

# Mount Vernon Gazette

VOL. XXI, No. 43

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

OCTOBER 28, 2010



## Fall Harvest Days

Visitors take wagon rides during Fall Harvest Family Days at Mount Vernon Estate on Saturday, Oct. 23.

**Leanne Taylor gives a demonstration in wheat treading.**

PHOTOS BY  
LA SHAWN AVERY-SIMONS/  
THE GAZETTE



Farrier Joe-Marcus Dearmon and Lisa Pregent feed Nelson the horse.

## Closing Arguments

**As Election Day nears, contrasts intensify.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE GAZETTE

**T**rying to ride the wave of anger against incumbents this year, Republican challengers are positioning themselves as outsiders taking on “career politicians” in the race for Congress as

the election heads into the final stretch. Contrary to the popular narrative of this election year, incumbent Democrats are campaigning on their support of President Barack Obama’s health-care reform. Ultimately, voters will have the final say on Nov. 2.

During a debate hosted by the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce this week, the contrasts could not have been stronger as Election Day nears. Again and again, the GOP challengers Keith Fimian and Patrick Murray

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 12

## Park Authority Rejects Off-Leash Dog Area

**PACK vows to push effort.**

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

**T**he Fairfax County Park Authority has rejected a proposed off-leash dog park for Westgrove Park citing the absence of a Master Plan for the park and lack of resources.

A citizens’ group, Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK), had obtained approximately 500 signatures on a petition and sent it in June to the authority and the Board of Supervisors asking them to designate Westgrove Park on an interim basis as an off-leash dog park. Several dog owners were fined for allowing their dogs to run off leash in the Westgrove Park, in violation of the county leash regulation. PACK representatives met with

Park Authority Board Member Gil McCutcheon, Park authority staff, and Mount Vernon Supervisor Gerald Hyland to urge the interim off leash dog park designation.

Although Hyland expressed his support for the proposal during the community meeting, the authority “determined not to take action at Westgrove Park at this time. This decision is based on the lack of resources and no master plan for the site,” according to an email from Fairfax County Park Authority Director John W. Dargle, Jr.

Hyland, upon learning of the decision, authorized the following communication to be sent to PACK: “Supervisor Hyland has decided to ask the Park Authority to start the process to master plan Westgrove Park. ... We have written to PA Director Dargle asking him to initiate the process immediately.”

Steven Nixon, president of PACK, said, “We are profoundly disappointed that the Park Authority would not help us with our proposal to provide for one of the

SEE DOG PARK, PAGE 12

## Details

For more information on Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK), see [www.westgrovepack.com](http://www.westgrovepack.com).

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# New Walmart Opens

**Full-line of groceries offered at state-of-the-art Super Center.**

**A** new Walmart Super Center officially opened Wednesday, Oct. 27 at Kings Crossing.

Store manager George Winningham said, "We are very excited about being part of the community. We hope and expect that our customers will save money and find what they need and are looking for at our new store."

Winningham said that Walmart planners project an annual income of \$65 million for the new store.

According to Walmart officials, the store opening brings 275 jobs to the community. They stated that the majority of hires were from the local community. Walmart also announced that it will issue grand opening community cash grants totaling approximately \$20,000 to the following local or-

ganizations: Purple Heart, Community Lodging, Mount Eagle Elementary School, West Potomac High School, Meals on Wheels, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and Police Unity

Walmart pointed out that its new building design includes energy-efficient technology to reduce energy and water consumption and minimize waste. The skylights reduce the amount of artificial light required to light the store. Use of LED lighting in the store operates 70 percent more efficiently than traditional fluorescent lighting. The store also will operate a recycling program and will promote sustainable product purchases.

This is the second Walmart store on Richmond Highway. The first store is located a few miles south.

## Details

— GERALD A. FILL

### WALMART SUPER CENTER

6303 Richmond Highway at Kings Crossing Road  
♦ 80,000 s/f  
♦ Full-line grocery & in-house bakery



PHOTO BY GERALD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

**At the ribbon-cutting of the new Walmart Super Center Wednesday, Oct. 27, Store Manager George Winningham and Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman Jeff Todd are surrounded by Walmart officials, associates, and customers.**

# Quander Road High Provides Safe Haven for Teens

BY GALE CURCIO  
THE GAZETTE

**A**ri Sheridan had an issue with depression and absenteeism. LaMar Henderson was depressed and suicidal. Ling Shih suffered with depression and didn't do well in a large school environment.

All three of these students, and more, found refuge at a small place called Quander Road High School. Part of the Fairfax County School System, Quander Road High School is an alternative for students who are emotionally troubled, have a hard time adjusting to a large public school or any other situation where daily counseling helps them to graduate.

Henderson said, "I needed hope in every aspect of my life and this school helped me tremendously. I am more assertive and can handle situations better. It has made me feel very happy about myself."

For Shih, the depression and suicidal tendencies were overwhelming and it made her nervous to go to school. "The smaller environment is better and the teachers are very helpful," she said.



**Pam Rein and Marty Rovira explain how the school psychologists help the students at Quander Road High School.**



**Ron Jones is the assistant principal at Quander Road High School.**

Sheridan continues to have some issues with absenteeism, but said, "It made me able to be successful without coming in every day."

An open house was held this past week to show parents, administrators and the public just what goes on at Quander Road High School.

"There are many perceptions about a school like this," said Ron Jones, assistant principal. "There are ups and downs, but we don't have chairs flying or bricks being thrown through the windows. Kids are in class, teachers are teaching and students are learning."

Four years isn't always enough for students and they are entitled to stay in the system until they are 21. That is the case with Henderson, who has decided that he is going to stay another year to take some additional computer classes.

"They can stay until they are 21; that is their decision," said Kelly Greenwood, PTSA president with two students at the school. "Everyone of these students have had lots

of changes."

"Everybody is different, and each student has their own program," said Pam Rein, school psychologist. "The goal is to get the students back to their base school. Every student has a clinical case manager who will work on everything from academics to placing student in residential facilities, if necessary. It runs the gamut. We're like a big family."

Jones added, "We try our best to work closely together."

"Once they get in the door, they learn that this is the best place for them," said Greenwood. "This is what they need. Parents learn that they put what's best for the child first. Some of these kids stay for four years; some go in and out."

Another school psychologist, Marta Rovira, said that some students come for a year or two and then go main stream on a full-time basis.

According to Jones, "Everybody is entitled to an education, no matter what the disabilities."



**Ari Sheridan, Ling Shih and LaMar Henderson talk about their experiences at Quander Road High School.**

Quander Road High School has capacity for 125 students, and they currently have about 85 students. Most of them receive a standard modified diploma, but some take a Life Skills class and receive a special diploma. They have a full-time principal and full-time assistant principal. They share the school resource officer with West Potomac High School.

The advantage of being next door to West Potomac is that some of the students attend the Academy at West Potomac; others are bused to the Academy at Edison High School.

Pam Lawton comes to the school to counsel the students on substance abuse, and said, "We focus on education, prevention and early intervention. We teach them to make healthy decisions and act as a liaison between the schools and country substance abuse centers."

Greenwood, who coordinated the open house, is committed to the school, and said, "I will be a Quander Road Parent all my life."

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

PEOPLE

# Yacht Haven Garden Club Presents ‘Sophisticated Ladies’

BY GALE CURCIO  
THE GAZETTE

**A**s is often the case, it is the young ones who steal our hearts. Such was the case at Yacht Haven Garden Club’s 27th Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon.

Alicia Brooks and Kate Wharton were adorable in the outfits they modeled — Alicia in a sleeveless raspberry dress with petal skirt and Kate in a sleeveless herringbone dress with beaded neckline, accompanied by black faux fur cropped jacket. It was only fitting that one of them won the teddy bear in the raffle.

All of the fashions were from Bloomingdale’s and commented by Effie Elkorek, Bloomingdales’ personal shopper manager.

Shari Bredehoft, Pam Gaddy, Angelita Kabler, Marvel Luykx, Diane Brooks, Terra Defibaugh, Linda Herbert, Bonnie Lilley, Alexandra Perryman and Denise Wight looked stunning in the various outfits that they modeled.

A family affair, the men also participated, with Graham Defibaugh, Dusty Rhodes, Carrick Herbert and Gil Siegert serving as escorts.

Susan Lord chaired the annual event and Jan Hamlin delivered the invocation. An assortment of items were available for



**Graham Defibaugh served as an escort for his mother, Terra Defibaugh, and the other models.**

PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO/THE GAZETTE



**Alicia Brooks and Kate Wharton are a big hit at the fashion show.**



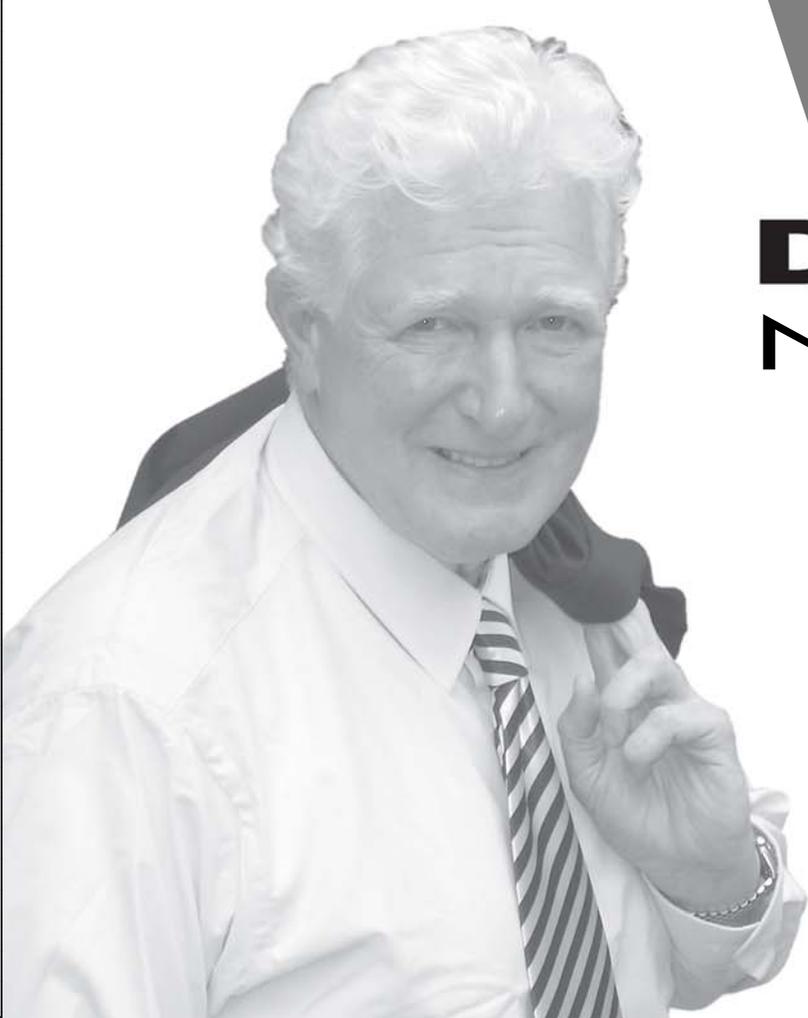
**Fashion show models Shari Bredehoft, Pam Gaddy, Angelita Kabler, Marvel Luykx, Diane Brooks, Linda Herbert, Bonnie Lilley, Alexandra Perryman, Denise Wight, Alicia Brooks and Kate Wharton, along with Effie Elkorek, Bloomingdales’ personal shopper manager.**

bidding for the Silent Auction, and there were many items donated for the raffle as well.

Yacht Haven Garden Club share the joy of gardening. It meets at Mount Vernon Yacht Club at 9:30 a.m. to noon, the first Thursday each month except, January. Come and learn about plants, floral design

and much more. Call membership vice president Jan Hamlin at 703-360-1998.

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



# VOTE

## DEMOCRATIC

## NOVEMBER 2

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# Area Braces for BRAC Impact

**Addition of 19,000 jobs, employers will brighten local economy.**

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK  
THE GAZETTE

*The following story is part of a series of occasional articles on the impact of the movement of 19,000 military and government employees from Washington, Maryland and Arlington to Alexandria and Fairfax County.*

**D**espite the critical concern over traffic problems that may be caused by the military's Base Realignment and Closure actions, the movement of 19,000 federal jobs and a score of agencies to southeastern Fairfax County will revolutionize an aging area of the county and raise real estate and property values, most sources agree.

The BRAC movement, set to be completed by Sept.

15, 2011, may make the economy of southeastern Fairfax County bright in a year where the national economy is struggling to recover and recession could last for years.

In just the past several years, commercial real estate developers have begun a modest building boom in the Springfield and Mount Vernon areas to provide office space to government contractors who serve BRAC agencies:

Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT) is planning a 15-acre office complex known as Patriot Ridge to develop between 800,000 and 900,000 square feet of commercial space adjacent to the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency (NGA) in Newington. The first building, 240,000 square feet is expected to begin construction this fall.

Monument Realty is in the process of obtaining a zoning change to permit the building of a four-building office complex with some 750,000 feet of space at the Springfield-Franconia Metro Station. The project, called Liberty View, could begin construc-

SEE BRAC, PAGE 13

## Jazzercise Raises \$2,000 To Help Homeless

Mt. Vernon Jazzercisers raised \$2,000 for the homeless by staging a benefit dance-fitness class at Hollin Hall Center Oct. 8.

According to Jazzercise instructor and benefit organizer Mindy LaBruno, all proceeds will benefit United Community Ministries (UCM) a private, non-profit agency that provides resources and services to

individuals, families, and neighborhoods in Fairfax County. Fannie Mae will match the money raised to help the homeless.

For more information on Jazzercise contact Mindy LaBruno at 703-765-0142. For worldwide class information, go to jazzercise.com or call 800-FIT-IS-IT (348-4748).

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**Alex./Riverside Estates \$559,900**  
**3112 Battersea Lane**  
Beautifully remodeled 4 BR, 2.5 BA Colonial in popular Riverside Estates. Updates include: totally remodeled kit w/granite counters, baths, new carpet in family rm & basement. Interior freshly painted, refinished hwd floors on main & upper levels. New HVAC & water heater, extensive landscaping. Great location! 6 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Huntington Metro and Old Town, 25 to National Airport & 35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alex./Woodland \$619,000**  
**3232 Woodland Lane**  
Lovely 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on a spectacular .48 wooded lot in prestigious Woodland Park. Stunning sunroom addition in 2006. Cherry cabinets & corian counters in large remodeled kitchen and updated baths, freshly painted interior and newer energy efficient replacement windows. Spacious double carport with ample storage. Community boat ramp for water access. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Metro & Old Town, 25 to Natl Airport & 30/35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alex./Mt. Vernon \$464,900**  
**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 sunroom addition w/separate HVAC. Finished walk-out basement, interior painted, screened porch—spectacular.42 landscaped lot. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Huntington Metro/Old Town, 35 to D.C.



**Alex./Stratford Landing \$564,900**  
**8704 Waterford Rd.**  
Spectacular, updated 2,500 sq ft 4 BR, 3 BA two-level rambler in popular Stratford Landing. Turn-key! Renovations since 2002 include: HVAC, hot water, roof, baths, kitchen (granite counters, maple cabinets), replacement windows, new deck, refinished lower level. Hwd floors throughout main level. Newly landscaped yard. Scenic commute along Potomac River. Great location: 15 minutes to Ft. Belvoir or Old Town, 30 to Pentagon/D.C. Close to G.W. Parkway, Mount Vernon Bike Trail and beautiful park.



**Alex./Riverside Estates \$499,900**  
**3113 Battersea Lane**  
Spectacular home on a spectacular lot backing to deep woods. Large Yorkshire model w/spacious 2-car garage. Numerous updates throughout to include: kit w/bump-out, windows, roof, siding, furnace, gas fireplace, etc. Finished basement plus large hot tub overlooking a beautiful & serene back yard. Total package & priced aggressively to sell.



**Alex./Wessynton \$609,900**  
**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 \$365,000**  
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One level living in this lovely 3 BR, 2 BA Rambler. Freshly painted interior, refinished hwd floors, energy efficient double pane replacement windows. Nice family rm addition with wood burning fpl. Lg detached 2 car garage on lg. fenced .5 acre lot in Mount Vernon. Great Location: minutes to Ft. Belvoir, Metro/Old Town and Natl. Airport.

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### New Price- Open Sunday 1-4!



ELEGANT COLONIAL in Belle Haven overlooking the golf course. Priced \$36,000 below appraised value! Gracious foyer, 9' ceilings, lovely moldings and architectural detail, 3 bedrooms, 3 and one half baths, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen with new appliances and granite counters, spacious recreation room, 2 car tandem garage ~\$800,000 more info at [www.JeanneWarner.net](http://www.JeanneWarner.net) or 703.980.9106

6034 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22307



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4651 Neely Ann Ct Alexandria, VA 22310



### 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**

611 Cameron St Alexandria, VA 22314



### New Price in Belle Haven!



Beautiful, light filled colonial perfect for elegant entertaining as well as comfortable family living. Offering a two story foyer, tall ceilings, gracious formal rooms, gourmet kitchen, three fireplaces beautiful master suite with a vaulted ceiling, six bedrooms, five and one half baths, exceptional built-in bookshelves and cabinets, wonderful family room and recreation room with fireplaces, two private decks, and two car garage. ~\$1,599,900 more info at [www.JeanneWarner.net](http://www.JeanneWarner.net) or 703.980.9106

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3613 Old Vernon Court Alexandria, VA 22309



### Charming in Old Town

Delightful 2BR,2BA brick townhouse featuring crown molding and chair rail, hardwood floors updated kitchen with granite counters, rec room with full bath on lower level with outside entrance to lovely private deck, stone patio and garden ~ **\$539,000** more info at [www.JeanneWarner.net](http://www.JeanneWarner.net) or 703.980.9106



912 South Alfred Street Alexandria, VA 22314



### Just Listed- Mint Condition!



Classic Colonial in mint condition! It's ALL DONE! \$60k in recent improvements. 4 bdrms +Den / 2.55 ba. Dream kitchen w buttermilk cabinets, granite, stone backsplash and SS appls. HW floors on main/upper lvl, renovated baths, recessed lighting. Screened porch off fam rm opens to flagstone patio landscaped fenced back yard. Lower level w/ designer carpet, media/play rm plus den, storage rm and half bath. New windows, siding, roof, AC ~ **\$699,000** more info at [www.PhyllisPatterson.com](http://www.PhyllisPatterson.com)

1900 Sword Lane Alexandria, VA 22308



## The Market Is Moving... Are You?

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townhouse! Shared recep-  
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professionals. Rent includes  
1 parking space & utilities.



**Cindee  
Jackson**  
703-518-  
6157



**Old Town**  
**\$2,050,000**  
516 Duke Street,  
Alexandria VA 22314  
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tural detail, this premier Old  
Town residence, circa 1840,  
offers 3 bedrooms, library,  
2.5 baths, 3 fireplaces,  
original pine floors and 2 off-  
street parking spaces!



**Donnan C.  
Wintermute**  
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6156



**Wilton Hill** **\$949,000**  
5916 Wilton Hill Terrace, Alexandria VA 22310

Just listed! Exquisite former model, less than 2 years  
old. 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, dramatic foyer,  
open floor plan, moldings galore, chef's  
kitchen, finished lower level with media  
room, etc. Approx 1 mile to Metro.



**Liz Bucuvalas 703-626-8400**



**Derin Glen** **\$665,000**  
6257 Sibel Place, Alexandria VA 22310

You'll be amazed at size of this gorgeous, 3,954 sq ft  
Colonial w/great kitchen w/granite, island  
& breakfast room, 6 bedrooms, 4.5 baths,  
2 car garage, beautiful hardwood floors &  
tons of windows. Super location.



**Yvonne S. Croft 703-973-1540**



**Marina Towers** **\$325,000**  
501 Slaters Lane #1216, Alexandria VA 22314

Resort Lifestyle! Spectacular sweeping city views from  
this custom-designed home. Gourmet  
kitchen & marble bath. Balcony and park-  
ing. Pool, river and bike path, fitness center  
& security. Near Nat'l Airport & DC.



**Eloise Brantley 703-408-4887**



**Falls Church** **\$218,000**  
3709 George Mason Dr, Falls Church VA 22041

Just Listed! Great view priced for a savvy investor/  
buyer who's not afraid to renovate & up-  
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# BUSINESS

## Antique Center's Open House Spotlights Variety

BY GALE CURCIO  
THE GAZETTE

**W**hat do Ray Staffieri, Rose Valentino, Edith Graciela, Belinda Byrd and John Atkins have in common? They have all found a home at the Mount Vernon Antique Center.

Staffieri mans Ray's Place I and Ray's Place II, selling collectibles of the '40s, '50s and '60s, including jewelry, ceramics, toys and games, kitchen accessories, photographic equipment, tools, beer items, Roseville and Russell Wright pottery.

Sanabria's booth, Grace Jewelry and Art, houses a collection of custom art, as well as gold and silver jewelry. She also repairs jewelry.

Atkins recently opened Showroom 6, which has a collection of traditional American and Asian treasures.

Byrd, who also owns Adams-Byrd Fine Arts & Antiques, is an art historian; her booth has an inventory of furniture, art and decorative accessories from the 19th and 20th centuries.

Valentino closed her shop in Hollin Hills several years ago, and is now doing her art and framing at Mount Vernon Antique Center under the same name — Framing by Valentino.



**Ray Staffieri sells an eclectic mix of merchandise at Ray's Place II.**

A total of 27 dealers make up Mount Vernon Antique Center. Formerly known as "Thieves Market," it is the oldest antique mall in the United States. It is located in the Mount Vernon area at 8101 Richmond



**Sam Nasafi, owner of Mount Vernon Antique Center, and John Atkins, dealer, relax at the end of the open house.**

Highway and offers a variety of antique furniture, small collectibles, jewelry, Persian rugs and other unusual items.

Some of the items featured at the center are: furniture, silver, porcelain, chandeliers,

stained glass, watches/clocks, crystal, books and records, rocks and minerals, silver and gold, jewelry, computers, rugs, Polish pottery, coins and bills, Civil War & World War II and mid-century Danish.

SEE ANTIQUE CENTER, PAGE 9

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## BUSINESS



**Belinda of Adams-Byrd Fine Arts-Antiques helps out during the open house**

PHOTOS BY GALE CURCIO/THE GAZETTE



**Rose Valentino, of Art & Framing by Valentino, has a new home inside the Mount Vernon Antique Center.**

# Antique Center

FROM PAGE 8

In addition to selling antiques, it offers in-house dealers that buy valuables. They also have an onsite eBay dealer who can sell items online for a percentage — or provide assistance if already selling on eBay. Last weekend, they hosted a Fall Open House.

Author Michael Lee Pope signed copies of his recently published book “Ghosts of Alexandria” and refreshments were served.

Mount Vernon Antiques Center is located at 8101 Richmond Highway, Alexandria VA 22309. For more information, call 703-619-5100 or visit <http://www.mtvernonantiquecenter.com>. Hours are: Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday 12-5 p.m.

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

## BUSINESS NOTES

Send announcements to the Gazette, by e-mail to [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

**Mt. Vernon Toastmasters** wants to help people become better speakers. Join the Mt. Vernon Toastmasters to learn the tips and techniques of becoming a more confident speaker. Founded in 1979, Mt. Vernon Toastmasters is one of the oldest speech clubs in the Alexandria area, and is dedicated to the proposition that given the appropriate environment, anyone is capable of having a natural public speaking talent. The club meets the first and third Monday every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway. Visit <http://mountvernon.freetoasthost.org/> or email [mtvernontoast@gmail.com](mailto:mtvernontoast@gmail.com).

## SCHOOL NOTES

**A Family Life Education (FLE)** review opportunity will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. in the media center at Mount Vernon High School. This grade 9-12 program will allow parents to view FLE curriculum, determine if you wish to opt your student out of a lesson or lessons, and ask questions. A classroom FLE instructor specialist will be in attendance for the presentation.

**St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School**, 400 Fontaine Street, Alexandria, will offer group tours on Nov. 3 for prospective Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten parents. Tour the Lower School campus, meet administrators, and see the faculty in action. Call 703-212-2705.

The following Virginia Tech students were among those honored at the university's spring commencement ceremony held May 14, 2010, in Lane Stadium.

\* **Daniel Rogers** of Alexandria received a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry from the College of Science.

\* **Heather Carnahan** of Alexandria received a Bachelor of Science in Business degree cum laude in hospitality and tourism management from the Pamplin College of Business.

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# OPINION

## Vote Nov. 2 (or Before)

### Know voters' rights.

**T**urnout could make a big difference in one or more of the three congressional races in Northern Virginia this year.

Every year is an election year in Virginia. This combined with a bevy of special elections in some areas can result in voter fatigue.

This year, every voter in Virginia will vote for a candidate for U.S. House of Representatives plus vote on three statewide constitutional questions.

Voters in Fairfax will also vote on a transportation bond referendum.

You can still vote early. Voters are allowed to vote absentee if they might be unavailable to vote on Election Day, including people who might be at work or commuting to work for 11 hours on that day. That's eight hours at work, a possible one-hour commute each way plus a lunch hour.

**VOTERS' RIGHTS**, excerpts from the State Board of Elections, [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov):

As a Virginia voter, you have the following rights:

❖ To be treated with courtesy and respect by the election officials

❖ To seek help from the election officials if you are unsure about anything relating to the voting process.

❖ To be given a demonstration of how the voting equipment works.

❖ To enter the full name of a write-in candidate.

#### EDITORIAL

❖ To have a ballot brought to your vehicle instead of entering the polling place if you are 65 years of age or older, or if you are disabled.

❖ To vote even if you have no identification with you at the polling place. You must sign the "Affirmation of Identity" statement before voting if you have no ID (unless you are voting for the first time and did not mail in a copy of your id). Even so, bring your identification with you.

❖ To vote by provisional ballot if your status as a qualified voter is in question, and to be present when the Electoral Board meets to determine if your ballot will be counted.

❖ To bring your child age 15 or younger into the voting booth with you to observe you vote.

**IF YOU FEEL** your voting rights have been violated or that you may have witnessed an

### Polls Open Nov. 2, 6 a.m.-7 p.m.

To find your polling place, see a sample ballot, check your registration, go to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov) and click on "Voter Information." Registered voters can vote in person absentee for many reasons before Election Day, see details below.

For more information, contact:

#### FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323  
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[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/)

703-222-0776 phone

703-324-4700 for 24-hour recorded information

In-Person Absentee Voting available until Oct. 30:

Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, VA 22035, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. -7:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Also available through Oct. 30, at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306.

election law being broken, it is important to report the incident immediately, before the polls close on Election Day, and preferably while you are still at your polling place. Contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-552-9745, or via email at [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov).

If you still believe your voting rights may have been violated, you have 10 days to file a formal complaint with the State Board of Elections.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### 'Vitriolic Hyperbole'

To the Editor:

In regards to the article, "Saudi School Lease Extended" in the Oct. 21 edition of the Mount Vernon

Gazette, I was chagrined and discouraged by the actions of those protesting the Islamic Saudi Academy (ISA)'s lease. While everyone is entitled to their views on things that could be detrimental to the local community, I thought the actions of the ISA's opponents belied

the fact that they have little first-hand knowledge of the institution on which to criticize it. For instance, despite their claims, the ISA opponents cited no direct evidence of the school teaching extremism. They seemed to have no personal experience with the school — this in contrast with the neighborhood associations and businesses close to the school, who actually are familiar with the institution and support it. The name of the "Virginia Anti-Shariah Task Force" further indicates the opponents' detachment — there is no movement whatsoever for the imposition of anything like shariah in the area, nor even a Muslim population large enough to impose their views on the community in a similar way; the organization just seems to be striking out at an amorphous caricature of Muslim institutions. Finally, the opponents cited an ISA graduate who was eventually convicted of trying to kill former President Bush, using one case as a rationale for condemning the whole school. But what about the American students who were recently arrested in Pakistan on suspicion of terrorism, who attended local institutions like George Mason — do the ISA opponents think that Mason should be closed as well? All the rhetoric of the opponents just demonstrates that they really don't know the ISA at all, and have unfairly equated it with militant Islam. It's concerning (and even dan-

gerous) that people vilify something so much without even knowing its real character, especially when egregiously likening the ISA decision to "a lease to a Nazi organization that wanted to put Jews in gas chambers." Such vitriolic hyperbole does nothing to help thoughtful discourse in the community.

**James Allman-Gulino**  
Alexandria

### Wrong Place For Cell Tower

To the Editor:

I am the president of the Woodlawn Manor Community Association. Woodlawn Manor is the community which borders St. James Episcopal Church along Old Mill Road. This letter is a response to the letter published in the Sept. 30 edition of the Mt. Vernon Gazette concerning T-Mobile's pending application to construct a 100-foot cell tower and three large support buildings on the grounds of St. James Church.

Our community is not anti-cell or anti-business. However, we (along with others in our community) are opposed to the construction of a 10-story cell tower in the midst of a purely residential neighborhood that borders the Washington-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 22



**Caregiver Award** At LifeCircle Alliance's recent 1st Annual Kudos for Community Caregivers Awards breakfast held at the Mason Inn Hotel & Conference Center on the campus of George Mason University, Fairfax, are (from left) Fairfax County Board of Supervisor, Jeffrey C. McKay - Lee District, Ann Barnes and Kudos Award recipient, Dwight Barnes. Dwight Barnes was one of four award recipients that were recognized during the event as outstanding volunteer caregivers in the Fairfax County area. He was nominated by Ingrid Parkhurst, RN, center nurse coordinator for Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center in Alexandria.

## Mount Vernon Gazette

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

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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2612 JEFFERSON DR	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$300,000	Townhouse	0.08		JEFFERSON MANOR
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #213	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$299,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA
5873 BLAINE DR	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$295,000	Duplex	0.09		HUNTINGTON
6536 10TH ST	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$290,000	Townhouse			BELLE VIEW
3710 WOODLEY DR	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$289,000	Detached	0.50		WOODLEY HILLS
5902 MOUNT EAGLE DR #909	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$282,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
5728 SUNBURY DR	4	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$280,000	Detached	0.27		BURGUNDY FARM
6500 HAMPTON RD	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$277,500	Detached	0.28		CATALINA
2256 ARLINGTON TER	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$276,500	Duplex	0.08		HUNTINGTON
2728 SHERWOOD HALL LN	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.03		MT WOODLEY MANOR
6730 RADCLIFFE DR	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$275,000	Duplex	0.08		BEACON MANOR
7918 FITZROY ST	6	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$269,900	Detached	0.20		MT VERNON VALLEY
2323 GLENDALE TER	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Duplex	0.08		HUNTINGTON
8009 RUSSELL RD	4	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Detached	0.27		FAIRFIELD
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7826 ASHTON ST	5	3	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$245,000	Detached	0.28		MT VERNON WOODS
8202 MCCLELLAND PL	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$245,000	Townhouse	0.06		BARCLAY COURT
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6114 BANGOR DR	4	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$235,000	Detached	0.16		FAIR HAVEN
4431 SCARBOROUGH SQ	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$220,000	Townhouse	0.05		PINEWOOD LAKE
8428 OLD MOUNT VERNON RD	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$215,000	Detached	0.50		MT ZEPHYR
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #307	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			MONTEBELLO
7912 CENTRAL PARK CIR	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$198,000	Townhouse	0.05		PINEWOOD LAKE
8077 SAINT ANNES CT	3	3	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$195,000	Townhouse	0.10		PINEWOOD LAKE
4221 MAIN ST	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$195,000	Townhouse	0.04		CHATEAUNEUF
6714 WAKEFIELD DR #B1	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			BELLE VIEW
4414 SCARBOROUGH SQ	4	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Townhouse	0.05		PINEWOOD LAKE
8312 ORVILLE ST	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$180,000	Detached	0.50		TIMOTHY PARK
8216 CLAREMONT WOODS DR	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$178,000	Townhouse	0.03		GEORGLAND VILLAGE
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #715	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$173,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			RIVER TOWERS
2059 HUNTINGTON AVE #1504	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$160,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			HUNTING CREEK CLUB APTS
2618 GROVETON ST	3	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$158,521	Detached	0.14		MEMORIAL HEIGHTS
2301 FARRINGTON AVE #03-103	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$150,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			FARRINGTON PLACE
3945E SONORA PL #79E	3	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$148,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			SEQUOYAH
8419 HUERTA CT #155	3	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$142,000	Townhouse			PINEWOOD LAWSNS
3944 MARIPOSA PL	3	2	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$130,000	Townhouse			SEQUOYAH
6439 RICHMOND HWY #102	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$125,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			HUNTINGTON WALK
3817 NEEDLES PL #13C	2	1	1		ALEXANDRIA	\$125,000	Attach/Row Hse			SEQUOYAH
5703 SHADWELL CT #14	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$120,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			OLDE MILL
4335 PEMBROOK VILLAGE DR#33	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$120,000	Townhouse			PEMBROOK VILLAGE
2239 FARRINGTON AVE #05-201	1	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$110,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			FARRINGTON PLACE
8896 WALUTES CIR #D	2	1	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$107,500	Other			TERRACE TOWNE HOMES OF W
8382C BROCKHAM DR #C	2	2	0		ALEXANDRIA	\$100,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			MOUNT VERNON LAKES

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## PUBLIC NOTICE: ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** To seek public comment and announce a public hearing on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality regarding a landfill in Fairfax County, Virginia.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** November 9, 2010 to December 24, 2010

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway (Route 1), in Lorton Virginia at 7:00 PM on Thursday, December 9, 2010.

**PERMIT NAME AND NUMBER:** I-95 Sanitary Landfill, Permit Number 103

**PERMIT APPLICANT:** County of Fairfax, Virginia, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, Solid Waste Management Program

**FACILITY NAME AND LOCATION:** I-95 Landfill Complex; 9850 Furnace Road in Lorton, Virginia. This facility is an Environmental Enterprise participant in Virginia's Environmental Excellence Program.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** County of Fairfax, Virginia, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, Solid Waste Management Program has applied for a modification to its permit allowing the use of an alternate liner design in Phases III and IV of the Area Three Lined Landfill (ATLL); modification of the MSW Unit Cap for expansion of the Citizens Disposal Facility; and allow implementation of a groundwater corrective action plan (CAP). The CAP details the methods to be used to remediate groundwater contamination and includes a Corrective Action Monitoring Program which sets standard procedures for the sampling, analysis, and statistical review of groundwater quality data collected during the Corrective Action process. This permit amendment will incorporate a revised Operations Manual, Design Report, Construction Quality Assurance Plan, and Closure Plan into Permit No. 103 in addition to a Corrective Action Plan and Corrective Action Monitoring Plan.

**HOW TO COMMENT:** DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at public hearings. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named below. Copies of the permit documents are also available at the Lorton Library at 9520 Richmond Highway in Lorton.

**CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Larry Syverson; DEQ-Central Office, 629 East Main Street, 5th Floor, Richmond, Virginia, 23219; Phone: (804) 698-4271; E-mail: [Larry.Syverson@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Larry.Syverson@deq.virginia.gov).

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Jim Moran



Patrick Murray



Gerry Connolly



Keith Fimian

# As Election Day Nears, Contrasts Intensify

FROM PAGE 1

tried to portray their Democratic opponents as big-government liberals, eager to expand spending and increase the national debt. It's a theme Republicans hope will resonate this year, when national polls show a sense of disenchantment with Obama and the Democratic-controlled Congress.

"There's the real world, and then there's the world the career politicians want you to believe," said Fimian, Republican candidate for the 11th Congressional District. "All they care about is getting elected."

"Career politicians will tell you what they think you want to hear," said Patrick Murray, running as the Republican candidate in the 8th congressional district. "Well, there's no such thing as a free lunch."

The Republican candidates enjoyed Cobb salad and pumpkin pie at the Mount Vernon Country Club as the Democratic incumbents took their turn at the microphone. Freshman U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) criticized Fimian as an irate retread who has already failed in a previous campaign attempt and is now attempting to capitalize on a disgruntled national mood.

"This campaign cannot be about someone who is angry and shows up every two years," said Connolly. "All he has are a bunch of national talking points."

Even before the Republican primary, 10-term incumbent U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) was challenging Republican candidates for being uninvolved in the civic life of Northern Virginia. He defended his history of earmarking money for the region, pointing out money he helped secure for a

Metrorail extension and research into traumatic brain injuries.

"If everything was perfect," said Moran, "I wouldn't be running."

**FIMIAN LAID OUT** a set of priorities that includes job growth, improving the economy and decreasing spending. During the campaign, the Republican has repeatedly castigated the stimulus supported by Connolly as an irresponsible use of taxpayer money, adding to the national debt without doing much to bring down the unemployment rate.

"It didn't stimulate anything," said Fimian. "We need to stop this wasteful spending."

The Republican, who says he wants to go to Washington "to break the china," said he would like to see spending levels reduced to what they were in 2007, which he said would balance the books by 2017. He said that 40 percent of the current federal budget is borrowed money, a phenomenon he said was unsustainable. At times, the tone of the debate about policies has taken a sharply personal tenor.

"All he knows to do is throw money at a problem," Fimian said of Connolly. "Congressman Connolly and people like him are part of the problem."

**CONNOLLY SAID** one of his top priorities for the next term would be extending the Bush tax cuts, a position that puts him at odds with many in the Democratic Party. The former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also said he would like to create targeted tax cuts for small business and implement a payroll tax holiday

to help shore up the troubled American economy. Meanwhile, he supported his vote for stimulus spending.

"I felt a moral as well as an economic responsibility," said Connolly. "Don't forget that the stimulus also included the third largest tax cut in American history."

The freshman Democrat said he was proud of his support for rail to Dulles, funding for the Fairfax Parkway and money directed to research. He also defended his time as county board chairman, when he helped increase the percentage of the county's budget that's spent on education from 50 percent to 53 percent. By contrast, Connolly said, Fimian has been disengaged.

"He has never done a thing for this community," said Connolly. "I think sweat equity has to matter."

**MURRAY OUTLINED** his top three priorities as balancing the federal budget, extending the Bush tax cuts and implementing term limits for members of Congress. Although the Republican candidate identified as implementing term limits as one of his top three priorities, Murray said he didn't know what kind of term limits would be appropriate. He said he did not currently have a position on what kind of term limits he would support.

"I'm going to talk to some smart people about that," Murray said after the debate. "Right now, I don't know."

Unlike Moran, Murray is in favor of extending the Bush tax cuts. He is pro-life, and he said he would have voted against the health-care legislation that Moran supported. The Republican challenger for the

8th Congressional District has repeatedly tried to blame Moran for the Department of Defense's decision to move 6,000 employees to a new building on the West End of Alexandria, a project that is widely despised in Alexandria because of the traffic problems it will create on Seminary Road and Beauregard Street.

"The fact is that this is his district," said Murray. "Nothing happens in this district without his approval."

**MORAN SAID** he is not in favor of extending the Bush tax cuts, and stood by his vote on health-care reform. On the issue of the Department of Defense building on Alexandria's West End, Moran said he voted against the project, recounting his support for locating the facility at a Metro station and attempts to address the traffic problems at the site. When asked about future stimulus spending, Moran was fatalistic.

"I don't think the votes are there," said Moran. "And I am torn about what to do because of the deficits."

The longtime incumbent said his top priority for the next term includes securing \$300,000 for infrastructure improvements to deal with traffic concerns created by a military realignment. Moran also said he wants to protect defense contracting positions threatened by proposed budget reductions in the Department of Defense and act on the recommendations of a fiscal advisory commission tasked with addressing the deficit.

"This country faces the worst recession in 80 years," said Moran. "Yet we have one of the strongest economies in the United States."

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## Dog Park

FROM PAGE 1

highest unmet needs in the park system (dog exercise areas). It's almost as if proposals under a million dollars aren't worth their time or effort ... considering that the city of Alexandria has 18 dog parks compared to one in all of Mount Vernon District, we wonder what our county has against dogs and their owners. ... as for next steps we will look for ways to expand and energize our base of support to influence the county political process."

# Bracing for BRAC

FROM PAGE 5

tion as early as the first quarter of 2011, according to Russell Hines of Monument. One option, he said, might be to build a 170-room hotel. The property has immediate access to the NGA facility and is adjacent to Metro Park.

Metro Park is a 37-acre office park that ING purchased in 2006 for \$207 million. At that time, it had four buildings leased to government contractors SAIC and CALIBRE. It now has seven buildings all within proximity of Fort Belvoir and the NGA complex as well as walking distance of the Franconia/Springfield Metro Station and the Virginia Railway Express Station.

Peter Berk, executive director of Cushman & Wakefield, which is handling the leasing, said two additional buildings are under construction. One is leased to the VSE Corporation which is moving from Huntington to be closer to clients in the BRAC removal. The second building, he said, is 30 percent leased and will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2011. Berk said that square foot cost for new

construction in the area is likely to be higher than \$40.

GeoEye, a provider of satellite imagery, announced Tuesday, Oct. 12, that it was moving its headquarters from Loudoun County near Dulles to a Fairfax office close to NGA. GeoEye won a \$3.8 billion contract from NGA to provide satellite imagery over the next 10 years. GeoEye has had amazing growth, according to the company, rising from 106 employees to 550 and it expects to add 100 more in its new \$15 million Fairfax building.

An analysis prepared by Fairfax County in 2008 said that as many as 12,000 jobs could be accommodated in the office and commercial areas near Fort Belvoir and BRAC but the necessity of having a road system to support this growth was recognized in the report. It said initially some 3,400 were expected.

Peter Wayland, vice chairman of the South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, acknowledged that the BRAC changes will bring jobs and push values of houses higher, but

SEE BRAC. PAGE 25



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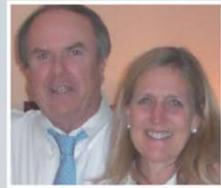
**Sunday, October 3 1:00 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, November 2 9:00 a.m.**  
**Sunday, December 5 1:00 p.m.**

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\$649,900  
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Prestigious Belle Haven on the Green's large model. Prime location across from the grounds of Belle Haven C.C. Stately townhome abounds w/old world charm and modern efficiency. Special features include 3 finished levels and spacious walled garden, gourmet kit and more. Exceptionally attractive price for this gorgeous community. Just mins to Old Town. OPEN SUN 10/31, 1-4. GW Pky S, R-Belle Haven Rd; L-Barrister Pl.

**1702**  
Cool Spring Dr  
\$569,000  
**New Home Features- Re-Sale Price!**  
Unique Opportunity! Total renovation in popular Ft. Hunt area. 4BR, 2.5BA home has been stripped to bare walls by leading custom builder. Everything is brand new: chef's kit w/custom 42" cabs, granite, luxury BAS, gorgeous hwd flrs, upgraded trim detail. Feels like new home at half the price! OPEN SUN 10/31, 1-4. S GW Pky; R-Collingwood Rd; L-Fort Hunt Rd; R-Cool Spring Dr.

**9516**  
Mt. Vernon Landing  
\$1,999,000  
**Waterfront -Major Price Adjustment!**  
Re-Introduction to market! New price on custom waterfront home in spectacular setting with long water frontage and sweeping water views. Many features including: 3 levels with full walk-out water view lower level, 6 bedrooms, open Kit/Family Room with stone fireplace and dramatic water view deck. Water view master suite features large sitting room with fireplace. Significant cosmetic work just completed. Super Value!

**NEW LISTING!**  
5116 OBSERVATION WAY  
Alexandria  
\$415,000  
INSIDE BELTWAY and close to I-395. Wonderful end TH with garage in lovely mews setting backing to green common area and park. 3BR, 3 level with replaced windows and newer roof. Special offerings include family room with fireplace, deck, patio and eat-in kitchen.

400 MADISON ST  
Alexandria House  
#909  
\$629,900  
RIVER VIEWS! Have it all in this stunningly renovated 2 bdrm/2 bath corner condo w/ full river views! Gorgeous kitchen w/ granite, glass tile & cherry cabinets. Bathrooms feature travertine tile, granite & cherry cabinets. Brazilian cherry floors thru-out. 80' wrap-around balcony w/ access from every room. 2 garage spaces.

209 N COLUMBUS ST  
City of Alexandria \$ 939,900  
LIVE IN HEART OF OLD TOWN in this historic & charming brick 3 lvl TH w/over 2,100 sqft of space. 2 frpl - 3BR - 2.5BA - Parlor & Living rms - sep Dining rm - large Kit - Many Updates - gorgeous HW flrs - Charming brick patio/garden space - Basement unfin. & dry. Don't miss it! \*\*\*PRICED TO SELL\*\*\* Call to preview

**7115**  
Colgate Dr  
\$755,000  
**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.

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

**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, 3 new baths and finished lower level. New home luxury at re-sale price. Unique opportunity!

**OPEN SUNDAY 1-4**  
3727 HOLMES LA  
ParkFairfax  
\$339,900  
Washington model-2BR, 1BA, 2-level condo. Upgrades: all NEW kit flr, W/D, windows, - plus renovated BA, fresh paint & HW flrs thru-out. Attic. Tile in bath. Lge window overlooks your patio w/add. yd/common area. Living/dining area w/built-in bookcases.

510 S COLUMBUS ST  
Old Town / Alex  
\$556,000  
Owner's family has outgrown this 3BR, 2.5BA brick end unit TH! Features include: Open floor plan, fireplace, eat-in kit, pantry, W/D on UL & lots of attic storage. Large, fenced backyard with lovely fountain, trees and green space. 1 off-street parking space & near Metro. (Owner/agent)

**JUST LISTED!**  
200 N PICKETT ST  
#912  
Hallmark Condos  
\$279,900  
2BR, 2BA - Prime location in Alexandria! NEW carpet! Sliding glass doors to large, private balcony. High ceilings with large windows. Full-size W/D. Major systems replaced new in '06. 1 reserved garage parking space w/additional lots.

**9316 Heather Glen Dr** \$650,000  
**Price Slashed! Large Colonial!**  
The most house for the money in area! 3 level, 4BR, 2 car garage 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 the price accordingly!

**4117**  
Robertson Blvd  
\$719,000  
**Updated Throughout!**  
Owner just spent thousands on upgrades. All the work has been done for you. Move right in and enjoy! Classic colonial w/2 car side load garage. Elegant foyer, formal dining room w/built-ins, family room off kit leading to deck. Table space kitchen features silestone counters. Lower level boasts rec room, den, full bath & storage. 2 fireplaces, 4 bedroom, 3.5 baths. Huge lot with mature trees & gardens. Stunning!

**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, 4BR, including private suite. Fin walk-out lower level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and custom cabinetry. Other features include covered parking for 2 & screened porch overlooking parkland.

5902 MT EAGLE DR  
#706 Montebello  
\$365,000  
Feel right at home in this stylish & sophisticated unit. Beautiful HW flrs, unique Shoji sliding screen offers optional sep bet living/dining rooms. W/D. French doors lead to east facing glassed balcony w/great views. Shuttle to Metro. 2BR, 2BA condo w/garage parking.

511 BASHFORD LN #2  
Old Town / Alex  
\$349,000  
BUYER INCENTIVES! Seller will pay one year's condo fees for new buyer! Must sell this gorgeous 2 level condo at Harbor Terrace w/2BR, 1.5BAs, completely renovated w/new gourmet kit, wood flrs, sleek new MstrBA, 2 walk-in closets, W/D.

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

**9316**  
Allwood Dr  
\$499,500  
**Absolutely Impeccable!**  
New Price! Stunning home features bright open floor plan with soaring cathedral ceilings on main level. This fabulous property has been substantially updated and is in absolutely impeccable condition. Gleaming hardwood floors, track lighting, finished lower level, garage and much more! Gorgeous setting on half acre tract fronting a quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon.

**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!

**New Home-Creekside Location!**  
8826 Camden St \$874,900  
Unique opportunity-Brand new custom home by Wakefield on stunning large tract spanning both sides of creek in prestigious Stratford Landing. Fabulous floor plan loaded with upgrades! Call for details!

921 CAMERON ST  
Old Town / Alex  
\$1,090,000  
Rare Opportunity! Totally renovated & sophisticated 2BR, 2BA living quarters on upper level w/state of the art kitchen, elegant LR/DR, stunning MBR, 2nd BR w/den. 3 office spaces on main lvl w/2 half baths-wkrm. Includes separate rental apartment and a small office rental. RM zone.

555 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET  
Old Town / Alex  
\$1,650,000 - #101 & \$1,750,000 - #102  
Circa 1790 - 3 finished levels, 3,812sqft or 4,123sqft - wood floors - 4 FP or 3 FP - 9' ceilings - gracious outdoor space - 2 car detached garage - 3BR, 2.5BA or 3BR, 3.5BA General Washington Club Condos. Call for an appointment with...

5904 MT EAGLE DR  
#906 Montebello  
\$399,000  
Thoughtfully updated condo w/dramatic views from every window. Highlights: Hardwood floors, crown molding, built-in bookcases, renovated kitchen with maple cabinets, large enclosed glass balcony with sliding glass doors. 1 garage parking space conveys.



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## Torpedo Factory Celebrates FotoWeek

NOV. 2-28

**“Signature Images.”** Free. Reception is Sunday, Nov. 7 from 4 to 6 p.m. Multiple Exposures Gallery members present their Signature Images in this show. At the Multiple Exposures Gallery.

NOV. 4 THROUGH DEC. 6

**“The C&O Canal: Places and Stories.”** Free. In capturing the 184.5 mile expanse of the C&O Canal, from Georgetown in Washington, D.C., to Cumberland, Md., photographer Robert Keating presents the waterway as a series of striking panoramas. Reception: Second Thursday Art Night, Nov. 11, from 6:30-8 p.m. At The Art League Gallery, Room 21.

NOV. 6-13

**Torpedo Factory FotoWeek DC Events and Exhibitions.** Free events and exhibitions. \$75 for workshop. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Visit [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org); 703-838-4565.

NOV. 6-21

**“5x5 Exposed: Small Works in Photography.”** Free. Target Gallery hosts a small works photography exhibition that includes work by 46 photographers from around the country and the world. Reception: Nov. 11, 6-8 p.m. in Target Gallery and Talk by Kathleen Ewing at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

**“A Life in Photography.”** 6:30 p.m. Free. Lecture by Joyce Tenneson; will show images from her retrospective book titled “A Life in Photography” as well as give insight to her multi-faceted career as one of the top photographers working today. At the First Floor, Torpedo Factory Art Center.

SATURDAY/NOV. 13

**Cyanotype Workshop.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cost is \$75. This one-day workshop with photographer Allison Nance will cover the basic history and introduction to the cyanotype process, toning your final prints, as well as exploring alternative surfaces on which to print cyanotypes. At Target Gallery.

TUESDAY/NOV. 16

**Exhibition Prints Using Ink Jet Printers with Color Management.** 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Join photographer and Art League member John Burgess as he discusses creating successful prints using ink jet printers based on his experiences and training in color management. To register, call 703-683-1780, or e-mail [roseo@theartleague.org](mailto:roseo@theartleague.org).

THURSDAY/NOV. 18

**The Current State of Digital Imaging.** 7 to 9 p.m. Free. These will include the rise of digital media, printing processes such as giclée and alternative methods of photo imaging. Room 21. With James Steele and David Applegate. Call 703-683-1780 or e-mail [roseo@theartleague.org](mailto:roseo@theartleague.org).

# Ofrenda – Art for the Dead

Parade, art, and masquerade with multiple performances.

Come party Day-of-the-Dead-style with Art Outlet and the Torpedo Factory Art Center during “Ofrenda: Art for the Dead,” an artists’ and enthusiasts’ celebration, on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 3 to 11 p.m.

Art Outlet’s fourth Ofrenda will begin at the Torpedo Factory Art Center with a Mariachi band, sugar skull painting activity for children and adults, and a display of 36 Day of the Dead altars and ofrendas by local artists, then transform into a raucous drumming, belly dancing, costume parade led by Day of the Dead puppets in Old Town Alexandria, and end up at the Torpedo Factory Art Center as an art show and masquerade filled with bands and performers. There will also be a public altar where members of the public are invited to leave personal mementos honoring their own departed loved ones.

## About Dia de los Muertos

During this traditional Mexican and Latin American celebration of life and death, the “veil” between life and death becomes thin and the beloved dead can come to us as we honor them and celebrate the continuity of life. The lure of the scent of marigolds and tempting offerings of favorite food and drink help them find their way. Personal and family day of the dead altars are festooned with ofrendas (offerings) such as figures, ornaments, original poems, sugar candies and breads, flowers, candles, incense, photos of the dead, and other personal mementos — all part of elaborate displays honoring the visiting souls. Death’s morbid side is crushed under these ofrendas as skeleton representations of the dead laugh, dance, and sing — on this holiday returning souls are full of life — and the living celebrate this complex belief.

**EXHIBITING ARTISTS:** Michael Auger, Jennifer Beinhacker, Cheryl Edwards, Jackie Ehle, Emily Greene Liddle, Jeannette Herrera, Kevin Irvin, Jessica Jastrzebski, Paul Jutton, Lori Katz, Fareeha Khawaja, Matthew Malone, Carolina Mayorga, Peggy Meckling, Heather Miller, Mara Odette, Chris Peloso, Shannon Peshkopia, Caren Quinn, Lisa Rosenstein, Skeeter Scheid, Heather Schmaedeke, Constance Springer Zabowski, Kimberly Keyes Stark, Henrik Sundqvist, and Roy Uteley.

**EVENTS: OCT. 30, 2-5 p.m.**

An art exhibition, DJ Gringo, an artist-led sugar skull activity, and Mariachi music will kick off the celebration

**ART EXHIBITION AND PUBLIC ALTAR Oct. 28 to Nov. 9**

Art Outlet has curated 1,152 square feet of Torpedo Factory Art Center wall space and space for area artists’ personal Day of the Dead-themed artwork in a variety of media. Traditional Dia de los Muertos altars and ofrendas (offerings) are designed



The Ofrenda Parade through Old Town Alexandria.



Heather Miller, “2009 Installation”

to draw the beloved dead who will feast on their favorite food and drink and listen to music as they visit with their loved ones. The exhibit will include a public altar by local artists where anyone can leave an ofrenda throughout the event. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria.

## PARADE

**Saturday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. at Historic Market Square near City Hall at 301 King Street, Old Town.**

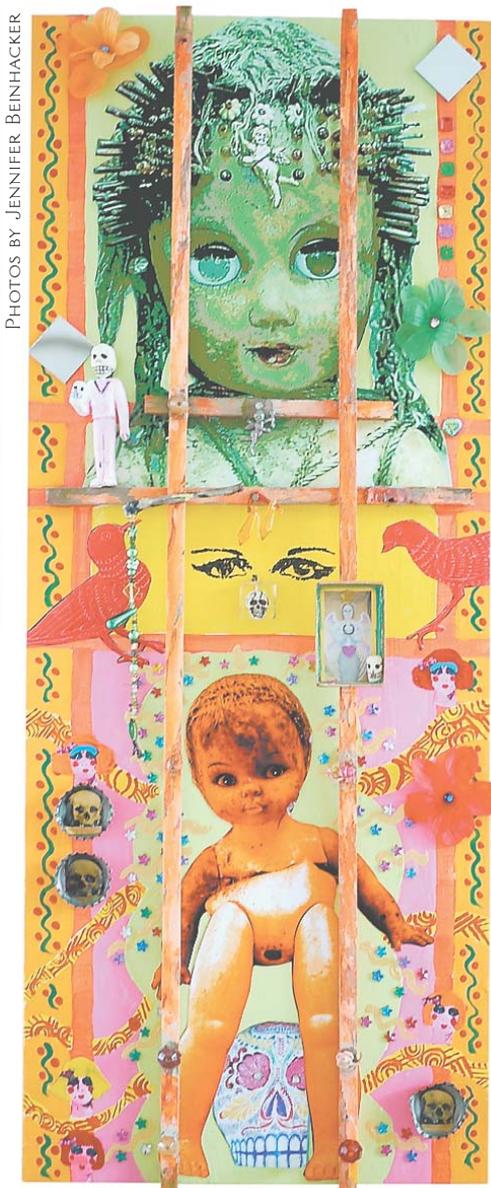
The Ofrenda parade will be led by Day of the Dead puppets, and will include Dragon Fire Drummers, tribal belly dancers, musicians, artists in costumes, and the general public. It will begin at the historic Market Square near City Hall at 301 King Street and end at the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 7:45 p.m. with a masquerade ball.

Members of the public wishing to march in the parade can come in their costumes and bring puppets, shrines, and noise makers to add to the festivities. Visit [ofrendaparade@artoutlet.org](mailto:ofrendaparade@artoutlet.org).

## THE MASQUERADE

**Saturday, Oct. 30, from 8 to 11 p.m. No cover; cash bar.**

Gallery goers and holiday revelers are invited to come to the Ofrenda reception and parade dressed Day of the Dead style or decked out in Halloween finery. Live



Jennifer Beinhacker, “Shrine 12”

## Oct. 30 Schedule

Altars, shrines, art and multiple performances throughout the night. Artist build public altar. Anyone can place ofrendas (offerings) throughout the event.

2 to 4 p.m. — DJ Gringo;  
4 to 5 p.m. — Free Day of the Dead sugar skull activity (for young and old) and Live Mariachi Music;  
5 - 5:45 p.m. — Hootenanny Orchestra;  
6 - 6:45 p.m. — Stripmall Ballads  
7 - 7:45 p.m. — Ofrenda Parade & Masquerade (Free and open to anyone) at the historic Market Square near City Hall at 301 King Street, Alexandria. The Ofrenda parade will be led by Day of the Dead puppets, and will include Dragon Fire Drummers, tribal belly dancers, musicians, artists in costumes, and the general public. It will begin at the historic Market Square near City Hall at 301 King Street and end at the Torpedo Factory Art Center at 7:45 p.m. with a masquerade ball.  
7:45 - 8 p.m. — Open Drum Circle with Dragon Fire Drummers at the Torpedo Factory Art Center.  
8 - 8:20 p.m. — Tribal Belly Dancing with Rhythm & Cues  
8:20 - 9 p.m. — American Sinner  
9:15 - 10 p.m. — The Torches  
10:15 - 11 p.m. — Grand Day of the Dead Finale

music by Hootenanny Orchestra, Stripmall Ballads, American Sinner, and The Torches will be interspersed with drumming, and tribal belly dancing performances by Rhythm & Cues throughout the event. Guests can participate in the exhibition by bringing personal remembrances — ofrendas — and leaving them on the artist-made public altar to honor their favorite departed. Torpedo Factory Art Center: [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org); 703-838-4565

# Alexandria Film Festival Opens Nov. 4

**Free opening night reception at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Old Town.**

The fourth annual Alexandria Film Festival — a tribute to cinematic art, featuring emerging and established filmmakers from all over the world, will be held on Thursday, Nov. 4 through Sunday, Nov. 7 in and around Alexandria.

More than 100 high-quality, independent, short and feature length films, documentaries, animation and narrative entries were submitted this year — some from as far away as Spain and India.

“That tells us that the Alexandria Film Festival is earning a reputation on the world stage of cinematic competition,” said Pat Miller, chair of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

Opening at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 Union St., on Thursday, Nov. 4, the 2010 Film Festival exhibits both curated and juried films ranging in length from 5 minutes to 2 hours, covering a wide range of subject matter. This year, the Alexandria Film Festival’s Program and Executive Committees selected over 35 films to be shown.

Opening night features the Washington, D.C., premiere of “Griefwalker” and “Ride the Divide.” Fol-

lowing each screening, the filmmakers and Stephen Jenkinson, who will talk about his revolutionary approach to grief and our understanding of death, will be in attendance to discuss their films.

“Griefwalker,” is a feature-length documentary by the award-winning filmmaker Tim Wilson, who set his lens on his friend Stephen Jenkinson, a Harvard educated theologian and one of Canada’s leading palliative care educators. Jenkinson, who travels throughout Canada providing grief counseling, believes that in order to love life, we need to love death.

“Ride the Divide,” directed by cinematographer Hunter Weeks, is a visually stunning film about a 2,700-mile mountain bike race through the entire Rocky Mountain range weaving three characters’ experiences with immense mountain beauty and small town culture as they all attempt to pedal from Banff, Canada, to the Mexican border.

“Leading Ladies” will make its premiere with the exuberant story of a family of ballroom dancers who ‘let love lead’ to what they are each meant to be. The film offers extraordinary dancing by three stars that will be on hand after the screening on Friday, Nov. 5, to give a live demonstration of an art form at the pinnacle of its popularity.

Top films will be honored with cash awards in the following categories: The Jury Prize, The Audience Award and the Best of Fest Award.

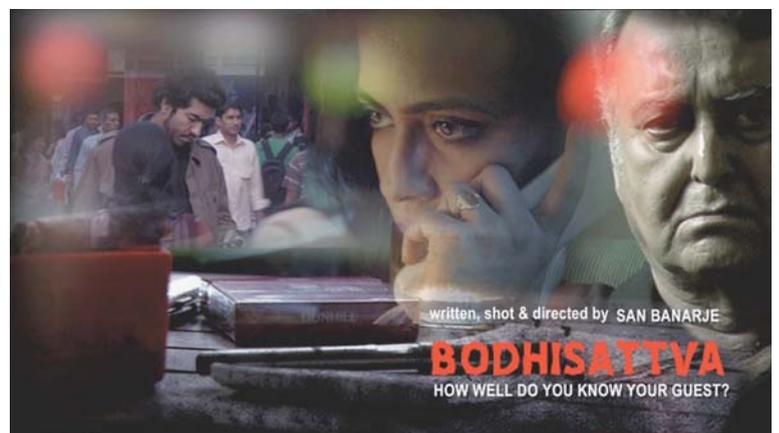
For a complete schedule of Film Festival activities, including opening night reception, special events, screenings and tickets, visit [www.AlexandriaFilm.org](http://www.AlexandriaFilm.org).



“Ride the Divide”



“Jaffa”



“Bodhisattva”

## Mount Vernon At Home Apple Dessert Bake-Off

Mount Vernon At Home invites you to an Apple Bake-Off to Celebrate Our First Anniversary!

Come celebrate the first anniversary of our launch with an apple bake-off at the Library! The celebration will be held in the Sherwood Room in the Sherwood Regional Library on November 1, 2010, from 2 to 4 pm. We are inviting the community to join us — both members and nonmembers. If you like, you can bake and bring an apple dessert for everyone to share. Bakers are encouraged to bring along the recipe for their dessert, for future publication.

Please RSVP by emailing [rsvp@mountvernonathome.org](mailto:rsvp@mountvernonathome.org) or by calling the Mount Vernon At Home office 703-303-4060 by Saturday, October 30.

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



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# ENTERTAINMENT

## THURSDAY/OCT. 28

### Doggie Happy Howl-o-ween

**Costume Contest.** \$10 registration fee. Contest registration from 5 to 6 p.m. Contest begins at 6:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed owner/dog couple, the most glamorous canine, the overall "top dog," (best costume), and the best pound puppy. To benefit the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. At the courtyard of Hotel Monaco Alexandria/Jackson 20, located at 480 King Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.jackson20.com](http://www.jackson20.com) or [www.monacoalexandria.com](http://www.monacoalexandria.com).

**Jeff Hamilton Trio.** 7:30 p.m. Free concert. At Episcopal High School, Pendleton Hall, 3900 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.episcopalhighschool.org](http://www.episcopalhighschool.org) or call 703-933-4135.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 29

### An Evening of Music for Low Brass.

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

### Annual Harvest Festival.

5 to 8 p.m. Featuring the much-anticipated Bates' Haunted House and center staff performance of Michael Jackson's "Thriller." The Haunted House is \$1 per visit. At the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria. Sponsored by the City of Alexandria.

### "The Spirit Realms of Woodlawn."

Cost is \$45/person. Three speakers will demonstrate their craft for each session: Barb Mallon, psychic medium; Geraldine Amaral, Tarot; and Peggy Arvidson, Certified Hand Analyst. First session is: 7-8:30 p.m. Second session 8:30-10 p.m. Woodlawn is located at 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. For reservations, call 703-780-4000 or visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org).

### Fashion Show Luncheon.

10:30 a.m. reception and silent auction; 12 noon luncheon, fashion show and door prizes. Tickets are \$43/general; \$53/patron; \$65/benefactor. Sponsored by the Board of Lady Managers of Inova Alexandria Hospital. At the Alexandria Hilton Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria. For reservations and tickets, call Lynda West at 703-836-8853.

## OCT. 29-31

### Special Halloween Ghost Tours.

It's the Original Ghost & Graveyard Tour with a twist. Recurring daily 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m., tours depart every 15 minutes from Burke & Herbert Bank at the corner of King and S. Fairfax Streets. Admission: \$15 for 18-plus, \$7 for 7-17 years, free for 6 & under. Call 703-519-1749 or visit [www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com](http://www.VisitAlexandriaVA.com)

## OCT. 29 TO 31

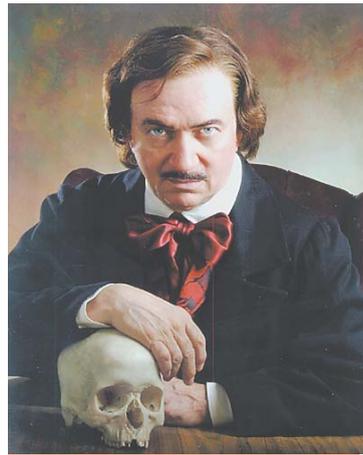
### International Gem & Jewelry Show.

120 booths of gems, minerals and jewelry creations, wedding bands and engagement rings, exotic gems, beads, exquisite jewelry, watches, estate collections and more. Show hours: Friday 12 p.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 plus \$7 to park. At the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, 201 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, Md.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 30

### MEOW-loween Festival.

3 to 9 p.m. Free. Featuring the cats and kittens from Tails High, a local Alexandria cat rescue group. Enter the kitty playpen and have fun with more than two dozen kittens. Halloween treats, apple cider, and face-painting. Costumes encouraged but not required. At



## OCT. 30-31

### Edgar Allan Poe Performance.

8 p.m. Cost is \$15. Actor David Keltz performs a chilling story or two, such as "The Black Cat," "The Cask of Amontillado," or "The Tell-Tale Heart," along with well-known poems such as "The Raven" and "El Dorado." At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit [www.alexandriahistory.org](http://www.alexandriahistory.org) or call 703-746-4994.

Mindful Hands, 211 King Street, Alexandria.

### A Grinch Visit.

1 to 3 p.m. Free. Story reading from 1:30 to 2 p.m. Join the Christmas Attic and the Gaylord National Hotel for a special Halloween appearance featuring Dr. Seuss' the Grinch as he stops by Old Town to promote the upcoming holiday show ICE! featuring "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" At the Christmas Attic, 125 S. Union St., Alexandria. Visit [www.christmasattic.com](http://www.christmasattic.com).

### Hopkins House Venetian

#### Masquerade Ball.

7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Live entertainment, jugglers, jesters, a magician, and classical music. Tickets are individual-\$199, portrait sponsor-\$500, Venetian performers-\$1,000, flower sponsor-\$1500, masks sponsor-\$2,500, live entertainment sponsor-\$5,000, food and drink sponsor-\$7,500 and masquerade sponsor-\$10,000. At the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. contact J. D. Walker at 571-480-4086 or [JDWalker@HopkinsHouse.org](mailto:JDWalker@HopkinsHouse.org).

### Apple-Dipping Demo.

3 p.m. BRABO Pastry Chef Kate Baltren will lead a red wine/caramel apple-dipping demo in The Butcher's Block. Apples are \$6. At 1600 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-894-5253 or visit [www.braborestaurant.com](http://www.braborestaurant.com).

### Halloween Story Time Tea.

2 p.m. Sponsored by The Grille at Morrison House and Chef Dennis Marron, who will create an adult and children's tea. \$38/adults; \$28/children. Features a reading of "Corduroy's Best Halloween Ever." For reservations, call 703-838-8000 or email [storytime@morrisonhouse.com](mailto:storytime@morrisonhouse.com). The Grille at Morrison House is at 116 S. Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.thegrillealexandria.com](http://www.thegrillealexandria.com).

### Safe Night Out Haunted House.

6 to 9 p.m. Ghoulish games, freaky fun, frightening food. All ages welcome. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. At Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Call 703-360-6088 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec).

### Book Signing.

5 to 7 p.m. After sharing highlights of the darker side of historic Alexandria, Michael Lee Pope will sign copies of his book, Ghosts of Alexandria. The evening will be capped off with a ghost tour of local haunted sites conducted by Alexandria's Footsteps to the Past and a re-enactment of Colonel John Carlyle's 1780 funeral. Call 703-549-2997. Pope will be signing books at these other locations this Saturday:



### Virginia Coffield and Matty Heller as Doc Gibbs and Mrs. Gibbs.

## OCT. 29, 30 AND NOV. 6

### "Our Town."

7:30 p.m. The drama department of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School is performing "Our Town." Tickets are \$5. At St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School Performing Arts Center, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. Visit [www.sssas.org](http://www.sssas.org).

❖ Ghost Stories at Barnes & Noble, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 3651 Jefferson Davis Highway, 703-299-9124.

❖ Death at Carlyle House, from 5 to 7 p.m. at 121 North Fairfax Street, 703-549-2997.

**Death at the Carlyle House.** 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. At John Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., to the Presbyterian Church, 321 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Sponsored by Alexandria's Footsteps to the Past. Call Jim Bartlinski at 703-549-2997.

### Re-enactment of John Carlyle's

**Funeral.** 9 p.m. Join the funeral procession as the pallbearers carry the coffin from Carlyle House to the Old Presbyterian Meeting House Cemetery. Admission is \$15/advance; \$20/day. For reservations, call 703-683-3451 or visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org).

### Historical Haunt Tour.

Offered every 15 minutes beginning at 6:15 p.m., with the last tour at 8:15 p.m. Tours will start at Market Square at the corner of King and North Fairfax streets. Admission is \$15 in advance or \$20 on the day of the event. For reservations, call 703-683-3451 or visit [www.carlylehouse.org](http://www.carlylehouse.org).

### DC Metro Church Block Party.

Noon to 4 p.m. Live bands, free food and drinks, a moonbounce, raffles and inflatables. At 1100 North Fayette Street, Alexandria. Katie Wilson at [blockparty@dcmetrochurch.org](mailto:blockparty@dcmetrochurch.org)

### Trick or Treat at Boutiques.

Children and adults are invited to visit 28 boutiques in Old Town to receive special tricks or treats. To identify participating OTBD stores, a "Trick or Treat with the Boutiques" poster will be displayed in all participating stores.

### L.B. Taylor Lecture and Book

**Signing.** 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. With author of Ghosts of Virginia, Volume I and Civil War Ghosts, L.B. Taylor. At Woodlawn, 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. Call 703-780-4000 or visit [www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org).

### Forgotten Cemeteries Heritage

**Trail Bike Ride.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Cycle back in time on this 14-mile guided loop of Alexandria's



## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 4

### Cello Recital.

7:30 p.m. Cellist Wesley Baldwin will perform works by J.S. Bach, Alfredo Piatti, Alan Schulman and Benjamin Britten. At Pendleton Hall, Ainslie Arts Center, Episcopal High School, 3900 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call 703-933-4135 or visit [www.episcopalhighschool.org](http://www.episcopalhighschool.org).

forgotten burial sites. Meet at the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, in the parking lot, Alexandria. Reservations and a signed waiver required at 703-746-4399.

### Story Time Tea.

2 p.m. "Corduroy's Best Halloween Ever!" by Don Freeman, Lisa McCue. Personalized readings, arts and crafts activities and house-made treats. Reservations are required. Cost is \$38/adults; \$28/children. Call 703-838-8000 or email [storytime@morrisonhouse.com](mailto:storytime@morrisonhouse.com). At the Grille at Morrison House, 116 S. Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.thegrillealexandria.com](http://www.thegrillealexandria.com).

### Bird Walk.

8 a.m. Free. With the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia. Join Bill Brown to explore the wetland and woods at Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria. Call 703-438-6008.

### Rummage Sale.

8 a.m. to noon. High-quality used infants', children's and maternity gear, including clothing, toys, games, books and furniture. At Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Visit [www.forthuntpreschool.com](http://www.forthuntpreschool.com) or call 703-768-7584.

### Used Book Sale.

Friends of the Martha Washington Library, 6614 Fort Hunt Rd., Alexandria. Call 703-768-6700. All ages.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 31

### "Nosferatu."

7:30 p.m. The first, and some would argue best, vampire film. All others have been modeled on this one, and when you see it, you'll understand why. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. "Cinema 22" is sponsored by the Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. Contact Andrew Hammer at 703-360-9015 or [andrew@hammerhouse.net](mailto:andrew@hammerhouse.net).

### Heroes Unmasked.

3 to 5 p.m. Heroes Unmasked is an all-fun, no-fear Bible adventure. Children and their families will encounter costumed Bible Hero Actors, play a variety of games, decorate cookies to take home, do crafts, and collect Bible Hero Cards to trade and treasure. At Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Road (corner of Ft. Hunt and Plymouth Roads). Visit [www.plymouthhaven.org](http://www.plymouthhaven.org) or call 703-360-4370.

### Recycling Electronics Event.

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All electronics from old computers, hard drives, monitors, modems, fax machines, and printers to old TVs and microwaves are welcome. At Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, 3606 Seminary Road (corner of Seminary Road and Quaker Lane), Alexandria.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 3

### Kiwanis Club Speaker.

6 to 8 p.m. Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club Charter Member Lee Palmer will relate his final installment of his WWII experiences. Lee was a member of the 45th Division, the Thunderbirds, and fought from Anzio through France and into Germany in 1944-45. Contact Bruce Malkin at [brucemalkin1@gmail.com](mailto:brucemalkin1@gmail.com) or call 703-360-7725 to reserve a place with or without dinner, which is \$27. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m., Lee's presentation is at 7:20 p.m. At the Mount Vernon Country Club.

### Swing Dancing.

9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. DJ Dance Party with DJ Dabe Murphy. At Nick's Nightclub, 641 South Pickett Street, Alexandria.

## THURSDAY/NOV. 4

### Alexandria Film Festival Opens.

More than 35 films covering a wide range of subjects will be shown throughout the city from Nov. 4-7. Opening night reception at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 Union Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit [www.AlexandriaFilm.org](http://www.AlexandriaFilm.org).

### Slave Quarters Reopened.

10:30 a.m. Mount Vernon will open its newly refurbished slave quarters with a brief presentation on the history of the site and a grand re-opening ceremony. Mount Vernon is located at the south end of the GW Parkway.

## NOV. 4-7

### Historic Alexandria Foundation

#### Antiques Show.

At the George Washington National Masonic Memorial. Show hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 5; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 6; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 7. The Grand Masonic Hall, on the ground floor of the building, will house 25 top antiques dealers and their wares. A gala Preview Party will be Thursday evening. A more casual celebration is Saturday evening. Organized by Armacost Antiques. Visit [www.historicalalexandriafoundation.org](http://www.historicalalexandriafoundation.org).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 5

### Homeschool Day at Mount Vernon.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mount Vernon invites homeschoolers to experience 18th-century plantation life. Special rates for homeschool families: \$7 for homeschool students (age 6-18); \$10 for adults; free for children 5 and under.

### World Community Day.

10 a.m. Church Women United World Community Day, an ecumenical service sponsored by the local Church Women United unit serving Alexandria/Annandale/Burke/Lorton/Springfield/Woodbridge. This will be a round-table discussion on economic injustices with discussion on how each one of us can play a vital role in improving the situation one person at a time. At Lincolnia UMC, 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Call 703-451-6830.

## NOV. 4-6

### Duncan Book Sale.

The Duncan Branch Library will be holding book sales on Thursday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Nov. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the Duncan Branch Library, 2501 Commonwealth Ave., Alexandria. Call 703-746-1705.

## NOV. 5-7

### Holiday Open House.

Red Barn Mercantile will unveil its 2010 selection of ornaments, decorations and gifts. There will also be a gift for every customer on the Tree. At Red Barn Mercantile, 113 S. Columbus St., Old Town Alexandria. Store hours: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Visit [RedBarnMercantile.com](http://RedBarnMercantile.com).

## THEATER

# 'Visit' Is a Mixed Bag

Strengths can't cover weakness in this tragi-comedy.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY  
THE GAZETTE

**M**argaret Bush's rock-solid performance as the wealthiest woman in the world who is bent on buying revenge dominates the Little Theatre of Alexandria's sadly uneven attempt to breath life into a very difficult script, Friedrich Durrenmatt's "The Visit."

Director William D. Parker puts his finger on the nature of the piece in his brief program notes, referring to it as a "combination of dark comedy and tragic drama." Drama is frequently easier to stage and it is unfortunately obvious from this production that the team Parker assembled was more capable of handling the tragedy than the comedy.

Bush plays a billionaireess who returns to the small town of her youth for the express purpose of exacting "justice" for the wrongs done to her as a girl. She offers the town a fortune in return for the death of her childhood sweetheart who scorned her when she became pregnant by him when just a teenager. Bush gives the role a sense of panache and surface charm that accents rather than hides the monster underneath her fabulous wardrobe and unique entourage.

The play requires a similarly strong performance in the role of the former boyfriend, the man who as a youth did, in fact, do her wrong. It is a role that requires a great deal more than does the comparatively straightforward one that Bush handles so well. The billionaireess is the same monstrous person from her first entrance to her final exit, and thus, the actress isn't required to portray the subtlety of a character learning a lesson or changing over time. Instead, she has to be a commandingly domineering presence each moment she's on stage and Bush is up to the challenge.

In the part of the object of her obsession for revenge, Steve Lada, on the other hand, has a character who goes through multiple transformations. At first he's blissfully anticipating his old flame's visit and the celebrity status he'll have as her former boyfriend because apparently he's managed to forget the terrible things he did to her. When the purpose of her visit is revealed he has to go in rapid succession through the mental processes of shocked denial, recall of suppressed memories, pride and gratitude over the support of the townspeople who reject the offer of "blood money," fear that his neighbors might be changing their minds and, finally, acceptance of responsibility and of the ultimate consequences.

These sequential mental and emotional states place a great demand on an actor but Lada doesn't get



PHOTO BY DOUG OLUMSTED

(From left): Lloyd Bittinger (Conductor, background), Erik Harrison (Husband), Margaret Bush (Claire), Bernard Engel (Mayor, behind Margaret), James Ginther (Priest), and Robert King (Teacher).

many of the nuances of the script into his performance. Instead, he seems to shift between light charm and robust anger depending on the nature of each individual line of dialogue. There's no hint of the progression his character is going through. This causes difficulties for many of the supporting players because the success of their scenes depends on his reactions to their shifting positions.

**THERE ARE SOME VERY STRONG** supporting performances, however. Most notable is Bernard Engel as the town's mayor. Much of the humor of the piece is entrusted to his character and he handles the duties well. Smaller but similarly solid performances come from Teddy Gron as the former judge the billionaireess has bought off with a position as her butler and C. Evans Kirk as another example of her passion for revenge, a man she had castrated because he falsely accused her of promiscuity.

There are, however, some lamentably lackluster performances among the towns people and one very strange case of an actor giving a fine performance in one role and a stiff one in another. Erik Harrison is appropriately quite funny as the billionaireess' husbands, each of whom he imbues with a comic persona, but he's nearly flavorless as Lada's son. Its no fault of his, however, that in the climactic scene of the last act when he, Megan Murphy and Kristi Faye share a balcony to comment on the events on the stage floor, they are practically inaudible through a sound system that had been satisfyingly reliable through the rest of the evening.

Those who saw the marvelous musical version of this play by John Kander, Fred Ebb and Terrence McNally at Signature Theatre a few years back will want to catch this production if only to see the source of the strange plot points and song cues (including the origin of the concept for the energetic dance number "Yellow Shoes"). The complexities in this script which were so challenging to this team make the accomplishment of Kander and Ebb and their collaborators all the more impressive.

### Where & When

"The Visit" plays through Nov. 13 at the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street. Performances are Wednesday - Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$17 - \$20. Call 703-683-0496 or log on to [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).

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### Wednesday - All American Night

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### Thursday - Italian Night

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### Friday - Fish Night

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## NEWS

### Northern Virginia District Projections

The deviation from ideal indicates how much change could be required in each district.

#### SENATE DISTRICTS- IDEAL DISTRICT- 197,277

Senate District	Total population 2000	Estimated Total Population 2009	% Deviation from estimated ideal	Number difference from estimated ideal	Incumbent
30	174,712	196588	-0.3%	-689	Patsy Ticer (D30)
31	174,500	188293	-4.6%	-8,984	Mary Margaret Whipple (D-31)
32	177,755	184926	-6.3%	-12,351	Janet Howell (D-32)
33	262,751	302342	53.3%	105,065	Mark Herring (D-33)
34	175,317	181280	-8.1%	-15,997	Chap Petersen (D-34)
35	158,737	185573	-5.9%	-11,704	Dick Saslaw (D-35)
36	184,196	206969	4.9%	9,692	Toddy Puller (D-36)
37	221,044	192102	-2.6%	-5,175	Dave Marsden (D-37)
39	170,581	191494	-2.9%	-5,783	George Barker (D-39)

#### CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS- IDEAL DISTRICT- 717,370

Congressional District	Total population 2000	Estimated Total Population 2009	% Deviation from estimated ideal	Number difference from estimated ideal	Incumbent
8	627,849	684340	-4.6%	-33,030	Jim Moran (D)
10	792,534	850337	18.5%	132,967	Frank Wolf (R)
11	649,553	741603	3.4%	24,233	Gerry Connolly (D)

#### HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICTS- IDEAL POPULATION- 78,911

House District	Total population 2000	Estimated Total Population 2009	% Deviation from estimated ideal	Number difference from estimated ideal	Incumbent
34	75,006	71702	-9.1%	-7,209	Barbara Comstock (R-34)
35	68,244	78086	-1.0%	-825	Mark Keam (D-35)
36	83,956	73573	-6.8%	-5,338	Ken Plum (D-36)
37	66,183	73073	-7.4%	-5,838	David Bulova (D-37)
38	68,433	73844	-6.4%	-5,067	Kaye Kory (D-38)
39	67,421	75421	-4.4%	-3,490	Vivian Watts (D-39)
40	85,006	77551	-1.7%	-1,360	Tim Hugo (R-40)
41	63,280	70393	-10.8%	-8,518	Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41)
42	65,399	75228	-4.7%	-3,683	Dave Albo (R-42)
43	82,825	73892	-6.4%	-5,019	Mark Sickles (R-43)
44	65,226	73977	-6.3%	-4,934	Scott Surovell (D-44)
45	63,856	76632	-2.9%	-2,279	David Englin (D-45)
46	73,341	75938	-3.8%	-2,973	Charniele Herring (D-46)
47	68,489	74408	-5.7%	-4,503	Patrick Hope (D-47)
48	70,999	80077	1.5%	1,166	Bob Brink (D-48)
49	66,103	77640	-1.6%	-1,271	Adam Ebbin (D-49)
53	72,521	76138	-3.5%	-2,773	Jim Scott (D-53)
67	90,871	86050	9.0%	7,139	Jim LeMunyon (R-67)
86	45,130	86876	10.1%	7,965	Tom Rust (R-86)

SOURCE: Virginia Division of Legislative Services, compiled by Virginia Statehouse News.

## New Districts Will Change Much

Fairfax County could lose a delegate seat in redistricting, most likely one held by a Democrat.

BY STEPHEN GROVES  
 VIRGINIA STATEHOUSE NEWS

As Virginia prepares to redraw its voting lines to match up with the latest census numbers, the northern part of the state looks to gain a larger section in the statehouse, but what the new districts might look like remains to be seen.

As the Commonwealth has grown in the last 10 years, Northern Virginia has become the economic engine as well as most populous area. Many in the statehouse predict three or four House of Delegates seats will shift to the area.

But most of the growth has been in the outer suburbs, Loudoun and Prince William. Fairfax County could even lose a delegate seat because most of its districts are have fewer than the ideal number of residents. (See chart.)

But local lawmakers are still hopeful that the added clout overall will add influence.

"There's no question that it's going to enhance our concerns, the concerns of the region, and going to make our voice heard in the General Assembly," said Del. Bob Brink (D-48), who represents Arlington.

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA** lawmakers agreed they would use this louder voice to bring up transportation issues in the statehouse. Traffic has clogged the

highways of northern Virginia for years.

Del. Mark Sickles (D-43) of Franconia said that between the Northern Virginia and the Hampton Roads area, where traffic also is a major concern, the representatives from those areas could likely outweigh the rest of the state if they allied.

Education funding was another concern on which lawmakers said they could use their weight.

"Northern Virginia is the economic engine of the state and deserves more resource allocation," Brink said.

In the last decade, Virginia's population has grown 11.4 percent to about 7.8 million people. Most of the growth has been in the metropolitan areas, while rural areas and small towns have seen fewer people living there.

The largest growth has been in the areas around Washington. Loudoun and Prince William counties both gained more than 100,000 people. Alexandria grew modestly from 128,000 to 150,000 in the last decade. Fairfax County also saw a jump of about 63,000 people.

"We know there's a lot of population growth ... so there's going to be a lot of changes," said state Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple (D-31) of Arlington.

While some areas of Northern Virginia such as Alexandria and Mount Vernon have had steady popu

SEE PUBLIC, PAGE 21

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# Public To Debate Redistricting

FROM PAGE 20

lation growth that puts those districts close to the estimated ideal for a House or Senate district, they could still see some change.

"Every time you change one line, you have to change another," Whipple said.

But for the first time in the modern history of redistricting, the General Assembly is split between a Republican House and Democratic Senate. Also only 59 of the 140 lawmakers in the statehouse served during the 2001 redistricting. Throw in a Republican governor who has veto power to amend the redistricting, and it's "a big monkey-wrench," said Michael McDonald, a politics professor at George Mason and nationally recognized expert on redistricting.

To make matters worse, Virginia has the smallest time period in the nation to approve the new districts. When the latest census numbers come out in February, Virginia has less than two months to have new districts approved. They must draw the districts 60 days before the June 2011 primary elections so the Department of Justice has time to review the districts and approve them.

What this adds up to is a "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours" deal likely being worked out between the House and Senate, said McDonald. Each legislative body will approve the plan that the other comes

up with for their districts.

**INCUMBENTS** will protect their districts if this system goes according to plan. But this will not leave everyone happy.

"Partisan redistricting is not good for democracy," Sickles said.

In Northern Virginia, which will gain several House of Delegates seats, this could be interesting. The Republican held House might try to fit a Republican district or two into the Democrat-dominated north.

"There will be some very funny looking districts," McDonald said, suggesting that Republicans may try to draw "spoke-and-wheel" districts that start stretch out from urban centers to the suburbs.

"It's my hope that redistricting is fair ... that communities of interest are kept the same," said Del. Charniele Herring (D-46) of Alexandria.

But McDonald said parties may be able to make short-term gains by redrawing lines, but in the long run, an area gravitates to one party historically.

"I wouldn't be salivating if I was a Republican trying to draw Republican districts in Northern Virginia," he said.

For now, lawmakers are watching the series of public forums on redistricting being held around the state. And waiting for the mad dash that will fill the statehouse when census numbers are released in February.

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# Referendum on Virginia Constitutional Amendments

BY GEORGE BARKER  
AND LINDA "TODDY" PULLER  
STATE SENATORS

**O**n Nov. 2, Virginians will not only be electing members of the House of Representatives but also voting on whether to adopt three amendments to the Virginia Constitution, two on property tax relief and one increasing the size of our rainy day fund. As the Senate patrons of the amendments, we want voters to understand them.

First on the ballot is an amendment sponsored by Senator Barker that gives counties and cities complete flexibility regarding property tax relief for elderly or disabled persons. The wording is: "Shall Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to authorize legislation that will permit localities to establish their own income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting property tax relief for homeowners not less than 65 years of age or permanently and totally disabled?"

Senator Barker has found that many older people, often those in their 80s and 90s, have limited incomes and are not able to enjoy their retirement as they should because of property taxes. Some do not qualify for relief because of assets that they are saving for possible critical needs, such as for long-term care. This amendment would give coun-

ties and cities the ability to help those older residents.

State law now has different income and asset caps for different counties. Any locality that wants to go beyond such cap must get legislation passed in Richmond. The amendment would permit counties to develop their own policies without having to get permission from the legislature.

The Ballot Question concerning certain veterans, sponsored by Senator Puller, reads: "Shall the Constitution be amended to require the General Assembly to provide a real property tax exemption for the principal residence of a veteran, or his or her surviving spouse, if the veteran has a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability?"

If the Amendment passes, the General Assembly will be required to pass a bill in the 2011 Session to exempt "from local taxation the principal residence owned and occupied by any veteran with a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability. The veteran's surviving spouse could continue to claim the exemption so long as he or she does not remarry and continues to occupy the home as his or her principal residence." Determination of eligibility must be made by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor.

There are slightly over 7,000 100 percent disabled veterans in the Commonwealth according to the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. This has been one of the

top initiatives of the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service organization for several years. Passing this Constitutional Amendment could be of assistance to those who have served in our Military Services and helped protect our freedoms.

The rainy day fund amendment, also sponsored by Senator Barker, reads: "Shall Section 8 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to increase the permissible size of the Revenue Stabilization Fund (also known as the "rainy day fund") from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues derived from income and retail sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years?"

The amendment would increase the size of the rainy day fund by 50 percent. When the fund now reaches the 10 percent cap, additional revenues are spent elsewhere rather than a portion being saved in the rainy day fund. During the recent major recession, Virginia revenues decreased significantly, falling far short of projections. Because the size of the rainy day fund has been modest, it provided only a little help when revenues dropped.

The amendments are proposed on a bipartisan basis, with the two of us being the Senate sponsors and Republicans John O'Bannon and Mark Cole patrons in the House of Delegates. They become part of our Constitution if approved by the voters.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

Rochambeau Revolutionary Route (Mt. Vernon Memorial Parkway), a designated National Historic Trail by Act of Congress in 2009.

Contrary to the Chamber of Commerce's letter to your newspaper, the cell tower at the St. James site will not markedly improve cell phone reception in our area. Based upon T-Mobile's coverage maps our area already enjoys good service and the only community which will enjoy increased coverage is Woodlawn Manor and, based upon our calculation, approximately 300 yards along Rt. 235 ending around the area of Forest Haven Drive.

According to T-Mobile's maps, nearby subdivisions such as Union Farm and Southwood would not enjoy any better service than they have today. Much of the proposed coverage area includes Mt. Vernon County Club, Grist Mill Park and the waters of Dogue Creek.

Thus, contrary to sweeping statements made by the Chamber of Commerce's letter, the impact of this tower on service is minimal. In fact, the potential benefit of the St. James site is so limited T-Mobile is looking at another site less than a mile away and intends (if permitted by the County) ultimately to have five towers within the area that spans from the Mt. Vernon Estate to the GW ReCenter to the Best Western on Route 1.

The current proposal violates a number of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan requirements for telecommunication installations. The St. James site is small and offers no natural buffer area either on the property itself or when viewed with the adjoining property.

Thus, the visual impact of the tower cannot be minimized (a zoning requirement).

The tower will exceed the existing tree canopy by approximately 40 feet and the existing trees on site are almost all deciduous (92.7 percent). Hence, for five months out of every year there will be effectively no tree coverage to speak of to conceal the tower. The cell tower itself has a base diameter of 4.2 feet while the existing trees on site average approximately 20 inches in diameter. Hence, rather than "blending in," the mammoth structure will be unduly conspicuous and an eyesore. Additional information concerning our community's position can be found on the MVCCA's web site ([www.mvcaa.org](http://www.mvcaa.org)) under the Planning and Zoning Committee link.

The proposed structure will be located only 143 feet from the closest residence and approximately 235 feet from the front doors of my neighbors on Old Mill Road that face St. James Church. Placing such a large commercial structure in the middle of a residential community on a small parcel of property could and would set a dangerous precedent which will negatively impact the historic quality of our community and our property values.

Our community has asked T-Mobile to look into utilizing a distributed antenna system (DAS) which uses antenna mounted on existing telephone poles as a means of providing wireless service. This type of system is well suited for older, residential areas that lack large commercial sites upon which a tower can be located. The DAS system has been approved for use in Great Falls as well as other locations such as historic Williamsburg, Va. At this time, T-Mobile has refused to look into partnering with a DAS provider — rather it would like to construct mega-towers in our community.

We hope that the rest of the Mt. Vernon community support our position that sensible solutions to the cell phone coverage

issue can be achieved without having 100-foot cell phone towers litter throughout our neighborhoods.

**Andrew N. Felice**

President

Woodlawn Manor Community Association

## Answers On Tuesday

To the Editor:

I look at next week's election as a referendum on the performance of incumbent freshman congressman Gerry Connolly. Tonight, the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association (SLCA) holds its annual candidates' night at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Stratford Landing Elementary School on Riverside Road. The public is invited to attend. I've heard no confirmation that Mr. Connolly or his opponent Keith Fimian will be attending but congressional candidates typically debate at the SLCA event. If such a debate occurs, I hope at least some of the following questions are posed of the incumbent:

1. Did you read the health care bill before you voted for it?

2. If so, were you aware that it imposes a new 3.8 percent federal tax on the proceeds of the sale price of a home exceeding \$250,000, for high earners, a tax that will directly affect many in our district?

3. What is your position on the constitutionality of requiring citizens to purchase health insurance to avoid paying a severe penalty?

4. Explain your support of cap & trade legislation.

5. Why did you vote in lockstep with Speaker Pelosi 97 percent of the time?

6. Explain the 56 percent increase in the Fairfax County budget during your tenure.

7. What have you done to obtain transportation funding for our district to prepare for the upcoming base relocation to Fort Belvoir?

8. Explain your vote for the stimulus bill.

Has Congressman Connolly represented us or has he, instead, been a reliable second Congressman from San Francisco liberal Nancy Pelosi's 8th district of California? This question will be answered next Tuesday.

**H. Jay Spiegel**  
Mount Vernon

## Write

The Mount Vernon Gazette welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to: Letters to the Editor  
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# Been There, Done That

## Mount Vernon's second consecutive National District title less of a surprise.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**A** visibly excited Serenna Schantz ran into the goal and retrieved the ball, elated that her second goal of the night gave the Mount Vernon field hockey team the lead against Edison midway through the first half of Monday's National District championship game. But 45 minutes later, when the Majors' one-goal advantage proved enough to win, the ensuing team celebration had more of a business feel to it.

After all, Mount Vernon had been here before.

The second-seeded Majors repeated as district champions on Oct. 25 with a 2-1 victory over No. 5 Edison at MVHS. Mount Vernon reached the title game by beating No. 7 Falls Church 2-0 in the opening round on Oct. 19 and No. 3 Washington-Lee 1-0 in the semifinals on Oct. 21.

Last season, Mount Vernon was a mixture of youth and experience. Five seniors earned first- or second-team all-district honors, but the team's leading goal scorer was sophomore Allie Schray. When the Majors defeated Washington-Lee in the title game, players were overcome with emotion and head coach Jessica Hebel celebrated with a leap of joy.

This season, Mount Vernon has only three seniors on the team. While the roster changed, so did expectations — at least for some of the Majors.

"I think it's a different feeling because last year, it was brand new to all of us," Hebel said. "We hadn't won the year before. ... It's just a different feeling, but that doesn't make it any less exciting. ... Last year, coming into the season, we were hoping to perform well in our district. This year, we were expecting ourselves to do that — our goal



**The Mount Vernon field hockey team won its second consecutive National District title with a 2-1 victory over Edison on Oct. 25 at MVHS.**



PHOTOS BY  
LOUISE KRAFFT/  
THE GAZETTE

**Sophomore Serenna Schantz scored both of Mount Vernon's goals during the district championship game.**

was beyond that. This was on our to-do list."

Not everyone felt that way, at first. Hebel said she was among the minority with initial high expectations for 2010. The rest of the team had to work to get there.

"We lost 14 seniors, so this year we thought

it was kind of a rebuilding year, but it didn't turn out that way," said Schantz, a first-team all-district selection and two-year varsity athlete. "It turned out more than we expected it to be. We're dedicated [and] we love to play. We come out here every day for prac-

tice and we work our butts off to make the results and get stronger."

Schantz is listed as a defender but Hebel said she moved the sophomore up the field to get more scoring opportunities. Schantz's second goal against Edison came from a difficult angle. Schantz sprinted to her right, chased down the ball near the end line and smacked it to her left, beating the Edison goalkeeper.

"It felt really good," she said.

**"Last year, coming into the season, we were hoping to perform well in our district. This year, we were expecting ourselves to do that — our goal was beyond that. This was on our to-do list."**

**Mount Vernon head coach  
Jessica Hebel**

Joining Schantz on the all-district first team from Mount Vernon is junior forward Schray and sophomore midfielder Jane Heller. Sophomores Ashleigh Sable (midfielder), Megan Cole (defender) and Sabrina Smith (midfielder) received second-team honors and junior forward Bailey Braun and sophomore forwards Tamara Warren and Gabby Ocker received honorable mention.

## West Potomac Beats TC, Awaits Lake Braddock

### Wolverines will host Bruins in battle for first place in Patriot District.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

**W**est Potomac quarterback Nik Dimitrijevic watched helplessly from the sideline as the Wolverines defense needed to make one more stop to beat T.C. Williams. West Potomac was up by a touchdown but the Titans had the ball on the Wolverines' 17-yard line with less than a minute remaining.

"I knew my guys were going to come up with something," Dimitrijevic recalled after the game, "because they always make big plays at big times."

Dimitrijevic's "guys" didn't let their quarterback down.

West Potomac defensive back Denzel Hatch tipped a first-down pass in the end

zone and teammate Tamaric Wilson came up with the interception to put the finishing touches on a 38-31 victory on Oct. 22 at WPHS. The Wolverines improved to 5-0 in the Patriot District and remained tied atop the standings with Lake Braddock, last season's Group AAA, Division 6 state runner-up. The two teams will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 at West Potomac with the winner gaining a stranglehold on the battle for a district championship.

"Get your popcorn ready," said Dimitrijevic, channeling Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Terrell Owens to promote the showdown between first-place teams.

If Dimitrijevic's forecast for excitement is as accurate as his foresight into the ability

SEE WOLVERINES, PAGE 24



**West Potomac left guard Dan Carriker (77) battles in the trenches with T.C. Williams defensive lineman Jay Whitmire during the Wolverines' 38-31 win on Oct. 22.**

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## SPORTS

# Wolverines Against Bruins for District

FROM PAGE 23

of the Wolverines defense to get a stop, then Friday's marquee matchup figures to be a high-scoring affair. Senior quarterback Michael Nebrich, an all-state selection as a junior, leads a Lake Braddock offense averaging 34 points per contest and has produced at least 45 points on five occasions. The UConn commit is a dual threat, passing for 2,093 yards and 18 touchdowns while rushing for 525 yards and 10 scores. Last week during a 45-24 win over Annandale, Nebrich completed 34 of 42 passes for 381 yards and four touchdowns. He also rushed for a score. On Sept. 10 against Woodson, he threw for 329 yards and five touchdowns while rushing for 130 yards and two more scores. He's been intercepted only three times in eight games. His top targets are Matt Zanellato (57 receptions, 1,144 yards and 15 touchdowns) and Tanner Quigley (46 receptions 664 yards and 10 touchdowns).

"Obviously, Nebrich is the best quarterback in the Northern Region and we just have to figure out a way to contain him," West Potomac head coach Eric Henderson said. "Hopefully we can play good, timely defense like we did" against TC.

Hatch and Wilson each had two interceptions against the Titans, and both played a role in the game-clinching pick.

"Really, I have to give that one to Denzel," Wilson said of the final turnover. "He was there for the play, he tipped it up and I just caught it. I was in the right

place at the right time."

While the Lake Braddock offense is potent, West Potomac has its own playmakers, who were on display against the Titans. Running back Brandon Johnson scored four touchdowns for the third consecutive game, including both of West Potomac's second-half scores. The junior rushed for 136 yards and three touchdowns and caught two passes for 12 yards and a score. Dimitrijevic passed for 250 yards and two touchdowns, receiver Jalen Dawson caught nine passes for 124 yards and a touchdown and receiver Daryl Copeland caught six passes for 62 yards, twice setting up touchdowns by turning short passes into 15-plus-yard gains.

"When I catch the ball, I look for my blockers and I just read wherever they go," Copeland said. "I know I can go the opposite way and make something happen. I would rather have a short pass because I like making moves and making cuts and then making something big happen."

The Wolverines have scored 50 or more points on three occasions. They will be facing a Lake Braddock defense that is holding opponents to 10 points per contest and has surrendered more than 12 only once.

Copeland is "electric," Henderson said. "If you defend [him], then what do you do about Jalen? If you defend both of those guys, then Brandon's going to run wild. You're putting people in binds trying to decide what they want to take away."

West Potomac last won a district championship in 2006, sharing the Patriot District title.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### MVHS 5K Moved To Nov. 20

The Mount Vernon High School 5K Turkey Trot and Wellness Walk will take place on Nov. 20 rain or shine. Registration is at 7:30 a.m. and the race starts at 8:30 a.m. General registration fee is \$35. Teachers or students with a valid ID card can participate for \$25. The race begins at the Rock entrance of MVHS. The race benefits the MVHS Cares Emergency Fun, to help provide education-related assistance and

incentives for MVHS students.

### MV Football To Face First-Place Yorktown

The Mount Vernon football team defeated Falls Church 20-13 on Oct. 22, improving the Majors' record to 4-4, 4-1 in the National District. Mount Vernon is one game behind first-place Yorktown (7-1, 5-0) in the district standings. The two teams will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 at Yorktown.

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 **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

# NEWS BRAC Impact

FROM PAGE 13

He said "what scares the heck out of us down here" is the traffic congestion anticipated on Route 1. He said that federal government effectively forced the state and county to accept the changes and there seems to be no immediate money to widen Route 1.

Susan Barelli, another member of the Chamber of Commerce and a local real estate agent, said that has been some housing sales associated with BRAC, but more are anticipated.

She said that in the Lorton area the financial slow down had closed some small businesses and cooled the economy of the area, but she believed that influx of the 19,000 or BRAC transferred employees would enliven things next years.

U.S. Army BRAC spokesman Travis Edwards said a military survey of current employees at Fort Belvoir found that 60 percent lived south of the Occoquan River and the Army anticipated that many transferees from the Pentagon and Crystal City already live in Prince William County.

But no one has a clear idea of how many employees of NGA and government contractors will choose to move to Fairfax in 2011 and beyond.

## CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Mt. Vernon police department through Oct. 22.

### DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY/LARCENY

**A vehicle that was parked** in the 7800 block of Flamingo Drive some time between 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14 and 7:30 a.m. the following day was damaged and a license plate appears to have been stolen.

### LARCENIES

- 2600 block of Arlington Drive.** Cash stolen from residence.
- 3800 block of Densmore Court.** Change stolen from vehicle.
- 7800 block of Flamingo Drive.** License plate stolen from vehicle.
- 8400 block of Frye Road.** Gum stolen from business.
- 3100 block of Furman Lane.** Stereo stolen from vehicle.
- 8000 block of Kidd St.** Jewelry, iPod and video game system stolen from residence.
- 3100 block of Lockheed Blvd.** Two cans of beer stolen from business.
- 8100 block of Mount Vernon Highway.** Beer stolen from vehicle.
- 1800 block of Old Richmond Highway.** Dealer license plate stolen from vehicle.
- 1800 block of Old Richmond Highway.** Tools stolen from vehicle.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** Cell phone stolen from vehicle.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 6800 block of Richmond Highway.** Groceries stolen from business.
- 6800 block of Richmond Highway.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 7500 block of Richmond Highway.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 7600 block of Richmond Highway.** Jacket, glasses and cash stolen from business.
- 6300 block of South Kings Highway.** Beer stolen from business.
- 6300 block of South Kings Highway.** Cash and a gold chain stolen from residence.
- 6700 block of Tower Drive.** Xbox 360 stolen from residence.

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