

Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

SEPTEMBER 2, 2010



PHOTO BY BARRY WHEELER/FSO

Symphonic Season

Alexandria residents Greta Richard, Paul Johnson and Chris Ferrari perform with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. The new concert season begins Saturday, Sept. 11.

SEE PAGE 10

Governor Tours New Hope Shelters

McDonnell commits to promoting housing for the homeless.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Gov. Robert McDonnell visited two homeless shelters operated by New Hope Housing last week. McDonnell, along with New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michell, board members and staff, other housing for the homeless advocates, and elected officials, toured Mondloch House 1, which serves homeless adults, and Mondloch House 2, which assists homeless families.

During his visit at the New Hope facilities, McDonnell said, "Working to help people move from homelessness to permanent housing is critically important. A stable home aids in workforce readiness, allows children to thrive and learn, and strengthens Virginia's communities. I commend New Hope Housing for their work to help

transform the lives of the people they assist."

New Hope, which opened its first shelter in 1978, provides emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development provides State Shelter grant funding to New Hope Housing for shelter operations and support services in its emergency, transitional, and hypothermia facilities. These grants include both federal and state funds. New Hope also receives Virginia State grant funding to ensure that homeless children have access to appropriate support services.

In her prepared remarks in welcoming the Governor to the New Hope Housing facilities, Michell reminded the assembled guests that many believe that Northern

SEE GOVERNOR, PAGE 4

PACK Seeks Off Leash Dog Area

500 petition signers seek Westgrove Park as off leash dog area.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

This past spring dog owners in the northern part of the Mount Vernon district formed an organization called Pumpphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK) to urge the Board of Supervisors to designate Westgrove Park as an off leash dog park/exercise area. Signs at the park specifically prohibit dogs from being off leash.

Members of PACK sent a letter originally signed by 300 residents to Supervisor Gerald Hyland and the Board of Supervisors requesting that the board establish Westgrove Park for interim designation as an off leash dog area until a long range plan for the park is developed. The organization has not received a reply to the June letter. Since sending the letter in June, PACK has garnered 200 more signatures, and now have a total of 500 residents in the region who support their efforts.

The formation of PACK was triggered by the ticketing in April, 2010 of four dog owners for violating the County's dog leash law in the Westgrove Park.

Petition Letter

Excerpt from the June 2010 PACK petition letter to the Board of Supervisors:

"Use of Westgrove Park as an OLDA [Off Leash Dog Area] (temporary) would meet a clear need of residents of Mt. Vernon district with minimal impact on the environment and without additional cost to the county. Because many communities in this district have no sidewalks (and some prohibit fences) dog owners have scant opportunity to provide the level of exercise and off-leash training and socialization that healthy dogs require."

"We respectfully urge the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to designate Westgrove Park an OLDA (temporary), interim to the county identifying funds and obtaining citizen approval for an alternative use."

The park is completely fenced in by a chain link fence. As their letter states, the Westgrove Park "is a reclaimed sewage station area which comprises 23 acres under the Park Authority."

The Westgrove Park has been under the Park Authority's stewardship since 2001 according to Park Authority spokeswoman, Judy Peterson. Since 2009 Fairfax county's animal control officers began issuing \$107 tickets to those dog owners found to be allowing their dogs to run off leash, in violation of Section 41.1-1-1 of the County code.

According to Mary Tracey, vice president of PACK, no first offense warnings are issued, and the offense is a criminal offense. She is aware of six tickets that

SEE PACK, PAGE 6

Former Youth League Coach Arrested in Poland

Hamilton fled to Europe before court appearance.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

John Hamilton, former Fort Hunt Youth league coach, who was charged in June 2009 with aggravated sexual battery and three counts of taking indecent liberties with a child under

his supervision and then failed to appear in court, was detained last week by the Polish border police as he attempted to enter Poland

SEE HAMILTON, PAGE 21



Hamilton

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THIS WEEK IN MOUNT VERNON

Dead Body Found on Fort Belvoir

The body of a deceased male was found Monday, Aug. 30, in a wooded area on Fort Belvoir. The deceased individual is believed to be that of a soldier, according to Chris Grey, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command. The name of the deceased individual is being withheld as CID investigates the circumstances of the death and makes notification to the next of kin once positive identification is made.

More Victims Scammed by Suspects

Police have determined that two other victims have been scammed out of their money by at least two suspects claiming to have a winning lottery ticket. The most recent was on Friday, July 9, when a 45-year-old man relinquished nearly \$15,000 in cash to two men he met at a gas station believing he would receive a percentage of the lottery winnings.

One suspect was described as having a heavy accent and an olive-skinned complexion. He was about 45 years old, 5 feet 5 inches tall, with a heavy build and short, light brown hair. He wore a chain necklace with a two-inch cross on it. The second suspect was described as possibly Brazilian, with a darker complexion. He was about 5 feet 2 inches tall and between 35 and 45 years old and 140 to 155 pounds.

On Friday, May 12, two suspects used the lottery ticket scam to gain \$2,000 from a 62-year-old man they approached in the parking lot of a grocery store in the 7600 block of Richmond Highway. The suspects in this case were described as black, about 5 feet 9 inches tall and between 150 to 165 pounds. One suspect was about 40 years old and the other was between 22 and 25 years old.

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

Tax Breaks for Business Owners

The Mt. Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a business lunch seminar, "Seven Tax Breaks for Business Owners," on Sept. 9, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road.

Guest speaker is Sean O'Connell, a personal financial specialist, CPA, who serves on the Board of Directors of the Northern Chapter of the Virginia Society of CPAs.

For more information, contact Mt. Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Holly Dougherty at 703-360-6925.

Discussing 'Healthcare Wishes'

Inova Mount Vernon Hospital will present "Loving Conversations," a Town Hall event being, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the hospital, 2501 Parker's Lane, Yellow Entrance, Alexandria, to educate the community about how to communicate their healthcare wishes before a health crisis occurs.

A panel of experts will be present to discuss the social, medical and spiritual aspects of advanced planning and other resources will be available to assist and inform family members about understanding their loved ones healthcare wishes. For more information call 703-750-8800.



Composite sketch of suspect



Video photo of suspect

NEWS

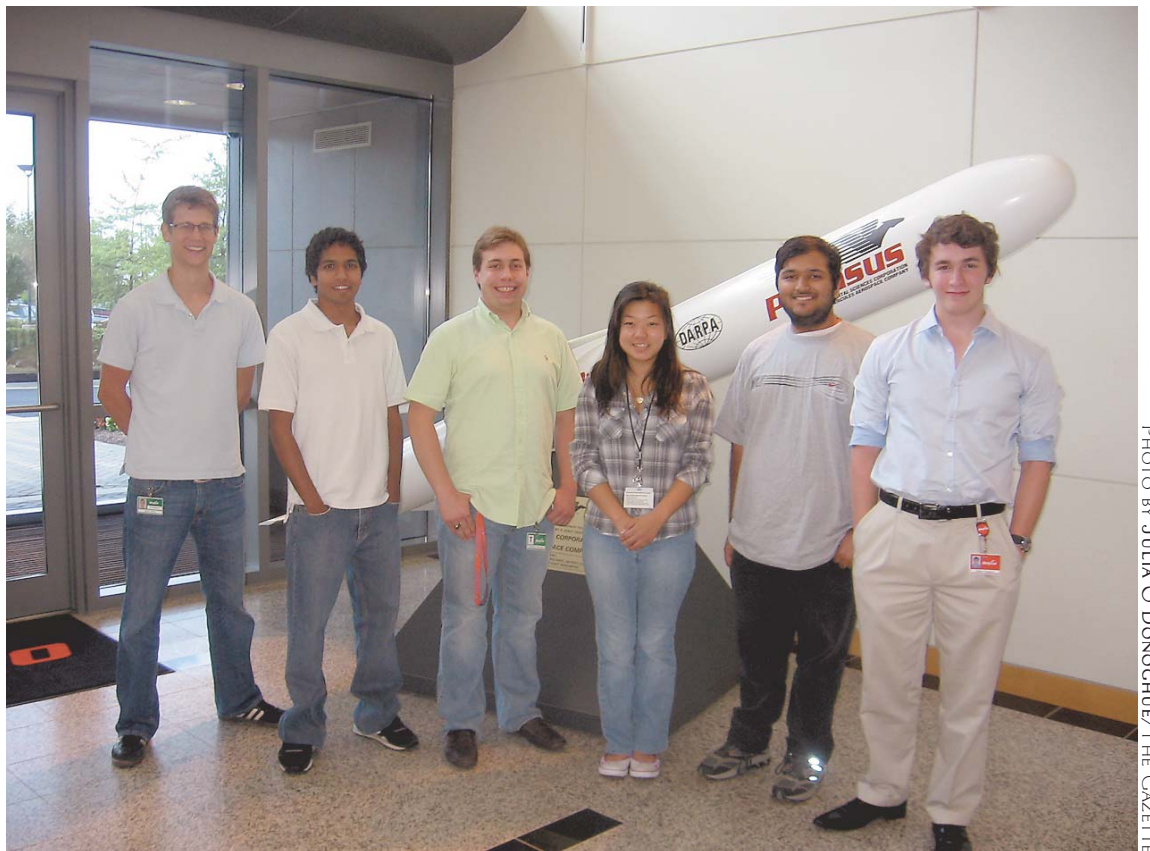


PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE GAZETTE

Teacher Adam Kemp stands with students Devan Samant, Alex McGlothlin, Kristina Horita, Alishan Hassan and Walker Ferguson. While still in high school, these students helped build a satellite that they expect to launch into space this fall.

To Boldly Go Where ...

Students hope to be first high school group to launch their own satellite.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE GAZETTE

In October of 1957, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik I, the world's first artificial satellite, into orbit.

The event ushered in a new fascination with space exploration and tipped off the space race between the American and Soviet governments.

By the beginning of 1958, the United States had sent its own satellite, Explorer I, into space. Congress also created the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, better known as NASA, later that year.

But what took the backing of a world superpower to accomplish 50 years ago may become fodder for high school curricula in the 21st century.

Over the past few years, students at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology have been building their own satellite called TJ CubeSat. They hope to become the first group of high school students to create and launch a satellite themselves this fall.

"It is kind of shocking to people at first when you tell them. They pause and say 'Wait, what are you doing?'" said Alex McGlothlin, a freshman at the University of Virginia who graduated from Jefferson last May.

McGlothlin, who lives in Mount Vernon, worked

on the satellite for three years in high school and was most recently the project's systems engineer. He and five other students spent about five to 10 hours per week on the satellite this summer. Walker Ferguson, a Great Falls teenager who attends boarding school in England, also assisted the team as an intern with a local aerospace firm.

"TJ wanted to prove that high school students could build a satellite themselves. ... It was a once in a lifetime opportunity," said McGlothlin.

APPROXIMATELY 30 to 35 students from Thomas Jefferson have participated in the creation of the satellite over the years, with students leaving the project behind as they graduate.

The satellite began as the primary focus of Jefferson's engineering systems class, taught by Adam Kemp. Since the beginning, Orbital Sciences Corporation — a local aerospace engineering firm — has provided students with mentors, financial support and access to the company's facilities in Herndon.

Unlike many other high school assignments, Kemp and other teachers cannot always point students in the right direction when it comes to designing the satellite. They have no more experience than the students so the teenagers often consult professional engineers at Orbital for guidance.

"It has helped having Orbital just 20 miles away," said McGlothlin, who met with the other Jefferson students at Orbital's campus on a weekly basis this summer.

Orbital is also covering the cost of the satellite

"It was a once in a lifetime opportunity."

— Alex McGlothlin, Jefferson graduate

SEE TO BOLDLY GO, PAGE 4

Governor Tours New Hope Shelter Facilities

FROM PAGE 1

Virginia has no problems with poverty, homelessness, and other social ills.

"I want to remind everyone that there are a large number of poor people in the Route 1 corridor," Michell said. She went on to describe the New Hope housing programs which she characterized as providing emergency, transitional, and permanent housing assistance programs that provide "shelter and dignity to the individuals and families we serve."

The Governor's visit came as part of his recently issued Executive Order committing to the development of what he described as the Commonwealth's first comprehensive housing policy. A special Task Force on Housing, chaired by the Governor's special advisor, Bob Sledd, is now working on the development of housing policy recommendations which are expected in November.

Reactions from attendees to the Governor's Northern Virginia visit to the New Hope shelter facilities, and his commitment to the development of a comprehensive housing policy for the Commonwealth included:

- ❖ Linda Horner, president-elect, board of directors, New Hope Housing: "The Governor's Executive Order and formation of a Task Force under Bob Sledd is a great first step. I look forward to the recommendations which emerge from the Task Force. One area I hope the TF will explore is creating incentives for the creation of public-private partnerships that will expand private sector participation in programs that



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

State Sen. Toddy Puller and Executive Director of New Hope Housing Pam Michell greet Gov. Robert McDonnell during his tour of Mondloch House Shelters on Lockheed Boulevard. The Governor, as part of his northern Virginia outreach effort, met with New Hope Housing senior staff, and individuals and families benefiting by the shelter services managed by New Hope Housing.

reduce homelessness."

- ❖ Scott Surovell, state delegate: "I hope the Task Force sees that investing in taxpayer dollars in homelessness prevention and mitigation is not only the morally right thing to do, but also pays tremendous dividends to taxpayers because it avoids much

more expensive taxpayer burdens that result if these problems are not addressed."

- ❖ Phyllis Chamberlain, executive director, Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness: "I am excited about the opportunities that the Governor's housing policy presents to us. This is an opportunity for state and lo-

Statistics

New Hope Housing's accomplishments last year:

- ❖ Served over 820 individuals, including 130 children in one or more of its programs.
- ❖ Provided over 48,000 "bednights" of shelter through six shelter programs.
- ❖ Assisted 35 families and 38 single adults in four transitional and six permanent supportive housing programs.
- ❖ Assisted 11 families and 57 single adults to move from shelter to transitional housing into permanent housing
- ❖ Provided homelessness prevention services as part of Fairfax County's Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-housing program.

As of January 2010 there were 2,434 persons, including 746 children in families that were homeless in Northern Virginia (Fairfax, Falls Church, Arlington, Alexandria). This is an unduplicated count that took place on a designated night in January.

More

NEW HOPE HOUSING

8407-E Richmond Highway
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www.newhopehousing.org
United Way #8179
CFC #13831

The Mondloch House Shelters managed by New Hope Housing are located at 3510 Lockheed Blvd.

cal governments, non-profits, and faith-based organizations to focus on long-term solutions to homelessness and not simply band-aids to the problem. I want to thank the Governor for his understanding that housing is critical to any economic development initiative. Without housing, a family often does not have the stability or opportunity they need to increase their self sufficiency."

To Boldly Go Where No High School Has Gone Before

FROM PAGE 3

launch and has donated or bought some key parts of the machine for the students. The type of satellite Jefferson is working with can cost anywhere from \$30,000 to \$100,000 overall, according to a report the students submitted to NASA.

"I think participating in something like this is a win for Orbital because we see what kind of talent is out there. We get to know what type of student is available for jobs and summer internships," said John Brunschwyler, director of a small rocket launch program at Orbital and student mentor.

10 YEARS AGO, Jefferson students would not have been able to launch a satellite on their own, said Brunschwyler.

Over the last decade, California Polytechnic State University developed an inexpensive satellite platform called CubeSat to allow college and graduate students to build satellites for an affordable price, said McGlothlin. Previously, it had been not financially feasible for such groups to build a satellite, since they regularly cost several million dollars to produce and launch, he added.

The Jefferson students have adopted the Cal Poly model.

"They are certainly working at a university level. This is challenging. It is like giving kids a really difficult piece of music to work on," said Brunschwyler.

While the students from Jefferson are talented, Brunschwyler said many teenagers would be up to the challenge of building and launching a satellite.

"The kids are talented but they are not magical," he said.

WORKING with the staff at Orbital has not only bolstered the students' technical skills but also given them a pragmatic look at the professional world.

Devan Samant, a McLean resident who worked on the project for two years, said he learned a lot of valuable lessons about how to work with other people.

"I found it very interesting how things work in the real world. I learned a lot about how to communicate with other engineers," said Samant, who has started his freshman year at the University of Virginia and graduated from Jefferson last May.

The students often have questions about project schedules and budgets just as much as engineering and design. For example,

they want to know what to do when another person won't return their phone call, said Brunschwyler.

"It certainly gives them a taste of what it is going to be like working out in the industry. This is not a college education. This is practical experience," he said.

THE SATELLITE, smaller than the size of a human head, should stay in orbit for anywhere from three months to three years. McGlothlin said it is expected to launch either from the Virginia Coast, California or possibly Russia this fall.

The mechanism is designed to receive special text messages while in space and then vocalize the words so that they can be heard with an amateur radio back on earth. The

SCHOOL NOTES

Maxwell Brindle, son of Eugene and Connie Brindle of Alexandria, has been named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the 2009 fall semester. Brindle, a junior majoring in government, is a graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School.

Jason D. Neithamer of Alexandria made the dean's list at Bucknell University for the fall semester. He is the son of Calvin and Susan Neithamer of Alexandria, and a 2008 graduate of St. Stephens & St. Agnes School, Alexandria.

Mount Vernon resident and 2006 MVHS

students envision elementary to high school teachers incorporating the satellite into class assignments to garner interest in space.

For example, younger students could sign up on the satellite project website to have their own personal message broadcasted from space. A high school statistics class could model the degradation of the parts of the satellite over time, according to a description of the project's purpose written by the students.

Thomas Jefferson also hopes other high schools will be interested in creating a satellite of their own. They plan to make their designs, plans and working documents available on a public website so other team of high school students can learn from their mistakes, said the students.

graduate, Heather Nocera, graduated from Virginia Wesleyan College May 15, earning a BA degree in English and the Virginia state teaching certification. Nocera was a standout athlete at MVHS, earning MVP awards for both varsity softball and gymnastics during her senior year. At VWC she played Div. III softball for two years. She will begin graduate work at George Mason University this fall.

Theresa A. Meehan of Alexandria, Class of 2011, has received Faculty Honors for the 2009 fall semester.



Helping Students in Need

Thanks to donations from throughout the community, on Aug. 26 and 27, United Community Ministries (UCM) was able to distribute more than 750 backpacks filled with school supplies to children in need. Above, UCM volunteers Carla Ross, Alex Pardes, Vanessa Fujimoto-Gomez and Joshua Bak-Brevik show off the backpacks they had filled with supplies and were distributing to local school children.

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Mt. Vernon police department through Aug. 27.

ROBBERY

Two armed men robbed the 7-Eleven store at 2405 Fairhaven Ave. around 11:16 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 18. They took an undisclosed amount of money and fled. They were described as about 6 feet tall and wore masks. One suspect wore a dark-colored striped, button-up shirt. The second suspect had on a blue shirt with white long sleeves and a dark-colored cap. No one was injured.

BURGLARY

Two men were arrested for allegedly committing burglary in the 7500 block of Richmond Highway around 2:14 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 19. A 30-year-old male of the 4000 block of Kansas Ave. N.W. in Washington, D.C., and a 29-year-old male were each charged with burglary, possession of

burglary tools, wearing masks in certain places and grand larceny.

A man was arrested after allegedly burglarizing the Su Pollo Restaurant, 8741 Richmond Highway, around 1:46 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 12. A 51-year-old male of the 8700 block of Richmond Highway in Alexandria, was charged with burglary and possession of burglary tools.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE DELINQUENCY OF A MINOR

Police responded to a noise complaint the 8500 block of Richmond Highway around 1:32 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 17. After a brief investigation, a 17-year-old boy was issued a summons for underage consumption or possession of alcohol and a 19-year-old man was arrested for allegedly purchasing alcohol for the minor and assaulting a law enforcement officer. The 19-year-old male, of the 8500 block of Richmond Highway, was charged with assault on a law enforcement officer, contributing to the delinquency of a

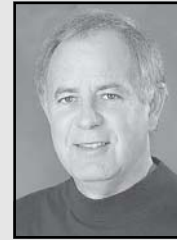
minor and obstruction of justice.

SEXUAL BATTERY/ ARREST

A 22-year-old man was arrested for allegedly inappropriately touching a 15-year-old girl on Thursday, August 19 around 3:42 p.m. in the 8100 block of Fordson Road. The 22-year-old male, of the 8800 block of Badger Drive in Alexandria, was arrested and charged with sexual battery. The victim did not require medical attention.

ROBBERY

A 19-year-old man allegedly robbed a 12-year-old boy of his cell phone at gunpoint on Thursday, Aug. 19 around 5:46 p.m. in the 7100 block of Groveton Gardens Road. The suspect, of the 7100 block of Huntley Creek Place in Alexandria, was apprehended and charged with robbery and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. The victim was not injured and his cell phone was returned.



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PACK Doggedly Pursues Leash Dog Area

FROM PAGE 1

have been issued to dog owners caught with their dogs off a leash in Westgrove Park.

Gil McCutcheon, Mount Vernon District member of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, said he is awaiting staff comment on the off leash dog area proposal for Westgrove Park.

He added, "We can't afford to let the park stay in its present condition," but had no comment on the long-range plan for the park.

According to Park Authority spokeswoman Judy Peterson there are currently seven designated off leash dog parks in the County. Other parks are included in the master plan provisions for an off leash dog park but no action to create them has been taken. Mount Vernon District currently has one off leash dog park located at Grist Mill Park. For dog owners in the northern part of Mount Vernon district, PACK members estimate that it would take approximately 20 minutes to get there by car.

Steven Nixon, president of PACK, said there is no long range master plan for Westgrove Park unlike those for most Fairfax County parks. Peterson said that the Park Authority has been responsible for the Westgrove Park since 2001.

The entrance to Westgrove Park is immediately south of Belle View Elementary School, on Fort Hunt Road. There is a small parking area adjacent to a chain link fence that has a small opening where visitors



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILI/THE GAZETTE

Members of Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK) at the Westgrove Park on Fort Hunt Road include, from left, Mary Tracey, Pete Spring, Steven Nixon and Don Kellerman.

can enter. There is a road and trail of about 50 yards that leads down to an open commons area field of three and one half acres. This grassy area is surrounded by mature forestland that on its eastern lower edge combines with a wetlands area that links to the Dyke Marsh wildlife preserve adjacent to the Mount Vernon Parkway. Dog owners frequenting the park attest to the presence of deer, squirrels, raccoons,

rabbits, fox, and a variety of birds that regularly use the area.

Glenda Booth, president of Friends of Dyke Marsh, said, "We do not support further development of Westgrove park."

As evidence of the fragile nature of the Dyke Marsh and Westgrove nature areas Booth cited the following statistics: "Recent Belle Haven watershed management analysis, which encompasses this

area, found that 80 percent of the streams in this area are in less than adequate condition ... 26 percent are in fair condition; 46 percent are in poor condition; 28 percent are in very poor condition. There is a pattern of land use and development that is creating problems for all of our streams, forests, and wetlands areas in Fairfax County.

As to the prospect that Westgrove could be developed into

Fairfax County Leash Law

Section 41.1-2-4. Unrestricted dogs prohibited; Leash Law. Subsection (a) No dog shall run unrestricted, as defined in Section 41.1-1-1, in the County ... this section shall not apply to ... an area owned, leased, controlled, or operated by Fairfax County designated by Resolution of the Board of Supervisors as an off-leash dog exercise area, or while a dog is in an area owned, leased, controlled, or operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority as an off-leash or dog exercise area

a ballpark or lacrosse playing field, Booth said that her children all played youth league sports and benefited by the presence of parks which offered ball fields; however, she could not support ballparks or lacrosse fields at Westgrove for her previously stated reasons.

Nixon said, "We are nature lovers, and we believe that having dogs at the park actually helps Dyke Marsh. Unlike a ball park [McCutcheneon, according to PACK, has in the past proposed establishing a lighted ballpark on the property] we do not need fertilizers, herbicides, nor do we attract heavy people loads, or require additional parking.

"We are simply asking for interim off leash dog exercise status until the County decides what it wants to do with the land. We are not asking the County to provide any improvements; we are happy with the Park as is. We would like to exercise our dogs off leash at Westgrove without fear of getting ticketed by Fairfax County Animal Control."

Harmful to the Public?

Open-government advocates clash with public-safety officials over access to police documents.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Is a lack of transparency among Virginia police agencies harmful to the public interest? That's a question that could be put to judges across the commonwealth, if the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council approves a proposal considered last week by one of its subcommittees.

"The mechanism that the subcommittee is exploring at this point is the one that places the burden on the petitioner," said Craig Fifer, chairman of the council's Criminal Investigative Records Subcommittee. "The burden would be on the petitioner to explain why the record would be needed."

During a meeting in Richmond last week, members of the subcommittee considered a bill introduced earlier this year by state Sen. John Edwards (D-21) of Roanoke. His

bill would have allowed access in cases that are no longer under investigation, although he offered a compromise provision during the subcommittee meeting that would allow people seeking documents to go before a judge. Unlike most other states, Virginia law gives police agencies broad discretion to deny access to a wide array of documents. That means victims of crime and the general public are routinely denied access to documents widely available elsewhere—

"Right now people do not know what is going on in their communities because nothing is being released."

— Ginger Stanley, executive director, Virginia Press Association

regardless of what the case is about, and regardless of whether the case is open or closed.

"There's no identifiable public policy reason to maintain confidentiality of records after a public criminal proceeding is over," Edwards said. "I'm reminded that Truman Capote wrote 'In Cold Blood' well after the trial was over."

"Other than people out there who want to write books like Truman Capote, I don't think we've heard a compelling need for this," said Alexandria Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Sengel. "It's designed to address a problem that really doesn't exist, and it would create a situation that's much worse than what we have today."

POLICE CHIEFS, prosecutors and sheriffs from across Virginia showed up at the subcommittee meeting to oppose Edwards bill and his compromise effort.

When the floor was opened for comments, speaker after speaker came out against the effort to increase transparency. They said incident reports were raw and unedited documents full of accusations and opinions that would reveal police operations to criminals. Opening these documents for public review, opponents charged, would create a chilling effect on victims and witnesses coming forward to share information.

"We've got to be very careful about raw information that's in all of these files that can harm reputations, ruin reputations, damage business and damage society," said Danville Police Chief Philip Broadfoot. "All of that information is just too dangerous to be released."

Open-government advocates submitted written statements and testified before the subcommittee that the current process is too

SEE HARMFUL, PAGE 7

Harmful to the Public?

FROM PAGE 6

secretive. Megan Rhyne, associate director of the Virginia Coalition for Open Government, wrote that records in closed cases should be presumed open. Hope Amezquita, legislative counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia, agreed that opening criminal records for review would encourage accountability of law-enforcement agencies.

"Right now people do not know what is going on in their communities because nothing is being released," said Ginger Stanley, executive director of the Virginia Press Association. "This is one of the highest concerns we have in the press association."

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE were not interested in pursuing the version of Edwards' bill as it was introduced earlier this year, which would have opened up documents in cases that are closed. But they may be interested in another version of the effort. During a discussion of allowing a judge to determine availability, subcommittee member Del. Morgan Griffith (R-8) suggested a variation on Edwards' compromise that would put the burden on the petitioner rather than the government.

"That's the only direction I think we could go in to resolve this," said Griffith. "I think what Senator Edwards is trying to get at may not be able to be reached, but I do think it may be possible to create some kind of petitioning process."

Chairman Fifer concluded the meeting by directing the subcommittee's staff to prepare a draft of potential legislation. After the meeting, Fifer was clear that the preparation of a draft is not necessarily an endorsement of it. Once the draft is completed, members of the subcommittee will take another look at language and make a determination on it. If they endorse the idea, the draft legislation could go before all members of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council in advance of the next session of the General Assembly. That would clear the way for a debate between open-government advocates and public-safety officials.

"I believe this is a good first step," said Stanley after the meeting concluded. "The idea of clarifying and coming to some sort of uniform understanding throughout the commonwealth is a laudable goal."

Yet even in its amended form,

the effort is likely to come under intense opposition.

"It's impractical," said Sengel after the meeting. "Frankly, I just don't think that our court system can handle the workload at this point. We are already stretched to the limit with the resources we have, and I just think this is a lot of potential litigation we don't need to be engaging in."

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OPINION

Code Red

How residents can have an impact on air quality.

This summer, despite the heat, we've had fewer "Code Red" air quality days than one might have expected, possibly a result of the slower economy.

On "Code Red" days, children, older people and people with asthma, heart or respiratory problems should reduce outdoor activities. Even healthy individuals should limit strenuous outdoor work and exercise.

EDITORIALS

The primary causes of air pollution in Northern Virginia are vehicle emissions and pollution from coal-burning power plants here and to the west.

Approximately 60-70 percent of the pollutants that cause ground-level ozone are created from vehicles, lawn mowers, other garden equipment and common household products, according to the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MVCCA Board Responds

To the Editor:

To read the weekly criticisms of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA), chronicled almost exclusively by a lone individual, one might think the organization deserves no standing in our community, has no useful purpose, and is composed of a handful of individuals dedicated to ruining our way of life. Nothing could be further from the truth. As MVCCA Co-chairs we strive to lead a respectable organization that serves its mission and its membership. As an unwritten policy we normally do not address individuals that have no standing in the MVCCA, particularly those with self-seeking agendas whose complaints have little or no merit. This letter has been submitted to the Gazette to inform the Mount Vernon community of the reality of the MVCCA, and to set the record straight.

Founded in 1969, the MVCCA has continuously represented the interests of member citizens' associations in the Mount Vernon District. Literally hundreds of volunteers have served this outstanding community organization in various capacities over the years, whether it has been as a member of one of the eight standing committees, a special committee, or on the Board of Directors as a committee chair, secretary, treasurer or co-chair. It has been offered that the MVCCA is a "special interest group" and does not represent a majority of citizens. Allowing for the fact that most associations located south and west of Fort Belvoir generally belong to our sister organization, the South County Federation, and taking into account those non-residential areas that are publicly or commercially owned, it is clear that the MVCCA does, in fact, represent an overwhelming percentage of residents. It is no wonder that Supervisor Hyland and other supervisors on the Fairfax County Board listen carefully to the formal positions taken by the Mount Vernon Council and other Councils in the Mount Vernon District. We are by far the most proac-

Here are a few suggestions to help air quality in the short term:

- ❖ Limit driving, combine trips or work from home.
- ❖ Use area bus and rail lines.
- ❖ Avoid mowing lawns with gasoline-powered motors.

Starting School after Labor Day

We cruise into the last week of summer vacation for most Virginia school districts with temperatures in the high 90s and "Code Red" air quality, the state mandate to delay opening schools until after Labor Day doesn't seem like such a bad thing.

While students across the river in Montgomery County headed back to the classroom on Monday, Aug. 30, Virginia students have an

extra eight days of summer break.

Long held up as an example of corporate influence over the General Assembly (King's Dominion makes strategic donations to state delegates and senators while lobbying for the "start after Labor Day" rule), if the result is that families have a little more time for vacation, possibly giving the economy a little boost in the process, perhaps no harm is done.

and redevelopment activities as we move forward into the future. APR nominations can change the plan after going through an established process with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors having the final say.] The MVCCA Special Committee for Long Range Strategic Planning developed and organized several nominations through an open, public process that included various organizations and literally hundreds of individuals beyond the MVCCA. These nominations truly reflect the desires and needs of the citizenry of the Mount Vernon District. Throughout the process, the MVCCA has been fully cognizant of the possible need and substantial cost of a Chapter 527 traffic study required by some nominations, and has successfully explored various means to enable a non-profit citizens group to participate in the CP process without fronting the substantial cost. This entire process — planned and executed by your neighbors in the MVCCA — has been a huge victory for all citizens of the Mount Vernon District.

Another example of an effort to distort public opinion of the MVCCA was the unwarranted bashing of the recent MVCCA Gala. This traditional event honors those volunteers and pillars of the community who have served the Mount Vernon area in any number of beneficial capacities throughout the years. While it is unfortunate that the event lost money during one of the worst economic times in this country's history, we are not generally concerned. Attendance was, in fact, lower than normal due to factors including timing and venue; the unavailability of Gerry Hyland to attend was an unfortunate coincidence of scheduling. We move forward with confidence that future MVCCA Galas will enjoy higher attendance during better economic times and of course will feature the District Supervisor in attendance.

Finally, let's review the charge that a recent decline in attendance at MVCCA meetings is somehow a reflection of the current Board of Directors. Historically, attendance at MVCCA meetings correlates directly with the time of

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PEOPLE



The Kiwanis Circle K International (CKI) Club at Northern Virginia Community College delegation wearing "Crab Hats" for a special event at CKI Convention in St. Louis. From left are Faculty Advisor Ken Balbuena, President "Ash" Elmelik, Vice President Ryan Pierpoint, and Communications Officer Alex Case.

Students Attend International Conference

Three student officers, Ashraf Elmelik, president; Ryan Pierpoint, vice president, and Alexander Case, communications officer, accompanied by their Faculty Advisor Kenneth Balbuena, of the Kiwanis Circle K International (CKI) Club at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVACC) in Alexandria, participated in the CKI International Conference in St. Louis, Mo., from Aug. 5-7.

Their goal was to improve their skills in CKI's objectives of leadership, fellowship, and service.

Elmelik and Pierpoint are West Potomac Kiwanis Key Club alums who founded this

college-level club earlier this year to continue their tradition of service to their community through Kiwanis.

This trip was paid for mainly by the Northern Virginia Community College and partly by the CKI Club's sponsoring organization, the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club.

For more information about the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club, which sponsors community service clubs in four area high schools and one elementary school as well as at NOVACC Alexandria, see its website at www.mtvernonvakiwanis.org or its FaceBook Page or send a message to brucemalkin1@gmail.com.



Jo Ann McBride makes gifts with a twist, origami made from U.S. currency and maps.

Belle View Hosts Craft Fair

A dozen or so tables were set up in the Belle View Village Center for a summer craft fair on Saturday, Aug. 21. Jewelry, fabric crafts, paper art and a crochet arts were on display.



Star, a golden retriever, found what he was looking for on Heather Boyce's table filled with crocheted items.



Ellen Young displays her jewelry made with gold and silver and semi-precious stones.

PEOPLE NOTES

Graham Kolle, a resident of Fort Hunt, Alexandria, is participating in the 45th season of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. Graham has studied double bass for 7.5 years. A senior at West Potomac High School, he is the son of Bernard Kolle and Rachel Pharr.

This Fort Hunt resident will work with members of the BSO, BU faculty, and visiting artists.

Esther Cha, 24, of Alexandria, has been accepted into the Peace Corps and departed for Niger on July 7, to begin pre-service training as a Community and Youth Education Peace Corps volunteer. Upon graduation from volunteer training in Oc-

tober, Cha will be increasing awareness of the importance of both formal and informal education, especially for females, improving the quality of teaching by assisting with teacher training, and creating opportunities for more community based organizations.

Cha is the daughter of Mynng Soo and Sun Cha, and a graduate of Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria.

She then attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in international studies and French, graduating in 2004. Cha previously worked as a youth coordinator for special needs students at the YMCA.



New Business

The traditional Lion Dance, the Muping Dance Troup and Tai Chi Performers celebrated the opening of the Whole Health Medical Center and Spa on Saturday, June 26, at 6910 Richmond Highway. The center will offer a combination of Eastern and Western holistic medicine and spa treatments. For more information on Whole Health, visit www.wholehealthmedicalcenters.com or call 703-901-6588.

MUSIC

Orchestra Growth Continues

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra opens season Sept. 11.

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's 2010-11 season repertoire will include performances at George Mason University's Center for the Arts in Fairfax, and the expansion of their performances to the new Hylton Performing Arts Center on the GMU campus in Manassas.

"We are thrilled to be performing in Merchant Hall at the stunningly beautiful new Hylton Performing Arts Center," said Elizabeth Murphy, executive director of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

"This is a great opportunity for the orchestra to expand both its audience and its opportunity to play together," said Maestro Christopher Zimmerman, who is entering his second year as Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's music director. "This orchestra is definitely up to the challenges presented by adding another venue."

THE SEASON WILL OPEN Sept. 11 with Tchaikovsky's "The Tempest Fantasy-Overture," Schumann's Piano Concerto, and Rachmaninoff's Third Symphony. Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff have always been staple fare of the FSO, and deservedly so, since these two composers have penned some of the most heartfelt and passionate music ever. "Here are two major works of theirs which, unaccountably, are not particularly known to both orchestras and audiences alike, but they show every bit the inspiration and mastery of their better known cousins 'Romeo and Juliet' and Symphony No. 2," said Zimmerman. The guest artist is the French pianist Philippe Bianconi who, according to Zimmerman, "is both a beautiful pianist and profound interpreter."

The Oct. 23 concert highlights the FSO and the fine players within it. As part of its three-year Sibelius exploration, the FSO will perform the symphonic fantasy "Pojhola's Daughter," another of his wonderfully evocative tales. Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante features FSO Concertmaster David Salness and Gregory Rupert, principal viola, as soloists. Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra makes similar virtuosic demands



Paul Johnson of Alexandria plays trumpet for the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

PHOTO BY BARRY WHEELER/FSO

on individual players and orchestral sections alike, allowing the FSO to, as Zimmerman said, "place the spotlight on itself."

On Nov. 20, guest conductor Eckart Preu will lead the orchestra in a performance of music from the first half of the 19th century and the second half of the 20th. Zimmerman described the musical selections as "sparkling, clean, and clear." The mischief and humor of Rossini's La Cenerentola Overture contrasts with the

drama and poetic introspection of Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3 of the early Romantic Period. Both are counterbalanced by the unpredictability and rhythmic intensity of John Adams' Violin Concerto which reaches almost hypnotic proportions when played by guest artist, Timothy Fain on violin.

THE JAN. 15, 2011 program will mark both the Fairfax Symphony's first concert in a series of double performances, and its debut performance at the beautiful new Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas. From England, Central Europe and the United States, Zimmerman has chosen three masterpieces that he believes aptly exemplify Western music's profound and beautiful legacy. **Bernstein's Overture to "Candide"** and **Dvorak's Symphony No. 9, "From the New World"** are traditional audience favorites, beloved in the repertoire. **Walton's Violin Concerto, not as frequently performed, will feature guest artist Chee-Yun**, who returns to the FSO after her acclaimed performance of Sylvie Bodorova's "Concerto dei Fiore" in its 2008-09 season.

The first part of the 20th century was one of the richest and most exciting eras in all of Western mu

SEE ORCHESTRA, PAGE 18

Welcome to the FSO

Let me introduce you to the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO), an important part of your new community.

From our unique and valuable education programs in County schools, to our free summer concerts in the parks, to our fabulous concert season throughout the year at George Mason University's Center for the Arts, we are everywhere you are. Take advantage of our low ticket prices, convenient location, and neighborly environment and come to a concert this season.

Founded in 1957, the FSO has grown to be one of the finest regional orchestras in the country. We routinely welcome world-class guest artists to perform with us on our stage, and are committed to fostering music education for every age group, from the youngest beginning student, to the adult learner. Our highly trained, professional musicians come to us from all



Zimmerman

walks of life: they are teachers in the public schools, members of military bands, computer technicians, bank tellers, mothers, fathers, and neighbors that you might even know! Their love of performing and music draws them together.

Ticket prices are \$25, \$35, or \$55 for adults and \$5 for students under 18. Visit us on the web at www.fairfaxsymphony.org today to find out more and join our email list to hear about special ticket offers and other events before anyone else.

Best of all, we are right here in your own backyard. Here's my personal invitation to you and your family — come hear us this year. You'll be glad you did.

See you at the Symphony.

Christopher Zimmerman
Music Director

Musician Profiles

CHRISTIAN FERRARI

Age: 42

Instrument(s): Trumpet

Town of Residence: Alexandria
Years in FSO: became a member in 2008 but have subbed for 10 years
Studied Music At: Syracuse University and New England Conservatory

Career Outside of FSO: I am a member of "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band.

Groups Other Than The FSO: Besides playing the Marine Band and the FSO, I play at a variety of churches and have played on several studio projects for various publishing companies.

Did you grow up/go to high school or college in this area? Where?

No, I grew up in Rome, N.Y.

What sparked your interest in music? How old were you? When did you know you wanted to play professionally?

I started playing trumpet in 6th grade and really loved the sound. My father played me recordings of several trumpet artists including Doc Severinsen, Maurice Andre and Wynton Marsalis. I realized I wanted to try to play professionally around 10 or 11th grade when I started to think about going to school for music.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is deciding how serious he/she is about music?

You can ask yourself a few questions. Do you love playing your instrument more than anything else?

Do you get excited when you hear professional musicians play your instrument and want to emulate them?

Are you willing to spend many hours learning about and practicing your instrument every day?

If so, then you should search for a good teacher and give it all you got.

What is one piece of advice you would give to someone who has stopped playing an instrument but would like to take it up again?

Since you already know how to generally play your instrument, you should take the time to practice productively and take care to learn to play as efficiently and as relaxed as possible.

What is your favorite piece to play?

I enjoy playing all types of music but probably my most favorite are Orchestral Pops and theater or "pit" work.

What are other local music venues/experiences that you would recommend?

I would recommend hearing any of the premier military bands in the D.C. area. Classical or Jazz, they have some of the best players in the country! All their concerts are free and they perform in many different venues around the area. They also often feature amazing soloists which is always a treat for me.

Is there any other information you would like to share about your family? Do you have relatives/children who also perform?

My wife is a professional bassoonist freelancer in the area and has performed with the FSO many times over the past 10 years. She has also performed with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra.

Where do you "hang out?" What do you like to do when you are not working?

I have two children and they take



Chris Ferrari of Alexandria plays trumpet for the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

up most of my time :)

What is your favorite thing about playing with the FSO?

I enjoy getting to play with a full string section.

ANDREW HESSE

Age: 26

Instrument(s): Cello

Town of Residence: Alexandria
Years in FSO: This will be my third season

Studied Music At: Northwestern University and Illinois Wesleyan

Career Outside of FSO: I teach music lessons privately, play in other regional orchestras, and perform with a quartet for weddings, etc.

Groups Other Than The FSO: National Philharmonic Orchestra, Maryland Symphony Orchestra, Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, McLean Orchestra.

Did you grow up/go to high school or college in this area? Where?

No, I grew up in Illinois.

What sparked your interest in music? How old were you? When did you know you wanted to play professionally?

I can't think of a time when I was not interested in music. My mom likes to say that I was singing songs along with the radio before I could talk. I started playing the cello when I was 5-years old because my grandmother played. The decision to play professionally was a bit more gradual. I took some time away from the cello in 8th grade and was reinvigorated when I started back up in high school. I would say that I knew for sure that I wanted to pursue music professionally by my junior year of high school.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is deciding how serious he/she is about music?

Music is one of the few activities we start as children that can be a part of our lives well into adulthood. For instance, after you graduate from high school, there are fewer and fewer opportunities to participate in organized sports. However, you can find fulfillment in music in so many different ways regardless of age or what profession you ultimately chose. My 88-year old grandmother, for example, still plays her cello at home and plays in the bell choir at church.

For those students who are considering music as a profession, I would say that it is a difficult path with many ups and downs along the way. However, if it is something you love, a career in music can be very rewarding.

SEE PROFILES, PAGE 18

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

year (summer attendance is always low for obvious reasons) as well as with the significance of the issues affecting the community. One need only look at attendance figures when items such as County budgets and taxation, North Hill, Kings Crossing and other notable projects are being debated. Smaller issues simply draw a smaller crowd. Also, each member organization of the MVCCA is entitled to have designated representatives sit on all of the MVCCA Committees. Some choose not to do so, even though they have that entitlement.

When assessing these unfounded attacks on citizen volunteers it is important for the reader to understand that the one complaining individual was previously a member of the MVCCA Board of Directors for a brief period in 2007. His service was terminated when he was removed from office for a conflict of interest after he made the questionable decision to sue the president of his own citizens association. His efforts in that regard were a failure, as are his current efforts to undermine the primary citizen representation for our District. We will leave it to the reader to decide where this

individual's motivations really lie. Despite the likelihood of future attempts by our detractor to garner the spotlight with creatively twisted interpretations, we will not be dissuaded from our mission to serve the public interest. We will not be engaging in an endless round of point-counterpoint; this will very likely be our only response to set the record straight.

We remind all of you in the Mount Vernon community that the MVCCA is here to serve you and your concerns.

We are active, vibrant, and outspoken. We do not stand on the sidelines and complain while others move this District forward. We simply do good work. Most importantly we are an open organization (all meetings are open to the general public) and invite all eligible associations to join and become voting members of the Council. We look forward to seeing you at any one of our monthly committee meetings or at the monthly General Council. Visit www.mvcca.org for more information.

David Plummer
Al Bornmann
Robert Reynolds
MVCCA Co-chairs

Restoring Dyke Marsh

To the Editor:

I read with interest the letter in last week's Gazette from Glenda C. Booth, president of the Friends of Dyke Marsh. Her letter described the beauty of the marsh, the fact that it is a national treasure, and its role in enhancing water quality in the Potomac River as well as in providing a habitat for wildlife. She is correct. However, the sentence that drew my attention is: "Commendably, the U.S. National Park Service is moving to restore damaged areas." The average reader would not realize that this sentence is referring to a proposal to fill in 270 acres of the Potomac River to recapture portions of dyke marsh that existed 100 years ago, but subsequently were destroyed by mining operations that removed sand and gravel from the bed of the Potomac River, causing a significant portion of the marsh to disappear.

I spoke with Brent Steury this week. He is a natural resources program manager for the George Washington Memorial Parkway Park who is involved in the pro

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7106
Colgate Dr
\$535,000
Hollin Glen-Super Value!

MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION! OWNER WANTS IMMEDIATE SALE. Relocation provides unique opportunity in prestigious "close-in" Hollin Glen. Spacious well maintained home just minutes from Old Town. Many fabulous features include: 4 BRs, 3 BAs, updated gourmet kit, hardwood floors and 2 FPs. Custom 2 tiered deck. Nothing like it in close-in Fort Hunt are for under \$600,000! OPEN SUN 9/5, 1-4. GW Pkwy S, R-Belle Haven, L-Fort Hunt, R-Rollins, L-Colgate.



7115
Colgate Dr
\$795,000
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Expanded colonial in prime location just minutes from Old Town. Many Fabulous features include: exceptionally large room sizes, first floor family room, updated custom kitchen and baths, finished lower level and expanded master suite with luxury bath and cavernous walk-in closets. Stunning custom sunroom overlooks gorgeous pool and grounds. Uniquely fabulous home! OPEN SUN 9/5, 1-4. GW Pkwy S, R-Belle Haven, L-Fort Hunt, R-Rollins, L-Colgate.



3618 Old Vernon Court
\$859,900
Stately Colonial-Prime Location!

Stately Colonial - Prime Location! Exciting New Listing, classic colonial with updated modern floor plan. High Ceilings, 3 finished levels, bright, open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, stunning master suite - This home has it all! 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths. Fabulous location at the end of quiet cul-de-sac with gorgeous level fenced yard. Nothing like it on the market at this price!



275 S PICKETT ST
#101 / Alex
\$ 240,000

Sunny 1 lvl condo w/ separate DR, fireplace in LR, private fenced patio and ample parking. This unit is located in the back of the development across from the pool. Min to Van Dorn METRO, shops & restaurants!

www.marylousage.com
Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441



5428 GRIST MILL WOODS WAY
Mt Vernon
\$ 799,999

Largest brick front colonial on the market in the neighborhood. 6BR, 5BA - 2 master suites - 2 kitchens - office - wood burning fireplace & a 3-car garage! It also boasts soaring ceilings, double staircases, hardwood, decks, patios & arbors. Only minutes to OT Alex., shops, restaurants & more.

Don Hatley 202.329.6818



1250 SOUTH WASHINGTON ST
Porto Vecchio

JUST LISTED
Unit #507-\$485,000
1BR/Den, 1,100+ sq ft spacious flpl, neutral décor w/a superb river view & spectacular sunrises! . . . \$750,000 - Larger 2BR has been beautifully remodeled w/elegant designer touches. Kitchen & Master Bath are gorgeous! Sunny solarium & 2 oversized garage spaces.

Pat Tierney 703.850.5630



8500
Crown Pl
\$698,500
Waywood Opportunity!

Walk to Waywood School from this popular 5 level "Mayfield" model. Spacious home is in pristine condition and offers many special features including: sunroom, walk-up attic, hardwood floors, cat-in kitchen, 2 FPs, and fabulous custom built oversize 2 car garage. Prime location on fenced level lot in the heart of Waywood near school and park. Price, location and features add up to an exceptional value!



8709
Gateshead Rd
\$579,500
Spacious Colonial-Gorgeous Setting!

Classic center hall colonial in uniquely beautiful setting bordering park land on two sides. This exceptionally well maintained home is in "move-in" condition. Popular floor plan with open kitchen-family room, 4 bedrooms, including private suite. Finished walk-out lower level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and custom cabinetry. Other features include covered parking for two cars and screen porch overlooking parkland.



7406 Rippon Rd
\$759,900
Mason Hill—Stunner!

No Stairs- This spectacular home offer luxurious living on one level! Rare, large ramblar with 2836 sq ft. Custom home features exceptionally bright, open floorplan and large room sizes. Other features include: high ceilings, updated kitchen, 4bedrooms including private master suite overlooking wooded grounds. Private office or 5th bedroom. Oversized garage. Expansive glass walls and back patio on 2/3 acre grounds. A truly unique property.



4333 STREAM BED WAY
Alex / \$ 445,900

PRICE REDUCED!
STONEBROOKE! 4BR/2.5BA, 2-car garage with new carpeting, fresh paint, & bamboo floors in MBR, upper hall & stairs. LR with cathedral ceiling. DR with chair rail & crown moldings. FR boasts custom built-ins, brick fireplace & sliding doors to backyard. Office with custom cabinetry. Close to everything!

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Anne Hambley 703.946.7266



3370 WILTON CREST CT
Governor's Hill / Alex
\$ 585,000

TH w/2-car gar. & 3 fin levels including 3 level bump-out & professionally landscaped patio & yard. Upgrades: hardwood, SSA, granite & crown moldings. FR off kit w/frpl. 3BRs, 2.5BAs, large mbr w/soaking tub, walk-in closet. Plenty of visitor parking. Mins to Metro, OT & shops.

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9316 Heather Glen Dr
\$675,000
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9316
Allwood Dr
\$507,000
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8714
Bluedale St
\$629,000
Stratford Landing - Colonial!

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1911 JAMESTOWN RD
Alex / \$ 450,000

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Susan Haughton and
Mindy Brubaker
571.242.9913



1413 BELLE VIEW BLVD #B-2
Belle View / Alex
\$ 229,000

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5902 MT EAGLE DR
#706 / Montebello
\$ 365,000

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4713
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6515
Princeton Dr
\$815,000
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Mt Vernon/Stratford
\$ 575,000

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5904 MT EAGLE DR
#906
Montebello /\$399,000

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Dayna Blumel / Kerry Adams
703.597.2252



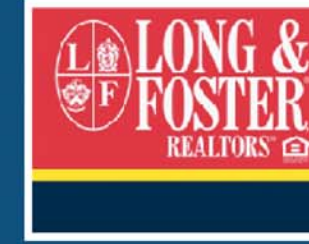
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ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Art League Helps Kick-Off Alexandria Festival of the Arts

The Art League will host a variety of free creative programs on Saturday, Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Market Square in Old Town Alexandria (The Art League will be located at the corner of King & North Fairfax Streets).

Fun, hands-on, art activities for all ages will be offered throughout the day along with demonstrations by nationally recognized artists. They will also hold their first artistically delicious fundraiser — The Ice Cream Bowl.

♦ **10 a.m. – noon:** Kick Off with Art League Instructor Steve Prince and Mayor Bill Euille at Market Square. Art League Instructor and artist Steve Prince kick off the festivities with a fun, hands-on activity for kids. Mayor Bill Euille will also participate.

♦ **12 p.m. – 4 p.m.:** Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser at Market Square. Support The Art League Ceramics Department while enjoying ice cream.

For \$15, select a handmade ceramic bowl created by the artists of The Art League's Ceramics Department and enjoy a bowl of local artisan ice cream by ACKA Cocoa Bar in Del Ray.

Participants in the Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser may enter the free drawing to win an Art League Gift Certificate.

The Ice Cream Bowl benefits The Art League's Ceramics Program. Thanks to ACKC Cocoa Bar for generously donating ice cream and supplies; students, associates, and instructors of The Art League's ceramics program for creating and donating the handmade bowls; and Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association for their support.

♦ **12 p.m. – 4 p.m.:** Art Activated in the Torpedo Factory Art Center with Patrick Kirwin. Art League Instructor and muralist Patrick Kirwin demonstrates his techniques for creating "fool-the-eye" effects. At the main hall of the Torpedo Factory.

♦ **2 p.m. – 4 p.m.:** Plein Air Painting Demo with Fred Markham at Market Square. Art League Instructor and landscape artist Fred Markham shares his painting tips for capturing the essence of any scene.

Schaeffer Makes the Right Moves in Musical, "Chess"

Streamlined pop-rock musical hits heights.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

Signature Theatre's Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer has turned his attention to a musical that has never quite worked and created a high-tech, high-sheen, high-volume version of the mod-pop musical "Chess" that spins its story more efficiently and, in many ways, more effectively than its previous versions had.

"Chess" was originally created as a concept album by lyricist Tim Rice who had had great success with two other musicals that began as concept albums, "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Evita." For those, his composer had been Andrew Lloyd Webber, but he was busy with "Cats," so Rice teamed with Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus of ABBA to create a rock musical score with a distinctly pop sound. This was in 1984. The cold war was raging and Rice wanted to create a piece about international power plays and the way superpowers manipulate people in their ploys using the game of chess as an allegory.

Putting the highly successful music of the album (which included songs that became hits singles such as "One Night in Bangkok") on a stage has been a mixed bag, however. A London production ran nearly three years and was a financial success, but was criticized for an unorthodox telling of a confusing story. A Broadway version with a completely re-written plot was a quick financial failure although it was praised for strong performances.

Schaeffer's version, which will play through Sept. 26 in Signature's 269-seat theater in Shirlington, offers equally strong performances in a streamlined storytelling structure that, if not fixing all the problems of earlier versions, at least solves most of them and then covers up the remainder with theatrical pizzazz that keeps the audience from focusing on plot weaknesses until after the show is over and the music has died down.

In the process, he has brought the running time of the show down to under two and a half hours of fast-paced highlights. This is no small accomplishment if you consider how difficult it must be to make a compelling dramatic musical out of anything quite as static and silent as a chess match. As the leading lady sings at one point: "a game in which silence is golden and speaking a crime."

The love triangle between an American and a Russian chess master and the woman who leaves one for the other has been cast with Broadway stars who bring big voices and strong stage presence to the piece. Most impressive is Euan Morton, best known for his role as Boy George in his Broadway debut in "Taboo." The strength and clarity of his voice and the intensity of his performance are impressive all evening long. Matching Morton's Russian chess master is Jeremy Kushnier as the American bad boy chess star who believes in mind games off the board as well as on. He



SCOTT SUCHMAN/THE CONNECTION

Jeremy Kushnier with the Ensemble singing "One Night in Bangkok" in "Chess" at Virginia's Signature Theatre through Sept. 26, 2010.

sounds just a bit hoarse at times and doesn't quite match Morton in his ability to make the most of Rice's sometimes convoluted lyrics with their rich imagery, frequently flippant humor and recurring concepts.

The leading lady in all this is Jill Paice, who's Broadway credits include "The Woman in White" and "Curtains," but who will be remembered most by Signature audiences for her role in "Ace" on this same stage. That such a strong voice could emanate from such a slight frame is at time surprising and she isn't given much help by costume designer Kathleen Geldard who provides one ungainly outfit after another. But she overcomes that with a dramatically as well as vocally impressive performance.

Signature draws from its list of talented regulars for the supporting roles. Christopher Bloch is his usual superb contributor, this time as a Soviet handler and KGB agent matched with Russell Sunday as his American counterpart. Sunday plays his non-singing scenes well but is most powerful in his few opportunities to sing, especially his musical argument with Kushnier's character in the second act, "Winning." Eleasha Gamble's character, the wife of the Russian chess player, only arrives in the second act but she is a strong addition to the vocal power of the night when she joins Paice on first "You and I" and then on one of the show's hits, "I Know Him So Well."

Daniel Conway's set of shiny black surfaces bisected by bright channels of light is complimented by effective graphics designed by Aaron Fisher that are shown on four large screens, which are raised or lowered to change place, time or mood.

Matt Rowe's sound design is solid and delivers the vocals through the fairly unsightly face microphones the cast wears. Still, while even the loudest numbers are delivered without distracting distortion and with notable separation, the lack of variation in the volume level between spoken scenes, soft songs and big rock belting gets a bit wearying. Geldard's costumes for the principal male

Where & When

"Chess" plays through Sept. 26 at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Avenue in Shirlington. Performances are Tuesday - Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Thursday - Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday - Sunday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 - \$81. Call 703-573-7328 or log on to www.signaturetheatre.org.

characters are just serviceable and the decision to place the ensemble in black uniform-like tunics raises confusing thoughts of why, for example, is the press corps that is interviewing the chess players dressed as bellmen at a swank hotel?

A key factor in the success of any musical at Signature, where the intimacy of the theater makes the sound of the music almost an environment in itself, is the orchestra and the orchestrations they are playing to support the voices on stage. As so often happens here, this production benefits from fine playing by, in this case, 10 musicians under the baton of Jenny Cartney. The new orchestrations are by David Holcenberg whose years in the pit for the ABBA musical "Mamma Mia!" seems to have given him an instinct for the strength of Andersson and Ulvaeus' compositions. There is a significant difference in the sound of the music between the two Andersson/Ulvaeus shows. This makes perfect dramatic sense, however, since "Mamma Mia!" has a score to be sung by happy people at a joyous point in their lives, while "Chess" concerns angry people at a tense point in theirs.

The individual contributions are kept in balance by Schaeffer, who gives the entire project a sense of momentum that drives it forward even when the story seems to be faltering. It may well be the most satisfying Chess game you've ever listened to.

THEATER

Notes from the Director

BY CAROLYN GRIFFIN,
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

A new Jazz Age musical, **"Glimpses of the Moon,"** based on the novel by Edith Wharton, will open MetroStage's 2010-11 season next week. MetroStage has become known for its small-scale musicals (we leave the epics to other theatres that have larger dressing rooms!). **"Glimpses of the Moon,"** which played in a cabaret space in New York last year (if you consider the Oak Room of the famous Algonquin Hotel a cabaret space), will leap onto our main stage here in the north end of Old Town with a fabulous cast from Washington and New York, beautiful music and original choreography. Producing new work, especially musicals, and giving them a life beyond the written page, is one of MetroStage's primary missions. Book and lyrics writer, Tajlei Levis, and composer, John Mercurio, will be here from New York to witness this next stage for their new work, as well as the original New York producers and potential producers for the future. The MetroStage season will be opening with great anticipation and excitement as well as great possibilities for a future life for this lovely new musical.

Every regional theatre in the country has a distinctive personality and mission. MetroStage is a small, intimate theatre with a unique configuration that brings the audience and the actor together for a powerful, oftentimes exhilarating, theatrical experience. By presenting an eclectic season the audience will experience a sparkling romantic musical depicting life in the 1920's, followed by an uproarious Broadway parody of the clas-

sic holiday show, Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," entitled **"A Broadway Christmas Carol."** MetroStage has had great fun with Broadway parodies in the past in the form of "Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)", which was a parody of five Broadway composers. **"A Broadway Christmas Carol"** will feature two of our actors from "Musical of Musicals," Donna Migliaccio (who was most recently seen on Broadway in "Ragtime") and Matt Anderson (who will have just been seen in **"Glimpses of the Moon,"** playing the playboy Winthrop Stefford and will now be playing All Characters who are not Scrooge!)

In 2011 we will open with **"His Eye is on the Sparrow,"** a bio musical about the life of Ethel Waters, starring MetroStage favorite Bernardine Mitchell ("Mahalia" and "Three Sistahs"). This will be followed by a classic Tom Stoppard farce, **"The Real Inspector Hound,"** starring the three actors who appeared in "Heroes" last year and won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Ensemble.

This apparently is the year of the classic. As I write this description of the MetroStage offerings this season, I realize that the shows are all classics in their own individual, inimitable way. A classic writer famous for her social commentaries of the leisure class in the 1920s; the holiday classic with the most classic of familiar Broadway show tunes; the classic, legendary singer from the first half of the 20th century singing blues, jazz and gospel standards; and a classic Stoppard farce that is a send up of the classic Agatha Christie mystery — all are classics and will offer the audience a broad range of unique theatrical experiences.

Rent Country Comforts near Potomac River



The exterior of this Mount Vernon 1950's brick home provides a friendly front porch and disguises a spacious 4 BR, 3 BA up-dated interior with hardwood floors, fireplace, country kitchen, basement, W/D, 2-car garage, patio room, plentiful storage, double lot. Just seven miles south of Old Town, Waynewood school district, easy access to Mount Vernon biking and hiking trail, West Blvd., Collingwood Park, Hollin Hall Shopping Center. Available in September, \$2,850/mo. or lower in exchange for home service skills, good credit and references; pets considered. Drive by 1206 Gladstone Place at Fort Hunt Rd. to see. 703-862-7240 for more details.

Things To Do Today

- ☒ 1. Breakfast w/ Mary & Bob—8:30
- ☐ 2. Tai chi group at 10
- ☐ 3. Stop by library before lunch?
- ☐ 4. Pottery class—1:00
- ☐ 5. Scrabble club at 3:00

Notes:

Asian Night in the dining room!



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2010-2011 Season



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- SCHUMANN: Piano Concerto
- RACHMANINOFF: Symphony No. 3

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FINE ARTS



Rainy Day in NYC by Jill Banks, Best in Show, oil on canvas.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 6

"Scapes: The Annual Landscape Exhibit." Artwork inspired by all environments may be a part of this exhibit – urban and rural, industrialized and primitive, coastal and arid, and works portraying the beauty and destruction created by Mother Nature. 'Scapes was juried by artist Joey Manlapaz, instructor at the Corcoran College of Art and Design. At the Art League Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Visit www.theartleague.org.



NOW THROUGH OCT. 3

Photography Exhibition. "You Are Who You Are," photographs by Louise Noakes; and "Shadow and Substance," photographs by Grace Taylor. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, #312, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.



NOW THROUGH SEPT. 5

CM Dupre's Alice at The Art League at National Harbor. At the Art League at National Harbor, at 120 American Way, Oxon Hill, Md. Hours: Wednesday–Friday, noon–7 p.m.; Saturday–Sunday, noon–6 p.m. Exhibitions and events are free and open to the public.

KEYS FROM THE CRISIS

The Torpedo Factory Art Center, The Art League, and Multiple Exposures Gallery are partnering with the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) to kick off their national campaign "Keys From the Crisis." Through a variety of art related activities, the art center will help the NCRC tell the story of the foreclosure crisis to the public in a very visual way.

- ❖ **Now Through Sept. 26:** Systems Failure exhibition in the Target Gallery
- ❖ **Sept. 1-30:** David H. Wells' photo-essay, "Foreclosed Dreams," that explores the empty homes littering the American landscape in the wake of the housing crisis on exhibit in the Site 3 Gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, and a large scale projection at The Art League Gallery/National Harbor Location
- ❖ **"House of String":** Large Scale installation located on the main floor of the Torpedo Factory, created by Torpedo Factory Artists serving on the Target Gallery Committee
- ❖ **Sept. 9, 6-9 p.m.:** Second Thursday Art Night. Target Gallery's Systems Failure "Meet the Artists" Reception – 6-8 p.m.

National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC), Special Presentation at 7pm by John Taylor,

President and CEO of the NCRC David H. Wells, artist talk, in the Multiple Exposures Gallery at 8 p.m.

❖ **Sept. 11, 12-4:** Art Activated 1:30 p.m. -Target Gallery hosts SPARK: art from writing, writing from art – a spoken word event, along with a hands-on writing activity for the public. Focus is on the Systems Failure exhibit and the Keys from the Crisis campaign

❖ **Sept. 23, 7 p.m.:** Target Gallery hosts a Curator Discussion with juror Sarah Tanguy for Systems Failure Exhibition. Sarah Tanguy is an independent curator, arts writer, and critic, as well as a curator for the Art in Embassies Program, based in Washington, D.C.

SEPT. 10 THROUGH OCT. 10

Phil Napala's Digital Photography. Part of the Orphan Works Project. The Opening Reception is Friday, Sept. 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with an artist talk at 7:30 p.m. The Gallery Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery.

SEPT. 10 THROUGH NOV. 7

Fall Solos 2010. Featuring the artists



SEPT. 8 THROUGH OCT. 3

Big World, Small Paintings. A collection of works by Cindi Lewis. Reception on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 5-8 p.m. Located at Gallery West, 1213 King Street in Old Town. Go to www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.



Photograph by Marge Silverberg

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 4

"Sunflowers Say Summer." Photography exhibit of sunflowers at Buzz Bakery, Coffee and Lounge, 901 Slaters Lane, Alexandria. The work of six metropolitan-area photographers will be on exhibit. Photographers Grayce Warren-Boulton, Candace Clifford, Sheila Galagan, Jo Ann Tooley, Pam Richmond and Marge Silverberg are part of the f11, A Women's Photography Collective.

Johanna Mueller, Tim Portlock, Matt King, John Henry Blatter, Kathleen Shafer and Joanie Turbek. Opening reception is Friday, Sept. 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. At the Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Contact Jeffery Cudlin, Director of Exhibitions at jeffery.cudlin@arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 12

Shore Line. 2-6 p.m. Featured by Van Landingham Paintings, Fire Enamels. A show of paintings and fire enamels featuring scenes of beaches and sea by Marian Van Landingham will open in studio 321, Torpedo Factory Art Center. The show will end on Sept. 25.

NOW THROUGH SEPT. 12

Shelf Life / Mary "Mimi" Frank. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Hours are Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org.

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CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

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

THURSDAY/SEPT. 2

Taste of Del Ray. 6 to 8 p.m. Gourmet tastes from Del Ray's top restaurants. In the Del Ray Farmer's Market lot on the 2400 block of Mt. Vernon Ave., in Alexandria. Tickets are \$10/adults; \$5/children. All proceeds will benefit Community Partners for Children. Visit <http://www.visitdelray.com>.

Britt Neal. 7-9 p.m. Free. Britt Neal's sound is rich with gospel and blues, and glimpses of the world she's heard whenever she turned on her radio. Country and bluegrass, and good old Southern rock. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 3

Big Chalk Draw. 8-10 a.m., community event in Art at the Center's parking lot at 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. Share creativity with other artists in the community. The center will provide the parking lot and chalk. Free. Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane. See www.artatthecenter.org

Film Screening and Q&A. 2 p.m. "Paul McCartney Really Is Dead" documentary. The film screening and Q&A with film director Joel Gilbert will be held inside the Gaylord National Resort, located in National Harbor, Md. Subsequent screenings will be held on Saturday, Sept. 4 and Sunday, Sept. 5 at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Welcome Guest Party. 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. At the Regan Dance Center Academy of the Performing Arts. Group classes: ChaCha at 7 p.m.; Salsa/Merengue at 7:45 p.m.; Swing at 7 p.m. Cost is \$8/group classes; \$12 for the classes and party. At Landmark Mall (next to Macy's), 5801 Duke St., Alexandria. Call 703-354-6000.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 4

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. A variety of original artwork from 20 artists will be displayed for sale. At the Nicholas A. Colasanto Park, adjoining the Del Ray Artisans gallery at 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, (corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Mount Vernon Avenue). For more information on how to apply for an artspace at the market, about being a food vendor or musical act,



FRIDAY/SEPT. 17

Red Molly in Concert. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20/advance; \$20/door; children under 14 with an adult half price. For reservations, go to www.sunspotpro.com or call 800-404-9049. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria.

contact Kimberley Bush at 703-627-7656 or email DRA.AlexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com.

School Supplies Collection. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Boy Scout Kyle Parker (Troop 654) is leading an effort with Charity Communities in Schools of the Nation's Capital to collect school supplies — backpacks, No. 2 pencils, notebooks, rulers, erasers, glue sticks, crayons, markers, and colored pencils — to be distributed to students at Ferebee-Hope Elementary in Southeast Washington, D.C. Email elykl33t@gmail.com.

Celebrate World Chocolate Day. 1-3 p.m. Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream is now made with fairly traded chocolate, and to celebrate, Ben & Jerry's Old Town Scoop Shop will be dishing out free samples of chocolate ice cream at Ten Thousand Villages. Shoppers at Ten Thousand Villages will also be treated to a Fair Trade chocolate fondue all afternoon.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 5

Summer Chamber Music Series. 3 p.m. Free. Pianist William McDaniel performing works by Chopin, Debussy and Prokofiev's Sonata No. 8. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria.

Lesson Zero (new adult contemporary indie rock/blues). 3-4 p.m. Free. A concert performed by Lesson Zero, new adult contemporary indie rock/blues. At Collingwood, 4.3 miles south of Old Town Alexandria, 8301 East Boulevard Drive. Visit www.collingwoodlibrary.com or call Judie Kunkle at 703-765-1652 for more information

MONDAY/SEPT. 6

Labor Day International Festival.

Noon to 6 p.m. Includes live entertainment, children's rides and games, international food booths, raffles, white elephant sale, homemade baked goods. At Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria. Parking at Mount Vernon High School with free shuttle service. Call 703-780-4055 or visit www.gs-cc.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 7

Doggie Day Swim. 4 to 7 p.m. Treat your pooch to a summertime dip. At the Old Town Pool, 1609 Cameron St., Alexandria. A portion of proceeds benefits the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. E-mail jannie.wray@alexandriava.gov.

Morrison House Presents Amy Bertsch. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. A salon-style discussion series: "Volusia: Civilian, Slave and Soldier Experiences in the Civil War." At Morrison House, 116 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com or call 703-838-8000.

"Nude with Violin." 6:30 p.m. Fund-raiser for the Alexandria Bar Foundation. Art, theater, reception, silent auction. Tickets are \$40 or five for \$35. At the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. For tickets, 703-548-1106. Email: Alexbar@alexandriabarva.org

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 8

Women's Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$17. Special guest includes Rosa Maria Faulkner, a Certified Personality Trainer. Sponsored by the Springfield/Alexandria Women's Connection. At the Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Reservations must be made by Sept. 3 at 703-590-6562 or e-mail to SpringWmConn@yahoo.com.

Live Well with Chronic Illness –

Chronic health problems such as arthritis, diabetes, heart conditions and respiratory problems can involve ongoing physical and emotional challenges. A free Fairfax County workshop helps people handle the frustration, fatigue, and pain associated with chronic illnesses. Workshops meet once a week for six weeks for two hours beginning Friday, Sept. 8 at Sherwood Hall Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, in Alexandria. Call 703-324-5489, TTY 711.

Square Dance Lessons. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Free. Eight-week classes meet Wednesdays. By the Boomerangs Square Dance Teaching Council. Three Class Levels (Beginner or Basic, Mainstream, & Plus) Operating Simultaneously. First class of each session is considered a no obligation night – come see if the classes are right for you and pay nothing. Class costs: \$40 per person for each eight-week period. At Lincolnia Center, 4710 North Chambliss St., in Alexandria. Call Nancy at 703-573-8378. Email tom.nancystafford@cox.net.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 9

Second Thursday Art Night. 6-9 p.m. Free. Artist Talk with David H. Wells at 8 p.m. at Multiple Exposures Gallery. From 6:30-8 p.m., The Art League Gallery hosts the reception for the All-Media Membership Show and Michele Rea's solo show, Vantage Point. From 6-8 p.m., Target Gallery presents a "Meet the Artists" reception for Systems Failure. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565

David Glaser. 7 p.m. David Glaser burst onto the Acoustic/Folk scene in 2008 with "Cars and Lovers," a genre-bending CD that shows his range as a performing songwriter. Performs at The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035.

Canine Cruise. 8 p.m. Cost is \$35/person; \$20/kids under 12. Oldies But Goodies Cocker Rescue invites humans and their doggie friends on a cruise, leaving from the Alexandria dock. All breeds are welcome. Wine, beer, soda, snacks, doggie treats and a souvenir photo. Register at: <http://www.cockerspanielrescue.com/cruise.htm>. Meet at Pat Troy's Irish Pub, 111 N Pitt St. from 5-7 p.m. for a Pre-Yappy Hour on their back patio. Afterwards, there is a "Cocker Parade" down to the dock at the bottom of King Street/Cameron Street behind the Torpedo Factory.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 10

Stroke and Osteoporosis Screening. 9 a.m. Packages start at \$139. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes. At the Manchester Lakes Senior Apartments, 7131 Silverlake

Blvd., Alexandria. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

Composting Seminar. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$12/person. Green Spring Gardens' Master Gardeners share gardening tips. To register, call 703-642-5173. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 11

"Blacks Without Borders" Film Screening. 4:30 p.m. Free. Part of "Movies with a Mission." At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-4356.

Art Activated. Noon to 4 p.m. Free. During the Alexandria Festival of the Arts, the Torpedo Factory presents Art Activated featuring artist demonstrations, hands-on projects, art-inspired treats from SnackShak by Bittersweet and special performances by DCypher, Joy of Motion Dance Center's resident adult hip-hop company. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org; 703-838-4565.

17th Annual Leukemia Cup

Regatta. Begins at 10 a.m. The largest race on the Potomac River. One-Design, PHRF and model yachts are welcome to participate. Spectator boats will be available to the public for a closer view of the races for \$10 per person. Guests may purchase tickets for the post-race celebration, at \$10 per person. Event participants are asked to raise at least \$100 for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in lieu of a registration fee. To register for the events or for more information, contact Loree Lipstein, Sr. Campaign Manager, at 703-399-2957, or visit www.leukemicup.org/nca.

SEPT. 11-12

Alexandria Festival of the Arts. Free. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Alexandria's premier art affair returns for its 8th anniversary with the nation's top established artists as well as new and emerging talent. Includes paintings, life size sculptures, photography, glass, wood, jewelry, collage and ceramics with prices ranging from \$25 hand-designed earrings to \$20,000 metal sculptures. In Old Town on King Street from Washington down to the Potomac River at the Torpedo Factory; 480 King street, Alexandria. Visit www.artfestival.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 12

Pet Adoptions. 1 to 4 p.m. Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation will be starting bimonthly pet adoptions at the PetSmart in Hybla Valley Shopping Center. All animals are spayed or neutered and are up-to-date on vaccinations. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org.

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COMMUNITY

Orchestra Growth Continues

FROM PAGE 10

sic, with composers reacting and responding to a successful aesthetic that had reached saturation point, i.e. the opulent orchestral language of the late Romantics. On March 19, 2011 the FSO will present Webern's Six Pieces for Orchestra (revised/reduced version) and Sibelius' Symphony No. 5. "Written within only a few years of each other," said Zimmerman, "Sibelius and Webern's creations here show just how differently beautiful works of art can be expressed in the hands of great and sensitive composers. There, the prevailing techniques and modes of expression seem to have been shattered in the pursuit of a new voice." Sibelius' 5th Symphony is also programmed as part of the FSO's ongoing exploration of his symphonic development.

"In his own way, too, Beethoven can be regarded as an artist who seemed to 'tear up the rules' in his need to express himself fully," Zimmerman said. Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.5, his final piano concerto, will be played by the eminent Finnish pianist, Matti Raekallio.

THE FAIRFAX SYMPHONY Orchestra's 2010-11 season will close with another double performance on May 14, 2011 at GMU's Center for the Arts in Fairfax and on May 15 at the Hylton Performing Arts Cen-

ter in Manassas. The Fairfax Choral Society, with Artistic Director Douglas Mears, and the Reston Chorale with Artistic Director David Brian Lang, join the FSO in a performance of Mahler's spectacular Symphony No.2, "Resurrection."

A step beyond Beethoven's 9th, "Resurrection" is a musical journey which speaks of the human condition in all its complexities and paradoxes and touches on the nature of existence, religion, and the afterlife. "Only Mahler could embrace such an ambitious agenda and succeed in producing one of the most exciting, beautiful and exultant works that has yet been written," said Zimmerman.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE by calling 703-563-1990 or online at www.fairfaxsymphony.org. Single tickets for the 2010-11 season range from \$25-\$55 (Fairfax) and from \$25-\$45 (Manassas).

Directions to the concert halls and information on the FSO's education and outreach programs, podcasts and other activities may also be found on the FSO's website. Program notes for each concert are posted on the site at least one week prior to the performance.

The orchestra is supported in part through funding by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and the County of Fairfax, along with generous support from corporations, foundations and individuals

More

Call 703-563-1990 or visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org. Tickets for the 2010-11 season range from \$25-\$55 (Fairfax) and from \$25-\$45 (Manassas).

Musician Profiles

FROM PAGE 10

What is one piece of advice you would give to someone who has stopped playing an instrument but would like to take it up again?

It's never too late!

What is your favorite piece to play?

That is a very difficult question. One of my very favorite orchestral pieces to play is Mahler's 2nd Symphony (which the Fairfax Symphony is performing this season). In terms of solo pieces, it's hard to beat Bach's Solo Cello Suites.

What are other local music venues/experiences that you would recommend?

The Kennedy Center. Check out the free concerts every day at 6 p.m. on the Millenium Stage.

Strathmore Hall Music Center in North Bethesda. In my opinion, this is the most beautiful hall the metro area.

During the summer, check out the free Jazz in the Garden series at the National Gallery of Art's Sculpture Garden. It takes place every Friday night and, if you don't mind the crowds, is a lot of fun.

Finally, don't forget about your local university schools of music (GMU for example). Student recitals and orchestra concerts are free or reasonably priced and the performers love to have a nice audience.

Where do you "hang out?" What do you like to do when you are not working?

Go to Nationals games, movies, dinner with friends, those sorts of things. Mostly, my wife and I watch a lot of Netflix.

What is your favorite thing about playing with the FSO?

The other musicians and the close connection between the orchestra and the audience.

GRETA RICHARD

Age: 36

Instrument(s): French horn

Town of Residence: Alexandria

Years in FSO: 9 years

Studied Music At: Ithaca College, N.Y. and Southern Methodist Univ., Texas

Career Outside of FSO: I am a horn player with the United States Marine Band, "The President's Own."

Did you grow up/go to high school or college in this area? Where?

I grew up in White Bear Lake, Minn.

What sparked your interest in music? How old were you? When did you know you wanted to play professionally?

I have always loved music. I did a church gig when I was 17 and loved playing with the orchestra so much that I decided it was what I wanted to do. Easy to dream, hard to do! I am grateful that I have found some success and am able to play horn for a living.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is deciding how serious he/she is about music?

It is never easy but it is a worthwhile endeavor. Practice, go to lots of concerts and do EVERYTHING your teacher says to do!

What is one piece of advice you would give to someone who has stopped playing an instrument but would like to take it up again?

Take it slow and find a group of amateurs to play with. Practice is a solo effort, but making music together is a joyous occasion. Music is best shared with others!

What is your favorite piece to play?

Anything by Brahms.

What are other local music venues/experiences that you would recommend?

Any of the hundreds of free concerts in the D.C. metro area during the summer and winter. Every military organization has a concert series that is free and open to the public.

Where do you "hang out?" What do you like to do when you are not working?

I love to spend time outside with my family.

What is your favorite thing about playing with the FSO?

Playing the wonderful works of classical composers with other dedicated and professional musicians.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

posal to restore 270 acres of the Potomac River to the marsh. As has been reported recently, Congress appropriated \$500,000 for the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to help guide the restoration proposal. Less reported is the fact that before the EIS can be completed, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) must complete technical studies of the area to be restored. The cost for these USACE studies is estimated to be \$810,000. According to Mr. Steury, to date, \$200,000 has been spent by USACE for Dyke Marsh bathymetry, which means a study of the depth of the waters of the Potomac River in the 270-acre area. This is necessary to enable determination of the amount of fill that would be necessary to fill in that entire area.

I am told that the average depth of the waters in the 270 acre area is 3-5 feet. Using 3 feet for purposes of discussion, it will require 1,306,800 cubic yards of fill to fill such a volume. At 10 cubic yards per truckload, that is over 130,000 truck loads. Imagine the potential for environmental disaster in areas surrounding Dyke Marsh if such a filling operation were undertaken even under the most stringent monitoring. Moreover, unsaid is the fact that outside the 270-acre area,

there are deep furrows caused by the earlier mining operations that contributed to the collapse of the 270-acre portion of Dyke Marsh that is proposed to be restored. If those furrows are not addressed, filling and restoring of the 270-acre area may not result in the desired restoration.

Moreover, one wonders what other beneficial actions could be taken along the shoreline of the George Washington Memorial Parkway Park from the Wilson Bridge down to the Mount Vernon Estate, if the \$1.3 million to be spent figuring out what to do and the additional money to be spent doing it were instead applied elsewhere, not to mention the costs of the restoration itself.

Ms. Booth's other role is as chairman of the Fairfax County Wetlands Board. I have attended their meetings and have observed the strict scrutiny Ms. Booth applies to proposed development projects, even those potentially impacting only a fraction of an acre of wetlands. I trust that Ms. Booth will apply equal scrutiny to the potential environmental disaster that could result from filling in 270 acres of the Potomac River with over 130,000 truckloads of fill.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon



Bound for Wolf Trap

On the morning of Aug. 6, a chartered bus took 52 children and their escorts from Sacramento and Creekside Neighborhood Centers to see two performances at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. This trip was sponsored and paid for by the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club. For more information on how to help the club do more community service, visit www.mtvernonvakiwanis.org and the club's FaceBook page or send an e-mail to brucemalkin1@gmail.com.

First-Year Majors Coach Opens with Rival

Barry Wells leads the Majors against West Potomac.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

A new member is about to be introduced to the Mount Vernon-West Potomac rivalry. First-year Mount Vernon head football coach Barry Wells will face cross-town rival West Potomac in his debut at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 2 at MVHS. Wells, who replaced Tom Glynn, faces the task of leading a program that finished 0-10 last season, including a 42-3 loss to West Potomac



Wells

in the opener, and hasn't beaten the rival Wolverines since 2006.

"A win Thursday night puts this program on a trajectory that a lot of people weren't even expecting," Wells said. "What it's going to mean from a confidence standpoint, you can't put a price tag on. If these kids come out of

the gate and they win that one against their cross-town rival, then I'm going to find out what kind of team I have."

Who is Barry Wells and what kind of team does he have? Wells, 50, is in the consulting business and has been a football coach since 1988, with stops as an assistant in Virginia, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He is a first-time head coach. He considers himself a defensive-minded coach, but his duties will include calling offensive plays during his inaugural season with the Majors. He takes over a program that won state championship in 1983 and totaled nine victories as recently as 2008, but was outscored 365-129 during last year's winless campaign.

"We're not trying to necessarily build a tradition," Wells said, "we're trying to restore a tradition."

What kind of a coach is Wells?

"He runs the team as a business," senior linebacker and tight end Julien Randolph said. "We all come to practice expecting new stuff every day. We're more organized

and the atmosphere is more positive. We all had our heads down, not knowing what our team was going to be like this year. After we started establishing a new team, making better plays in scrimmages, we figured out we actually have a good team."

"We're hungry for this win; not just because it's West Potomac, because we haven't won a game in over a year."

— Mount Vernon senior Steve Funk



West Potomac's Daryl Copeland out-jumps a Mount Vernon defender during last season's 42-3 win over the Majors.

PHOTO BY RICHARD MAPLE

OFFENSIVELY, Mount Vernon operated out of the I-formation during an Aug. 20 scrimmage against Woodbridge, but Wells said the Majors will run multiple formations during the season. Sophomore Robert Decardi-Nelson (5 feet 10, 175 pounds) will start at quarterback for the Majors, with senior Tre Cooke (5-9, 219) backing him up.

"We're looking at the longevity of the program," Wells said. "Robert has all the tools. He's a little young. Some of the things that we're asking him to do, quite frankly, he's not had to do before: reading coverages, reading defenses, taking his time, making sure his mechanics are where they need to be. He's a work in progress, but he's a kid that has

the tools.

"If he can hang on and show some progress each week, he could end up being a three-year starter."

At running back, senior Emmanuel Tackie (5-8-152) and junior Sadiq Odyedele (5-6, 156) will split carries. In the passing game,

junior Michael Lewis (6-1, 189) has emerged as one of the team's top receiving threats.

On the offensive line, Wells said senior left tackle Logan Beougher (6-3, 256) is the best of a group looking to improve.

"To have five kids with [Beougher's] disposition and size and strength would make a world of a difference," Wells said. "He's kind of an anchor. He's a guy I know we can go behind if we need to."

Defensively, Mount Vernon will run the 4-3, led by Beougher at defensive end, Cooke at middle linebacker and senior Deandre Wooten (5-6, 145) at cornerback.

Wells said he wants to approach the season in a realistic fashion, setting his minimum win goal at five.

"Anything less than .500 is going to be an extreme disappointment for me," Wells said. "Only because I know the work that the kids put in, I know the talent that we have, and if the kids can just get to a point where they're confident in what they're doing, we could sneak up on some people."

STANDING in the Majors' way during the opener is West Potomac. The Wolverines lost eight of their next nine games after thumping Mount Vernon to start the 2009 season and will have to replace their starting quar-

terback and four members of their offensive line. Still, senior left guard Dan Carriker (6-2, 300), a Division I prospect and the lone returning starter from the O-line said he likes the team's chances.

"I feel like we have more talent," Carriker said, and "a lot more discipline than in the past few years that I've been on the team."

The main reason behind the team's improved discipline, Carriker said, is an infusion of assistant coaches. Five new assistant coaches joined the Wolverines this year, giving them a varsity/JV staff of 14. Head coach Eric Henderson said he's noticed a difference.

"I think we're more focused," Henderson said. "Our practices have been much sharper. It's been a pleasant change. We brought in some new coaches; more position group coaches. Last year we had a smaller staff, this year we have a lot of good guys that work hard at it and it's rubbing off on the kids."

Leading West Potomac's no-huddle spread offense is senior quarterback Nik Dimitrijevic (6-3, 210), who saw time last year when starter Colin Mathewson went down with an injury. The Wolverines' top receiving threats are seniors Daryl Copeland (5-8, 160) and Jalen Dawson (5-9, 170). Junior Brandon Johnson (5-10, 170) will see most of the carries at running back.

Along with Carriker on the offensive line will be sophomore left tackle Hunter Dennis (6-3, 300), junior center Tommy Friederich (5-10, 240), junior right guard Agyenim Agyei-Boateng (6-0, 210) and senior right tackle Jesse Fico (6-5, 260).

Defensively, West Potomac runs multiple fronts. Senior end Dustin Hess (6-1, 210), senior nose guard Antonio Fitzgerald (6-2, 270) and senior three-technique tackle Alvaro Guzman (5-8, 210) solidify the defensive line. Henderson said Guzman is pound for pound the strongest player on the team.

Junior Kofi Adom (5-10, 190) is the team's middle linebacker. Senior Sonpon Doe (6-2, 210) is the strong side linebacker. Henderson said he expects a breakout season from Doe, who missed his junior year due to shoulder surgery.

In the secondary, Henderson is high on junior cornerback Tyrone Jenkins (6-0, 160).

"As far as talent goes," Henderson said, "I think he's a can't-miss DI kind of kid."

Senior Denzel Hatch (5-9, 160) is the other corner, and juniors Tamaric Wilson (5-9, 170) and Ryan Aitken (5-9, 160) are the safeties.

Each team would like to start the 2010 season with a win over its rival. The Majors, however, are looking for their first win of any kind since 2008.

"A win for us would mean a lot," Mount Vernon senior lineman Steve Funk said. "Not only that, but it would give us bragging rights. We're hungry for this win; not just because it's West Potomac, because we haven't won a game in over a year."

SPORTS

MV Field Hockey Beats WP

The Mount Vernon field hockey team defeated West Potomac 1-0 in overtime on Aug. 26. Mount Vernon, which won the National District championship in 2009, travels to face Falls Church at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 1. West Potomac, which bounced back with a 3-0 win over Falls Church on Aug. 30, travels to face Patriot District opponent Woodson at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 1.

SPORTS BRIEFS

MV Volleyball Opens with Loss

The Mount Vernon volleyball team lost to Lee 3-1 in the Majors' season opener on Aug. 30. Mount Vernon hosts Thomas Jefferson at 7:15 p.m. on Sept. 1.

WP Volleyball To Host W-L

The West Potomac volleyball team will host Washington-Lee for its season opener at 7:15 p.m. on Sept. 1.

Area Agencies Sponsor Senior Olympics

Since 1982, Northern Virginia Departments of Parks and Recreation and Area Agencies on Aging have been sponsoring the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Since that time, participation has increased to more than 600 senior athletes competing in more than 25 indoor and outdoor events ranging from sports to card games to line dancing to board games.

The 2010 NVSO competition will take place Sept. 18-29 at more than 10 venues throughout Northern Virginia. Events include track and field, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, pickleball, racquetball, golf, miniature golf, bowling, Wii bowling, eight-ball pool, men's basketball, men's and women's basketball free throw, frisbee throw, shuffleboard, bunco, chess, scrabble, cribbage, duplicate bridge, softball hit and throw, team line dancing and yo-yo tricks. New in 2010 are bocce and fencing.

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.

Lil' Titans Youth Flag Football

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Sports Section is now accepting registrations for the Lil' Titans Youth flag football program. This developmental program is for participants ages 5 - 6. League age is determined by the age of the participant as of Oct. 1, 2010.

Teams are formed by recreation districts. Registration fee is \$50. All participants must be resident of the City of Alexandria. Games will held on Saturday afternoons in September and October.

The league is limited to a maximum of 100 registrations.

For more information, call the sports office at 703-746-5402 or go on the recreation department's Web site at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

Youth Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently seeking volunteers to coach flag football, basketball, volleyball, baseball and softball. Criminal history background checks are required. Interested persons should call the youth sports office at 703-746-5402 or e-mail mac.slover@alexandriava.gov or tamika.coleman@alexandriava.gov.

Girls Volleyball Program

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities' Sports Section is now accepting registrations for the girls volleyball league for ages 9 - 14. League age is determined by the age of the participant as of Dec. 31, 2010.

The league is designed to develop the basic fundamentals and further the development of the skilled players. Teams will be formed based on the number of participants registered and by experience.

Practice begins in late September with practices on Sunday afternoons and games on Thursday and Friday nights. The registration deadline is Sept. 15, and is limited to a maximum of 120 participants. The fee is \$30 and participants must be a resident of the City of Alexandria.

For additional information, call the sports office at 703-746-5402 or visit alexandriava.gov/recreation. Space is limited.

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NEWS

Hamilton Apprehended

FROM PAGE 1

from Czechoslovakia.

The Justice Department and Fairfax county police are currently in the process of obtaining his extradition to the U.S. in order to stand trial in Fairfax District Court for his alleged offenses.

Ray Morrogh, Commonwealth Attorney, Fairfax County, reacting to Hamilton's recent arrest in Poland, said, "I promised a mother last year that we would bring him back here to stand trial and we are. His failure to appear and his fleeing to Europe will mean he will be charged with additional new violations. Nevertheless, we are ready to go to trial. I want to thank the U.S. Justice Department and Interpol for helping us to find him."

The U.S. Marshals Service is working with Fairfax county police to extradite him from Poland. U.S. Marshals Chief Inspector Billy Sorukas said that the extradition process includes "confirming his identity, and obtaining agreement from the Polish Government that the charges are applicable and appropriate for extradition to the U.S." At this time Sorukas could not predict how quickly he would be brought back to the U.S. since the Polish government must first agree to release him into U.S. custody.

Hamilton, the target of a global search involving Interpol, has been the subject of the TV program, America's Most Wanted (AMW). Last year, after one of the AMW programs that featured Hamilton, a TV viewer came forward to say he had recognized him in Frankfurt, Germany. Fairfax County police credit AMW, Interpol, and the Justice Department with assisting in finding him.

AMW employee Cheri Nolan, a mother of three children who knew John Hamilton when he coached in the Fort Hunt Youth League, said, "The world is a safer place for children now that he is in custody."

AMW news correspondent Angeline Hartmann said, "We could not be more relieved to know he is finally in custody. We saw him as a coward not willing to face what he has coming to him and own up to what he has done to countless children. Of all the fugitives I have researched and reported on for this TV program, Hamilton is one person who makes my blood boil."

Chronology

- ❖ **June, 2009:** Hamilton confesses to sexual assaults on numerous children; is charged with aggravated sexual battery and three counts of taking indecent liberties with a child under his supervision
- ❖ **October, 2009:** Hamilton fails to appear in court to enter a guilty plea to charges; flees the U.S. to Europe
- ❖ America's Most Wanted (AMW) television viewer recognizes him from the publicity of a recent AMW photo; reports last seeing him in Frankfurt, Germany
- ❖ **August, 2010:** Hamilton detained at the Polish-Czech border in an attempt to enter Poland
- ❖ **Present:** U.S. Department of Justice and Fairfax County Police preparing papers to seek Hamilton's extradition to the U.S. to stand trial in Fairfax District Court.

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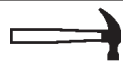
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YOUR MAJESTIC COLONIAL MANSION** **\$925,000**

Huge 3-level, 4 Bedroom and Den, 2 1/2 Bath, ALL-brick home on spacious 1/2 acre treed lot overlooking the Potomac River! Fully upgraded home with luxury kitchen (granite counters), hardwood floors on main & upper levels. From Alexandria, go South on GW Pkwy 6 miles; turn Right on Stratford Lane; then quick Right on Greylock Street. To 9027 on the Right side. (Note: Home is on one of George Washington's original farms.)



**OPEN
SUNDAY**

**ALEX./HUNTINGTON AREA
WALK TO METRO** **\$419,000**

Extremely attractive home, hardwoods thru main level. Superb master bath. Finished lower level walks out to brick patio. From Capital Beltway, Route 1 South, R Huntington, L Wyomissing up hill to home on R.

CALL MIKE DOWNIE 703-360-7400 or 703-360-3189



**CONTRACT
PENDING**

WAYNEWOOD **IT'S PRICED RIGHT!** **\$509,900**

Beautifully presented home with well-designed family room addition on landscaped lot. Hardwood floors, Colonial fireplace, 3/4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, ample storage. Meticulously maintained. Directions: From Alexandria, G.W. Parkway south to right on Waynewood, right Croton, right Doter.

CALL GEORGE CANDELORI 703-780-0547



ALEXANDRIA SOUTH **ALL-BRICK RAMBLER** **\$349,500**

Enjoy one-level living in this nicely maintained rambler with a full basement. Many updates have been done including replaced windows, HVAC and more. Hardwood floors thruout. Large deck off dining room overlooks fenced rear yard.

CALL ELODIA HOWARD 703-203-1544



**OPEN
SUNDAY**

ALEXANDRIA **EASY LIVING** **\$299,900**

Absolutely immaculate 3-Bedroom / 2-Bath condo with spacious, light-filled rooms plus all the amenities and convenience of River Towers make this offering a must see. Nicely updated kitchen & baths, new paint throughout., lovely hardwood floors. Directions: Fort Hunt Road to East on Belle View Blvd, Right West Wakefield to 6641 Wakefield at end.

CALL LEO MAYER 703-625-0346



**OPEN
SUNDAY**

SPRINGFIELD **SARATOGA TOWN** **\$315,000**

Nifty three level townhome with open kitchen, full master bath and full finished basement. Move-in condition. Community amenities plus shopping nearby. Directions: Fairfax Co Parkway, south on Rolling, Right Northumberland, left Powderbrook to 8081.

CALL 703-360-7400

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Managing Broker
703-360-7400

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Dec 6—Dec 20 M-F 9AM-3:30PM
Evening Class —Oct 18-Dec 8 M&W 6-10PM

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