community leadership that combines passion with competence, including what community leaders are doing in other cities.

Soon, we will have videos of his presentations posted on the ACPS Web site.

We agree with Dr. Ferguson that closing achievement gaps is more urgent today than ever before — and that dramatic success is possible. This is the Civil Rights issue of this generation. We have the talent and the resources. Now, we must have the will to improve and change our culture and practices.

ACPS has made some progress over the years in raising achievement for many students, but we cannot rest until all students are achieving at high levels. I strongly believe that all students can learn, and that each and every child can achieve at high levels; however, in order to accomplish this, we all must share this belief, and we all must be part of the conversation. We have work to do.



Morton Sherman

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NEWS



PHOTO BY LASHAWN AVERY/GAZETTE PACKET

Working Together

Girl Scout Troop 8 joins second vice president Cheron Burns and members of the Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for the chapter's annual Adopt-a-Block Cleanup Program last month at North Henry Street and Wythe Street.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 16

yesteryear when discipline was a key factor, teachers were respected, and parents were more involved in their children's education.

I take my hat off to Kassy Benson, founder of the Francis C. Hammond High School Alumni Association and all of the George Washington High School Alumni Association who have seen fit to voice their opposition to the planned changes associated with the campus concept that seemingly necessitated the change of the schools' names.

John C. Cox, GWHS 1955
Fairfax Station

Current Taxes Are Sufficient

To the Editor:

Your reporter has managed to produce an extremely biased, one-sided view of the gubernatorial election, such as only he can. Case in point, as quoted from his most recent story headlined "Transportation Divides Candidates":

"This has become is one of the central questions in this election," said Isaac Wood, assistant director of communications for the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "Are voters going to vote for candidates that support raising taxes to fund improvements or are they going to vote for candidates who are vague about how they'll pay for it?"

Mr. Wood apparently can't read the candidates' platforms or doesn't want to. The Republican candidate has clearly spelled out how he intends to pay for transportation needs in northern Virginia, some points of which are very innovative; for example, selling the state's liquor stores. Since when does the Commonwealth need to be directly involved with the selling of alcoholic beverages anyway? Some points aren't so new, such as accepting the fact that providing decent roads is a core function of government, a fact avoided by our current governor, and allocating general funds appropriately. But then an idea needn't be new and innovative to work.

And then the reporter adds this piece of hogwash:

"No-tax pledges on transportation funding by candidates for public office are contrary to the best interests of the citizens of the commonwealth and future prosperity," members of the alliance concluded in a July resolution. "Fiscal and political realities dictate that the commonwealth's transportation needs cannot be met without new, reliable revenues in the form of dedicated taxes and/or fees."

Is the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance the same group that our current governor created to raise these new, dedicated, reliable funds, but failed to provide with statutory revenue-raising power? That worked about as well

as an umbrella in a hurricane. That was our governor's half-hearted attempt at addressing the roads situation, which he thereafter walked away from. So much for that innovative new idea.

Whether it's the same group or not, I would offer this to the NVTA: Tax revenues that arrive in Richmond every payday are "new." Said revenues arrive there every week or two; that's about as reliable and predictable as you could possibly ask for. Dedicated taxes? Every hard-earned tax dollar paid to Richmond is dedicated. Dedicated to performing the core functions of government, one of which is providing good, reliable roads. We used "old" taxes for years to build roads and I'm certain those same old taxes will work just fine when it comes to paying for new roads or repairs to the old ones. These are just a few "not-new" ideas that the "alliance" might want to get through its collective skull.

As for pledges, I can solidly pledge that people who pledge to raise my taxes will not get my vote.

Steven M. McLain, P.E.
Alexandria

Alarming Stances

To the Editor:

When I learned about Bob McDonnell's thesis, I knew that his anti-woman record didn't fall too

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 32

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7 WHARF ST	4	3	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,925,000	Townhouse	0.03		FORDS LANDING
600 UPLAND PL	5	4	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,467,500	Detached	0.25		GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK
105 QUAY ST	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,400,000	Townhouse	0.00		OLD TOWN
251 QUAKER LN	6	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,335,000	Detached	0.73		QUAKER LANE
427 FAIRFAX ST S	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$1,075,000	Townhouse	0.05		OLD TOWN
300 PRINCETON BLVD	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$948,000	Detached	0.15		QUAKER HILL
504 CANTERBURY LN	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$900,000	Detached	0.28		MALVERN HILL
11 MASONIC VIEW AVE W	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$899,000	Detached	0.10		ROSEMONT
205 SUMMERS DR	3	1	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$899,000	Detached	0.11		MOUNT VERNON PARK
212 MOUNT IDA AVE E	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$815,000	Detached	0.23		DEL RAY
313 FAYETTE ST S	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$799,000	Townhouse	0.02		OLD TOWN VILLAGE
5241 BESSLEY PL	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$749,000	Townhouse	0.05		CAMERON STATION
5235 BESSLEY PL	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$787,500	Townhouse	0.05		CAMERON STATION
501 CROWN VIEW DR	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Detached	0.29		CLOVER
2181 JAMIESON AVE #1104/1105	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$765,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			CARLYLE TOWERS
3 BELLEFONTE AVE E	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$755,500	Detached	0.10		DEL RAY
1724 POTOMAC GREENS DR	3	3	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$755,165	Townhouse	0.02		POTOMAC GREENS
525 BELLVUE PL	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$749,000	Townhouse	0.03		PITT ST STATION
707 ROYAL ST S	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Townhouse	0.04		YATES GARDENS
125 LONGVIEW DR	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$721,500	Detached			STONNELL/CLOVER
408 PAYNE ST S	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$709,000	Townhouse	0.02		OLD TOWN VILLAGE
5265 BESSLEY PL	4	4	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$682,500	Townhouse	0.04		CAMERON STATION
7 LURAY AVE E	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$681,000	Detached	0.14		DEL RAY / ROSEMONT
171 CAMERON STATION BLVD	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$670,888	Townhouse	0.03		CAMERON STATION
728 CATTS TAVERN DR	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$655,000	Townhouse	0.00		OLD TOWN GREENS
2121 JAMIESON AVE #1603	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$650,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			CARLYLE TOWERS
919 KEMPER ST	5	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$649,000	Detached	0.34		BELLE WOOD
704 CATTS TAVERN DR	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$647,000	Townhouse	0.03		OLD TOWN GREENS
2416 SANFORD ST	4	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$640,000	Detached	0.13		DEL RAY
4923 BARBOUR DR	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$635,000	Townhouse	0.05		CAMERON STATION
124 MARTIN LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$610,000	Townhouse	0.02		CAMERON STATION
423 PATRICK ST N	3	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$601,000	Townhouse	0.05		ALEXANDRIA
150 UNION ST N #TH-150	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$600,000	Townhouse			TORPEDO FACTORY
4600 LAMBERT PL	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$590,000	Semi-Detached	0.07		STONEGATE
5244 TANCRETI LN	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Townhouse	0.03		CAMERON STATION
4637 KEMP CT	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$570,000	Townhouse	0.04		STONEGATE
209 MONROE AVE E	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$560,000	Detached	0.12		COTTAGE PARK
1316 CAMERON ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$555,000	Townhouse	0.03		CHELSEA
4 FORREST ST	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$550,000	Detached	0.12		MOUNT IDA
15 ROSEMONT AVE E	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$549,000	Townhouse	0.04		ROSEMONT
1209 POWHATAN ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$543,000	Townhouse	0.05		VIRGINIA VILLAGE
106 COLVILLE DR	4	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$541,000	Townhouse	0.04		TOWNES AT CAMERON PARKE
133 REED AVE	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$541,000	Townhouse	0.03		PRESTON
3501 NORRIS PL	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$540,500	Detached	0.16		BEVERLY HILLS
1229 MADISON ST	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$535,000	Townhouse	0.02		BRADDOCK PLACE
521 E NELSON AVE	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$533,000	Atth/Row Hse	0.05		LINDEN GARDENS
711 COLUMBUS ST	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$531,075	Atth/Row Hse	0.06		PATRICK HENRY
122 MAPLE ST E	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Townhouse	0.06		ROSEMONT PARK
2512 KING ST	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$529,900	Detached	0.11		GEORGE WASHINGTON PARK
506 COLUMBUS ST S	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$527,000	Townhouse	0.03		OLD TOWN
3903 COURTLAND CIR	3	2	2		ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Townhouse	0.03		SUNNYSIDE
1210 QUEEN ST #1	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$525,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			CROMLEY LOFTS
606 PENDLETON ST #606	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$515,000	Townhouse			SHAD ROW
412 SECOND ST #412	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$510,000	Townhouse			WATERGATE OF ALEXANDRIA
600 ALFRED ST N	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$510,000	Townhouse	0.05		PARKER GRAY
107 UHLER AVE E	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$493,050	Detached	0.13		DEL RAY
385 LIVERMORE LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$490,000	Townhouse	0.03		CAMERON STATION
1413 MOUNT VERNON AVE	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$481,750	Detached	0.12		DEL RAY
903 LITTLE ST	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Duplex	0.06		DEL RAY
25 EARLY ST	4	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Detached	0.23		DELTA
107 MARTIN LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Townhouse	0.03		CAMERON STATION
5083 DONOVAN DR	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$475,000	Townhouse			CAMERON STATION
317A MT IDA AVE E	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$470,000	Duplex	0.09		DEL RAY
305 ASHBY ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$469,500	Duplex	0.07		DEL RAY
810 BASHFORD LN	2	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$464,000	Townhouse	0.01		VIRGINIA VILLAGE
5004 BARBOUR DR #B	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$459,999	Townhouse			CAMERON STATION
6109 MORGAN ST N	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$457,000	Detached	0.29		LINCOLNIA HILLS
317 FAYETTE ST N	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$455,000	Atth/Row Hse	0.04		PARKER GRAY
1600 PRINCE ST #303	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$445,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Flrs			1600 PRINCE STREET
621 ST ASAPH ST N #304	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$442,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			PORTNER HOUSE
209 TAYLOR RUN PKWY	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Duplex	0.07		TAYLOR RUN PKWY
637 COLUMBUS ST S #637	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$440,000	Townhouse			ARCH HALL
2938 HICKORY ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$439,000	Townhouse	0.06		WARWICK VILLAGE
2917 HICKORY ST	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$437,000	Townhouse	0.04		WARWICK VILLAGE
2911 LANDOVER ST	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$437,000	Townhouse	0.06		WARWICK VILLAGE

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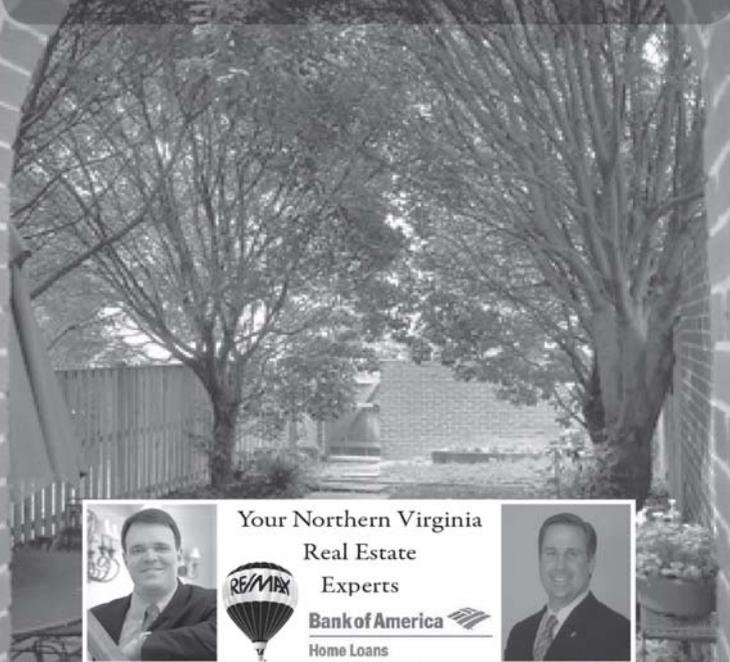
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3706 Riverwood Court
\$820,000
Riverwood Gem!
The first home available in highly sought after Riverwood in months! Truly spectacular property with exceptionally gorgeous pool and grounds! Three finished levels, four bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, two car garage and top quality new roof. Prime location on quiet cul-de-sac in area's premier waterfront community. Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Old Mt Vernon Rd, L Riverwood Rd, L Riverwood Ct.



3906 Rive Drive
\$998,500
Stunning Property!
The most spectacular property you will ever find has been completely updated with breathtaking results! Bright & open floor plan, 3 fin lvs including full w/o LL, 4/5BR, 3.5BA, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning MBR 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 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, L Old Mt Vernon Rd, L Rive Dr.



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!

THE PARKER GRAY HISTORIC DISTRICT / Alexandria offered by **Martine Imer** 703.346.7283

1616 BOYLE ST \$512,000
518 NO. COLUMBUS ST \$549,900
316 NO. FAYETTE ST \$629,900
523 NO. PATRICK ST \$545,000

OPEN SUN 1-4 429 CAMERON STREET Alex / Old Town \$789,000
MAGNIFICENT PITT MEWS 3BR, 3.5BA end unit w/attached garage in heart of Old Town. Upgraded SS kit w/Cherry cabs & BAs w/new Cabs (& granite counter in MBR), Fab Hardwood thru-out, beautiful Georgetown Patio. 1 block to King St/Gadsby's Tavern.
To view home prior to Open House, please call...
Phillip G. Matyas 703.518.8727



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.)



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!



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.

REDUCED! 1001 SAVILE LANE McLean \$2,490,000
ESTATE SIZE LOT IN HEART OF McLEAN! This house has heart & soul. Come and see for yourself. 5,000sqft, mid-century classic, custom built in 1950 on nearly 3 acres. Located just 10 minutes to DC or Tysons. Can subdivide. 5 bedrooms & 5 fireplaces. Fabulous artist studio. www.1001SavileLn.com
Norma Stratton 703.966.0756

OPEN SUN 1-4 116 ROBERTS LANE #301 Alexandria \$330,000
ALEXANDRIA'S BEST KEPT SECRET! The location and space you need, the updated kitchen you want. 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances. Come check out this move-in ready unit.
Susan Haughton 703.470.4545
Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913

OPEN SUN 1-4 828 SLATERS LANE #104 Alexandria \$769,000
SPECTACULAR CONDO! 1,890sqft!! 3BR, 2.5BA, 2 Master suites, gourmet kit, 9' ceilings, Gas fireplace, Plantation shutters & hardwoods thru-out, handicap accessible + 2 indoor parking spaces. City views from rooftop. Shops & rests.
Mary Bourke 703.906.5825
Shane Canny 703.346.2067



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!



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!



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!

REDUCED! 2367 QUEEN ST Arlington - \$730,000
DELUXE 3-LEVEL TOWNHOME with over 3,000 sqft of living space on 3 levels - 3BR/2.5BA. Stainless appliances, large cozy fireplace with built-in bar, wet bar in LR, sep DR, HW's, circular staircase, private brick patio backs to woods - Low homeowner fees - Located near Pentagon City, DC and METRO.
Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

7330 STREAM WAY Springfield - \$335,000
IMMACULATE, like-NEW, 3 level Townhouse w/top to bottom renovations! 3BR,2.5BA, fully finished walkout lower level, fabulous big fenced yard, deck, separate DR & LR w/fireplace. New HVAC, roof, baths, floors, paint, windows & more! Must see! Minutes to METRO & roadways.
Kim Muffler 703.282.7739

2701 BELLEFOREST COURT #204 Vienna - \$358,950
WALK TO THE METRO! Plenty of built-ins, closets, 4x10 storage space and 2 indoor garage spaces. Open & spacious LR & chef's kitchen, separate DR, full size W/D, gas fireplace, & balcony all complimented by large windows for a bright airy feel. 2BR & 2BA.
Sharon Edwards 703.408.8144



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 11,00 sq ft with five bedrooms including main level river view master suite with enormous luxury bath and huge closets. Extensive balconies, deck and roof deck capitalize on the majestic setting high above the Potomac River!



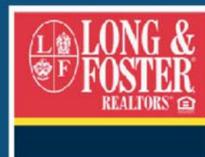
9380 Mt Vernon Circle
\$3,500,000
Private Estate!
Classic Colonial façade with magnificent interior featuring glass walled addition across the rear. Meticulously maintained four bedroom, three level home is loaded with special features and upgrades. Stunning custom addition overlooks beautifully landscaped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



4307 Sheridan's Point
\$794,500
Georgian Colonial!
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 MBR suite, two bonus rooms on LL and dramatic sun room overlooking private fenced yard. Just off the GW Pkwy - easy commute to DC!

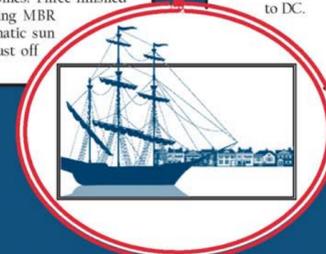
1732 W ABINGDON DRIVE #202 Alexandria \$250,000
POTOWMACK CROSSING! Well-kept 1BR Old Town condo with lots of updates & built-ins. Bright sunny 2nd floor unit with spacious open floor plan. Washer/dryer in unit. Low condo fee. One traffic light to DC.
Martha Deal 703.622.6797

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Unit 101: 3,812 sq ft; 3BR, 2.5BA; \$1,775,000
Unit 102: 4,123 sq ft; 3BR, 3.5BA; \$1,975,000
Michael Manuel 703.615.6317



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NEWS



Bernadette Malpaya of Alexandria stretches out in-between dance movements on the bar.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
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Ballet Cancels Holiday Show

FROM PAGE 3

alexandria Ballet since she was 5 years old, has danced the role of Clara in The Nutcracker for the past two years, and was supposed to do it again this year.

"I think dancing is cool," said Boissonnault. "You can express yourself without words and it's a nice break from reality. It's fun to get in front of an audience and just let go."

An accomplished dancer for her young age, Boissonnault has studied during summers with The Washington School for Ballet and The Joffrey Ballet in New York, but says she likes "Miss Virginia" best.

"She's not like other dance teachers," Boissonnault said. "Most schools I've been to are concerned with developing technique. Miss Virginia lets you put yourself into it, to add your own touch. It's more you."

"Here it's like family — The Alexandria Ballet family. It's special because when you come here you're always going to fit in somehow."

As the sole proprietor of The Alexandria Ballet, Britton wears many hats, but prefers the more artistic and creative roles of her company. She crafted and decorated all the costumes for The Nutcracker, designed the set and choreographed the one-hour shortened version. Her program maintains the artistic integrity of the ballet while keeping up the interest of young audiences. She includes a narrator who engages children in the audience at the start of the performance by having them practice boos for the mouse king and yeas for the prince. Her Nutcracker finishes with the Russian Dance as the finale — a rousing, happy ending to a first exposure for many to classical ballet.

IF A NEW ANGEL doesn't find its way to The Alexandria Ballet in time for this year's performance of The Nutcracker, Britton has a plan to revive the ballet for the 2010 holiday season. She is incorporating, filing for 501C3 non-profit status and creating "The Friends of The Alexandria Ballet." Ballet lovers and others who wish to help can

contact her at 703-568-4425 or visit the Web site www.thealexandriaballet.com.

"One year when the sugar plum fairy came on stage with her wand," she recalled, "a little girl in the audience yelled out, 'That's me!' The adults at the performance and all of us back stage gave a simultaneous, 'Awwwww.'"

That's the kind of reaction that's brings the dancers and the audiences back year after year.

If there's an angel out there trying to earn its wings this season, Miss Virginia and her dancers are standing by.

My trainer changed my idea of just how good 47 can look.

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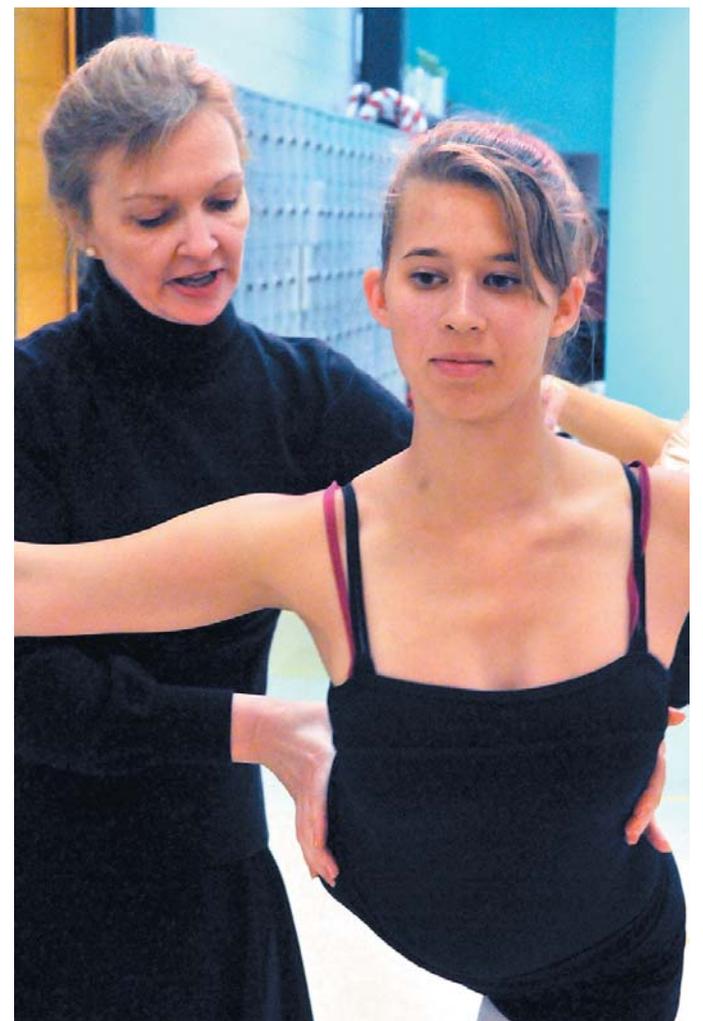
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TC Williams High School student Elizabeth Anderson receives a few pointers on the next step.

HEALTH



Annie Toro runs through the finish line at Race For Dad 10K.



Race for Dad

Many participated in the activities during the Race For Dad 10K on Sunday morning, Sept. 27, on Swamp Fox Road. The fund-raising run benefits research for prostate cancer.

PHOTOS BY
LASHAWN AVERY/
GAZETTE PACKET

Taste for Giving
TO BENEFIT ALEXANDRIA CHARITIES

Come Join Us
for
Food, Art, and Fun!

The second annual Taste for Giving is Friday October 23rd from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Torpedo Factory. Alexandria Commission for the Arts will give the Alex Awards. There will be 15 of Alexandria's best (and most community minded) restaurants giving a taste of their wares, Prince Michel Winery, and Guiffre Distributors and Misha's Coffee House supply the liquid refreshments. It will feature silent and live auctions as well. A guaranteed good time with the proceeds given to hard pressed local charities. Tickets are \$75 per person. Order online at www.alexandriarotary.org or by calling 703-535-1200.

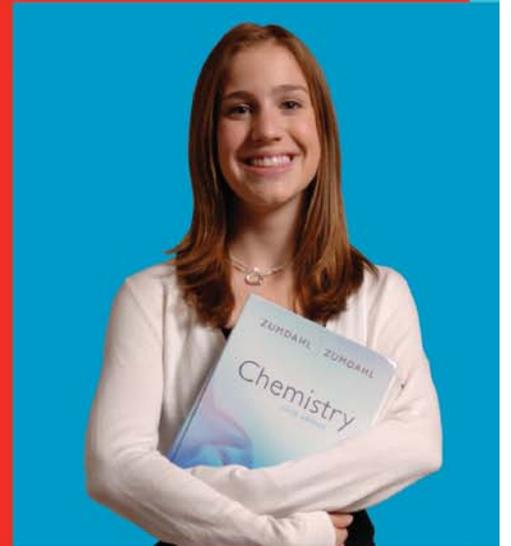
Restaurants include: Jackson 20, Tempo, Finn and Porter, Cafe Pizzaiolo, Union Street, Hard Times, Bittersweet, Del Mere, Pork Barrel BBQ, Geranio Ristorante, Jamieson Grill, Overwood and Columbia Firehouse.

Friday, October 23, 2009 from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Torpedo Factory Art Center • 105 North Union Street • Old Town Alexandria

Tickets are limited and available online at www.alexandriarotary.org or by contacting 703.535.1200

Special thanks to Alexandria Gazette Packet

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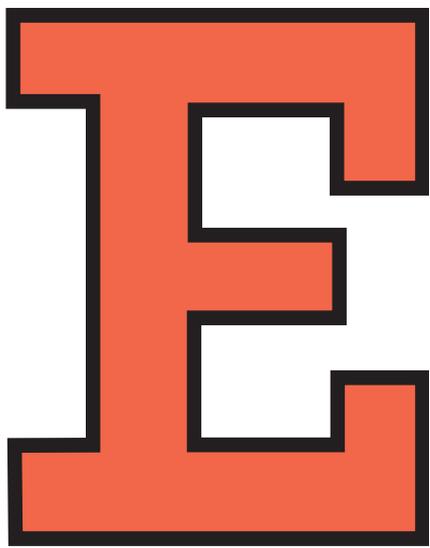
Please contact the Admissions Office at 703.556.8273 for program details or to arrange an alternate time to visit.

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

A Concert for Climate Action

The EcoVoce Ensemble, Alexandria's innovative trio of soprano, flute, and piano whose specialty is music about nature, will present a benefit concert for 350.org's International Day of Climate Action on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 3:50 p.m. at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria.

This concert is one of several thousand climate action events occurring around the world in over 150 countries on Oct. 24 to draw attention to the urgency for finding global cooperation and solutions to our climate concerns. EcoVoce's concert is the only action event taking place in Alexandria that day.

The significance of the number 350 relates to the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere — 350 parts per million that scientists say is the safe upper limit for life to flourish on earth. The world is currently at 388 parts per million. The International Day of Climate Action is intended to raise awareness about climate change and the need for urgent action, encouraging people to stand together by supporting activities that ensure a safe climate future for all.

EcoVoce's concert event will help achieve that awareness through its creative programming of original music by American composers who have been inspired by nature. The program will include the premiere of "Icebergs" and "Polar Sun," two songs composed by Dr. Jane Tavernier for this occasion.

The program features soprano Denise Freeland, flutist Susan Hayes, guest violist Stephanie Knutsen, and pianist Narciso Solero. Andrew Wingfield, author and associate professor at George Mason University, will provide climate commentary.

This concert is made possible, in part, by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

Unconventional Casting Works for 'Inherit the Wind'

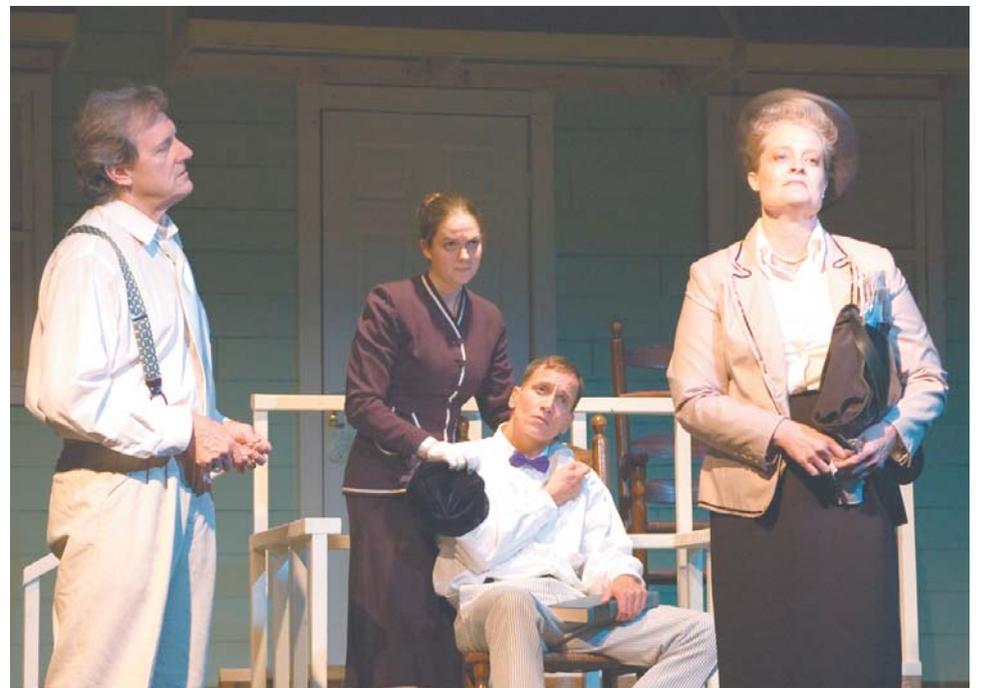
Aldersgate's "Monkey Trial" play solidly presented.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

Director Roland Branford Gomez took an unconventional approach to casting the role based on the famous critic H. L. Menkin in the play, "Inherit the Wind," and it paid off handsomely. As a result, the play has three starring performances instead of the traditional two.

The two traditional starring roles, the ones played by Spencer Tracy and Frederick March in the 1960 movie version that is still watched today, are here played by Mark Lee Adams with his traditional fine feel for a sharp line and Lanny Slusher with a well-defined progression in his characterization from confidence to overconfidence and finally to emotionally crushing defeat. Surprisingly, Adams fails to find the same progression within his role which reduces his performance to a string of well-delivered one-liners.

It is the normally secondary role of Menkin-ish critic that is the real surprise of the evening, however. Gomez gives this role, which has been a fine piece for the likes of Tony Randall, Gene Kelly and Tony Award-winner Dennis O'Hare to a woman and the performance by Rebecca Lenehan in that traditionally male role amply justifies his



DOUGLAS OLMSTED/THE GAZETTE

(From left to right): Mark Lee Adams, Anna Penniman, Richard Isaacs and Rebecca Lenehan.

choice.

Lenehan earned a Washington Area Theatre Community Honors (WATCH) award for the role of a middle-aged schoolteacher afraid of permanent spinsterhood in the Little Theatre of Alexandria's "Picnic" last year. Here she delivers the acerbic barbs of the role with a nice level of understatement, quite a contrast to the over emoting evident the last time she worked on this stage

SEE "INHERIT", PAGE 27

Where and When

The Aldersgate Church Community Theatre's production of "Inherit the Wind" plays through Oct. 31 at the Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, in Fort Hunt, Mount Vernon. Performances are Friday – Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Call 703-660-2611 or log on to www.acconline.org.

Black & Red 'Dracula' Returns

Synetic's Show Back at Spectrum

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

Paata Tsikurishvili's Synetic Theater scored a direct hit four years ago when it staged a thrillingly dramatic one-act encapsulation of the tale of the blood-sucking Transylvanian count of legend, "Dracula," first at The Kennedy Center in Washington and then at the Rosslyn Spectrum.

Now, they try to recreate that magic with a revised version of the piece and, while lightning doesn't strike a second time with as much force and shock as in 2005, there's still enough punch left in the old war horse to impress — especially when the skills of the entire company are turned to the more violent and physical aspects of the tale.

Some elements of the tale date back over 500 years to the time of the Romanian prince with a habit of impaling victims on poles in the public square, earning him the name Vlad the Impaler. In Romanian, his



GRAEME B. SHAW/THE GAZETTE

Natalie Berk as Mina and Dan Istrate as Dracula.

name sounded a bit like "Dracula" which Irish novelist Bram Stoker used for his gothic novel about a vampire which has become the basis of everything from horror movies to Broadway musicals.

Synetic's take on the tale began as a one-act, 15-scene presentation that relied heavily on the physical movement-based style of theater that Paata Tsikurishvili and his wife Irina brought with them when they

emigrated to the United States from their native Republic of Georgia. It had a script that was more a synopsis of scenes by Jonathan Leveck, and Paata Tsikurishvili not only directed, he portrayed the title character.

The new production is again directed by Tsikurishvili but Count Dracula is now performed by company regular Dan Istrate who seems at times to float about the stage in the less violent scenes and then bursts into combat with acrobatic energy.

Visual effects still abound with the opening sequence of combat featuring bodies flung right and left and subsequent scenes either dripping with red ribbons of "blood" or sparkling with a bright white dress against a stark black background.

SEE "DRACULA", PAGE 26

Where and When

The Synetic Theater production of "Dracula" plays through Nov. 15 at the Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent Street in Arlington. Performances are Thursday – Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 - \$45. Call 800 - 494 - 8497 or log on to www.synetictheater.org.

CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 31

16th 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. 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," benefiting Community Family Life Services. At the Old Town Theater, 815 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-684-6000.

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.

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

Concert with a Cause. 3:50 p.m. The EcoVoce Ensemble will perform a concert program to benefit 350.org's International Day of Climate Action with music about nature featuring soprano Denise Freeland, flutist Susan Hayes, pianist Narciso Solero, and violist Stephanie Knutsen. Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-6670 or visit www.opmh.org. Free admission, but donations welcomed.

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



Lynn Hollyfield and Grace Griffith

THURSDAY/OCT. 22

Lynn Hollyfield and Grace Griffith. 7-9 p.m. Free. Contemporary folk music that touches and lifts the human spirit. Part of the Thursday Nite Local Spotlight series. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

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.

Heritage Trail Civil War Bike Ride. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Explore Alexandria's Civil War history with Alexandria Archaeology! Meet at the Bike and Roll Alexandria shop for a 14.5-mile guided bike tour of Alexandria's Defenses of Washington. Reservations required. At Bike and Roll Shop, One Wales Alley. Call 703-838-4399 or e-mail ruth.reeder@alexandriava.gov.

Country Market Fair. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Huge rides, BBQ from Del Merie Grille, live band music, loads of games and arts and crafts. At the Alexandria Country Day School, 2400 Russell Road, Alexandria. Call 703-548-4804 or visit www.acdsnet.org.

Artists Exhibit and Sale. Noon to 5 p.m. Kingstowne Area Artists Association will exhibit and sell its work — acrylics, oils, watercolor, mixed media, pastels, photography, pen and ink, digital media — at the Snyder Center, 6450 South Van Dorn Street, Kingstowne. Free. Go to www.kingstowne.org or contact Ginny Sywyj at duchessducky@msn.com or Nancy Hannans at nhannans@cox.net.

Christmas Bazaar. Good Shepherd Catholic Church's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24. If you or anyone you know is interested in participating, contact Sharon Gurke at wavoff@yahoo.com or call 703-780-5673 for an application/contract. Apply online at <http://www.CraftLister.com/> GoodShepherdChurchChristmasBazaar. GSCC is located at 8710 Mount Vernon Highway Alexandria.

Candlelight Ghost Tours. 8-10 p.m. Visitors will view the museum by candlelight while hearing the ghost stories and creepy history of the Lee-Fendall House. Admission: \$7/adults, \$5/children ages 5-12. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronco St., Alexandria.

Fall Into a Cure. 7 p.m. Cost is \$85/person. Food, drinks and silent auction. At Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria. Sponsored by the DC/Baltimore Chapter of the UMDF.

Walk to Fight Breast Cancer. 8 a.m. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. Meets

at Eisenhower Avenue, 206 Swamp Fox Road, AMC Theater Parking Lot, off Eisenhower Avenue. Sponsored by the INOVA Foundation, Office on Women. Register online at www.alexcanerwalk.com. Call 703-838-5030 or email angela.johnson@alexandriava.gov

Re-enactment of John Carlyle's Funeral. 7-9 p.m. At the John Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. to the Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Fairfax St. Sponsor: Alexandria's Footsteps to the Past. Call Jim Bartlinski at 703-549-2997.

Paws for the Park. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Dogs, kids and the folks who love them are invited to gather for DOGA, Pumpkin Painting, a Blessing of the Animals, K-9 Games, Musical Sit, a fur-filled Costume Parade for two and four legged contestants and more! At Montgomery Park, 901 N. Royal St., Alexandria. Sponsored by Old Town North Community Partnership. Call Elizabeth Frommer at 703-836-8066 or email efrommer@mreproperties.com.

Rummage Sale. 8-12 a.m. Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool, 7719 Fort Hunt Rd, Alexandria, VA 22308. Toys, clothes, bikes, electronics, household items, more. All proceeds benefit the school. <http://www.tauxemont.org/>

School Street Ramblers. 7 p.m. An evening of evening of bluegrass, folk, praise and rock. Free dinner at 6 p.m. Bring canned goods to be donated to local shelter. At Calvary Presbyterian Church. At Calvary Presbyterian Church (downstairs hall), 6120 N. Kings Hwy., Alex. Call 703-768-8510 or go to www.calvarypres.org.

Goodhart Group Pumpkin Patch. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pick a pumpkin, sip on cider, nibble on treats. At 4105 N. Garland Street, Alexandria. Call 703-549-9292 or email sue@suegoodhart.com.

A Show of Hands — Locally Made Craft and Artwork. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Artwork by Zdzislaw (Charles) Szczepanski. Mr. Szczepanski, who passed away in June 2009 at the age of 91, had participated in many juried and one-man shows in the Washington area over the last 20 years. Before his retirement, he worked as an architect and urban planner in Europe, Canada, and most recently, the Washington area. At 2301 Mt Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2905 or visit www.ashowofhands.biz.

SUNDAY/OCT. 25

The Capitol Steps — Live. 4 p.m. At West Potomac High School Springbank Auditorium. Hosted by the West Potomac Crew Team. Tickets are \$25/advance, \$30/door. Purchase tickets online at www.wpcrow.org or by calling 703-768-0165.

13th Annual Delray Halloween Parade. 4 p.m. At the Mt. Vernon Ball Field, 2701 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Sponsored by the Delray Business Association. Call Gayle Reuter at 703-684-3535 or email gayle.reuter@mail.house.gov.

World Wine Tasting Tour. 6-8 p.m. To benefit Seniors Services of Alexandria. At The Anthenaem, 201 Prince Street in Old Town. Go to www.seniorservicesalex.org or call 703-836-4414, ext. 10

Beethoven with the ASO and APAA. 4 p.m. Free. Featuring a chamber music arrangement of his Piano Concerto No. 4. Pianist Yuliya Gorenman, on faculty at American University and currently engaged in a complete Beethoven piano sonata cycle, will be soloist along with the following members of the ASO: Claudia Chudacoff and Allison Bailey, violin; Greg Ruppert, viola; Sean

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 26

WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS PRESENTS

The Walk

TO FIGHT BREAST CANCER

Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.

To register, visit www.alexcanerwalk.com or call 703.746.5030

Help raise funds for early detection and education in Alexandria



INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 25

Neidlinger, cello; Bob Kurz, bass. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-0885 or visit www.alexsym.org.

U.S. Army Concert Band. 3 p.m. With special guest conductor Colonel Akira Takeda, Commander and Conductor of the Japan Ground Self Defense Force Central Band. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NVCC, Alexandria.

TUESDAY/OCT. 27

NOVA Community Chorus. 7:30 p.m. Presents Johannes Brahms, a German Requiem. \$10 admission. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, NVCC, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Call 703-845-6097 mwhitmire@nvcc.edu.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

Eat lunch or dinner to benefit the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee at Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St, 11:30-2:30 p.m., and 5-9 p.m. 10 percent of sales, and all proceeds from a silent auction, will help to support exchanges with Caen, France — Alexandria's Sister City since 1982. Visit www.fontainecaffe.com or call 703-535-8151.

Concert Band and Singing Sergeants. 7 p.m. Free. At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

WPHS Fall Concert. 7:30 p.m. Free. The Women's Ensemble, Symphonic Mixed Chorus, Symphonic Women's Chorus, Bella Voce and Colonial Singers will perform a variety of choral works by past and present composers. Held in the West Potomac High School Springbank Auditorium.

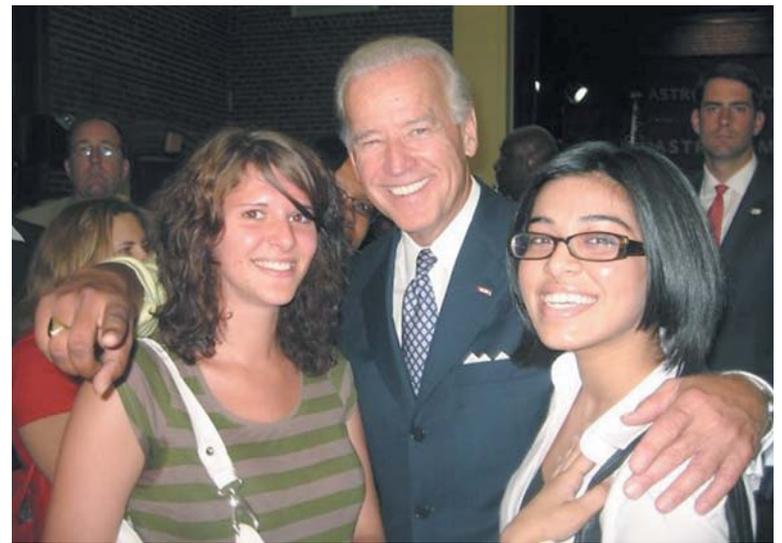
THURSDAY, OCT. 29

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.

FRIDAY/OCT. 30

Tom Goss Performs with Michael Yugo. 9 p.m. At Firelies Del Ray, 1501 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-548-7200. Go to www.tomgossmusic.com.

Candlelight Ghost Tours. 8-10 p.m. Visitors will view the museum by candlelight while hearing the ghost stories and creepy history of the Lee-Fendall House. Admission: \$7/adults, \$5/children ages 5-12. At the Lee-



From left: Charlotte Plasger, summer intern from Caen, France; Vice President Joseph Biden; Natasha Duggal of the Alexandria Office of Communications.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

Eat lunch or dinner to benefit the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee at Fontaine Caffe & Creperie, 119 S. Royal St, 11:30-2:30 p.m., and 5-9 p.m. 10 percent of sales, and all proceeds from a silent auction, will help to support exchanges with Caen, France — Alexandria's Sister City since 1982. Visit www.fontainecaffe.com or call 703-535-8151.

Fendall House Museum, 614 Oronco St., Alexandria.

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.

4 p.m. Features organists Victoria Shields, Douglas Back, Carol Schaub, Irvin Peterson and Julie Vidrick-Evans. Wear your costume, bring the kids and come hear scary organ music to get in the ghouling mood! At Washington Street United Methodist Church, 115 S. Washington St. Old Town Alexandria. Go to www.wsunc.com.

Halloween Parade and Party. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Parade, games and treats. Sponsored by the Stoneybrook Community Association. The Fairfax County Fire Department will have a fire truck there so children can meet the firefighters. Held at the end of Cold Spring Lane. Call Sylvia Frazier at 703-768-0769 or cesylfrazier@cox.net

OCT. 30-31

Woodlawn's Haunted History Tours. 6-8:40 p.m. \$15/person. At 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Intersection of Richmond Highway and Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Call 703-780-4000 ext. 26327 to reserve your space and for more information.

Edgar Allen Poe. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Actor David Keltz returns to the Lyceum's lecture hall to recreate Edgar Allan Poe's visit to Virginia in 1849, shortly before he died. He performs "The Black Cat," "The Cask of Amontillado," or "The Tell-Tale Heart," along with well-known poems "The Raven" and "El Dorado." At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria.

SATURDAY/OCT. 31

Anthology, The Band. 8 p.m. Performs at The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-8899.

Halloween Monster Organ Concert.

SUNDAY/NOV. 1

"Classic Broadway." 4 p.m. Tickets are \$25/adults, \$20 seniors, \$5/students and children. Presented by the New Dominion Chorale. In addition to lush arrangements from "Kiss Me Kate," "Desert Song," and "Showboat," the program includes medleys from "Phantom of the Opera" and the music of Gershwin performed by piano artist Tom Pandolfi. With Sara Dell'Omo, mezzo-soprano and Bob McDonald, baritone. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall on the Alexandria campus of NVCC, 3001 N. Beauregard Street, Alexandria. www.newdominion.org. Call 703-442-9404.



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Black & Red 'Dracula' Returns

FROM PAGE 24

The script, however, has been revisited and revised and is now listed as "a new play by Nathan Weinberger" with no mention of Leveck's 2005 version even though it remains the 15-scene structure. As is often the case with Synetic productions, the show is at its most impressive when the characters are not speaking at all, and the incredibly precise, physically impressive choreography of Irina Tsikurishvili tells the story in motion rather than in word.

This version of "Dracula" has a bit too much dialogue in it and the

spoken word becomes a distraction from that other, more impressive method of storytelling the company has mastered.

The entire company, all 14 of them on the small stage of the Spectrum, throw themselves into the scenes with flair and passion. Natalie Berk and Mary Werntz are the principal women in the cast but it is the trio of Stacey Jackson, Irina Koval and Catalina Lavallo who capture most eyes as Dracula's wives due to the blood red gowns that designer Anastasia Ryurikov Simes provides.

In addition to Istrate, the men in-

clude Alex Mills, giving an open and clear performance as the British clerk who travels to Transylvania on assignment from his firm, and Irakli Kavsadze whose bug-eating inmate in an asylum is an unfortunate distraction from the central story of blood lust.

◆◆◆

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

'Inherit'

FROM PAGE 24

under Gomez' direction in "Hay Fever" two years ago.

"Inherit the Wind" is a thinly disguised historical drama of the time in 1926 when three-time Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan faced off as a prosecutor against legendary defense lawyer Charles Darrow in a trial of a Tennessee school teacher for violating state law and teaching Darwin's theory of evolution. The names were changed, not so much to protect the innocent as to free the authors to twist or bend the record for dramatic effect. For instance, the play has the triple-try Presidential candidate, renamed Matthew Harrison Brady, die immediately following being brought down by the crafty interrogation administered by the attorney named Henry Drummond. In reality, Bryan died five days after the trial ended.

The production in the Aldersgate Church hall is solid in more than just the three leading performers. There's also a string of satisfying supporting performances in the roles of both the accused teacher and his girlfriend who is pressured into testifying against him. Richard Isaacs is convincing as the fearful defendant who is, nonetheless unwilling to sacrifice his principles to avoid punishment for violating what he sees as an indefensible statute, and Anna Penniman is likewise impressive as her character overcomes a sheltered background to take a principled stand.

One other performance deserves to be singled out. Fifth-grader James Woods, who impressed in two appearances at the Little Theatre of Alexandria over the last two years (he was the tantrum-throwing sickly boy in "The Secret Garden" and one of the Rogers kids in "The Will Rogers Follies" under Gomez' direction, handles the role of the school child who opens the show tormenting his sister with the concept that mankind is descended from either worms or monkeys and, later, testifies in the trial. In both, his confident stage presence is of value to the production.

As is often the case with a show directed by Gomez, the emphasis here is on clarity of storytelling. The result does bog down a few times as the cast avoids rushing through the less important material but it does mean that there is little confusion as the evening proceeds.



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

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The League of Women Voters®

2009 FALL VOTERS' GUIDE

**GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009
POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Leagues of Women Voters of Alexandria, Arlington, the Fairfax Area, Falls Church, Loudoun County, and the Prince William County Member-At-Large Unit, are cooperating with The Connection Newspapers to produce this Voters' Guide to assist citizens in choosing candidates for election to public office.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia sent questionnaires to candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General, and the above-mentioned Northern Virginia Leagues sent questionnaires to candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates, whose names were qualified to appear on the November 3, 2009 ballot. Biographies and responses to the questions appear as written by the candidates and are not edited except to comply with Voters' Guide style and stipulated word limitations. A "/" at the end of the biography and/or responses indicates the word limit was exceeded. The candidates' original responses are on file with the Northern Virginia Leagues of Women Voters. Candidates are listed in the order in which they will appear on the ballot, as determined by lot by the Virginia State Board of Elections.

A nonpartisan political membership organization, the League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League of Women Voters does not support any political party or candidate.

For more information on the Fall 2009 Voters' Guide or the League of Women Voters, please visit the Alexandria League of Women Voters at www.lwvalex.org or call 703-549-9386. To view the submissions of all Northern Virginia candidates, visit <http://virginia.va.lwvnet.org>. You may also find comprehensive, nonpartisan information on the November 3, 2009 elections on the League of Women Voters' website, www.VOTE411.org, sponsored by the LWV Education Fund.

For additional information on the November 3, 2009 General Election, voter registration, the district in which you are eligible to vote, where to vote, or absentee voting, contact the Alexandria Office of Voter Registration and Elections at 703-746-4050 or visit www.alexandriava.gov/Elections. You can also contact the Virginia State

Board of Elections at 800-552-9745 or visit www.sbe.virginia.gov.

IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE

All voters are required to present identification at the polls in order to vote. **PLEASE BRING IDENTIFICATION WHEN YOU COME TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009.**

Acceptable forms of identification can be any **ONE** of the following:

- Virginia Voter Information Card
- Virginia driver's license, or special identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Valid United States passport
- Military Identification card
- Any Federal, state, or local government-issued identification card
- Valid employee identification card containing your photo
- Original Social Security card

If you do not have an acceptable form of identification, you must complete, under oath, an Affirmation of Identity **BEFORE** you can vote.

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

THE OFFICE

TERM: Four years (prohibited from serving successive terms)

SALARY: \$175,000

DUTIES: Authority over the day-to-day operations of state government. Commander-in-Chief of the state's armed forces; advises the General Assembly on the condition of the commonwealth by making specific legislative recommendations, including the state budget. Makes ap-

pointments touching every level of government. Signs enacted bills to become laws.

BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

BIOGRAPHY: Background provided by each candidate.

THE QUESTIONS

What will your top legislative **PRIORITY** be, if elected?

Do you believe that any changes are needed in the way the Commonwealth conducts its decennial **REDISTRICTING**? If so, please explain your proposals.

What will be your major emphasis, for both resources and spending, in developing the next state **BUDGET**?

How do you propose to **BALANCE** economic interests with environmental concerns?

CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR - VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

Robert F. "Bob" McDonnell Republican - Challenger



BIOGRAPHY: Maureen and I have been married for 32 years and we have 5 children. I served for 21 years in the U.S. Army. I've been a business manager for a Fortune 500 company, a Virginia Beach Prosecutor, a member of the House of Delegates for 14 years, and Attorney General.

PRIORITY: I will be a jobs Governor! I will focus on growing Virginia's economy, creating new jobs, and re-training our workforce for 21st century jobs. Everyone will benefit from my vision of a reinvigorated private sector, more incentives for businesses locating and expanding in Virginia, and a government that lives within its means, allowing citizens to keep more of what they earn to invest and spend.

REDISTRICTING: I will ensure bipartisan citizen involvement in the redistricting process. Legislative districts must be drawn to maximize voter participation and reflect commonsense geographic boundaries and a strong community of

interests. My bipartisan commission, comprised of citizens who haven't held elected office for at least 10 years, will provide citizens with access through public meetings, proposed maps online, and a website accepting public comment.

BUDGET: As Attorney General I cut my office's budget by 14%, took a pay cut and gave back my state car. Those are the kinds of tough decisions Virginians expect to see from their Governor. We must look for every opportunity to be creative in our budgeting, consolidate state functions, and implement innovation and budget prioritization in Richmond. We must focus on supporting policies that facilitate growth in the private sector, encourage entrepreneurship, allow Virginians to achieve their dreams, and expand our economy.

BALANCE: I championed legislation to ban the use of phosphorus in household detergents and successfully filed suit to stop a wastewater treatment operator from polluting the

Shenandoah River. I helped establish an income tax refund for contributions made to restore the Bay and supported the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Act and the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. As Governor, I am committed to protecting our environment using innovative technology, pollution prevention programs and holding polluters accountable. I will also establish "Green Jobs Zones" to incentivize companies to create quality green jobs.

CONTACT: www.bobmcdonnell.com

R. Creigh Deeds Democrat - Challenger



BIOGRAPHY: State Senator Creigh Deeds is an accomplished legislator, having served eighteen years in the General Assembly. He lives in Bath County with his wife Pam, and their four children: Amanda, Rebecca, Gus, and Susannah. He graduated from Wake Forest Law School and Concord College.

PRIORITY: As governor, I will restore confidence in Virginia's economy by fixing transportation, investing in education, and giving a tax credit to any business that creates a job. I also have a plan to cut spending through aggressive performance reviews that reduce government waste and improve efficiency. And I will put Virginia on a path to be a global leader in clean energy, medical research, and cutting edge technology.

REDISTRICTING: Public policy in my administration will be based on science, not on ideology or partisan politics. For the

past seven years I have proposed bipartisan redistricting legislation. As governor, I will sign such a bill into law. Transparency and honesty are my guiding principles.

BUDGET: I believe we must invest in education even in tough times and my budget will reflect that. I will create an additional 70,000 degrees over the next ten years and commit an additional \$40 million per year to financial aid and guarantee student loans up to \$15,000. Under a Deeds administration, all Virginians will have access to an affordable higher education.

To fix transportation I will bring Republicans and Democrats together and pass a plan that connects every part of Virginia. I will consider all options so we can reach a bipartisan consensus on dedicated, long-term funding that does not drain funding from education and other core priorities.

BALANCE: I have a strong record of protecting the environment and balancing environmental and economic interests. In 1996, I authored the landmark Agricultural Stewardship Act, a bipartisan approach to reduce pollution that was supported by both farmers and environmental advocates. And in 1999, I sponsored a land preservation tax credit program that has helped Virginia conserve 500,000 acres.

CONTACT: <http://deedsforvirginia.com>

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

CANDIDATES FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR – VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

THE OFFICE

TERM: Four years

SALARY: \$36,321

DUTIES: Presides over the State Senate and casts a vote in case of a tie. Fills the office of Governor should the office become vacant by reason of death, resignation or disability.

BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

BIOGRAPHY: Background provided by each candidate.

THE QUESTIONS

How do you envision your **ROLE**, if elected?

How would you influence the dynamics of the legislative **PROCESS**?

What do you see as Virginia's most urgent **PROBLEM** over the next two years?

William T. "Bill" Bolling

Republican – Incumbent



BIOGRAPHY: Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling is the son of a coal miner and first in his family to graduate college. He and his wife Jean Ann live in Hanover and have two sons. He has 18 years of public service as Lieutenant Governor, State Senator, and in local government in Hanover.

ROLE: In a McDonnell/Bolling administration, I'll serve as Virginia's first Economic Development and Chief Jobs Creation Officer.

As Virginia's Chief Jobs Creation Officer, I'll help coordinate all economic development and job creation initiatives across the various agencies of state government. Having the states second highest elected officer actively involved in recruiting new industries signals the importance of bringing new jobs to our state.

In addition, I'll work to find solutions to our

current energy, education, and transportation challenges.

PROCESS: Over the past four years serving as Virginia's Lieutenant Governor, I've promoted an aggressive legislative agenda, which I'll continue.

In order to bring more jobs to our state, I co-sponsored legislation allowing more businesses to qualify for Economic Opportunity Fund money, which has brought \$125 million in new capital investments into Virginia.

I have also worked to strengthen our education system by forcing the Senate to direct lottery proceeds towards education, and by seeking to pass legislation that requires that at least 65% of our education dollars be spent in the classroom.

Finally, I'm very proud that during my time in the Senate, I was able to pass legislation pro-

viding health insurance for children in low-income families.

PROBLEM: The most urgent problem today and in the near future is the need to bring new quality jobs to our state. Current unemployment rates are the highest in 20 years, and all regions of the state have been impacted by the recent economic downturn. In a McDonnell/Bolling administration, I will serve as Virginia's first Economic Development and Chief Jobs Creation Officer, and my number one focus will be on growing our workforce.

Additionally, our state faces numerous challenges to our education and transportation systems. I've proposed detailed plans to confront these challenges, which you can find on my website, www.billbolling.com.

CONTACT: www.billbolling.com

Jody M. Wagner

Democrat – Challenger



BIOGRAPHY: I'm the proud mother of four wonderful children. For 16 years, I was a practicing attorney in Norfolk. From 2002-2005, I served as Treasurer of the Commonwealth, and from 2006-2008, as the Secretary of Finance. In addition, I'm the owner of Jody's, a small popcorn business in Virginia Beach.

ROLE: I will serve as a key member of the state's leadership team, and a partner of the next Governor. I'll use my experience working across party lines to help reach commonsense, bipartisan solutions that improve the lives of Virginia's families. The most important role I can have is to help create new jobs and grow Virginia's economy. In addition, I would spend much of my time advocating for improvements in public education, such

as raising the graduation rate, expanding funding for pre-Kindergarten programs and promoting mentorship and internship programs for at risk students. Finally, I would be a member of five important boards and commissions.

PROCESS: In addition to presiding over the Senate, I would be active in the legislative process by helping to advance the goals of the next Governor, as well as priorities I consider to be important, like creating new jobs and improving education. I have a record of working across party lines to get things done as evidenced by the 2008 Education Bond Package that I negotiated (which passed unanimously) and I would continue to negotiate compromise in order to get things done.

PROBLEM: Virginia's biggest problem is the

global economic decline, and creating new jobs is the only way to confront the issue. We need to take a multi-faceted approach, which involves attracting new industries; helping small businesses start and grow; improving education to ensure our students have the skills necessary to compete in the 21st Century economy; and solving the transportation mess that is threatening our economic viability. Virginians have suffered as a result of the recession, and while we have weathered the storm better than most other states, the top priority of the next Lt. Governor must be to lead Virginia out of the national downturn, and help direct the Commonwealth towards future prosperity.

CONTACT: www.jodyforVA.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

CANDIDATES FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL – VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE

THE OFFICE

TERM: Four years

SALARY: \$150,000

DUTIES: Chief legal officer of the Commonwealth, serves as counsel to the Governor and to all state departments, agencies, boards and commissions.

BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

BIOGRAPHY: Background provided by each candidate.

THE QUESTIONS

What do you think will be the major **ISSUE** facing the Attorney General's office in the next two years?

As Attorney General, what would be your major legislative **PROPOSAL**?

How do you envision **BALANCING** economic concerns with the enforcement of environmental regulations?

Ken T. Cuccinelli II

Republican – Challenger



BIOGRAPHY: An attorney and small business owner, Senator Cuccinelli grew up in Northern Virginia. He graduated from UVA. as a Mechanical Engineer, then received his J.D. and Masters degrees from GMU. Ken married his high school sweetheart, Teiro, and they live with their seven children (and many pets) in Centreville.

ISSUE: Given current circumstances, the major issue for the next Attorney General will be helping to get Virginia's economy growing again in order to support job creation. In addition, the AG will also be looked to for leadership on public safety issues such as fighting gangs, sexual predators, drunk driving and mental health. These are all issues that I will continue to aggressively address, as I have in my 3 terms in the State Senate.

I would also bring 5 years of juvenile delinquency prevention work and over a decade of working with mental health professionals and patients to the AG's office.

PROPOSAL: Among my major legislative proposals as Virginia's next AG would be proposals to continue to improve our mental health system. Since the Virginia Tech tragedy, Virginians have awoken to how much more we need to do to improve our mental health system, and I will continue my leadership on this issue. Additionally, I will continue the work I've been doing in the Senate Courts Committee to toughen our laws addressing gangs, sexual predators and repeat drug dealers. Finally, I will continue my efforts to get property rights protected in Virginia's Constitution.

BALANCING: The balancing of economic concerns with the enforcement of environmental regulations is similar to the balancing in any regulatory decision. First, an AG has to enforce the law, but may exercise such discretion as the law allows to factor in circumstances such as first offenses, technical (e.g., paperwork) violations vs. substantive violations, in coming to conclusions about appropriate responses. We want our environmental regulations to be part of our stewardship of the environment, and like other Virginians, I want to preserve a clean and healthy environment for my children. I also want to undertake reasonable steps to preserve economic opportunities and jobs for Virginians.

CONTACT: www.cuccinelli.com 703-766-0635

Stephen C. Shannon

Democrat – Challenger



BIOGRAPHY: Occupation: Attorney; Odin, Feldman & Pittleman, PC – Fairfax, VA Education: Bachelors Degree, Fairfield University; Masters of Public Policy, Georgetown University; and J.D., University of Virginia Experience: Steve Shannon is a former Fairfax County Prosecutor who has a strong record on Public Safety. He and his wife Abby co-founded Virginia's first AMBER-Alert //

ISSUE: In the next two years, the Attorney General's office must be focused on public safety. As the economy gets back on track, we need to be sure that Virginia creates an environment that is attractive for people and businesses so that they want to come here and flourish here. By keeping Virginians safe, I will work to create that type of environment.

PROPOSAL: My top priority as Attorney General is going to be keeping Virginians safe. I have outlined a number of policy proposals – available on my website at www.shannon2009.com – that will help protect Virginians from drunk drivers, gangs, drug dealers, and other public safety threats. As a father of three and helped found (with my wife, Abby) of Virginia's AMBER Alert system, I am particularly committed to protecting Virginia's children. Specifically, I am committed to keeping Virginia children safe from Internet predators. We know that there are at least 20,000 unique computers trafficking child pornography in Virginia. Law enforcement officials do not have the tools and resources they need to track these online offenders down and put them in jail. I will work

with the Governor and General Assembly to find these resources.

BALANCING: As Attorney General, my job will be enforcing Virginia's law. I believe we need to move towards things like energy efficiency and greater use of renewable energy in order to protect our environment. I also believe we must understand our current economic climate and make sure that as we make the move toward the use of efficiency and renewables, we are balancing the needs and economic constraints of citizens and businesses in Virginia.

CONTACT: www.shannon2009.com 703-218-3501

**GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009
POLLS OPEN 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

THE OFFICE

TERM: Two years
SALARY: \$17,640
DUTIES: Legislative power in the

Commonwealth of Virginia is vested in a General Assembly consisting of a Senate and a House of Delegates. Chief responsibilities are to make laws, levy taxes, and adopt the state budget.

BIOGRAPHY AND QUESTIONS

BIOGRAPHY: Background provided by each candidate.

THE QUESTIONS

What measures would you support to make the **REDISTRICTING** process less partisan?
 Should the allocation of public

EDUCATION funds throughout the Commonwealth be revised? If so, what would you propose?
 What other state **ISSUE** would you like to discuss?

CANDIDATES FOR THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES – 45TH DISTRICT (Voters in This District Vote for Not More Than One)



Vicki L. Vasques *Republican – Challenger*

BIOGRAPHY: For 25 years, Vicki Vasques served as a dedicated, senior-level public servant—leading education reform and energy improvement initiatives for the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Energy. As a mother, wife and former public school teacher, Vicki has a plan to put “Families First” in Richmond.
REDISTRICTING: A bipartisan, expert-led commission is the best approach to redistricting. For far too long, redistricting has been a political game, with too much emphasis on political parties and too little focus on citizen representation.
EDUCATION: Dramatically improving the quality of our public education system is the most crucial long-term challenge facing our state—as education impacts community re-

newal, jobs, the economy, and the ability of low-income children to achieve success.
 The Commonwealth should ensure that funding levels for core public education programs are not reduced—and should allocate additional funds to schools that have not met state and federal benchmarks, provided that these schools develop plans to improve student academic achievement. These plans should include improving public school (inter-district) choice, encouraging alternative teacher recruitment and certification programs, and instituting challenging coursework such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate.
 In addition, I support allowing parents of children with special needs to choose the best schools for their children, through a corporate scholarship tax credit program. I also support allowing multiple entities (nonprofits, state boards,

and universities) to authorize the creation of high-quality public charter schools.
ISSUE: As Virginia works to rebuild in the aftermath of the global economic recession, we need leaders who will champion smart policies that create good new jobs and help family businesses. Vicki will lead a bipartisan effort to review, from A to Z, all state programs and expenditures to immediately eliminate wasteful spending while protecting core services. In addition she'll tackle our transportation nightmare—along with our environmental challenges—with innovative solutions, such as an unprecedented \$1,000 state income tax deduction that rewards families who use public transportation—such as Metro and bus systems—or who install environmentally-friendly sources of energy for their homes (solar panels, etc.).
CONTACT: www.vasquesforvirginia.com
 vickivasques@gmail.com 703-678-8683



David L. Englin *Democrat – Incumbent*

BIOGRAPHY: State Delegate, 45th District. Committees: Health, Welfare, and Institutions; Privileges and Elections; Virginia Poverty Reduction Task Force. Former Air Force officer. Vice President, Live Wire Media Relations. Masters in Public Policy, Harvard University; Bachelor of Science, U.S. Air Force Academy. Campaign Chairman, Alexandria United Way; Alexandria Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.
REDISTRICTING: As a member of the Elections Subcommittee, time and again I have co-patroned, voted for, and fought for several versions of non-partisan redistricting reform legislation. In a democracy, voters are supposed to choose their elected leaders, and not the other way around!

This is an important reform that would strengthen our democracy, and I will continue working with the League of Women Voters to get it passed.
EDUCATION: Yes. The Composite Index, which determines the ratio of state to local education dollars, does not account for high ESL, special education, or disadvantaged student populations, which means taxpayers in Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax must bear a disproportionate cost, even after accounting for our relative wealth compared to the rest of the Commonwealth. Additionally, the state uses a triennial census of school-aged children to determine the distribution of education sales tax dollars, but this does not accurately count children in high growth or transient localities like ours. Therefore, in 2009, I co-patroned a bill to replace this method with the “average daily membership” method, which would give a more current and accurate count of stu-

dents and would have resulted in an additional \$5 million per year to Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax.
ISSUE: As your Delegate, I have worked to end the sales tax on food, for quality pre-school for every child, against harmful pollution from the Mirant Plant, for marriage equality, reproductive rights, and voting rights, and to lower health care costs for families and businesses. I fought to cut middle class income taxes and promoted new green jobs that also help reverse climate change. I secured equal rights in hospital visitation, minimum wage protection for seniors, and smoke-free restaurants beginning December 1. Re-elect me, and I will continue fighting to strengthen our community, defend our progressive values, and invest in our future.
CONTACT: www.davidenglin.org
 info@davidenglin.org 703-549-3203

CANDIDATES FOR THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES – 46TH DISTRICT (Voters in This District Vote for Not More Than One)



Sasha Gong *Republican – Challenger*

BIOGRAPHY: Professor, journalist/author, human rights activist for the 35 years. Spent year in Chinese prison for pro-democracy activities. PhD in sociology, Harvard, 1995. Taught at UCLA, George Mason and George Washington. Radio Free Asia, Manager, Cantonese service. Senior Program Officer, Solidarity Center, pro-democracy China programs. Autobiography “Born American” released July 2009.
REDISTRICTING: Gerrymandering of electoral districts is almost as old as the Republic. The passage of voting rights laws by federal and state legislatures, coupled with court cases, have ensured representation for disadvantaged groups. Engineering a “safe district” may actually work against the interests of voters, since elected representatives may feel they don't have to

work hard to represent everyone. I strongly support a bipartisan commission to work on redistricting to insure geographic and demographic consistency and communities of interest. This commission will serve the purpose of ensuring equal and fair opportunity for all communities and constituencies.
EDUCATION: The Standards of Quality should be fully funded by the both the federal and state governments. Without such funding, SOQ's will not be realized, especially in less affluent jurisdictions. Adequate funding will enable schools and teachers to be achieve the higher standards, thereby improving education state-wide. All future federal school mandates should be fully-funded.
 I propose core curricula to focus on English, reading and writing, history and basic social sciences, math, and science, which are the fundamental skills for the advancement of students. I further propose to enhance vocational and technical

training programs in secondary schools and community colleges.
ISSUE: In today's global economy, the USA has fallen far behind our major competitors in science and mathematics. In Singapore, South Korea and Japan, students attend school ten months each year. In many US graduate schools, foreign science and technology students outnumber US-born students. I propose to: 1.) Strengthen Virginia's school standards to the new global standard; 2.) improve vocational/technical education for high school students who do not attend college immediately after graduation; and 3.) emphasize vocational/technical training to meet the demands of job market. This will enhance Virginia as a desirable location for out-of-state investment and help create more jobs.
CONTACT: www.sashagong.net
 sasha@sashagong.net 202-372-5210



Charniele L. Herring *Democrat – Incumbent*

BIOGRAPHY: In 2009, I was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. I am an attorney and manager of a small company. I received my Juris Doctorate from Catholic University; B.A. in Economics from George Mason University. For 23 years I have been active in my community serving on various commissions.
REDISTRICTING: I would support a bi-partisan redistricting commission to determine the districts. Bipartisan redistricting will ensure a more non-biased determination of district lines.

I have supported a bi-partisan redistricting commission in the past and will continue to do so.
EDUCATION: Yes. I would propose re-examining the school funding formula for localities. Also, Virginia teacher's salaries need to be raised to the national average, at a minimum. Our college and universities funding should be maintained so that our graduates can be competitive in our global economy.
ISSUE: I am concerned about the rise in the number of homeless children in the Commonwealth. Due to the rising foreclosures and rising unemployment, there are more homeless children. It is imperative that our state focus on preventing

homelessness instead of focusing on shelter care. Last year, there was a surplus of TANF funds which could have been appropriated to a Rental Assistance Program. The Program would have provided temporary rental assistance to families and prevent them from ending up in shelters. Children who become homeless have low attendance in school and are more likely to get sick. We would save our state money in shelter care, if we focused on keeping families in their homes. The cost of keeping a family in their home is less than providing them shelter care.
CONTACT: www.herringfordelegate.com
 Charniele.Herring@gmail.com 703-370-1163

CANDIDATES FOR THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CANDIDATE FOR THE VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES – 49TH DISTRICT
(Voters in This District Vote for Not More Than One)



Adam P. Ebbin
Democrat – Incumbent

BIOGRAPHY: Adam Ebbin has lived in northern Virginia for twenty years and served as a Delegate since 2004. He graduated from American University, and was a fellow at the Sorensen Institute of Political Leadership. Ebbin was Chief Deputy Commissioner of the Virginia Department Commissioner of Labor and Industry for Governor Mark Warner.
REDISTRICTING: I have co-sponsored legislation several times to establish a non-partisan redistricting commission. I continue to support a constitutional amendment to require that legislative districts are drawn based on communities of common interest, rather than for partisan advantage.

EDUCATION: The allocation of funds should be reviewed. Not only should the income of district residents be considered, but also the socio-economic and ESL (English as a Second Language) population of the students.

ISSUE: I continue to be very concerned about the environment and what Virginia can do to combat climate change and pollution. Working with Governor Kaine and Senator Mary Margaret Whipple, I have worked to see that government buildings are built to “green” standards. I have also worked to drastically reduce pollution caused by plastic and paper grocery bags. I have been named an “Environmental Hero” by the League of Conservation Voters five times and serve on both the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality and Climate Change Committees.

I chaired the Virginia Commission on the Prevention of

Human Trafficking and passed legislation that expanded the definition of abduction to include trafficking-related offenses. Trafficking is modern day slavery: when a person is obtained through force, fraud or coercion for forced labor or sexual servitude.

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the rate of infections that patients acquire during hospital stays, unrelated to their original ailment. As a member of the Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee, I will seek to enact policies that will reduce the rate Hospital Acquired Infections (HAI).

CONTACT: adamebbin.com
 ebbinfordelegate@gmail.com

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA COMMONWEALTH’S ATTORNEY

THE OFFICE

TERM: Four years

DUTIES: Prosecute all criminal offenses that occur in the City of Alexandria.

**CANDIDATE FOR CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
 COMMONWEALTH’S ATTORNEY**
 Vote for Not More Than One

S. Randolph Sengel
Incumbent

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA SHERIFF

THE OFFICE

TERM: Four years

DUTIES: Responsible for the running of the Alexandria Detention Center, courthouse security, transport of prisoners, the service of civil process and criminal warrant execution.

CANDIDATE FOR CITY OF ALEXANDRIA SHERIFF
 Vote for Not More Than One

Dana A. Lawhorne
Incumbent



VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2009

This Fall 2009 Voters’ Guide is brought to you as a public service by:
**The League of Women Voters and
 The Connection Newspapers**

PEOPLE



Elaine Johnson and Cleatus Burk.



Gail Krecji and Meredith Brown.



Outgoing Supporting Friends co-chairs (sitting) Cleatus Burk and Maureen McGuire-Kuletz. Incoming co-chairs (standing) Carrie Garland and Bridget Weaver.

PHOTOS BY
 LOUISE KRAFFT
 GAZETTE

A Reunion of Supporting Friends

Past and present Supporting Friends met on Thursday, Oct. 15, for a reunion in Alexandria. The friends are currently working on the annual Scottish Walk Parade and weekend activities scheduled for the first weekend of December.



Sharleen Dunn and Bridget Weaver.



Mary Ann Conant, Katherine Edwards and Claire Schwab.



Judy Williams and Donnie Wintermute.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 18
far behind thus making him one of the most dangerous elected officials for women's reproductive healthcare. But the Republican candidate for Attorney General, Ken Cuccinelli, is even worse. He takes pride in being called "one of the staunchest ... conservatives The Old Dominion has to offer."

How extreme is he? Just two years ago, Sen. Cuccinelli co-sponsored HB 2797, defining human life as beginning at the moment of fertilization. He's on record stating that abortion should be illegal in cases of rape or incest. He sponsored an amendment to end Planned Parenthood's funding for breast and cervical cancer screenings for low-income women. He's the reason we now have a license plate funneling money into deceptive and medically inaccurate crisis pregnancy centers throughout the Commonwealth. The list goes on and on; Sen. Cuccinelli has dedicated his career to undermining women's reproductive rights.

But what I find most alarming is that Mr. Cuccinelli has been caught boasting, on numerous occasions, that he "will not defend what I, in my judgment, deem to be an unconstitutional law ... there is no guarantee, right off the bat,

that I'm going to defend every single law in Virginia. If I determine it is not to be constitutional, I will not defend it." Virginia surely does not deserve an attorney general whose personal agenda aims to chip away women's access to healthcare, and who blatantly disregards precedent and the law. As a woman, as a Virginian, and as a voter, I'm planning on using my vote on Nov. 3 for Steve Shannon, who supports my rights and cares about my reproductive health.

Jennifer Miller
Chair, Board of Directors
NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia
Alexandria

Reached By Mail

To the Editor:

We the voters should not ignore our voice for better leadership on Nov. 3. "I wish I had voted and or I should have voted" could be your words. So be counted.

One question we all have in mind is who will be our next Governor of Virginia as well as other candidates for election?

Recently I received a brown envelope in mail, before opening it I read who was the sender: Absentee Processing Center, with no ad-

dress, below the front left corner read in large bold red letters: "Do not tamper official document." And the back of the envelope read Republican Party of Virginia address from Richmond, Virginia in small fine print. I stared for a second before opening as I read Commonwealth of Virginia Absentee Ballot Application Enclosed in small sized bold print. My thought was: Why didn't the Democratic party think of this? It's a good thing reach out to those who may not be able to stop and pick up the form as well as not be able to vote in person on the Election Day.

I was not the only one with in my area to receive the absentee application to vote and I am sure many took the time out and mailed it in if not able to vote on Nov. 3 Election Day. Nevertheless I am one of those undecided voters for Governor. I was for former Democratic candidate Brian Moran. Wouldn't it be awesome if all his supporters would do a write in at the polls? Just a thought!

I don't know who I'll vote for in that category but I do not recall receiving any or much mail from Candidate Creigh Deeds Campaign for Governor. Everything I have received has been from the Republican party. But, as a Democrat supporter it isn't just another day, it's a day to vote. Be mindful and vote on Tuesday, Election Day Nov. 3.

Geri Baldwin
Alexandria

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Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier

www.christthesaviouranglican.org
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703-780-5019 • www.wesleyva.org

**Good Shepherd
Catholic Church**

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)
Sign Language Interpreter
Sunday at 9:00 am Mass

8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org

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- DEL RAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-2088
- FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-671-8557
- ROBERTS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-7332
- ST. ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-751-4666
- TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-5500
- WASHINGTON FARM UNITED METHODIST...703-780-4696
- WASHINGTON STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-4324
- CHURCHES-UNITARIAN**
- MT. VERNON UNITARIAN...703-765-5950

- CHURCHES-UNITY**
- UNITY IN ALEXANDRIA...703-931-8507
- SYNAGOGUES**
- AGUDAS ACHIM CONGREGATION...703-998-6460
- SYNAGOGUES-ORTHODOX**
- CHABAD LUVAVITCH OF ALEXANDRIA-ARLINGTON...703-370-2774
- SYNAGOGUES-REFORM**
- BETH EL HEBREW CONGREGATION...703-370-9400

- THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**
- ALEXANDRIA I WARD...703-683-7577
- ALEXANDRIA II WARD...703-549-9891
- COLONIAL II SINGLES WARD...703-313-6249
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- BELLE HAVEN WARD...703-780-4789
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- FRANCONIA WARD...703-313-6147
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Answers for Transportation?

To the Editor:

As someone extensively involved in local and regional transportation issues, I have been following the Deeds versus McDonnell race for governor with considerable interest. One candidate, Bob McDonnell, is making transportation his almost solitary focus, perhaps due to the unpopularity of his stated views on women in the workplace. While I appreciate his interest in transportation, I find his strategy for dealing with this issue to be filled with problems.

According to the document on his Web site, "Transportation Plan-Breaking Down the Numbers," he intends to embark on a major round of spending on upgrading Virginia's transportation system. To pay for it, he would allow tolls on Virginia's interstate system and sell of the state liquor stores. He also wants more federal stimulus money in the short term.

Tolls on our interstate system

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 33

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 32

and funding for major transportation projects, whether stimulus-related or otherwise, require a friendly relationship between the Governor, our Senators, and our President. Too many other states are competing for approvals and funds for anything less to be successful. Yet Bob McDonnell has openly allied himself with the Republican Party, whose current leaders question the President's citizenship and attack any Republican who attempts to work with a Democrat. This means that Virginia's governor will have no choice but to refrain from working with Senators Warner and Webb, both of whom are Democrats. It's hard to see how he will be able to work with the President, either, since he has yet to repudiate attacks on the President's legitimacy. Funds and approvals that would have gone to Virginia will simply go somewhere else.

As for selling off the liquor stores to pay for transportation improvements, this is like selling your 60,000-mile-plus used car to buy a mansion. The difference between the revenue from such a sale and what improvements would cost are literally that great. I am frankly shocked that he is putting it forward as a serious proposal.

Clearly, Virginia deserves real answers to our transportation problems. Bob McDonnell clearly doesn't have any.

Kevin H. Posey
Alexandria

Police Investigate Bank Robbery

Alexandria Police are investigating a bank robbery that occurred Oct. 15 at the M & T Bank, located at 833 South Washington St. Around 2:45 p.m., a man walked into the bank, approached the teller and brandished a firearm. The suspect demanded money, took an undisclosed amount of cash and fled the bank. No one was injured.

The suspect is described as an unknown race male. He was wearing a hockey mask and a light colored hooded sweatshirt with a green jacket over top of the sweatshirt. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Criminal Investigations Section of the Alexandria Police Department at 703-838-4444 or the Crime Solvers tip line at 703-838-4858.

Detectives remind witnesses that they can remain anonymous.

Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE
Quick Family Mart Corp. trading as Hanna's Market, 4701 Chambliss St, Alexandria, VA 22312. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer and Wine Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Meseret Ketema, Owner

ABC LICENSE
Roger's Deli-Pizza LLC-Roger Smith, trading as Roger's Deli-Pizza, 6631 Wakefield Dr, Alexandria, VA 22307. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Roger Smith, Owner

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #2343, 5101 Duke St, Alexandria, VA 22304. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #2149, 326 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #2007, 3120 Duke St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1422, 3811 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria S/C, Alexandria, VA 22305. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

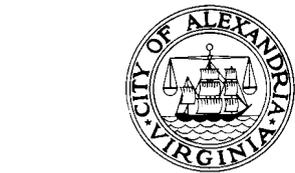
ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1410, 415 Monroe Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1408, 4606 Kenmore Ave, Alexandria, VA 22304. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1385, 1462 Beauregard St, Alexandria, VA 22311. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1384, 259 South Van Dorn St, Alexandria, VA 22304. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary

ABC LICENSE
Virginia CVS Pharmacy, LLC trading as CVS/Pharmacy #1373, 433 South Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine/Beer Off Premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Linda M. Cimbron, Assistant Secretary



Alexandria Board of Architectural Review
Old & Historic Alexandria District

LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Legal Notices

A public hearing will be held by the Alexandria Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2009 beginning at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

CASE BAR2009-0236
Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 5 Potomac Ct, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: Robert Bentley Adams & Assoc.

CASE BAR2009-0237
Request for approval of addition/alterations at 5 Potomac Ct, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: Robert Bentley Adams & Assoc.

CASE BAR2009-0239
Request for approval of signage at 300 N Washington St, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: Prudential Carruthers Realtors

CASE BAR2009-0240
Request for approval of alterations at 904 King St, zoned KR King Street Retail. APPLICANT: RedRocks Napoletana in Old Town

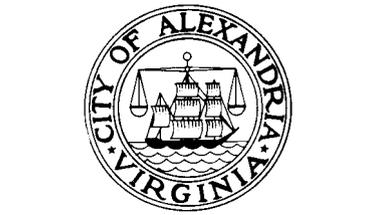
CASE BAR2009-0242
Request for approval of demolition/encapsulation at 227 S Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: William Cromley

CASE BAR2009-0243
Request for approval of addition/alterations at 227 S Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: William Cromley

CASE BAR2009-0245
Request for approval of a waiver of HVAC screening requirement at 227 S Fairfax St, zoned RM Residential. APPLICANT: William Cromley

CASE BAR2009-0209
Request for approval of signage at 625 First Street, zoned CD Commercial. APPLICANT: Carr 625 First St LLC
BOARD ACTION:

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: (703) 838-4666



ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION

NOVEMBER - 2009

The items described below will be heard by the Planning Commission and the City Council on the following dates. NOTICE: Some of the items listed below may be placed on a consent agenda. A consent item will be approved at the beginning of the meeting without discussion unless someone asks that it be taken off the consent agenda and considered separately. The Planning Commission reserves the right to recess and continue the public hearing to a future date. For further information call the Department of Planning and Zoning on 838-4666.

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009
7:30 PM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2009
9:30 AM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

THE PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HOLD

A WORKSESSION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2009 AT 6:30PM IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL WORKROOM TO DISCUSS POTOMAC YARD PLANNING.

TEXT AMENDMENT #2009-0005

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL FOR SIGNS IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS

A) Planning Commission initiation of a text amendment; B) Public hearing and consideration of an amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance to allow administrative

Legal Notices

approval of some signs in the historic districts.

Staff: Department of Planning and Zoning

TEXT AMENDMENT #2009-0006

ADULT USES

A) Planning Commission initiation of a text amendment; B) Public hearing and consideration of an amendment to Section 7-2400 of the City's Zoning Ordinance to define and regulate the location of sexually oriented businesses within the City.

Staff: Department of Planning and Zoning

TEXT AMENDMENT #2009-0007

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

A) Planning Commission initiation of a text amendment; B) Public hearing and consideration of an amendment to add Section 11-350 of the City's Zoning Ordinance requiring public disclosure of parties having an ownership interest in an applicant or the real estate which is the subject of an application. Staff: Office of the City Attorney and Department of Planning and Zoning

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0046

29 EAST WALNUT STREET
SUBSTANDARD LOT CONSTRUCTION

Public hearing and consideration for reapproval to construct a single family dwelling on a substandard lot; zoned R-2-5/Single and Two-Family. Applicant: Mark Poskaitis

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0051

902 & 904 KING STREET

REDROCKS PIZZA NAPOLETANA RESTAURANT

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a restaurant; zoned KR/King Street Retail. Applicant: Firebrick Food Group, Inc represented by Duncan Blair, attorney

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0052

118 KING STREET

PIZZERIA PARADISO RESTAURANT

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a restaurant; zoned KR/King Street Retail. Applicant: Paradise OT, LLC represented by M. Catharine Puskar, attorney

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0053

616 C SOUTH PICKETT STREET (Parcel Address: 600 South Pickett Street)

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP

Public hearing and consideration of a request to operate a general repair automotive shop; zoned I/Industrial. Applicant: Qasem Rawad

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0054

2615-2619 MT. VERNON AVENUE

LOS TIOS GRILL RESTAURANT EXPANSION

Public hearing and consideration of a request to expand an existing restaurant and a request for a parking reduction; zoned CL/Commercial Low.

Applicant: Mejia Brothers, Inc.

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0043

115 KING STREET

LANDINI'S RESTAURANT - VALET PARKING

Public hearing and consideration of a request for valet parking; zoned KR/King Street Retail. Applicant: Noe Landini

SPECIAL USE PERMIT #2009-0047

CARLYLE DEVELOPMENT - 333 JOHN CARLYLE STREET

Public hearing and consideration of a request for an amendment to the special use permit for the Carlyle development to extend the time period for which office space is permitted in 333 John Carlyle Street; zoned CDD-1/Coordinated Development District.

Applicant: 1900 Duke Street, LP by Kenneth Wire, attorney

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE HEARD BY PLANNING COMMISSION ONLY, (AND BY CITY COUNCIL ONLY UPON APPEAL.)

STREET NAME CASE #2009-0008

PRIVATE STREET NAMES FOR JAMES BLAND DEVELOPMENT

Public hearing and consideration of a request for approval of private street names within

the James Bland development. Staff: Department of Planning and Zoning

Legal Notices

Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chartered
3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 460
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

NOTICE OF SUB. TRUSTEE'S SALE

803 Cameron Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

In execution of the first Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$600,000.00 from ROOMERS, INC. dated March 3, 2006 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of ALEXANDRIA Virginia Instrument No. 060006692 at page 000542, and the second Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of \$480,000.00 from ROOMERS, INC. dated March 3, 2006 recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the City of ALEXANDRIA Virginia Instrument No. 060006694 at page 000555, default having occurred in the payment of the Notes thereby secured and at the request of the holder of said Notes the undersigned Substitute Trustee(s) will offer for sale at public auction at the Main Entrance to the City of Alexandria Circuit Court 520 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 on **October 30, 2009 at 1:30 PM** the property described in said Deeds of Trust. Such property is located at the above address and briefly described as an improved commercial property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of **\$50,000.00** in the form of cash or certified check will be required at the time of sale with settlement within fifteen (15) days from the date of sale. Additional terms may be announced at the time of sale. Pursuant to the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act we advise you that we are a debt collector attempting to collect the indebtedness referred to herein and any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chartered, Substitute Trustee(s)

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Arnold D. Spevack, Esq., Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chartered, 3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 460, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, 301-986-1300 OR Alexander L. Forbes, Tidewater Auctions, LLC, 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Ste. 440, Washington, DC 20015 202-243-0590

Obituary

Jean Zacharias Pfeiffer, 91, a longtime resident of the Mount Vernon area, passed away on October 9, 2009, at Carriage Hill of Bethesda, Maryland. Jean, daughter of Adele and Herbert Zacharias, was a native of Jacksonville, Florida. She attended Florida State College for Women, now Florida State University, in Tallahassee, and the American School of Design in New York City. Jean worked as a fashion illustrator for John Wanamaker's in New York City, as well as other department stores. In 1942, Jean married Paul Norman Pfeiffer, later the Chief Administrative Law Judge for the U.S. Maritime Administration and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Mr. Pfeiffer died in 2000.

The couple settled in Northern Virginia in 1946 and had two children. In the late 1950's and 1960's, Jean was active in Democratic Party politics, working as vice-president and precinct operations chairperson in the Mount Vernon district. An accomplished musician, she studied the organ under Herman Berlinski, Minister of Music at the Washington Hebrew Congregation. She was the organist for Roberts Memorial United Methodist Church in Alexandria, Virginia, and the assistant organist for St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Springfield, Virginia, among other churches and synagogues. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists.

She is survived by her daughter, Andrea, a lawyer and an Administrative Law Judge for the City of New York, her son, David, an archivist for the National Archives and Records Administration, and four grandchildren, Susan Birnbaum Fisher, Molly Birnbaum, Matthew Pfeiffer and Neal Pfeiffer.

She will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery on Monday, October 26, 2009, at 3 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association.

FAMILY COURT FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE NOTICE OF FAMILY COURT DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT CUSTODY ACTION

TO: CLAUDIA JENKINS DOB: 12-14-69

FROM: FAYTHE DANIELS, DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES

X Minor Male, DOB 1-26-94

A hearing has been scheduled at Family Court, 500 King St, Wilmington, Delaware, on October 28, 2009 at 12:30pm

If you do not appear at the hearing, the Court may grant custody of your children to the Division of Family Services without your appearance. If you wish to be represented by an attorney in this matter but cannot afford one, **YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO HAVE THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU FOR FREE.** For more information, please contact the Confidential Clerk at Family Court 302-255-0239

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• MOUNT VERNON

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TUESDAY 4 P.M.

ZONE 3: • ALEXANDRIA
• MOUNT VERNON

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ZONE 3 Ad DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

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Employment: 703-917-6464

Fax: 703-917-0992



E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

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TC QB Hargrove Returns from Fractured Wrist

Senior signal caller would likely improve Titans' passing game.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Joe Hargrove on Tuesday walked up a flight of stairs and onto the football field at Parker-Gray Stadium — a trip he's made numerous times before. But this time was different. There was a sense of excitement in the air.

Dressed in full pads and wearing a thick layer of protection around the cast on his right forearm, Hargrove skipped anxiously as he approached the 50-yard line on the home side of the field. It took awhile to get his cast wrapped in the training room, so most of his T.C. Williams teammates were already stretching before practice. As Hargrove passed by, nearly every Titan warming up on the field turned his attention to the 6-foot-3 senior quarterback. Hargrove then picked up a football, let out a shout of approval and started his warm-up lap around the field.

He's back.

One day after being medically cleared for game action, Hargrove practiced in full pads for the first time since fracturing his right, non-throwing wrist Aug. 27 during a scrimmage against Centreville. The cast and protective padding on his right forearm are bulky and stretch down to his hand, but Hargrove said he can catch the ball better than he anticipated — important when taking a shotgun snap — and he tried not to pay attention to it.

"It felt like I can use my fingers [on my right hand]," Hargrove said. "I try not to pay any mind to it because I know if I think about it, it's going to throw me off my game."

Hargrove is out of football shape after missing nearly two months and said he felt rusty. But overall, he said he "felt excited coming out here with pads on. ... It feels good to be back."



T.C. Williams quarterback Joe Hargrove carries the ball during a scrimmage against Marshall. The senior had fractured his right, non-throwing wrist in a scrimmage against Centreville the following week. He was cleared to play Monday after missing seven games.

Hargrove proved himself as the team's top quarterback during offseason competition for the starting job. With a strong arm and confident demeanor, Hargrove figured to be the catalyst behind many high-scoring performances from a Titans spread offense loaded with speedy playmakers.

But things changed when he fractured his wrist. Hargrove missed the teams' first seven games, during which the Titans went 3-4. While the defense kept T.C. Williams in nearly every game, the offense struggled to score points and got minimal production from the quarterback position. Three times this season the Titans have been held to 15 or fewer points.

With three games remaining in the regular season, Hargrove is hoping to have an impact capable of pushing T.C. Williams into the playoffs.

"I feel as if my team won me three games, so I've got to win them three," he said. "It's like, hey, they scratch my back, I've got to scratch theirs."

T.C. Williams head coach Dennis Randolph would not commit to what kind of role Hargrove would play Saturday against West Potomac, other than saying the left-hander would likely see playing time. At least four Titans have played quarterback this season, with junior Doug Murphy taking the majority of snaps during the last three games.

Randolph said Hargrove needs to focus, and warned it takes time for an athlete to return to form, especially at quarterback.

"He looked really rusty," Randolph said of Hargrove's performance at practice Tuesday. "He's trying to do too much. His timing is off and he's trying to throw the ball deep every time. It's going to take him awhile to get back. He needs to stay focused, which he's not — he's really excited about playing. We're going to have to see how things go."

"... Look at [Philadelphia Eagles quarterback] Michael Vick, who's one of the top athletes in the world. He ain't playing. He was away from the game a long time. Joe's

been away and he's certainly not Michael Vick. He's just got to get back in there and get back to where he was when he got hurt, because he was playing very well."

Vick missed two NFL seasons while in prison for involvement in illegal dog fighting.

Taylor OK

Whoever plays quarterback for the Titans should have speedster Cortez Taylor as an available weapon. Taylor sprained the AC joint in his left shoulder during a between-the-tackles running play Saturday against Woodson, but both he and Randolph said the senior will play against West Potomac.

"Thirty-four lead ... lights out," Taylor said of the play he was injured on and the hit he received. "I can't even remember what happened. I just felt a pain."

With Hargrove's potential lift to the passing game, Taylor could be moved from running back to his original position of receiver.

"We're going to get the ball in Cortez's hands as many times as we can," Randolph said, "in as many different ways as we can."

Defense Strong, Again

T.C. Williams lost to Woodson, 20-6, on Saturday, but the defense played well, holding standout quarterback Connor Reilly without a touchdown pass.

Titans linebacker Damien Benton finished with 17 tackles, one sack, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery. Linebacker Tevin Isley and defensive lineman Deontre Sanders each had 11 tackles. Linebacker Chelo Abbe had nine tackles and two fumble recoveries, and safety Israel Richardson finished with eight tackles and one fumble recovery. Defensive lineman Joe Massaquoi had two sacks.

T.C. Williams defensive coordinator Mike Gamble said the Titans defense is always looking to make big plays.

"[If] we get a chance to score, that's what we're trying to do," he said. "We're not just about stopping other teams. We want to create scoring chances ourselves."

DeWakar's Goals Punch Titans' Ticket to Regionals

Freshman goalie Boyle showing she has bright future with T.C. Williams.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE PACKET

Two goals from junior midfielder Anjuli DeWakar helped assure T.C. Williams' 2009 season would continue. Meanwhile, Megan Boyle continued to show the future is bright, as well.

DeWakar's pair of second half goals lifted the Titans past West Potomac, 2-0, on Oct.

14 during the opening round of the Patriot District field hockey tournament at Howard Field. The Titans lost to South County, 3-1, in Tuesday's semifinal round, but T.C. Williams' win over West Potomac assured the Titans of a berth in the regional tournament.

DeWakar's first goal came with 17:25 remaining in the second half, breaking a scoreless tie in cold, wet conditions. Her second goal came with 14:10 to play.

"It felt really good to win," DeWakar said. "I think, as a team, we played really well and we finally got it together. ... It was hard at first because we were really cold, but our coaches told us that weather doesn't matter, we have to play like we always do."

Defensively, T.C. Williams goalkeeper Megan Boyle, a freshman, was not scored upon.

Titans head coach William Heresniak said he likes to build his teams from the back, building a defensive foundation. He spoke highly of Boyle, saying he has "no keeper issues for the next three years."

Heresniak said Boyle assumed the start-

ing role due in part to another keeper being injured, but the freshman has played well since taking over.

"I have complete confidence in her — absolute confidence — and she's a freshman, which is shocking," the coach said. "From our first tournament until now, she's made saves that a three- [or] four-year veteran would make. [She has] very good field sense, [is] focused in the game [and] plays with heart."

Boyle said she has enjoyed her experience this season.

SEE DEWAKAR, PAGE 38

SCHOOLS

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Elizabeth Molina '12 and her orchestra, the Musical Titans, performed a selection of works as the students took their seats in the school auditorium. More than 600 students attended the program.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage

TC Williams and the Campagna Center's Building Better Futures program sponsored a special Titan Pride: Hispanic Heritage Program for the students earlier this month. Five T.C. Williams alumni appeared as special guests and described their experiences of attending school as part of a small minority and the paths they chose to make the most of their school years.



Comedian Ernie G.

Alexandria Fire Department Captain Luis Santano '78 came to the U.S. from Guatemala. Santano said learning the English language was invaluable in his success. Ivan Silva '93 now works with Strayer University. Douglas Garcia '97, a native of El Salvador is now Gov. Tim Kaine's assistant secretary of Education in Virginia. Garcia recalled working at the family restaurant while attending Northern Virginia Community College. In his junior year he transferred to JMU. At JMU he was assigned a room with a student from Honduras. Garcia at first was dumbfounded as to how the two had been picked to share a room as their native countries had gone to war once over the outcome of a soccer game. The differences were soon minimized by what they and the small Hispanic group at the University held in common.

Sindy Benavides '00 was born in Honduras and now works as a staffer for the Democratic National Committee in Washington D.C. Cinthia Renderos '04 from El Salvador holds a position in D.C. Mayor Adrian M. Fenty's Office. The program concluded with a motivational speech by comedian Ernie G. Executive associate principal of T.C. Williams Steve Colantouni '74 appeared as the program moderator.

Santano said learning the English language was invaluable in his success. Ivan Silva '93 now works with Strayer University. Douglas Garcia '97, a native of El Salvador is now Gov. Tim Kaine's assistant secretary of Education in Virginia. Garcia recalled working at the family restaurant while attending Northern Virginia Community College. In his junior year he transferred to JMU. At JMU he was assigned a room with a student from Honduras. Garcia at first was dumbfounded as to how the two had been picked to share a room as their native countries had gone to war once over the outcome of a soccer game. The differences were soon minimized by what they and the small Hispanic group at the University held in common.

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Latino Titans Pride panel: Captain Luis Santano '78, Ivan Silva '93, Cinthia Renderos '04, Sindy Benavides '00 and Douglas Garcia '97.



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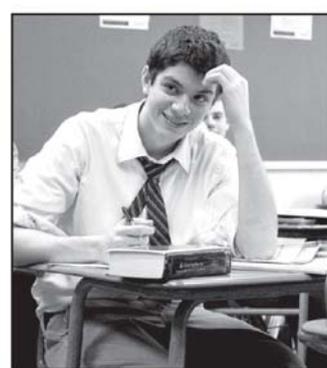


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SPORTS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET

T.C. Williams junior Anjuli DeWakar, center and seen earlier this season, scored two goals against West Potomac Oct. 14 in the opening round of the Patriot District Tournament at Howard Field.

DeWakar's Goals Lead to Regionals

FROM PAGE 36

"I love playing on this team," she said. "Being a freshman on a varsity team and [the] starting goalie is a lot of pressure, but all my teammates support me and so do my coaches."

Heresniak said junior center-defender Katelyn

Clarke is also a key component.

Against South County on Tuesday, senior forward Katy Mendez scored the Titans' lone goal.

T.C. Williams will travel to face the winner of tonight's Fairfax and Langley game on Tuesday for its regional opener.

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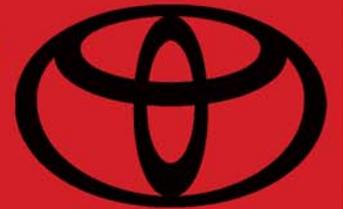
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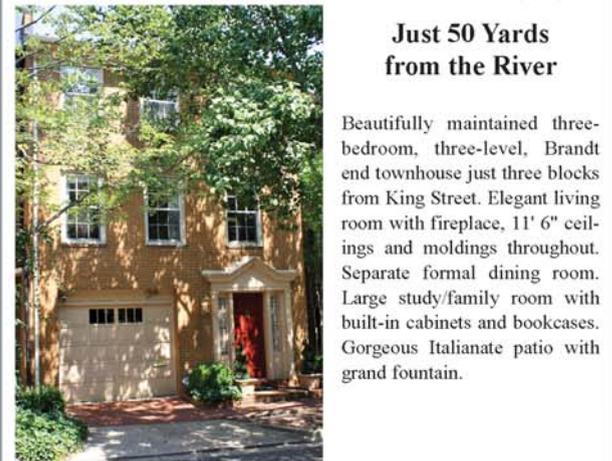
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