

# Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 15, 2010



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

**Sailing through Summer** Sailing camp is under way again this week at the Belle Haven Marina in South Alexandria. As instructor Alexandra Burnley secures the lines on the boat, Sophia leaps to the dock.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6

## One-Stop Strategy

County reacts to growing number of citizen complaints, code violations.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

### Complaints

Statistics on type and number of reported code violations:

**C**ross growing two feet high on an abandoned property in the neighborhood? Trash, garbage piling up; broken windows; abandoned swimming pool left unattended and filled with rain and ground water which presents a health and safety issue for children in the neighborhood; overcrowded apartments or homes in violation of maintenance or zoning code?

Formerly, citizens with these type of complaints may have ended up calling several different offices in an effort to get the

#### Zoning and property maintenance complaints:

2007: 6,407  
2008: 6,284  
2009: 5,804

#### Grass Cases:

2007: 700  
2008: 3,050  
2009: 2,600

#### Code Enforcement Strike team cases (overcrowding and boarding houses):

2007: 260  
2008: 200  
2009: 250

#### Unpermitted construction cases:

2007: 450  
2008: 580  
2009: 650

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 7

## That Vision Thing

Hyland is set to launch a task force charged with imagining the future.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**W**hat does the future in Mount Vernon look like? Does it include a traffic-clogged thoroughfare? Or does it feature a walkable main street? Do cars zoom through the district or are they moderated by a predominant use of public transportation? Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland wants answers, and he's about to conduct a bus tour to launch a new task force created to craft a vision for the future.

Details remain sketchy, but the

broader outlines have been forming behind the scenes for months. The task force will be composed of nine individuals, each of whom will lead a committee of seven to 10 people. Topics will range from transportation and planning to education and housing. The six-term supervisor has been planning the task force for more than year, and a proposed bus tour to launch the effort has been delayed several times. Now, with most of the nine members consenting to serve, the kickoff has been set for early August.

SEE ENVISIONING, PAGE 6

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www.McEneaney.com



ALEXANDRIA \$975,000



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**Elizabeth Lucchesi**  
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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$1,139,900



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ALEXANDRIA/ROSEMONT \$439,000



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THIS WEEK IN MOUNT VERNON

## Free Cupcakes To Mark Occasionally Cake's Anniversary

Occasionally Cake will commemorate its first anniversary with a day of free cupcakes on Wednesday, July 21. After opening its doors last summer, the Alexandria cake shop at 8859 Richmond Highway reflects the work of owners Sabrina Campbell and Marcia Crandall, both cake designers.

The bakery will serve up six of the over 100 flavors on Wednesday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. including: Red Velvet, Pink Champagne, Yin & Yang, Grasshopper, Lemon Drop and Chocolate Razzleberry.

Not only will each visitor enjoy a free cupcake, but they will also have the opportunity to make a donation to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). The non-profit organization works to find missing children and prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation. Additionally, the cake shop will donate 50 percent of all other cupcake sales from that day to NCMEC.

Occasionally Cake is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Visit [www.occasionallycake.com](http://www.occasionallycake.com) for more information.

## Smoke Alarm Alerts Residents during House Fire

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire Monday, July 5, at approximately 4:30 a.m., in the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County. The single-family home is located at 3601 Drews Court. Firefighters found the back deck and the rear of the home engulfed in flames. A second alarm was struck, bringing approximately 60 firefighters to the scene. Firefighters brought the fire under control in approximately 15 minutes. The fire originated on the rear deck of the home. The homeowner attempted to fight the fire prior to fire department arrival but was told by the 911 dispatcher to leave the home immediately. Sounding smoke alarms alerted the family to the fire; all occupants escaped the fire unharmed. Three people have been displaced, two adults and one child. Red Cross was not needed. There were no injuries.

Damage is estimated at \$90,000.

The fire is under investigation.

## Robbery and Abduction In Rolling Hills

A 28-year-old taxi cab driver was robbed at gunpoint, near Richmond Highway and Russell Road. On Thursday, July 1 shortly after 1 a.m., the backseat passenger displayed a handgun and demanded money. The victim handed over an undisclosed amount of cash and was not injured. The suspect exited the cab and fled north across a grocery store parking lot. Witnesses reported seeing the suspect enter a room at the Southern Motel, 8257 Richmond Highway. Patrol officers established a perimeter around the motel and the police helicopter and a K-9 team responded to the area.

The suspect was eventually located and identified as allegedly having committed the robbery.

During this investigation, a 32-year-old, Alexandria-area woman told police she had been abducted by the same man. The suspect had reportedly approached her in front of the 7-Eleven store at 8226 Russell Road earlier that evening. He attempted to engage her in conversation but she walked away. A short time later, the suspect appeared from between two buildings, displayed a handgun, grabbed her by her shoulders, and verbally threatened her. She struggled and was able to free herself and run away. She was not injured and ran to the Southern Motel and made contact with police.

The suspect, a 20-year-old of Clinton, Md. man was arrested. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with robbery, abduction, and two counts of the use of a firearm in the commission of a felony.

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



A number of guests participated in the ribbon cutting including, Supervisor Gerry Hyland, two neighborhood children, U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, "Martha Washington" and Sharon Bulova, chairwoman, Board of Supervisors, and on the end, Susan Thorniley, Chair, Library Board of Trustees, among others.

# Renovated Library Reopens

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**"M**artha Washington," interpreted by Bellevue-resident Mary Wiseman, in period costume greeted the attendees at Saturday's ribbon-cutting ceremony of the newly renovated Martha Washington Library on Fort Hunt Road.

The ceremony was attended by U.S. Rep. Jim Moran, Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova, Mt. Vernon Supervisor Gerry Hyland, Director of Fairfax County Library Edwin S. Clay III, Chairwoman of the Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees Susan Thorniley and Dan Barolo, the president of the Friends of the Martha Washington Library.

On an overcast afternoon with a slight drizzle of rain, a crowd of about 150 local residents listened to rededication speeches and enjoyed the grand opening of what county officials characterized as a "21st Century Library."

The cost of construction was \$7.31 million, funded through a 2004 Bond referendum. Also, the TD Bank announced its pledge to donate \$4,000 to the library.

The library is equipped for wireless access, has 24



"Martha Washington" as interpreted by Mary Wiseman greets Supervisor Gerry Hyland. She is the official Mt. Vernon Ladies Association's "Martha Washington" at the George Washington Estate.

public computers, and a large community meeting room. It was built to "green building" standards and comes with a filtered storm water system which stores water in an underground watering system for the landscape.

"This is a great day for the Mt. Vernon community," Moran said. "The creation of this modern day library is a direct reflection of the priority Mt. Vernon citizens place on the importance of a library to the educational and social fabric of their community."

"I am very proud to have been a part of seeing to it that this renovated library became a reality."

Bulova and Clay both remarked that they formerly lived in the Mt. Vernon district in earlier years, and that it gave them a great sense of personal satisfaction to see the newly renovated library come into existence. The current building was constructed in 1969 — the third library established in Fairfax County.

### Details

#### MARTHA WASHINGTON LIBRARY

6614 Fort Hunt Road  
Alexandria  
Tel: 703-768-6700  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)  
Library Hours:

Monday-Wednesday-Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Directions: Located near the intersection of Fort Hunt Road and Bellevue Boulevard and next door to the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center.

# Change of Command at Ft. Belvoir

**T**he change of command ceremony is deeply rooted in military history. The senior officer, Colonel Jerry Blix, in the name of the higher headquarters, receives the colors and passes them to the incoming commander, Colonel John Strycula.

By taking the unit colors, the incoming commander signifies his willingness to accept responsibility of the unit, its missions, and its soldiers. The incoming commander then passes the unit colors to the senior enlisted soldier to symbolically state his acceptance and reliance on the soldiers

of the command.

Strycula will oversee the final implementation of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) 2005 mandate that will add a projected 19,300 employees and several new functions to the Base. The Post operates in much the same manner as a small city, with an airfield, 2,100 on-Post homes, retail and grocery outlets, an on-Post elementary school operated by Fairfax County, day care centers, churches, and a hospital.

— GERALD FILL



PHOTO BY GERALD FILL/THE GAZETTE

Transfer of Command at Fort Belvoir occurred July 7.



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## OBITUARY

### Frank Joseph Fede

Frank Joseph Fede, 92, a former international negotiator for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, died June 23, 2010 of



congestive heart failure. Born in Birmingham, Ala., he attended Birmingham Southern College, received a master's degree in history from Emory University, and did further graduate work at Syracuse University. He served during WWII as a captain in the Army Air Corps, and after the war he completed his studies at Yale and the University of Pennsylvania.

His 31 years in Federal Government included service at the Veterans Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Management and Budget, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. After retirement he started his own business and wrote a book entitled "Italians in the Deep South."

He has resided in Alexandria for over 60 years and remained very active in his church and the Mount Vernon community until his health declined.

He was a charter member and president of the Mount Vernon Park Association, established the Potomac Valley-River Bend Civic Association, and started the first Neighborhood Watch program in Fairfax County.

He is survived by his wife, Roberta Robinson Fede. His first wife, Helen Maggs Fede, died in 1968.

He is survived by six children, Susan Schott, Marcia Egge, David Fede, Honor Fede, Franchesca Gomez and Courtney Preusse, and eight grandchildren.

He has one surviving sister, Venzine Molay.

# PEOPLE

## Meet Police Officer Kottemann

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**G**reg Kottemann serves as crime prevention officer for the Mt. Vernon District.

### What is it that you do?

I promote good communications between our police department and the community. Basically, I am a police-community relations liaison officer with the goal of helping advise the community on steps they can take to prevent crimes from occurring.

### Describe what in particular you do to promote good relations with the community.

I do whatever it takes to make myself available to offer advice and guidance to community groups, homeowners associations, Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops, businesses, and individuals to advise them on crime prevention techniques. This includes informing the community on what are the latest scam techniques they need to be aware of, how to avoid bad situations in the workplace, neighborhood, elsewhere. I recently met with employees who work with substance abusers on ways to deal with this group of at risk individuals, and how to prevent problems before they occur. I am available to any and all individuals and groups to make crime prevention presentations. Often I will bring a patrol officer with me to offer his or her insights and experiences.

### What is your current top priority effort?

Communications outreach, both personally, and through the internet. First, through the Internet I glean from the police department's electronic news issues, trends, and results of investigations which may have relevance to Mt. Vernon, and pass them on through my email to the community. I call this my Information and Tips e-mails. New elderly scams, crime techniques affecting Mall shoppers, car break-in trends, contractor scams, and other issues are all covered in my communications outreach. My other current top priority is promoting the establishment of Neighborhood Watch programs. I will come to an association or business, and advise them on how to set up a neighborhood watch program and answer questions.

### Details

How to contact the Mt. Vernon Area Crime Prevention Officer:

Online: [gkotte@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:gkotte@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
Telephone: 703-360-8928

### Bio

**GREG KOTTEMANN**

**Age:** 41

**Education:** Graduate, West Potomac High School

**Married:** Danielle

**Years with Fairfax County Police Department:** 20

**Years with Mt. Vernon District Station:** 20 (except for several years on temporary duty at headquarters)

**If you had to select two crime prevention issues where self help and awareness will result in dropping the incidence and prevalence of a particular type of crime what would they be?**

Crimes against property. The number one crime in our community that is preventable is breaking into and stealing personal effects left in a car. Lock your car. Roll up the windows all the way. Take out your GPS, laptop, purse, and other valuables before you leave your car. If you don't, you are inviting a thief to break in and steal your valuables. Another common property crime is breaking and entering a home, apartment, or condominium. Lock your door, close and lock your window, and install night lights. These simple acts will discourage thieves from entering your car or home and taking items of value.

### In closing this interview, is there anything else you would like to say to our readers?

Police are incapable of preventing crime without the partnership of the community. Good communication between police and citizens living and working in Mt. Vernon is a key ingredient in promoting awareness, building trust, and establishing effective police-community relations. Also, if an individual or group is interested in my making a presentation on home security, office safety, personal safety, etc. call in advance to schedule on my calendar to be assured that I will be able to make it. Whereas in past years we had two crime prevention officers there now is only me. This stretches my calendar at times but if I am given advance notice I am confident I can be available.



**Crime Prevention Police Officer Greg Kottemann**



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**703-768-7730**  
[rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com](http://rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com)



**Alex./Mt. Vernon \$854,900**

**5412 Grist Mill Woods Way**

Spectacular Brick Colonial w/over 5,200 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./Stratford \$649,900**

**8405 Porter Lane**

Absolutely stunning 4br, 2.5 bath Colonial w/garage in popular Stratford on the Potomac. It's a classic beauty - meticulous and elegant. Professionally designed kitchen is splendid w/ high end appliances, granite counters, and custom cabinetry. Family room off of kitchen has gas fireplace w/ raised hearth, and atrium door to back patio. The backyard is private and professionally landscaped w/large slate patio.

Great flow for entertaining. Large bedrooms, remodeled baths, huge storage areas, low maintenance exterior, energy saving windows. Too many features to name, but it's a 10



**Alex./Wessynton \$689,900**

**3008 Sevor Lane**

Large, meticulously maintained 5 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial w/2-car garage & finished bsmt in Mt. Vernon's premiere contemporary Wessynton. Pride of ownership is apparent: exterior painted in '06, HVAC systems all replaced in past 5 yrs. Beautiful carpet over hwd floors throughout main & upper levels. Large picturesque windows over look beautiful landscaping. Lower level has rec room, den, 2 storage

rooms, & bath w/large jacuzzi tub. Wessynton offers pool, tennis, basketball courts & boat launch. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 to Ntl Airport & 30/35 to D.C./Pentagon.



**Alex./Wessynton \$765,000**

**3009 Cunningham Drive**

Completely remodeled 5 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial in premiere-contemporary community of Wessynton. All major systems updated: kitchen-ceramic tile floor, granite counters, cabinets, sub zero frig, etc., baths, total HVAC systems, roof & gutters, thermal windows & freshly painted interior. 2-car garage. This is "turn key." Beautiful lot backing to woods. Wessynton offers boat

launch just minutes to Potomac River by boat, tennis & basketball courts, and pool. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 to National Airport, 30/35 to D.C./Pentagon.



**Alex./Wessynton \$659,900**

**3020 Cunningham Drive**

Large 5 BR/2.5 BA 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 back-

yard. 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.

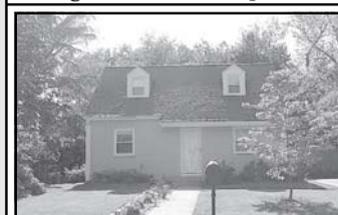


**Alex./Mt. Vernon \$614,900**

**9218 Volunteer Dr.**

Spectacular 5 bedroom, 3 bath Split teeming with 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./Bucknell Manor \$362,900**

**6932 Vanderbilt**

Stunning & meticulously maintained 2-level Cape Cod loaded with updates: Kit, both baths, double pane replacement windows & washer & dryer on upper level. Roof in '03, siding in '04 & A/C in '07. Large gorgeous back yard w/newer privacy fence.

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## Summer School for Sailing

Sailing camp is under way again this week at the Belle Haven Marina in South Alexandria. Monday was a little too breezy for the Sunfish, so the students were taken out in Flying Scots by their instructors. For more information visit [www.saildc.com](http://www.saildc.com)



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CAZETTE

**A Sunfish glides out into the river as the wind calms down**



**Sam and David secure the mast and sail in the racks.**



**The students take the masts off the Sunfish for storage.**

**Andrew Hume skippers a Flying Scot and explains the tacking moves to the new students.**



**Andrew and Alexandra turn up the hulls before dismissing the class.**



**Andrew Hume shows the students how the halyard is coiled before the sail is rolled and then tied for storage.**

## Envisioning Mt. Vernon

FROM PAGE 1

“This is an opportunity for everybody to have a voice,” said Queenie Cox, chairwoman of the consumer affairs committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations. “And that includes everybody, even the people who feel that things are being run by a clique.”

**LOOMING OVER** Hyland’s visioning task force is an overlapping series of other planning efforts in recent years. Citizen groups have been working for years on recommended changes to the county’s comprehensive plan, a parcel-by-parcel plan for land-use policies in the district. And there’s also a listening tour recently launched by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations strategic planning committee chairman Kahan Dhillon, who is leading the listening tour, says he would encourage Hyland to incorporate existing long-range planning that has already been accomplished by neighborhood groups and individuals.

“For it to take more than a year to get people together kind of makes you wonder,” Dhillon said of Hyland’s task force. “At this point, we don’t have any idea how this will work or even who will be part of the executive committee.”

Many of the issues that will be discussed by the task force circle back around to Richmond Highway. Take education, for example. Judy Harbeck, who leads the council’s education committee, says the future of the corridor will shape the direction the school system takes in the years to come. Because decisions about land use and public transportation influence real-estate values and demographics, Harbeck explained, the long-term viability of the school system hinges on what happens along Route One.

“Improving the corridor will help create more jobs, which will attract people with higher incomes, which will increase property values,” said Harbeck. “That will raise the profile of the public school system in people’s minds and hopefully reduce the achievement gap.”

## U.S. Senate To Vote on Bill with Route 1 Funding

**T**his coming week, the U.S. Senate is scheduled to vote on a supplemental appropriations bill that includes money for widening Richmond Highway.

But other controversial provisions of the legislation threaten to stall its passage, thereby holding up the transfer of this much needed funding, wrote Del. Scott Surovell (D-Mount Vernon) on his blog July 10.

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) secured \$150 million in congressional earmarks to improve Richmond Highway around Fort Belvoir and the Interstate 95 interchange at Newington in the bill now being considered by the senate.

Moran, Surovell and other elected officials said the money is needed to mitigate the transfer of several thousand new employees to Fort Belvoir’s campus and the Geospatial-Intelligence Agency next year as a result of the federal base realignment and closure process.

The local transportation network will also be strained by a large, new medical facility on Belvoir’s army base and plans for the construction of an U.S. Army Museum near the Kingman Gate on the Fairfax County Parkway. According to Surovell, Route 1 has not been widened in the Mount Vernon area since 1971 and already suffers from severe congestion. The impact of the base realign-

ment and closure decisions on local traffic was the one of the top concerns of Mount Vernon residents when Surovell campaigned door-to-door last year, he said.

The delegate wrote U.S. Senators Mark Warner (D-Va.) and Jim Webb (D-Va.) July 10, urging them to help get the bill passed. He is also encouraging residents to contact Warner and Webb and express their own support for the bill.

For more information about Surovell’s thoughts on funding a Route 1 expansion, visit his blog at <http://scottsurovell.blogspot.com/>

— JULIA O’DONOGHUE

**REVITALIZATION** of the bumper-to-bumper corridor has been a longtime goal for many people in the Mount Vernon area. Some of the most vocal supporters of revitalization say one of the major obstacles to change is the lack of a long-term strategic vision. That’s why many have praised Hyland’s endeavor to seek public input on what kind of community district residents would like to see.

“Is the corridor going to be a speedway to get people from the Prince William County line to the Beltway or is it going to be the district’s main street, with walkability and bikeability,” said Katherine Ward, a member of the council’s listening tour. “That’s one issue I would hope Hyland’s task force would take up.”

# County Consolidates Inspectors

FROM PAGE 1

county to inspect and resolve the problem. Frequently there were different types of complaints for one particular property. It was not unusual for a citizen to spend a frustrating amount of time trying to figure out whom to contact to file a complaint.

As of July 1 the county says that will no longer be a problem. Last year, the 9,304 citizen complaints and code violation cases were managed by several code compliance offices that will now be handled through one Department of Code Compliance.

Citizens now can call one telephone number or email their complaint to a single online site and complete an online complaint form to trigger a comprehensive response.

The new director, Jeffrey Blackford, is an experienced code compliance official, part of a 2007 Strike Team supervisor formed by the county when it became clear that a special task force was necessary to get on top of the multitude of property, maintenance, zoning, and other code violations involving poorly maintained and/or overcrowded properties.

This latest reorganization has in effect institutionalized the Strike team concept. Blackford has been placed in charge of a 50-person staff including 35 inspectors who are being "crosstrained" so that one inspector, responding to a single or multiplicity of complaints about a single property will be able to visit a site and evaluate which codes are being violated and inform the property owner what, if any, codes are being violated and advise on what must be done to correct the deficiency.

"OUR PROPERTY and maintenance codes are compliance in nature," said Blackford. "They are



**Jeffrey Blackford, the new director of the Department of Code Compliance.**

## Details

What to do if residents see a maintenance or property code violation:

The new department handles most neighborhood quality-of-life complaints such as, but not limited to: cars and trucks parked on grass, large amounts of junk stored in an open lot, abandoned homes, overcrowded homes and apartments, construction without permits, abandoned swimming pools, fire or health hazards, etc. Those with complaints should contact the Department of Code Compliance Online:

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code) or telephone 703-324-1300, TTY 711, between 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

not punitive unless or until after repeated attempts by the county to correct the deficiency the property owner does not fix the problem. We would then move the violation to the Courts to file a civil suit to obtain compliance

"Our job is to protect the health and safety and preserve the neighborhood character for our citizens and at every turn attempt to gain compliance. Only as a last resort will punitive or other action, dictated by the Court, be considered."

Occasionally, despite repeated efforts by the county to get the property owner to take action to comply with the maintenance and other codes, the property owner does not comply. One such case is a property in Mt. Vernon on Schelhorn Road. In this instance the owner of the abandoned property has been taken to Court by the county and thus far failed to respond in the time frame required. Recently, the County obtained a Default judgment. The Default judgment issued by the Court requires the property owner to repair or demolish the building within 30 days of the action by the Court. According to the Code Compliance department staff the use of the Courts to rectify a deficiency is not commonly used. No statistic on the frequency of Court action is available. When the county files a lawsuit seeking compliance most of those cases are resolved before the case is heard in Fairfax

circuit court. Michael Congleton, property maintenance code official, said, "95 percent of all the complaints are handled without any problems whatsoever."

According to Code Compliance staff, the overwhelming number of complaints involve maintenance code violations. Frequently, the property owner is unaware of the violation and once informed is relatively quick to correct the deficiency.

**THE DEPRESSED ECONOMY** has contributed to the growing number of maintenance code violations. In recent years due to a high number of foreclosures the annual number of uncut grass complaints peaked in 2008, at 3,050. Since then the number of grass complaints has steadily declined.

"We feel the consolidation of staff and code compliance responsibilities will greatly enhance opportunities to serve our community more efficiently and effectively," said Blackford.

Supervisor Gerry Hyland commented on the formation of the new Department of Code Compliance: "The consolidation of the code compliance functions and staff under one department should eliminate the frustrating delays and inefficiencies when a Mt. Vernon resident files a complaint because of an abandoned building or poorly maintained property."



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# OPINION

## From Readers on School Board and Staff

Readers cite many examples: Community often feels shut out of process on key issues.

**M**any readers wrote in response to last week's editorial, "School Board Could Learn to Share." Along with numerous letters about the board vote to close Clifton Elementary, readers added to the list of school board and school staff decisions that left various members of the community feeling left out, confused and often angry.

About a year ago, frustrated leaders of multiple advocacy groups formed the Fairfax Education Coalition [www.fairfaxeducationcoalition.org](http://www.fairfaxeducationcoalition.org), to address what they call a "disturbing trend: lack of transparency and accountability on the part of FCPS, no matter what the issue."

It isn't that the school board was necessarily wrong on all these issues. But consistently, parents and others who are advocating for their communities, schools and interests feel that most members of the school board and some staff are not interested in community input, or in sharing the basis of their decisions.

Here are a few other concerns (in the words of readers for the most part):

❖ The decision to close Graham Road Elementary, moving to another building that was beyond walking distance for the community, creating barriers to what has been excellent community and parental involvement.

❖ The decision to buy the Gatehouse II building, an abuse of public trust that was vetoed by the Board of Supervisors. (Watch for a possible lease agreement that might circumvent current restrictions.)

❖ The decision to expand Langley High School even though South Lakes High School had capacity for those Reston students who go

to Langley.

❖ The decision to forcibly redistrict Fox Mill Estates and Floris students from Oakton into South Lakes. This was done only after the Langley expansion was approved.

### EDITORIALS

❖ Undermining efforts to have later high school start times by fanning the fears that the change would force the

elimination of many sports and activities.

❖ "This is not just about one issue; rather there is a decidedly consistent pattern on the part of FCPS of shutting out the public in making decisions about our public schools."

Serving on the school board requires a massive commitment of time and effort for virtually no pay. No one makes this commitment without having the best interest of the schools as a whole at heart. But it is clearly time for some soul searching on the board about listening and responding to community concerns.

## Be Part of the Pet Gazette

Send photos and stories of your favorite creatures by July 23.

**D**ogs 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 their needs, searching for the best nutritional information, finding the best dog park.

To celebrate, we plan to publish the Pet Gazette, including your family's pets, publishing July 28, with a submission deadline of July 23.

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 about your pet or your experiences with animals. 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 photos, include information such as breed and age of the pet and children pictured, and (very important) the community where you live. Please be sure to include address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

We prefer digital submissions. Please send in submissions as soon as possible, but at least before July 23. E-mail to [PhotoMV@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:PhotoMV@connectionnewspapers.com), and write "Pets" in the subject line. You can mail submissions to the Pet Gazette, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

### LETTERS

## Hazardous Sidewalk

To the Editor:

I want to provide a report on the condition of the sidewalk on Riverside Road in Alexandria. The portion of the sidewalk from 8200 to 8208 Riverside is made of asphalt that was installed over 30 years ago. The remainder of the sidewalk is concrete and that portion of the sidewalk was installed before the asphalt portion. All portions of the sidewalk are in serious need of repairs.

The condition is a serious hazard, especially to the many young children who bike along that route going to Stratford Landing and Carl Sandburg schools. I have personally witnessed bicycle accidents with injuries when the rider's foot was caught on an un

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9



### At Riverside Gardens

Haley Beizer and Lily Malloy before the start of the Riverside Gardens' Fourth of July Bike Parade. The ladder fire truck from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue led the way.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

[www.MountVernonGazette.com](http://www.MountVernonGazette.com)

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A Connection Newspaper

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

even portion of the sidewalk and was thrown from the bicycle. I reported this condition to the county several months ago and someone came out and marked several areas that are in need of repair, however, no repairs have been made. I spoke to the person who came out and identified the areas that he classified as "hazardous" and I was assured that a report would be filed immediately so repairs could be made as soon as possible since the sidewalk was on a direct route to a school.

It appears that the ball has been dropped on this effort and it really should be taken seriously. I believe that this is an urgent situation because while the accidents that I witnessed results in scraped knees and elbows, the injuries could have been very serious. Let's not wait for a tragedy before we take action.

**Melvin Denwiddie**

## Infill Policy Should Protect Neighborhoods

To the Editor:

Commonsense would tell most people that the tearing down of one house and replacing it with two homes would increase the density of a zoned neighborhood. Fairfax County residents should be disturbed that Fairfax County infill policy ignores nearly all of the requirements in the zoned district. Even the BZA's unanimous motion in the Concerned Citizens of Hollin Hall Village's BZA appeal 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).

Hollin Hall Village is zoned R-3, residential with a minimum district lot size of 10,500 square feet of land and a minimum lot width of 80 feet. Article 9, Section 610 of the Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance specifically provides that only the Board of Supervisors can waive the minimum district lot size and/or width requirement for an R district via a Special Exception.

Under Article 2, 302 of the zoning ordinance, uses allowed by a special exception are not uses,

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 10

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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

which are permitted by right. If the use of the land for decades was one house (which conformed to the zoned district), why did the Board of Supervisors sit idly by when Fairfax County staff issued building permits creating "lots" that do not conform to the zoned district?

New homes that are built on berms change the dynamics of stormwater drainage, which is covered in the unamended zoning ordinance. The zoning regulations are there; but are not enforced. Thus, residents cannot rely upon those regulations to protect their established neighborhoods. Shouldn't Fairfax County's infill policy and its Board of Supervisors protect established neighborhoods?

**Catherine M. Voorhees**

## Costly Lawsuits

To the Editor:

The Citizen Coalition for Police Accountability is rapidly gaining support from hundreds of citizens and many well-respected local, state and national organizations. These citizens include doctors, lawyers, members of the clergy and an assortment of other professionals. Among our active members are a number of retired law enforcement officers including myself. As a retired WDC Metropolitan Police Detective Sergeant, I feel I can speak with some au-

thority when discussing police accountability and transparency and proposing what I consider the proper approach to this national problem. As to organizations, just to mention a few are The National Association For Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement and The National Police Accountability Project.

Many CCPA members are deeply disappointed to learn the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen Associations has ignored our goals and objectives that will make our community a better and safer place to live. According to published reports, MVCCA Public Safety Committee Chairman has gone on record stating "if someone feels they've been wronged, they can file a civil complaint." The CCPA does not feel this is the solution to the problem of police misconduct or negligence. As a matter of fact, citizens who have been victimized, or family members, have resorted to a "civil complaint" as suggested by MVCCA Public Safety Chairman Dallas Shawkey. This has resulted in multimillion lawsuits against Fairfax County, resulting in millions of dollars being awarded to plaintiffs for damages. Most recently, the family of the late Ashley McIntosh were awarded \$1.5 million in taxpayer money to settle this "civil complaint" that resulted from the reckless driving of a Fairfax County police officer. Other "civil complaints" seeking damages amounting to tens of millions of dollars from lawsuits are pending in our courts. Among those worthy of mention is the pending lawsuit filed by the parents of

Dr. Salvatore Culosi who was "accidentally" shot and killed by a member of the Fairfax County Police Swat Team on Jan. 24, 2006. A \$10 million lawsuit is pending from Najib Gerdak, a shooting victim who has filed a lawsuit against the police department and an employee on duty the night of his shooting on Feb. 2, 2008. The shooting death of David A. Masters, a Vietnam veteran suffering from a mental illness by an "unidentified" police officer on Nov. 13, 2009 may also result in a multimillion dollar lawsuit. In these times of severe budget deficits, the county can ill-afford to pay huge amounts for this and other "civil complaints."

The CCPA has proposed that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appoint a Citizen Review Board to review allegations of police misconduct. We were encouraged to learn that Police Chief Dave Rohrer has gone on record stating "I am not opposed to establishing some model of a Citizen Review Board." The CCPA feels such a board would restore public trust in our ever-growing diverse community.

**Nicholas R. Beltrante**  
Executive Director, CCPA

## Healthplex Issue Highlights Problem

To the Editor:

In my letter of June 10, I illustrated the MVCCA's lack of respect for the South

County Federation (SCF) particularly with respect to development proposals in SCF territory, for example in Lorton. The example I gave concerns the proposal for an INOVA Healthplex in Lorton.

In my earlier letter, I pointed out that although the SCF had not yet acted on the INOVA proposal, the MVCCA's P&Z Committee passed a resolution on the subject in June. (Subsequently, the MVCCA Council adopted that resolution as reported by P&Z Chairman David Dale at the P&Z Committee's July 12, 2010 meeting) During the discussion preliminary to the P&Z vote, I reported in my letter that it had been revealed the SCF had raised concerns about transportation issues and building height. These concerns were not only ignored by the P&Z Committee but, also Mr. Dale failed to include those concerns in the P&Z meeting minutes subsequently published in the MVCCA Record. He even stated in those minutes that "The traffic issues appear to be resolved ..." One could not possibly come to that conclusion from the discussion that had occurred at the P&Z meeting. In the MVCCA resolution, the MVCCA stated that it "supports" the proposal "as presented." Contrast this resolution with the one unanimously passed by the SCF on July 6, 2010, 41-0-0. The concluding paragraphs read as follows after the SCF states it does not oppose the Healthplex, and are conditions for the lack of opposition:

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 18

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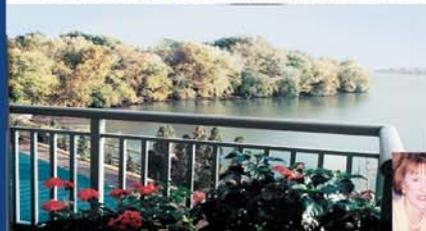


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**904 ORONOCO STREET**  
\$719,900 | Old Town Alexandria / 22314

All brick, open and bright inside, well maintained. 3 BRs, 1 office/BR, 2 full baths, 2 fireplaces, brick patio & 1 off-street parking. Portuguese and marble tile, large master bath, hwd floors, crown molding, storage and so much more...

**Bob Kuletz | 703.615.2626**

**Style And Open Space!**



**5957 EARLSTON COURT**  
\$459,000 | Alexandria/Kingstowne

Three level garage town home that backs to trees for privacy! Granite, hardwood flrs, 2 mstr BR suites, rec rm w/ fp, professionally painted, new carpet, new windows, patio, fenced yard.

**Sherry York | 703.625.3377**

**Under Contract In Under A Week!**



**7004 PARK TERRACE DRIVE**  
Westgrove / South Alexandria

This classic home with timeless curb appeal sits on an expansive lot with in-ground swimming pool and patio. Enjoy a traditional floor plan with large, eat-in kitchen, sunroom addition and generous room sizes.

**Jane Cole | 703.598.6198**

**Open House Sunday, 1:00 - 4:00!**



**203 ASPEN STREET**  
\$465,000 | Warwick Village

Tasteful 3 level end-unit townhome with expansive fenced yard. Hardwood flooring, updated kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances and breakfast bar. Finished lower level family room and full bath.

**Bob Woods | 703.244.8726**

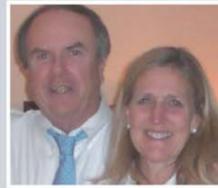


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310 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

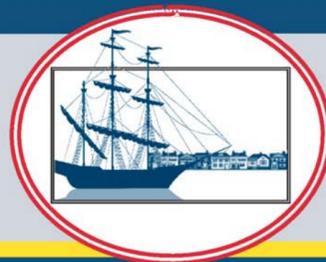
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**OPEN SUN** **NEW PRICE**



**9316 Heather Glen Dr \$675,000**  
Major Price Reduction - Super Value!  
Don't miss out on this unique opportunity-Price Slashed on fabulous colonial. Expanded with the most dramatic family room addition you'll ever find! All glass window walls overlooks magnificent custom pool! Other features include: screen porch, 3 lvl, 4BR and 2 car garage. OPEN SUN 7/18, 1-4. GW Pky S, past estate, L-Ferry Landing, L-Heather Glen.

**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 7/18, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Collingwood, L-Fort Hunt, L-Elkins, L-Whittington, L-Bluedale.

**JUST LISTED** **OPEN SUN**



**8418 Alyce Pl \$698,900**  
Classic Colonial - Just off Parkway!  
This is the one you've been waiting for! Rare 4 bedroom, 3 level colonial in Prime Collingwood-Waynewood location. Spacious home features updated eat-in kitchen w/SS appli. and granite, 3 finished levels, 2.5 updated baths, 2 fireplaces and large garage. Elegant dining and living rooms. Gorgeous fenced yard with privacy fence and patio on quite cul-de-sac in Waynewood School area. OPEN SUN 7/18, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Collingwood, L-West Boulevard, R-Alyce Pl.



**8647 VERNON AVE Mt Vernon \$500,000**  
RENOVATED!!!!!!  
Entire main level new hardwoods - Completely new kit w/maple cabs, granite, breakfast bar, SSA - Lower level huge family room w/FP & new carpet - New light fixtures & fans - All 3BAs updated - Systems updated - Windows updated - 4BR - Brick patio - Fenced - Garage - Cul-de-sac. NO HOA FEES!  
**Connie McKeen 703.626.4417**

**OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!**



**7227 STOVER CT Alexandria \$349,000**  
SPACIOUS! UPDATED TH in WOODSTONE. 3 BR & den/4thBR, 3.5 BA, 3 fin lvls, deck & fenced yard. Updates: windows, siding, HVAC, HWH, carpet, kit w/granite, SSA plus more... Close to Ft. Belvoir, Metro, I495. DIR: S on Rte L, R on Lockheed, R on Harrison, L on Bedrock, L on Stover Ct. to 7227.  
Pictures: www.ijumani.com  
**Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804**



**400 MADISON ST #804 Alexandria House \$549,000**  
SELL THE LAWN-MOWER - SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE and move into this corner unit w/2BR & 2 BA. Lovely hardwood floors, updated kitchen, good storage, huge wrap-around balcony and garage parking. Fabulous views and beautiful sunsets.  
**Annelise Smith 703.505.2533**

**JUST LISTED**



**4325 Adrienne Dr \$585,000**  
Gorgeous Inside and Out! A Southwood Gem!! Fabulous 4 bedroom colonial in pristine condition with many major updates including expanded gourmet kitchen with custom cabinetry, silstone counters, SS and large breakfast room. Other features include hardwood floors, family room with fireplace and 2 car garage. Beautiful grounds with brick walks, stone patio & magnificent landscaping.

**NEW PRICE**



**6515 Princeton Dr \$815,000**  
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 SS and granite, 3 finished levels, 4 large BRs and oversized 2 car garage. Formal living and dining rooms, family room off breakfast area. Prime "close-in" location. Two tiered deck and seasonal river views. Lower level hosts large rec room, full bath, huge storage area and direct outside access.

**NEW PRICE**



**9316 Allwood Dr \$519,500**  
Absolutely Impeccable! New Price! 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.

**NEW PRICE!**



**6622 E WAKEFIELD DR #B-2 Belle View / Alex \$238,000**  
Enjoy the charm and convenience of the largest 2 bedroom floor plan in Belle View. It is just a beautifully updated 2nd floor condo. Minutes to Old Town, METRO, bike trail, marina, shopping and restaurants.  
Call for more information:  
**Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264**

**PRICE SLASHED 100K!**



**910 SLATERS LANE Old Town Alexandria \$775,000**  
Sun-splashed END TH offering 3,000+ custom decorated sqft! Featuring 4BR/4.5 BA, beautifully appointed w/HW floors, chef's kit, upgraded tile, and designer paint and window treatments. Main level patio PLUS rooftop terrace with monument views.  
**Mike Lekas 703.927.9895**

**NEW PRICE!**



**6403 WILCOX CT Alex / Virginia Hills \$377,000**  
You'll love the light in this cozy, two level brick rambler with finished, walkout basement and fenced back yard. Convenient location too, just steps to the pool and bus, and only minutes to the Huntington METRO and I-95.  
Call for more information:  
**Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264**

**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, waterview master suite, updated kitchen spectacular sunroom, gorgeous yard, two car garage and bulkheaded water frontage. Owner Financing Available!

**JUST LISTED**



**7106 Colgate Dr \$598,500**  
Hollin Glen-Super Value!  
Owner's relocation provides unique opportunity in prestigious "close-in" Hollin Glen. Spacious well maintained home just minutes from Old Town. Many fabulous features include: 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, updated gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors and 2 fireplaces. Custom two tiered deck. Check the comps! Nothing like it in close-in Fort Hunt are for under \$600,000!



**8614 Vernon Ave \$425,000**  
This Is Not A Typo! Real Price! Unbelievable opportunity! Totally updated 3 level colonial near Mt. Vernon Estate (at give away price)! Total renovation: gourmet kitchen with granite, stainless steel, 42" cherry cabinets, new paint, new roof, 2.5 baths, 4 bedrooms and finished lower level. Feels like a new home! You will not find a home in this location & condition even those priced \$100,000 higher!

**OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!**



**918 DARTON DR Waynewood / Alex \$719,000**  
TOUCH OF SOPHISTICATION! Hot tub, waterfall, lights, deck, fenced yard & 2-car garage! Expanded 5-level split w/kitchen & bath renovations, family room/sunroom, rec room, living room w/fireplace, separate dining, coffered ceiling, recessed lighting, glass-tiled entry. 4BR, 3 full baths, over 3,500 sqft - Terrific well-cared for home!  
**Frank Roberts 703.898.0840**

**OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!**



**8422 CROWLEY PL Waynewood \$739,900**  
Unique, one-of-a-kind, rebuilt 3 level "Redford" model ramblor w/entire new floor addition & front porch. Open floor plan of 3,600+sqft living space, 2 Master suites w/sitting room, 2BR main lvl, 1BR guest suite on lower lvl, 3.5BA. Rec & family rooms. Lower lvl fireplace. Sunfilled. Skylights. And more...!  
www.WaynewoodRealtors.com  
**Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633**

**NEW PRICE!**



**2420 STIRRUP LN Stratford on the Potomac \$529,900**  
This large home is move-in ready w/new carpet, fresh paint, newer roof and HVAC. A great value for 5 BRs, 3 full baths, eat-in kitchen, rec room & large office/storage area. Walk to Stratford Elementary School.  
**Anne Hambley 703.946.7266 Leah Chapla 703.929.4875**

**UNDER CONTRACT!**



**1139 Cedar Dale Ln**



**4319 Ferry Landing Rd**



**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!

**Fall Delivery!**



**We're Underway!**  
**8826 Camden St \$874,900**  
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.



**3733 HUNTLEY MEADOWS LA Alex / \$405,000**  
Move right into this pristine 3 lvl Brick TH in historic Huntley Meadows; mins to Metro, OT, BW, Belvoir & more! 3 BR, 3.5BA w/gourmet kit, fab deck overlooking trees & viewing wonderful sunsets, lux Master Suite, fin low lvl w/gas FP & backyard oasis! A true "lot!"  
**Kim Muffler 703.282.7739**

**OPEN SUN 1 - 4pm!**



**4712 NEPTUNE DR Alexandria \$1,425,000**  
STUNNING WATER FRONT property with dock on Doge Creek Lagoon. Elevator and two-car garage, in-ground pool on half acre lot. 5,501 sq ft of living space with great views. 6BR, 4.5 BA.  
**Betty Quirk 703.851.3447 Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594**



**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 floors - 70' veranda views the gardens & reflecting pool - 4BR, 4BA renovated but not compromised one-of-a-kind home.  
**Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594**



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## HOME SALES

MAY 2010  
\$264,000 ~ \$45,900

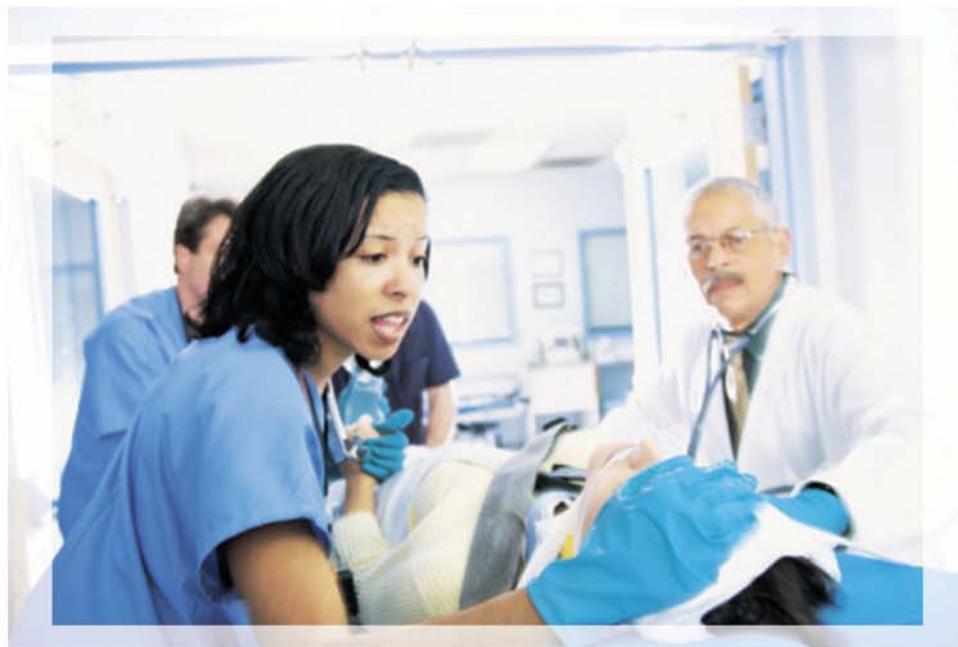
Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
2333 FAIRVIEW TER	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$264,000	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON		
8227 INGERSOL RD	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$260,000	Detached	0.25	MT VERNON VALLEY		
6607 POTOMAC AVE #A2	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$259,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
2210 ROLLINS DR	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$258,000	Townhouse	0.08	BUCKNELL MANOR		
5847 FIFER DR	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$252,500	Duplex	0.09	HUNTINGTON		
8121 NORWOOD DR	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$252,410	Detached	0.26	MT VERNON WOODS		
3507 GROVETON ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,250	Detached	0.43	KINGS HIGHWAY		
2718 FORT DR	3	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Duplex	0.12	JEFFERSON MANOR		
2113 ARLINGTON TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Semi-Detached	0.08	HUNTINGTON		
6616 WAKEFIELD DR E #B-1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
6715 BEDDOO ST	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$245,000	Detached	0.24	BEDDOO HEIGHTS		
6606 10TH ST #B1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$243,800	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
6511 POTOMAC AVE #B1	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$241,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW		
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #106	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$239,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA		
3126 BROSAR CT	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$235,000	Townhouse	0.03	BROSAR VILLAGE		
2417 PHILLIPS DR	3	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$230,000	Detached	0.28	CATALINA		
2261 ARLINGTON TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$224,900	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON		
6928 UNIVERSITY DR	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Duplex	0.08	BUCKNELL HEIGHTS		
6016 BANGOR DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$207,000	Detached	0.15	FAIR HAVEN		
4107 KESWICK RD	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$196,500	Detached	0.29	FAIRFIELD		
8303 PONDSIDE TER	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$196,000	Townhouse	0.03	GEORGELAND VILLAGE		
7830 ASHTON ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$195,000	Detached	0.28	MT VERNON WOODS		
8704 VILLAGE GREEN CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$189,900	Townhouse	0.03	VILLAGES OF MOUNT VERNON		
5904 MOUNT EAGLE DR #907	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$188,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MONTEBELLO		
8110 FRYE RD	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Detached	0.24	WOODLAWN TERRACE		
8327 PONDSIDE TER	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$174,000	Townhouse	0.03	GEORGELAND VILLAGE		
6427 RICHMOND HWY #202	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$165,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		HUNTINGTON RUN		
6621 WAKEFIELD DR #420	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$159,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		RIVER TOWERS		
3814 BURLINGAME PL #36-E	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$146,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
5788 VILLAGE GREEN DR#03/578	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$130,000	Townhouse		VILLAGES THE		
7927D CASA GRANDE PL#123D	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$128,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
3806 REDONDO PL #D	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$125,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
3963 EL SONETA PL	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$122,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
7976 SILVERADA PL #130B	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$110,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH		
2301 FARRINGTON AVE#03-103	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$103,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		FARRINGTON PLACE		
8604 VILLAGE WAY #04/860	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$103,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		VILLAGES THE		
8415 ALAMEDA CT #61	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$91,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		PINEWOOD LAWNS		
7974 AUDUBON AVE #C1	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$87,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE		
2239 FARRINGTON AVE#05-201	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$85,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		FARRINGTON PLACE		
2303 FARRINGTON AVE#02-204	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$84,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		FARRINGTON PLACE		
8620 VILLAGE SQUARE DR#15/862	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$75,000	Townhouse		VILLAGES THE		
7994 AUDUBON AVE #A2	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$74,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE		
8422 RICHMOND HWY #72	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$70,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		PINEWOOD SOUTH		
8041 PANTANO PL #21	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$59,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH		
7990 AUDUBON AVE #204	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$45,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE		

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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

## Christmas In July Celebration

Union Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria's Waterfront will be the stage for the first annual Christmas in July Celebration held this weekend, July 16-18.

More than 15 retailers, community and city organizations will host a variety of activities either inside stores or on Union Street — ranging from pictures with “Summer” Santa, carolers, historical tours, holiday trunk shows, food and wine tastings, children storybook time, ornament making, arts & crafts, bagpipe performances, fashion styling and more.

The weekend will be filled with activities, raffle drawings, shopping/dining deals and holiday delights for all ages.

“Christmas is a magical time for everyone — why not celebrate it twice a year,” said Fay Carter, owner of The Christmas Attic. “It’s been a difficult time for most small businesses and we wanted to partner and creatively work together to design a fun, collaborative summer event. Christmas is all about “magic and wonder” and in retail this is true as well. We were ready for a unique collaboration filled with magic and wonder.”

**Union Street Gives Back:** During the weekend, each participating business will have a donation box to collect toys for the Carpenter’s Shelter — a homeless shelter located in Alexandria, serving families across the metropolitan region. We invite visitors to donate toys for needy children living in the shelter. Also, proceeds from the weekend’s raffle ticket purchases for prizes will be donated to The American Cancer Society.

**Event Schedule:** For a schedule of the weekend’s events visit [www.christmasattic.com](http://www.christmasattic.com).

### DETAILS

**What:** Union Street Christmas in July Celebration (co-presented by The Christmas Attic & the Businesses of Union Street)

**When:** July 16-18

**Where:** Union Street between Cameron & Duke Street - Old Town Alexandria

**Phone:** 703-548-2829

**Website:** [www.christmasattic.com](http://www.christmasattic.com)

**Raffle Ticket Prizes/Info:** Raffle tickets and drawing details are available at all stores.

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# Torpedo Factory Art Exhibition a Direct Hit

Marsha Staiger and  
Alison Sigethy win  
“Artist of the Year”  
Awards.

BY DYLAN YEP  
THE GAZETTE

Featuring collaborative pieces of art that can be described as “vibrant and muted,” “delicate and strong” and “active and motionless”, the exhibit, “Art in Balance: Rhythm and Repetition” has garnered an “Artist of the Year” award for Marsha Staiger and Alison Sigethy.

On July 8, The Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center presented the award to Staiger and Sigethy. Known simply as, “The Friends,” the group is a not-for-profit member organization dedicated to presenting a variety of arts-related programs and events in collaboration with the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Staiger and Sigethy received a \$1,000 cash prize and the honor of having their exhibition featured in the Torpedo Factory Art Center Target Gallery until Aug. 15.

For the first time in its history, The Friends accepted proposals for collaborative exhibitions. Mark Pretzatz, president of the Friends, described the reasoning behind this decision. “[Collaborative works] would allow [the artists] to express another side of their work. When you’re working alone, you don’t have to make compromises ... but here the artists have to find a common point of view and it creates something that is probably completely new,” said Pretzatz. He went on to say that the collaboration has “given them another opportunity to find their expressive voice.”

Amy Cavanaugh Royce, director of the Honfleur Gallery in Washington, D.C., was the juror for The Friends’ Artist of the Year competition. From the start, she was interested in “seeing what was going to happen between paintings, the media, and glass and how they were going to tie in.” After reading through 15 proposals and conducting site visits for each of them, Royce judged Staiger and Sigethy’s as the strongest both in writing and in execution.

The exhibit consists of a combination of two dimensional and three dimensional works covering 660 square feet that can simply be described as eye catching. For the show, Staiger created 30 brightly painted 76 inch by 4 inch by 3 inch rectangles for the left side of the room. Each piece is original and covered with various designs and themes with titles such as, “Summer Night,”



PHOTO BY DYLAN YEP

Alison Sigethy and Marsha Staiger in front of Sigethy’s paintings and Staiger’s glass sculptures.

“Chameleon” and “mmmmmmmm.” The designs are dominated by varying horizontal bands she created with acrylic paint. While some pieces are mounted to the wall vertically or horizontally, others lean against the wall and can be interacted with by the public. Staiger said, “The sides are different from the front and both sides are different. When you look at it from an angle, you’re going to get a different perception of what the art is.”

Bettina Aten, a student in Staiger’s abstract painting class, said the pieces look like “toys or something to eat. You just want to touch them. They’re beautiful colors.” Charles Farmer, a member of the Art League added, “It’s interactive. You can lean it, make it horizontal, make it vertical. I love art that makes the viewer a participant.”

For the right side of the gallery, Staiger created seven, layered paintings on canvas made from a combination of acrylic and graphite. These canvas paintings are vibrant and reflect many of the themes that can be found in the rectangle pieces.

Underneath the canvases are 11 glass pieces created by Sigethy. She typically creates glass sculptures, “sea creatures, crawly things, mushrooms, plants, and woodlands.” She enjoys “the challenge of taking a cold, hard, sterile material and giving it new life a beautiful organic form. She explained that, following a trip to participate in the Greenland National Kayak Championship, she made a conscious decision to use salvaged building glass. “I was making environmentally themed pieces that weren’t environmentally friendly and that didn’t

really sit right.” Now, she even purchases carbon offsets to negate the impact of the kiln she uses.

In the “Art in Balance” exhibit, Sigethy combined melted, raw glass and concrete to create delicate, but stable, lacy structures mounted on tubes of bubbling water, which she describes as “calm and peaceful and wonderful.” The pieces reflect her love of nature and kayaking. She describes the delicate appearance as a visual element as well as a “metaphor for the tenuous nature of balance.”

In the back of the gallery are a number of pieces created by Sigethy that reflect her love of nature but not in a way typically found in her art. The back panel is 8 feet by 15 feet and is composed of panels made from glass, white oak, paper. She uses an electric fan to make the paper move behind the glass and appear like a wall of water.

In front of the wall of “water” are five glass columns framed with steel. Inside are five foam balls of the same color which float up and down with the help of an electric fan. The foam balls are blue, orange, yellow, green, and pink. Sigethy describes the pillars as “great, big jars of fireflies.”

Although some aspects of her work in the “Art in Balance” exhibit are reminiscent of her earlier pieces, she describes the project overall as “a big time stretch” and a “collaboration from the very beginning.” She had originally planned to use muted colors, but after seeing some of Staiger’s colorful work, she realized she needed something to bridge the gap between their works, which she found in her firefly columns.

Reflecting on the award, Staiger said, “I’m delighted because I know all the artists in the Torpedo Factory and respect their work so it’s a real honor to be considered one of the artists of the year.” Sigethy added, “It’s a great honor. I love being here at the Torpedo Factory. I haven’t been here that long — only for three years or so. To get something like this makes me feel like I should be here.”

# CALENDAR

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

## 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (off Duke Street), Alexandria. Call 703-751-8868.

## NOW THROUGH AUG. 10

**Zenergy's Summer Yoga for Teens.** Tuesdays from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. At Nativity Lutheran Church, 1300 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Cost is \$10/class. Drop in anytime. Bring a yoga mat and water (mats are available for \$10). Contact instructor Susan Doyle at [zenergy.yoga@cox.net](mailto:zenergy.yoga@cox.net) or call 703-933-1986.

## THURSDAY/JULY 15

**U.S. Army Band.** 7:30 p.m. Free. The 257<sup>th</sup> Army Band will perform patriotic music, marches and entertainment. At Schlesinger Hall, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria. Go to [www.257armyband.com](http://www.257armyband.com) or call 202-685-7899.

**Music at Twilight Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Features the Alexandria Harmonizers, a men's barbershop group. At the Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 West Braddock Road. Call 703-746-5592.

**Book Discussion Group Meeting.** 7 p.m. The group will discuss "The Things They Carried," a story by Tim O'Brien. For more information contact Bill Scouton at 703-931-3559. At the Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria.

**Garden Stroll and Tea.** 1-3 p.m. \$27. Take a relaxing docent-led stroll through the demonstration gardens and enjoy an afternoon tea at the Historic House. This is a delightful introduction to the mission and history of Green Spring Gardens, one of the preeminent places for horticulture in the Washington, D.C. area. Individuals and groups are welcome. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-941-7987 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).  
**Jim Stephanson and John Previti.** 7-9 p.m. Free. Guitarist Jim Stephanson and bassist John Previti will treat visitors to an evening of blues, swing, and jazz inspired tunes. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## FRIDAY/JULY 16

**Third Friday with the Mount Vernon Swing Band.** A dance for all ages to big band and swing classics. \$4 per person. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd., Alexandria. 703-765-4573.

**The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's Dixieland Band.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. An ensemble of musicians from the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, the Dixieland Band is New Orleans inspired. Your feet will be mobilized. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469). Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).

**Market Square Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Features the Alexandria Citizens Band, the "City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization. At Market Square, 301 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5592.

## JULY 16-17

**Comcast Outdoor Film Festival.** Movie starts at 8:30 p.m. Free. Outdoor movie, "The Blind Side" on July 16; "Transformers, Revenge of the



## Mr. Spoons at Hard Times Café

Mr. Spoons will perform at The Hard Times Café to help celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17 from 7 to 10 p.m. He has appeared in the Woody Allen film, "Sweet and Lowdown," Jonathan Demme's film, "Married to the Mob," and worked with Regis Philbin, Penn and Teller and numerous TV commercials.

Fallen" on July 17. At Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St., Alexandria. Call the hotline at 703-746-5592 or 703-746-5418.

## SATURDAY/JULY 17

**Community Yard Sale.** Sponsored by the Alexandria Jaycees, which is seeking sellers for their annual community yard sale. In the parking lot of Anthony Lane Elementary School, 7137 Beulah Street, Alexandria. \$15 per space. Seller set-up is from 6-7 a.m. and the event runs from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Go to [www.alexjaycees.org](http://www.alexjaycees.org) for directions, other dates, and seller rules. Leave message on Jaycees' eventline: 703-866-7171.

**Ballet Nova Open House.** 2-5 p.m. Free sample dance classes, studio tours, refreshments, mock birthday party. Free. At 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. [info@BalletNova.org](mailto:info@BalletNova.org); 703-778-3008. [www.BalletNova.org](http://www.BalletNova.org).

**Hidden History of Union Street Walking Tour.** 10:30 a.m. Join City Archaeologist Pam Cressy as she explores "The Hidden History of Union Street — Are We Walking on Water?" This event is part of Christmas in July Celebration on Union Street organized by The Christmas Attic. Meet at the northeast corner of King and Union streets. Call 703-746-4399 [www.alexandriarchaeology.org](http://www.alexandriarchaeology.org).

**Malagueta: The Solo Show of Tatiana Suarez.** 6 p.m. to midnight. Free. Sketching Session with live model 7-9 p.m. Latin Fusion Band performance starts at 9 p.m. At Art Whino Gallery, 173 Waterfront St., National Harbor, Md.

**Marine Chamber Orchestra.** 7:30 p.m. Free. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall, NVCC, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Call 703-845-6156 or [www.schlesingercenter.com](http://www.schlesingercenter.com).

**Popular and Blended Tea Tasting.** 10:30am-12 p.m. \$22. Gunpowder and Darjeeling, Earl Grey and Lapsang Souchong. You've heard their names, but you may not be acquainted with these "well-known" teas. We'll introduce you to a few of the world's finest and most popular teas and tea blends and help you put a taste to the name! At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-941-7987 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

**Vacation Bible School.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Children will experience a variety of Bible stories that take place near the

water and will participate in related crafts, music and games. At Lincolnia United Methodist Church, 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Registration forms are available on the church web site at [www.lincolniaumc.org](http://www.lincolniaumc.org). Call 703-354-5176.

**Tribal Drumming Dance Party (females only).** 8 to 11 p.m. Females Young and Old, come and dance barefoot to the moving magical sound of our live tribal drummers. At IZALIA Spa, 114 South Patrick Street, Alexandria.

## SUNDAY/JULY 18

**Jazz at Meade.** 4 p.m. Featuring Kenny Sanders and All That. Donation of \$15 suggested. At Meade Memorial Episcopal Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703-549-1334. Visit [www.meadememorialchurch.org](http://www.meadememorialchurch.org).

**Cut-a-Thon.** Fund-raiser for Jackson Dundon of Alexandria, a 2-year-old who has a brain tumor. His parents, Jimmy and Kristin Dundon, are working with doctors to determine the best, most effective treatment for Jack so he can be back watching Sports Center with his Daddy and being super active with Mommy. All haircuts are \$35. At the Lorraine Aprile Salon, 112 South Fayette Street, Alexandria — 50 yards from King Street, near the King Street Metro. Call 703-299-6100 for appointments.

**Learn to Dance Merengue.** 6 p.m. Ballroom and Latin dance lessons for beginners. No partner necessary. Six-week course is \$75/person; drop-in is \$14. At Dance Studio Lioudmila, 18 Roth Street, Alexandria. Call 703-751-8868 or visit [www.dancelioudmila.com](http://www.dancelioudmila.com).

**Learn to Dance Argentine Tango.** 5 p.m. Ballroom and Latin dance lessons for beginners. No partner necessary. Six-week course is \$75/person; drop-in is \$14. At Dance Studio Lioudmila, 18 Roth Street, Alexandria. Call 703-751-8868 or visit [www.dancelioudmila.com](http://www.dancelioudmila.com).

**Harmony Heritage Singers.** 7 to 8 p.m. Free. A men's barbershop-style, four-part harmony choral concert in Ft. Hunt Park, six miles south of Old Town Alexandria on the GW Parkway, 703-289-2550 or [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp) and go to "News and Fun Things to Do."

**Summer Chamber Music Series.** 3 p.m. Free. Clarinetist Wonkak Kim and pianist Grace Eunhye Choi performing works by Schumann, Debussy, Berg, Widor and Ponchielli. At the Lyceum,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

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<b>Thursday - Italian Night</b> Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Calamari
<b>Friday - Fish Night</b> Crab Cakes, Shrimp & Scallops over penne pasta with white sauce
<b>Saturday -Steak and Chop Night</b> Prime Rib, Lamb, Surf and Turf, Pork Chops, and Moussaka
<b>Sunday</b> Brunch served 7am - 2pm

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

## JULY 19-AUG. 23

**Yoga for Gardeners-Intro to Vinyasa Yoga.** Mondays. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Each six-class session \$66. A series of yoga classes featuring a gentle introduction to the Vinyasa method helps participants increase the strength, flexibility and endurance necessary for gardening. Classes held indoors. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register.

**Heritage Presbyterian Church High Seas Expedition VBS,** 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. daily, for kids 3 yrs - 4th grade. Cost is \$25/child, \$50 max. per family. Heritage is located at 8503 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-360-9456 to register or visit [www.heritagechurchva.org](http://www.heritagechurchva.org).

## TUESDAY/JULY 20

**Lupus Support Group.** 7 p.m. The session is led by a trained professional who understands the challenges of lupus, a chronic, autoimmune disease with no known cure that can damage any part of the body including the skin, joints, heart, lungs, blood, kidneys and the brain. Meets the third Tuesday of the month. At Beatley Library, Small Conference Meeting Room, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 1-888-349-1167 or e-mail [info@lupusmd.org](mailto:info@lupusmd.org). Participants may also check <http://tinyurl.com/lupusgrps>.

**Mount Vernon Genealogical Society.** 1 p.m. Using the Mount Vernon Family History Center. Free. The Mount Vernon Genealogical Society will feature an overview of LDS Family History Centers by Ray A. Lettner. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 112, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or [haroldm@erols.com](mailto:haroldm@erols.com).

**Alexandria Mentoring Partnership's Mentor Recruitment Cruise.** Free. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Learn about mentoring opportunities in the City of Alexandria. RSVP to Loralei Coyle at [loralei.coyle@alexandriava.gov](mailto:loralei.coyle@alexandriava.gov). For more information, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring](http://www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 21

**Tomatoes in Twilight-An Evening of Edibles.** 6:30-8 p.m. \$16. Learn how to grow and some new ways to cook with tomatoes from kitchen gardener, Cindy Brown. You and fellow enthusiasts will sample delectable garden treats and then take home a tomato plant to grow in your own garden. ! At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

**What is Web 2.0 and Why Should I Care?** A professional Development Seminar hosted by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce, 6911 Richmond Highway, Suite 320, Alexandria, noon to 1 p.m. Bring a "brown bag" lunch to this free seminar and learn from the experts. Advance registration is requested but not required, 703-360-6925 or [info@mtvernon-leechamber.org](mailto:info@mtvernon-leechamber.org).

**Swing Dancing.** 9-11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the band, BG and the Mojo Hands. At Nick's Nightclub, 641 South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

**Duncan Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. At the Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria. The group will be discussing the novel "Emma" by Jane Austen. Contact Ruth Hailu at 703-746-1705 ext. 3.

## THURSDAY/JULY 22

**Djesben.** 7-9 p.m. Free. Djesben includes a trio of multi-instrumentalists whose diverse backgrounds guarantee to delight with a variety of styles: jazz standards, bebop and bossa nova, as



## SUNDAY/JULY 25

**Demonstration Game Day.** Noon to 5 p.m. Free. Miniature wargaming simulates historical or hypothetical battles on a table top of simulated terrain (hills, woods, streams, and buildings), using miniature soldiers and vehicles depicting the opponents. Popular periods in historical miniatures wargaming include the Napoleonic age, the American Civil War, Ancients, and WWII. Seven to nine games will start the top of every hour. These short, one-hour, beginner-friendly games introduce the games and teach the basics. Everything is provided. At Eagle & Empire Game & Hobby Shop, 6468 Landsdowne Center, Alexandria. Email [michael.burmeister@us.army.mil](mailto:michael.burmeister@us.army.mil) or 703-328-1401. Visit the store's website <http://eagle-and-empire.com>.

well as original tunes influenced by music from around the globe. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

## FRIDAY/JULY 23

**Janine Wilson Band (Roots/Rock).** 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Wammie Award winning roots/rock vocalist Janine Wilson sings "impassioned vocals that, while powerful, never over-power the songs." Wilson weaves tales of love, heartache and more than a little mischief. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469). Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances).

## SATURDAY/JULY 24

**Soldier-Led Walking Tours.** 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Free. A Union Civil War soldier will give guided tours. Visitors will learn about Fort Ward's construction and a soldier's life in the Defenses of Washington as they explore the Officers' Hut, the preserved walls of the fort, and the restored Northwest Bastion during the 90-minute tour. At Fort Ward, 4301 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call Fort Ward Museum at 703-746-4848 or visit [www.fortward.org](http://www.fortward.org).

## SUNDAY JULY 25

**"Wag and Wash."** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Charity Dog Wash to support the American Red Cross of the National Capital Region. Bring your well-trained dirty dogs for a personalized wash, rinse and towel dry. Proceeds go to the programs and services of the American Red Cross. \$15 suggested donation. Hosted by Your Dog's Best Friends, 2000-A Jefferson Davis Highway in Alexandria. Call 703-549-8300 or [infoalexandria@usa.redcross.org](mailto:infoalexandria@usa.redcross.org).

**Main Street Community Band.** 7:00 to 8 p.m. Free. A concert in Ft. Hunt Park, six miles south of Old Town Alexandria on the GW Parkway, 703-289-2550 or [www.nps.gov/gwmp](http://www.nps.gov/gwmp) and go to "News and Fun Things to Do."

**Summer Chamber Music Series.** 3 p.m. Free. French hornist Jay Chadwick and friends. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

**Sweet Summer Music Tea Program.** 1-3 p.m. \$27. Enjoy sweet summer music as you sip tea. Local musician

Jody Marshall will delight you with the unique, mellow notes of the hammered dulcimer. Ms. Marshall will play and tell us the story of this traditional stringed instrument that has traveled the world and goes back to early America. A full English tea is included in this program. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-941-7987 to register. Visit [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org).

**Burlesque-A-Pades.** 7:30 p.m. \$29.50. Burlesque-A-Pades brings together a collection of the nation's most in-demand burlesque performers for a glittering and intimate one-night-only affair. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave, Alexandria. Call 703-549-7500 or visit [www.birchmere.com](http://www.birchmere.com).

**Open Studio.** 1-5 p.m. The studio artists at Convergence will host an Open Studio. More than eight artists in residence welcome the public to their studios for the day. Original pieces will be for sale for \$100 or less. At the Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria (across Crestwood Drive from the Gallery at Convergence.)

## JULY 26-30

**Alexandria Debate Camp.** Daily 3 to 5 p.m. Geared toward students ages 11-14 (rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders). Taught by Elizabeth Denning, founder and director, a rising senior at TJHSST. To be held at Sherwood Regional Library, Conference Room #1, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. To register, email: [debatelife@ymail.com](mailto:debatelife@ymail.com).

## JULY 27-29

**Lyceum's History Camp for Kids.** For children ages 5-7. Clio's Kids mini-camp introduces children to American history and life in historic Alexandria through artifacts, storytelling, singing, crafts, old-fashioned games, and visits to nearby historic places. Clio's Kids runs from 9 a.m. to noon. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street. Cost is \$105, and advance registration is required. To register, call 703-746-4994 or visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 28

**Learn to Dance Salsa.** 7 p.m. Ballroom and Latin dance lessons for beginners. No partner necessary. Six-week course is \$75/person; drop-in is \$14. At Dance Studio Lioudmila, 18 Roth Street, Alexandria. Call 703-751-8868 or visit [www.dancelioudmila.com](http://www.dancelioudmila.com).

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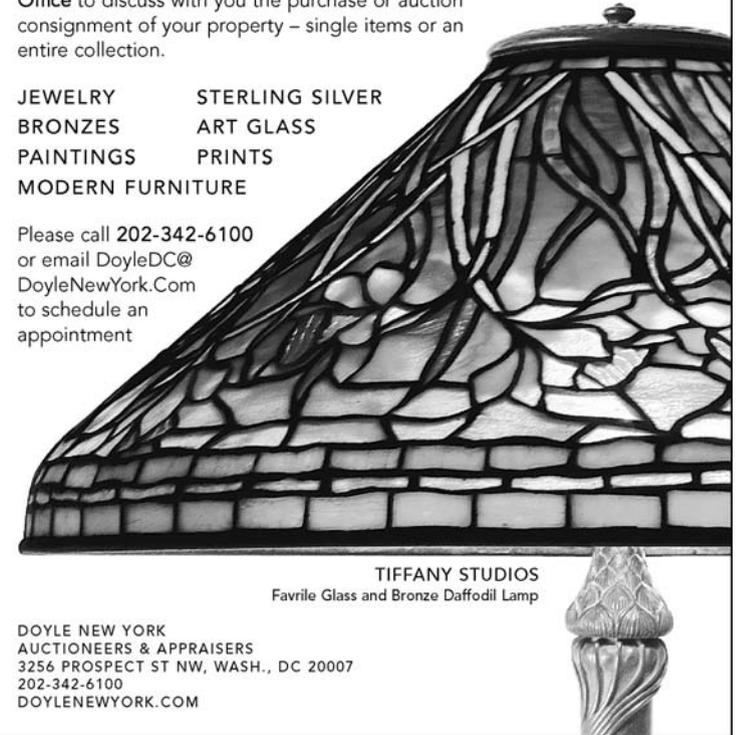
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# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

❖ “All of the transportation improvements proposed in the Out-of-Turn Plan Amendment and Rezoning discussions are implemented.

❖ Traffic mitigation is proven to the South County Federation’s satisfaction after each phase is complete and before the next phase is begun.

❖ The building closest to Lorton Road is developed as a hotel or other low traffic impact non-medical use and the third and fourth floors are tiered away from Lorton Road.

❖ Onsite parking is sufficient to insure [sic] there is no offsite parking and is reviewed to the South County Federation’s satisfaction after each phase is complete and before the next phase is begun.

❖ Buffering is substantial and is used to minimize visual impact on the community and is reviewed to the South County Federation’s satisfaction after each phase is complete and before the next phase is begun.

❖ There is no parking or staging on public streets during the construction process.”

Clearly at the time the MVCCA P&Z Committee approved its resolution, the SCF was concerned about transportation and building issues. In my earlier letter, I pointed out that public hearings before the Planning Commission (PC) are routinely postponed for reasons including to await community votes. In this case, at the time the MVCCA P&Z Committee voted, the PC hearing was scheduled for June 17, and Mr. Dale used that deadline as the justification for the P&Z Committee vot-

ing without deference to the SCF. Subsequently and predictably, the PC hearing was postponed to July 15, perhaps to await the SCF vote. This demonstrates that the MVCCA could have sought postponement of the PC hearing to await the SCF decision but did not do so.

At the P&Z Committee meeting on July 12, the Committee should have passed a new resolution showing proper deference to the SCF’s decision of July 6 (even though committee votes do not bind the MVCCA to a position pursuant to its bylaws). This was not done. Under these circumstances, at the PC meeting of July 15, Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan should give the MVCCA resolution no deference at all and should recommend approval of the rezoning in accordance with the conditions set forth in the SCF resolution. If the MVCCA continues to disrespect the SCF concerning issues arising south of Fort Belvoir, any remaining credibility as an organization purporting to represent the Mount Vernon District as a whole will be forfeited.

**H. Jay Spiegel**  
Mount Vernon



## Charter Celebration

**The Kiwanis K-Kids Club at Stratford Landing Elementary School on Riverside Street planned and implemented a Charter Celebration night, including dinner and a program to celebrate its third anniversary on May 21. In attendance were Bruce Malkin, Paul Mehler, Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club K-Kids Adviser, Michael Lagana, Key Club President at West Potomac High School, Maura Caulfield, Principal, Stratford Landing Elementary School. About 20 students attended the event, most of them accompanied by both their parents. Dinner was catered by the parents.**



**K-Kids President Lindsey Mongan.**

## Write

The Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Gazette  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9410.  
By e-mail: [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)

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(just off Richmond Highway, near Fort Belvoir & Mount Vernon)  
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**Good Shepherd Catholic Church**  
**Mass Schedule**  
**Saturday Evening**  
5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)  
**Sunday**  
7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon  
2:00 pm (en Español)  
**Weekdays**  
(Mass or Communion Service)  
9:00 am (followed by Rosary)  
**Children's Liturgy of the Word**  
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# Individual Aces Shine, Team Struggling

Knowles, Davis, Allen near the top of CRCBL stat categories but Aces not winning.

BY JON ROETMAN  
GAZETTE PACKET

cruised to a 7-0 victory at Four Mile Run Park in Alexandria.

Alexandria Aces pitcher Max Knowles got into trouble several times in the early innings of a July 7 game against the Bethesda Big Train, but the left-hander always found a way to escape. Despite allowing six base runners through the first three innings, Knowles had not surrendered a run to one of the top teams in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League.

Knowles, who entered the contest leading the league in wins and strikeouts, appeared to settle down in the fourth inning, retiring the first two Big Train hitters.

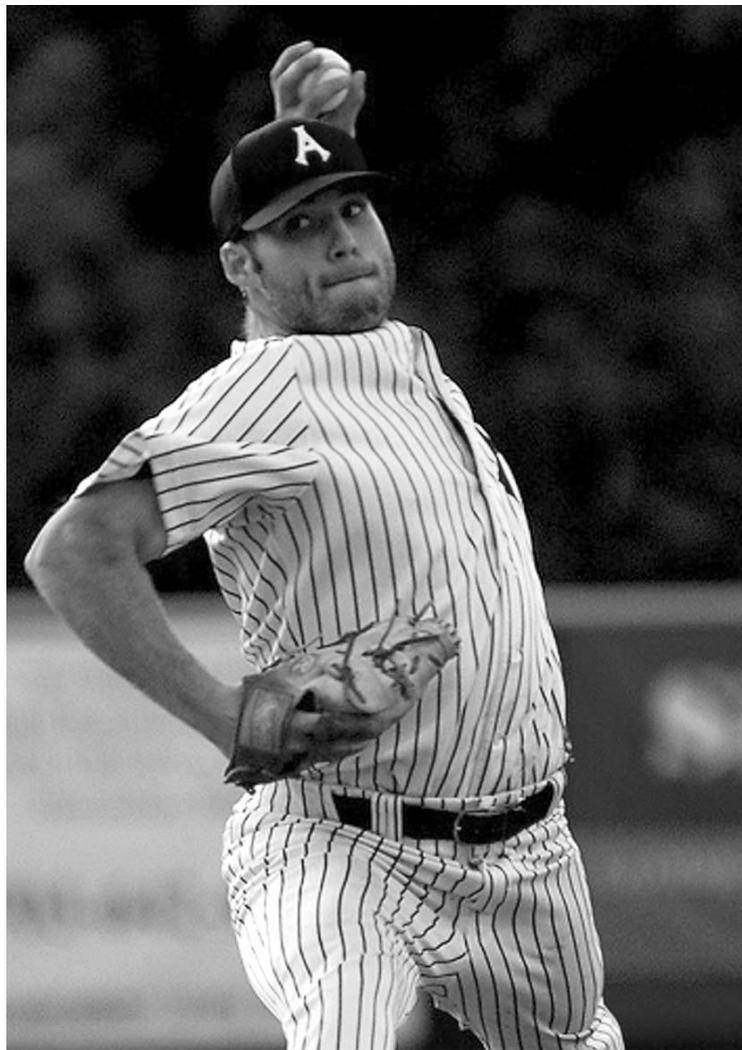
But that's where the Aces' good fortune ended.

The next batter smashed a comebacker to the mound, which glanced off Knowles' pitching hand as he reached for the ball. The batter was retired, 1-6-3, but Knowles' night was finished as he headed to the bench with a bruised hand that swelled by game's end. With Knowles out of the game, the Big Train exploded for five runs in the next two innings and

THE DEFEAT extended the Aces' losing streak to eight and summarized their season — flashes of success have been overshadowed by the team's inability to produce consistently. Entering the July 7 contest, three Aces were leading the

**“[Baseball is] a team game. As much as we have a few guys leading some stat categories, it's still a very tough game to win with just one or two dudes leading stat categories when the others aren't making changes or making an effort to make changes.”**

— Alexandria Aces head coach Eric Williams



Alexandria Aces pitcher Max Knowles leads the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League in strikeouts and is tied for the lead in wins.

league in four individual statistical categories, but the team was near the bottom of the

standings. Infielder Nick Allen (George Mason sophomore) was atop the league batting average

leaders, catcher Will Davis (Pennsylvania senior) led the league in RBIs and Knowles (North Carolina Wesleyan senior) was the league leader in wins and strikeouts. But after the game, Alexandria was 9-19 and sixth place in an eight-team league.

“It's not a chemistry thing,” Knowles said, also taking time to sign postgame autographs for youngsters with his swollen left hand. “Everybody's out there playing 100 percent, giving everything they've got. We've had some bad breaks. We're hitting it hard, we're just hitting it right at people.”

“The pitching staff and everybody, nobody's turning on each other. We're still together. We're just having a hard time putting a whole game together.”

While Knowles, the only Ace to play for the team each of its three seasons of existence, might have been sticking up for his teammates, head coach Eric Williams wasn't as positive when discussing the Aces' struggles.

“It comes to personal accountability and responsibility for your detail, your job when it comes to this game,” Williams said. “It's a team game. As much as we have a few guys leading some stat categories, it's still a very tough game to win with just one or two dudes leading state categories when the others aren't making changes or making an effort to make changes.”

“There's a fine line between:

SEE KNOWLES, PAGE 20

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Fort Hunt Junior All-Stars Beat Central Springfield

After a six-hour rain delay, Fort Hunt Junior All-Stars defeated a gritty Central Springfield team 9-2 under clearing skies at Veteran's Park in Woodbridge.

Andrew Smith started for Fort Hunt and went 3 innings, facing 16 batters, throwing five strikeouts, four walks and allowing two runs on two hits. While one of those hits was a home run, it was also the last challenge to Fort Hunt dominance in the game. Fort Hunt closed out several budding Central Springfield rallies over the next six innings with excellent pitching and near-flawless fielding.

Billy Lescher started the fourth, coming on in relief of Smith, and continuing into the fifth, striking out five of seven batters, allowing no runs on two singles.

To retain eligibility to pitch Monday, Lescher was lifted for Austin White who came on in the fifth with runners on first

and third and two outs. White ended the inning in dramatic fashion, retiring the side by wheeling off the pitcher's block, throwing quickly to Andrew Smith at first base to pick off the Central Springfield runner who had challenged Fort Hunt with a lead one step too long.

White went on to face seven batters over 2 1/3 innings, striking out two, allowing one single and no runs, to end another game with a decisive pitching performance. A great defensive play on a hard hit ground ball up the middle, snagged by shortstop Michael Coyle on a dead run behind second base and bullet throw to first beat the runner and ended the game.

On defense, Matt Dorris, running full speed from his position deep at second base, beat the runner to first and caught the bullet throw from Jack Leyden, third baseman, who charged a bunt near-perfectly hit inches from the foul line, getting the runner by a half step.

Earlier in the contest, Rocky Iboleon flawlessly barehanded another stellar bunt attempt by Central Springfield, threw to first to beat the runner for the out.

Coyle starred in the field. In the second inning, he went deep behind third base near the foul line to snag a high fly on a near-dead run. Later, he was central to a key play when he orchestrated a double run-down between first and second bases and between third and home. Central Springfield singled to right with one man on. A perfect throw-in by Leyden in right field to cutoff Andrew Smith who threw to Coyle at second to start the first and third rundowns by engaging the first-base runner.

As the runner at third broke for home, a spot-on throw to AJ Melvin at home plate caught the runner in a run-down between Melvin and Rocky Iboleon. Melvin and Iboleon executed a perfect rundown out with the final tag made by Coyle to end the inning and quash a hoped-for rally by Central Springfield. Just spectacular play all around — a tribute to the valued instruction and inspiration of Coach Bert Heffernan.

Ryan Scott and Cory Conway started the action for Fort Hunt with hard hit singles in the first to get the bats going; Zach Hecker and Lee McCabe were once again

strong in the field and fast and smart on the basepaths.

On offense, Rocky Iboleon, Austin White, Brant Knoblauch, and Melvin starred with Iboleon going 3 for 3 at the plate driving in two runs. In the third, Brant singled to right center to drive in Iboleon and White, who reached on a single and a walk respectively, to open scoring for Fort Hunt.

Fort Hunt then went ahead 3-2 when Melvin reached on an error, scoring Brant. White helped his cause at the plate going 1 for 2 including a powerful triple to right just shy of the 320-foot fence, driving in two insurance runs in the seventh. Along the way, Michael Coyle got his bat going with a booming double into left-center.

### Riverside Gardens Wins

In their second win this season, Riverside Gardens Tsunami swim team defeated Shouse Village 210-192 in a NVSL Division

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 20

# Knowles, Davis, Allen Near Top of Ripken League

FROM PAGE 19

when do you start getting overly excited about it and when do you just say, 'Well, kid's not going to change in two months, why don't I work on somebody who wants to change.'"

**WHILE THE ACES** are sitting near the bottom of the league standings, Knowles, Davis and Allen each earned a spot on the CRCBL All-Star team with their performances during the month of June and the first half of July. As of July 13, Knowles leads the league with 40 strikeouts, is tied for the lead in wins with four and is tied for third with a 1.41 ERA. Listed at 5 feet 10, 190 pounds with a fastball consistently in the low-to-mid 80s, Knowles hardly embodies what most think of as a "strikeout pitcher."

"I'm real big on [being] able to throw [all of your pitches] for strikes," Knowles said. "You need to be able to throw any pitch for a strike at any count. Hitting is just timing and pitching is just disrupting timing."

Williams said the Clinton, N.C., native has what it takes to continue pitching after college.

"Max is a professional," Williams said. "He studies people, he is a pitcher. He can pitch at the next level, without question. ... He can locate all of his pitches very well. He's not afraid to throw any of them at any count, at any time. The likes of him, they're not really seen around this league. You usually see a guy who's either going to blow it by you or have one pitch that's really legit and suffer in some other instances. [Knowles] doesn't do that. He doesn't suffer with any of his pitches."

**DAVIS IS TIED** for fourth in the league with 18 RBIs and tied for third with two home runs. He's also batting .318 with six doubles and one triple.

"He's another one who just comes out and plays 110 percent every inning, every second, every time he's here," Williams said. "He swings the bat. He swings the bat when he's tired, he swings the bat when he's not tired. He gets good pitches to hit. He locates stuff well. He hits the ball well, plain and simple. He works hard at it."

Davis, who along with Knowles are the only two Aces to return from last season,

said a lack of veterans on the team could have something to do with the team's struggles.

"A lot of guys are pretty young," Davis said. "This might be their first or second season playing summer ball. It's hard coming off a college season when you played so many games and then you come out here and you've got to play every day, especially during this heat wave. I think things start to get tough and people start to look for excuses. Its kind of tough for us right now.

"It's something Max and I, as veterans, have dealt with ourselves. [We've] made the excuses and kind of found out that doesn't really work for you. It's time to put up or shut up, basically."

Davis said he focuses on doing his job and hopes the success of individuals starts to translate to victories.

"Baseball's a team game," he said. "You can have guys individually getting on base a lot, getting base hits, but right now we're not stringing it together. We'll have someone get on base, then [we'll have] strikeout, strikeout, fly out.

"I never get too high on myself. I'm al-

ways expecting falls come from grace. If I go out there and do my job it's great, but you're trying to get the W. It's kind of like [Washington Nationals pitcher Stephen] Strasburg: that guy is out there, he's throwing every [fifth] day but in the end they're not getting the full team win."

Allen leads the league with a .370 batting average, collecting 30 hits — including 26 singles — in 81 at bats.

"Nick's a good, quality hitter, he's got some good speed and he's got some good baseball sense," Williams said. "Those three things help him quite a bit in the batter's box."

Alexandria has won consecutive games after losing the Big Train and continues to sit in sixth place at 11-19. After a pair of road games, the Aces return home for a 7 p.m. meeting with the Southern Maryland Nationals on July 17.

"My point to the guys is still the same deal: if you decide to come together as a unit, you could easily be in a whole different position in this league right now than surfing the bottom," Williams said. "I've been telling them that since day one."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 19

7 match up on July 10. The steady rain never let up throughout the meet, and neither did the Tsunami team, turning in 19 first-place finishes.

For Riverside, Jack Garland, Paul Dubois, Sean Sullivan, Elizabeth Dexter, Carolyn Murphy brought home blue ribbons in freestyle, Jack Garland, Patrick Murphy, Grace Zdebski, Elizabeth Dexter, Madison Zdebski captured blue ribbons in backstroke, Justin Bassett, Teddy Feighery, Kevin Grant, Carolyn Bloom won blue ribbons in breaststroke and Alec Dubois, Paul Dubois, Sean Sullivan, Emma Klein, Carolyn Murphy won blue ribbons in butterfly. Riverside Gardens also posted five relay wins

## Softball Tournaments

The FHYAA U12 Girls Softball team won the annual Father's Day tournament held at Wakefield Park in Fairfax on June 19-20. The team was consisted of players from the four FHYAA U12 house teams; Raiders, Hurricanes, Nationals and Flash.

The team won all four games over the weekend against other all-star teams from around the region and had only two joint practices together in preparation for the tournament.

The team is composed of: coaches Jim Miller, Glen Bolger



**The FHYAA U12 Girls Softball team won the annual Father's Day tournament held at Wakefield Park in Fairfax on June 19-20.**

and Cindy Jackson, and players Annabelle Miller, Torie Bolger, Megan Jackson, Kate Gregory, Jayne Orleans, Caitlin Magro, Maddie McMullen, Nicole Freewalt, Tanna Pelto, Meghan Jones, Jordan Quinonez, Stephanie Frazier and Sarah Lowe. The scorekeeper was Madeline Miller.

The U10 Fort Hunt team also played in the Father's Day tournament at Falls Church High School

and after winning the first game of their bracket, ran into some tough competition and although they didn't win the tourney and had a great time.

Coaches Mitch Rockwell, Miriam Miller, Heath Wallace and Phil Klein led the U10 team.

The players representing the U10 team were Emilie Becker, Caroline Bowman, Alexandra Dorris, Emma Klein, Jennavieve Miller, Grace Moery, Hannah Mon-

roe, Micaela Neulight, Alekzandra Pierpoint, Erin Rockwell, Victoria Rulapaugh and Cameron Wallace.

On Monday June 21, the FHYAA house team concluded its season with the championship game held at Carl Sandburg Middle School. The game was played between the No. 1 seed Mount Vernon Devil Dogs and the No. 2 seed Fort Hunt Hurricanes.

The Hurricanes and the Devil Dogs played an outstanding game

that was eventually won by the Hurricanes 12-6.

The Fort Hunt Hurricanes were coached by Jim Miller, Miriam Miller and Ron Dillard. The players on the first-place Hurricanes were Jennavieve Miller, Christina Dillard, Annabelle Miller, Caroline Bowman, Maddie McMullen, Lena Harmata, Josie Sara, Erin Deighton, Emma Melvin, Katie Martineau, Marina Endahl, and Sydney Kiefert.

## Running Club On Sundays

The Mount Vernon Milers running club meets at 8 a.m. on Sundays. The group usually meets along the Potomac River, but the exact location is listed in an e-mail sent every Wednesday for the coming week. Distances vary but runners can expect between four and eight miles.

To join the Mount Vernon Milers, send Lee Britton an e-mail at lbritton7@yahoo.com to be put on the e-mail list.

## Summer Basketball Camp At Whitman MS

The Mark Vincent Annual Summer Basketball Camp will be held at Walt Whitman Middle School. The camp session will be held from

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 21

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# SPORTS

FROM PAGE 20

July 19-23. Camp 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 welcome to attend. Boys and girls campers will be grouped in separate gyms. Campers will also be grouped by age, size and skill level. There will a 10-1 camper to coach ratio. The camps are instructional and skill based. The camp features include local college coaches or players as guest speakers, camp shirts, written evaluations, lectures and demonstrations of offensive and defensive strategies, daily competition and awards, 3 on 3, and 5 on 5 league play. Lastly, concessions will be sold daily throughout the day. Pizza will also be sold during lunch time. Campers will be responsible for their own lunch if they don't order pizza. Staff members will consist of local high school coaches and players.

Contact [markvincentbasketballcamps@gmail.com](mailto:markvincentbasketballcamps@gmail.com) for more information.

## Indoor Baseball Training

The StrikeZone Academy, an indoor baseball training facility located in Alexandria, is offering week-long summer baseball camps for the weeks of July 26, Aug. 16 and 30. Camps run from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. The target age group is from 7-11 years old. Extended hours from 1-4 p.m. are available as well. Cost is \$160 per week for the morning session and \$160 per week for extended hours. All camps are held indoors in our climate controlled facility, so parents have no need to worry about security, excessive heat, bugs, or lack of cold water and

restroom facilities. Interested parents can register online at [www.thestrikezoneacademy.com/clinics](http://www.thestrikezoneacademy.com/clinics), via telephone at 703-823-0061, or stop by in person at 826 South Pickett Street, near the intersections of South Pickett and South Van Dorn Streets.

## Baseball Tryouts

The Northern Virginia Seminoles, a rising 13-and-younger travel baseball team, will be holding open tryouts July 26-27 for committed players for the upcoming 2010-11 season. Players must not turn 14 years of age prior to May 1, 2011. For more information contact: [seminolesbaseball15@yahoo.com](mailto:seminolesbaseball15@yahoo.com)

## 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 Web site at [www.alexandriava.gov/recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation).

## SCHOOL NOTES

**Alexandra Veletsis of Alexandria** has been accepted to participate in the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., from June 12-21. The conference will provide students with the opportunity to interact with a variety of personnel who operate within the three branches of government, the news media and the international community. Students will also participate in various leadership skill-building activities and simulations. Alexandra is a student at Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School.

**Mount Vernon High School's Class of 1980** is gearing up for its 30<sup>th</sup> Reunion on July 31, 2010 at the Mount Vernon Inn at the Mt. Vernon Estate. To be added to the list, contact Leisa Gates Less: [llscouter@aol.com](mailto:llscouter@aol.com), 281-536-3121 or Jennifer Julian Radcliffe: [hood1984@aol.com](mailto:hood1984@aol.com), 703-968-3072.

The following Marymount University students are recognized in the 2009 edition of Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges:

- ◆ **Christine Bradley**, of Alexan-

dria, who is majoring in Nursing

- ◆ **Justinne Cano**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in Nursing
- ◆ **Ada Cuadrado**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in Graphic Design and in the Honors Program
- ◆ **Teresa Madrid**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in Liberal Studies
- ◆ **Quynhnhu Nguyen**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in Fashion Design
- ◆ **Damata Payida**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in 2nd Degree Nursing
- ◆ **Emily Turnbull**, of Alexandria, who is majoring in Graphic Design

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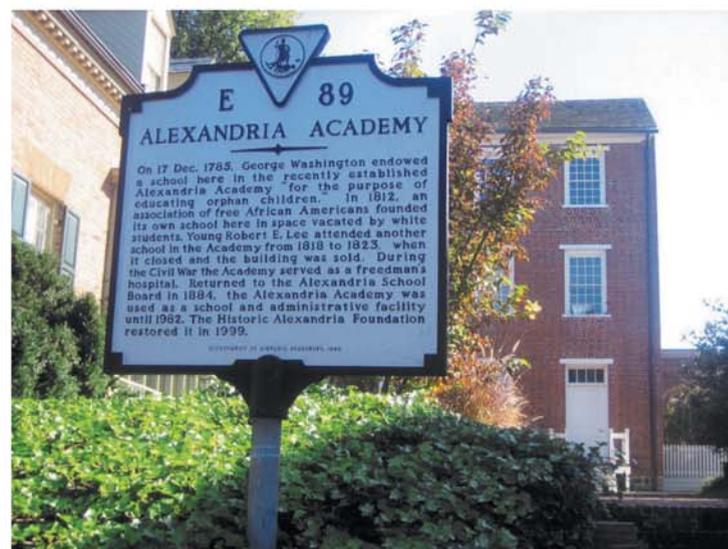
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