

Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JUNE 17, 2010

'Runway Ready'

Fashion students take their talent and run with it.

BY GRACE POWELL
THE GAZETTE

With all the cameras, makeup and high heels, it seemed like nearly everyone at West Potomac High School's "Runway Ready" fashion show on June 12, was somehow famous. And many were.

Like Bianca Golden and Ises King from America's Next Top Model and D.C. avant-garde designer Emore'J Couture. Or Kenny Flanagan, who has designed outfits for stars like Rihanna. The show even featured clothes from world renowned fashion designer Betsey Johnson.

Yet then there were the students. Alana, Emily, Kiadra, Nicole, Lily, Sonya, Nuku and Latasja: Eight girls ready to graduate high school and ready to show the famous people

SEE FASHION, PAGE 4



PHOTO BY GRACE POWELL/THE GAZETTE

Senior Latasja Rousey created model Bianca Golden's (right) outfit along with her partner Kiadra Faulkner (behind).

House Bought To Stop Flooding

Neighbors criticize National Park Service's drainage strategy.

BY GALE CURCIO
THE GAZETTE

In 1982, Bill and Valerie Howe purchased a home on East Boulevard Drive. It was a beautiful setting and a great location. There was one major problem, however — the back and side yards were prone to flooding.

When the Howes' daughter, Debbie Conway, and her husband, Cliff, purchased the home in 1997, the flooding continued.

When they installed a pool in 1999, they noticed the flooding even more.

At times, the flooding in their yard was so bad that it came up to the first step of their deck.

"Over time, it eroded more and more," said Debbie Conway. "The crawl space also floods."

Conway blames the flooding on the drainage work that was installed after a median was placed

on the parkway around the Collingwood Road exit in the late '80s.

"When they put the median in and did the road repairs, they [NPS] messed up," said Conway. "They know they're in the wrong."

Starting in 2006, the Conways started exchanging emails with the Park Service and had numerous meetings to complain about the flooding issues.

"They didn't know where the water was coming from and they didn't know what to do," said Conway. "I really wanted it fixed, and we tried to seek damages, but lost."

In January 2009, the Conways received a letter from the Park Service offering to buy their house.

"It was a complete surprise," said Conway, who had a meeting scheduled with a contractor two days later to sign an agreement

"They didn't know where the water was coming from and they didn't know what to do."

— Debbie Conway

SEE HOME, PAGE 15

Veterans Volunteer To Help Wounded Soldiers

County partners with Ft. Belvoir to provide adaptive therapeutic recreation services.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

The Base Realignment decision (BRAC) transferred a portion of the combat injured rehabilitation responsibilities from Walter Reed Medical Center to Ft. Belvoir. This includes assisting soldiers who were wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan to transition to a new assignment, return to civilian life, or return to their former assigned unit once

fully recovered from their injuries.

One element of a recovering soldier's transition and recovery emotionally and physically is to engage in recreation activity.

Area resident Charles Voccio, a Vietnam veteran active in a local American Legion Post and the county's senior center program, saw an opportunity to help wounded soldiers in a personal way and convinced others to follow his lead.

He's been the driving force be-

hind a new partnership between Fairfax county's Department of Community & Recreation Services and Fort Belvoir's wounded warriors in transition program to provide community-based recreation services to wounded soldiers.

After months of planning and organizing with Ft. Belvoir and county staff, Voccio's vision of a personalized therapeutic community recreation program for recovering soldiers will be launched June 17 with a supervised trail

hike — entitled the Leisure Exploration Opportunity — at the Great Falls National Park.

For those soldiers who are not interested in a structured physical recreation program, they can opt to receive a recreation center voucher entitling the holder to 25 visits to a recreation center of his

or her choice. The voucher option would enable the recovering soldier to informally go to a recreation center anywhere in the county and participate in an organized or impromptu activity available at the center.

SEE VETERANS, PAGE 9



ALEXANDRIA

OLD TOWN

\$1,970,000



Oh, the Stories 212 Could Tell...

This regal, free-standing landmark, home to generations of diplomats, mariners and merchants, is ready to delight its new owners. Offering five bedrooms, four full and two half baths, above-grade lower level family room, amazing light throughout and generous space that has been beautifully restored. The rich wood floors, crystal chandeliers, high ceilings, detailed moldings, as well as the numerous built-ins throughout the home, present a refined patina of historic charm. Whether entertaining or relaxing, the home's deep garden, lush with plantings and soothing fountains, and brick-columned loggia, complete with ceiling fan and lighting, offer a lovely escape from the hustle and bustle of Old Town. One parking space. See brochure for details.

Ann Duff
703.965.8700
MLS ID# AX7361721



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On .7 acres in a cul-de-sac, five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath, two-car garage Colonial featuring stately, grounds, mature trees, generous room sizes, meticulous details: built-ins, fitness room, rec room, master suite. Boast about easy commuting, a home with over 5,000 square feet including neighborhood boat ramp with access to the Potomac.

Elizabeth Lucchesi
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www.lizluke.com
MLS ID# FX7349255



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Fabulous Center Hall Colonial

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Mason Montague Bavin
703.338.6007
www.masonbavin.com



ALEXANDRIA

S



Serene Setting

Lovely...this five bedroom, two bath split-level home sits on a quiet cul-de-sac. The handsome kitchen and both baths sparkle from their recent renovations. An over-sized two-car garage is ready for today's SUV's with space for a studio, workshop, garden tools, the list goes on! It will be hard to decide whether to entertain on the rear deck or just relax to the sounds and fragrances of nature.

Honor Vandever & Jane Manstorf
703.615.0363 571.276.8116
www.honorjane.com
MLS ID# FX7324184



ALEXANDRIA/SEMINARY RIDGE

\$969,900



Quiet Cul-de-Sac

This Seminary Ridge home has been beautifully renovated! New kitchen and baths, refinished hardwoods plus tiered decking. An updated master suite features crown and chair rail molding, walk-in closet and new bath. The walk-out lower level boast an in-law suite with en-suite bath, rec room with wet bar and game room and opens to flat backyard.

Sue Goodhart
703.362.3221
www.suegoodhart.com
MLS ID# AX7332676



ALEXANDRIA

\$635,000



Comfort and Space

This home offers comfort and a lot of space from four bedrooms, to large living and family rooms and even two spacious yards. Both back and front yards are landscaped with the rear fully fenced. Kitchen and dining room and deck connect easily for entertaining outdoors. Nestled in a quiet neighborhood yet so close to shopping, parks, historic sites and more!

Elizabeth Lucchesi
703.868.5676
www.lizluke.com
MLS ID# FX7362025



ALEXANDRIA/BELLE HAVEN

\$849,000



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The best value in Belle Haven! Fantastic, private location; back yard oasis with eight-month screened great room. Four bedrooms, three full baths. Sellers have done all of the updates for your new home!

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www.janetpricehomes.com
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ALEXANDRIA

\$799,000



Stately Colonial

Elegant center hall colonial on large level lot in sought after Wilton Woods. With four bedrooms, two full and two half baths, plus den and screened porch, this house has it all. Close to everything and a two car garage too.

Kate Patterson
703.627.2166
www.katepattersonhomes.com
MLS ID# FX7358830





FILE PHOTO

A vehicle parked on a front lawn south of Huntley Meadows Park earlier this year.

Send in the A-Team

Supervisor McKay suggests county use private collections services to go after zoning deadbeats.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

That abandoned car down the street is a nuisance. But is its owner paying the price of the zoning violations issued by Fairfax County judges? Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay says in many cases, the fines are never collected until a property is up for sale. The catch-me-if-you-can environment is troubling to McKay, who wants to start cracking down on deadbeat zoning violators.

The plan? Send in the A-Team.

Instead of recording unpaid judgements as liens against property, McKay says private collection agencies should be given the job. When the delinquent violator is tracked down, he or she will be on the hook for all the money owed to the county. And they'll also receive the bill for the private collection agency, a tab that can run as much as 20 percent.

"Why do I need a county employee chasing these people around?" said McKay. "Every day we wait to make this change, we are losing money."

The libraries are already using private collection agencies to get late fees. And the parks department has started employing the

outside service to get dues for an after-school program. Ever since the General Assembly passed authorizing legislation in 2009, more and more county departments and agencies are moving toward the more aggressive collections operations. While the need is partly based in the county's need for money, it's also the result of fallow properties caught in the middle of the economic crisis.

"In many cases, houses that have gone into foreclosure become Chia pets," said Fairfax County Realtor Katherine Ward. "I think the county has an obligation to collect these fees."

Private collection is nothing new. Government contracts have been awarded for years to collect delinquent taxes and unpaid parking tickets. The difference here is that the 2009 authorizing language may have clarified some lingering uncertainty about the process. As a result, McKay would like to see the issue taken up before the end of August.

"We would like to see a preference for Virginia-based companies," said Fran Fisher, spokeswoman for the Virginia Collectors Association. "It would keep tax dollars here in the commonwealth."

Hoke Retires from St. Aidan's

Odom appointed new director.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Set back some 50 yards off Riverside Road in Mt. Vernon, the St. Aidan's Episcopal Day School is a popular and, according to the teachers and parents who have sent their children to the school, a positive and influential preschool for many children in the community since its opening in 1966. Just driving back off the main road to the large parking lot surrounded by carefully kept grounds, one senses a sanctuary for children to socialize, play, and develop. There is the carefully maintained garden, the immaculately kept school, a large playground area, and of course, St. Aidan's Episcopal Church.

St. Aidan's Day School offers constructive and organized play for 135 children ages 30 months through 5 years of age. There are 16 teachers on staff. Until very recently, none have been more influential than Kathy Hoke who, after more than 20 years, the last 11 as the school's director, has retired. Her legacy of leadership lives on through the teachers and the new director, Suzanne Odom, who was hired and mentored by

St. Aidan's Philosophy

"We strive to promote a loving, caring atmosphere rich in experience, materials, and equipment to nurture the total development of your child. Our goals are to give your child a healthy sense of self, helping each child to develop social, physical, and educational skills."

Hoke over the past several years.

Hoke received her bachelor's degree in education from Penn State University. She and her husband James have two children, Kristina and Lara.

Q. Why did you stay at St. Aidan's all these years? You clearly could have taught in the public school system or moved elsewhere to teach.

A. It was and always has been a caring supportive community. I loved what I did and the children, parents, teachers, and the entire community responded positively. I had no desire to be anywhere else or to do anything else.

Q. What was your most challenging experience in all these years?

A. The flood that occurred last year one week before we were to open the school for the new year. The storm drains backed up and flooded our basement area, causing a lot of destruction of three classrooms, the kitchen, and bathroom spaces. But the parents, church, staff, and the entire community came to our rescue to clean up, renovate, and replace furniture, etc., all in time for our school opening. It was a terrible experience and also a gratifying one to see the entire community come to our rescue.

Q. What was the most gratifying experience you had over the years as director?

A. The day-to-day experience to be a part of the caring, nurturing, loving support provided by the parents and staff, and the special positive way the children responded. Over and over again, we were all rewarded by the spirit of the teamwork to deliver a fun-



Kathy Hoke with preschool children.

filled creative program for the children.

Q. What are you planning on doing in retirement?

A. First, I plan on traveling to California for an upcoming wedding for my daughter, Lara. Beyond that, I haven't given a lot of thought to my plans. I will think about it more and plan accordingly with my husband Jim, who still works so that will have to be taken into consideration.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

Dare Hurley, parent: "The school is a blend of caring teachers who inspire our children; the teachers are very supportive and work well together." About Kathy Hoke: "She has been a calming force. Positive, sincere, and always has our kids at heart."

Colleen Ferguson, parent: "St. Aidan's, for me and my children, is like family. Kathy Hoke has been a strong, quiet, steadying influence in the school."

Mary Anne Hesch, teacher:

SEE HOKE, PAGE 7

Mount Vernon Man Wins Local Emmy

Mount Vernon resident Martin Doblmeier won a local Emmy Award for his documentary film, "Washington National Cathedral." He runs the film company, Journey Films, based in Old Town Alexandria, where for the past 25 years he has produced TV and film documentaries, primarily for PBS on topics of religion, faith and spirituality.

The film won an Emmy Award for best Documentary/Cultural at the 52nd annual Emmy Awards ceremony for the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences - National Capital/Chesapeake Bay Chapter.

The film tells the story of the cathedral's 100-year history and the challenges it faces in the next century as America's "house of prayer for all people."



Martin Doblmeier with his wife Jelena Vucetic.

Fashion Students Take Their Talent and Run with it

FROM PAGE 1

what kind of creativity their minds could conjure up within just a few months. And they did.

More than a hundred people attended the trendy, high energy event. Before the show, individuals could have their makeup done or purchase various goodies such as jewelry and clothes from local designers.

Runway Ready showcased the students' work from their level 2 Fashion Design course. The course, taught by Maggy Francois, an expert in the fashion field, is designed to immerse students into all aspects of the fashion world. "When people think fashion design they think clothing, but there's more to it than that," Francois said.

"The classes we do here are college level," senior Latasja Rousey said.

Rousey said she developed a knack for fashion from her grandma. Every Sunday Rousey's grandma would wear something fashionable to church. "So when she passed away, I had to carry it on for her," she said.

FOR THE FASHION SHOW, the students collaborated to design their own unique collection. "The creativity we did this show was phenomenal," Francois said. Rousey and senior Kiadra Faulkner worked on Indie Chic which they described an "edgy but soft" collection centered around day and night.

Territory was an earthy collection with high waisted bottoms and flowly tops, created by seniors Emily Shockey, Nuku Wollor and Sonya Inderbitzin.

Seniors Lily Guerra and Alana Leuterio designed Lily Leu filled with fun brightly colored outfits.

The girls like fashion for various reasons.

Leuterio said she's always



Seniors Lily Guerra and Alana Leuterio with Jenny Zinn, a manager at a Betsey Johnson store in D.C., and a Betsey Johnson model.

wanted to be involved with it. When she was little, her mom and grandma introduced her to a sewing machine, pretty soon she was making outfits for her Barbie dolls.

Guerra said she likes making people look pretty.

"Who doesn't like fashion?" Wollor said.

The show was all about young people doing big things. Ryan Chairchain, a sophomore at Lake Braddock High School, co-hosted the event. Chairchain developed MSGFT, a company for military children and young people who are into fashion.

The show also featured up-and-coming designers Kim Truong and Samuel Mintah, both former West Potomac High School students. Many of the models in the show were students of all shapes and sizes, who were confident and ready to rock the runway.

Model Bianca Golden said vocational training like the Fashion Design course is extremely helpful in the industry. "I would have loved this," she said.

Before the show, Rousey men-

tioned that she eventually wants to go to Parsons, one of the world's top schools for fashion. Chairchain told her, "We need to talk, I know someone on the dean's list."



Isis King wearing a dress from Kim Truong's collection. Truong is a graduate of West Potomac High School.



Seniors Sonya Inderbitzin, Alana Leuterio, Emily Shockey, and Nuku Wollor take time to smile before the runway show.



Model Nora Sommerkamp wearing the work of haute couture designer Emore'J Couture.



A few days before the show seniors Kiadra Faulkner and Latajsa Rousey make the finishing touches on their collection.



Fashion Design teacher Maggy Francois grabs a bite to eat before the show.



The Blossom Shop will close its doors at the end of June.

PHOTO BY GALE CURCIO

The Blossom Shop To Close

For many years, purchasing a corsage for their prom date from The Blossom Shop was a rite of passage for high school boys. Flowers were ordered for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries and funerals. At the end of the month, however, the last floral order will be delivered and the doors to the Blossom Shop will be closed.

Originally owned by another couple, the store was purchased by Dorothy Trimmer in 2002. She discontinued the clothing line and expanded the selection

of gift items, with a large selection of products by Vera Bradley, Caspari and more. Trimmer cited family reasons for closing the store and said that she would continue filling floral orders through June 30.

It didn't take long for customers to notice the sign announcing that the store was closing and that all merchandise was reduced by 50 percent. Within a week, much of the merchandise was gone.

— GALE CURCIO

BULLETIN BOARD

To have a notice listed, e-mail gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Call Steve Hibbard at 703-778-9412 with questions.

ONGOING

Volunteer Career Mentors are needed to help under- and unemployed adults find jobs. Contact Sarah Schultz, Employer Partnerships Manager at sarah@computer.core.org or call 703-931-7346 ext. 102 for more information. (www.computercore.org)

Fairfax County's Independent Living Program for older adults offers free strength and balance classes followed by health seminars. Classes take place at the Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. All events are free. Registration is required. Call 703-324-7210, TTY 703-449-1186 or e-mail Jennifer.edge@fairfaxcounty.gov.

BUSINESS NOTES

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

The Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites Alexandria/Fort Belvoir at 6055 Richmond Highway is now open. The hotel features 86 guest rooms and suites and is located off historic Route 1 Richmond Highway and Old Town Alexandria, only 7.5 miles from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), 8 miles from Washington D.C. and 1 mile from the Huntington Metro.

The new hotel is designed for travelers with refrigerators, microwaves, coffee makers and LCD flat panel televisions to help you feel at home. The rooms also have complimentary wired

Harmony Heritage Singers. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If a senior choral singer, the Barbershop Chorus, Mt. Vernon Chapter is looking for a few good singers. The group rehearses twice a month on Wednesdays or Fridays at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. The schedule can be found at hhsingers.org or by calling: James Coulter, membership V.P. at 703-957-4597 or 703-615-4141 (cell) or by e-mail jjncoulter@comcast.net.

SATURDAY/JUNE 19

Kitchen and Bath Seminar. 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. At Ferguson Bath, Kitchen and Lighting Gallery, 5650-D General Washington Drive, Alexandria. Call 1-800-513-2250.

TUESDAY/JUNE 29

Seven Steps to Win Government Contracts. 8:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$20/person in advance, \$25 after June 15. Learn the essentials to

and wireless Internet access.

For more information about the hotel or to make a reservation at their Grand Opening rate, contact Amanda Sellman, director of sales, at 571-257-9555 or visit their web site at www.hiexpress.com/alexandriava.

Col. Stephanie L. Foster, a project manager with PEO Soldier, has launched a new initiative called, "Investing in our Youth." The purpose of the community outreach program is to raise young students' interests regarding science and technology and to teach them about the different kinds of opportunities those disciplines offer. The first event in the "Investing in Our Youth" series was held at Fort Belvoir Elementary School and included 175 students from the 10 classes in the first grade. At the event, students used some of the Army's high-tech devices such as the

come out on top of the government procurement process, the steps to take after a contract is won, and network with top D.C. Metropolitan Area business professionals. Presented by the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation and featuring Judy Bradt, CEO & Principal of Summit Insight, LLC. At Hampton Inn & Suites Alexandria-Old Town Area, 5821 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Call Tony Fontana to RSVP at 703-360-5008 or tony.fontana@sfdc.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 22

Travel Management Solutions. 12 noon. McNair Travel is holding a complimentary Webinar titled "Travel Management Solutions for Association Staff, Committees and Members." To register for the free Webinar, RSVP by July 21 to Rian Watson at rwatson@macnairtravel.com or 703-650-5256 and instructions will follow.

Thermal Weapon Sight and the PVS-14 Monocular Night Vision Goggle. A treasure hunt was also conducted in a blacked-out room where students tried to find toys using the PVS-14 device.

Parents magazine reported that The Little Gym has been named the #1 birthday party destination for children in the area.

Alexandria attorney Thomas J. Curcio was elected vice president of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association for 2010-2011 at the Association's annual meeting. The Virginia Trial Lawyers Association is dedicated to promoting professionalism within the trial bar, enhancing the competency of trial lawyers and protecting and preserving the liberties, rights and benefits of an efficient and constitutionally sound judicial system.



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Alex/Wessynton \$659,900
3020 Cunningham Drive
Large 5BR/2.5BA Colonial with 2 car garage and full unfinished basement in Mt. Vernon's premiere contemporary subdivision of Wessynton. This home is priced to allow some updating. Large covered screened porch off the family room allows you to enjoy your beautiful private backyard. Wessynton offers a pool, tennis court, and boat launch that allows quick access to Potomac River - 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, Alex.



Alex./Mt. Vernon \$614,900
9218 Volunteer Dr.
Spectacular 5 bedroom, 3 bath Split teeming w/updates. Totally remodeled from top to bottom. Master bedroom & bath are a 10, overlooking the deck & professionally terraced landscaping. One-car garage plus enclosed porch. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 30 minutes to Pentagon & National Airport.



Alex/Mt. Vernon \$854,900
5412 Grist Mill Woods Way
Spectacular Bk Colonial w/over 5200 finished sq. ft., sits on a beautiful .73 acre cul-de-sac lot backing to woods-huge gourmet kit opens to the breakfast rm, sun rm & family rm-front & rear staircase-plus library/office on main lvl. Upper lvl offers 3 full baths, 4 spacious BRs, & a den. Lg lower lvl w/5th BR, 4th BA, rec rm. & lg storage-1 mile to Ft. Belvoir-17 minutes to Huntington & Old Town, 27 minutes to Ntl Airport.



Alex/Riverwood \$664,900
3715 Riverwood Road
This is a fabulous opportunity to buy into sought after waterfront community of Riverwood-bordered by Mt. Vernon Estate & the Potomac River. Spacious well maintained colonial w/lg 2-car garage on a beautiful .39 wooded lot. Just update the kit & bathrms & you've got a gem of a home at a great price. Close to GW Pkwy for scenic commute.



Alex/Mt. Vernon \$489,900
5114 Old Mill Road
Golfers & Nature Lovers-A sophisticated touch of country directly across from Mt. Vernon CC! Lg beaut renovated & expanded 4BR, 3BA, Cape Cod on a magnificent 2/3 acre lot. This home is bursting w/charm & offers a country front porch & 2 tiered deck w/inviting hot tub overlooking a lg fenced bk yd. Updated kit w/granite counters, opens to breakfast & dining rms. A huge great rm w/wet bar & vaulted ceil is perfect for entertaining. 3 updated BAs, new siding & replacement windows in 2004. Walk across street to MVCC-1 mile to GW Pkwy & 2 miles to Ft. Belvoir - This home is truly unique! Rental is \$2,550.



Alex./Bucknell Manor \$255,900
6839 Kenyon Drive
Beautiful home, meticulously maintained, in convenient location close to G.W. Pkwy, Huntington Metro, Old Town! New appliances, furnace, AC, windows & gorgeous renovated bathroom. It's a 10 & priced so reasonable! Large yard with shed. Easy maintenance (brick & siding). This home is ready to move in & enjoy! Close to library, rec center, Belle View shopping, Bike Trail, Marina, & POTOMAC RIVER!



Alex./Mt. Vernon \$394,900
7737 Schelhorn Road
Lovely 1-level brick rambler on a beautiful .53 acre lot. Freshly painted interior, beautiful parquet floors, vaulted ceilings and 2 full baths. Family room can be easily converted to a 3rd bedroom. Great location—10 minutes to Ft. Belvoir (south) or Huntington Metro/Alex (north).

For more information:
www.RexReiley.com



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ALEXANDRIA COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Celebrates the Class of 2010



Back Row: Katrina Umstead, Thad Morgan, Jay Sterling, Robert Muldrow, Julia Benson, Quinn Randall, Willie Edgerly, Meghan Meehan, Ryan Andriuk

Middle Row: Dana Downs, Emma Marshall, Parker White, Caroline Land, Megan Gallagher, Emma Smith, Natalie Hellmann, Susan Paxon, Liam Kirby, Patrick Coyne, Michael Colton, Schulyer Wireman

Front Row: Charlotte Taylor, Sofia Cardamone, Connor Kelly, Daniel Baskin, Emily Miller, Trang Ngo, Mirza Suleymanov, Christian Osborne, Emily Ainsworth, Jessica Aguilar, Samantha Clarke, and Jaelin Blyther

ACDS graduated its 26th class of exceptional 8th grade students on June 10, 2010. Amid tears and smiles, the faculty, staff, and families of the ACDS community celebrated the success of this group. As a class they accomplished much over the course of the year including collecting coats for local students in need, tutoring at Community Lodgings, and traveling to Puerto Rico.

Individually, they presented thought-provoking speeches during Speeches & Sweets, in fact Charlotte Taylor and Ryan Andriuk both came in second place at the Optimist Club event. As a group, they showcased their talents for fashion and performing during Celebration of the Arts; trekked through the rainforest and learned to salsa in Puerto Rico; and grew into intelligent, articulate ninth graders.

Members of the 2010 class were accepted into the following high schools: **Bishop Ireton, Bishop O'Connell, Bullis, Burke, Christchurch, Episcopal, Field, Flint Hill, Friendly, Georgetown Day School, Georgetown Visitation, Madeira, Pope John Paul the Great, Potomac, Sidwell Friends, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes, TC Williams, Trinity Catholic, Washington Lee, and West Potomac.** Well done!

The entire ACDS community wishes you great success in your academic, athletic, and all future pursuits. "We are particularly proud of the individuals in this class for they are bright, considerate, and respectful citizens. We are proud of the success this group has achieved and know they will continue to soar in these competitive high school programs. We look forward to celebrating your success." says Exie Harvey, ACDS Head of School.

About Alexandria Country Day School:

Alexandria Country Day School is an independent K-8 school serving the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Founded in 1983, the community school serves 240 students in one building, promoting interaction among the grade levels and fostering leadership principles. For more information, visit the school's website at www.acdsnet.org. Stop by over the summer to see our new gymnasium, dining hall, and performing arts center! We are proud of our growth and continued support of the ACDS community.



Welcome Students

The Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club hosted dinner at the Mount Vernon Country Club on June 2 for the Kiwanis Key Clubs that it sponsors. Fifteen student officers and three faculty advisers from West Potomac and Mount Vernon High Schools and South County Secondary School attended, and made their after-dinner presentations on their community service achievements during the past academic year and about their visions for the next one. Above, West Potomac High School Key Club Officers with Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club President Bruce Malkin at right and Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club Adviser Vivien Peterson, third from left.

Director Hoke Retires from St. Aidan's

FROM PAGE 3

"Kathy was always willing to support new ideas; always participated in school-wide activities; nothing seemed to ever bother her. She contributed greatly to the positive atmosphere of the school."

Suzanne Odom, former teacher and new director: "Kathy has

kept all of us steady through the inevitable ups and downs of dealing with the hundreds of children and their parents who have passed through the doors of St. Aidan's ... she has a wonderful sense of humor and demeanor that has been an inspiration to all of us ... who else would bravely kneel down and allow

Details

St. Aidan's Episcopal Day School
8531 Riverside Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22308
703-360-4160
staidans@verizon.net
www.staidanseiscopal.com

Kindergartners to break confetti-filled eggs (cascarones) over her head?"

Local BUSINESSES Support the COMMUNITY

- \$60,000 donated for local high school scholarships
- Thousands of dollars given to local charities
- Commercial taxes support schools and public services

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SCHOOLS



Brittini Alexandra Register, Annie Juliet Hulkower, Sheridan Kathleen Gribbon, Emily Allin Herget, Julia Lynn Scully, Kendall Wood Akey, Kelsey Lynn Horton, Polly Margaret Carbonell, Emily Ann Rhoads, Katherine Fallin Redding, Mary Georgeanna Sullivan and Mary Reilly Woodman.



Stephen Taylor McCarthy Upton delivers the Valedictory Address to St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School Class of 2010 on Saturday, June 12 in Aspinwall Grove, Virginia Theological Seminary.

Farewell to St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE PACKET



Travis Jones, Emma Luparello, Emma Brown and Kathleen Williams sing "Homeward Bound" with the Upper School Concert Choir.



Head of School Joan Holden presents a diploma to Claire Elizabeth Dormer.



Meaghan Steen Johnson, Warren Keith Jones II, Collier Taylor Kelley and Jonathan Raymond Kiper.



Connor Andrew Wiseman, Peter Hilton Labovich, John Alfred Hamilton, Benjamin Louis Levy, John Peyton Quarles, Stephen Taylor McCarthy Upton and David Milne Phillips III.



John Everett Green, Nicholas Alexander Williams, Brian Alexander Bracey, Thomas Cohen Bond III, Zeplyn Xavier Tillman, Alexander William Edwards and Kendall Lamar Smith.

Veterans Volunteer To Help Wounded Soldiers

FROM PAGE 1

Evan Braff, Fairfax County manager of the recreation program instrumental in organizing the county's effort, said: "We have the ability to adapt and modify any of the therapeutic recreation activities to meet the varied needs of participating injured soldiers."

The wounded warriors recreation program is supported by contributions from Ft. Belvoir (transportation, organizational support, counseling, etc.), Fairfax County, which is providing organizational and staff support, planning, and actual delivery of recreational services, and the Fairfax County Park Authority. Help in financing this inaugural effort was obtained when Fairfax county's Department of Community and Recreation services applied for and was awarded a financial grant from the National Recreation and Park Association's 2009 USOC Paralympic Grant Initiative .

Thus far 18 wounded soldiers signed up to participate in the Great Falls national park trail hike. Eight volunteer military veterans who applied for and were selected and trained to serve as mentors will assist the recovering soldiers in the eight-week Leisure Exploration Opportunity. In addition, approximately 20 wounded soldiers opted to accept a recreation voucher good for up to 25 visits at the recreation center of their choice. County planners project the number to increase substantially over the summer.

"When I returned from a tour of military duty in Vietnam many years ago there was nothing like this. No matter what your problems were, or your experience in the military, you were pretty much on your own." Said Voccio. "I vowed then that I was going to do something to help others ... what I especially like about the recreation program is it gets the recovering soldier out in the community,



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

Front row, from left: Brianna Carter, Evan Braff, Vietnam veteran Charles Voccio, back row, from left: Commander E. Travonte Moten, Mike Hartzell, Lt. Scott Crawford, and Bruce Patrick, community-based recreation planners for the Wounded Warriors in Transition Program.

and connects a recovering soldier on a personal level with a senior volunteer mentor who served in the military."

Under the supervision of Braff, who prepared the grant application, county staffer Mike Hartzell helped to design the program. "The therapeutic recreation program was designed with the full input of wounded soldiers," Hartzell said.

Captain E. Travonte Moten, the program manager of the currently 137 wounded warriors in transition program at Ft. Belvoir, said, "This effort is a fantastic idea ... it goes right in line with our com-

prehensive transition plan for our recovering wounded soldiers. We are very happy with the partnership we have created with the county to connect our soldiers with the community in a way which will assist them in transitioning either back to their military unit or to civilian life."

"In the near future, the wounded warriors transition unit will be responsible for rehabilitating approximately 400 injured servicemen and women from Iraq and Afghanistan in a newly constructed rehabilitation and housing complex at Ft Belvoir specifically designed for wounded ser-

vicemen and women in need of rehabilitation services," Moten said. "This is the kind of community recreation program we will urge all of our recovering service men and women to participate in."

Asked about the future of the program, Braff listed the following needs if their goals to expand the program are to be met:

- ❖ Corporate or non-profit sponsorship of the recreation vouchers and the leisure exploration program. The currently awarded Association grant will only go so far.
- ❖ Individual sponsorships of recreation vouchers.
- ❖ Senior volunteers with a mili-

How To Help

Want to contribute as a sponsor or volunteer as a mentor?
 Fairfax County Operation WOW
 (Wellness Opportunities for Warriors)
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/newsandinfo/wpfsm.htm
 Veterans Needed to Mentor Injured Service Members
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec/newsandinfo/vnmism.htm
 Evan Braff: evanbraff@fairfaxcounty.gov
 Tele: 703-324-5650
 Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services.

Details

Eight Week Leisure Exploration Opportunity Program for Wounded Soldiers:
June 17: Trail Hiking, Great Falls National Park
June 24: Kayaking & Canoeing, Pohick Bay Regional Park or Fountain Head
July 1: Golf, site to be determined
July 8: Indoor rock climbing, Sport Rock, Alexandria
July 15: Bowling, U.S. Bowling
July 22: Tai Chi, site to be determined
July 29: Cross Fit, Hammer Down Cross Fit gym
August 8: Frisbee Golf/End of Initial Program BBQ, Burke Lake Park

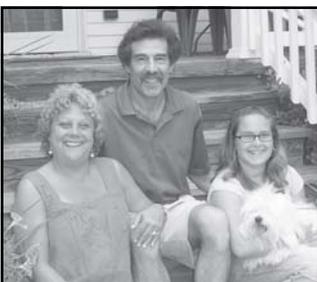
Partnership

Fairfax County Department of Community & Recreation Services has developed a partnership with Ft. Belvoir's Warrior in Transition Unit and Soldier and Family Assistance Center, and the Fairfax County Park Authority. The purpose of the partnership, which utilizes local military veterans in a volunteer capacity, is to provide community-based therapeutic recreation opportunities to recovering combat wounded U.S. soldiers who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

tary background motivated to serve as mentors. Volunteers must first apply, be evaluated for suitability, trained, and commit to a specific number of hours per week for a set period of time. Currently the commitment is one day a week for an eight-week period.

❖ In the near future there will be a need for donations of adaptive recreation equipment for people with disabilities.

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OPINION

Be Part of the Pet Gazette

Send us your photos and stories of your favorite creatures for our July edition.

We love our pets. Dogs and cats and other creatures great and small are essential members of our families. They offer us unconditional love, joy, comfort, companionship, humor. We know our children benefit from learning to empathize, care for and love our family pets.

We don't hesitate when it comes to spending on their health care or rearranging our lives around basic needs.

To celebrate, we plan to publish the Pet Gazette, including your family's pets, in late July.

We invite photos of your pets with you, your children or with whole family. We'll prefer photos that picture the pets with their humans.

We also invite children's artwork of their pets.

We also welcome short stories (200 words or less) about your pet. Tell us a funny story, or explain how your pet helped you or a member of your family through a tough time. Tell us about how you came to adopt or rescue your pet. Tell us how your favorite places to go with your pet, or how you solved a particular challenge concerning your pet.

We haven't forgotten horses, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians, guinea pigs, hamsters, and other more unusual pets — we hope for

photos about them all.

Be sure to identify the full names of everyone pictured in any photos, include information such as breed and age of the pet and children pictured, and (very important) the community where you live.

Expertise for Annual Community Guides

What tips do you have for someone new to the area? What interesting, almost secret, places would you like to have learned about earlier when you moved in?

We invite you to share the expertise you've gained in living in your hometown with your neighbors and with people new to the area in our Newcomers and Community Guides, coming later this summer.

Gazette staff members and interns are already working on the annual Newcomers and Community Guide, which will publish at the end of August.

We invite residents, businesses and organizations to send us suggestions. We invite calendar listings for major events for the upcoming year, information on how to get involved in nonprofits and charities, details about your club or other organization.

When are the major festivals, celebrations and other events at your church or temple or

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via email. Please send in submissions as soon as possible, but at least before July 10. E-mail to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com, and write "Pets" in the subject line. You can mail submissions to Pet Gazette, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and name of the hometown, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

mosque?

We also invite readers to contribute directly to the newcomers and community guides. Send us a short letter: what do you love about your community? Tell us about one special place you've discovered. Does your family have different favorites in different seasons? How did you get involved in your town? Share your favorite park. Tell us about your favorite annual event.

Helping pets adapt to new surroundings can be a big part of any family's move. Share tips you have for acclimating a pet to a new home. Do you have a favorite dog park?

Send you comments and submissions to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com or mail to Gazette Newcomers Guide, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS

Signs of Progress

To the Editor:

Recently, the Citizen Coalition for Police Accountability (CCPA) directed a letter to Chairman Sharon Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, recommending the Board appoint a Citizen Complaint Review Board to investigate complaints alleging misconduct or negligence on the part of Fairfax County Police Officers and report its findings to the Board of Supervisors and Chief of Police. It is our belief a citizen board will enhance the confidence and trust of citizens in the Fairfax County Police who are sworn to protect us. Additionally, we believe that a citizen board will promote police accountability and improve interaction between the police and the public. We would be remiss if we failed to mention that Fairfax County is one of the largest jurisdictions in the United States with no form of independent citizen review board to investigate complaints against its police officers.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11



For Young Patients A dozen members of the newly chartered Kiwanis CKI Club at the Alexandria campus of Northern Virginia Community College, led by Club president "Ash" Elmelik and vice president Ryan Pierpoint, went into the Biisdorf building on June 11 and created colorful paper hats from paper and decorations. The resulting creations will be delivered to children who are patients in the area's hospitals. The NOVACC CKI Club in Alexandria is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club. See www.mtvernonvakiwanis.org for more information on community service programs available in this region.

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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A Connection Newspaper

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

The CCPA recommends that the proposed Citizen Board be comprised of one member to be appointed by each of the County Supervisors.

It is important to know the CCPA supports the majority of Fairfax County Police Officers, whom we respect for the dedication, integrity and outstanding service they provide to our community. It is those few who are guilty of abuse and arrogance of power that must be held accountable and responsible for their questionable actions.

Last week, Chairman Bulova responded to our letter. In part, it read, "Last Tuesday, our Board discussed the concept of a Review Board with Police Chief Rohrer. The Chief agreed to consider a process for community discussion on how such a review

mechanism might be structured." The CCPA commends Chairman Bulova for her interest in the citizen board we propose. Her final comment is worth of mention: "I share your hope for a safe community and look forward to working with you."

To date, our proposal to the Board of Supervisors has been endorsed by numerous Fairfax County citizens, many criminal defense lawyers and the ACLU of Virginia, the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP, the National Association for Oversight of Law Enforcement and the National Black Police Association.

For information about the CCPA visit virginiaccpa.org or email virginiaccpa@aol.com.

Nicholas R. Beltrante
Executive Director, CCPA

Zoning Regs Not Followed

To the Editor:

Why weren't all of the zoning regulations followed in Hollin Hall Village?

Hollin Hall Village is and has been zoned an R-3 Residential District (3 houses per acre) for decades. When the Concerned Citizens of Hollin Hall Village appealed a Zoning Administrator's determination directed to the subdivision ordinance before the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), the BZA's unanimous motion expressly stated: "This property was zoned to the R-3 District at some point in the past. It

is still R-3, and nothing we're going to do is going to change that. These properties would all remain subject to all of the requirements in the R-3 District if somebody's going to build a house on them." (Page 492, lines 32-34 of the BZA record, emphasis provided).

The Zoning Administrator's determination used a single regulation of the Zoning Ordinance: 2-405. Nowhere in the BZA's motion was that single regulation mention.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 23

Mount Vernon Gazette

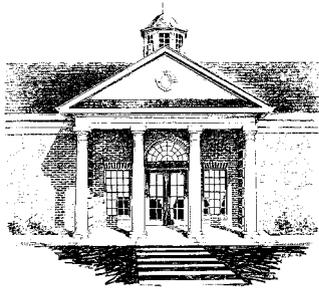
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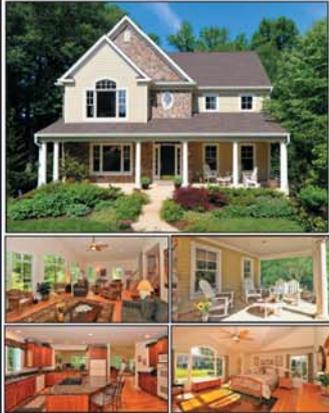
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From Old Town: S along the George Washington Parkway, R on West Boulevard, L Alexandria Ave, L Lee Ave to home on corner of Lee and Washington.

7902 Lee Avenue Alexandria, VA 22308

JUST LISTED! OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



Charming renovated Nantucket Colonial with 3 BRs up, 2.5 baths, cooks kitchen w/ heated floors, gas cooking, breakfast bar and sunny eating area. HW floors on main and upper, formal living room w/ frpl and dining room, paneled family rm. Finished lower level rec room and wine closet. Large lush private fenced yard and patio. ~\$759,000

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7820 Ridgecrest Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

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Two master bedrooms. One on main level and suite on upper level. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage, library, 3 frpls and cooks kitchen which opens to an expansive 2 story great room overlooking pool and private fenced backyard. Completely finish lower level.
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7602 Ridgecrest Dr Alexandria, VA 22308

Nantucket Estate in Plymouth Haven



8733 Plymouth Road Alexandria, VA 22308

Nantucket style home on private one acre w/ponds, mature trees and gardens. Large flowing comfortable rooms, high ceilings, wide hallways, hardwoods throughout, 4 frpls, dual staircases, farm table sized breakfast room, true cooks kitchen w/ comm. Appliances, island & fireplace. Music and entertainment rooms, private study, 2 car garage and oversized driveway in rear. A welcoming home!! ~\$1,695,000

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 Magnificent colonial close-in to Old Town 6 BRs, 6+BA. 3 car gar. Large gourmet kitchen. New 120' pier and dock.

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JUST LISTED



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ST. STEPHEN'S & ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Congratulates the Class of 2010

We salute the 112 members of the Class of 2010 who graduated Saturday, June 12. Here are just a few of their accomplishments, both as individuals and as a group.

Academics

- ◆ Accepted by more than 160 colleges and universities in 22 states, the District of Columbia, and England.
- ◆ Academic honors program offers and academic scholarships, including:
 - Four National Merit Scholarship Finalists
 - Eight National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars
 - Two National Achievement Finalists
 - 21 inducted into the Cum Laude Society
 - More than one-third of the class received scholarship or merit aid
- ◆ 106 enrolled in 27 Advanced Placement courses - a total of 95 percent of the class.
- ◆ Participated in such prestigious programs as the Presidential Classroom; Virginia Governor's Schools; the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium at Georgetown University; the College Chemistry Experience at the Catholic University of America; and Model OAS, Model UN, and Model Judiciary.

Community Spirit

- ◆ Prepared and served monthly dinners for wounded veterans at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.
- ◆ Helped prepare more than 15,000 sandwiches for Martha's Table, helped collect more than 2,000 food items for the Salvation Army, delivered toys, and raised money for local people in need.
- ◆ Volunteered at Arlington Food Assistance Center and delivered prepared meals to homeless individuals and families in Arlington.
- ◆ Hosted a Special Olympics soccer tournament.
- ◆ Participated in international causes in Romania and the Dominican Republic.
- ◆ Contributed to the school's sustainability and recycling efforts, and maintained our section of Eisenhower Avenue for the Adopt-a-Highway Program.

Athletics

- ◆ 18 participating in their sport next year at some of the country's top colleges and universities.
- ◆ Earned All-American status and Academic All-American status in wrestling, field hockey, girls lacrosse, and boys lacrosse.
- ◆ Recognized as Athlete of the Year by the Alexandria Sportsman's Club in softball, field hockey, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse, football, girls tennis, ice hockey, and track and field.
- ◆ Led the field hockey, girls tennis, and girls lacrosse teams to ISL league and tournament championships.
- ◆ Led the softball team to an ISL tournament championship and league co-championship.
- ◆ Participated in VISAA State Tournaments and championship meets in field hockey, boys soccer, girls tennis, swimming and diving, boys basketball, wrestling, softball, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, track and field, and golf.
- ◆ Led the boys lacrosse and girls lacrosse teams to VISAA State Championships.
- ◆ Set new school records in track and field, swimming, boys lacrosse, girls lacrosse, and softball.
- ◆ Many individual athletes named to All-State, All-Met, and All-League teams for their performances throughout their high school athletic careers, including two All-Met Players of the Year in field hockey and girls lacrosse.

The Arts

- ◆ Received a rating of excellent for the fifth straight year as a Level 4 wind ensemble at the Virginia District X Band Festival.
- ◆ Received a rating of superior as a Level 5 string orchestra at the Virginia District X Orchestra Festival.
- ◆ Nominated in two CAPPPIES categories, Lighting and Make-up, putting each in the top five out of 54 productions.
- ◆ Selected to perform in the District X Honors Jazz Ensemble Festival.
- ◆ Performed in all drama productions, Evening of the Arts, and concerts featuring chorus, wind ensemble, orchestra, and jazz ensemble.



The members of the Class of 2010 have distinguished themselves in all areas of school life and in our community. As they leave us to attend some of this country's finest colleges and universities, we salute them for a job well done. We know that they will use their talents to become respected and worthy citizens of the global community that awaits them. Best wishes and congratulations!

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OFFERING ADMISSION TO THE CLASS OF 2010

American University ◆ Auburn University ◆ Averett University ◆ Bates College ◆ Baylor University ◆ Bennington College ◆ Birmingham Southern College ◆ Boston College ◆ Boston University ◆ Bridgewater College ◆ Brown University ◆ Carleton College ◆ Catholic University ◆ Centre College ◆ Christopher Newport University ◆ Claremont McKenna College ◆ Clark University ◆ Clemson University ◆ Colby College ◆ College of Charleston ◆ Colorado College ◆ Columbia University ◆ Cornell University ◆ Denison University ◆ DePaul University ◆ Dickinson University ◆ Drew University ◆ Elon University ◆ Emerson College ◆ Emory & Henry College ◆ Emory University ◆ Ferrum College ◆ Flagler College ◆ Florida State University ◆ Fordham University ◆ Franklin and Marshall College ◆ Furman University ◆ George Mason University ◆ Georgetown University ◆ Georgia Institute of Technology ◆ Gettysburg College ◆ Guilford College ◆ Hamilton College ◆ Hampden-Sydney College ◆ High Point University ◆ Howard University ◆ Indiana University - Bloomington ◆ Ithaca College ◆ James Madison University ◆ Johns Hopkins University ◆ Johnson & Wales University ◆ Kenyon College ◆ King's College ◆ Lafayette College ◆ Lawrence University ◆ Lenoir-Rhyne University ◆ Lewis & Clark College ◆ Longwood University ◆ Loyola Marymount University ◆ Loyola University - Maryland ◆ Loyola University - New Orleans ◆ Lynchburg College ◆ Marshall University ◆ Mary Baldwin College ◆ Massachusetts Maritime Academy ◆ McDaniel College ◆ Mercer University ◆ Miami University - Ohio ◆ Midway College ◆ Montana State University ◆ Moravian College ◆ Morehouse College ◆ Muhlenberg College ◆ New York University ◆ North Carolina A&T State University ◆ North Carolina State University ◆ Northeastern University ◆ Northwestern University ◆ Oberlin College ◆ Ohio University ◆ Ohio Wesleyan University ◆ Old Dominion University ◆ Penn State University ◆ Rollins College ◆ Saint Vincent College ◆ Salem College ◆ Santa Clara University ◆ Sewanee: University of the South ◆ Southern Methodist University ◆ Southern Vermont College ◆ Spelman College ◆ Spring Hill College ◆ St. Mary's College ◆ Stanford University ◆ Stetson University ◆ Stevens Institute of Technology ◆ SUNY - Maritime College ◆ Sweet Briar College ◆ Syracuse University ◆ Towson University ◆ Trinity College ◆ Trinity University ◆ Tufts University ◆ Tulane University ◆ Tuskegee University ◆ Union College ◆ U.S. Merchant Marine Academy ◆ University of Alabama ◆ University of California - Berkeley ◆ University of California - Los Angeles ◆ University of California - Santa Barbara ◆ University Colorado - Boulder ◆ University of Delaware ◆ University of Georgia ◆ University of Hawaii at Hilo ◆ University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign ◆ University of Kentucky ◆ University of Mary Washington ◆ University of Maryland - Baltimore County ◆ University of Maryland - College Park ◆ University of Miami ◆ University of Mississippi ◆ University of New Hampshire ◆ University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ◆ University of Pennsylvania ◆ University of Richmond ◆ University of San Diego ◆ University of South Carolina ◆ University of Southern California ◆ University of Tennessee ◆ University of Texas at Austin ◆ University of Vermont ◆ University of Virginia ◆ Villanova University ◆ Virginia Commonwealth University ◆ Virginia Tech University ◆ Virginia Wesleyan College ◆ Wake Forest University ◆ Washington & Lee University ◆ Washington College -Maryland ◆ West Virginia University ◆ Wheaton College - Illinois ◆ Whittier College ◆ College of William & Mary ◆ Williams College ◆ Wittenberg University ◆ Wofford College ◆ College of Wooster ◆ Xavier University of Louisiana ◆ Yale University



PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO

Water from the flooding would come up to the top of the first wooden step.

Home Bought To Stop Flooding

FROM PAGE 1

to start a renovation on their home.

While she knew that the purchase of their house was an option, she was still surprised when the letter came. When asked if they could have refused the offer, Conway said, "We could have turned them down, but you can only afford so much. You really have no choice."

It took many more months before the Conways received an actual contract to purchase their home. Several months of house hunting ensued and they finally moved to a new home on West Boulevard last month.

"It was just a long process," said Conway. "It's a long story, a long battle. They've been very fair about moving us — paying closing costs and moving costs, but they still didn't reimburse us for the pool, the hot tub."

Dottie Marshall, the National Park Service's superintendent for the memorial parkway, has a different story to tell. She said, "The [Conway] pool obliterated the natural drainage. The reason that we purchased the house was be-

cause of the drainage issue."

Marshall said that they are hoping that if they remove the pool, it will alleviate the problem. Now that NPS owns the land, they will remove the pool when they receive funding for the project. After that, a hydrologist will determine if there is a natural swale and dictate how to proceed.

Mike and Sally Bowman live a few houses away from the Conways and said, "The problem is not fixing the drainage. It goes past the Conways' house and can't make it over the parkway."

While the Bowmans' yard also floods, Mike Bowman said, "Within a day, our water is completely cleared out, but the Conways' yard never clears. With all the concern about West Nile Virus, the Park Service is negligent. I haven't noticed a huge popula-

tion of mosquitoes, but it is standing water.

"They need to put in a large industrial pump. The pumping action would go a long way to making this neighborhood better. Their attitude was, 'you don't like it, then move and we'll take the house.' It's shameful."

Contrary to what Debbie and Cliff Conway were originally told, the house will not be torn down.

"We have not condemned it," said Marshall. "We plan to use it for seasonal housing for employees. We currently have no housing and this will allow us to bring on interns and have a place for them to stay. It will give us more flexibility."

Gale Curcio is an independent writer and public relations consultant in Mount Vernon.



Water collects in the culvert between the George Washington Parkway and East Boulevard Drive.

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Hardwood floors throughout - six panel doors - move-in condition - \$335,000 ▶

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Burke & Herbert Bank — Northern Virginia's hometown community bank — is holding our 3rd Annual Photo Contest celebrating Virginia People & Places. Winning photographs will be featured in the 2011 Burke & Herbert Bank Calendar!

Submissions are due Friday, July 16, 2010.
Please visit burkeandherbertbank.com for details and entry form.

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9333 Brambly Ln
\$549,500

One of Area's Best Values! Don't miss out - Quite simply the best value for under \$550,000 you will find in Alexandria area. This home offers everything: updated, 5 bedrooms, large room sizes, brick fireplace, hardwood floors, covered parking, pristine condition and prime location on quiet cul-de-sac. Compares favorably with properties that cost thousands and thousands more. A stunning value! OPEN SUN 6/20, 1-4. S GW Pky, past estate, L-Old ernon Rd, R-Robertson Blvd, L-Brambly.

NEW PRICE! OPEN SUN!

1139 Cedar Dale Ln
\$769,000

Character Abounds!
Exceptionally attractive Classic Cape in prime location on gorgeous .60 acre lot mins from OT, just off GW Parkway. Tastefully expanded and updated to preserve the integrity of original home. Fabulous features include stunning family room, spacious first floor master suite, upgraded kit and more! Custom in ground pool. Great New Price! OPEN SUN 6/20, 1-4. S GW Pky, R-Collingwood, R-Cedar Dale.

JUST LISTED! OPEN SUN!

8714 Bluedale St
\$659,000

Stratford Landing - Colonial!
Classic four bedroom center hall colonial on gorgeous level lot in prime Stratford Landing location. Home has been exceptionally well maintained and has had major updates such as thermal windows, new HVAC unit and foyer extension. Large deck overlooks landscaped private yard. Priced to sell! OPEN SUN 6/20, 1-4. S GW Pky, R-Stratford, L-Camden, R-Bluedale.

OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!

127 CAMERON STATION BLVD
Alex / \$ 629,500

BRIGHTNESS & SUNLIGHT stream throughout this elegant 4 lvl end TH. Over 2,100 sq ft of custom upgrades incl: maple flrs on main lvl, stairs/hallways; kitchen cherry cabs/paneled appl, granite & oversized island; built-in bookcases in library & LR. The spacious master suite has loads of closet space. 3BR, 3.5BA.

Mike Lekas 703.927.9895

JUST LISTED!

134 ROBERTS LA #203
Alex / Ft Ellsworth \$259,000

Move right into this spacious 1BR condo just minutes from King St METRO. The completely renovated unit features HW floors throughout, fabulous kitchen w/granite, modern bathroom and a charming patio. Must see!

Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams 703.801.0906

6703 BAY VALLEY LA
Centreville \$589,000

Pristine Brick Colonial w/ over 4,500 sq ft in beautiful comm. of Green Trails. Open floor plan w/4BR, 3.5BAs on 3 fin. lvs. Fab. Master Suite w/lux BA, w-out low. lvl w/ huge rec rm, full BA & Bonus Room! Sunny huge kitchen, 2 story FR & home office. Tons of updates!

Kim Muffler 703.282.7739

JUST LISTED!

6515 Princeton Dr
\$835,000

Classic Colonial - Near Old Town!
Spacious home in Belle Haven area. Center hall colonial with up to date floor plan. Features include open kitchen with stainless steel and granite, 3 finished levels, 4 large Bedrooms and oversized 2 car garage. Prime "close-in" location. Two tiered deck and seasonal river views.

4319 Ferry Landing
\$498,500

Absolutely Stunning!
Unheard of opportunity to purchase in prestigious Yacht Haven Estates for under \$500,000! Comfortable home in pristine condition. Lovingly maintained by long time owners. Features include: all major rooms on one level, fin. lower level with direct outside access, 2 fireplaces and hardwood floors. Exterior deck overlooks private 1/2 acre grounds. Huge potential!

NEW PRICE!

4404 Ferry Landing
\$575,000

Absolutely Stunning!
Owner's transfer creates unique opportunity. Price Slashed! Huge 3 level colonial on spectacular, fenced half acre lot with trees. Four huge bedrooms, three full baths, family room, rec room, large eat-in kit featuring stainless steel, granite and ceramic tile, refinished wood floors on main level and upstairs hallway, three fireplaces, sun room, deck and lots of storage areas. Balcony off master suite. Truly a Must See!

6606 WAKEFIELD DR #A1
\$275,000

PERFECTLY LOCATED PORCH UNIT! Lovely, updated 2 bed/bath unit in Belle View. No bus traffic, windows on 3 sides, only 4 units in building with W/D. Walk to shops, restaurants, parks, bike path & Potomac River. Just 5 minutes to Old Town!

Jennifer Collier 703.966.1810
Ginger Webre 703.927.8399

OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!

6103 WIGMORE LA #1
Alex / \$310,000

You'll love this stunning home. Light/bright w/ vaulted ceilings in all rooms - gleaming HWD floors thru-out - chef's kit w/granite, upgraded appl & skylight - gas fireplace. MstrBR has walk-in closet, spa bath jetted tub, sep shower, granite & skylight. Large balcony, extra storage, lots of visitor parking - all between 2 METRO stops.

Connie McKeen 703.626.4417

SAT OPEN 1 - 4pm

1501 ALEXANDRIA AVE
Alex / \$569,000

Lovingly maintained, 4BR, 3BA home w/mature plantings in sought-after Wayneswood school district. Outdoor spaces include secluded patio perfect for entertaining, a workshop & a vegetable/herb garden. All just minutes to shops & restaurants of Hollin Hall.

Jennifer Collier 703.966.1810
Ginger Webre 703.927.8399

WATERFRONT!

4713 Dolphin Lane
\$1,395,000

Custom Waterfront - Private Dock!
Spacious, updated home remodeled and expanded by leading custom builder as his own residence. Exceptionally bright, open floor plan capitalizes on fabulous waterfront location. Features include huge deck, private dock, waterfront master suite, updated kitchen spectacular sunroom, gorgeous yard, two car garage and bulkheaded water frontage. Owner Financing Available!

9316 Allwood Dr
\$535,000

Absolutely Impeccable!
Stunning home features bright open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings on main level. 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 Mt. Vernon.

Field of Dreams!
Lofty Oaks \$755,900

Build your Wakefield dream home on fabulous 3/4 acre estate site in the heart of Mt. Vernon. New low priced Pre-Construction opportunity allows for maximum customization. Call for details.

www.WayneswoodRealtors.com

Anita D'Antonio 202.460.1809
Elke Kohler 703.967.7633

8422 CROWLEY PL
Wayneswood \$769,000

Unique, rebuilt 3 level "Redford" model rambler w/entire new floor addition. 5BR, 3.5BA and an open

NEW PRICE!

8701 EAGLEBROOK CT
Wayneswood \$1,250,000

Total renovation. Main level in-law suite w/private entry. .54 acre, heated in-ground pool, professional landscaping - a 10+!

1001 CROTON DR
Wayneswood \$674,900

Totally renovated & expanded, 5 levels, sunroom add, family room w/den, hot tub, screened porch, deck, heated in-ground pool.

NEW PRICE!

8424 PORTER LN
Stratford on the Potomac \$610,000

DRASTICALLY REDUCED! 34 acre w/ large deck overlooking woods - 3 fin lvs, 5/6BR, 4FBA, 2 frpl - main lvl

MstrBR - kit w/ new granite & large Brkstrm - sep LR/DR - wood floors main/upper lvl & ref. entry/LR/DR - LL FamRm, Library - 2 large utility workshop areas - carport - Gramercy Model.

Franki Roberts 703.898.0840

CONTRACT!

9000 Volunteer Dr

SOLD!

3906 Rive Dr

9316 Heather Glen Dr
\$699,000

Magnificent Addition!
Classic center hall colonial meticulously maintained offers many significant upgrades. Spectacular curved glass walled family room and fabulous screened porch both overlook amazing custom pool. Three levels, 4 bedrooms, updated kitchen, direct access to outside from lower level and 2 car garage.

JUST LISTED!

We're Underway!
8826 Camden St \$899,000

Ground floor opportunity to add your personal touches to this new creekside home in Stratford Landing. Custom Wakefield home loaded with upgrades! Call for details.

Fall Delivery!

5927 COLFAX AVE
The Palisades Alexandria \$659,999

PRICE REDUCED! It's Like Living in a Tree House! Large 3 level home, 5BR, 3.5BA, backs to 50 acre park, creek, 3 level deck, immaculate condition, cul-de-sac, nearly 1/4 acre lot, ready for move-in. Approximately 10mi to downtown DC, close to Ft Belvoir, Pentagon, Old Town.

Delaine Campbell 703.518.8740 (Text / Cell)

NEW PRICE!

1900 GLEN DRIVE
Alex / Belle Haven \$999,950

Designed by renowned craftsman James Earley in 1932, this Tuscan jewel is a European style home in a traditional environs. Precast concrete w/ mosaic tile & terra cotta roof - Original random width heart of pine flrs - 70' veranda views the gardens & reflecting pool - 4BR, 4BA renovated but not compromised one of a kind home.

Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

6216 RUBY VIRGINIA CT
Alexandria \$469,900

BACK ON THE MARKET!
Spacious 2 car TH painted, new carpet & updated w/granite in kit, & new flooring on main level. Check out this lovely 4BR, 3.5BA, 3 lvl TH w/frpl & extra room/office in fin basement. Under 2mi from Springfield-Franconia Metro & min to major rtes. Call..

Peggy Cresent 703.244.2138



CHRIS WHITE 703.283.9028
www.chrisandpeggywhite.com
chris.white@longandfoster.com



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www.OldTownAlexandria.com

PEOPLE



Rick Genuario, event chairman, congratulates the first place net team from Bank of America, Mark Ellmore, mortgage banker; James Hotle; Ray Armstrong, and Ed Majca.



Randy Bennett holds the winning score card for first place gross with Shawn Bennett, Randy, Mike Bennett, and Michael Bennett. The team was sponsored by Ourisman Dodge Chrysler Jeep.

Classic Raises Scholarship Funds

It was a repeat performance for the team of Bennett, Bennett, Bennett, and Bennett with another win at the Chamber Golf Classic, hosted by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Clark Pinnacle Family Communities and Hilltop Golf Club.

First place gross was won by Mike Bennett, Ourisman Dodge; Randy Bennett, L.R. Bennett Inc.; Shawn Bennett, captain of the Franconia Police Station; and Michael Bennett Jr. The foursome sponsored by Bank of America captured first place net, with Genuario Construction Company winning second place.

"We love golf and it benefits our schools too," said event chairman Rick Genuario, Genuario Construction Company. The

Chamber Golf Classic is the major fundraiser for the business scholarship fund administered by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce. Over the past 10 years more than \$84,000 has been awarded to local graduating high school seniors pursuing further education in a business related field.

Specialty contests were also part of the golf outing with Carl Pollard, Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Co. winning the putting contest; Shirley Repta, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital and Harvey Boltwood, Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Co, winning closest to the pin; and the longest drive contest won by Sue Genuario, Genuario Construction Co. and Jim Santry, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital.

Pamplin Leader

Kelsey Dressing is the recipient of the 2010 Pamplin Leader Award at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. The Pamplin Leader is a one-year \$1,000 tuition scholarship to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). The award is presented annually to a top student from each public high school in Virginia. It was established by Robert B. Pamplin, Sr. (Virginia Tech, Class of '33) and Robert B. Pamplin, Jr. to acknowledge students with a record of outstanding academic achievement that is balanced with a commitment to community service and leadership experience. Dressing has also been named a National Merit Scholar and the recipient of a National Merit Scholarship to Virginia Tech.



COURTESY PHOTO

Seniors at the party included: (front row) Alex Remick, Ripon College; Kevin Fowler, Bowling Green State University; JP Marinelli, Virginia Tech; Sami Ahmady, undecided; Colin McConville, Air Force Academy; Andrew Redding, NOVA/Widener/CNU; (second row) Adriane Thomas, undecided; Kyle Ackart, Keuka College; Shakil White, Concord University; Colin Mathewson, Kings College; Will Rosenkranz, JMU; Matthew Campbell, Virginia Tech; (back row) Stephen Howell, Duke University; Matthew Cunningham, JMU; and DeAndre Essex, McDaniel or Glenville State. Inset: Coach Eric Henderson. Seniors not pictured: Shawn Lee, Bridgewater; Eric Miller, West Virginia; Silas Agyemang, Concord University; Akram Mohamed, George Mason; Mucktar Renner, Norfolk State.

WP Football Parents Sponsor Fundraiser

The West Potomac Football Parents are bringing Washington Redskins Jeremy Jarmon, Phillip Daniels and friends to help instill pride into Alexandria's Youth.

On Monday, June 28, the West Potomac Football Parents and Washington Redskin's Jeremy Jarmon, will host a community-wide fundraiser event, "Pig Out With the Redskins." Jarmon, a second-year NFL football player with the Redskins has teamed up with West Potomac Football Parents and is reaching out to meet and greet the Alexandria community. The public is invited to attend this event.

Accompanying Washington Redskin's Defensive End Jeremy Jarmon to support the community event is Phillip Daniels, Defensive End star for the NFL Washington Redskins, and various other Washington Redskins players.

"I got connected with WP because my former teammate, Austin Moss, knew Stacey Wilson from Hopkinsville, Kentucky," said Jarmon. Moss said that Wilson was active with the high school and asked me to reach out to Stacey. I said that I would give her a call and do some things with the high school.

"Some of the issues were lack of funding, the ninth-grade team was going to have to pay a fee to play, and I asked what I could do to help. They said we need to do a fundraiser at local restaurant. I told him I would donate a jersey and probably a signed ball as well. Phillip Daniels is coming with me and I'm hoping to bring a couple other guys."

Jeremy and friends will be at Primo's Family Restaurant at 1636 Belleview Blvd., Alexandria, in Belleview Plaza from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be dinner and a meet & greet afterwards for the Alexandria community. The cost per dinner will be: \$30 for Adults; \$20 for Ages 6-18 Years Old; and \$10 for ages 6 and under.

There also will be a silent auction of a Redskins autograph Jersey signed by Jeremy Jarmon and a raffle for five Primo's \$25 dinner certificates. All money raised from the "Pig Out With the Redskins" will benefit the West Potomac Football Program. Make checks payable to WABC.

Earlier this month, the West Potomac High School Football Team Senior players met at Primo's Pizza to celebrate their accomplishments. Eighteen of the 20 seniors that finished the season have been accepted into the college of their choice. Two are undecided. Thirteen of the boys plan to play on their college teams.

Coach Eric Henderson, Head Football Coach at West Potomac High School, brought the seniors together with the younger players for one last cake and pizza party before everyone heads to their new campus homes.

Three years ago, the coach implemented some programs to help the players with their quest to attend college, including a recruiting program for those who wanted to pursue playing football in college. They hold SAT Boot Camps to prepare the athletes for the SAT test. In addition, the coach holds study halls three times a week to ensure that the players have time to complete their homework prior to practice.

This past year, an academic coach was added to the football staff to ensure that all players met the requirements to pass their classes, and assisted with homework or classroom issues. This coach is certified by the NFL Foundation, and paid for with donations.

The Wolverines Athletic Booster Club is a non-profit 501(C) (3) organization dedicated to helping youth excel academically and socially. For more information, call or email Stacey Wilson at 240-216-7361 or staceyandsons@yahoo.com or Brad Carriker at 703-587-8556 or bcarriker@cox.net.

T

ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Boutiques Abound in Old Town

Shops offer everything from retro to trendy to modern.

Second in a series.

— COMPILED BY GRACE POWELL, ALYSSA GLOMB AND CHELSEA HOPSON



Lauren Bruce paints most of the art that is on the walls of her antique shop, Lauren B Gallery.

Lauren B Gallery

1316 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.535.7880
www.laurenbgallery.com

Lauren B Gallery is filled with antiques hand-picked by the owner, Lauren Bruce. Bruce's store has evolved over the four and a half years it has been open from a simple shop into a shopping and designing experience. Her talent as an artist is woven into the store, with paintings available for sale. She also offers her services as an interior decorator for design and color consultation. Her loyal fans keep coming back to check out new merchandise.

Stanton Gallery

121 South Royal Street, 2nd floor
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.299.3055
www.stantonjewelry.com

Christine Stanton got her start as a jeweler at the Art League School in Old Town. She has been designing jewelry for 20 years and has had her store for eight. She works with customers to create custom designed jewelry and also redesigns old pieces. Each piece she creates is unique.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Periwinkle carries clothes as well as jewelry and other accessories.

Periwinkle

1557 Potomac Greens Drive
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.519.5242
www.periwinkleshop.com

Periwinkle is a fashion-conscious women's boutique. The owner, Elizabeth Mason, carries styles that are suitable for the workroom and a girls' night out. Periwinkle has clothes from hard-to-find designers like Anni Kuan. "I don't go super trendy so that people can't wear it, I keep it for D.C.," said Mason. Women can get a whole outfit at Periwinkle, including shoes and accessories. "You can do it all in one place," said Mason.



Summer outfits at Monday's Child.

Monday's Child

218 North Lee Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.548.3505
www.mondaychildofalexandria.com

Monday's Child specializes in the traditional. "No sneakers, nothing funky, nothing trendy, no jeans, no crocs," said owner Melinda Lynam. The shop is a charming children's boutique that specializes in simple, traditional clothing and gifts. "We have the item that's hard to find, that most moms and grandparents want." Shoppers can find outfits for christenings, weddings and graduations as well as everyday children's clothes.



A display of Latin American clothing and artwork.

Gossypia

325 Cameron Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.836.6969
www.gossypia.com

Gossypia is an artsy women's clothing boutique. The shop contains a variety of wedding gowns, dresses, blouses, skirts and shoes. Gossypia also carries unique jewelry, art and gifts. The owner, Amanda Lasker, finds a large selection of Gossypia's art from Latin America. "[Gossypia] has such a mixture of things," said Lasker. The shop is a small store filled with unusual and creative items for shoppers to peruse.



Discounted designer clothes at Treat.

Treat

103 South Saint Asaph Street
Alexandria VA, 22314
703.535.3294
www.shoptreat.com

Treat brings the world of fashion to Alexandria. Owner Jennifer Donohue said she loves boutique shopping and discount shopping so she combined those qualities into a sample sale boutique. "It's unique to the area," said Donohue. Lucky magazine called Treat "the slickest sample sale ever." It provides a variety of top designer clothing in a classy boutique setting and new styles are frequently added to Treat's shelves.



Workout equipment at Fitness on the Run.

Fitness on the Run

109 South Alfred Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.299.9333
www.fitnessontherun.net

Fitness on the Run provides the experience of a gym in a personal boutique setting. The studio provides various personal training programs such as kickboxing, running, yoga and kettlebells. Co-owner Denise Dick said they would like to develop even more specialized classes in the future. Along with founder and co-owner Adrien Cotton, she is "dreaming big now. We want to keep our philosophy of that small personal attention."



Red Barn Mercantile's rustic furniture.

Red Barn Mercantile

113 South Columbus Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703.838.0355
www.redbarnmercantile.com

Red Barn Mercantile mixes classic and contemporary pieces to create a unique mix of home furnishings. Owner Amy Rutherford feels that the rustic style is a good fit for Old Town, where old and new meet in everyday life. The store combines one-of-a-kind antiques found at flea markets and auctions with modern furniture and gifts.

THEATER



Robert Britton Lyons as Carl Perkins, Tony Award winner Levi Kreis as Jerry Lee Lewis, Eddie Clendening as Elvis Presley and Lance Guest as Johnny Cash in the musical "Million Dollar Quartet" on Broadway.

'Million Dollar Quartet' Actor Wins Tony Award

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE GAZETTE

The enormous creative talents of Eric Schaeffer, artistic director and co-founder of Arlington's Signature Theatre, continue to draw the national spotlight. Last year Signature Theatre picked up the prestigious 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award while this year Schaeffer's staging of "Million Dollar Quartet" on Broadway received three Tony nominations including that for Best Musical. The production came away with an award for Levi Kreis's raucous piano-slammng, behind-the-back fingers with brains playing portrayal of one of the rebellious founders of early rock-and-roll, Jerry Lee Lewis.

Playing through a song list such as "Great Balls of Fire," "Whole Lotta' Shaking Goin' On," and "Blue Suede Shoes," to name just a few of the over 20 anthems to 1950's teen age rebellion, Schaeffer directed a pulsating one-act, no intermission 90 minutes of unfaked musical talent.

"Million Dollar Quartet' is a real unique show, first and foremost they are a band," said Schaeffer. "They all play together every night to make the music and they feed off each other's energy. This makes the show so special and energized."

The Connection's Brad Hathaway in his April review of "Million Dollar Quartet" called the show "thrill packed," noting the audience gave "prolonged applause after numerous rocking numbers." More than just a showcase for the musical talents, the production had "a story – giving a hint of tension and suspense," said Hathaway. It was for this story that the production also received a Tony nomination for Best Book for a Musical.

"Million Dollar Quartet" is based upon a now legendary and impromptu December 1956 night when the early bad boys of rock and roll including Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins and the "killer" Jerry Lee Lewis found themselves together in the Sun Record-

ing studio in Memphis brought together by Sam Phillips. Phillips was about breaking barriers and he had the fuel and the fuse with the four. The Tony Award for Featured Actor in a Musical went to Kreis for his portrayal of Lewis, the man who kicked away piano benches and played piano behind his back to bring alive music that most of America had never seen or heard before. Under Schaeffer's direction Kreis was Lewis with total control and yet real-life reckless abandon. He was a man who swatted away the staid, stale style of soft crooners and melodic boy and girl groups bringing unheard power and pop to the 45 RPM record and its three minutes of playing time.

Schaeffer guided and shaped the production beyond a simple juke-box tribute to be a swirling spirited adventure of a show. His cast and creative team brought out the high fidelity wails and snarls that set rock music on its path over 50 years ago. "I never thought I'd be back at the Tony's, let alone having a show up for Best Musical. It was a great night ... this is the little show that could. It's been an amazing journey," said Schaeffer.

As the Tony Awards opening act on Sunday night, audiences saw first-hand Kreis's brilliance as he played a tag team "Blue Suede Shoes" with Sean Hayes hopping around the piano strutting his stuff. In his Tony Award acceptance speech he thanked the "team working together as a whole and in harmony."

"Million Dollar Quartet" continues at the Nederlander Theatre in New York City as well as at its original location the Apollo Theater in Chicago. "Million Dollar Quartet" is slated for a national tour beginning in 2011 with an expected stop — Cleveland, the home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. While national bookings are not available at this time, certainly the D.C. area, with its vast musical theater audiences and its full-throated music club scene, could be considered a profitable venue for this celebration of the raucous in the journey of such a purely American music style. At least we can hope.

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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.

ONGOING

The Upper King Street Fresh Farmers' Market, located at King Street Gardens Park, 1806 King St., is just a few steps from the King Street Metro Station. Offering area residents and commuters the opportunity to shop for fresh, locally grown produce, meat, dairy and bakery items, the market is open Wednesdays through Oct. 27 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Visit <http://www.upperkingstreet.org>.

The West End Farmers' Market is open to the public on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through Nov. 21 at Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive. This outdoor market is one of a kind in the City's west end, featuring colorful displays of fresh, locally grown, in-season vegetables and fruits, gourmet coffee, fresh squeezed orange juice, and fresh baked pastries. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/farmersmarket.

The Del Ray Farmers Market is now open year round — located at the corner of Mt. Vernon Avenue and Oxford Avenue in Del Ray. During the winter months the market will be open 9 am to noon each Saturday. The Del Ray Market farmers that will be there are Smith Meadows meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces; Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods, eggs and jams and jellies; winter vegetables; fancy nuts; pralines; and bakery goods. Any questions, contact Pat Miller at pmiller1806@comcast.net.

Meditation Class. 10 to 11 a.m. every Sunday. Come enjoy a free group class on meditation instruction and practice. Class will be centered around calm abiding (shine/samatha). No experience is needed. All are welcome at the 3rd floor of Mindful Hands Gallery, 211 King Street. Visit <http://www.palyuld.org/meditation.html>.

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

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

JUNE 12-AUG. 21

Summer Dance and Fine Art Program. Saturdays. Cost is \$350 for 10, two-hour classes. Students study dance for one hour followed by a one-hour fine arts class. For children ages 3 to 9 divided into three age groups. Contact Virginia Britton, Director, The Alexandria Ballet, at 703-379-8997 or 703-568-4425 or visit www.thealexandriaballet.com

FRIDAY/JUNE 18

The Justin Trawick Group. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. His music ranges in styles from folk/bluegrass all the way to funk/hip hop, with instrumentation that includes upright bass, electric and acoustic guitars, mandolin, banjo, saxophone, trumpet, cello, piano, harmonica, drums and hand percussion. At the Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469).

Third Friday with the Mount Vernon Swing Band. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. A dance for all ages to big band and swing classics. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Paper jewelry by Luis Acosta now on display at the Target Gallery in the Torpedo Factory.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Acosta is hosting a 'Designing Fashion Accessories Workshop at the Target Gallery from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The workshop is intended for students, artists, designers, teachers and artisans. The students will attempt to approach the design from two points of view: design with a specific purpose and free form design. Cost of the workshop is \$90. Space is limited to 10-16 participants. Call 703-838-4565 x4.

Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

Outdoor Movie Night. 8 p.m. Free. "Sponge Bob Square Pants" and "Winnie the Pooh." At ACKC Alexandria, 2003-A Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-635-7917.

SATURDAY/JUNE 19

Cameron Elementary School Art Show. Noon to 3 p.m. More than 2,000 pieces of student artwork will be on display. At 3434 Campbell Drive, Alexandria.

Fund-Raiser. 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Featuring pet psychic Diane Roadcap. Tails High, an Alexandria non-profit that rescues stray and abandoned cats and kittens, will hold a fundraiser at Paws, Purrs, & Exotics Animal Hospital, 133 S. Peyton St., Alexandria. Call 703-819-5240 or visit www.tailshigh.org.

Medieval Faire. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. demonstrations by church members of candle-making, drop spinning, and jewelry-making, plus, period music (vocals) featuring the guitar, the viola, the harp, and Scottish bagpipes and Scottish dancing by The Thistle Dancers. At St. Andrew & St. Margaret of Scotland Anglican Catholic Church, corner of Monroe and Dewitt Avenues. Visit www.standrewandstmargaret.org.

YMCA Alexandria Community Family Day. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Fun-filled activities such as family yoga, face painting, moon bounce, water activities, high-tech games. At the YMCA Alexandria, 420 East Monroe Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-838-8085.

Hooray for Books! Turns 2. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Balloons, face painting and a special storytime visit from picture book favorite Ladybug Girl, on her way to the beach. At 1555 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit www.hooray4books.com.

SkateFest Benefit. 1 to 7 p.m. Features "SK8 for a Cause" competition. Features more than \$5,000 in prizes as well as food, activities, giveaways, games, open

skate and music. Fund-raiser for Children's Hospital National Medical Center in the District. Preliminary rounds of the skateboard competition will take place on Friday, June 18 from 4 to 7 p.m. Participants can sign up at www.skatefestfairfax.com. Call 703-425-5400. At Wakefield Skate Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale.

Run for the Red 5K/10K. 8 a.m. Start time. Cost is \$30 for 10K; \$25 for 5K. Benefitting the American Red Cross in the National Capital Region. At the AMC Hoffman Center, 206 Swamp Fox Road, Alexandria. Registration: mail-in (received by June 16; day of race 6:45-7:45 a.m.) to 123 North Alfred Street, Alexandria. Online: www.active.com/running/alexandria-va/run-for-the-red-2010. Call 703-549-8300. Or call Dana Brunson at 703-299-2524 or email Brunson@usa.redcross.org.

Excavation at Shuter's Hill. 10 a.m. to noon. Free. All new volunteers are required to attend an orientation. Ask the docents to direct you down the stairs to the dining room for the orientation. Afterwards, walk up to the site behind the memorial for a site tour. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria.

Cameron Station Festival in the Park. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. With 30 vendors and a 5K run. Vendors include children's books, puzzles, designer clothing, jewelry, flowers, vegetables, wine tastings and more. On the Brick walk between Cameron Station Blvd. and Somerville.

Steven Gellman in Concert. 8 to 10 p.m. At St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-739-9268.

Plant Sale. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Purchase a wide variety of plants for your home and garden and consult with a master gardener about your gardening challenges. Admission is free and event is rain or shine. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

Paint Alexandria. Free. An all-media plein air event featured in Old Town. This year's featured instructors include: Bobbi Pratte, Daniel Wise, Libby Cullen, Avis Fleming, Peter Ulrich, Sara Poly, and Robert Liberace. Sponsored by the Art League.

Community Day. 1 to 5 p.m. At Historical Gum Springs community.

SUNDAY/JUNE 20

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. Percussionists Rick Puzzo, Joanna Dabrowska and Paul Durning assisted by trombonist Abigail Puzzo and flutist Susan Brockman performing music by Keiko Abe, Iannis Xenakis, Howard Buss, Astor Piazzolla, James Kazik, Murray Houllif, Mark Spede, and James L. Moore. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

Breathing Naturally Concert. 6:30 p.m. The EcoVoce Ensemble will present its multidisciplinary concert and arts event, "Breathing Naturally," Music, Poetry and Art of Women Inspired by Nature, as part of Virginia's statewide celebration of women in the arts. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road (at Quaker Lane), Alexandria. Suggested donation is \$10. Visit www.ecovoce.org or call 703-683-0322.

Falls Church Concert Band. 7 to 8 p.m. Free. A concert in Ft. Hunt Park, 6 miles south of Old Town Alexandria on the GW Parkway, 703-799-2125 or www.nps.gov/gwmp and go to "News and Fun Things to Do."

Father's Day Tours. Free. 1 to 5 p.m. At Gadsby's Tavern, 134 North Royal Street. Call 703-548-7000.

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Free Parking

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 21

4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

Father's Day Tours. Free. 1 to 5 p.m. At Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-3852 or

www.apothecarymuseum.org.

Father's Day Tours. Free. 1 to 4 p.m. At the Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-3891.

Father's Day Tours. Free. 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden. Visit www.leafendallhouse.org.

Book Talk. 3 p.m. Author John Fenzel will discuss his novel *The Lazarus Covenant*. Signed copies will be available for purchase. At Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-765-3645.

The EcoVoce Ensemble. "Breathing Naturally" Music, Poetry, and Art of Women Inspired by Nature with Denise Freeland (Soprano), Susan Hayes (Flute), Narciso Solero (Piano), and Ruth Baja Williams (poet). 6:30 p.m. No ticket required. Suggested donation \$10. Music includes works by Jane Tavernier, Jamie K. Sims, Winifred Hyson, and a multimedia presentation of Haiku miniatures for soprano and piano. Gallery of nature images features regional women artists. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA. Call 703-683-0322 or visit www.ecovoce.org for more information.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 23

Reflections on Alexandria's

Potters Industry. 7:30 p.m. Free. Lecture by Barbara Magid, an expert on ceramics made in Alexandria based upon 30 years of research with the Alexandria Archaeology collections as well as objects in private and other museum collections. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. Visit www.alexandriahistorical.org or 703-746-4994.

Benefit Concert for Haiti. 8 p.m. Sponsored by the Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theatre. All contributions go to the Lynn Williams Rouzier Institute de Dance in Port-au-Prince. At the Tyler Building Auditorium, Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beaugard St., Alexandria. Call 703-413-3811 or contact@khgd.org.

"Fish Out of Water" Film

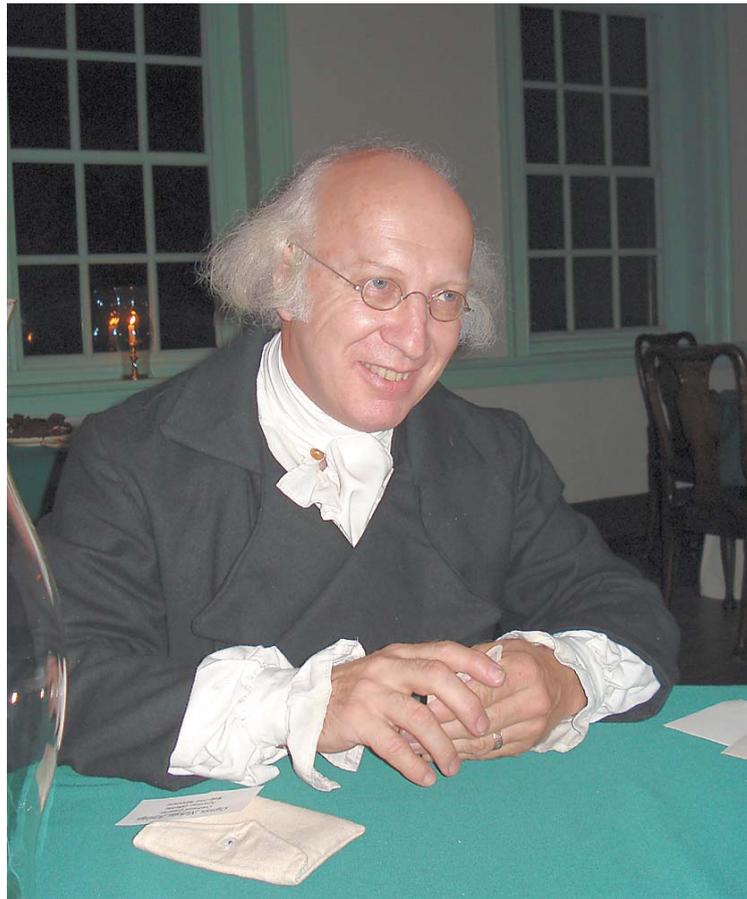
Screening. 7 p.m. Free. This film explores the relationship between homosexuality and the Bible. Sponsored by Commonwealth Baptist Church and the Alexandria Gay and Lesbian Community Association (AGLCA). At Commonwealth Baptist Church, 700 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria.

Fostering the Future Cruise. 6:30 p.m. cocktail reception. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. dinner, dancing and cruising on the Cherry Blossom on the Potomac. Attire is nautical or casual, and tickets are \$75 per person (adults only). Proceeds benefit the Fund for Alexandria's Child, which supports children in foster care or those who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Call Suzanne Kratzok at 703-746-5663 or e-mail thefundforalexchild@alexandriava.gov.

Lunch bunch concert. Noon - 1 p.m. Featuring Lying Heart (country/classic rock). Visit www.alexandriava.gov/concerts. At John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St., Alexandria.

THURSDAY/JUNE 24

Alexandria Jefferson-Jackson Dinner. 6 p.m. reception; 7 p.m. dinner. The honored guest and keynote speaker will be Gov. Joe



SUNDAY/JUNE 27

In the Company of James Madison. 3 to 4:30 p.m. Join this conversation with the fourth President of the United States! President Madison will focus on the most recent domestic and foreign events of June 1810 and will also discuss his Cabinet, moving into the President's mansion, and his relationship with his wife Dolley. Be a party to the public debate in the company of James Madison, as presented by John Douglas Hall, at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Reservations are recommended, and tickets are \$15 per person and \$10 for high school/college students. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

Manchin of West Virginia. Special guest Congressman Jim Moran. Call 703-549-3367. At the Hilton Mark Center Hotel, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria.

Benefit Shopping Night. 5-9 p.m. Ten Thousand Villages is hosting a benefit shopping night. Some 15 percent of all purchases will be donated to the Children's Home Society and Family Services, a nonprofit dedicated to helping children without families find safe, loving homes through adoption. On King Street in Old Town Alexandria. Visit tenthousandvillages.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 25

Mambo Combo. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Specializing in Latin and Caribbean dance music. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469).

SATURDAY/JUNE 26

Love Alive. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Live music, hot dogs and drinks, a used clothing give-away, a Social Services Fair, a Health Care Fair, balloon sculpting, face-painting, and moon-bounces. Youth activities include 3-on-3 basketball and volleyball. At First Assembly of God, 700 West Braddock Road in Alexandria.

Parker Gray Roundtable

Community Day. 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Features barbecue, refreshments, music, Recreation Center open house, and health fair; and workshops on Parker-Gray history, employment programs, substance abuse prevention, summer recreation programs and more. Contact Jack Browand at 703-746-5504. At the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria.

Community Wellness Day. 11 a.m.

to 2 p.m. Family games and activities, Whole Foods, family nutrition information, LARGEST cycling and body pump class, activities in the X'Rcade where children play electronic physical activity games, and more. At the YMCA, 420 East Monroe Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-838-8085 or www.ymcadc.org.

Community Day. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. UCM's Sacramento Neighborhood Center holds 10th annual Community Day celebration, "Block Party 2010." BBQ, games, contests, karaoke, face painting, vendors and community resources. At Pear Tree Village, 8800 block of Route 1.

Civil War Camp Day and Skirmish.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Costumed interpreters will take part in Civil War artillery and camp demos. At 2 p.m., uniformed re-enactors representing Union and Confederate units will engage in a tactical skirmish. At Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site. Admission is \$5 per adult and \$10 for families with children. Free parking will be available along West Braddock Road. At 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4848 or visit www.fortward.org.

5K Walk-a-Thon. 8 a.m. Hosted by YoungLives DC. At Fort Hunt Park, Picnic Area C-003. Registration is \$25/person. To register, go to www.younglivesdc.younglife.org, or contact Metro Area Director Sharon Holland at 571-276-0401 or Virginia Committee Chairman Tonya Green at 703-568-3541.

4th Annual Del Ray Music Festival. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free. Jazz, blues, swing, folk, country, Reggae, and rock. Atlantic Records recording artist Chelsea Lee and headliner the Justin Trawick Group. Food and kids' games. At the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center Fields, 2701 Commonwealth Ave. Call 703-346-1468.



Fort Ward Civil War Camp Day and Skirmish Is Set on Saturday, June 26

On Saturday, June 26, Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site will host its Civil War Camp Day and Skirmish, a day-long living history event highlighted by drills, cannon firing, camp life, and a skirmish drill. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., costumed interpreters will take part in Civil War artillery and camp demonstrations, and at 2 p.m., uniformed re-enactors representing Union and Confederate units will engage in a tactical skirmish.

This is Fort Ward's and Alexandria's largest Civil War event of the year, and several units are scheduled to take part. Among the Union units performing drills and camp life are the 3rd U.S. Regular Infantry, Co. K, and the 28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Co. B. Brady's Sharpshooters will have a rifle display and present a clerk's impression in the reconstructed Officers' Hut. In addition to an equipment display and camp set up in the fort, the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery will demonstrate cannon firing throughout the day. Army medi-

cal impressions will also be presented.

The 17th Virginia Volunteer Infantry, Co. D, known as the Fairfax Rifles, will present various Confederate camp life scenarios, drill demonstrations and a paymaster's interpretation. Among the civilian impressions is a U.S. Military Railroad worker and a Yankee schoolmarm who will display toys, games and other items that were popular pastimes for children in the mid-19th century.

This event is great family fun. Admission is \$5 per adult and \$10 for families with children. Free parking will be available along West Braddock Road.

Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site is located at 4301 West Braddock Road in Alexandria. It was the fifth largest installation within the extensive network of forts known as the Defenses of Washington, which was built to protect the Federal capital during the Civil War.

Call Fort Ward Museum at 703-746-4848 or go to www.fortward.org.

"Paint" Alexandria is this Saturday

SATURDAY/JUNE 19

The Art League's "Paint" Alexandria is a free, all-media plein air event for artists of all media and skill levels on Saturday, June 19.

Artists, art appreciators, and the artistically curious are invited to join Art League instructors as they visually explore and interpret historic Old Town. Workshops and demonstrations with different instructors are held over the day in a variety of media including painting, drawing, and photography. The public is encouraged to watch the artists at work.

SCHEDULE

- ❖ 9:30-11:30 a.m.: Patrick Kirwin: acrylic painting along the waterfront. (Meet on the dock behind Torpedo Factory)
- ❖ 10-12 p.m.: Libby Cullen: photographic walking tour of Old Town. (Meet on front steps of Torpedo Factory)
- ❖ 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Daniel Wise: painting along the waterfront in pastel.
- ❖ 1:30-3:30 p.m.: Avis Fleming: sketchbook drawing in pen, pencil, or watercolor. m (400 block of S. Lee St)
- ❖ 3:30-5:30 p.m.: Peter Ulrich: composing a loose watercolor. (King & Union Streets across from Starbucks)
- ❖ 4:30-6:30 p.m.: Robert Liberace: oil painting demonstration. (Prince and Union Streets)
- ❖ 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Sara Poly: capturing the sunset. (Founders Park)

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 11

Instead, the BZA motion answered my testimony in the affirmative - "we are zoned R-3 and all of the regulations for R-3 should apply." (Page 291, line 12 of the BZA Record). That is, lot width (80 feet minimum), lot area (10,500 square feet minimum) and density (no greater than 3 houses per acre) should have been followed in Hollin Hall Village. Instead, Fairfax County staff misread the BZA's motion, which is attached to this letter, and failed to require the minimum lot width, lot area and density of the R-3 residential District.

The Voorhees timely filed an appeal when it was clear that two houses were being built on one zoned parcel in Hollin Hall Village. But, the BZA denied the appeal and the Fairfax County Circuit Court held that our zoning appeal was addressed by the first BZA appeal. (It took a year and a half for the Circuit court to render this decision.) But, the first BZA appeal's motion expressly stated that they were not going to change the zoned District and all of the requirements in the R-3 District would apply to any R-3 zoned

property. Consequently, citizens cannot rely upon the court system to enforce "subject to all of the requirements in the R-3 District." Unfortunately, Fairfax County staff issued permits to build more than 6 houses per acre in an R-3 District, which was previously a uniformly developed neighborhood. Thus, without a rezoning, Fairfax County is changing our 3 houses per acre neighborhood to a more dense 6+ houses per acre.

While one votes for two elected officials on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the chair's aide told me that one only has their local elected official for land use matters. This partially explains why neither chair (nor its staff) returned my numerous telephone calls or honored my numerous requests for a meeting with them to discuss this issue over the years. Unfortunately, it was our local elected official's understanding that the BZA had answered our concerns. The BZA did answer our concerns; Fairfax County chose not to follow the BZA's motion (ruling).

Catherine M. Voorhees

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 25



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703-780-5019 • www.wesleyva.org

**Good Shepherd
Catholic Church**

Mass Schedule

<p>Saturday Evening 5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)</p> <p>Sunday 7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon 2:00 pm (en Español)</p>	<p>Weekdays (Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)</p> <p>Children's Liturgy of the Word Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English)</p> <p>Sign Language Interpreter Sunday at 9:00 am Mass</p>
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8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
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THE COUNTY LINE

In Diversity, TJ Is Low-Performer

New admissions process has failed to increase minority and poor student enrollment.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
GAZETTE

It might seem obvious why students choose to attend Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. U.S. News and World Report has rated it the best high school in the country for the past three years.

"I came here because of the academic opportunities," said Thomas Woodruff, a junior from Centreville who spends 90 minutes each weekday commuting to and from Jefferson's Alexandria campus.

Students at the Northern Virginia magnet school, commonly referred to as TJ, have genuine interest in school and academics, which creates a more congenial atmosphere, according to some current students.

"The people here are so much friendlier. They are nice to each other. You can leave your stuff in the hallway and no one will take it," said Alan Barte, a freshman from Herndon.

But one problem a few current students voiced about TJ is the homogenous student body. Less than five percent of TJ's students are black or Hispanic. Over 80 percent of the pupils are white or Asian.

"The only thing I don't like is how half the students at the school are Asian. I wish there was more diversity," said Mary Kim Weidman, a freshman who is part Korean and from Reston.

GETTING ACCEPTED to TJ is not an easy task for anyone. The school admitted only 15.3 percent of the 3,119 student who applied to be part of the Class of 2014. That means TJ had a lower acceptance rate for its incoming freshman class than either Cornell University or Swarthmore College this year, according to information on U.S. News and World Report's website.

Fairfax students also compete with children from around the region for slots at the Northern Virginia magnet school. About 80 percent of TJ's student body comes from Fairfax but residents from Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William and Fauquier counties and the City of Falls Church can also attend the school.

Students who are black, Hispanic or poor have a particularly hard time getting admitted to TJ. Out of 480 students admitted to next year's freshman class, just four are black and 13 are Hispanic. Only nine are considered poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced lunch.

And across all four grades at TJ last year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic and 1.74 percent were poor.

Fairfax schools' countywide enrollment is far more diverse than that of TJ. Across the school system, 18.1 percent of students are Hispanic and 10.5 percent are African American. Approximately 25 percent of all



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/GAZETTE

Sophomore Sarah Sam and freshmen Kleo Greenwood, Alan Barte and Mary Kim Weidman enjoy Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology but said they wish the school had a more diverse student body.

county students are considered poor.

None of Fairfax's other 24 high schools posted such low percentages of black or Hispanic students as TJ.

Only one high school, Langley in McLean, has a lower percentage of poor students enrolled.

TJ does enroll a higher-than-average percentage of Asian students, who will make up almost 58 percent of incoming freshman class next year. Countywide, Asian students account for just 18.5 percent of the school system population.

"There are a lot of people from a lot of different ethnic backgrounds here. But I would like to see more African Americans," said Sarah Sam, a sophomore who is part African American and a member of the school's Black Student Union.

FAIRFAX COUNTY Public Schools has struggled to boost enrollment among black and Hispanic students at TJ since 1998, when the school board ended an affirmative action program at the school.

In 1998, the last year of the affirmative action program, TJ admitted 49 black and Hispanic students. By 2003, this number has dropped to just 16, prompting the school board to form a blue ribbon commission on the TJ admissions process that year.

The commission, which included admissions officers from Yale University and the University of Virginia, concluded TJ was behind other elite high schools and colleges, when it came to certain groups of minorities and poor students.

At the Bronx High School for Science in New York City for example, a school ranked fourth on U.S. News and World Report's "best high schools" list in 2008, approximately 12 percent of the student body was black or Hispanic and one in three students was considered poor.

MINORITY STUDENT advocates said there are several reasons why black and Hispanic students struggle to gain admission to TJ.

"There is not a lot of enthusiasm for going at this point. People look at the numbers and say there is not a lot of support for me going to that school," said John Johnson, chair of the School Board's Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee.

Approximately 50 private companies and tutors offer test preparation specifically for the TJ admission exam. Since black and Hispanic families are more likely to be low-income, they are less likely to have the money to spend for a private tutor for the entrance exam, said Johnson.

Even minority and poor students who make it past the initial screening and into the semifinalist round may not have as strong applications as those from affluent backgrounds. In the final round of the TJ application process, staff look for an indication that students are interested in math or science. And students at-risk are less likely to have gone to math camp or away on a science expedition to another country.

"Those families who are financially gifted have the means to provide more enrichment activities," said Johnson.

Not enough students who are black, Hispanic or poor are being prepared earlier on in their educational careers for gifted and talented programs like TJ, said minority student advocates.

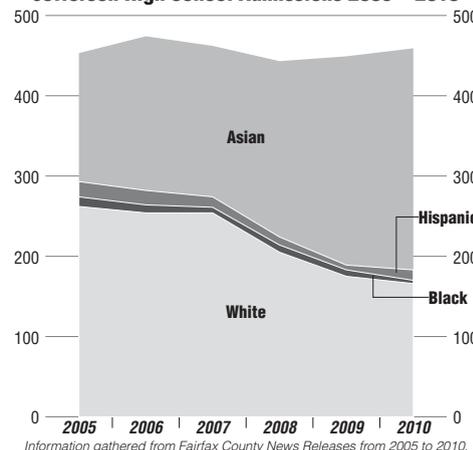
The majority of Fairfax public school students who attend TJ have come through elementary and middle school gifted and talented centers. And of the 10,514 students enrolled in those elementary and middle school gifted and talented centers, only 400 are black and 438 are Hispanic, according to Fairfax County Public Schools.

According to Johnson, there are also 22 elementary schools in Fairfax that do not offer accelerated math. These schools tend to have larger populations of black, Hispanic and low-income students. And although students are not required to take Algebra I by the end of seventh grade to get into TJ, 80 percent of those accepted this year had done so. Starting next fall, advanced math at the sixth grade level will be available on all elementary campuses, said Paul Regnier, spokesman for the school system.

While affluent parents may have been preparing their children's list of activities with an eye toward applying to TJ for years, many lower-income parents — including those who are black and Hispanic — have not had such foresight, said Abraham Lerner, head of the diversity committee for TJ's Parent Teacher Student Association.

"You have families who are doing everything that they need to do to get their children into TJ by the time they are in third grade. There are other parents who are learning about TJ for the first time when their children are in eighth grade," said Lerner, who conducts outreach to the families of black and Hispanic middle school children who have high GPAs and could make good candidates for TJ.

Jefferson High School Admissions 2005 - 2010



UNDER THE OLD admissions process, TJ admissions gave a rank to all the children in the applicant pool based on a formula in which a student's admissions test results accounted for 80 percent of their overall "score" and their grade point average [GPA] accounted for the 20 percent.

The current admissions process gives significantly more weight to grades as opposed to the entrance exam. The pool of semifinalists is also approximately twice as large.

The school board had concluded that one of the barriers to increasing black and Hispanic enrollment was the low number of students from these groups that made it into semifinalist round in the first place.

One year, as few as seven of the 800 students who made it past the first round of admissions for TJ were black, according to school board documents.

But this year, TJ admitted just 17 black and Hispanic students. Last year, 14 students from these minority groups were accepted. The percentage of TJ's student body that is Asian has jumped from 32 percent to 57.5 percent.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 23

Focus on Country's Future

To the Editor:

I want to start by congratulating Keith on his victory. I entered this race because Gerry Connolly is wrong for the 11th district, wrong for our country and needs to be retired; I remain committed to that goal.

I want to thank all of those that worked so hard on this campaign — my wife Nancy, my son Sean and daughter Valeria and my mom, brothers and sister for all of their support and hard work. I especially want to thank my campaign team for all the sleepless nights and the tireless efforts. And to so many of you that worked so hard, made phone calls, walked precincts, put up yard signs, donated or just talked to friends and neighbors about my candidacy. And to all of the elected officials and community leaders that stood up for me. And to those that made it to the polls and cast their vote for me. I thank all of you for the faith you put in me, I thank you from the bottom of my heart and I will never forget you or your support.

As I worked the polls after the Board of Supervisors meeting yesterday I was reminded many times of what public service is all about and why I enjoy public service. From the parents and kids at Clifton Elementary School thanking me for trying to save their school to the boy who thanked me for saving his goats — something I had forgotten about and did as a concerned citizen not as a supervisor.

This election did not turn out as I had hoped. But the hope was not for me it was for the future of our country. I entered this race because I thought I was the only candidate that could beat Gerry Connolly in November. I hope I was wrong in that thought for the sake of our children, our grandchildren and our country.

Today I return my focus to being the

commonsense conservative leader on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors representing the citizens of the Springfield District and Fairfax County; to catching up on some very sorely missed family time; and to trying to make up for lost time at work.

Thank you again for all of your support.

PS - Please help us pick up and dispose of any yard signs you see in the medians. We will be out over the next few days but every little bit helps.

Pat Herrity

Why Not Link Locally?

To the Editor:

The Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) operates a website at www.sfdc.org. Their self-stated mission is "to guide and assist businesses with locating or expanding into southeastern Fairfax County's emerging Richmond Highway (Route 1) Corridor." Their self-stated goal is "to eliminate barriers to new enterprise, stimulate entrepreneurial initiative, attract and support quality development and provide a single source of development information and assistance." In order to accomplish this mission and goal, the SFDC receives funding from sources including Fairfax County. The Board of Supervisors has appropriated about \$200,000 of our tax dollars yearly to the coffers of the SFDC to support its stated mission and goal.

Given this backdrop, I was astonished when I visited the SFDC website this week and found at the most prominent location in the upper right-hand corner of the opening page a large rectangular box which when clicked on transfers the user to the website of Amazon.com. Directly above that box is the slogan "Support The Highway!" When one clicks on that slogan, one is directed to another page where a rectangular box promoting Amazon.com is prominently located, but this time, the box in-

cludes links to the following departments on the Amazon.com website: Books, Electronics, Video Games, HD TVs, Video On Demand, Kindle, DVD & Blu-ray, Smart phones, Netbooks, Desktops, and MP3s.

As a taxpayer, I am confused as to how supporting the Amazon.com website "assists" businesses on Richmond Highway or "stimulate[s] entrepreneurial initiative." Doesn't Amazon.com directly compete with those businesses based upon the categories listed above? I was surprised to learn that the Amazon.com advertisement was placed on the SFDC website as a result of a recent vote to do so by the SFDC's Board of Directors. As a taxpayer, I would like the SFDC

to reveal to the public which members of its Board of Directors voted to favor Amazon.com on its website over the local businesses located on Richmond Highway. I would also suggest that another vote be taken by the SFDC Board to replace the Amazon.com advertisement on its webpage in favor of a link that when clicked upon leads to a page listing names, addresses, phone numbers and other information concerning Richmond Highway businesses and what they sell and/or what services they provide.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon



Andrew Sable, William Muldrow, Kathryn Parsley, Jeff Todd Chamberlain, Jessica Musman, and Evan Huffman. (Absent was Jeffrey Lopez.)

Six Receive Chamber Scholarships

Six local high school students are recipients of the 2010 Education Partnership Business Scholarships presented by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce at the June business lunch hosted by Mount Vernon High School.

Receiving the scholarships were Andrew Sable and Kathryn Parsley from Mount Vernon High School; Jeffrey Lopez, West Potomac High School; William Muldrow,

Thomas A. Edison High School; and Jessica Musman and Evan Huffman from Hayfield Secondary School.

Each \$2,000 scholarship was made possible through the contributions of local businesses. During the past 10 years, the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce has awarded more than \$84,000 in Education Partnership Business Scholarships to local high school students.



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Mount Vernon Gazette will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

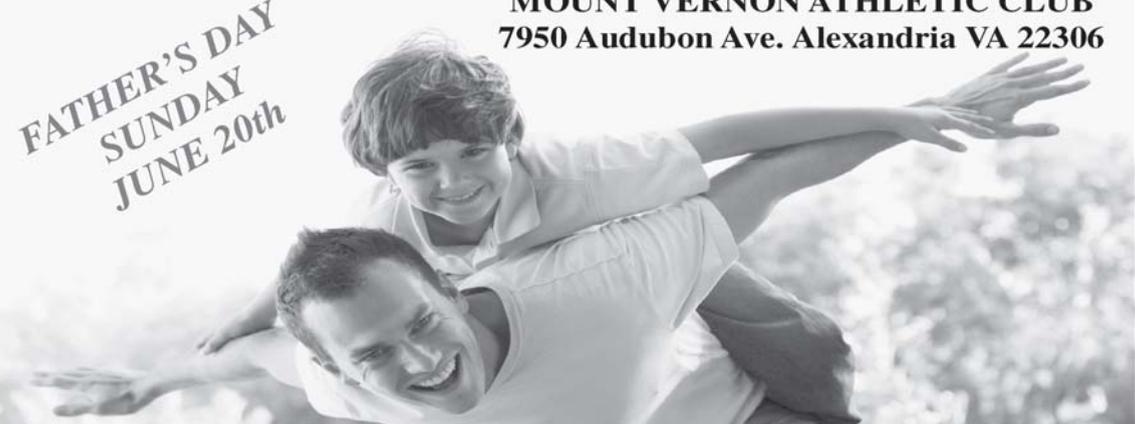
PhotoAX@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Mount Vernon Gazette, "Me and My Dad Photo Gallery,"
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

MOUNT VERNON ATHLETIC CLUB
7950 Audubon Ave. Alexandria VA 22306



FATHER'S DAY
SUNDAY
JUNE 20th

THIS FATHER'S DAY

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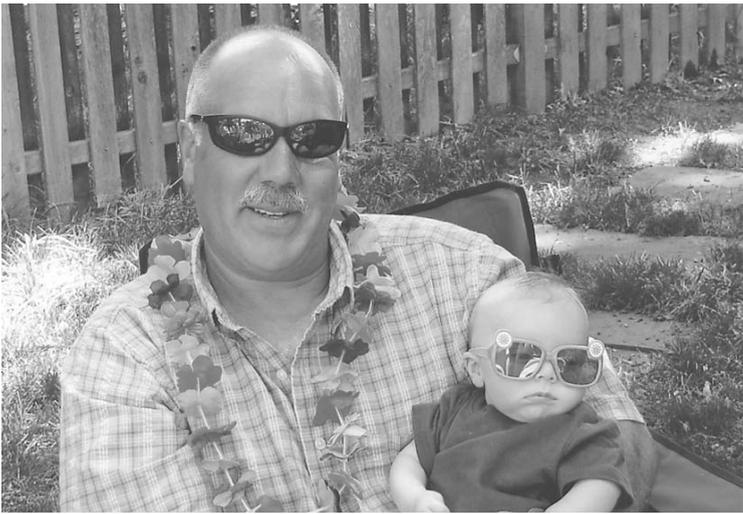
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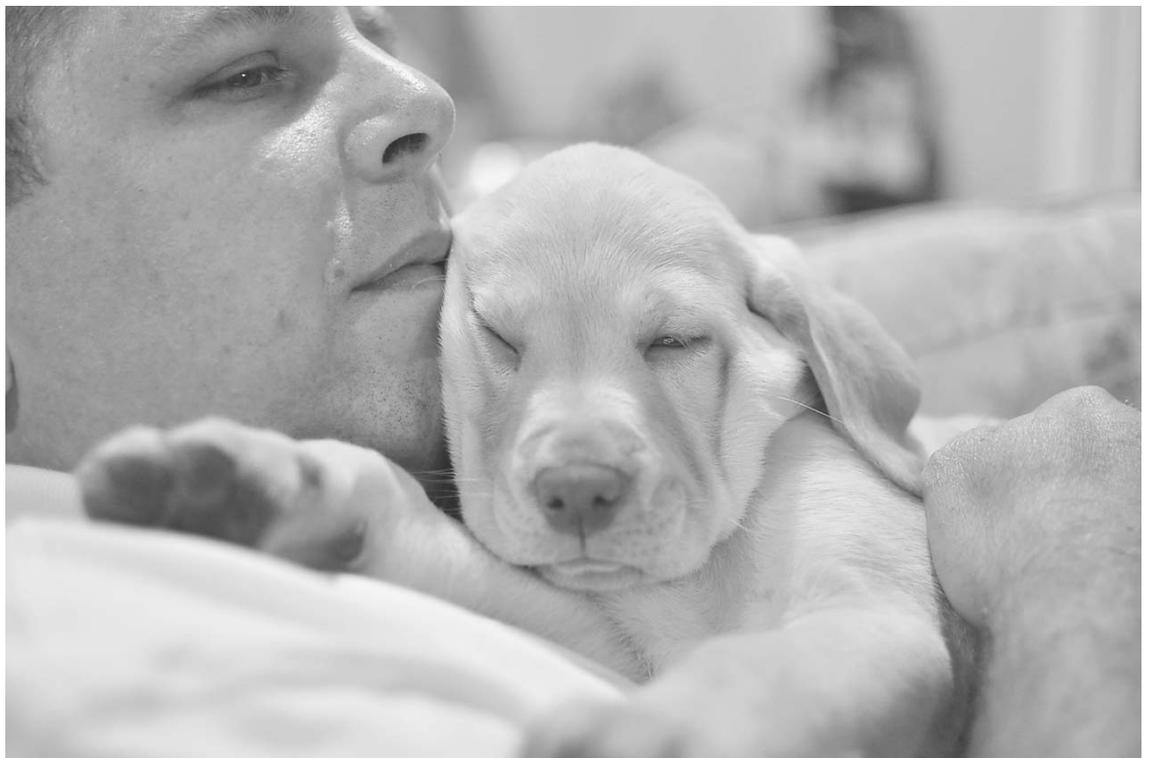
GIFT CARDS MAY BE PURCHASED IN ANY DENOMINATION AND EXPIRE 12 MONTHS AFTER THE PURCHASE DATE

ME & MY DAD

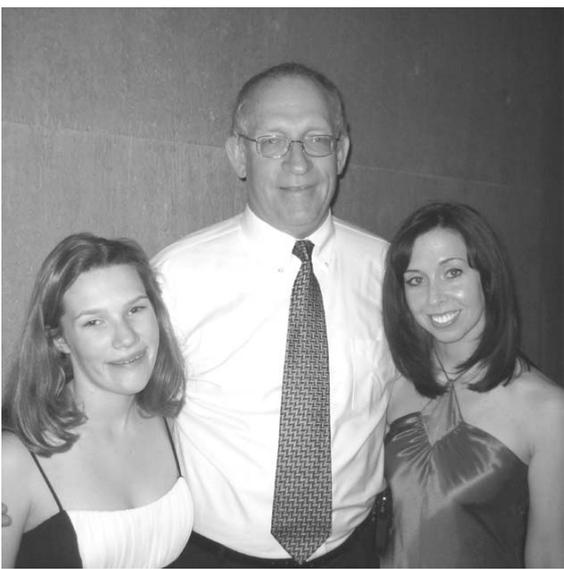
Readers submitted photos for this Father's Day gallery.



Robert Mechling and son Robbie, 3 months old, enjoy a birthday party in Alexandria on June 12, 2009. Robbie loves his new sunglasses.



George O'Quinn spends some quiet time with new baby lab, Mabel.



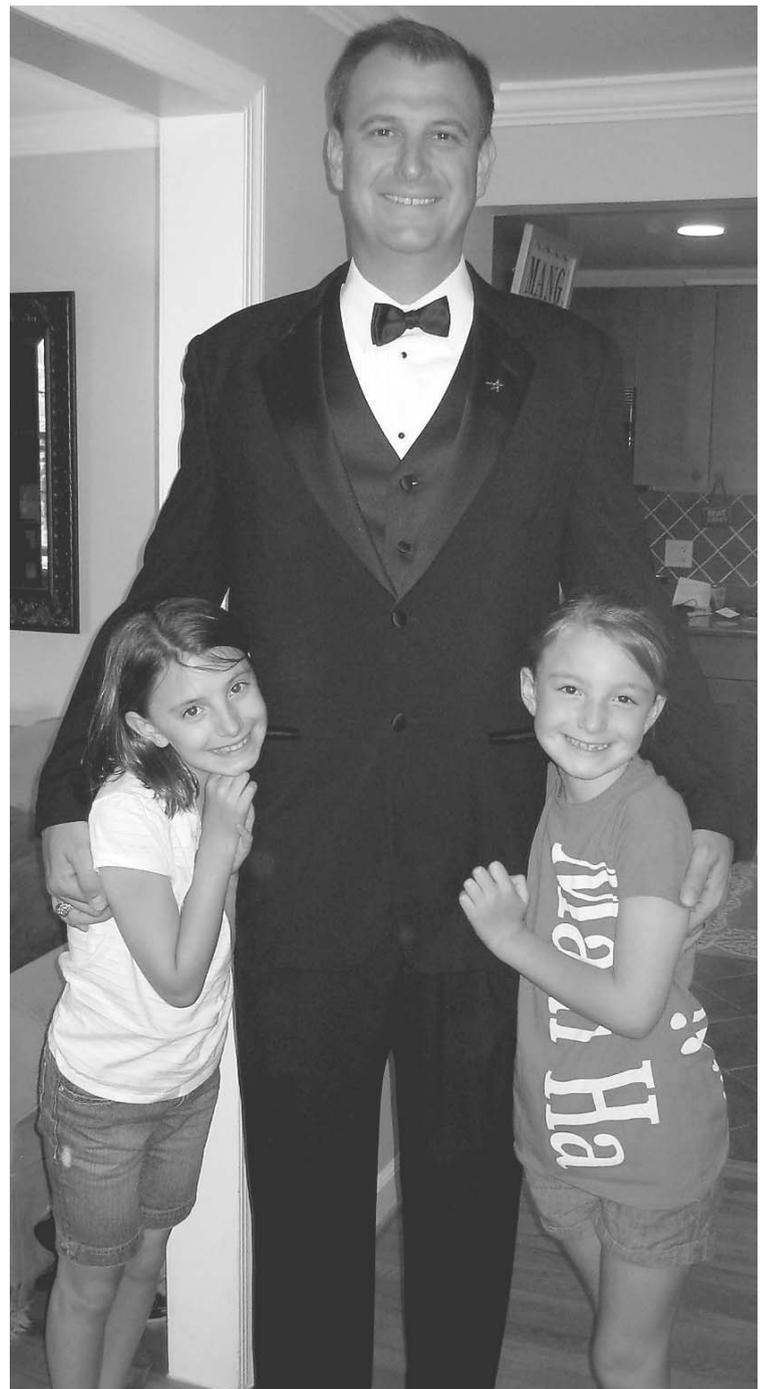
Bill Austin with daughters Caroline, 12, and Grace, 30, at their nephew's wedding. Dec. 19, 2009, in Fort Worth, Texas. The Austins live in Wayneswood.



Col. John Burling and his daughters Eleanor, 11, and Lilly, 8. Col. Burling had just been sworn in as a colonel in the U.S. Air Force.



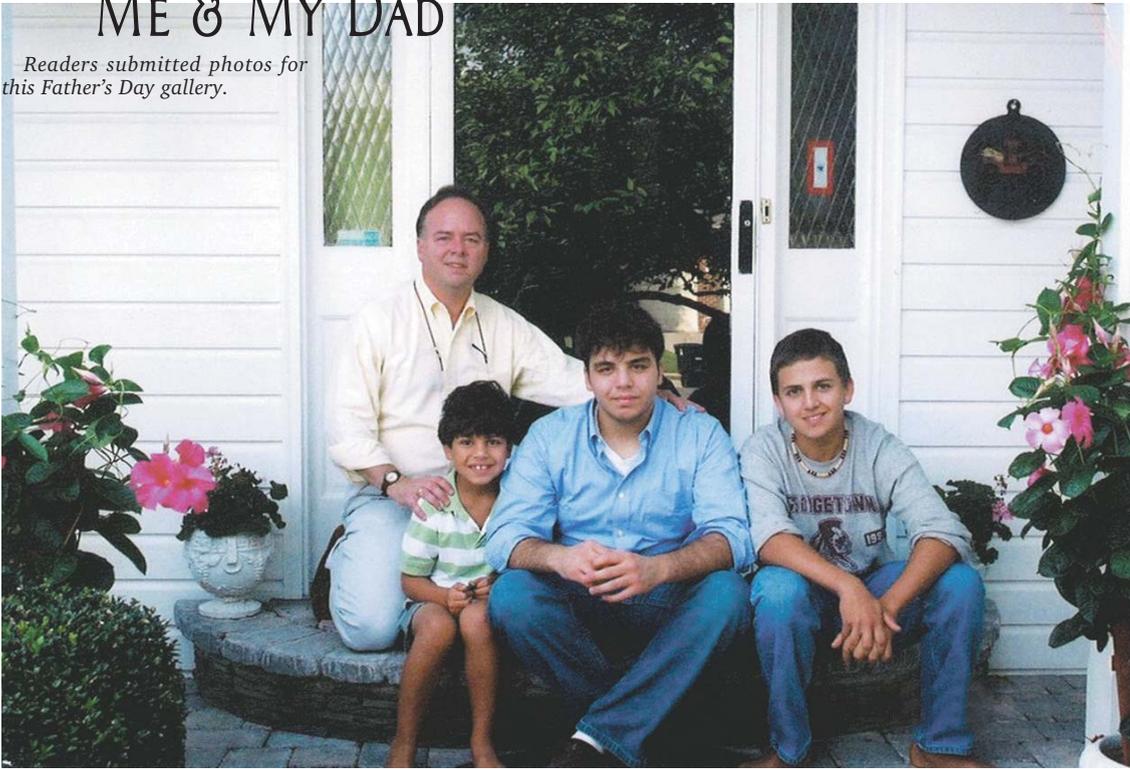
Bret Newman (center) spends quality time tubing on the Potomac with sons, Cole (left) and J.R. (right).



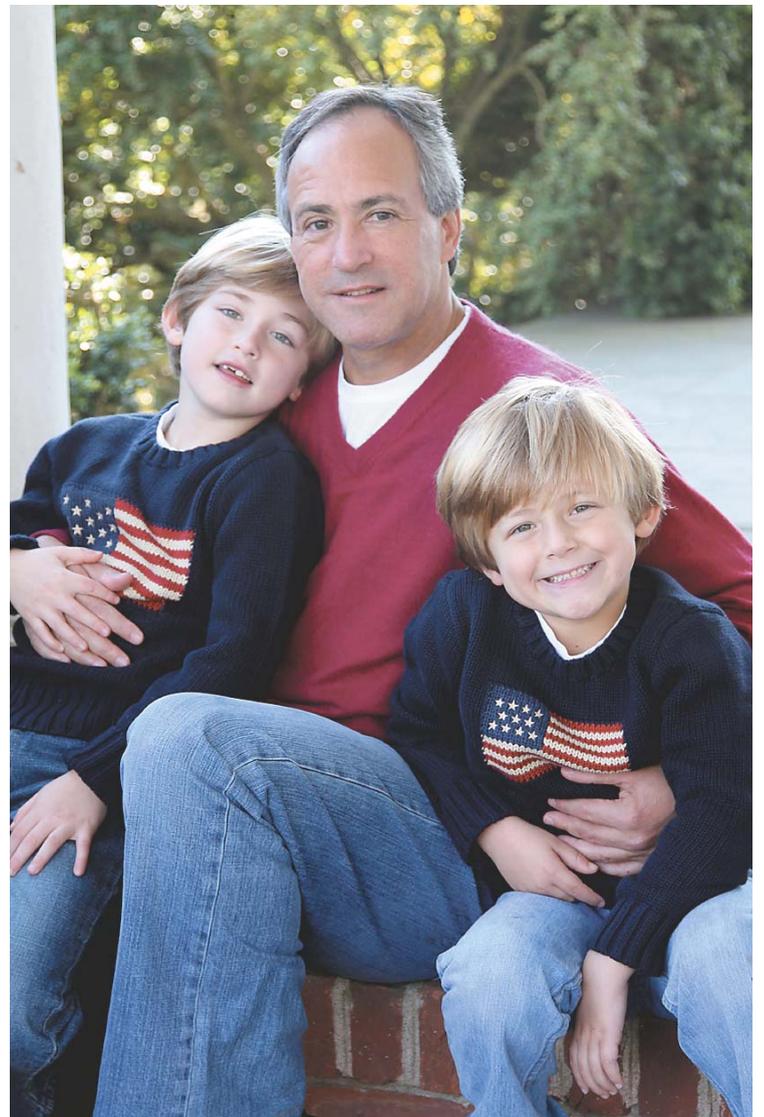
Chris Mang (center) makes sure to spend quality time with daughters, Carly, 10, and Emily, 8, before attending an event.

ME & MY DAD

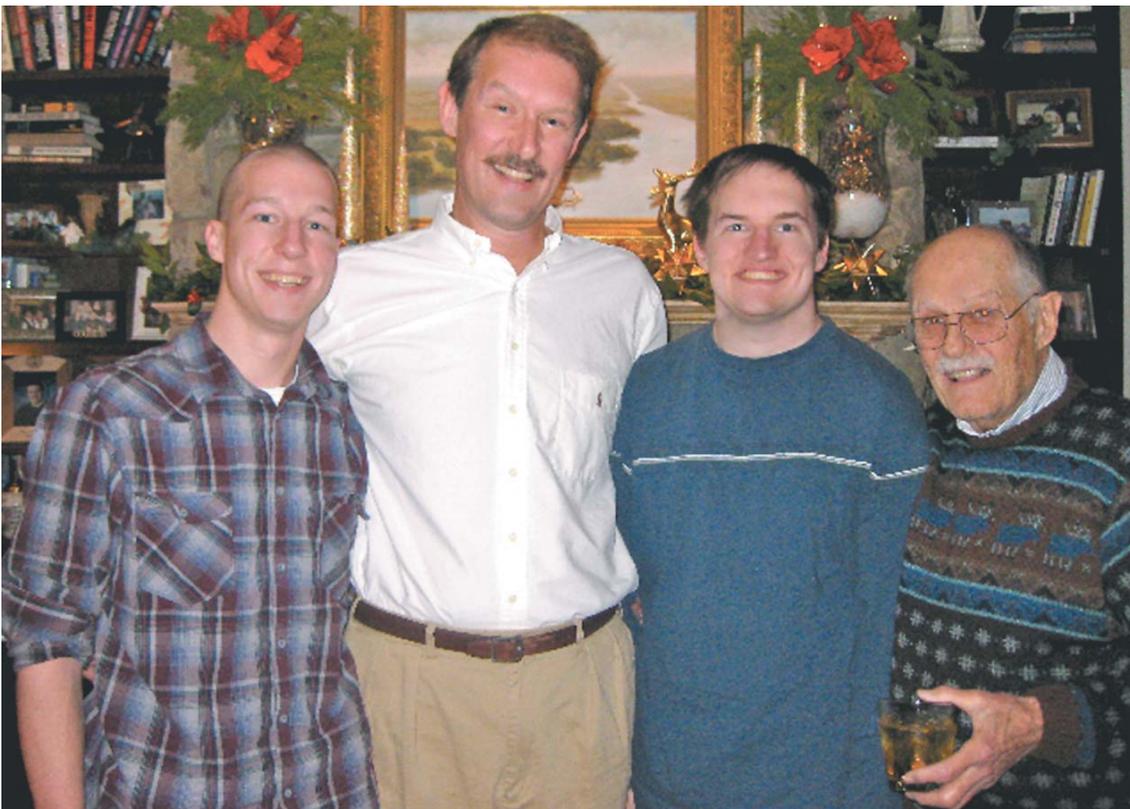
Readers submitted photos for this Father's Day gallery.



From left: Craig Shirley and his three sons, Mitchell, Matthew, and Andrew.



Todd Foley surrounds himself with sons, Chase, 8 (left), and Carson, 6 (right).



From left: Sam, 24, Eric, Zach, 26, and Ed Delman on Christmas of 2009. There are three generations of Delmans here. Ed is Eric's father and Eric is the father of Sam and Zach.



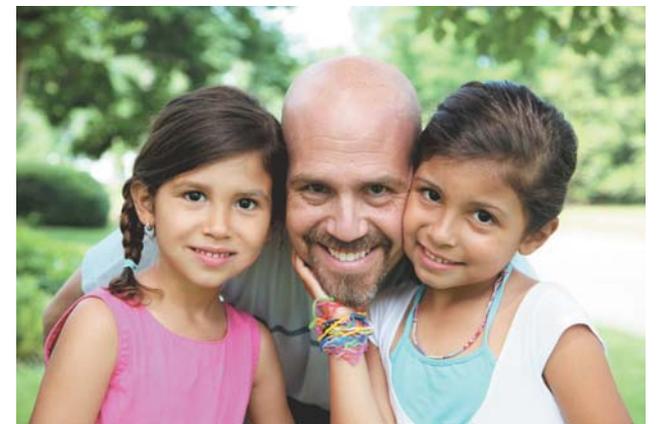
Andy Cook (center) is embraced by daughters, Tori, 10, Cammi, 8, and puppy Daisy.



Scott Fortney (left) and son, Maxwell, 9, rock the red at a father-son outing to a Washington Capitals game at the Verizon Center.



Ryan Bucceri and daughter, Caitlin, 6, sail the Chesapeake Bay together.



Larry Newman is all smiles as he poses with twin daughters, Sophia and Isabella, 6.

SPORTS

MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR JON ROETMAN
703-224-3015 OR JROETMAN@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Aces Sweep Early Season Awards

Alexandria Aces catcher Will Davis and outfielder Rand Ravnaas shared Player-of-the-Week honors for June 4-13 in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League. Davis, a rising senior at Pennsylvania in his second season

SPORTS BRIEFS

with the Aces, started the season 14-for-29 with three doubles, a triple, a home run, six runs scored and seven RBIs over eight games.

Ravnaas, a rising junior from Georgetown in his first season with the Aces, went 12-for-32 with three doubles and led the league with two triples and two home runs. He had four straight multi-hit games from June 5-10.

Max Knowles received Pitcher-of-the-Week honors. The left-hander earned a seven-inning victory on opening night and pitched a nine-inning shutout on June 9. He allowed three runs on five hits while walking three and striking out three in the opener against Herndon. On June 9 against Herndon, he allowed three hits while walking three and striking out six. His ERA is 1.69 while batters are hitting .154 against him.

Alexandria started the season 4-4, one game behind Youse's Orioles, including a 7-5 loss to Bethesda on June 15. Eric Bainer (sophomore Morehead State) is batting .375 and Nick Allen (sophomore, George Mason) is batting .364. Bobby Kirby (junior, Georgetown), while 0-2, has an ERA of 2.25 over 12 innings.

The Aces host Herndon at 7 p.m. on June 17.

West Potomac Basketball Camps

West Potomac will host three summer basketball camps. A co-ed skills camp will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 6-9 for girls and boys ages 7-16. Basketball camps for boys ages 7-16 will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 12-16 and July 26-30.

West Potomac Lax, Field Hockey Camp

The West Potomac girls lacrosse and field hockey summer camp will be held from 8 a.m.-noon June 29-July 1. The camp is for girls in grades 2-10. Cost is \$135. Contact

Barbara Mahony at bkmahony@fcps.edu for more information.

Local Swimming Matchups

A pair of Division 17 Mount Vernon/Fort Hunt Northern Virginia Swimming League teams will compete June 26 when Pinewood Lake travels to face Virginia Hills.

Field Hockey Program Opening

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' sports office will hold opening night ceremonies for its girls field hockey program at 6 p.m. on June 22 at Minnie Howard Field. The program, which has 112 girls participating, will involve T.C. Williams coaches and players coaching in the league, along with other volunteers.

Mark Vincent Basketball Camp

The Mark Vincent basketball camp will be held at Walt Whitman Middle School. First session will be held from July 12-16. Second session will be held from July 19-



League Champions The Fort Hunt Boys U15C team won the Northern Virginia Youth Lacrosse League Championship on June 13 with a 5-2 victory in a tough match against Great Falls. Coached by Andrew Hill, the U15C team was primarily made up of boys who had never played lacrosse before or had relatively little experience. With a season record of 6-1-1, the team ranked third in a field of 18 at the start of the single elimination playoff. Pictured is the team after their win against Great Falls. (left to right) Standing: Dan Pike, Stephen Beckerle, Davis DeFore, John Fielder, Josh Shelton, Darien Pickett, Andre Michell, Ben Haseltine, Collin Davis, Jonathan Dalch, Nicholas Moats, Richard Cochran, Davis Wiley, John Kelly, Coach Andrew Hill. Seated: Chris Quin and Kwadwo Diawuo. Missing: Matthew Hargrove and David Merz-Froehlich.

23. Tuition is \$200 per camper. Camp hours are from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day except on the last day; it will end at noon. Boys and girls ages 7-15 are welcomed to attend.

For information regarding summer basketball camp, e-mail at markvincentbasketballcamps@gmail.com

Youth Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is seeking volunteers to coach youth track and field, football, tennis, swimming and rugby.

Criminal history background checks are required. Interested persons should call the youth sports office at 703-746-5402-4345 or e-mail mac.slover@alexandriava.gov.

Wahoos Swim Team

The Wahoos Swim Team Program offers youth ages 6-18 of all abilities the opportunity to develop their own potential. The Wahoos swim program will promote individual achievement and team camaraderie in an atmosphere of friendly competition. Developing and experienced swimmers alike can refine their freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, turns and starts with an experienced coaching staff. Swim meets are scheduled every Saturday morning from mid-June through early August. Practices for the participants are held beginning June 1 until the Alexandria City Schools are out for the summer break at Chinguapin Center from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Monday-Friday. Beginning June 28, the participants will have the option of practicing at Chinguapin Center from 7:15-9:15 a.m. or in the afternoons at Old Town Pool from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. The cost for the program for City residents are \$125 for the first child and \$100 for each additional swimmer. The non-resident fees are \$150 for the



NVYLL Championship The Fort Hunt U-15A girls lacrosse team beat Vienna this past weekend for its second straight NVYLL championship. Many of these girls have been playing together since they were U-11 and they have developed into a powerhouse that consistently wins not only in the rec league, but also on the club level where other teams only send their elite/travel teams. Pictured from left: (front row) Christine Macey, Madison Condon, Maggie Jackson, Catherine Fannon. Middle row: Kaitlin Luzik, Kendall Cunningham, Isabel Botha, Sophia Cooksey, Avery Donahoe, Sophie Davidson (back row) Coach Jon Reed, Jordyn Elliott, Kelly Myers, Charlotte Sofield, Coach Rick Sofield, Mary Kelly Buckland, Olivia Mikkelsen, Kathryn Cavallo, Coach Mike Myers. Team member missing from photo: Hannah Singerling.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

SPORTS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Annual All-League Games Ft. Hunt Little League held its annual All-League games on June 12. Games were held in the 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14 year-old divisions. Participants were players voted in by their respective age groups. Pictured are the 9-10 year olds.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 28

first child and \$125 for each additional child. Swimmers must be able to swim 25 meters continuously. For more information on the clinics or the summer basketball league, call the sports office at 703-746-5402 or visit the youth sports website at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Alexandria Titans Youth Tackle Football

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Centers, Playgrounds and Youth Sports Division is accepting registrations for the Alexandria Titans Youth Tackle Football program. Teams are formed in the following weight divisions and participate in the Fairfax County Youth Football League: Anklebiters, 75 lbs, 85 lbs, 95 lbs, 110 lbs, 125 lbs, and 150 lbs. Participants will be weighed and assigned to teams according to their weight and age. This program is for participants ages 7-16. Registration fee is \$25. All participants must have a Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Identification Card upon registration. For more information, call the Sports Office at 703-746-5402 or go on the Youth Sports website at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Youth Basketball Fundamental School

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is now accepting registrations for the Youth Basketball Fundamentals School for boys and girls ages 5-12. The school will run on Saturday's from July 10-31 at George Washington Middle School located at 1001 Mt. Vernon Avenue. Participants will learn the fundamentals of ball handling, shooting, passing, dribbling and rebounding. Registration fee is \$40 per child. Register early: deadline is June 30 or as soon as sessions are filled. For more information, contact the youth sports office at

703-746-5402 or go on the youth sports website at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

National Junior Tennis League

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is accepting registrations for the National Junior Tennis League (NJTL) for boys and girls ages 8-16. The program will run June 28 through July 27 at the tennis courts at George Washington Middle School, Patrick Henry Recreation Center and George Mason Elementary School. Participants will learn the fundamentals of tennis in a fun and exciting environment. Participants will meet new friends, expand their minds and get important exercise. Registration fee is \$25 per child. Register early: Deadline is June 15 or as soon as locations are filled. For more information, contact the youth sports office at 703-746-5402 or go on the youth sports website at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Washington Mystics Fundamental Camp

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities conjunction with the WNBA Washington Mystics is accepting registrations for the Mystics Summer Basketball Camp for boys and girls ages 7-16 year old. The camp will run July 12-16 at the William Ramsay Recreation Center, 5650 Sanger Avenue. Participants will receive professional instruction emphasizing the proper technique of individual skills and development of fundamentals. Campers will receive a camp t-shirt, camp photo, drawstring backpack, certificate of appreciation and much more. The registration fee is \$210 per child. Register early, the deadline is soon or as soon as the camp capacity is filled. For more information, contact the class program office at 703-5414 or the sports office at 703-746-5402 or go on the recreation department website at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.



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OBITUARY

Maxine E. Bishop

Mrs. Maxine E. Bishop, 79, 1609 Camelot Drive, in Fayetteville, N.C., went home to be with her Lord on Monday, June 14, 2010 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend to all.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Marjorie E. Lee.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory, her husband, Steve G. Bishop of the home; three sons, Randolph M. Bishop, Sr. and wife, Dianne of Broadway; Steve G. Bishop, Jr. of Durham; and Jonathan W. Bishop of Alexandria, VA; two grandsons, Randolph M. Bishop, Jr. and wife, Heather of Wake Forest; and Darby Len Bishop and wife, Joy of Zebulon; five great-grandchildren, Shelby, Shelley, Samantha, Haleigh and Gavin.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 pm Thursday, June 17, 2010 at Rogers and Breece Funeral Home. The funeral service will be conducted at 11 am Friday, June 18, 2010 in Rogers and Breece Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Guy Bianco officiating. She will be laid to rest in Lafayette Memorial Park West.

Services entrusted to Rogers and Breece Funeral Home.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Mt. Vernon police department through June 11.

ASSAULT ON A

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/ ARREST

Police responded to a bank in the 6300 block of Richmond Highway for a report of a man acting disorderly on Friday, June 4 around 1:33 p.m. The man allegedly refused an officer's commands and assaulted him. A 70-year-old male of the 8600 block of Cushman Place in Alexandria was taken to jail and charged with assault on a law enforcement officer. No one was injured.

GRAND LARCENY/ ARREST

A man was arrested for allegedly entering a 20-year-old man's vehicle and stealing items from inside on Monday, June 7 around 7:18 p.m. Police apprehended a 22-year-old male of the 9600 block of Hagel Circle in Lorton. He was taken to jail and charged with grand larceny.

MALICIOUS WOUNDING/ POSSESSION

OF A FIREARM BY A CONVICTED FELON/

PREVENTING ANOTHER PERSON FROM

SUMMONING LAW ENFORCEMENT/ ARREST

A 25-year-old man was arrested after allegedly assaulting an acquaintance in the 3100 block of Furman Lane around 5:50 p.m. on Tuesday, June 8. The suspect also reportedly prevented the victim, a 24-year-old woman, from calling 9-1-1 for help and fled the home with a handgun. The suspect, of Augusta, Ga., was apprehended nearby and taken to jail. He was charged with malicious wounding, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and preventing someone from summoning law enforcement. The victim declined medical treatment for her non life-threatening injuries.

LARCENIES

6600 block of 10th St. Purse stolen from vehicle.

8000 block of Capistrano Place. License plate stolen from vehicle.

2000 block of Elkin St. License plates stolen from vehicle.

Holly Hill Road/Beechcliff Drive. Cash and digital camera stolen from vehicle.

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