

# Mount Vernon Gazette

VOL. XX, No. 50

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

DECEMBER 17, 2009

## Arrested in Pakistan

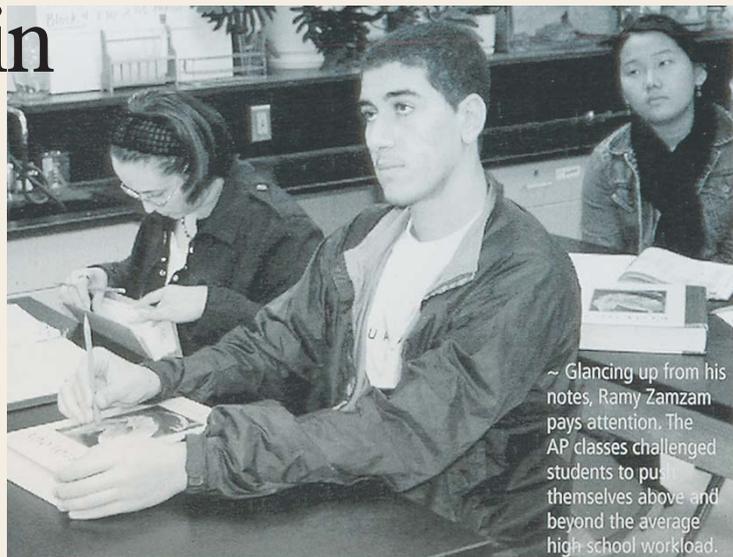
### FBI wants return of WPHS grad, four others.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**R**amy Zamzam, 22, one of a group of young men arrested by Pakistani intelligence officials, graduated from West Potomac High School in 2005.

Zamzam was a senior dental school student at Howard University in Washington, D.C. at the time of his arrest in Sargodha, Pakistan.

The other men, all Americans, are now being held in Lahore: Ahmad A. Minni, 20; Umar Chaudhry, 24; Waqar Khan, 22, and Aman Hassan Yamer, 18. Chaudhry's father, Khalid, was also arrested in Pakistan. All five of the young



Ramy Zamzam sitting in an AP class.

Americans worshipped at a local mosque off Route 1 on Woodlawn Trail — the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA). Two of the men live on the same street as the mosque.

Their arrest by Pakistani police is based on allegations that they have been working with extremist Pakistani recruiters to join a training camp run by the Taliban and al-Qaeda.

Nina Ginsberg, a Washington criminal defense lawyer and spokesman for the young men's

families, has refused to comment on the case or the views of the families beyond that the families are concerned about their safe return to the U.S., and do not believe they were involved in extremist activities as reported by the Pakistan government.

The families reported the men missing in late November, and released a farewell tape in

SEE FIVE ARRESTED,  
PAGE 6

## \$400 Million Hole

### Hyland vows to reintroduce meals tax proposal to help close deficit.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**S**chool Board member Dan Storck and Supervisor Gerry Hyland conducted a joint "community dialogue" meeting Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Mt. Vernon High School Theater Auditorium.

Approximately 50 local residents attended to listen to the news about the budget deficit facing Fairfax County and share their concerns and suggestions. The majority of the discussion revolved around the concern that, prior to the county's April, 2010 adoption of the Fiscal year 2011 budget, revenue and expenditure adjustments must be made to fulfill the growing needs of the public school system — now at \$2.2 billion — and still balance the county budget.

The County Executive has submitted a proposal to the Board of Supervisors for the Fiscal Year 2011 budget that projected a \$315.6 million deficit. This was based on assumptions that did not

include a public school system enrollment increase of 7,000 students (12th largest school system in the U.S.; 169,000 students), and additional special education needs.

Based on the new enrollment figures, lower residential and commercial real estate tax receipts, and the prospect of less state aid to the county than in the current fiscal year, Hyland announced a projected \$400 million deficit. County officials presented a bleak outlook for residential real estate tax receipts, the county's main source of revenue (64 percent of the General Fund revenue).

The proposed budget will continue to receive input from the community at large, the supervisors and School Board members, and will be revised and updated by the county executive and submitted to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration prior to the April, 2010 adoption.

The supervisors, who have the

SEE SQUEEZING, PAGE 18

## One Month Later: Shooting Investigation Continues

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**F**or the past month the Fairfax County Police Department has been conducting a criminal investigation of the Nov. 13 police shooting of David Allen Masters near the intersection of Richmond Highway and Fort Hunt Road.

The Fredericksburg resident was suspected of a larceny.

"No final report has been made; the internal criminal investigation is still continuing," said Police spokesman Don Gotthardt. "Anyone with any information about the incident may still come forward; it is not too late."

The Commonwealth Attorney, Ray Morrogh, visited the crime scene on the date of the incident. "I am working closely with the crime scene detective and the

overall lead investigator of the internal police department review," Morrogh said. He is also reviewing reports submitted to him by individual police officers, and reports sent to him by citizens who were eyewitnesses to part of the incident.

"When we receive the final report of the criminal investigation by the Police Department I will look at all the evidence and make a determination if there is a criminal case that I can prove beyond a reasonable doubt," he said.

Supervisor Gerry Hyland said, "I am concerned about the incident and look forward to the Commonwealth Attorney's determination, and also the internal criminal investigation by the Fairfax Police Chief. ... In particular I am interested in learning about the circumstances that caused the police officer to shoot the citizen."

Hyland pointed out that an internal administrative review would be conducted by the Police Department after the internal criminal investigation was completed and a decision made by the Commonwealth Attorney on whether or not to prosecute the case. The internal administrative review would make a determination about what, if any, policy, regulations, or other violation took place and what, if any, police department personnel action should be taken.

Responding to the delay in issuing investigative reports David Dale, co-chair of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations (MVCCA) offered this observation: "I am not surprised by the delay in issuing investigative reports. The incident has the potential for the police department to look bad; because of this they certainly don't

want to release erroneous or misleading information. Because this case is so important however, I would think the police and Commonwealth attorney's office would want to devote sufficient resources to complete the report in a timely way."

At least one citizen has called for a citizen review board to investigate the case. When asked about that suggestion Hyland said: "The County Board has a process in place and the first step, the completion of an internal criminal

review by the police department, is under way and will be submitted for the Commonwealth Attorney's consideration. In addition, the police department will conduct an internal administrative review to determine what police policies, procedures, and regulations, if any, were violated. If there is a determination that there was a violation I am confident that the Police Chief, David Rohrer, will take whatever action is appropriate. ... I am watching this case carefully."



## NEWS

**Nick Burns, general manager, Chevy's Fresh Mex; Rick Neel, president, SFDC; Jeff Todd, Chamber president; Sabrina Campbell, Occasionally Cake, and Jane Gandee, ServiceMaster of Alexandria.**



# Chamber Honors Three Businesses

**H**onored by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce were three local businesses and one "chamber citizen" at the annual THE BEST Business Awards and Holiday Celebration held last week at the festive Mount Vernon Country Club.

ServiceMaster of Alexandria was recognized as THE BEST Large Business of the Year, Chevy's Fresh Mex Restaurant as THE BEST Small Business of the year, and Occasionally Cake THE BEST New Business of the Year. Richard F. "Rick" Neel, was honored as THE BEST Chamber Citizen of the Year.

Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland saluted the award winners along with Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, and Springfield Supervisor Pat Herryty.

McKay commented on the economic situation by saying that with the hardships businesses are experiencing, Fairfax County was still the best place to get through the current recession citing the new jobs coming to the area through the BRAC at Fort Belvoir.

Large Business of the Year, ServiceMaster of Alexandria is

family owned and operated by Jane and Greg Gandee since 1986. They are the largest ServiceMaster Disaster Restoration provider in the greater Washington D.C. area and one of the largest ServiceMaster franchises in the country.

In addition to their cleaning services, and 24/7 emergency response, they also provide training for insurance agents, police departments, and property managers on water damage restoration, mold remediation, smoke damage, biohazards, crime scene cleaning and industry ethics.

Small Business of the Year Chevy's Fresh Mex Restaurant is part of the renovated Mount Vernon Plaza where they have become not just another restaurant but a community destination.

Under the direction of General Manager Nick Burns, the staff has donated time and resources to many community projects and organizations. Their school nights and "Kid Tours" give back to the community that supports the business.

New Business of the Year, Occasionally Cake, is owned and operated by Sabrina Campbell and Marcia Crandall, two local women with a passion for making other people happy by using their talents to produce stunning cakes.

Occasionally Cake has developed a reputation for producing made-from-scratch, uniquely designed cakes.

These are also prize-winning cakes with Occasionally Cake winning "Best in Taste" and "Best in Show" at The Chocolate Lovers Festival in Fairfax; second place at

SEE CHAMBER, PAGE 4

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Happy Holidays & Warm Wishes from Burke & Herbert Bank!



**Congratulations to Mark A. Seamon, age 10, of Herndon, VA, winner of our Kids' Holiday Art Contest! Mark wins a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.**

Thank you to all the young artists who submitted over 150 wonderful and fun holiday drawings. Many of them are on display at our Main Office at 100 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Special thanks to The Art League for judging the entries!

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# Vietnam Veteran 'Wins for Life' in Lottery

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**M**ount Vernon-area resident Kenneth McClanahan, a retired truck driver who now volunteers as a Veterans Hospital counselor in behalf of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization, matched the first six numbers in the Dec. 5 Win for Life drawing.

The Virginia state Lottery agency representatives explained that the 62-year-old winner is guaranteed \$1,000 per week for 10 years, whether he lives that long or not. Should he die before 10 years is up, his designated beneficiary would continue to receive the award weekly until 10 years is completed. No matter how long past 10 years McClanahan lives, he will continue to get the weekly stipend for as long as he lives.

He is the sixth "Win for Life" Virginia Lottery winner this year and the 28th top prize winner of this game since the inception of the "Win for Life" game in 2006.

McClanahan beat the odds when he picked the numbers for the top prize; Lottery officials stated that the odds were 1 in over 5 million.

"I have a couple of trips in mind, including a trip to Jamaica. Other than that I will continue to volunteer at the VA hospital in Washington, D.C.," McClanahan said. His wife Charlene was not at the press conference announcing the award. When asked about her he said she was at work and there were no plans for her to stop working until she retired approximately three years from now. He said that he is a regular player at the gas station where he also buys his gas on his way to his volunteer work in D.C.

The franchise owner of the Mt. Vernon BP gas station and manager of the Lottery store, Malik Arif, will receive \$10,000 for being the store manager that sold the winning ticket. He said that since the announcement there has been an increase in Lottery ticket sales and was pleased by the publicity his gas station had received. The largest previous winning ticket he sold was \$10,000. Arif said that he planned to share the store's prize money with his employees "because they deserve it."

In the announcement of the "Win for Life" prize, Lottery officials stated that since 1999 all Virginia lottery profits have been designated solely to K-12 public school education. In that time the Lottery has turned over more than \$4 billion for Virginia's public schools.



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

**Kenneth McClanahan, right, is congratulated by Mt. Vernon BP Gas station owner, and lottery store manager Malik Arif.**



PHOTO BY MECHELLE SCHLOSS/THE GAZETTE

**After the musical celebration, Mount Vernon Woods Elementary band director Kristi Thomas, music director for Christ Church of Alexandria Jason Abel, Marie Lemmon, principal of Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School, and art teacher at Mount Vernon Woods Beth McConnell gather in the Christ church reception hall for food and fellowship.**

## Music Service Serves School

### Christ Church of Alexandria's music celebration benefits Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School.

BY MECHELLE SCHLOSS  
THE GAZETTE

**F**or the second year in a row, Christ Church of Alexandria has chosen Mount Vernon Woods Elementary School's music department to receive the

offering at the church's annual music celebration, A Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

Jason Abel, music director for Christ Church, first heard of the need at Mount Vernon Woods when Christ Church congregant and former Virginia delegate, Kris Amundson, shared about the school's program needs and put him in touch with band director Kristi Thomas.

"They have a lot of needs, but the program at Mount Vernon Woods is going in the right direction, and they have a great principal and band director. The Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is a music service, it seemed a logical fit for us

SEE MUSICAL BENEFIT, PAGE 17

## Drucker Society of Mt. Vernon

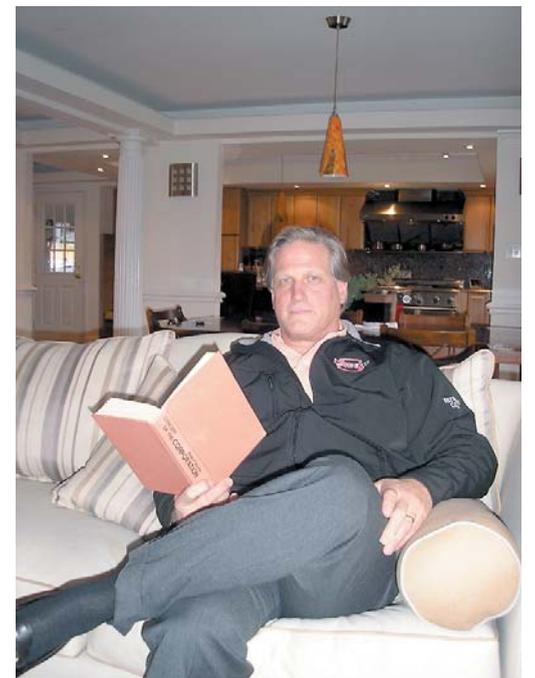
### New organization promotes corporate and government social responsibility.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**M**t. Vernon resident John Romanin, a local businessman, believes that America needs to teach its youth about the importance of ethics and responsibility and, in so doing, develop a new generation of leaders who will close the "responsibility gap" that exists today in government and business. He proposes to do this by exposing high school students and others in Northern Virginia and elsewhere to the writings, philosophy, and concepts of corporate social responsibility and management espoused by the late Peter Drucker.

Romanin formed the Drucker Society of Mt. Vernon (DSMV) because "I am gravely concerned about the economic future. Drucker was prescient when many years ago he described a conflict between political belief and social reality if the American people began to seriously question our free enterprise system. The propensity of present day leaders to resort to quick fixes is creating unimaginable problems for our children.

"The Drucker Society of Mt. Vernon will focus programs that address what we refer to as the 'responsibility gap,' the growing distance between our obligations to be effective managers and ethical leaders and our actions. We will fo-



**John Romanin has formed the Drucker Society of Mt. Vernon.**

#### Details

**John Romanin**

Age: 54  
Education: Claremont McKenna College  
Married to Dr. Karen E. Johnson. Two children: Erik, 16, and Maggie, 15.  
For more information:  
DruckeratMtVernon@cox.net

cus significant energy and the resources of our volunteers on the 'Drucker in the High Schools' program to do whatever

SEE DRUCKER, PAGE 9



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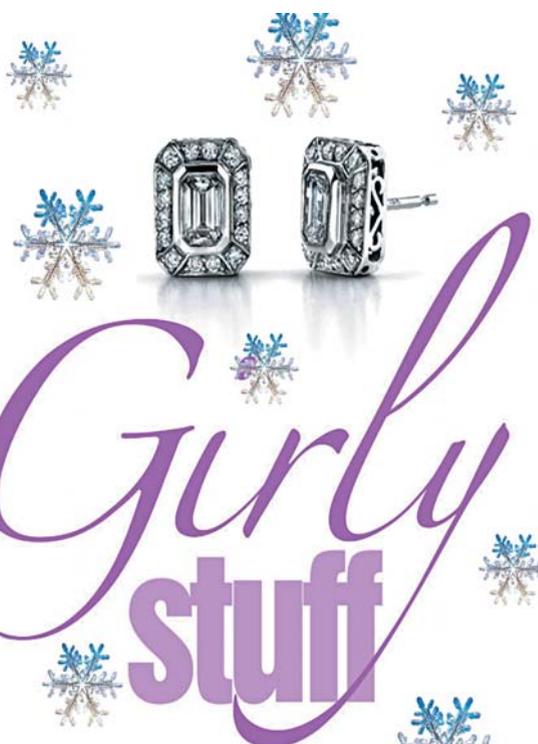


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## NEWS

# Chamber Honors Three

FROM PAGE 2

the Virginia State Fair; and first place at the Michael's Cake Decorating Contest.

Richard F. "Rick" Neel was honored as THE BEST Chamber Citizen for 2009. Neel has served more than a decade as a volunteer appointee of the chamber of commerce to the Board of Directors for the Southeast Fairfax Development Corp (SFDC) and for 10 years as president of the SFDC. This organization is responsible for the economic revitalization of the Richmond Highway corridor from the Beltway to Fort Belvoir.

During his tenure, Richmond Highway has seen millions of dollars of new investment, traffic improvements, and renovations. During part of this time, Neel also served as president and then chairman of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.



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PEOPLE

# Holiday Spirit Embraces Woodlawn

**M**ore than 130 Friends of Woodlawn and Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey House gathered Dec. 3 at the historic mansion to ring in the holiday season and to honor Cynthia Conner, who is completing her third term as president of the Advisory Board and Woodlawn Foundation.

"This is a great night to celebrate with fellow Woodlawn board members and friends nine years of serving, with great pleasure, as Board President of this wonderful property," Conner said.

Candle-lit interiors were decorated with gold hydrangeas, white roses and greenery in arrangements designed by Beverly Stanley, who will begin a three-year term as president of the Woodlawn Advisory Board in January. Guests, including U.S. Senator and Mrs. Mark Warner and Terry and Dorothy McAuliffe, enjoyed music by jazz trio "The Wright Stuff" and dinner by Windows catering.



Terry McAuliffe talks with James Bird joining U.S. Sen. Mark Warner and his wife Lisa and Betsy Merritt at the reception before dinner.

**UNDER CONNER'S** leadership, Woodlawn has added a variety of new programs and events, including the "Little Black Dress" spring fundraiser, to support nearly a million dollars in restoration projects, including the replacement of the mansion's historic slate roof in 2006 and

the current restoration of the estate's original 1803 Smokehouse. "Woodlawn owes its preservation to three great women," said the site's director, Dr. Laurie Ossman: "Nelly Custis, who built and maintained it as a shrine to her grandfather, George Washington; Elizabeth Sharpe who restored it after

a hurricane in 1896 and, now, to Cindy Conner, whose leadership has ensured its preservation for the 21st century."

Conner will continue to serve as an advisor to the National Trust for Historic

SEE HOLIDAY SPIRIT, PAGE 15



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE

**Outgoing president Cindy Connor is praised by director Laurie Ossman as being the third great woman of Woodlawn. "Woodlawn owes its preservation to three great women: Nelly Custis, who witnessed the first roof go on the original house in 1807; Elizabeth Sharpe, who put the roof back on the house a hundred years later, after it had blown off in a hurricane, and most recently to Cindy Conner, who — 100 years after Miss Sharpe — led the fund-raising efforts to restore the roof whose services we are all enjoying here tonight. And so in celebration tonight perhaps we should all raise the roof — just a little — in honor of Cindy Conner and her leadership, which has set Woodlawn on the road to strong future for another century."**

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## NEWS

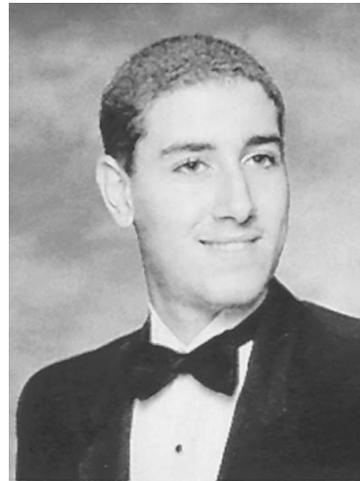
# Five Arrested in Pakistan

FROM PAGE 1

an effort to assist authorities in locating the men. Shortly thereafter Pakistani officials announced their arrest in Pakistan. They have been held in custody since.

At the present time the FBI and the Pakistan intelligence service are investigating the men's activities. The effort by the U.S. Department of State and the FBI's effort to secure their release and deportation to the U.S. to face possible criminal charges has been held up by a recent court decision in Lahore to temporarily block the handover of the men to the U.S. government until the Pakistani government submits a detailed report on Thursday, Dec. 17.

**IN RESPONSE** to the revelations about the young men and their alleged attempts to link up and train with extremist elements in Pakistan, the Moslem Association of Virginia and the Muslim American Society held a local press conference and issued a written public statement on Dec. 10 expressing their surprise and concern for



2005 WEST POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK

**Ramy Zamzam**

the five men and the overall issue of radicalization of Muslims in the United States.

A statement from the Muslim American Society said: "Leading American Muslim organizations and community leaders are planning to launch a Web site and organize a summit where young Muslims can ask mainstream scholars questions as part of renewed efforts to combat extremism" ... "the summit, to be held in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 23-27, will reach

out to young Muslims to do peer mentoring that will focus on positive solutions involving issues of hate, violence, and intolerance."

Nihad Awad, national executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) said: "The idea is really to refute and counter the misuse of certain ayahs (verse of the Qur'an) and hadith (sayings of the Prophet Muhammad) that are commonly misused by recruiters of young people who do not understand the depths and circumstances of revelations and just juxtapose superficial and disconnected meaning to justify their actions."

Imam Mahdi Bray, executive director of the Muslim American Society, believes more imams and trained scholars should take steps to respond to incorrect ideas being promoted on the internet because young people get most of their information online and use social networking sites, blogs, and links as modes of communication. "They [scholars and imams] are not here writing, they're not posting stuff on the internet" ... "therefore, people are taking religious information in a vacuum."

### SCHOOL NOTES

Send announcements to the Mount Vernon Gazette, by e-mail to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos are encouraged. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

The following local students were named to the High List, Episcopal High School's academic honor roll, for the

first quarter of the 2009-10 school year. This honor denotes an average of 90 or above in five or more academic courses for the quarter.

\* **Hunter Joseph Fairchild**, junior, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Fairchild II of Alexandria.

\* **Nancy Elizabeth Walker**, junior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Walker of Alexandria.

\* **Alexa Linn Williams**, senior,

daughter of Mr. David B. Williams and Ms. Kathleen S. Ligon of Alexandria.

**Fort Hunt High School**, Alexandria, class of 1980 announces its 30<sup>th</sup> reunion. Plans are under way for a fun-filled weekend in July 2010. Visit the web site to register and stay connected on all of the happenings. Go to [fhhs80.com](http://fhhs80.com) or email: [fhhsclassof80@yahoo.com](mailto:fhhsclassof80@yahoo.com).



*We wish you a safe and joyful holiday season*

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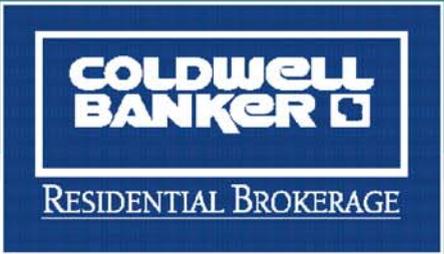
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**8296 GLEN COVE COURT**  
**\$1,250,000 | Alexandria South / Fort Hunt**  
5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 6,500+ square feet, Dir. S on GW Pkwy, R Collingwood, L Glen Cove.  
**Phyllis Patterson | 703.518.6158**



**125 NORTH PAYNE STREET**  
**\$659,000 | Old Town Alexandria**  
2 beds, 1.5 baths, updated eat-in kitchen. Near King Street Metro & shops. www.125NorthPayneSt.com.  
**Marie Louise Meyer | 703.836.2080**



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**Donnan C. Wintermute | 703.518.6156**

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**COLDWELL BANKER MARKET WATCH**

Alexandria  
**703-518-8300**

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*Please Join Us As We Collect Toys for Kids With Cancer*

Coldwell Banker is collecting toys for kids with cancer at the Children's National Medical Center in DC and their affiliate clinic in Fairfax. The toys are not just for the holidays but are stored for distribution for the entire year. Every time a child has a difficult procedure they can go to the toy closet and pick out anything they want to make them smile. In a letter from the Vice President of Nursing for the hospital, Ms. Freiburg relays this message,

*"We have some very sick children. Many of these children receive chemotherapy, sustain hair loss, experience many days of isolation and miss being with friends and at school. Having diversions for these children makes their days more tolerable and allows them to be children. To see their faces light up with a smile when they get to pick out a gift is so enlightening. Please know that what you do helps with the quality of their life during some very hard days. You have helped with making a child's life a little brighter in their darkest days."*

**Won't you please join us in this collection for these very special children by dropping off an unwrapped, new toy for the kids.**

For questions please call: Linda Wolf 703-856-2133



**FABULOUS NEW PRICE - \$724,900!**



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**1250 S WASHINGTON STREET, UNIT 824**  
**\$679,000 | Porto Vecchio**  
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**703.518.8300 Main Office**  
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Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am - 6pm Saturday, 9am - 4pm Sunday, 10am - 4pm

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# OPINION

## Clearing the Air

**New rules on smoking are flawed and fail to protect many workers, but still great step in right direction.**

**N**on-smokers and families looking to eliminate exposure to second-hand smoke got an early and unlikely Christmas present from Gov. Tim Kaine and Virginia General Assembly on Dec. 1, when substantial restrictions on smoking in restaurants and bars went into effect.

Restaurants and bars in the Commonwealth are required to go smoke free. But many establishments will still be able to offer a smoking area.

If the business has the space and the financial ability, it is allowed to construct a separate smoking area, if it is completely walled off and has its own ventilation system.

This exception is unfortunate for several reasons.

### EDITORIAL

First it is unfair to the businesses that do not have the space or wherewithal to add smoking rooms.

Other jurisdictions, like the District or Montgomery County, Md. have passed true smoking bans, leaving a level playing field for businesses. And overall, in Montgomery County and many other places, receipts at restaurants increased after the smoking ban went into effect.

Second, such restrictions fail to protect workers from the serious detrimental health effects of second-hand smoke, one of the key objectives of smoking restrictions. Especially in the current job market, restaurant workers are more likely to feel compelled to continue to work in conditions that are hazardous to their

health. A full ban on smoking in restaurants and bars would protect more workers.

Third, even with a separate ventilation system, many smoking rooms will continue to leach smoke into non-smoking areas every time the door is opened and closed. Those who want a truly smoke-free dining environment will still have to do a little research.

But even with all its flaws, the successful implementation of smoking restrictions in Virginia remains a bit of a miracle, and a blessing.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Upbeat Look at Business in 2009

**Economic Development Authority has worked with companies to add 4,000 jobs to local economy.**

BY GERALD L. GORDON

**A**s 2009 draws to a close, it will be remembered as an especially significant year for Fairfax County's economy and for those who live and work here. And, the successes achieved this year will position the county and its residents well during the economic recovery and beyond.

The national unemployment rate topped 10 percent this year, and in many communities it is much higher. Job creation in many locations is non-existent. Meanwhile, in Fairfax County, we will



end the year with about a 4.5 percent unemployment rate. My office has worked with dozens of companies that have added or will add more than 4,000 jobs to the

economy. Decisions by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), Hilton Worldwide and The Ignite Institute to locate their corporate headquarters in Fairfax County are especially noteworthy.

Individually, each of these new headquarters operations would be leaders in any business commu-

nity. Adding another Fortune 500 headquarters — SAIC is the county's seventh — is a tremendous achievement. Hilton, perhaps the world's best-known hotel brand, and Ignite, a non-profit that is pioneering the field of personalized medicine, bring important new diversity to our economic base and business community. The same can be said of the 2007 addition of the headquarters operation of Volkswagen Group of America to Fairfax County.

Neither should we overlook the growth of the small and mid-sized firms that are the backbone of this and every economy. Of the more than 100 companies that the

Fairfax County Economic Development Authority worked with this year, a vast majority of them are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees.

The successes of 2009 have important implications for Fairfax County taxpayers in 2010 and beyond. First, there will be more job opportunities, particularly compared to many other parts of the nation. Second, a larger commercial tax base means residents bear less of the cost of providing the range of high-quality services funded by the county Board of Supervisors.

Third, new workers in our community buy homes, dine in restaurants and shop in local stores. Fourth, the broader the base of companies that are here, the greater the likelihood that our economy and commercial tax base will be stable and grow. And, finally, the quality of life for which Fairfax County is known will be improved by economic stability and growth.

The mission of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority is to build the commercial tax base by promoting the county as one of the world's best business locations — attracting companies here and working with them to stay and create jobs here and fill office space.

The FCEDA is proud of its success in 2009 to broaden the economic diversity of Fairfax County. It will help ensure that Fairfax County remains one of the best of the best places to work and live for decades to come.

Gerald L. Gordon Ph.D. is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.



### All about Land Surveying

Webelos Pack 680 from St. Louis Catholic School learn Land Surveying from Dominion Surveyors Inc. at its office in Pear Tree Village. Webelos Michael Herechica, Henry Somerville, Jeffrey Storey and Garrett Haugh are joined with older brothers Liam Somerville and Preston Haugh.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.  
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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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# NEWS

## Drucker

FROM PAGE 3

we can to develop solid, effective leaders for our future." Plans are to kick off the first DSMV event this coming spring.

Drucker, author, management consultant, teacher, business "guru," and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient, is viewed by many as conceiving, through his writings and 39 published books ("Concept of the Corporation," "The End of Economic Man") the basis for responsible organized management as practiced in a number of corporations throughout the U.S. and the world.

The Drucker Institute, located at Claremont Graduate College where the late author taught, acts as a hub for a global network of what now numbers 26 Drucker Societies (including in China and Korea) that are trying to influence people to apply Drucker principles to everyday problems encountered in government and business.

Romanin listed the following present day disciples of the Drucker philosophy: Eric Schmidt, current CEO, Google; Jack Welch, former CEO, General Electric, and Andrew Grove, former CEO, Intel.

## 'Closing the Responsibility Gap'

From the Drucker Institute Web site, a discussion of the concept of "Closing the Responsibility Gap," it raises seven basic questions which business and government employees should use as guide within their organization to closing the responsibility gap and make it a more ethical and effective organization in our interconnected world:

- ❖ How are you ensuring that you and your organization first do no harm?
- ❖ For yourself and those you manage, are you focused on people's weaknesses or are you building on their strengths? How so?
- ❖ What are your organization's values? How are they reflected in your work?
- ❖ What new knowledge and skills are you acquiring to build on your strengths?
- ❖ How on a daily basis are you and your organization driving innovation—that is, endowing existing resources with a new capacity to create value?
- ❖ How will you organize your time around your next big decision? How will you ensure that the work makes a meaningful contribution beyond your own area of the organization?
- ❖ You and your organization, no matter its size or the sector it's in, inevitably have an impact on the health of your community and society at large. What are you doing to determine what impact you're having? How are you taking responsibility to ensure that it is positive?

### MILITARY NOTE

**Army Pvt. Edvid R. Caballero Arias** has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. He is the son of Ana Arias of Hammond St., Alexandria. Caballero Arias is a 2005 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria.

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The end of the year is almost here. Be sure not to lose the funds in your flexible spending account (FSA).

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Managing Brokers  
Anne Rector & Bill Jourdan



**3102**  
Waterside Lane  
\$798,500

**Waterfront Value!**  
Updated and expanded home on gorgeous elevated grounds overlooks Little Hunting Creek! Private dock, custom glass walled family room, updated kitchen with granite, stainless & custom cabinets, hardwood floors, two car garage and much more! Unique opportunity - do not miss out!



**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

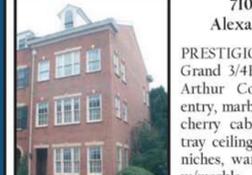
including full w/o LL, 4/5BR, 3.5BA, updated gourmet kitchen, stunning MBR suite and custom river view screened porch house with deck. Expansive glass window walls capture river views and natural beauty of almost full acre site.



**4816**  
Stillwell Avenue  
\$525,000

**Renovated!**  
Unique opportunity! Exceptionally large 5/6 BR home is located in a gorgeous setting on a 1/2 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! Open Sun 1-4pm. S GW Pkwy, past estate, R second Old Mill, R Buckner, R Stillwell.



**710 SO UNION ST**  
Alexandria - \$1,499,000

**PRESTIGIOUS FORD'S LANDING.** Grand 3/4BR, end TH by architect Arthur Cotton Moore. Granite entry, marble foyer, sunny eat-in kit, cherry cabinets, built-in cabinetry, tray ceilings, dentil moldings & art niches, warm wood flrs & LR frpl w/marble. Lib could be main lvl BR w/full bath. Ample storage, garage plus driveway parking.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630



**7706**  
STONE WHEAT CT  
Alex / Kingstowne  
\$695,000

**REALLY FABULOUS!**  
Outstanding floor plan w/big windows, cathedral ceiling & skylights. Big Kitchen overlooking FamRm w/gar FP. Luxurious Master suite. Fresh paint. Brand new carpet. Fully finished basement w/TV room, RecRm, den & wet bar.

Judy Pisciotta 703.405.4485



**8706**  
EAGLEBROOK CT  
Alex / Waynewood  
\$849,000

**POTOMAC RIVER!**  
Professionally landscaped, renovated home sited on .38acre in one of Waynewood's most

prestigious cul-de-sacs. French country kitchen features 20' Brick wall w/FP, granite, island & large deck. Minutes from OT and DC. 6BR, 3BA.

www.homesfromanita.com  
Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809



**9316**  
Allwood Drive  
\$540,000

**Stunning!**  
Home features bright, open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings in the main living area. This fabulous property has

been substantially updated and is in absolutely impeccable condition. Gleaming hardwood floors, track lighting, finished lower level, garage and much more. Gorgeous setting on half acre tract fronting a quiet street in the heart of Mount Vernon.



**7501**  
Park Terrace Drive  
\$1,150,000

**Special Value!**  
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.)



**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!



**400 COMMON-WEALTH AVE #203**  
\$435,000

1930's CHARM fully renovated in '05. Beautiful 2BR condo, hardwood floors, granite counters, SS, laundry,

large windows, high ceilings & gen. closets. EXCELLENT LOCATION in Rosemont - treed street & 4 blks to King St METRO.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317



**8311 Mount Vernon Hwy - Alexandria / South PRICE SLASHED - STUNNING OPPORTUNITY!**

LEADING BDR's Model Loaded w/upgrades! Planned to sell \$1,000,000+! SLASHED for immediate sale.



Chris & Peggy White 703.283.9028



**\$779,000**

Dir: Pkwy S (to Estate), R Mt Vernon Hwy to 8311 on right.



**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.



**1810**  
Hollindale Dr  
\$625,000

**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!



**4413**  
Ferry Landing Road  
\$559,900

**Yacht Haven!**  
Recently installed top quality gourmet kitchen with custom cabinets & granite counters, hardwood floors, large deck & covered parking,

Bright, open floor plan overlooks gorgeous half acre grounds in one of the area's leading waterfront communities! Less than 5 mins from Ft Belvoir, GW Pkwy, Mt Vernon Yacht Club & Mansion House Club. Home warranty!



**2403 BEACON HILL RD**  
Alex - \$449,000

WELL MAINTAINED! 4BR, 2.5BA & a first floor BR/BA. Large lot with one car garage & 6 car driveway. Great lot with mature trees, fence & patio. Near

mall, parkway, interstate & military installation. Nice home and community. BRING ALL OFFERS!

Janice Allen 703.509.0906



**7800 ELBA ROAD**  
Hollin Hills  
\$830,000

**HOLIDAY HAPPINESS!**  
Treat yourself this Christmas to this gorgeous model-like

home. 2 level home w/4-6BR + den/office & 4BBA. LivRm w/gas FP, deluxe kit w/island, MstrBR w/spa bath - full fin w-out LL. FP opens to brick patio w/seating & pond/fountain, FamRm has ceramic flr w/radiant heat, beautiful landscaping backs to natural reserve.

Frank Roberts 703.898.0840



**1305 GAHANT RD**  
Alex / Tauxemont -  
\$699,000

Soaring ceilings, 25x35 ft rooms & large open spaces. Updated kit/fam room opens to treed lot w/deck & hot tub. Perfect for home office w/sep entrance,

sep apart. & plenty of prkg, oversized 2-car garage. 3BR/3BBA & 2 half BA. Must see!

Betty Quirk 703.851.3447  
bettyquirk.com or liveinbellehaven.com



**9516**  
Mt Vernon Landing  
\$2,900,000

**Waterfront!**  
Waterfront homes rarely become available in Mount Vernon on the Potomac! This spacious custom Tudor was carefully crafted with

the highest quality materials and planned with three levels of Pella window walls to maximize water views. Six bedrooms, five baths, full walk out lower level and many rooms with dramatic river views.



**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!



4821 Stillwell Avenue  
\$499,000



3706 Riverwood Court  
\$775,000



**9324 OLD MANSION ROAD**  
Alexandria / Riverwood - \$2,249,990

STUNNING NEW HOME to be built by Keswick Homes on the banks of the Potomac River with captivating views! The Bentley Model features approximately 4,400 square feet above grade with gourmet kitchen and morning room, 2-story great room, elegant master suite, luxury bathrooms, exquisite finishes throughout, 2 car garage, landscaping package and more.

Additional custom features available. Call either party for details.

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams  
703.597.2252



Chris & Peggy White 703.283.9028



**118 HILTON STREET**  
Alexandria  
King St Metro  
\$560,000

**PRICE REDUCED!**  
Don't miss this one. Updates throughout, shows like a model. Granite, hardwood, large

corner lot, near King St METRO. Detached home, fenced yard, West Old Town area. Call for appointment to preview.

Delaine Campbell 703.518.8740



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# E

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

## Martinis & Mistletoe Is Dec. 17

Martinis & Mistletoe will be held on Thursday Dec. 17, from 6-9 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites at 625 First Street, in Old Town Alexandria. More than 230 people attended last year as 14 bars went head to head in a battle for the title of 'Best Martini in Alexandria.'

To register for this event, visit [www.alexchamber.bluekeyinc.com/view\\_events.php](http://www.alexchamber.bluekeyinc.com/view_events.php). The entrance fee is \$75 for members and \$90 for non-members. Any bar/restaurant interested in competing should contact Janelle Schmidt at [jschmidt@alexchamber.com](mailto:jschmidt@alexchamber.com) or 703-339-3808. The entrance fee this year is \$150 with prizes for the top three drinks totaling \$850. Sponsorships are still available for this event.

— GALE CURCIO



Joe and Charlie Collum award last year's grand prize to bartender Clinton Terry from Restaurant Eve.

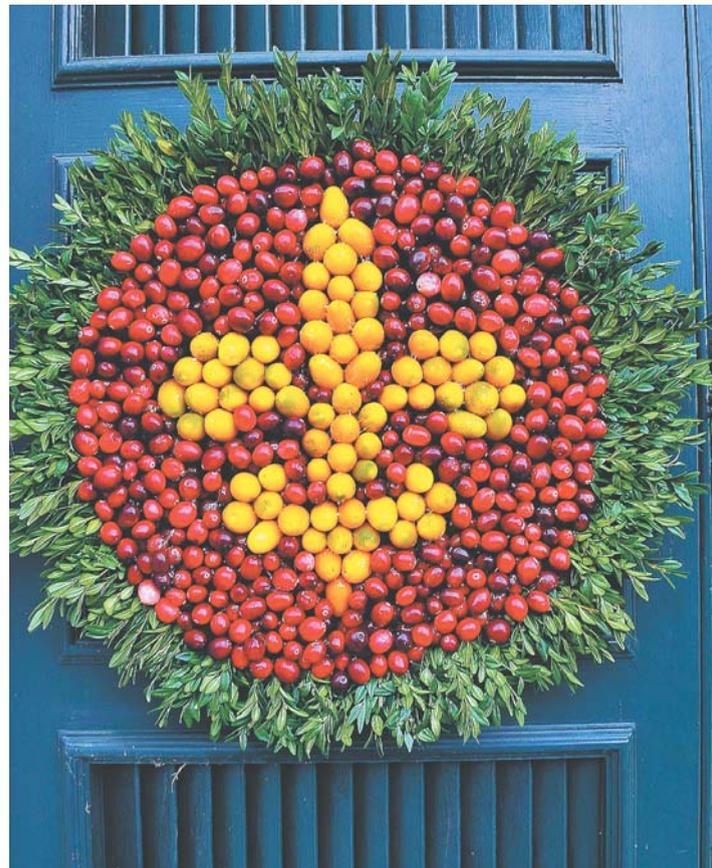


Elizabeth Moon and guests enjoyed last year's Martinis & Mistletoe.

# 'Welcome,' Naturally

## The Old Town Walled Garden Club hosts holiday awards.

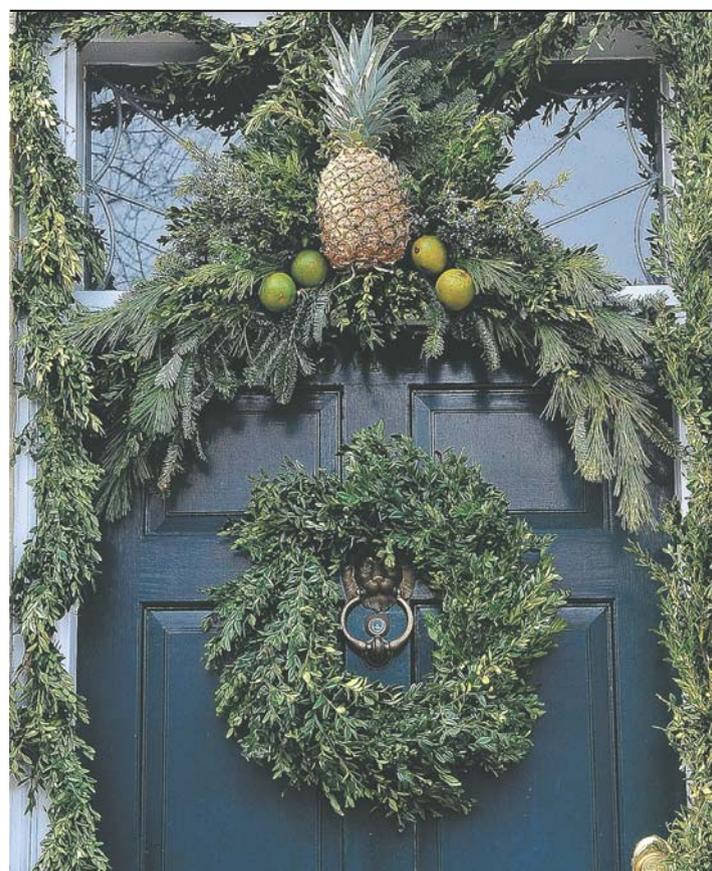
The judges in the Old Town Walled Garden Club walked the streets of Old Town last Friday and found a number of homes welcoming in the holidays. This year the first-, second- and third-place winners will be treated to gift certificates from Reunions Boutique, Buzz and Faccia Luna. The judging is based on the use of natural materials created by the homeowners that enhance the doorways of their homes in Old Town.



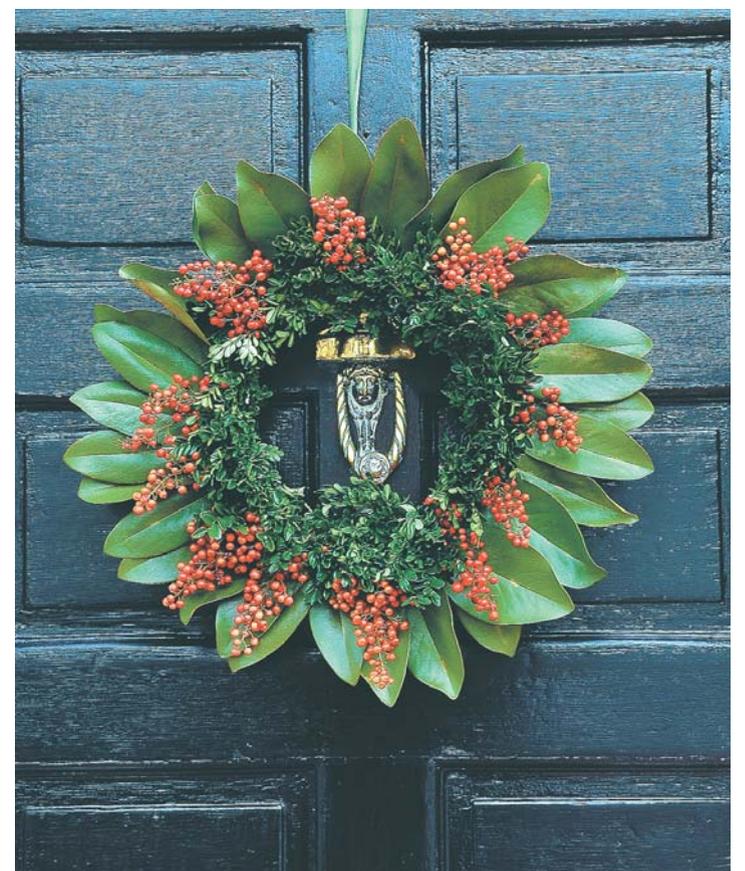
The first-place prize of a gift card from Reunions Boutique was awarded to the residents of 209 South Lee Street for the fleur-de-lis wreaths made of cranberries and kumquats on the outer doors.



The second-place winner was 310 South Saint Asaph Street with the square wreaths of bay leaves and berries surrounded by a garland of evergreens.



The third-place winner was 517 South Fairfax Street with the boxwood garlands and wreath with a pineapple in the transom and limes that carried on to the wreath.



The honorable mention went to 510 South Fairfax Street with the magnolia, boxwood and nadina wreath.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

# CALENDAR

E-mail announcements to the Gazette, [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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 DEC. 18

### Toys for Tots.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Drop off toys to these locations:  
\* The Campagna Center, 418 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.  
\* Weichert, Realtors, 121 North Pitt Street, Alexandria.

If you're unable to make it to either of these drop off locations, an agent from Weichert, Realtors will pick up the gift from your home. To arrange a pickup, contact Kim Sarina at (703) 549-8700 or Christine Garner at (703) 587-4855.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

**Tea Dances.** 1-3:15 p.m. Group class from 1-1:30 p.m. Ballroom, Latin and Swing music. \$11/person. At the Dance Studio Lioudmila, 18 Roth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (off Duke Street), Alexandria. Call 703-751-8868.

## DEC. 17, 18, 19

**A Tuna Christmas.** By Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard featuring Katherine Bisulca and Erin Gallalee. Presented by Zempfira Stage. Dec. 17, 18, 19 at 8 p.m. Cost is \$15/adults; \$10 seniors, students. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Call 703-615-6626.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 16

**Front Pond Families Celebration.** 5:30 p.m. A celebration of the Winter Solstice with music and food, lights and decorations made by the children. At Frog Pond Learning Center, Huntley Meadows Nature Park, 7204 Harrison Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-7663.

## THURSDAY, DEC. 17

**Winter Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Seasonal favorites will be performed by the Colonial Singers, Bella Voce, the Symphonic Mixed Chorus and the Symphonic Women's Chorus. At West Potomac High Schools Springbank Auditorium, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.westpotomacchoirs.org](http://www.westpotomacchoirs.org), or call the choral office at 703-718-2687.

**Port Tobacco Pickers.** 7-9 p.m. Free. This seven-piece bluegrass band from southern Maryland will perform a musical medley of traditional bluegrass, Southern rock, train songs, and even an Irish whiskey tune. 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](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## FRIDAY/DEC. 18

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

**F.A.N.tastic Fridays.** 7-8:30 p.m. A free drop-in recreation program for individuals ages 2-22 on the autism spectrum and their entire family. At Nannie Lee Rec Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria. Call Jennae Duarte at 703-324-5557, TTY 711.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 19

**Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction.** Sponsored by the Mount Vernon High School Girls Basketball team. Tickets are \$5. Contact Terry Henderson at 703-619-3146 or [Terry.Henderson@fcps.edu](mailto:Terry.Henderson@fcps.edu).

**Holiday Ice Show.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. At the Mt. Vernon RECenter. Features the RECenter's most experienced skaters, as well as beginners of all ages showing off their skills. At 2017 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria. Contact Ice Manager Carl Kirtley, at 703-768-3224 or via e-mail at [carl.kirtley@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:carl.kirtley@fairfaxcounty.gov). Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks).

**Celebrations Around the Globe.** 7 p.m. The production is a celebration of celebration. Sponsored by the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities. At Lee Center's Kauffman Auditorium, 1108 Jefferson Street, Old Town. Tickets are \$5. Call 703-746-5533.

**Caroling for Cats.** The Vola Lawson Animal Shelter stays open from noon till midnight to offer people more time to find and adopt cats. Festivities will include caroling for the cats, refreshments, crafts activities and holiday movies. At 4101 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Contact Carrie Drummond at 703-838-4774, ext. 245, or at [cdrummond@alexandrianimals.org](mailto:cdrummond@alexandrianimals.org).

**"Lion, Witch and Wardrobe."** 9 a.m. Kaleidoscope Theatre presents "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," in Old Town Alexandria. At Medieval Madness at Renaissance Hall, 1121 King Street, Alexandria. Tickets are \$5. Call 703-912-4005 or email [info@ktheatre.org](mailto:info@ktheatre.org) to reserve seats. Free parking is available in the garage at 1101 King Street. Entry to the garage is on Cameron Street. Visit [www.ktheatre.org](http://www.ktheatre.org).

**Breakfast With Santa.** 9 a.m. to noon. Kids can enjoy a pancake breakfast, make their own holiday craft and sit on Santa's lap to share their Christmas wishes and have their picture taken. Proceeds will benefit the MVHS Class



## THURSDAY/DEC. 31

**First Night Alexandria.** New Year's Eve celebration with music, dance, performing arts for all ages with more than 100 performances in 25 indoor venues throughout Old Town. All ages are welcome and all venues are alcohol free. 6 p.m. to midnight. Fireworks at midnight. Entrance fee. Call 703-746-3301, [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com) or [www.FirstNightAlexandria.org](http://www.FirstNightAlexandria.org).

of 2013. At Mount Vernon High School, Room G100. Cost is \$5.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 20

**Winter Solstice Event.** 2 p.m. Games, stories, crafts and entertainment. The event will feature a performance by "The Jazzy Juggler" and a baritone horn solo by park naturalist and musician extraordinaire, Rich Bailey. Park naturalists will also present "5 Simple Ways To Identify Animals and Plants in Northern Virginia." At Potomac Overlook Regional Park in Arlington. Call 703-528-5406

**Colonial Handbell Ringers.** 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Join the Colonial Handbell Ringers as they play more than 60 bronze bells. Musical selections include Christmas classics like "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Feliz Navidad," and "Frosty the Snowman." Sing along with your favorite Christmas carols. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria. Call 703-838-4994, [www.AlexandriaHistory.org](http://www.AlexandriaHistory.org).

**Candlelight Christmas Service.** 5 p.m. Features performing artists from Convergence including, The 7 Sopranos, dancers from Mlyna Ballet, scripture readings from storytellers, Christmas hymns and carols, and more. At Sanctuary at Convergence, a Creative Community of Faith, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-998-6260 or visit

[www.convergenceccf.net](http://www.convergenceccf.net).

## MONDAY/DEC. 21

**Light the Night.** 5-6 p.m. Free. Welcome the return of Light with a Solstice Celebration at Art at the Center. Bundle up and bring your flashlights, light-up clothing, anything that glows in the dark. Meets in the parking lot at 5 p.m. for a community art event, drawing with light. At Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org).  
**Irish Soprano Emma-Kate Tobia.** 8 p.m. \$25 tickets. Sings "A Classic Irish Christmas." Also stars Irish-American singer Andy Cooney. At Pat Troy's Ireland's own Restaurant, 111 N. Pitt St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-4535 or go to <http://www.patttoyirishpub.com>.

## DEC, 27, 28, 29

**"The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Presented by The Virginia Ballet Company and School. At Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus in the Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater. Tickets are \$30/adults; \$20/children, students and seniors. Go to [www.virginiaballetcompany.org](http://www.virginiaballetcompany.org) or call 703-249-8227.

## JAN. 1-4

**MAGFest 8 — Music and Gaming Festival.** Offers 24-hour console, arcade and PC game rooms, 10 live video game cover bands, a vendors area and guest speakers from the video game industry and fan scene. Live video game music cover bands and 24-hour gaming. In Alexandria. Go to <http://magfest.org>.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 3

**Bach Vespers at Westminster.** 6 p.m. Organ works included: J.S. Bach, Prelude and Fugue in c-minor ("Big"). Chorale Preludes "Helft mir Gotts Güte preisen," "Das alte Jahre vergangen ist," "In dir ist Freude" and Fugue on "Magnificat." At Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria. Go to [www.wpc-alex.org](http://www.wpc-alex.org)

**Twelfth Night.** 6 p.m. A celebration of the Epiphany and the Winter Solstice. Armonia Nova, a Medieval and Renaissance ensemble of historical instruments and voices. At Christ Church, 118 N. Washington St., Old Town, Alexandria. Call 571-482-9052 or [www.armonianova.org](http://www.armonianova.org).

## JAN. 4-5

**Auditions for "Urinetown."** 7-10 p.m. Presented by the Metropolitan Performing Arts Theatre. Sing up to 32 bars, bring sheet music (accompanist provided). Callbacks are Jan. 7. The performance dates are March 19-27. At

7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Email [daniilo.stapula@gmail.com](mailto:daniilo.stapula@gmail.com) or visit [www.metrotheater.org](http://www.metrotheater.org)

## SATURDAY/JAN. 9, 2010

**Rockin' in a Winter Wonderland.** 10-11 a.m. Featuring Rocknrocros and benefitting the St. Clement Episcopal Day School in Alexandria. Cost is \$10/advance; \$12/door. At Grace Episcopal Day School Auditorium, 3601 Russell Road, Alexandria. For tickets, go to <http://preschool.fufa.net>.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 10, 2010

**Hungry for Music Concert.** 7 p.m. Four folk/Americana duos perform. Starring Siobhan Quinn and Michael Bowers; Bumpkin Pie with Michael Dunkley and Suzanne Ives; Lisa Taylor and Dana Connor; and The Sweater Set. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beaugard St., Alexandria. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance at [FocusMusic.org](http://FocusMusic.org). Contact Kay Coyte at [kay@focusmusic.org](mailto:kay@focusmusic.org) or 703-501-6061

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 13

**All About Dogs.** 7:30 p.m. Friends of Duncan Library are hosting Robin Bennett, author of All About Dog Daycare: A Blueprint for Success and Off-Leash Dog Play. At Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4566 or visit [www.alexandria.lib.va.us](http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 19, 2010

**Winter Concert.** Works by Philip Glass with Dana Tae Soon Burgess Dance Co. Schönberg "Verklärte Nacht". At Episcopal High School, in Pendleton Hall in the Ainslie Arts Center, 1200 North Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-933-4135.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 23

**Civil War Ball.** 8-11 p.m. In Gadsby's Tavern ballroom. \$45/advance; \$50/door. Period attire, either civilian or military, is encouraged. In preparation for the Ball, dance classes will be offered at Gadsby's Tavern Museum from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21. Cost is \$12/each of \$30 for the series. Call 703-838-4242. Visit [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

**Mint Condition performances.** 8 p.m. Jane Franklin Dancers ages 20s to 60s. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Tickets \$28 - \$14 at 703-933-1111 or <http://www.janefranklin.com>.

## JAN. 24, 2010

**Mint Condition performances.** 2 p.m. Jane Franklin Dancers ages 20s to 60s. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Tickets \$28 - \$14 at 703-933-1111 or <http://www.janefranklin.com>.

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# La Strada

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## New Year's Eve Prix Fixe Tasting Menu

### Three Courses

*Antipasti or Insalata; Primi or Secondi;  
and Dolce \$45.00 plus tax & gratuity per person  
With wine pairings above (Tasting Glasses)  
\$60.00 tax & gratuity per person*

### Five Course

*\$65.00 plus tax & gratuity per person  
With wine pairings above (Tasting Glasses)  
\$85.00 tax & gratuity per person*

### BUON ANNO

*Happy holidays from the Scott family and staff.*

Please call 703-548-2542 or  
[www.lastrada-ontheave.com](http://www.lastrada-ontheave.com) for menu or to make  
reservations for 1 of 3 seatings; 6pm, 8pm or 10pm

### La Strada

1905 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria (Del Ray)

**703-548-2542**

[www.lastrada-ontheave.com](http://www.lastrada-ontheave.com)

## The Royal Restaurant

(now smoke free)

### "What's for Dinner?!"

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

In addition to our award winning menu, we have added  
some popular specials that add variety for everybody taste.  
**Real food, for real people at reasonable prices.**

#### Monday - Kids Night

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

#### Tuesday - Greek Night

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

#### Wednesday - All American Night

Meatloaf, Chicken Fried Chicken. Va. Ham

#### Thursday - Italian Night

Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari

#### Friday - Fish Night

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

#### Saturday -Steak and Chop Night

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

#### Sunday

Brunch served 7am - 2pm

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

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

Ample Free Parking

## FINE ARTS

### NOW THROUGH DEC. 31

**Small Works/Holiday Show and  
Silent Auction at Gallery West.**  
The Second Thursday Reception is Dec.  
10 from 6-9 p.m. At 1213 King Street  
in Alexandria. Call 703-549-6006 or go  
to [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com).

### NOW THROUGH JAN. 3

**New Mythology/Tracey Clarke**  
Tracey Clarke's otherworldly work pairs  
dramatic images with short narratives  
that both answer — and ask —  
questions. An artist's reception will be  
held Sunday, Nov. 22 at 4 p.m. On  
display at the Athenaeum Gallery, 201  
Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-  
548-0035 or visit [nvfaa.org](http://nvfaa.org).

### NOW THROUGH JAN. 3

**The Kiln Club Show.** Runs Monday  
through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
with Thursdays open until 9 p.m.  
Scope Gallery is located at 101 North  
Union Street, ground floor Studio 19,  
Alexandria. Call the Scope Gallery at  
703-548-6288 or visit  
[www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope](http://www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope).

### NOW THROUGH JAN. 3

**Size Matters: Two Shows-Two  
Jurors.** Juried by Peg Koetsch and  
Brett John Johnson. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
daily except second Thursdays 2 to 9  
p.m. At the Torpedo Factory Art  
Center, 105 N. Street, #312,  
Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.

### NOW THROUGH JAN. 4

**Pamela H. Viola, "The One Less  
Traveled."**  
Photographer Pamela Viola's solo artist  
exhibit at The Art League Gallery, "The  
One Less Traveled," features  
dreamlike, mysterious landscapes that  
challenge the viewer to see the world  
in a new and different way. Opening  
Reception: Thursday, Dec. 10, 6:30 – 8  
p.m. Gallery Hours: Daily, 10 a.m. – 6  
p.m. Sundays, 12 noon – 6 p.m. Open  
Thursdays until 9 p.m. Exhibitions and  
events are free and open to the public.  
The Art League, 105 North Union  
Street, Alexandria.

### TUESDAY/JAN. 5

**"Morrison House Presents: From  
the Torpedo Factory to the  
Mount Vernon Trail."** 6-8 p.m.  
Torpedo Factory artist Christopher  
Erney will discuss his creation of the  
George Washington Mural, the longest  
realistic mural in the United States.  
Part of a salon-style series celebrating  
culture through arts, literature and  
history discussion. At the Morrison  
House, 116 South Alfred Street,  
Alexandria. Visit  
[www.morrisonhouse.com](http://www.morrisonhouse.com) or call 703-  
838-8000.

### NOW THROUGH DEC. 31

**Gallery West Presents: The  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration/Small Works  
Show**

Join the members of Gallery West  
in a month-long celebration of  
the gallery's 30<sup>th</sup> year. The  
gallery is located at 1213 King  
Street in Old Town Alexandria's  
Boutique District, between  
Payne and Fayette. Shopping  
and fine dining are nearby.  
The gallery is open from 11 – 6  
p.m. Wednesday through  
Sunday. Images of work by the  
members are on view at the  
gallery's Web site: [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com). Call 703-549-6006.



### NOW THROUGH DEC. 20

**Heavenly Dialogue: Photographs of Natural Occurrences.** New Work by  
Lucy Herrman. A portion of the sales from this show will be donated to SHARE  
of McLean. At 2401 26<sup>th</sup> Road South, Arlington. Call 703-585-1705. Go to  
[www.DualityContemporaryArt.com](http://www.DualityContemporaryArt.com)

### NOW THROUGH JAN. 10

**Pandora's Box Exhibition.** Pandora's  
Box is an exhibition that had artists  
create a visual interpretation of the  
Greek Myth and express how it relates  
to modern times. Reception Dec. 10  
from 6-8 p.m. Juror talk with Landria  
Shack: Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. Pandora's  
Box Youth Outreach Art Project: Dec.  
10-Jan. 10; with VIP reception on Dec.  
10, 5:30-6:30 p.m. At The Torpedo  
Factory Art Center on the waterfront in  
Old Town Alexandria at 105 North  
Union Street; call 703-838-4565, ext.  
4; Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org)

### FEB. 3-28, 2010

**Gallery West Presents: The 13<sup>th</sup>  
Annual National Juried Show**  
Gallery West invites the public to view  
works selected for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual  
National Show, juried by Jack

Rasmussen, Director and Curator of  
the American University Museum.  
Reception: Saturday, Feb. 6 from 5 – 8  
p.m. Second Thursday Reception: Feb.  
11, 6 – 9 p.m. Located at 1213 King  
Street in Old Town Alexandria's  
Boutique District. Visit [www.gallery-west.com](http://www.gallery-west.com) or call 703-549-6006.

### "Spirits in a Bottle" — Extended Through Jan. 9, 2010

Barbara Hardaway's exhibition, "Spirits in  
a Bottle: Decorative Expressions of an  
Ancient African Tradition," has been  
extended through Saturday, Jan. 9, at  
the Alexandria Black History Museum.  
The exhibition is open Tuesday through  
Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The  
suggested admission is \$2. The  
Alexandria Black History Museum is  
located at 902 Wythe Street in the  
Parker-Gray Historic District. Visit  
[www.alexblackhistory.org](http://www.alexblackhistory.org) or call the  
museum at 703-838-4356.



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# PEOPLE



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE

**Loki Van Roijen with Osborne Mackey.**

## Holiday Spirit Embraces Woodlawn

FROM PAGE 5

Preservation's Woodlawn Task Force and as a member of the Woodlawn board nominating committee. The evening's proceeds will support programs and ongoing restoration at Woodlawn.



**Tom Eckert and Tom Skully.**



**Beverley Stanley decorated the Woodlawn Mansion for the Candlelight Dinner.**

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Christmas Eve at Aldersgate Church

**3 p.m. & 5 p.m.** Child-friendly Candlelight Service with Communion, *nursery provided*

**7 p.m.** Candlelight Service with Communion, *nursery provided*

**9 p.m. & 11 p.m.** Candlelight Services with Communion

Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
1301 Collingwood Road (corner Collingwood & Ft. Hunt Roads)  
[www.aldersgate.net](http://www.aldersgate.net) for more information

**Alexandria Country Day School**  
Please join us for an Open House Event:  
January 13  
[www.acdsnet.org](http://www.acdsnet.org)

Academic excellence in a Caring community with Dignity for all and Service to others!

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## First Night ALEXANDRIA



An Old Town New Year's Eve Party

12.31.09

Four Spotlight Areas of Entertainment between the Masonic Memorial and the Waterfront featuring special performances this year by the **Virginia Coalition**

Admission badges are available online now through December 23 for just \$15. Children 12 and under, and active military, are FREE.

Don't miss the area's largest, budget-friendly New Year's Eve celebration!

[FirstNightAlexandria.org](http://FirstNightAlexandria.org)

## Visit These Houses of Worship

Join A Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

**Christ the Saviour Anglican Church**  
"To Love & Serve the Lord with Gladness & Singleness of Heart"  
Location - Washington Mill ES  
9100 Cherrytree Drive  
Christmas Eve Service - Dec 24th at 5:00 pm  
Sunday Worship Service - 10am  
Inter-generational Sunday School - after service  
Vicar, The Rev. Huey J Sevier  
[www.christthesaviouranglican.org](http://www.christthesaviouranglican.org)  
**703-953-2854**

**Word!**  
10 am Sunday Worship Service  
Sunday School classes (child to adult) and youth group (7th to 12th grade)  
9 am to noon Monday through Friday Pre-School  
**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
8412 Richmond Ave, Alexandria, VA 22309  
(just off Richmond Highway, near Fort Belvoir & Mount Vernon)  
**703-780-5019 • [www.wesleyva.org](http://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  
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BEVERLY HILLS COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST...703-671-8557  
DEL RAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-549-2088  
FAIRLINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-671-8557  
ROBERTS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH...703-836-7332  
ST. ANDREW'S 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**  
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- CHURCHES—BAPTIST**  
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BAPTIST TEMPLE CHURCH...703-548-8000  
DEL RAY BAPTIST CHURCH...703-549-8116  
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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALEXANDRIA...703-684-3720  
PROVIDENCE-ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH...703-683-2565  
SHILOH BAPTIST...703-683-4573  
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VICTORY TEMPLE...703-370-2233  
PLYMOUTH HAVEN BAPTIST...703-360-4370
- CHURCHES—BRETHREN**  
GRACE BRETHREN CHURCH...703-548-1808  
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- CHURCHES—ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
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ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-836-3725  
ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-765-4421  
ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH...703-836-4100
- CHURCHES—CHRISTIAN**  
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# West Potomac Boys Honor Former Coach Engels

The West Potomac boys basketball team honored former head coach Bill Engels, the longest-tenured coach in the program's 25-year history, before its Dec. 11 game against Robert E. Lee. Afterward, the Wolverines welcomed back guard Terrell Ward and won their Patriot District opener.

Ward scored 10 points after missing two games due to "team reasons," according to head coach David Houston III, and West Potomac won, 70-64, at home.

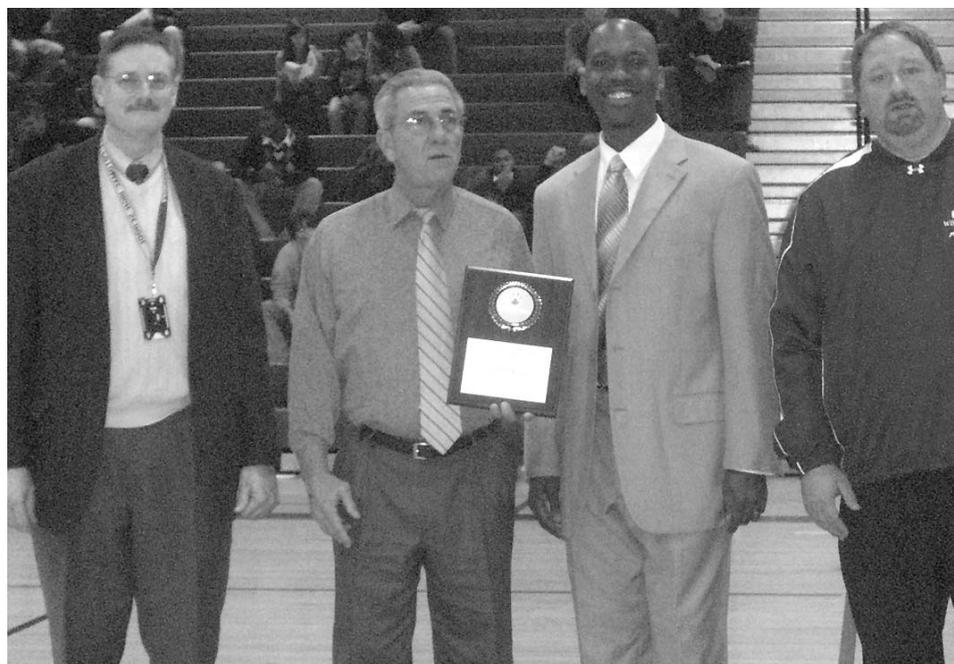
Ward, a 6-foot-2 guard, was one of four Wolverines to score at least nine points. Daryl Copeland led the way with 19 points. Keevyn Hankins finished with 18 points for West Potomac and Martez Redfearn added nine.

**SPORTS BRIEFS** The Wolverines (2-1 overall, 1-0 district) led early, but Lee entered the fourth quarter with a three-point lead. West Potomac responded with defensive pressure and offensive aggression. The Wolverines outscored the Lancers 21-12 during the final period, thanks in part to a 13-of-16 performance from the free-throw line.

"We were attacking the basket," Houston said. "I thought we played really strong man-to-man defense. I thought our defense stepped up in the fourth."

Copeland, a 5-foot-8 point guard, scored 12 of his team-high 19 points in the fourth quarter while knocking down all eight of his final-period free-throw attempts.

The win was West Potomac's second in a row — the Wolverines beat Wakefield 60-52 on Dec. 8 — after losing its season opener to Mount Vernon, 68-51, on Dec. 5.



**Pictured from left: West Potomac Principal Cliff Hardison, former West Potomac boys basketball coach Bill Engels, current Wolverines head coach David Houston III, West Potomac Director of Student Activities Aaron Helmick. Engels, the longest tenured coach in the program's 25-year history, was honored before Friday's game against Robert E. Lee. West Potomac won, 70-64.**

"Our defense was better, our offense has improved," Houston said. "We're starting to play pretty well together and understanding what we're trying to do."

West Potomac traveled to take on South County on Tuesday. The result was not available as of the Gazette deadline. The Wolverines host Centreville at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 22.

Engels coached West Potomac from 1986 to 2001 and led the Wolverines to their last regional championship in 1998. He was honored with a plaque before the game.

## West Potomac Girls Beat Lee

The West Potomac girls basketball team picked up its first win of the season on Friday with a 51-45 victory over Robert E. Lee. Kiara Artis, Talya Dawson and Alex Jones scored in double figures for the Wolverines in their Patriot District opener.

West Potomac hosted South County on Tuesday. Results were not available as of the Gazette deadline. The Wolverines will travel to take on Centreville at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

## Mount Vernon Boys Keeping Things Competitive

After winning two of three games during a four-day stretch to open the season, the Mount Vernon boys basketball team will have gone nearly two weeks between games when it takes the floor at 7:45 p.m. Friday at Washington-Lee. Head coach Alfonso Smith said the Majors have maintained their

competitive nature but are ready to face another opponent.

"We just try to be creative in keeping things as competitive as possible," Smith said of the team's time between games. "We create situations in practice where they can go ahead and compete, but they're getting a little tired of that."

Mount Vernon (2-1) last played Dec. 5 against West Potomac, a game the Majors won 68-51. After opening National District play against Washington-Lee, Mount Vernon will host Edison at 7:45 p.m. Dec. 22.

Smith said he expects the Majors and newcomer Hayfield to garner the most attention in the National District. Hayfield ended Mount Vernon's season with a buzzer-beater in last year's postseason.

"We performed pretty well over the last several years. I think that our opponents respect us pretty well," Smith said. "There are no nights off for us. We're going to get everybody's best shot."

Mount Vernon has four players averaging double-figure point totals. Niagara-bound senior Skylar Jones is averaging a team-high 18.3 points per contest. Senior point guard Robert Smith is averaging 14.3 points per game. Junior guard Jesse Konadu is at 13.7 points per game and senior forward Sean Stewart is averaging 11.3.

Smith leads the Majors with 13 assists and 12 steals, and Konadu is tops with 20 rebounds.

## Mount Vernon Girls Lose to Forest Park

The Mount Vernon girls basketball team lost its home opener to Forest Park, 70-50, on Friday, dropping the Majors' record to 1-1. Mount Vernon opens National District

competition with a 7:45 p.m. home game on Friday against Washington-Lee.

## West Potomac Boys Swim-Dive Wins

The West Potomac boys swim and dive team defeated Robert E. Lee, 184-124, on Friday at the Mount Vernon Rec Center. The Wolverines won eight individual events and two relays.

Trevor Jenne won the 200-yard freestyle and Mark Mattis won the 200 IM and the 500 free. Dan Chalfant won the 100 butterfly and the 100 backstroke. Connor Woods won the 1-meter dive, Jack King won the 100 free and Spencer Watkins won the 100 breaststroke. West Potomac won the 200 medley relay (Patrick Murphy, Mattis, Chalfant, Watkins) and the 400 free relay (Chalfant, Mattis, King, Murphy).

West Potomac travels to take on Lake Braddock at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

## Wolverine Girls Swim-Dive Beats Lee

The West Potomac girls swim and dive team defeated Robert E. Lee, 216-98, on Friday at the Mount Vernon Rec Center. The Wolverines won seven individual events and three relays.

Leigh Orleans won the 200-yard IM and the 500 freestyle, Hellen Moffitt placed first in the 200 IM and 100 butterfly, Reanna Dona won the 100 free and 100 backstroke and Maddie Stevens won the 100 breaststroke. West Potomac won the 200 medley relay (Dona, Lydia Perkins, Julia Bolger, Moffitt), 200 free relay (Megan Haley, Moira Fagen, Sophia Passacantando, Karley Zdebski) and the 400 free relay (Dona, Moffitt, J. Bolger, Maddy Bolger).

West Potomac travels to take on Lake Braddock at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

## West Potomac Grad Shines at F-L Invite

West Potomac graduate and Gettysburg College swim team freshman Cheryl Olechnowicz teamed up with Maggie Mulderrig, Caroline Coolidge and Deirdre Purdy to take fifth place in the 200-freestyle relay with a time of 1 minute, 41.89 seconds on Dec. 5 during first-day action of the Franklin & Marshall College Invitational.

## MVHS Dinner and Auction Approaching

Mount Vernon High School Girls Basketball 11th Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction will be held on Dec. 19. Tickets are \$5. See a student athlete from the girls basketball team or contact Terry Henderson at 703-619-3146 or Terry.Henderson@fcps.edu.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

**West Potomac senior Martez Redfearn, seen earlier this season, was one of four Wolverines to score at least nine points Friday against Robert E. Lee. Daryl Copeland scored 19 points, Keevyn Hankins finished with 18, Terrell Ward added 10 and Redfearn scored nine.**

# SCHOOLS



PHOTOS BY KRISTI THOMAS

**Christ Church of Alexandria Cherub Choir members Georgia Mosteller and Kathryn Atkinson.**

## Musical Benefit

FROM PAGE 3

at Christ Church to help other children pursue their musical education," Abel said.

Principal of Mount Vernon Woods Elementary Marie Lemmon expressed appreciation to Christ Church and its members for their involvement in the program, which provides lower income students the gift of learning to create and enjoy music, especially in this time of cutbacks in arts and music education. The school and church are also looking forward to working together to fund a band camp at Mount Vernon Woods this summer.



**Music Director for Christ Church of Alexandria Jason Abel leads the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.**

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#### FRIDAY/DEC. 18

**NAACP Christmas Party.** 7:30-9:45 p.m. Held at Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Semi-formal attire required. Tickets are \$25/adults, \$12.50 for ages 16 and under. Call Olivia Jones-Smith, Branch President, at 703-591-4488 and/or visit the Web site at [www.fairfaxnaacp.org](http://www.fairfaxnaacp.org).

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 19

**Red Cross Blood Drive.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hosted by the Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus, 8592 Richmond Highway. Contact 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

#### MONDAY/DEC. 21

**Duncan Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. At the Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. The book to be discussed is "Empire of the Sun," by J. G. Ballard. Call Ruth at 703-838-4566.

#### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

**Conservation Breakfast.** 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$50; 2 for \$75. Hosted by the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. Sen. Patsy Ticer, Chair, Agriculture, Conservation & Natural Resources Committee, is the

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## Delivering Happiness

The K-Kids is a community service club at Stratford Landing Elementary School that is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club. On Dec. 4, eight K-Kids visited Paul Spring Retirement Community on Fort Hunt Road, and delivered to all the senior residents that were available a pair of hand-decorated socks, which they call "Happy Feet Socks" because they decorate them by sewing "Ho Ho" on them. Four parents participated too. The group was led by Lindsey Mongan, K-Kids president.



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PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE



School Board member Dan Storck and Supervisor Gerry Hyland discuss the county budget with residents at the Dec. 9 meeting at Mt. Vernon High School.

## Squeezing Revenues, Services

FROM PAGE 1

taxing authority, will have to address the revenue deficit projections, and decide what to cut and/or what changes need to be made to raise sufficient revenue to balance the budget. It was mentioned at the community meeting that Federal "Stimulus" money will again help some as it has for the current fiscal year; however, given the poor outlook for residential housing real estate tax receipts due to lower housing value levels, and the prospect of lower state financial support than in the current year levels, the board is looking for creative approaches that will cause the least amount of pain in raising revenue and/or cutting services.

**THE MAJORITY** of comments offered at the community meeting came from parents of public school students that lived in the Waynewood, Riverside Estates, Fort Hunt, and Stratford Landing communities among other surrounding Mt. Vernon District neighborhoods. Parents were adamant about objecting to any cuts in the school budget that would adversely impact the pupil-teacher ratio; expressed concern that full day kindergarten was not consistently offered; and complained about the state allocation formula.

Human services advocate Ann Andrews spoke out about the need to continue to assist those in the route 1 corridor who are needy. Andrews announced that on Jan. 15 the Route 1 Task Force which she chairs would meet at the South County Governmental Center.

A resident of the Stratford Landing community, Michele Nellenbach, announced that on Feb. 5 a parent lobby would gather at a designated local Mt. Vernon site and caravan by car to Richmond to meet with state legislators. The purpose is to urge them to support the financial needs of the school system and the county — and in particular to urge local state legislators to revise the state tax receipts allocation formula (Local Composite Index).

"We intend to remind the legislators that the LCI needs to be revised; it discriminates against the county [the county receives 19 cents for every dollar sent to the state in return] and prevents our county government from providing full services; for example the school system has cut kindergar-

ten services and the county has cut mental health services," Nellenbach said.

For those wishing to join in lobbying the General Assembly, Nellenbach urged local Mount Vernon residents to contact her at: MCADYN@yahoo.com; or call her at 703-799-2210.

**HYLAND IS LEADING** an effort on the Board of Supervisors to gain approval of a meals tax to raise funds. Hyland, on losing the board vote (3-7) last week to bring a meals tax referendum to county taxpayers this coming fall: "As far as I am concerned that was only the first round; we are continuing a board dialogue which will result in another debate and another vote in the near future. We need an alternative means to raise money to pay for additional school system and other county priorities."

"I believe there are those on the board who, after looking more closely at the financial outlook and the school system's needs, will support a referendum later in the year which, if it passes, will help raise money for program needs in the latter half of the 2011 fiscal year and beyond," Hyland said. Suggestions offered by Mt. Vernon attendees during the community dialogue meeting:

- ❖ Raise parking fees for school faculty and students; sports participation fees
- ❖ Cut support for the gifted/talented programs
- ❖ Expand support for kindergarten students; provide equal support for all kindergarten programs.
- ❖ Urged that the school system do a better job of long range planning
- ❖ Revise the State's Local Composite Index which favors less affluent counties in Virginia and discriminates against Fairfax County.
- ❖ Support the passage of Virginia legislation to extend insurance coverage to assist autistic children. (Hyland stated that he would urge the Board of Supervisors to include such a proposal in their package of legislative priorities to the Fairfax County legislative delegation.)
- ❖ Increase taxes and "do the right thing"
- ❖ The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) was said to urge the Board of Supervisors to support a tax rate increase to raise sufficient revenues to cover the projected deficit.

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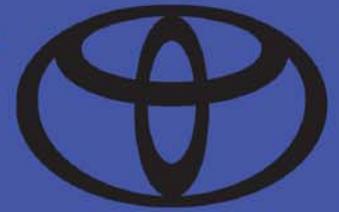
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**23 MPG\*\***

**\$259/MONTH FOR 36 MONTHS\*\*\***

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OR **0% APR FOR 36 MONTHS**

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**NEW '10 RAV4**



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OR **\$750 CUSTOMER CASH**

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PRICES PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT OF \$750 FOR CARS, \$800 FOR VANS, SUV'S, AND TRUCKS, PROCESSING FEE OF \$379 & ACQUISITION FEE OF \$650 ARE EXTRA. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT. APR FINANCING ON APPROVED CREDIT. INCLUDES ALL INCENTIVES. \*CUSTOMER CASH PROVIDED BY CAT. ALL CUSTOMER CASH MUST BE TFS SPECIAL LEASE TO QUALIFY. \*\*EPA HIGHWAY FUEL ESTIMATE. \*\*\*CAMRY, COROLLA AND RAV4 LEASE: \$1,999 DUE AT SIGNING, SIENNA LEASE: \$2,999 DUE AT SIGNING. OFFER ENDS 12/23/09.

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