

Mount Vernon Gazette

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MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Supporting Susan Komen Walk

Members of the Fort Hunt HS class of '78 and '79 held a car wash Saturday, Sept. 11, to raise money for the Susan Komen 60-mile walk coming up in October. The alumni are also hosting a karaoke night this Thursday at the Village Wharf starting at 7:30 pm. Pictured are Charlie Lopez, Mary Westphal '79, Keith Flanders '79, Amy Davis '78, Jocelyn Wade Folson '79 and Hugo Lopez '79. Donations to the Walk may be made by visiting www.the3day.org/goto/fhhs_alumni.

If You Build It ...

North Hill project is moving forward, despite reservations.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Some people say it's "a trailer park." Other people prefer the term "manufactured home."

Whatever words are used, the housing structures planned for North Hill are likely to move forward despite some reservations in the community.

Opponents worry about the socioeconomic harm caused by clustering low-income housing in one area. And even though county officials have declared the economics of the project superior to using the money for foreclosed properties, doubts linger about the wisdom of giving low-income people rental properties versus allowing them to become homeowners. Then there are environmental con-

cerns.

"We're talking about clear-cutting 11 acres of land," said tree commissioner Eleanor Quigley, who lives in nearby Wellington Heights. "The environmental costs of this are substantial."

During a community meeting last year on the long-awaited affordable housing development, Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations co-chairman David Dale raised a series of questions about the economics of the project. With so many houses in foreclosure, Dale asked, why shouldn't the county use the \$10.4 million set aside for the project to purchase existing houses rather than constructing new ones? And why not give people the satisfaction of owning property rather than renting from a housing au-

SEE MANUFACTURED, PAGE 9

A Vision with a Deadline

Hyland meets with Visioning Task Force.

BY GERALD A. FILL
THE GAZETTE

Recently back from an 11-day business and economic development trip to Harbin, China, the county's adopted "sister" city, Supervisor Gerry Hyland engaged the approximately 60 or more volunteer participants making up eight standing committees (Public Safety; Environment, Parks, & Recreation; Transportation; Business & Economic Development; Education; Human Services; Housing & Community Development; and Land Use) in an agenda-building process designed to jump start the development of ideas and concerns among all the committees' focus areas.

For approximately two hours the suggestions and debates flowed under the guidance and assistance of Hyland and his staff, led by Brett Kenney, and the designated facilitator for the Task Force, Margo Kiely.

Kiely's role, according to Hyland, will be to continue to work with all of the committees to ensure they stay on task, are adequately supported, and work together where issues cut across more than one committee.

The Task Force was asked by Hyland to complete a preliminary report by mid-January, 2011, in time to

be distributed at his annual Town Hall Meeting.

Hyland commented after the Task Force meeting that as far as he knows this kind of "bottom up" strategic planning has only been tried by John Cook, Braddock District Supervisor. To the best of his recollection no previous initiative to engage the entire Mount Vernon District community in developing a long-range strategic plan has ever been attempted before.

Hyland plans to incorporate the ideas and thinking of the business community, and the Mount Vernon Council of Civic Associations and its Special Committee on Strategic Planning, which is now undertaking an outreach effort to listen and learn what is



Brett Kenney, Chief of Staff, speaks to attendees.

PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

MVHS Posts Greatest Gains

SAT results released by Fairfax County Public Schools this week show Mount Vernon High School students with the greatest gains by increasing the school's Critical Reading average by 20 points, the Mathematics average by 21 points, and the Writing average by 24 points.

Mount Vernon was one of only five Fairfax County high schools to make one-year gains in all three sections. The other schools were Fairfax, Falls Church, Herndon and West Springfield.

Students in Fairfax County Public Schools' class of 2010 outperformed their peers in Virginia and the nation on the SAT. SAT results compiled by the College Board show that FCPS students posted average scores of 552 in Critical Reading, 569 in Mathematics, and 543 in Writing for an overall com-

posite score of 1664. These scores are unchanged from a year ago in Fairfax County, but are 40 points above the state's average in Critical Reading, 57 points above the state's average in Mathematics, and 46 points above the state's average in Writing.

Of the 25 high schools in FCPS, 10 of them saw an increase in their Critical Reading average, 10 saw an increase in their Mathematics average, and 11 saw an increase in their Writing average over the last year.

The state average scores increased 1 point in Critical Reading, remained the same in Mathematics, and decreased 1 point in Writing when compared to 2009 results. The national average score for Critical Reading is unchanged from a year ago, up 1 point in Mathematics, and down 1 point in Writing.

SEE A VISION, PAGE 12

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OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA \$895,000



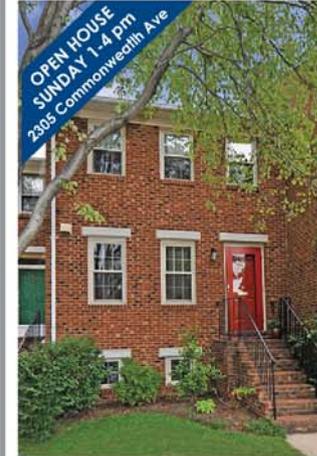
Life is a Breeze

in this handsome three bedroom, two bath, brick and sided residence in sought-after Fords Landing. Teeming with light and architectural intrigue, its formal rooms are welcoming and private spaces serene. Two wet bars and two fireplaces contribute to the delights while a deck, one car garage and an additional parking space provide the perfect complement.

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PHOTO BY LIBBY HILLENBRAND

Steve & Renie Guback Center Opens

Members of the Aldersgate youth group join Steve Guback as he cuts the ribbon on Sunday, Sept. 12, to open the new Steve & Renie Guback Center at Aldersgate Church. The renovated building wing will primarily be used for youth activities. The total modernization, along with the equipment, furniture, and satellite TV service, was fully funded through a special gift from Steve and Renie Guback, long-time members of the church. More information about the Guback Center and youth group activities at Aldersgate is available at www.aldersgate.net. Aldersgate is located at 1301 Collingwood Road.

BRAC on the Horizon for Commuters

Tidal wave of commuters expected at multiple sites in southern Fairfax County.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK
THE GAZETTE

This is part of an occasional series of articles about the effect of the Base Realignment and Closing Orders (BRAC) is having on southern Fairfax County.

Some 75,000 vehicle trips pass through Fort Belvoir's gates every working day, carrying the base's 30,000 employees as well as military retirees, family trips of service personnel living on the base and the sundry other traffic serving a small city.

The bulk of this traffic enters and exits from U.S. Route 1, an old, winding portion of the national route unchanged for decades and often so crowded that it adds 30 and 45 minute delays to any trip.

To accommodate the thousands of additional cars anticipated after the Sept. 15, 2011 Base Realignment and Closing Orders (BRAC) takes effect, the Army has widened and reconstructed many roads within Fort Belvoir and built vast new parking areas, but U.S. Route 1 remains unimproved.

This is in a sense the core controversy between civilian officials of Northern Virginia and a Defense Department carrying out a five-year-old decision by then Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

"The Army Corps of Engineers own studies have shown that severe congestion at the Engineer Proving Ground would last three to four hours each rush hour, and that traffic waiting to access Fort Belvoir would back up onto I-95 and extend morning congestion between one and two hours. ... These effects would lead to reduced employee productivity and degradation of quality of life," U.S. Rep. James Moran (D-8), told Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in a letter last year.

He and other Virginia leaders believe DOD and the Bush and Obama administrations should have authorized the \$600 million to \$1 billion to improve the region's

road structure.

In July, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Supervisors Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) signed a letter asking the Congressional delegation to make good on a commitment of \$150 million to widen and improve Richmond Highway.

The Route 1 corridor will be a major thoroughfare responsible for bringing many of the 3,500 new workers to the main post at Fort Belvoir. Upgrading it is critical to alleviate increased volume on an already heavily congested road, the letter said.

Now, as the last 12 months ticks off before the Sept. 15, 2011 deadline, Moran is conducting a public hearing on Sept. 16 in hopes getting attention to the crisis.

But the traffic difficulty facing the region is

far more complex than just the thousands of cars passing through Tulley Gate at Fort Belvoir each evening.

FORT BELVOIR is a vast military reservation, stretching across U.S. Interstate 95 from south of Springfield, east to the Potomac River, and south to Pohick. The bulk of the land is several miles from any public transportation, a road locked sea served for years by cars and intermittent bus trips.

When it was a fairly remote training base during World War II, young GIs shared cabs and hitch hiked from Alexandria, to get back to the base. Now Belvoir is in the center of

one of the most populous and richest counties in the United States.

When the Defense Department decided to move some 19,000 jobs to Fort Belvoir, the lay out of the actual transfers impacted on a lot more than Tulley Gate and Route 1.

Fort Belvoir is in a sense the administrative name for several enormous projects.

The largest transfer is some 8,500 employees of the National Geospatial Agency (NGA) to a part of an 800-acre site, the former Engineering Proving Ground, which is west of Interstate 95 and 3 miles from any public transportation. NGA will ask 40 percent of those employees to forego parking and get to work by other means and has agreed to provide shuttle buses to the Springfield-Franconia Metro Station and Virginia Railway Express' Backlick Station.

On Monday, Sept. 13, Fairfax and Virginia authorities opened a \$198 million expansion and extension of the Fairfax County Parkway. With strong support from U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D), Moran and U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) allowed the completion of the project.

The extension of the parkway from Rolling Road to Interstate 95 is the largest and most critical road improvement project the Fairfax County has undertaken to prepare for the transfer of employees to Fort Belvoir.

THE FIRST PHASE completes a 2-mile, four-lane section between Rolling Road and Fullerton Road. This portion of the Parkway will carry employees to the new headquarters of the NGA.

The second largest transfer of government

workers, 6,400, is from Crystal City and Pentagon offices, to the Mark Center at Seminary Road and Interstate 95 in Alexandria.

This decision rankled congressional and local critics because it moved these employees from offices on the Metro subway system to a complex that has little public transportation. The site was selected and constructed in controversy. It is three to four miles from Metro or VRE stations and unconnected even to any major bus line.

The offices are two 15- and 17-floor towers, totally 1.7-million-square feet and costing \$1 billion to build. It's the tallest project ever erected by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Travis Edwards, a public information officer for BRAC, said BRAC officials believe the warnings of massive gridlock may be overstated.

He said that BRAC shifts away from Fort Belvoir to other locations took an estimated 14,500 cars off the road. He said that Army surveys find that 60 percent of Fort Belvoir's current employees "live south of the Occoquan River" and the Army believes that about the same number of new arrivals at Mark Center and Fort Belvoir also live in Prince William County and in effect will have a shorter commute than to the Pentagon and Crystal City.

But the figures are all estimates and there are unfathomable numbers of travelers as well. The Army has built a brand new and much larger hospital at Fort Belvoir to take over part of the services offered by Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which is being closed.

Patients south of the Potomac River will come to Fort Belvoir and those living north of river will go to an expanded National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. There are some half a million military retirees as well as active service personnel in the Washington area and how many will head for Fort Belvoir for medical services or commissary and post exchange privileges is unknown. The post exchange and commissary, however, are planning to double the size of the operations now on Fort Belvoir.

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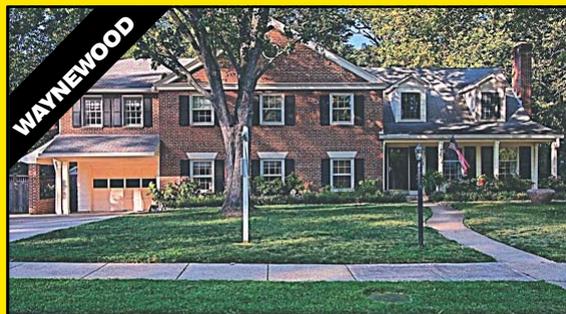
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Alexandria
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 Delightful home w/lots of recent updates. Hardwd floors, oversize windows & new roof. Large master suite, ample closet/storage space, deep yard w/flagstone patio & walk. Just steps from shops & restaurants.
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TEMPLETON

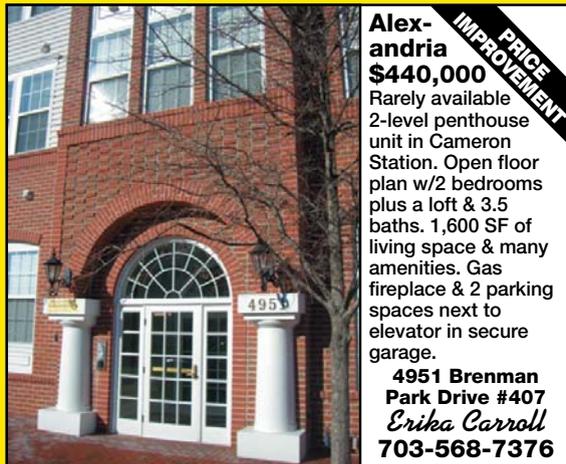


Alexandria **\$170,000**
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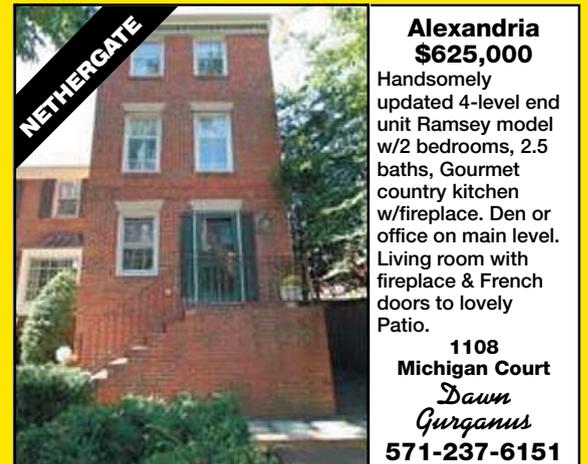
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 Handsomely updated 4-level end unit Ramsey model w/2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Gourmet country kitchen w/fireplace. Den or office on main level. Living room with fireplace & French doors to lovely Patio.
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Groveton School Volunteer Arrested

A volunteer at Groveton Elementary School turned himself in to police last week after the county's sexual crimes investigative unit issued a warrant for his arrest.

Mt. Eagle resident George Ball was charged with two counts of aggravated sexual battery (Virginia Code 18.2-67.3).

Last May, Mount Vernon District police were summoned to Groveton Elementary in response to a request at the school to investigate suspicious activities. Once it was determined what the nature of the alleged offenses were, the investigation was turned over to the criminal division, sex crimes team. Their investigation alleges that Ball inappropriately touched two 7-year-old female students.

On Wednesday, Sept. 8, Ball voluntarily turned himself in to police in response to the charges. Ball



George Ball

is now out on bond pending an upcoming hearing in Fairfax Circuit Court.

Mount Vernon Police Station Commander David Moyer said, "I am glad the victims came forward. We don't want this kind of thing to happen in our schools or anywhere." Moyer added that because the alleged victims were under 13 the suspect is charged with a felony.

Fairfax County Public School system spokesman Paul Regnier verified that it is mandatory that all volunteers are routinely screened by the school system before they are allowed to serve as volunteers and allowed to come in contact with school children. Ball was screened.

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.

— GERALD A. FILL

CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Mt. Vernon police department through Sept. 10.

transported to a local hospital with minor injuries.

ROBBERY

A man robbed the 7-Eleven store at 5834 North Kings Highway around 4:13 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 28. The suspect took an undisclosed amount of cash and fled. He was described as black, about 22 years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall and 260 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. He wore a sports jersey, a dark-colored hat, blue jeans and black shoes; his face was covered.

CARJACKING

A 29-year-old woman was robbed of her 2001 Buick Park Ave. on Saturday, Aug. 28 around 5:15a.m. The suspect was described as possibly Hispanic, about 18 years old and between 5 feet 7 inches and 6 feet tall. The victim did not require medical attention.

ASSAULT WITH A WEAPON

A 46-year-old woman reported she was cut by a man as she was walking in the 8200 block of Russell Road around 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 29. The suspect was described as Hispanic, between 30 and 35 years old, with straight, short hair parted on one side. He wore a dark blue shirt with writing on it and dark-colored pants. The victim was

ASSAULT

A man was arrested after allegedly acting in a disorderly manner and assaulting an officer around 10:28 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 29 near the area of Richmond Highway and Beacon Hill Road. A 35-year-old male of the 5400 block of 1st St. N.W., Washington, D.C., was charged with disorderly conduct, assault on a law enforcement officer and drunk in public.

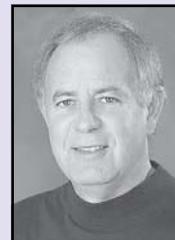
ROBBERY

A 27-year-old woman reported she was robbed of money in the area of Richmond Highway and Buckman Road around 2 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 30. The suspect was described as white, between 18 and 25 years old and 5 feet 2 to 5 feet 5 inches tall. The victim did not require medical attention.

LARCENIES

1500 block of Belle View Blvd. Nine bottles of liquor stolen from business.
3500 block of Buckman Road. Purse stolen from residence.
6900 block of Duke Drive. Beretta handgun stolen from residence.
8100 block of Kidd St. Bicycle stolen from residence.

- 7800 block of Liberty Springs Circle.** Wii video games stolen from residence.
- 4700 block of Mount Vernon Memorial Highway.** Bicycle stolen from business.
- 6200 block of North Kings Highway.** Two bottles of gin stolen from business.
- 6200 block of North Kings Highway.** Large bottle of liquor stolen from business.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** Tools stolen from vehicle.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** Wallet and cell phone stolen from business.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 5900 block of Richmond Highway.** Credit cards and GPS unit stolen from vehicle.
- 7200 block of Richmond Highway.** Cell phone stolen from business.
- 7500 block of Richmond Highway.** Pressure washer stolen from business.
- 7600 block of Richmond Highway.** Two wheels stolen from vehicle.
- 7700 block of Richmond Highway.** Weed wacker stolen from business.
- 8200 block of Russell Road.** Bottle of wine stolen from business.
- 6300 block of South Kings Highway.** Rim and tire stolen from vehicle.
- 1600 block of Belle View Blvd.** Body wash stolen from business.
- 8300 block of Claremont Woods Drive.** License plate stolen from vehicle.



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Alex/Riverside Estates \$559,900
3112 Battersea Lane
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Alex/Wessynton \$765,000
3009 Cunningham Drive
 Completely remodeled 5 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial in premiere-contemporary community of Wessynton. All major systems updated: kitchen—ceramic tile floor, granite counters, cabinets, Sub Zero frig, etc.; baths; total HVAC systems; roof & gutters; thermal windows & freshly painted interior. 2-car garage. This is "turn key." Beautiful lot backing to woods. Wessynton offers boat launch just minutes to Potomac River by boat, tennis & basketball courts, and pool. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town, 25 to National Airport, 30/35 to D.C./Pentagon.



Alex/Woodmill Estates \$575,000
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Alex/Riverside Estates \$514,900
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 Spectacular Colonial on a great lot backing to woods. Large Yorkshire model w/2-car garage. Numerous updates thru-out to include kit w/granite counters & bump out, windows, roof, siding, furnace, gas fpl. Finished basement plus large hot tub overlooking beautiful & serene back yard. Being SOLD "AS-IS" at a great price! Close to Ft. Belvoir, 5 mins to Reagan National Airport, 30 mins to D.C. & Pentagon.



Alex/Wessynton \$639,900
3020 Cunningham Drive
 Large 5 BR/2.5 BA Colonial with 2-car garage and full unfinished basement in Mt. Vernon's premiere contemporary subdivision of Wessynton. This home is priced to allow some updating. Large covered screened porch off the family room allows you to enjoy your beautiful private backyard. Wessynton offers a pool, tennis court, and boat launch that allows quick access to Potomac River - 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Old Town Alex.



Alex/ Mt. Vernon \$489,900
8424 Washington Avenue
 Absolute Cream Puff! Beautiful 3 BR, 2 BA Cape Cod /FPL, 3 finished levels & spectacular detached 2 car garage/workshop w/extra wide asphalt driveway. Totally updated: kit, baths, HVAC, energy efficient dbl pane windows, refinished hwd floors on main & upper levels, beautiful sun room addition w/separate HVAC. Finished walkout basement, interior painted, screened porch-spectacular. 42 landscaped lot. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 Huntington Metro/Old Town, 35 to D.C.



Alex/Mt. Vernon \$349,900
7737 Schellhorn Road
 One Level Living in this lovely detached home on over one half acre on a unique street with many new homes - for under \$400k!! Close to library, hospital, GW Parkway, Potomac River, Huntington Metro. Brick exterior, freshly painted interior, vaulted ceiling, parquet wood floors. Wood burning fireplace in family room. Double pane windows, skylights. Sold "As Is" - estate sale - but HI welcome.

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Our members enjoy an exciting array of events, outings, and social activities.

When needed, we provide our members with rides and help with computers and home maintenance from our many volunteers, plus referrals to reliable professional providers.

Learn more about membership at our Fall Information Session, at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, September 21 at the Martha Washington Library.

703-303-4060 mountvernonathome.org



Burgundy Manor \$599,000
5533 Janelle Street

Open Sunday 1-4pm. Remodeled & updated, 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home in convenient Burgundy Manor! Gourmet kitchen, new appliances, new 2-zoned AC & more! www.5533Janelle.com.



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Lewis Property \$745,000
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Exceptionally charming 4 bedroom and 3 bath Cape Cod located on a quiet street. This house is a real gem!



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



Old Town \$849,000
417 South St. Asaph Street

Beautiful 4 level, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse in the heart of Old Town! Featuring stunning kitchen renovation, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, luxury master suite, roof top deck & parking!



Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



Old Town \$519,500
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Lovely 3 level, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, end townhouse featuring updated kitchen & bath. Granite, hardwood floors, cozy lower level rec room, fenced rear with deck, patio, abundant storage & more!



Joy Deevy 703-930-5198



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Karen Leonard 703-328-7041



Old Town \$1,499,000
513 Queen Street

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Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



Stonehurst \$453,000
9301 Clanbook Court

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Linda Wolf 703-518-6165



Piney Glen \$657,000
6061 Piney Woods Court

Open Sunday 1-4pm. Incredibly maintained 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home. Bright, spacious and perfect for entertaining. Great kitchen, family room, generous room sizes, and large finished walkout lower level. Two car garage.



Linda Wolf 703-518-6165



George Washington Park \$1,295,000
215 Park Road

Extraordinary hill location overlooking the DC and Alexandria skyline! 2 blocks to King Street Metro. Great entertaining spaces & finishes, gathering kitchen, granite counters, island, sub zero, Jennaire & Bosch appliances. 3 gorgeous decks span the rear.



Sherry York 703-409-3377



Alexandria/Del Rey \$599,900
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Storybook Cape Cod in meticulous condition! Three great levels of charming living space, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, two fireplaces, hardwoods and moldings. Enjoy a nice backyard with deck.



Sherry York 703-409-3377



Woodlawn Manor \$422,750
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Good condition, spacious split-level with rear addition. Nice hardwood floors, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, main floor family room and master bedroom with full bath. Lower level recreation room with fireplace. One-car carport, huge level lot. Bank Owned.



Sherry York 703-409-3377

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Susan Gray Chambers 703-203-9900



Porto Vecchio \$668,000
1250 Washington Street Unit 824

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Denise Davis 571-332-8531



Kirkside \$624,900
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Greg Doherty 703-408-5068



Kirk \$479,500
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Cindee Jackson 703-625-1667



Carlyle Towers \$699,900
2121 Jamieson Avenue 1704-05

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Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



The Plaza \$285,000
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Fran Orr 703-623-4070



Lacey Forest \$599,000
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Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Wilton Knoll \$465,000
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Rita McCauley-Redmond 703-447-9114



Belle Haven Townhomes \$599,000
6309 Olde Towne Road

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Nancy Tompkins 703-626-5500



Old Town \$550,000
112 North Union Street

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Nancy Tompkins 703-626-5500



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912 South Alfred Street Alexandria, VA 22314



The "Light Horse Harry" Lee House

Stately brick townhouse built in 1780 was once the residence of Henry Lee and his family which included son Robert E Lee. Tall ceilings, some original features including plaster moldings, heart pine floors, horsehair ceiling medallion, and front staircase. Currently used as an office and residence, it could be used for either or both and offers seven off street parking spaces! ~\$2,250,000

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Manufactured Homes Headed for North Hill Site

FROM PAGE 1

thority?
 “Direct purchase of homes as an alternative would be more expeditious than construction of a new mobile home park,” concluded Fairfax County Housing and Community Development director Paula Sampson in a recent analysis. “However, available funding would be limited, and a key source of funds — the 1988 bonds — could not be used for this approach.”

Additionally, Sampson concluded, fewer units would be available. And managing scattered locations would be more expensive than dealing with a single-site 67-unit development. Besides, the director concluded, land owned by the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority could be maintained as affordable in perpetuity whereas foreclosed houses that are purchased as affordable housing units could only be have land covenants or price controls for 30 years. “Fifty percent more affordable housing could be provided through the planned construction of the residences at North Hill Park,” she concluded.

THE STORY of North Hill begins a half a century ago, when the tract became the Woodley Nightingale Mobile Home Park. During this time, it grew to about 550 mo-

bile homes. By the early 1980s, county officials were eyeing the property as a potential site to preserve affordable housing. As a result, the 48-acre tract was purchased by the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority in 1981, and no additional mobile homes were allowed into the park.

Phase one of the project was Woodley Hills Estate, 115 units located on the southern 14 acres of the site. But phase two never happened, and the remaining 33 acres remained undeveloped. Until now. In 2007, county officials approved a new plan that called for redeveloping 12 acres for “affordable manufactured home units” while preserving 21 acres at the site for a park. According to Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland, about 11 percent of Fairfax County’s affordable housing units are located in the Mount Vernon District. That’s substantially less than Hunter Mill (16.6 percent), Lee (19.52 per-

cent) and Mason (17.54 percent).

“Some people have a belief that all affordable housing is located on Route One. It is not,” said Elizabeth Lardner, Hyland’s appointee to the housing authority. “It is spread throughout the county.”

“Direct purchase of homes as an alternative would be more expeditious than construction of a new mobile home park.”

— Paula Sampson, director, Fairfax County Housing and Community Development

The project can be built “by right,” which means that the community has less control over what the developer constructs on this piece of land. Despite opposition to the project in the community, no public hearing has been scheduled on the project. The Board of Supervisors is expected to vote in favor of a financing plan in the coming months.

THE END RESULT is

still a matter of dispute, even as the site planning approval process is already underway. But county officials say there’s still insufficient funding to complete the project. Money could be allocated by the Board of Supervisors as part of the Housing Blueprint. But some say the timing would be

wrong, considering the cutbacks proposed for public safety, schools and libraries. Also, supporters of trees say clear-cutting 11 acres of hardwood trees would be a mistake.

“We need to keep these trees,” said Eleanor Quigley, who lives in nearby Wellington Heights. “We can keep these trees and use the money to purchase existing houses that are vacant.”

Quigley and others say North Hill’s tree canopy provides an important role in stormwater runoff and a significant counterbalance to air pollution.

They say that preserving this area as a showcase urban park would attract commercial developers to the area, and that money that would have been used to fund construction at North Hill could be used to purchase foreclosed properties in Mount Vernon. But the argument that developers might be wary of moving in next to a trailer park doesn’t sit well with advocates of affordable housing.

“I’d rather see this area developed into a low-income apartment complex,” said Keary Kincannon, pastor at Rising Hope United Methodist Church. “But we decided to move forward with mobile homes because they could be developed by-right and we wouldn’t need to go through all the planning and zoning.”

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Mount Vernon-Lee CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



OPINION

One Thing Commonwealth Is Doing Well

This is no time to trade \$240 million a year for uncertainty.

Government is supposed to do a couple of things well, and selling Jim Beam and Grey Goose isn't one of them," Gov. Bob McDonnell was quoted as saying this week.

Consider how well-endowed Virginia's transportation infrastructure could be if only it were run like the state-owned liquor stores.

When you buy a bottle of spirits from a Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control store, 50 percent or more of what you pay goes directly to the state, funding schools, public safety and other key state functions. Other states collect less than 10 percent. This system delivers more than \$240 million a year to fund core state functions.

By contrast, Virginia has privatized the widening of the Beltway, turning over 100 percent the toll revenue to a private company more or less forever (50 years). And the tolls will likely amount to more than \$10 per car to ride in the "High Occupancy Toll" lanes during rush hour. (To be fair, the private company is widening the Beltway, building the new HOT lanes and rebuilding the aging bridges along and

over the Beltway in the process, although the state could have done that by selling bonds based on projected toll revenue.)

Instead of collecting tolls, or at least writing a contract that shares the revenue, from public-private highway partnerships to provide a long-term stream of revenue for transportation, or raising the gas tax, Gov. Bob McDonnell wants to use the money from selling off the state's very lucrative liquor business. (To be fair, McDonnell's Democratic predecessors signed off on the public-private transportation deals.)

But turning the liquor business over to private companies won't generate nearly the same revenue for Virginia, won't generate more than a drop in the bucket for the state's transportation needs, and will take away critical funding for other services, including education and public safety.

McDonnell wants to trade the annual revenue of \$240 million-plus for a one-time infusion of \$500 million by auctioning off 1,000 retail liquor licenses. That will be an increase of more than 600 stores selling liquor. Most of

the money that now goes into the state coffers would be turned over as profit for the private businesses.

McDonnell proposes to make up some of the difference by adding fees to alcoholic beverages served in restaurants, which any restaurant owner can tell you is about the last thing they really need in this economy.

And any one large business would be allowed to buy as many as 25 percent of the total number of licenses, meaning the market could be dominated by a few big box stores.

The Virginia Federation of Retailers say that McDonnell's plan doesn't allow enough opportunity for small retailers, and the Virginia Wine Wholesalers oppose the plan because they expect large retailers will bypass local wine.

For McDonnell, his single term in office will be a success no matter what the consequences.

Here are his goals: Shrink the size of state government. Lower taxes, or at a minimum, don't raise them. Privatize, privatize, privatize.

Will there be adequate funding to provide an education worthy of the state that is "home of the internet?" For public safety, for neediest citizens, for people with disabilities, or even for some transportation relief? Not his problem.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Significant Contributions

To the Editor:

I found the MVCCA Board's response in the Gazette's publication dated Sept. 2, to the criticisms of the Board over the past many weeks (I lost track of the number) to be very informative and certainly very welcomed. The article certainly made me wonder if the past criticisms were primarily political.

I have lived in the Stratford Landing area since mid-1965. I honestly believe that we have been very fortunate to have several outstanding people who have made very significant contributions to improving our neighborhood and, yes, the Mount Vernon area. Certainly Messrs.

Brinitzer and Hyland have been two men who made our area outstanding from all points of view. No doubt they had the interests of all the citizens of Mount Vernon in mind.

The MVCCA has played a vital role in making this wonderful part of Northern Virginia an outstanding community. I thank both the MVCCA and Mr. Hyland for their services.

Melvin Bielawski
Alexandria

Big Brother At the Library?

To the Editor:

Have Fairfax County library officials gone too far toward social engineering?

Five parking spaces outside the newly renovated Martha Washington branch on Fort Hunt Road are labeled "Hybrid and Alternative Fuel Vehicles Only." Another four, better spaces, have signs stating: "Library Car Pool Only."

Other spaces, deservedly, are reserved for the handicapped and for employees.

What possible business is it of the county and its librarians what kinds of cars and trucks library users drive? And who enforces that restriction? A police dispatcher said the library's lots are considered private property.

Sherwood Hall Regional Library, a relatively short distance from Martha Washington, seemed to have no similar signs in its parking areas. Perhaps the newer building has the signs because of the renovation that temporarily halted library services offered the opportunity to erect them.

Legally, it might be supposed, the "green" vehicle accommodations are suggestions rather than enforceable rules. Nonetheless, the signs favoring such convey

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/GAZETTE

Snapshot

Maureen Lewis and Erin Eyler set up sale items for the Hollin Hall Variety Store and Gift Shop sidewalk sale Saturday, Sept. 11.

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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A Connection Newspaper

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

ances could intimidate library users. Seriously, how many people decide to share a car to drive to a library? Surely, not four groups at a time to one library.

Regardless, the restrictions smack of Big Brother, a desire of officialdom to extend societal controls (some of which can be desirable) beyond acceptable bounds.

Citizens of a free country should be unrestrained by arbitrary statutes and laws. Even though federal law and regulations impose fuel efficiencies on car makers, those restrictions should be beyond the authority of librarians to enforce. Their jurisdiction certainly stops at care for their premises and for the books and other materials they lend.

These parking signs indicate how far those wishing to control the behavior of others can go. No logical link exists between the kind of vehicle one drives and the books one borrows to read. A person might increase exercise walking farther from car to library door, but that is of no concern to the public employees of the library. Most people are inclined to park as close as possible to their destination. So, first-come-first-served is fair for those seeking parking places. Library officials have neither need nor duty to go further.

Citizens should closely scrutinize any public effort to control behavior because such moves can foreshadow further deterioration of liberty, a goal seemingly contemplated by those in government who trust not the citizenry that employs them.

What's next? A sign that says, "Bring No Unfettered Thoughts into This Repository of Knowledge"?

And one more thing: What about unintended consequences? Retail gasoline contains ethanol, meaning those gas-guzzling SUVs already use alternative fuel.

Carl Eifert
Hollin Hills
Mount Vernon

What's Behind Bus Stop Change?

To the Editor:

An open letter to FCPS Transportation:
"Hello, I'm a parent of a high school sophomore." When you utter those words you can receive responses ranging from: "Yea, been there, done that, good luck to you." to "Wow, that's great!" (The latter usually coming from someone who is childless.) All kidding aside, he's a great kid. Smart? Yep. Hard-working? Hmmm ... sometimes. He ended his freshman year with a very decent GPA, which I bragged about to some of my very closest friends on Facebook. My shameless parental brag went something like this: "First born ended the year with a great GPA! Even better? He only missed the bus ONCE!" The latter part of my post received the most glowing replies from my friends who have teenagers. "Re

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 16

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!

This is assisted living?

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NEWS

A Vision with a Deadline

FROM PAGE 1

on the mind of the residents by working to meet with civic associations throughout the District.

Hyland challenged the assembled committees to think about how to address and close the planning and political gap in the Mount Vernon district — the so-called north-south split, using the Fort Belvoir military base as the north-south dividing line. Also, he urged that the group look for ways to bring the community together and promote caring, sharing, communications, and the feeling of belonging within and among all neighborhoods.

One participant serving on the Business and Economic Development Committee, Katherine Ward, sensed that what Hyland is looking for is a “strategic planning framework and vision for what Mount Vernon should be like in 25 years.”

The preliminary agenda ideas in the eight focus areas will be posted on Hyland’s website, as will the notices of all future committee meetings.

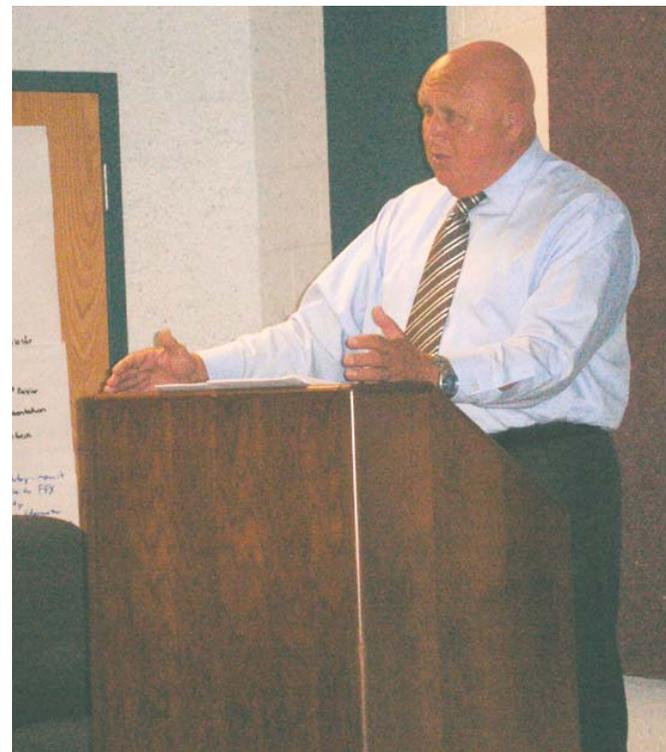


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Supervisor Gerald Hyland addresses his Visioning Task Force on Monday.

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On Display

William Richardson displays his handmade, oval Shaker boxes and carriers, Sunday, at the Sully Quilt Festival at the Sully Historic Site in Chantilly. His work has been featured in “Early American Life” magazine, and he’ll be participating, this coming Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18-19, at the Mount Vernon traditional craft fair on the grounds of historic Mount Vernon.

Police & Firefighters Ball Set for Oct. 1

Outstanding police, firefighters, and EMTs will be honored at the annual Police & Firefighters Ball on Friday, Oct. 1, sponsored by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Four officers from both the Mount Vernon District Police Station and the Franconia Police Station, along with four officers from the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department will be recognized for their valor

and service to the community.

The Ball is presented by ServiceMaster of Alexandria and the guest emcee will be Larry Michael, the voice of the Washington Redskins. Guests will arrive at 6:30 p.m. at Belle Haven Country Club and the cost is \$35 per person. For more information or to make reservations, call 703-360-6925 or register online at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org



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Offer expires October 31, 2010
Limit one per household. No cash value. Access card fee, other fees and some restrictions may apply. Valid only for local residents on first visit at participating clubs. ©2009 Snap Fitness, Inc.



OLD TOWN \$ 488,775



501 SLATERS LANE, #1103

Fantastic value! River views from every window in this 2BR/2BA renovated condo. Highlights: maple flrs, open kit, large LR/DR area & tons of amenities.

CAMERON STATION \$689,900



5236 BRAUNER PLACE

Sophisticated 4-level Van Metre garage home. Highlights of this 4BR/3.55BA include eat-in kit, DR, 2 frpls, HW flrs, guest suite, deck & spacious patio.

DEL RAY \$459,900



All brick townhouse with 2BR, renovated bath, expanded kit w/granite & maple cabs, finished walk-out basement, & patio that backs to park. Also w/new HVAC, windows, roof & water heater.

MOUNT VERNON \$ 2,249,990



Captivating views! Exquisite residence to be built by Keswick Homes. Sited on the banks of the Potomac, highlights include gourmet kitchen, 2-story great room, master suite, lux baths, side-load garage & more.

OLD TOWN \$1,090,000



Rare opportunity to own this rental income-generating Old Town property. Highlights: 2BR, chef's kit, elegant living spaces, 3 offices, workroom, sep. apartment has private entry + liberal proceeds.

OLD TOWN \$1,295,000



Multi-family investment opportunity w/4-1BR units and 1-2BR unit. Features include 6 fpls, off-st parking, HW flrs, new water heaters, furnaces, & AC. Fully leased & CL zoned for multiple uses.

MONTEBELLO \$399,000



Thoughtfully updated 2BR/2BA condo w/year-round views. Highlights include elegant living & dining rooms, HW flrs, maple cabs, breakfast bar, W/D, glass enclosed balcony & 1-car garage.

HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE \$874,900



LAST ONE AVAILABLE! To be built by Reade Hanson Homebuilders w/3,400+sqft, 2-car gar, gourmet Kit, 9' ceilings, lux master suite, HW flrs on main, finished basement & more

FAIRFAX \$489,500



Great new price! 3BR/2BA home w/2,000+sqft on main level sited on half acre lot. Highlights: HW flrs, family room w/frpl, eat-in kit, sep DR, master suite, large deck, 2-car gar, new roof & skylights.

Blumel Adams Group

DAYNA BLUMEL 703.597.2252 ~ KERRY ADAMS 703.587.7841

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Long & Foster Realtors
Historic Old Town
400 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314





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ALEXANDRIA/OLD TOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



Managing Brokers
Anne Rector & Bill Jourdan

7115 Colgate Dr \$795,000
Updated and Expanded!
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, 9/19, 1-4. From Old Town: S GW Pkwy; R-Belle Haven; L-Fort Hunt; R-Rollins; L-Colgate

7106 Colgate Dr \$535,000
Hollin Glen-Super Value!
MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION! OWNER WANTS IMMEDIATE SALE. Owners have priced to sell immediately! Spacious home in prime location just minutes from Old Town. Many special features include: updated kit, 4 large BRs, 3 BAs, hardwood floors, Fin. LL, 2 FPs, fenced in rear yard w/two level deck. Move fast nothing like it at this price in prime "close-in" market! OPEN SUN, 9/19, 1-4. From Old Town: S GW Pkwy; R-Belle Haven; L-Fort Hunt; R-Rollins; L-Colgate

3427 Ramsgate Terr \$539,000
Like New by Wakefield!
Total renovation by area's leading custom builder! This home was stripped to the shell and re-built to the highest standards. Many fabulous features typically found in builder's million dollar custom homes include: stunning gourmet kitchen, custom hardwood floors, thermal windows, main level master bedroom and finished lower level. New home luxury at re-sale price. Unique opportunity!

1906 BELLE HAVEN ROAD / Alex \$1,899,995
Significant price reduction for this classic brick colonial which has been updated for today's lifestyle. Over 5,500 sq ft of living space, 7BR, 5.5BA including nanny/in-law suite w/sep entrance & kit. French doors off the back of FR & DR open to lovely brick patio and private yard. Parking for 6 cars in large driveway and 1-car garage.

Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
2802 DARTMOUTH RD #3 / Alex \$277,000
Serene tree view from balcony of this 2BR in Seminary Walk! New granite counters, SS sink & faucet in kitchen; upgraded BA & newer HVAC. W/D in unit. Permit parking space + EZ access to Old Town, shops & Metro.

Ann Z. Logsdon 703.568.8433
Emily Capelli 703.472.1282

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
910 PRINCE ST Old Town / Alex \$1,100,000
Stunningly renovated semi-detached 1880 Victorian row house. 3 levels include: spacious bedrms, lavish master BA, walk-in closet, wood flrs, 1 frpl, spacious gourmet kit, sep DR, private outdoor space, 2-car off-st prkg. Perfectly located bet. King St Metro & Potomac w/shops & eateries either way.

Michael Manuel 703.615.6317

9316 Heather Glen Dr \$650,000
Price Slashed! Large Colonial!
The most house for the money in area! Three level, 4 bedroom colonial with the most spectacular family room addition you will ever find! Curved all glass walls and screen porch overlook fabulous custom pool. Originally priced in the \$800's. Owner wants immediate sale and has slashed price accordingly.

8709 Gateshead Rd \$579,500
Spacious Colonial-Gorgeous Setting!
Classic center hall colonial in uniquely beautiful setting. 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 2 & screened porch overlooking parkland.

8500 Crown Pl \$698,500
Waynewood Opportunity!
Walk to Waynewood 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, eat-in kitchen, 2 fireplaces and 2 car garage. Price, location and features add up to an exceptional value!

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
3809 NALLS RD Dawson Wood \$799,000
SPACE & MORE!
5BR, 4.5BA, formal DR/ LR, gourmet kit w/ brkfst rm, den/study, FamRm w/floor-ceiling stone frpl. Master w/ sep sitting rm, lux BA, his/her closets & sep shower. LL w-o rec rm/office/5thBR & BA...

Randy Bender 703.906.1749

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
7227 STOVER CT Alex / \$315,000
PRICE REDUCED!
Rarely available model! Large 3BR & den/4th BR, 3.5 BA TH in Woodstone w/sep DR, LR & eat-in Kit. HDWDs main lvl, fenced yard, deck, fin. basement. Updates: windows, carpet, siding, HVAC, HWH, kit w/granite, SSA, pantry + more. Convenient to Ft. Belvoir, DC, I495.

Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804

6133 MANCHESTER PARK CIR / Alex \$560,000
UPSCALE- LIGHT & BRIGHT! An immaculate end unit of approx. 2,600 sqft w/9' vaulted ceilings, sunny eat-in kit w/family rm, library/office on main lvl, formal living rm opens onto deck. Huge MstrBR has walk-in closet/soaking tub & double vanity. LL walk-out rec rm w/gas fireplace provides perfect get-away. 2 car garage. Fios access.

Connie McKeen 703.626.4417

6515 Princeton Dr \$795,000
Classic Colonial - Near Old Town!
Spacious home in Belle Haven area. Center hall colonial features open kitchen with stainless appliances and granite counters, large room sizes, 3 finished levels, 4 bedrooms & 2 car garage. Formal living and dining rooms, family room off breakfast area. Prime "close-in" location. Two tiered deck and seasonal river views.

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! Fabulous location at the end of quiet cul-de-sac with gorgeous level, fenced yard with irrigation system. Nothing like it on the market at this price!

7406 Rippon Rd \$759,900
Mason Hill - Stunner!
No Stairs- This spectacular home offer luxurious living on 1 level! Rare, large rambler with 2836 sq ft. Custom home features exceptionally bright, open floor plan and large room sizes. Other features include: high ceilings, updated kitchen, 4 bedrooms including private master suite overlooking wooded grounds. Expansive glass walls & back patio. A truly unique property!

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

Connie McKeen 703.626.4417

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
1344 CHETWORTH COURT Old Town / Alex \$539,000
Renovated 3-lvl TH in Bashford Lane. A 3BR unit converted to 2 lng BRs, 2.5BAs, fin. bsmt w/ofc. & FR + roughed-in FBA. Main: Kit w/table space, DR/LR, fp, patio.

www.WaynewoodRealtors.com
Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633

1911 JAMESTOWN RD Alex / \$450,000
This home is ready for you! 3BR, 1BA in Hollin Hall Village. Beautifully finished hdwd, wood fireplace, fenced backyd. Unfinished basement w/ rough-in for bath & too many more upgrades to list! www.susanmovesyou.com

Susan Haughton / Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913

4713 Dolphin Lane \$1,395,000
Custom Waterfront-Private Dock!
Spacious, updated home remodeled and expanded by leading custom builder as his own residence. Exceptionally bright, open floor plan capitalizes on fabulous waterfront location. Features include huge deck, private dock, water view master suite, updated kitchen spectacular sunroom, gorgeous yard, two car garage and bulkheaded water frontage. Owner Financing Available!

9316 Allwood Dr \$507,000
Absolutely Impeccable!
New Price! Stunning home features bright open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings on main level. This fabulous property has been substantially updated and is in absolutely impeccable condition. Gleaming hardwood floors, track lighting, finished lower level, garage and much more! Gorgeous setting on half acre tract fronting a quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon.

Fall Delivery!
We're Underway!
8826 Camden St \$874,900
Ground floor opportunity to add your personal touches to this new creekside home in Stratford Landing. Custom Wakefield home loaded with upgrades! Call for details.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
8422 CROWLEY PL. Waynewood \$739,900
Unique, one-of-a-kind, rebuilt 3 level "Redford" model rambler w/entire new floor addition & front porch. Open floor plan of 3,600+sqft living space, 2 MasterBR w/sit rm, 2BR main lvl, 1BR guest rm on LL, 3.5BA. Rec & family rms. LL frpl. Sunfilled. Skylights & more!

www.WaynewoodRealtors.com
Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633

5902 MT EAGLE DR #706 / Montebello \$365,000
You will feel right at home in this beautifully appointed 2BR, 2BA condo at Alexandria's premiere gated community. Resort living with an array of award-winning amenities, garage parking & a nice pool view. See virtual tour: www.susanmovesyou.com

Susan Haughton / Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913

4333 STREAM BED WAY / Alex \$445,000
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!

Denise Eifes 571.212.3114



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www.OldTownAlexandria.com



Should Virginia Privatize Alcohol Sales?

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)



Last week, Governor McDonnell proposed to privatize Virginia's Alcohol, Beverage Control (ABC) stores and is expected to call a special session of the state legislature on this issue. Senator Puller and I are hosting a town meeting on Monday, Sept. 27, 7-8:30 p.m. to hear constituents' views and suggestions. Here is some preliminary information to think about before the meeting.

Every drop of hard liquor sold in Virginia, including liquor sold at restaurants, must be sold through a Virginia (ABC) store. ABC stores currently generate about \$324 million in taxes and profits for taxpayers, funds that go into the state treasury for providing state services.

Four of Virginia's 332 ABC stores are in or near my district: Penn Daw, Belleview, Engleside and Hybla Valley. The Governor proposes to close the current 332 stores and create 1,000 new distribution points by auctioning licenses to 600 big box and grocery stores, 150 small liquor stores and 250 convenience or retail stores.

I have several questions for which I am

seeking answers. I'm sure you do too.

First, the plan will generate recurring revenues primarily with new taxes – a \$17.50 per gallon of alcohol and a 2.5% “convenience fee” for on-premises sales in-

cluding beer and wine. Beer and wine will cost more due to the tax. It is not clear whether a bottle of liquor will cost less after all the fees and taxes. Should people pay new alcohol taxes solely to help large retailers gain new profits, funds that formerly went to taxpayers?

Second, this plan is projected to net taxpayers at least \$20 million less per year to pay for schools, mental health and prisons and other services. Is this cut acceptable or what is the Governor's plan to make up for these lost revenues? We need better data to more thoroughly analyze the Governor's revenue models, assumptions, and understand the true impact on the state budget and state services.

Third, how will license distribution work? U.S. 1 currently has 14 7-11's, almost two Walmarts, a Target, perhaps a Costco coming, dozens of grocery stores, and over a dozen drug stores. That's at least 40 possible new distribution points between Alexandria and Woodlawn. There appears to be no proposed restrictions on the number of licenses that could be concentrated in a specific area of a county. Are more liquor stores or sales on U. S. 1 desirable or an effective way to upgrade and help revitalize the corridor?

Fourth, the Governor says this plan is part of his solution to our transportation problems, but his calculations predict a \$450 million one-time payment. The state only owns 19 retail locations and a warehouse to sell, and several, such as U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, caution that those numbers are overly optimistic. The bulk of the projected transportation money would come from license auctions.

If this is one answer to our short-changed transportation system, the Governor should acknowledge that \$450 million is only enough to pay for about one-half mile of Metro or to widen U.S. 1 from Woodlawn to around the old Multiplex theater. Is this how we want to fund transportation needs?

Fifth, ABC Stores have contributed \$1.5 billion to the state treasury's general fund in the last five years. Should something generating \$114 million of annual profits be sold for \$450 million?

Sixth, what are the regulatory and enforcement costs of opening up 1,000 private alcohol sales outlets? Regulating needs for the existing 332 state stores is minimal. The Governor's projections contemplate some increased enforcement costs, but are they accurate and are taxpayers are better served by increasing regulatory needs and swapping ABC agents for retail employees?

Finally, there's the issue of priorities. When I talk to voters, most are worried about the economy and jobs, our inadequate transportation network and improving our public schools. I have not had a single constituent complain about the quality, selection, convenience or pricing of alcohol in Virginia. Is this our most pressing issue?

Senator Puller and I are having a town hall meeting on Monday, Sept. 27 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parker's Lane. We would appreciate your feedback at the meeting or by a call, letter or e-mail. My contact information is on my website at www.scottsuovell.org.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 11

ally??? WOW!" Because, let's face it, as we tell our kids all the time, there are plenty of smart folks in the world who can't show up on time ... if at all. Which brings me to the point of this letter.

We learned this week that FCPS Transportation has eliminated not one but four bus stops on the route into our Stratford Landing neighborhood. (Bus Number 8, if you're interested.) This leaves the kids in our part of the neighborhood with a 20-minute walk to catch a bus at 6:30 a.m. The part that makes absolutely no sense is that the bus still has to enter and exit the neighborhood. It stops at the front of the neighborhood and at the back of the neighborhood. How does not stopping save the county any money? The 10-minute walk to the bus stop at dawn-thirty last year was doable. It got his blood moving, cleared his head and, with the exception of a handful of days when it was pouring rain or bitter cold, he did it on his own with no complaints. (Actually, the only thing he complained about was how crowded the bus was on some days and that getting a seat could be challenge.)

You hear lots in the media about “helicopter parenting” and it's negative effects on teens and young adults. Here's a situation where we can support our kids in getting themselves where they need to be, rather than driving them ourselves. Please help me support my child's development and independence by making it possible to do something as simple as catching the bus to school. There's more at work here than you may realize. Oh, and the Facebook brag

at the end of this school year would be nice, too.

Melissa Wilson
Alexandria

Who Killed Dave Masters?

To the Editor:

The tragic fatal shooting death of David Alan Masters on Friday, Nov. 13, 2009, by an unidentified Fairfax County police officer remains a mystery. This highly questionable and tragic incident occurred on Richmond Highway at Fort Hunt Road in the Mount Vernon District. Several questions persist in the minds of many Northern Virginia citizens and others in the metropolitan Washington area. The first is: “Why did the shooting occur?” The second is: “Was the shooting justified?”

Masters, 52, a former U.S. Army Green Beret Vietnam veteran who suffered from bipolar disorder, was unarmed and, according to relatives, “did not own a gun.” As a World War II veteran, I am deeply troubled over the fact that my fellow veteran met his demise in this senseless manner.

The event began at a mowing and landscaping business on Richmond Highway, where an employee alerted police that he had seen Masters pulling flowers from a planter outside his office. He further reported that Masters placed the flowers in his green Chevrolet Blazer and drove north on Richmond Highway. According to a fam-

ily member, Masters was believed to be headed for the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. where he was known to often visit. At the most, this incident would have merely justified a misdemeanor charge of petty larceny, which under no circumstances would call for the use of deadly force. Fairfax County police policy states, “that deadly force shall not be employed to apprehend a fleeing misdemeanor.”

Following a 911 call reporting this incident, a police dispatcher broadcast an alert for Masters' green Chevrolet Blazer with its tag number. Shortly thereafter, an unidentified officer spotted the Blazer stopped in traffic on Richmond Highway and Fort Hunt Road. According to a police spokesperson, it was reported “because of heavy traffic ... Masters was not able to go anywhere.” A witness reported, “three officers, all on foot, were behind and to the left side of Masters' Blazer and not in front of it. Masters never got out of the Blazer. Next thing I know, I heard pop, pop, pop,” the witness said. It was further reported that the unidentified officer, who fired his weapon, with two other officers had approached Masters' Blazer from the rear at which time the unidentified officer fired three shots through the left rear window with the first bullet striking Masters' left shoulder, through his chest, and pierced vital organs killing him. Police said the officer who shot Masters was a 26-year-old with six years on the force. They declined to identify the officer but confirmed that he is still with the department on administrative duty. The other two officers, a 27-year-old with three years experience and a 36-year-old with five years

experience, were placed on administrative leave with pay.

Unlike police departments in the Washington area, and in most of the country, Fairfax County police do not release the names of officers involved in shootings. Since the department was created in July 1940, no Fairfax County police officer has been charged with a crime or wrongdoing in a police-involved shooting. According to WTOR.com, in the past five years, nine people have been killed in Fairfax County police-involved shootings and 12 people have been wounded. Several recent police shootings have resulted in millions of dollars being paid to victims or family members of these shootings. Fairfax County can ill-afford to pay these large sums of county taxpayer money for these questionable actions. A number of multi-million dollar civil suits are pending, including the “accidental” shooting death of Dr. Salvatore J. Culosi, who was shot and killed when he was being served with an arrest warrant for sports betting. One citizen stated, “This was a death penalty for gambling.” Many other Fairfax County citizens have expressed their concern about the assets and resources of the county police being utilized for the crime of sports betting, when this legal and regulated in many states. It would appear the Fairfax County police could better utilize its assets, personnel, and resources to prevent or help solve more important felony crimes.

It was reported that the unidentified officer who shot and killed Masters did not cooperate with his department's internal

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21



ARTS ♦ ENTERTAINMENT ♦ LEISURE

Scavenger Hunt in Boutique District

Serious shoppers are gearing up for the signature event of the fall season in Northern Virginia — the third annual Scavenger Hunt in the Old Town Boutique District.

The Old Town Boutique District, a cooperative association of 28 Alexandria boutiques, is giving away more than \$5,000 from participating merchants during its Third Annual Scavenger Hunt, Sept. 17 to 19.

“If you’re serious about shopping, there’s no better place in the region than walkable Old Town Alexandria,” said Elizabeth Todd, owner of The Shoe Hive. “This is a fun way to see all that Old Town’s boutiques have to offer.”

Shoppers are eligible to win a \$2,800 grand prize shopping spree by obtaining a “passport” and getting it stamped at all 28 stores between Friday, Sept. 17 and Sunday, Sept. 19. No purchase is necessary. Twenty-eight second place winners will be drawn at random to receive a \$100 gift certificate from one of the participating merchants.

Subscribers to Boutique Buzz, the Boutique District’s e-mail newsletter, will receive Scavenger Hunt passports in their e-mail inbox. Passports can also be downloaded from the Boutique District’s web site, www.oldtownboutiquedistrict.com/scavengerhunt.

During the Scavenger Hunt, every shopper will receive free gifts they can use to build their own gift bags. Each store will offer free items, while supplies last, that scavenger hunters can pick up and add to their collections. They can collect as many or as few items as they want, but only one per store per customer.

No purchase is necessary to receive the free gifts, but shoppers must show a Scavenger Hunt Passport to be stamped.

“We thought this would be a fun way to encourage shoppers to visit more independent Alexandria shops and boutiques,” said Amy Rutherford, owner of Red Barn Mercantile. “They can get free gifts from the merchants of their choice, or if they really want to win big, they could visit every store and take their chance at winning the grand prize.”

“We have a lot of wonderful shops and boutiques right here in Old Town; you don’t have to drive out to Tysons Corner or the outlet malls to find great deals on quality merchandise.”

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Twig’s Historic Alexandria Homes Tour

The Twig, the Junior Auxiliary of Inova Alexandria Hospital, is having its 69th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour & Artisan Show on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Nationally known interior designer Barry Dixon is the honorary chair of this year’s tour. Six private residences and gardens in Old Town will be open to the general public. In addition to the homes, the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary will be open for tours at a reduced admission price for those showing a homes tour booklet.

The Artisan Show will be held at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature handcrafted works by local artists and Dixon’s new book, *Barry Dixon Interiors*. Dixon will sign his book from 3 to 4 p.m. for anyone purchasing a copy at the show.

Handcrafted sterling silver and beaded jewelry, pottery and ceramics, patchwork handbags and home items, watercolors and knit designs are a few examples of items that will be sold at the Artisan Show. Hand made note cards, chocolate and pretzel favors, silk flower arrangements, and leather and suede accessories will also be available for purchase.

Each artisan has donated an item for a raffle that will be held on Sept. 25. Tickets for the raffle can be purchased at the Artisan Show. Fall plants from Holly Wood & Vine will be on sale, with 30 percent of the proceeds donated to The Twig.

On sale at the Artisan Show will be *Always in Good Taste*, The Twig’s new cookbook and the 2010 White House Christmas Ornament.

Home tour tickets can be purchased in advance for \$30. To purchase tickets online, visit www.thetwig.org. Tickets may be purchased at The Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King Street and The Twig Thrift Shop, 106 North Columbus Street. On tour day, the ticket price is \$35 and may be pur-

Mount Vernon Colonial Market & Fair September 18-19

Mount Vernon re-creates a lively early-American marketplace with demonstrations, crafts and entertainment at its Colonial Market & Fair on Saturday, Sept. 18, and Sunday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More than 40 juried artisans from across the nation will demonstrate their trades and sell their wares while two stages of family entertainment delight audiences with 18th-century amusements. Free Potomac River sightseeing cruises are available while supplies last. Costumed interpreters will be demonstrating the 18th-century chocolate-making process using an authentic colonial recipe! Guests are invited to sample fresh chocolate made by hand on site. Chocolate bars, sticks, and spiced drink mix are sold at the 18th-Century Craft Fair and in The Shops at Mount Vernon. The event is included with regular admission: adults, \$15; youth, 6-11 \$7; children 5 and under, free.

Mount Vernon’s Colonial Market & Fair is the most authentic and diverse event of its kind, bringing together distinguished arti-



The Garcia home is part of this year's Alexandria Homes Tour.



The Rocen home in Alexandria.

chased at the above locations, at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 316 South Royal Street, and at any of the tour homes marked by The Twig Pineapple.

All proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital and will go towards The Twig’s most recent pledge, The Twig Patient Care Center, a 24-patient room addition for post-

surgical patients. Since its founding in 1933, The Twig has raised over \$2.5 million for hospital projects and programs.

For more information, visit the Twig website at www.thetwig.org or call 703-683-5544, or contact Janet Hawkins, janethawkins@comcast.net, 703-370-8608 or Sandy Gibson, 310-936-4794.



Signora Bella, Equilibrist, performs at last year's fair.

sans working in colonial attire and a dozen entertainers who re-create the amusements loved by early Americans. As visitors shop, artisans demonstrate their crafts and explain the historic trades used to make items similar to those George Washington purchased in the 18th century.

General Washington will preside over a host of amusements including: Mr. Bayly, Conjuring and Entertainments; Signora Bella, Equilibrist; Otto the Sword Swallower; and more! Fair fare, ranging from turkey legs to ice cream, will be available from the Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant concessions.

CALENDAR

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. 16

Cape Henlopen String Quartet. 7 p.m. Featuring John Sutherland Earle on piano; will perform the Dvorak and Schumann piano quintets. This concert will mark the beginning of the TC Arts Center Performance Series. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King Street, Alexandria.

Silent Auction. To Benefit Alexandria's Breast Cancer Surgical Fund. Hosted by Women Mean Business, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Alexandria Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 625 First St. All funds raised will benefit Alexandria's Breast Cancer Surgical Fund, which will pay for breast cancer surgery for uninsured women who do not have the means to pay for it. Women Mean Business is seeking donations for the silent auction and accepting RSVPs for the event. Visit www.womenmeanbusiness.info.

Jim Stephanson and John Previti. 7-9 p.m. Free. Guitarist Jim Stephanson and bassist John Previti will treat visitors to an evening of blues, swing, and jazz inspired tunes. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 17

Chile Pepper Dinner. 7 p.m. Food Matters Restaurant Chef Tom Przystawik was so inspired by the local bounty that he has decided to do a chile pepper dinner. This four-course

dinner is \$65 with pairings that may include wine, beer, liquor. (\$55 for Food Matters CSA Members). Call 703-461-3663 to make a reservation. In the Cameron Station neighborhood, Alexandria's west end.

Swing Dancing. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$4. With the Mount Vernon Swing Band. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

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.

Jazz Supper Under The Stars. 5:30 to 7 p.m. Jazz by Al Williams III and Friends. BBQ by Mango Mike's Caribbean Restaurant. Sponsored by the Old Town Business and Professional Association (OTBPA) and the King Street Gardens Park Foundation. Tickets are \$25/advance; \$30/door. At King Street Gardens Park, 1806 King Street at Diagonal Road. Call 703-683-0333.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 18

Community Yard Sale. 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Alexandria Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees). In the parking lot of Anthony Lane Elementary School, 7137 Beulah Street, Alexandria. Cost for sellers is \$15/space. Seller setup from 6-7 a.m. Visit www.alexjaycees.org or call 703-866-7171.

Piano Recital. 7:30 p.m. The Friends of Music of St. Luke's Episcopal Church will present virtuoso pianist Edvinas Minkstimas in recital. His program will include romantic music by Chopin, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Liszt and Piazzola. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, \$10 for students. At



SUNDAY/SEPT. 19

Vance Gilbert. 7 p.m. Contemporary folk/Americana artist. Tickets are \$18/general; \$15/advance. At Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit FocusMusic.org.

8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4342.

St. Luke's Craft and Family Fun Fair. 10 a.m. to noon. Some 50 vendors will sell crafts, jewelry, soaps, photos and more. Food, face painting and pony rides from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At St. Luke's, 8009 Ft. Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call Tracey Navratil at 703-417-9219.

Author Elbert Ransom Jr. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Will be signing copies of his book, Bridging The Divide. Elbert Ransom, Jr. is an ordained Baptist Minister, international lecturer, author,

seminary instructor, and musician. At Market Square, 300 King Street, Alexandria.

Genealogist Workshop. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$5. Char McCargo Bah will conduct a workshop and lecture showing how she successfully traced descendants of people buried at Freedmen's Cemetery and how these techniques can be applied to any family research. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. To register, call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Sketching Session. 6 p.m. to midnight. Free. Sketching with a live model from 7 to 9 p.m. Musical performance starts at 8 p.m. Complimentary special show cocktail by Mie N Yu Restaurant. At Art Whino Gallery, 173 Waterfront St., National Harbor, Md.

Hawaiian Luau. 4 to 9 p.m. Authentic food, music and entertainment featuring Halau Ho'ouma I ka Wai Ola O Hawai'i. Advance purchase tickets are \$35 for Adults (over age 13); \$20 for children 6-12. Children age five and under are free. Tickets are \$40 for adults and \$25 for children the day of the event. The luau, a church fundraiser, is open to the public. At Hope United Church of Christ, 6130 Old Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Call 703-960-8772.

Alexandria Story Festival. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free admission. For families of students in preK- grade 4. Local authors Sharon Hickey, Tamatha Hollingsworth, and Captain Brandon Barnett will read in tents to small groups and lead children in activities related to art, recycling, and exercise. More authors will be reading aloud:

10:15 a.m. Sandy Pugh
10:40 a.m. Lezlie Evans
11:10 a.m. Nick Bruel
12:15 p.m. Melissa Thomson
12:40 p.m. Christylez Bacon

Brought to you by Wright to Read and Hooray For Books! Children's Bookstore. All students who attend will receive a raffle ticket and be eligible to win a free book by one of the authors. Books will also be for sale and authors will sign books. Visit website: www.alexstoryfest.com. At Jefferson Houston School Field, 1501 Cameron Street, Alexandria.

SEPT. 18-19

Colonial Marketplace. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mount Vernon's Colonial Market & Fair features Colonial-attired artisans demonstrating 18th-century crafts and selling traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, paper-cuttings, furniture, and more. The event also features 18th-century music, fire-eating, sword-swallowing, puppet and magic shows, plus food for sale onsite. The Colonial Market & Fair at Mount Vernon is included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15; children ages 6-11, \$7; and children under 5 are admitted free.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 19

National Talk Like a Pirate Day. Pirate Cruises with the Potomac Riverboat Company; Pirate Stories at Horry for Books; Crafts and Pirate Dress up at Historic Alexandria History Center and Museum; Pirate lore and pirate crafts at Gadsby's Museum; Meet a Pirate Doc at the Apothecary Shop. Cruise reservations recommended, 703-684-0580 or www.potomacriverboatco.com.
Harmonia Concert. 3 p.m. \$20 donation suggested; students free. Featuring top soloists from Ukraine and Slovakia and with roots in Hungary and Croatia, this multi-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

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Mount Vernon-Lee
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 18

cultural ensemble includes violin, accordion, vocals, folk flutes (sopilka) and the 125-string cimbalom (played by Alexander Fedoriouk, a cimbalom supreme). Reception following the concert to meet the artists. At The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Contact 703-241-1817.

Marshall Keys Group. 4 p.m. Donation is \$15. Sponsored by the Committee for Jazz at Meade. At Meade Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria.

Cocker Spaniel Adoption Show. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come meet cockers of all ages available for adoption. All dogs are spayed or neutered. Visit www.cockerspanielrescue.com. At Chateau Animaux Pet Store, 101 S. St. Asaph, Alexandria. Call 703-533-2373.

Wine Tasting. 6 to 8 p.m. Benefit for Senior Services of Alexandria. Wine tasting with Luciana Currado-Vietta, matriarch of Cantina Winery. Tickets are \$100. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-836-4414 ext. 10.

Pakistan Relief Fundraiser. Shop at Ten Thousand Villages and 15 percent of the sales will be donated to the Mennonite Central Committee for their efforts to alleviate suffering in the aftermath of last month's floods. Visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com.

Lesson Zero (New Adult Contemporary Indie Rock/Blues). 3 to 4 p.m. Free outdoor concert at Historic Collingwood Estate, off the GW Memorial Parkway, 8301 East Boulevard Drive. Contact the Collingwood Library and Museum at 703-765-1652 or www.collingwoodlibrary.com.

Teddy Bear Picnic. 1 to 3 p.m. Children ages 7 to 11 should bring their favorite teddy bear or stuffed toy to Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden, where they will play traditional Victorian era games. Cost is \$10/child; parents admitted free. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

Grieving Seminar. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Loss of Loved Ones to Sudden Tragedy (LLOST) Foundation's "Grieving - Handle with Care" Seminar Series presents, "Men - the Forgotten Griever." The presentation, hosted by Wendy Maiwurn, LCSW, Capital Hospice, will be based on the book, "Men and Grief" by Carol Staudacher from New Harbinger Publications. At Fort Ward Park in Alexandria. Visit www.LLOST.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 21

Mount Vernon Evening Lions. Social 6:30 p.m.; Dinner 7 p.m. September dinner meeting. At Pema's Restaurant. DG Lion Dennis Brining will be the speaker. Contact Andrea Corsillo at 703-960-4973.

Mount Vernon Genealogical Society. 1 p.m. Free. The meeting will feature a presentation by Laura G. Prescott entitled "Using Footnote.com." Meets in Room 112 of the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, in Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com.

An Evening of Schubert. 7:30 p.m. Free. The National Chamber Players perform Adagio in E flat, "Nocturne," The Trout Quintet, op. 114. At Pendleton Hall, Episcopal High School, 3900 W Braddock Road, Alexandria. Visit www.episcopalhighschool.org, 703-933-4135, arts@episcopalhighschool.org.

Meet the Author. 7 p.m. Meet Bernice McFadden, author of "Glorious," the story of Easter Venetta Bartlett, a fictional Harlem Renaissance writer whose tumultuous path to success, ruin, and revival offers a candid portrait of the American experience in all its beauty and cruelty. At Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Free; Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-765-3645.

Alexandria Singers Auditions. 7 p.m. Washington D.C.'s premiere adult pops



SATURDAY/SEPT. 25

Native Plant Sale. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Largest native plant sale in D.C. metro area hosts over 12 vendors from five states selling perennials, shrubs, and trees. TreeStewards will provide public education on how to choose the right tree for your yard and how to care for it. At the Parkfairfax parking lot, 3601 Valley Drive, Alexandria. Call 571-232-0375 or visit www.home.earthlink.net/~sknudsen/ Or Visit www.TreeStewards.org.

chorus will hold auditions on Tuesdays, Sept. 21 and 28. At the Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 N. Chambliss Street, Alexandria. Contact audition@alexandriasingers.com to book an audition. Visit www.alexandriasingers.com.

International Day of Peace. 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Listen to students speak about what peace means to them; and, at 12:45 p.m. join us in our field to see our 284 students use their bodies to spell out the word "peace." At Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. Call 703-842-0474.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 22

A "Taste" at Woodlawn. 7 to 9 p.m. More than 20 restaurants, caterers, and food specialties will offer samples of their cuisine along with a wine tasting. "A Taste" is a benefit for the scholarship fund of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce and tickets are \$30 each or two for \$50. At Woodlawn Plantation. Reservations for the event may be made at 703-360-6925 or online at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org/Calendar

Writer Kathie Truitt. 7:30 p.m. Free. The Friends of Duncan Library are hosting Alexandria writer Kathie Truitt, author of False Victim. At Duncan Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1705 or visit www.alexandria.lib.va.us.

Writer Rawn James Jr. 7:30 p.m. Rawn James Jr. will discuss "Sailing East for Western Shores: The Strange Legal Strategy that Defeated Segregation," based on his new book, Root and Branch: Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall and the Struggle to End Segregation. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Alexandria.

Dyke Marsh Lecture. 7:30 p.m. "What Happens in Dyke Marsh Doesn't Stay in Dyke Marsh." Chris Miller, president of the Piedmont Environmental Council, will discuss how what we do in our community impacts Dyke Marsh, the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay and how the preservation and restoration of Dyke Marsh affect the larger environment. The talk is featured at the Friends of Dyke Marsh quarterly meeting. At Huntley Meadows Park Visitors' Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-768-2525.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 23

Wind Energy. 7-9 p.m. Free. Wind Energy plays music for dancing, listening and enjoying, from the folk traditions of England, Ireland, Scotland and beyond, using Northumbrian smallpipes, silver flute and Appalachian dulcimer. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St.

Alexandria. Call 703-838-4565, www.torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 24

Seaport Day Kick-Off Fundraiser. 7 to 11 p.m. At the Old Dominion Boat Club. Music by The Grandsons, a light buffet, and an open wine and beer bar. Fundraiser tickets are \$75 and available only in advance. Tickets may be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/124819 or by email by contacting seifert@alexandriaseaport.org.

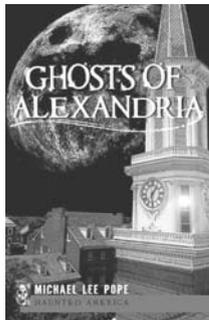
Book Launch. 7 p.m. Talk by Michael Lee Pope, author of Ghosts of Alexandria. After sharing highlights of the darker side of historic Alexandria,

Pope will sign copies of his book. The evening will be capped off with tours of local haunted sites conducted by the costumed guides of Alexandria Colonial Tours (for a fee), departing from the front steps of the Athenaeum. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. And also on Oct. 9 from 1-3 p.m. at Books a Million in Alexandria. Pope is an award-winning journalist who lives in Old Town Alexandria. He has reported for the Alexandria Gazette Packet, WAMU 88.5 News, the New York Daily News and the Tallahassee Democrat.

Jane Franklin Dance. Season Preview. 5:30-8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and \$10. A Show of Hands hosts Jane Franklin Dance for a family-friendly, community-engaging arts event in the heart of Del Ray. At 2301 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-933-1111 or <http://www.janefranklin.com>.

SEPT. 24-25

Decorative Arts Forum. Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. Speaker the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes of Harvard University explores the theme of "Coveting, Curating and Collections: The Art of the Public and Personal Museum." Gourmet banquet at Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street. On Saturday, Sept. 25, The Lyceum (201 South Washington Street) hosts a series of lectures from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Admission \$100 for Saturday's programs and lunch, \$125 for Friday's dinner and lecture, and \$175 for the full Forum. To register, visit www.historicalalexandria.org or call 703-746-4554.






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THEATER

MetroStage's New Musical Glimpses Back to the Jazz Age

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE GAZETTE

A scorching summer can use some cooling down. So head-off for a splash of a jazz-age romantic musical with first-rate, cabaret style voices to delight and a three-piece band to add to the pleasure. Metro Stage's "Glimpses of the Moon" is a relaxed production looking back to the Manhattan moneyed class in the whirling early 1920's when everything was grand and swell. This is soft-edged entertainment like a shimmering watercolor painting of moonlight reflecting off a rippling lake.

The musical is based upon a lesser-known work by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Edith Wharton, famous for her unsettling social commentary. With a closely knit cast directed and choreographed in an unfussy style by David Marquez there is movement galore to flesh out a score of over 15 songs. With book and lyrics by Tajlei Levis, music by John Mercurio and musical direction of Darius Smith, the foibles of the rich are mocked in a light-hearted manner through two acts and multiple scenes. There may not be a single stand-out song but the score carries the show along winningly. "Glimpses of the Moon" turns on two charming but flat broke friends who meet cute. They devise a business deal to keep up with their apparently happy rich friends; marry each other "not for love, but for money, until we find love." They will sell off their wedding gifts to live a lush life awaiting that someone to genuinely love. The scheme, of course, goes array as honest affection grows giving the show its plot twists and glimmer.

The six-member cast is exceedingly likable. Each has a turn in the spotlight to deliver a solo. The two lovers, Natascia Diaz (2009 Helen Hayes award, Outstanding Lead in a Musical) and Sam Ludwig each have clear voices and a delivery that lets the lyrics and the melody sink in without bombast. Diaz reaches beyond ballad work to be comically nuanced with "Cigars," a song about gifting away objects that is reprised several times. The duets between the two are polished and soulful. Diaz has a wide range of facial expressions to add critical visual aspects to her work.

HELEN HAYES

AWARD NOMINEE Gia Mora as a jaunty posh living married woman is a joy to behold. Without a sound uttered she can power herself with a wingspan that reaches for the heavens and fingers dancing about tipped in fiery red nail polish. Her kiss-off song to her husband, "Letters to Nelson" is choreographed to show her totally supple movements. Lauren "Coco" Cohn brings spirited comic virtuosity as a scene-stealing educated, matronly young woman who finds some sensuality. Her enormous round eyes pop out as if made of plastic and she had



PHOTO BY COLIN HOWDE

Natascia Diaz and Sam Ludwig star in MetroStage's musical "Glimpses of the Moon."

Where and When

Metro Stage production of "Glimpses of the Moon" continues through Oct. 17 at 1201 N. Royal Street, Alexandria. Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m. Sunday at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$45-\$50. Call 1-800-494-8497 or log on to BoxOfficeTickets.com. General information 703-548-9044.

just seen some Marx Brothers movies. Helen Hayes Award recipient Stephen F. Schmidt's poignant out-of-nowhere rendering of "Tell Her I'm Happy" is his anthem to a lost marriage. Matthew A. Anderson takes a generally arch approach but his sarcastic chirper rendition of "Terrible News" at the top of Act Two is a hoot.

THE SET DESIGNED by Daniel Pinha has a stylish look; done up with visual details columns in a French blue color scheme giving a sense of luxury to the intimate MetroStage decor. From a checkerboard floor, large columns and moveable set pieces there is real weight and some depth depicted. Nothing is flimsy. The three-piece band composed of piano, woodwind/reeds and drums is part of the set at audience right. The luxury look is carried forward with

Metro Stage's "Glimpses of the Moon" is a relaxed production looking back to the Manhattan moneyed class in the whirling early 1920's when everything was grand and swell.

the radiant costume design especially for the women who are often enough bedecked in shimmering dresses and sparkling jewels while the band members are outfitted in handsome tuxedos.

Glimpses of the Moon was first performed on Monday evenings in 2008-2009 in the Oak

Room, a cabaret space in the Algonquin Hotel, New York City. A unique aspect of the production is a scene that takes place in the Oak Room cabaret setting with an alternating solo performer over the run of the production.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 16

investigations unit. Instead, he immediately retained the legal services of Attorney Edward J. Nuttall, who has declined comment on the shooting. This raises another question: "If the unidentified officer who shot and killed Masters was cleared by the Fairfax County Police and the Commonwealth's Attorney, why did he retain Attorney Nuttall?" Also, "How did Det. Chris Flanagan, the investigating officer for the police who investigated this incident, conclude his investigation satisfactorily without the cooperation of the unidentified officer?"

As a retired Metropolitan Police detective, who at times was assigned to the Homicide Squad, I question the justification for the shooting death of Dave Masters.

On May 7 and Aug. 13, 2010, the CCPA (Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability) directed a Virginia Freedom of Information Act request to Police Chief David M. Rohrer requesting the name of the officer responsible for the shooting death of Masters on Nov. 13, 2009. Our request was denied with the following reason: "Please be advised the Virginia Code does not mandate the release of records you have requested." However, CCPA must point out the Virginia Freedom of Information Act states, "such records may be disclosed" by the Fairfax County Police. "Why not identify the officer in this matter?"

Inasmuch as the FBI is conducting an investigation of the Masters shooting death as a possible civil rights violation, the CCPA requested under the Freedom of Information Act the name of the person being investigated for the possible civil rights violation. On Aug. 8, 2010, our request was denied with the following reason: "Release of this information could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings." The CCPA plans to appeal this denial.

Inasmuch as the Masters' incident has caused so much controversy, it may be advisable for Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond Morrogh to empanel a grand jury to examine the facts of the Masters' incident and reach a decision as to whether or not an indictable crime has been committed.

This would clear the police and prosecutor of any further culpability. In many states, including New Jersey, all police-shooting incidents are automatically referred to a grand jury for adjudication.

Hopefully, one of the officers or someone else who knows the identity of the officer will come forward in good conscience and anonymously provide the Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability with the name of the officer responsible for Masters' tragic death. The citizens of Fairfax County are entitled to know who killed Dave Masters.

To learn more about the Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability, visit www.virginiaccpa.org or to communicate with the CCPA by email, write virginiaccpa@aol.com.

Nicholas Beltrante
Executive Director
Citizens Coalition for
Police Accountability

Think of Citizens First

To the Editor:

After reading the letters to the editor published in the Mt. Vernon Gazette, I have some suggestions that could help the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) be the "nonpartisan" and "Facilitating regular exchange of views" and develop positions on issues "Representing the interests of member associations." (Quoted items are from the MVCCA By-laws.)

No person holding a board, commission, etc. politically appointed position should serve in MVCCA leadership positions. Politicians usually appoint persons who favor their positions which could differ or conflict with citizen's positions. The appointee could be influenced by the position favored by the politician that could be contrary to "Representing the interests of member associations."

Diversify the committee membership to get different points of view to bear on an issue. A few years ago I attended two MVCCA budget committee meetings and the five members present were of the same mind set. Support the budget as presented without any independent analysis of what was done or proposed. Such approach does not meet the By-law requirement of "Representing the interests of member associations."

No MVCCA position on issues should be taken or rejected except by a decision of the MVCCA membership at regularly scheduled meetings. For example, the Public Safety Committee recently refused to take a position on a matter involving establishing a citizen's oversight committee for police accountability. Such an important and controversial issue affects many citizens throughout the county and Mt. Vernon and should be decided by the general membership and not set aside by a committee.

Always be courteous, listen and take heed to citizen's statements and comments.

Resolutions should be published one month and voted on the next month to give member associations the opportunity to solicit comments from their citizens before voting at the MVCCA general meeting.

Continually encourage member associations to appoint members to committees and attend MVCCA meetings to increase representation of member associations at general meetings. According to published reports, current attendance at some committee meetings have only five members and the general meeting has less than 50 percent of the 60 member associations' members.

That's hardly representative of the Mt. Vernon Citizens at large.

Review projects of county-wide significance that affects all citizens including Mt. Vernon. When I was co-chair of MVCCA, we reviewed, for example, the real property tax assessment system that resulted in enhanced revenue to the county and a fairer tax system for all homeowners.

There are a number of projects that could be reviewed by MVCCA that have huge budget and transportation impact. For example:

A few years ago, 2000 housing units were

built, being built or planned along the Mt. Vernon/Lee Route 1 corridor. What consideration was given to the traffic impact before they were approved? And, does the current policy require such a consideration?

The supervisors when acquiring property for parks, housing, etc., generally pay substantially more than the assessed value. If the purchase price is correct, the property was under assessed and all revenue due was not collected and if the assessment is correct the county paid too much. In either case the taxpayers lose. This area and the assessment system that is the biggest money raiser for the county should be reviewed.

What is the drain of taxpayers' dollars to fund social services, education, public safety and medical care for illegal aliens and what is the impact of that financial drain on essential county services to hard-working county taxpayers?

The county is will spend \$60 million in rent over 30 years for the South County Government Center and spent another \$5 million for new furniture.

The center was justified that it would save money by consolidating leases services. But, that did not happen when the center opened. Also, a lot was purchased for more than the assessed value and then \$1 million had to be spent to clean the toxic lot before senior housing could be built. Such projects should have priority review by the MVCCA to ensure that the citizen taxpayer's dollars are not wasted.

All persons who volunteer and take the time to participate in citizens activities are to be commended.

To ensure no partiality and be as objective as possible, activists should keep in mind that the interests of the general citizenry come first at all times. Then and only then can any organization claim that it represents its membership.

Frank Medico

Long-time citizen advocate
Mt Vernon

Examine Marsh Restoration Plan

To the Editor:

Two weeks ago, I wrote in response to a letter from Glenda Booth, president of the Friends of Dyke Marsh (FODM) and chairman of the County Wetlands Board. I agreed with her comments concerning the beauty of Dyke Marsh, that it is a national treasure and concerning its role in enhancing water quality and providing a wildlife habitat. I provided facts concerning a plan to "restore" Dyke Marsh to its prior size by filling in 270 acres of the Potomac River. I pointed out Ms. Booth's other role as Chairman of the Wetlands Board and expressed the hope that she will scrutinize the Dyke Marsh "restoration" project with the "strict scrutiny" I've observed her apply to development proposals impacting a mere fraction of an acre of wetlands. My letter did not criticize Ms. Booth in the least. As such, her response was somewhat disturbing with its implied criticism of me.

She suggested that I may not support the Virginia wetlands laws and wondered about

where I obtained the figures used in my letter regarding the truckloads of fill. She also encouraged me and others to attend Wetlands Board hearings and express our views, inferring that I don't do so.

In response:

(1) I support our state wetlands laws. I've developed my home and subdivided my property in full awareness of and full compliance with those laws.

My home boasts an infiltration trench to which all rainwater from my house's roof is directed. My backyard is designed as a dry pond that filters rainwater before it is directed to an indigenous plant buffer filling the entire floodplain and which also provides cover and food source for wildlife. I daresay my property is one of the most environmentally friendly in the Mount Vernon District, including 3/4 of an acre of dedicated perpetual open space covering hundreds of feet of the shoreline of Little Hunting Creek.

(2) The figures in my letter are elementary. The 270 acre figure comes from a George Washington Memorial Parkway News Release dated April 7, 2008. The minimum average depth of 3 feet comes from N.O.A.A. Chart No 12289. To make wetlands out of water, one must fill to at least the average depth and perhaps more. One acre equals 43,560 square feet. 1 cubic yard equals 27 cubic feet. A typical truckload of fill is 10 cubic yards. 270 acres X 43,560 = 11,761,200 square feet. Multiplied by the average depth of 3 feet = 35,283,600 cubic feet. Divided by 27 = 1,306,800 cubic yards. Divided by 10 = 130,680 truckloads, a line of dump trucks over 700 miles long, extending bumper to bumper from here to Chicago.

(3) I've attended Wetlands Board hearings chaired by Ms. Booth and have participated in the process.

I look forward to Ms. Booth's strict scrutiny of the Dyke Marsh restoration proposal, expecting her to treat it as if it were a proposal before the Wetlands Board to fill in 270 acres (42 percent of a square mile!) of a body of water.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Support Small Business Growth

To the Editor:

Small business owners usually vote Republican because the party has traditionally supported policies which they feel help them. The behavior this year by Congressional Republicans in reversing this trend (by opposing the President's proposals to stimulate small business) should energize owners to reconsider their loyalty.

Voting for Jim Moran or Gerry Connolly, even if it is the first time they have ever voted for a Democrat, increases the chances of government help for small business that will keep the owners in business and help them grow again.

Everyone — Republicans, Democrats, Independents — is frustrated by the slow pace of the economic recovery. But it is unlikely

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22



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BUSINESS

Dual Honors for Jack Taylor

John E. "Jack" Taylor, Jr. of Alexandria, president and owner of Alexandria Toyota Scion and Alexandria Hyundai, has been selected as the Virginia nominee for the 2010 Time Magazine Quality Dealer of the Year Award.

The award recognizes exceptional dealership performance combined with distinguished community service. Taylor was recognized by other Virginia dealers as the Virginia dealer most embody-

ing these qualifications.

In addition, Taylor was to be presented on Wednesday, Sept. 15, with House Joint Resolution 319, passed by the 2010 General Assembly, recognizing his contribution to the Commonwealth. State Sen. Patricia Ticer and Del. David Englin were scheduled to make the presentation.

Alexandria Toyota is located at 3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Alexandria.

BUSINESS NOTES

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

The **Isabella at Monticello Mews**, a 144-unit condominium residential community located at 6301 Edsall Road in Alexandria, will celebrate its Sales Center Grand Opening on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 18 and 19, from 12-6 p.m. Priced from \$239,000, The Isabella at Monticello Mews, developed by Della Ratta Incorporated, is a gated community offering one- and two-bedroom condominium residences ranging in size from 781 - 1,673 square feet. See www.TheIsabellaAlexandria.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

TUESDAY/SEPT. 21

Lecture. 10:30 a.m. "Mount Vernon Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T): How to Recover from ID Theft." Sponsored by Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

Wednesday/Sept. 22
Seasonal Affective Disorder. 1 p.m. Psychologist Ann Stone presents a program on Seasonal Affective Disorder. At Hollin Hall senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Mount Vernon. Call 703-765-4573.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 23

Prostate Cancer Screening. 5 to 8 p.m. Free Prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and digital rectum

exam. At Inova Alexandria Hospital, 4320 Seminary Road, Alexandria. To register, contact Inova HealthSource at 703-750-8800.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

Lecture. 1 p.m. Free. "What to Expect When You Go to a Skilled Nursing Facility (Rehab)." Hosted by Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 21
to improve if the Republicans, who have stalemated Congressional action in the hope that a frustrated public will reward

them, gain the power to continue two more years of stalemate.

Despite Republican obstruction, we are getting out of the ditch. This is no time to give the keys

back to the very people who got us there in the first place.

Mike Serlin
Mount Vernon

Alexandria

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6:30 pm Mass (starts Sept. 12)

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WP Boys Repeat as Parker Invite Champs

Wolverine girls place second at Burke Lake Park x-country meet.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

While not having an individual finish in the top 10 would appear detrimental to the West Potomac boys cross country team's ability to defend its title at the Monroe Parker Invitational, the Wolverines' depth proved otherwise.

What West Potomac lacked in flashy finishes the Wolverines made up for with consistency. Each of the team's five point-scoring harriers finished in the top 25 as West Potomac repeated as meet champions on Sept. 11 at Burke Lake Park. The Wolverines posted a score of 84 points, 32 better than second-place South Lakes.

Senior captain Benjamin Aleixo was West Potomac's top finisher, placing 11th with a time of 16 minutes on the 2.98-mile course. Senior captain Mark Hanak finished 14th with a time of 16:05, junior Brady Corum was 17th (16:12), senior Khoki Berneir finished 19th (16:14) and sophomore Marc Lotterie came in 23rd (16:23).

"We felt pretty confident in our team's ability to do well this meet," Aleixo said. "It gives us a lot of confidence going into the regional meet. It gives us a lot of confidence in our ability and our training."

First-year West Potomac head coach Jenn Dietz was an assistant under Don Beeby when the Wolverines won in 2009.

"It's nice to come back here and win it again," she said. "The boys that ran here last year improved on their times; that was nice to see. We didn't have anyone in the top 10 — that's something that needs to get



West Potomac senior Benjamin Aleixo was the Wolverines' top finisher at the Monroe Parker Invitational, placing 11th.



Junior Sarah Underwood finished fifth for the West Potomac girls, who placed second as a team.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

worked on — but we had some nice depth."

Aleixo was one of the runners who competed last season. He said he would like to record a sub-16-minute time on the Burke Lake course and a time in the low-16-minute range on a 5K (3.1 miles) course. As a team, Aleixo said the Wolverines want a place on the podium at states.

"I feel a lot more confident in my ability,"

he said. "Last year I was a little unsure of myself coming in. I feel a lot more confident this year [about] what I can do."

Lake Braddock finished third with 141 points, followed by Thomas Jefferson (175) and Hayfield (206). Mount Vernon finished 21st out of 30 teams.

Chantilly sophomore Sean McGorty was the individual winner with a time of 15:17.

Lake Braddock senior Sam Rubenking placed second with a time of 15:26, followed by Annandale junior Ahmed Bile (15:28), Woodson junior Paul Gates (15:30) and Lake Braddock senior Luke Sohl (15:37).

Mount Vernon senior Connor Rowell fin

SEE WOLVERINE GIRLS. PAGE 24

SPORTS BRIEFS

Majors Suffer Second Lopsided Loss

For the second consecutive week, the Mount Vernon football team scored an early defensive touchdown that swung momentum in favor of the Majors. But for the second straight week, the team's momentum was short-lived.

Mount Vernon lost a road game to T.C. Williams 45-14 on Sept. 11. Trailing 7-0 midway through the first quarter, Mount Vernon senior Julien Randolph returned a fumble 25 yards for a touchdown, tying the score at 7. On the next play from scrimmage, senior defensive back Emmanuel Tackie intercepted TC quarterback Doug Murphy, setting the Majors up at their own 35-yard line. But Mount Vernon went three-

and-out and the Titans quickly responded with a touchdown — the first of 31 unanswered points.

In Mount Vernon's opener against West Potomac on Sept. 2, Tackie returned an interception for a touchdown in the second quarter, cutting the Majors' deficit to seven points. West Potomac went on to win 55-20.

Against TC, sophomore quarterback Robert Decardi-Nelson completed 1 of 7 passes for 7 yards and was eventually replaced by Tre Cooke. The senior completed 4 of 10 passes for 76 yards and scored a rushing touchdown, but also threw an interception and lost a fumble — both of which were returned for Titans touchdowns.

Junior running back Sadiq Odyedele led

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS. PAGE 24



Mount Vernon running back Sadiq Odyedele rushed for 63 yards during the Majors' 45-14 loss to T.C. Williams on Sept. 11.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE GAZETTE

SPORTS

Wolverine Girls

FROM PAGE 23

ished 28th with a time of 16:30.

IN GIRLS ACTION, West Potomac finished second with a score of 86 points. Meet winner Thomas Jefferson scored 44 points, with three top-10 finishes and each harrier finishing in the top 16. The Wolverines were 36 points better than third-place Lake Braddock.

Junior captain Sarah Underwood led the way for West Potomac with a fifth-place finish (18:26). Junior captain Dale Lescher placed 13th (19:07), sophomore Sophia Passacantando finished 20th (19:18), junior Samantha Miller came in 21st (19:18) and junior Colleen Boyle finished 28th (19:40). Passacantando was hurt during an early pile-up, but once the race re-started, she jumped

“We didn’t have [any boys] in the top 10 — that’s something that needs to get worked on — but we had some nice depth.”

**— West Potomac cross country coach
Jenn Dietz**

back in the action.

“I think they did very well,” Dietz said of the West Potomac girls — a team with no seniors. “... They’re doing well for where they are, there are just a lot of good teams they have to compete with.”

Lake Braddock sophomore Sophie Chase was the individual winner with a time of 17:32. Edison senior Myah Hicks placed second with a time of 18:04, followed by Jefferson harriers Lisa Junta (18:12) and Sarah Stites (18:26).

Mount Vernon senior Katja Rowell finished 25th with a time of 19:30.

SPORTS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 23

Mount Vernon with 63 rushing yards in 12 carries, but eight of his attempts were for two yards or fewer.

Mount Vernon opens National District play at 7:30 p.m. at home against Edison on Sept. 16.

Wolverines Edged By Westfield

The West Potomac football team lost its home opener to Westfield, 28-24, on Sept. 10. West Potomac quarterback Nik Dimitrijevic passed for 289 yards in the loss.

The Wolverines will host Chantilly at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 16.

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.

High School Football Coaches Night

The Alexandria Sportsman’s Club will host its annual High School Football Coaches Night on Sept. 21 at the Old Dominion Boat Club on King Street. The head football coach of each Alexandria City high school (T.C. Williams’ Dennis Randolph, Bishop Ireton’s Anthony Verducci, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes’ David Holm and Episcopal’s Mark Gowin) will speak at the meeting, which has also been opened to head football coaches of Alexandria schools in Fairfax County. Social hour begins at 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public and free food and refreshments will be served.

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.

Call the sports office at 703-746-5402 or visit alexandriava.gov/recreation. Space is limited.

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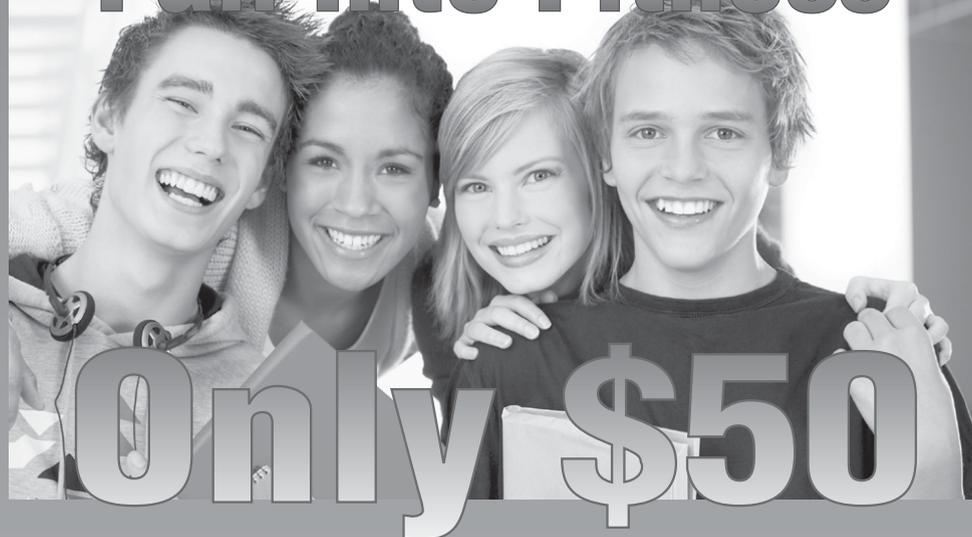
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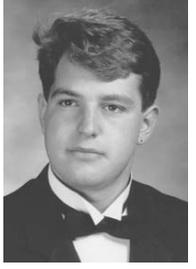
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21 Announcements **21 Announcements**
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STANLEY PAUL ARMSTRONG
Aug 26, 1973-Sept 13, 1992

Paul died at age 19 of a heart attack 18 years ago in his
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his friends growing up in the Ft. Hunt area & West Potomac
HS; First Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA, and the ATOS.
He was a kind and gentle man.
We love you, Paul.
Stanley, Judy and Mary

21 Announcements **21 Announcements**
OBITUARY
Jean C. Simpson, of Alexandria Virginia died on August 29,
2010. She is survived by a brother, Donald F. Simpson Sr. and
sister Sally Fortney. Also survived by 7 nieces and nephews. A
memorial service will be held on Thursday September 16th,
2pm at the Goodwin House, 4800 Fillmore Avenue, Alexandria,
Virginia. If desired, memorial contributions may be made to
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