

Mount Vernon Gazette



MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

MARCH 24, 2011



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

The new Builders Club members: Madai Abarca, Owen Albrecht, Vanessa Alvarez, Maxine Clifford, Paula Crews, Mia Genuario, Brehanna Gilbert, Catherine Hall, Lena Harmata, Chris Hernandez, Dominic Jappah, Maxwell Jenkins, Brenna Kirby, Evelyn Mendez-Andrade, Lindsey Mongan, Carmen Morales Barahona, Kasi Palacios, Mollie Passacantando, Sagar Patel, Bryan Ramos, Vanessa Real, Ricardo Rosales, Amaya Evelyn Sorte, Carly Stapleton, Kaila Stein, Renee Taylor, Christina Valades, Michael Whalen, Asia Young, Heidi Zapata and Maddy Zdebski. Parent advisor Gloria Mongan, Governor-Elect of the four-state Capital District Jeff Wolff and faculty advisor Heather McCarthy are pictured in the back row. (Not all members were able to be present at the charter ceremony.)

Kiwanis Welcome New Club at Sandburg Middle



Charter Presentation from Governor-Elect of the 4-state Capital District Jeff Wolff to Builders Club President Maddy Zdebski.

The faculty dining room at Carl Sandburg Middle School on Fort Hunt Road was full of students, faculty advisers, parents and a large contingent from the Mount Vernon Kiwanis Club on March 17 at 3 p.m. They were gathered to hold the official Charter Ceremony of the new Kiwanis Builders Club, a community service club for middle schoolers, which as been in operation since October at Sandburg.

Thanks to the persistence and interest of Parent Advisor Gloria Mongan and MVKC Immediate Past President Bruce Malkin, the club was founded,

members were recruited, projects were planned and implemented, and now the Builders Club is an active part of the variety of after-school activities available to students. The highlight of the charter ceremony was the installation of officers and the presentation of the charter document to the club's president, Maddy Zdebski, by the governor-elect of the four-state Capital District Jeff Wolff.

The first Builders Club Officers are Maddy Zdebski, president; Mia Genuario, vice president; Mollie Passacantando, secretary; Kaila Stein, treasurer, and Lena Harmata, communications.

Heading Into Home

Supervisors to consider \$13 million for North Hill.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

After years of debate, the controversial affordable-housing development known as North Hill will finally be coming before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors this summer. On June 21, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will vote on a \$13 million bond package for the long-awaited project.

Advocates for North Hill say the project offers an opportunity to preserve affordable housing in an area that's becoming increasingly expensive. Opponents criticize the concept of installing mobile homes on property that would be owned by the county. Somewhere in the middle are advocates for a public park adjacent to the new community, and they would like to any vote for the housing development coupled with a financial commitment to the park — creating an added burden for elected officials charged with balancing a budget while avoiding higher taxes.

"There has never been any other subject that has divided people more than North Hill," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland. "I feel like we've split the baby down the middle, and of course that doesn't make anybody happy."

Architects at Washington-based

SEE FOCUSING, PAGE 3

County Could Add New Supervisor's Seat

But 120,000 new residents likely to be absorbed into current supervisor districts.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK
THE GAZETTE

The Fairfax County Advisory Citizens Reapportionment Committee will forward 25 redistricting plans to the Board of Supervisors on March 29, but will recommend no reduction or addition of supervisory dis-

tricts and will back only size and precinct changes, according to Katherine K. Hanley.

Hanley, chairwoman of the committee, said after its nearly two months of meetings, the commission voted not to add or subtract a district because the 120,000 population rise didn't warrant dramatic change "and the districts

were not very out of balance."

She said the cost of creating a new district (estimated at \$1 million) would have come at time that the county is experiencing serious budget deficits.

She said the committee followed two principles on redistricting of county districts: "there is to be as little disruption of the lives of the people of Fairfax" as possible and disparity between district populations must be dramatic to warrant dramatic change.

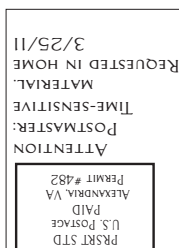
"The districts were substantially all near the same level" and the "numbers didn't dictate huge up-

heavals."

In the new 2010 census, the largest district is Mount Vernon with a population of 127,501 and the smallest is Mason District with a population of 109,326.

Anne Kanter, who represented

SEE FIXING, PAGE 7





Kings Cloister **\$1,550,000**
624 Kings Cloister Circle, Alexandria, VA 22302

Stunning home and garden. Pristine condition & backs to trees! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, lower level rec room, tiered deck with landscaping & lighting. Kitchen with island, breakfast area, gas cooktop & butlers pantry. Ideal garage for any car lover.



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



Fairlington
\$449,000

3407 South Utah Street, Arlington, VA 22206
Classy Clarendon. Open Sunday 1-4pm. Handsome two bedroom, two bath townhouse with attention to details and many extras. Updates throughout and a fabulous lower level renovation! Call for more information!



Jane Cole
703-598-6198



Old Town
\$615,000

543 South Saint Asaph St, Alexandria, VA 22314

Absolutely charming 3 bedroom and 2.5 bath brick townhome on quiet courtyard setting. Many special features including hardwood floors, fireplace, built-ins plus off-street parking! This townhome is a gem!



Donnan C. Wintermute
703-518-6156



Old Town Greens
\$664,900

705 Norfolk Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314

Elegantly appointed 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhouse. Gourmet eat-in kitchen with sitting area, fireplace, master suite with soaking tub and dual vanities. Loft for office/sitting area and 4th bedroom on entry level with full bath.



Cathy D'Antuono
703-819-3077



The Eclipse **\$438,500**
3650 Glebe Road South #240, Arlington, VA 22202

Sophisticated and luxurious! Perfectly maintained and shows like a model! 2 bedroom and 2 bath condo. Fabulous Crystal City location with many updates. Close to metro, highway and bus. Don't miss out on this one!



Linda Wolf 703-518-6165



Mount Vernon Hills **\$480,000**
8636 Curtis Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22309

"Let's make a deal"! Well maintained and lovingly cared for 5 bedroom & 3.5 bath home. Oversized LR and FR with 2 wood burning fireplaces. Updated windows, large kitchen with granite, recessed lighting and fenced in backyard.



Fatima Needham 703-981-8090



Clermont **\$939,000**
4717 Poplar Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310

Just Listed! New construction with 5 bedrooms, 4 full and 1 half bath. Stunning arts & crafts style home. Ready for delivery by June! Get in now to choose options. Built by local, quality custom builder.



Rachel Carter 703-851-4207



Old Town
\$585,000

134 North Payne Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Open Sunday 1-4pm. Charming and historic end unit row house. LR built-ins, separate DR, granite & stainless kitchen with porch. Plantation shutters, wide plank flrs and MBR with balcony. Professionally landscaped with patio, shed, cellar and off street parking. 2BR & 1.5BA



Eloise Brantley
703-408-4887



Carlyle Towers **\$676,000**
2121 Jamieson Ave #1704-05, Alexandria, VA 22314

Coveted Carlyle Towers! Bright & sunny east view! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, higher ceilings and enclosed glass balcony for year round use. Master bedroom with curved bay windows. 2 car garage. Visit www.CarlyleTowers-1704.com



Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



Stratford on the Potomac **\$629,000**
1917 Sword, Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308

\$20,000 Price Reduction. Owner Wants Offer! Freshly painted 4 bedroom, 2 full & 2 half bath center hall colonial. 3 levels, family room with gas fireplace, HW floors, new carpet, granite counters, updated baths & deck.



Ed Pagett 571-237-4753



Maple Grove Estates **\$517,275**
6112 Scotch Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310

Just Listed! Updated colonial on huge, fenced corner lot. Newer kitchen/baths, main level den & FR with FP. Deck, finished basement, master with sitting room & FP. 1 car garage & freshly painted throughout. Shows great!



Sherry York 703-409-3377



Alex/Braddock Heights **\$625,000**
2503 Farm Road, Alexandria, VA 22302

Price Reduced! Charming 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house with updated kitchen, fireplace, hardwoods, and lovely backyard. Also features many major updates. Located close to major access highways.



Mary Cay Harris 703-981-9976

703-518-8300 • 310 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314



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Focusing on North Hill

FROM PAGE 1

Cunningham and Quill have created three different types of homes to fit the steep terrain of the site and take advantage of the sun and protection from the wind. Type A is a single-wide unit with two bedrooms. Type B is a double-wide unit with three bedrooms. And Type C is a larger model with three bedrooms. At a recent meeting of the Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing, architect Scott Matties said the units were selected for their environmentally sustainable features and universal design features such as doors that are handicapped accessible.

“We were impressed with the designs,” said John Jeszenszky, chairman of the committee. “It’s pretty clear the architects have this pretty well thought out.”

If the Board of Supervisors approves the \$13 million bond package, that will pay for basic infrastructure in the newly created subdivision — roads, electricity, gas, sewers and drainage. When all is said and done, the county will own 67 concrete slabs. Here’s where the potential buyers of workforce housing enter the picture, purchasing the mobile homes at a price that could range from \$57,000 to \$90,000, although there’s a possibility that the manufacturer could offer a discount for multiple sales. Plans call for the county to purchase 20 units that would be rented as affordable housing units.

“This plan is absurd,” said Catherine Ward, who lives in the Wellington neighborhood. “I don’t disagree that affordable housing is needed, but asking people to purchase trailers on properties that are owned by the county is not going to help anyone.”

BACK IN 2007, county officials were caught in the middle of a heated debate about how to strike a balance between those advocating for affordable housing and those who wanted to preserve the trees on the heavily wooded site. Hyland eventually struck a compromise, allowing for developing 12 acres for “affordable manufactured home units” while preserving 22 acres at the site for a park.

“Typical features may include open play areas, playgrounds, courts, athletic fields, game areas, trails, trail connections, natural areas, picnic facilities and facility lighting,” according to a master plan for North Hill Park. “It is anticipated that a typical user visit would last from 30 minutes to two hours.”

Late last year, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations passed a resolution urging the county to identify funding for the park before breaking ground on the housing development. Many members expressed

a concern that the Board of Supervisors would clear the way for the trailers but fail to set aside money for the park. But linking the two would be a way to ensure that one is tied to the other; supervisors would be on the hook finding the money to make that happen. And officials at the Fairfax County Park Authority say they don’t yet have an estimate on how much that would cost.

“I like the idea of linking the two,” said Eleanor Quigley, who lives in nearby Wellington Heights. “But the downside of that is obviously that you’d be talking about a lot more money.”

Critics of the plan stress that they are not opposed to affordable housing. Yet they say clustering low-income housing in a mobile-home development is an outdated way to go about accomplishing this task, citing the trend toward scattered site housing. Many have called attention to the unusual ownership arrangement in which the county would own the land but the resident would own the building, a situation that many say is a recipe for disaster.

— Catherine Ward

“This is another low-income slum,” said David Dale, president of the Spring Bank Community Association. “This is not an effective way to help people out of poverty.”

Others say building a mobile home community on Route One could work against revitalization efforts, creating a stumbling block for the kind of mixed-use development that many would like to see along the corridor. Why would a developer of a high-end mixed-use project want to be located next to a mobile-home community that included affordable housing units and workforce housing?

“It certainly doesn’t add to revitalization,” said Kahan Dhillon, an advocate of revitalizing the corridor. “I would rather see a mixed-use development here that incorporated commercial, office and residential — including affordable housing and workforce housing.”

The plan could still change before money is approved by the Board of Supervisors. Earlier this year, Hyland shocked many community members by saying that garden apartments could be an alternative to trailers. But that would mean scrapping the existing plan and starting over. For many advocates of affordable housing, the idea that the plan would encounter any more delays is unacceptable.

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

“I don’t disagree that affordable housing is needed, but asking people to purchase trailers on properties that are owned by the county is not going to help anyone.”



Startford Landing Elementary School first and second graders surround one of the class baskets that will be raffled at the school’s Spring Fling fundraising event on Friday, April 1.

Stratford Landing ES To Host Spring Fling

The annual Startford Landing Elementary School Spring Fling will take place Friday, April 1 in the school at 8484 Riverside Road. The event is the school’s largest fundraiser, providing PTA funds for class field trips, after-school learning activities, school supplies and more. The auction is supported by parent and grandparent donations, teacher donations and donations from local businesses and dining establishments.

Through parent donations, each class chose a theme and a class basket was developed. Raffle tickets are sold throughout the event at 50 cents each and the

winning raffle tickets are drawn at the end of the evening.

The night’s schedule includes:

6 to 7:15 p.m.:

Ice Cream Social (Ice cream donated by Hollin Hall Automotive)

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.:

Silent Auction and Raffle

7:30 to 8:15 p.m.:

Bob Artman of Artman DJ’s will provide entertainment in the gym

8:20 p.m.:

Raffle Drawing for Class Baskets

8:45 p.m. to close:

Checkout for winning auction bidders.

Death, Injuries, Arrest Follow Crash

A 54-year-old Fairfax Station man died Monday, March 14 after a three-vehicle crash on Richmond Highway near Fairfax County Parkway.

Police responded to the crash around 5:22 p.m. and determined the victim, Paul J. Krause, 54, of Glenbarr Court in Fairfax Station, was driving a 2010 Ford Fusion northbound on Richmond Highway when a man driving a 1994 Honda Civic, traveling in the same direction, apparently lost control of his vehicle and struck the Fusion. The Fusion was pushed into the southbound lanes of Richmond Highway and struck a 2010 Mercedes-Benz head-on.

Krause was flown to Inova Fairfax Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 7:44 p.m. The driver and passenger of the Mercedes, a 77-year-old man and 73-year-old woman, were ground transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Carlos Sanchez-Ramos, the driver of the Honda, took a 3-year-old boy from his car and left the scene on foot. Police apprehended him nearby. The child was not injured. A 31-year-old man was also in the suspect’s vehicle but remained at the scene; he was taken to a local hospital with minor injuries.

“I don’t know the relationship between the suspect and the child. It could have been his son, but the child was returned safely to his mother,” said FCPD spokesperson Tawny Wright.

Sanchez-Ramos of the 8000 block of Grannview Court in Springfield, was charged with aggravated involuntary manslaughter, driving while intoxicated, driving on an alcohol-related revoked license, child endangerment and two counts of felony hit and run.

“The suspect was arrested, taken to jail, and the case was turned over to the Commonwealth Attorney’s office for trial,” Wright said.

Since March 2009, Fairfax County Sheriff’s Department has had a secure communities program. When anyone is booked, regardless of race or gender, his or her fingerprints are taken and sent to NCIS and the Homeland Security Database.

“Everyone who is booked is fingerprinted and screened,” said Lt. Sonny Cachuela, the public information officer for the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Department.

“ICE has lodged a detainer [on Sanchez-Ramos]. It’s like a hold. Once this individual goes through the process in Fairfax County, once he goes through the court case, and serves his sentence here, if that’s what happens, then ICE will come and get him,” Cachuela said.

According to the Homeland Security web site, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the principal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the second largest investigative agency in the federal government.

— VICTORIA ROSS

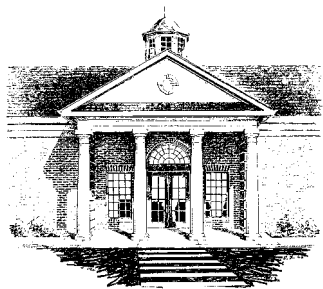
Police Investigate Fatal Crash

Crash Reconstruction detectives continue to investigate a fatal crash that occurred around 4 p.m. on Monday, March 21. Their investigation determined a 32-year-old man was operating a 2008 Ford Fastran bus north on Richmond Highway in the far right lane. Four vehicles in front of the bus slowed down for a traffic signal at the Fairfax County Parkway. The bus driver apparently did not see the traffic signal or the slowing vehicles and crashed into a 1995 Toyota Celica in front of him. The impact caused a chain reaction, pushing the Celica into a 2004 Dodge pickup truck. The truck impacted a 2001 Dodge Caravan. The Caravan then struck a 2004 Chrysler four-door sedan.

The driver and sole occupant of the Toyota Celica, William S. Pitts, 48, of Fort Belvoir Road in Fort Belvoir, was pronounced dead at the scene. Eight occupants from the other four vehicles were transported to three area hospitals with non life-threatening injuries. They were treated and later released.

Alcohol was not a factor in the crash.

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Saturday April 2nd, 2011

4:00 PM-6:30 PM Events for Children

7:00 PM – 11 PM Adult Events

To register call (703) 360-7300 or visit www.mtvac.net

Mount Vernon Athletic Club will be hosting the 2nd annual **Children's Charity Event**. All proceeds will benefit the Inova Fairfax Hospital for children Pediatric Oncology Program. All funds will support the children's access to continuing formal education, maintaining connections with friends, and promoting exercise

Activities Include:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Round Robin Tennis | Raffle |
| Silent Auction | Free Babysitting until 10:00pm |
| Food & Beverages | Tennis Games |

7950 Audubon Ave. Alexandria, VA 22306 | 703-360-7300 | www.mtvac.net

Special thanks to Mount Vernon Gazette. *Mount Vernon Gazette*



Fairfax County

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

Take Spring Cleaning to a Greener Level!

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the South County Government Center (8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria).

Household Hazardous Waste from residences will be accepted at no charge. We will **not** accept business or commercial waste, lead acid batteries, automobile batteries or propane tanks.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27



from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the I-95 Landfill Complex (9850 Furnace Road, Lorton).

Recycle televisions, computers and peripheral electronics along with unbroken fluorescent tubes & light bulbs. There is no cost to participate.

These **FREE** events are available to Fairfax County residents only. For complete details, go online to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling, or call 703-324-5052, TTY 711.



A Fairfax County, Va., publication.

For reasonable ADA accommodations, please call 703-324-5230, TTY 711.



HOME SALES

In February 2011, 74 homes sold between \$2,100,000-\$67,000 in the Mount Vernon area.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City ..	Sold Price ..	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
6041 EDGEWOOD TER	6	6	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,100,000	Detached	0.18	BELLE HAVEN
6117 EDGEWOOD TER	5	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$1,660,000	Detached	0.26	BELLE HAVEN
2329 CREEK DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$910,000	Detached	0.37	STRATFORD LANDING
3701 COLONIAL AVE	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$814,500	Detached	0.67	COLONIAL ACRES
5004 HALLEY FARM CT	5	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$759,430	Detached	0.24	OLD MILL AT MOUNT VERNON
7100 MARLAN DR	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Detached	0.64	MARLAN FOREST
6515 PRINCETON DR	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$725,000	Detached	0.28	BELLE HAVEN TERRACE
7501 TOLL CT	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$599,900	Detached	0.25	MILWAY MEADOWS
8432 PORTER LN	5	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$590,000	Detached	0.40	STRATFORD ON THE POTOMAC
3112 BATTERSEA LN	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$535,000	Detached	0.24	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
1927 DUFFIELD LN	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$530,000	Townhouse	0.07	BELLE HAVEN ON THE GREEN
6428 PRINCETON DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$523,500	Detached	0.19	BELLE HAVEN TERRACE
8916 BATTERY RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$511,000	Detached	0.27	POTOMAC VALLEY
7106 COLGATE DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$507,500	Detached	0.19	HOLLIN GLEN
2633 CHILDS LN	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$480,000	Detached	0.29	STRATFORD ON THE POTOMAC
6420 OLMI LANDRITH DR	4	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Detached	0.19	BUCKNELL MANOR
8531 MOUNT VERNON HWY	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$465,000	Detached	0.41	RIVERSIDE ESTATES
1938 SHIVER DR	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$435,000	Detached	0.22	HOLLIN GLEN
2335 HUNTINGTON STATION CT	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Townhouse	0.03	HUNTINGTON STATION
6918 COLUMBIA DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$430,000	Detached	0.17	BUCKNELL MANOR
6811 DUKE DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$410,000	Detached	0.18	BUCKNELL MANOR
2205 BELLE VIEW BLVD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$409,000	Detached	0.17	BUCKNELL MANOR
8535 RADFORD AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$402,000	Detached	0.46	MT ZEPHYR
8180 BIANCA PL	4	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$366,250	Townhouse	0.08	ROXBURY MEWS
8625 CURTIS AVE	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$360,000	Detached	0.20	MOUNT VERNON HILLS
8640 MOUNT VERNON HWY	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$359,900	Detached	0.14	MOUNT VERNON HILLS
6115 BANGOR DR	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$342,000	Detached	0.15	FAIR HAVEN
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #1106	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$340,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MONTEBELLO
7910 FRYE RD	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$340,000	Detached	0.20	MT VERNON VALLEY
8909 DOGUE DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$339,000	Detached	0.50	KEYS AND RUSSELL
7125 VANTAGE DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$330,000	Detached	0.24	STONEBROOKE
3559 HUNTLEY MANOR LN	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$325,000	Townhouse		GROVETON WOODS
7136 HUNTLEY CREEK PL	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$310,000	Townhouse		GROVETON WOODS
3415 SPRING DR	5	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$305,000	Detached	0.85	VALLEY VIEW
7239 STOVER DR	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$299,750	Townhouse	0.03	WOODSTONE
8116 KEELER ST	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$299,000	Detached	0.24	WOODLAWN TERRACE
8428 RICHMOND AVE	5	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$295,000	Detached	0.43	MT ZEPHYR
2039 ARLINGTON TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$285,000	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON
3731 ROXBURY LN	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$283,000	Townhouse	0.06	ROXBURY OF MT VERNON
5901 MOUNT EAGLE DR #305	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$280,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MONTEBELLO
2103 ROLLINS DR	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$280,000	Duplex	0.08	BUCKNELL MANOR
2813 JAMES DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$272,000	Detached	0.23	FORT LYON HEIGHTS
8202 HINSON FARM RD	3	2	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$255,500	Townhouse	0.04	BRIARY FARMS TOWNHOMES
4522 ARENDALE SQ	4	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$252,400	Townhouse	0.09	PINEWOOD LAKE
2302 VICTORY DR	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$250,000	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON
2243 ROANOKE DR	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$249,522	Semi-Detached	0.09	BEACON MANOR
2308 FAIRVIEW TER	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$240,000	Duplex	0.08	HUNTINGTON
8225 INGERSOL RD	4	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$240,000	Detached	0.25	MT VERNON VALLEY
2216 HUNTINGTON AVE	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$230,500	Duplex	0.10	HUNTINGTON
2451 MIDTOWN AVE #821	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$220,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		MIDTOWN ALEXANDRIA STA
1404 BELLE VIEW BLVD #C2	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$220,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		BELLE VIEW
4304 WYRES ST	3	3	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$210,000	Townhouse	0.04	ASPEN GLEN
4329 LAWRENCE ST	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$195,000	Townhouse	0.06	PINEWOOD LAKE
8791 VILLAGE GREEN CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$185,000	Townhouse	0.05	VILLAGES OF MOUNT VERNON
6811 RADCLIFFE DR	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$180,250	Duplex	0.08	BEACON MANOR
6641 WAKEFIELD DR #311	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$169,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		RIVER TOWERS
6631 WAKEFIELD DR #607	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$165,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		RIVER TOWERS
8713 VILLAGE GREEN CT	3	2	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$165,000	Townhouse	0.05	VILLAGES OF MOUNT VERNON
8767 VILLAGE GREEN CT	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$163,000	Townhouse	0.03	VILLAGES OF MOUNT VERNON
6631 WAKEFIELD DR #720	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$160,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		RIVER TOWERS
5704 SHADWELL CT #89	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$157,900	Garden 1-4 Floors		OLDE MILL
8201 MCCLELLAND PL	4	3	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$149,900	Townhouse	0.06	BARCLAY COURT
3982 WOODHUE PL	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$135,000	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH
2646 REDCOAT DR #105	2	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$125,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		HUNTINGTON CLUB
8626 VILLAGE SQUARE DR#16/862	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$106,000	Townhouse		VILLAGES THE
8605 SACRAMENTO DR#01/860	3	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$103,000	Townhouse		VILLAGES THE
7974 AUDUBON AVE #B2	3	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$99,000	Other		COLCHESTER TOWNE
8006 CAPISTRANO PL #11D	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$96,685	Townhouse		SEQUOYAH
2638 FORT FARNSWORTH RD#1C-116	1	1	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$92,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		HUNTINGTON CLUB
8619C BEEKMAN PL #C	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$88,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		CLUSTERS AT WOODLAWN
3841 EL CAMINO PL #12	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$82,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		SEQUOYAH
8386B BROCKHAM DR #29/86B	2	2	0	ALEXANDRIA	\$74,250	Garden 1-4 Floors		MOUNT VERNON LAKES
7994 AUDUBON AVE #C3	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$67,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE
7981 AUDUBON AVE #204	2	1	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$67,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		COLCHESTER TOWNE

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CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the Mt. Vernon police department through March 18.

UNLAWFUL ENTRY/

possession of marijuana, reckless driving and grand larceny. A 20-year-old male of the 3700 block of Rolling Hills Avenue in Alexandria was charged with trespassing.

TRESPASSING/ GRAND LARCENY/

8428 Fort Hunt Road, just before 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 15. All of the victims declined medical attention.

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA/

MALICIOUS WOUNDING

A man stabbed an acquaintance, a 29-year-old man, in the upper body after an argument around 1 a.m. on Monday, March 14 in the 3100 block of Furman Lane. The suspect fled the scene; police are investigating. The victim was transported to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

LARCENIES

- 3800 block of El Camino Place.** Scooter stolen from residence.
- 7900 block of Fort Hunt Road.** Beer stolen from business.
- 5600 block of Mount Vernon Memorial Highway.** Gasoline stolen from business.
- 2500 block of Parkers Lane.** License plate stolen from vehicle.
- 5800 block of Richmond Highway.** GPS stolen from vehicle.
- 6000 block of Richmond Highway.** License plates stolen from vehicle.
- 6300 block of Richmond Highway.** Wallet stolen from business.
- 6300 block of Richmond Highway.** Photo software stolen from business.
- 6700 block of Richmond Highway.** Tools stolen from vehicle.

RECKLESS DRIVING/

SPEED TO ELUDE/

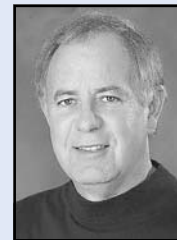
DRIVING ON A SUSPENDED

DRIVER'S LICENSE/ ARREST

Three men were arrested after a brief pursuit for unlawfully entering a home in the 8200 block of Claremont Woods Drive around 2:49 p.m. on Saturday, March 12. A 22-year-old male of Woodbridge was charged with possession of marijuana, grand larceny and unlawful entry. A 21-year-old male of Birmingham, Ala., was charged with speed to elude, unlawful entry, driving on a suspended license,

ASSAULT BY MOB/ ARREST

Five teenaged boys, two 13, one 14 and two 15, were charged with assault by mob for allegedly assaulting three other teenaged boys, a 13-year-old and two 14-year-olds, at Sandburg Middle School,



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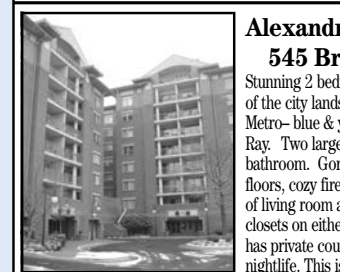
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Alex/Riverwood \$709,900
3712 Carriage House Court
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Alex./Mt. Vernon Manor \$579,900
4319 Granada Street
 Beautiful, spacious (3500 sq ft) 4 BR, 3.5 BA Colonial w/garage. Spectacular landscaping and sparkling pool. New roof and HVAC system. Remodeled kitchen w/granite. Refinished hardwood floors. Family room w/gas FP and breakfast room off of kitchen. Lovely finished LL offers Rec room, game room, wet bar, workshop. Wonderful location, 4 mins. to Ft. Belvoir. Comfortable and cozy, this is a great home for entertaining - it's a 10!!



Alexandria City/Colecroft \$589,900
545 Braddock Road E.-Penthouse 701
 Stunning 2 bedroom, 2 bath Penthouse (1599 sq ft) w/panoramic views of the city landscape in great location (across the street from Braddock Metro- blue & yellow lines). Easy access to Old Town, Crystal City & Del Ray. Two large bedrooms suites w/vaulted ceilings, each w/their own bathroom. Gorgeous living room has high ceiling, gleaming hwd floors, cozy fireplace & built-in bookcases. Large walk-out balcony off of living room affords spectacular views & has two spacious storage closets on either side. 2 covered garage spaces. Well-appointed complex has private courtyard & exercise room. Walk to restaurants, shops & nightlife. This is city living at its best - it's a 10!



Alex./Westgate \$624,900
9010 Volunteer Drive
 Beautiful traditional colonial w/2 car side garage in fabulous Mt. Vernon location. It is classy! Over .5 acre landscaped corner lot. Stunning sun-room addition. Hardwood flrs main & upper levels. Family rm w/gas FP off kit. Wood FP in living rm. Lovely kitchen w/corrian counters & large picture window facing scenic backyard. Sweet front porch. Large unfin bsmt: ample storage.



Alex./Hollin Hall Village \$399,900
1705 Trenton Drive
 Fabulous opportunity to buy a lovely 2 level Hollin Hall rambler at a 1 level price - it's priced to sell quickly! 3 BR 1.5 bath, finished basement, wood burning fireplace in living room, and a sunroom that overlooks large, scenic backyard. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/beautiful cabinetry. Quiet tree-lined street in fantastic community less than 1 mile to GW Pkwy, Potomac & 10 minutes to Old Town. Walk to neighborhood restaurants, Safeway, bakery, etc.



Alex./Woodland \$599,000
3232 Woodland Lane
 Lovely 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on a spectacular .48 wooded lot in prestigious Woodland Park. Stunning sun room 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./Riverside Estates \$499,900
8405 Cherry Valley Lane
 Lovely 4BR, 2.5BA brick split w/garage & spectacular sun room addition which overlooks a lg, landscaped yard backing to a private, wooded sanctuary. Furnace & A/C replaced in 2001 & newer energy efficient windows thru out. Kit appliances & counter tops replaced in the 2000's. Good paint, beautiful hwd floors accent a meticulously maintained home. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, commute to Alex, Ntl Airport, Pentagon/D.C. via GW Pkwy. This is a GEM!

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PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE GAZETTE

Students help take care of goats at Burgundy Farm Country Day School.

Schools Supply Fresh, Local Food

Some local schools incorporate gardens into their curricula.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE GAZETTE

Locally, a handful of private schools and at least one public school are trying to promote health by teaching children about gardening and promoting locally produced food.

Hollin Meadows Elementary School, a public school in the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County, maintains a 14,000 square-foot garden space that wraps around the school building as part of its science curriculum. In the fall, children work in the garden and families are allowed to take home the school-grown produce.

Burgundy Farm Country Day School, just outside the Interstate-495 in the Alexandria area, has a gardening program open to children, faculty and staff in the fall and spring. Located on the site of an old dairy farm, this private school also has an operating barn where students take care of goats and hens and a rooster on a regular basis.

Burgundy families get to take home farm fresh eggs from the school hens on a regular basis, according to Erin Futrowsky, Burgundy's communications director. Faculty members also get access to the eggs approximately once every six weeks, she added.

"Sometimes the program takes a little explaining. At first, some people are confused about what we do here. They think we are teaching the kids to farm," said Futrowsky.

EDUCATORS are turning their attention toward teaching better eating habits as the United States continues to struggle with escalating rates of obesity, particularly among younger children.

A 2007 survey sponsored by Inova Health Systems showed that 40 percent of children in the City of

Alexandria and 25 percent of children in Arlington and Fairfax counties were either overweight or at-risk of being overweight.

Experts at the Center for Disease Control attribute the rise in childhood obesity nationwide to a lack of exercise and poor diet among young people. Locally, the Inova survey found that 70 percent of students in Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax do not eat enough fruits and vegetables every day.

There are several efforts to curb childhood obesity through public policy measures. First Lady Michelle Obama has made childhood obesity her top legislative priority. In Virginia, the General Assembly recently passed a bill that would increase the amount of physical education students are required to receive in school each week.

STILL SUZANNE BADOUX, who runs the dining services at Episcopal High School, said she has seen a trend toward students and institutions making healthier food choices.

"We have had a really dramatic increase in the volume of fruit being consumed. The students are eating a lot more whole fruit. Our fruit consumption is probably up 10 to 15 percent, if not more, from last year," said Badoux, who works for FLIX International, a catering company that emphasizes using fresh ingredients and cooking from scratch.

"You are never going to see potatoes coming out of a box from us," said Badoux of her company.

In addition to Episcopal, a boarding school in Alexandria, Badoux has also worked in kitchens at Bishop O'Connell, a Catholic high school in Arlington, and Washington International School, a private school in Washington D.C. In general, students seem to be paying more attention to what they put in their bodies than they were a few years ago, she said.

"We have a lot of eager takers on the salad bar and we have a growing vegetarian community. There are more and more students who are not eating red meat these days," said Badoux.

In its dining room, Episcopal posts all the nutritional information of the dishes served. The chef said

SEE SCHOOL SUPPLY. PAGE 17

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Fixing Supervisor Districts

FROM PAGE 1

the League of Women Voters on the committee, said that the movement of voter precincts would be relatively small.

“Dranesville is likely to get one from Hunter Mill (second largest district with 126,594 people) and Mount Vernon will have to lose a precinct to Lee District,” she said.

The committee received 25 plans for redistricting. Nineteen called for keeping the present 9 district size, two sought 10 districts and one recommended a plan for 11 districts.

The plans will go to the Board of Supervisors without names, Kanter said, to prevent the name of the author influencing the board decision.

All 25 plans, with a cover letter containing the committee’s conclusions, will be delivered to the Board of Supervisors on March 29. The board will advertise all the plans and committee conclusions and a public hearing will be conducted on April 12.

ON APRIL 26, the board will adopt a redistricting plan. It can follow the committee’s recommendations, choose any one of the 25 plans, or create its own plan.

Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) has said she doubted that a new district would be created and there seemed no chance the number of districts would be reduced.

The timing from then on is crucial. Virginia is one a few states with an election on the same year as the new census comes out. The new primary date moved from June to Aug. 23.

Fairfax County (and several other Virginia jurisdictions) must forward its plan to the Department of Justice under a section of the Voting Rights Act to have it certified. The DOJ has 60 days to respond.

Michael Long, office of the County Attorney, who worked on redistricting, said if it arrived by April 28, DOJ might return it by June 28. Ballots then could be printed.

Absentee ballots for all county residents abroad or overseas in the military must be

ready by 45 days before the election or July 8, 2011.

Fairfax County has far less population growth than Loudoun and Prince William counties.

ONE GROUP that publicly sought to form a new district was the South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce which covers lower Mount Vernon and Lee districts. Chamber President Tom Riser said that in 1990 districts had some 90,000 citizens and supervisors could manage the needs of constituents far more completely. Now Mount Vernon has some 127, 501 citizens which makes it a much larger administrative area.

Rise said Gerry Hyland, the current supervisor, is widely respected, but it will soon be time to redraw the lines.

“Gerry has been phenomenal juggler, but ... there is no way to represent your district well when you have 125,000 residents,” Riser said.

Hyland confirmed recently that he would seek reelection.

But Riser said he had been briefed on how the committee had ruled and he was still fully satisfied. “It gave us a chance to call attention to the enormous growth down here and it will lay the base for the future.”

Mount Vernon is expected to have continuing growth with many new residents coming in as a result of the military’s base realignment program.

Kanter said she was the author of a plan to create 11 districts, not as the League of Women Voters representative, but as an individual. She said the size of Fairfax districts, even with introduction of satellite “city halls” are too large for one supervisor to fully represent the interests of small groups.

She said she found that Nashville, Tennessee and Davison County offered a better ratio. She said if she took Fairfax’s 1,081,000 population and used the supervisor to citizen ratio in Nashville, there would have to be 45 supervisors. She said in the large Fairfax districts, major minority groups like Latino and African American are recognized, but smaller ethnic divisions are ignored.



The number of people supporting the National Walk for Epilepsy keeps growing.

Walk for Epilepsy This Weekend

Epilepsy affects hundreds of people in the Alexandria area, yet for years this illness has been overlooked.

Five years ago, the first Annual Walk for Epilepsy was held downtown and this weekend the tradition continues as the fifth Annual National Walk for Epilepsy will be held.

Join local families in supporting this walk that will take place on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, March 27. Thousands will gather to support people living with epilepsy, their family and caregivers.

The National Walk for Epilepsy Website supports the Epilepsy Foundation which includes funding research,

ending discrimination against people with epilepsy, bringing awareness to seizure disorders and educating the public about how to identify seizures and how to respond.

The event includes a pre-rally with music and special guests, face-painting and other activities for the children, and a short non-competitive Walk.

“This is the first time for the Delman family to participate with son Zachary, who has been having seizures since he was 14 years old,” said Danae Delman. “Zach’s brother and sister will be home to support Zach also. Several family friends are joining the Walk, too.”

For more information, visit www.walkforepilepsy.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

ONGOING

Two new Girl Scout troops are meeting at the Creekside Village community center after school on Monday afternoons — Troop 716 and Troop 922. The Brownie and Junior troops meet together on the second and fourth Mondays of the month. The troop members are working on the “Write All About It” badge and plan to earn the “Looking My Best” badge as well as the

“Theater” badge. The Girl Scouts also hope to go camping this spring. Contact troop leader Kathy Lehner at kathy.lehner@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 13

Retail Trends and Opportunities. 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Four of the retail industry leaders from the region will be the featured panelists for an in-depth discussion at the evolving landscape of the retail sector. Continental breakfast. Registration is 40. At the Hampton Inn and Suites, 5821 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. Visit the SFDC website at www.sfdc.org.

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OPINION

Opportunity about To Be Squandered

Once-a-decade redistricting offers a chance to do it right; no one with power seems interested.

Have you seen what our political districts look like? It's as if the clown who makes balloon animals has gone mad. And it could be amusing if it didn't matter so much.

Our once-a-decade exercise in partisan hubris is about to unfold. Next week we'll likely see proposals that seek to protect Democratic seats in the Virginia Senate, Republican seats in the Virginia House of Delegates. The status quo in Fairfax County will get another 10-year term. Virginia's incumbents in Congress will get some reassuring padding, even if it means districts that look like boa constrictors that are digesting a couple of meals and have been run over by a car in one or two places.

We are not likely to see districts that best represent residents. No one with power is talking about how to draw lines that increase voter participation and citizen involvement.

Political districts should be drawn by a non-partisan commission that looks at providing communities with representation that works. What works is keeping communities of inter-

est together, so that one town or community is encompassed in some of its political districts. Each resident is represented locally by one member of Congress, a state senator, a state delegate, and then by a county board or city or town council.

EDITORIAL

The Democratically-controlled Senate and Republican-controlled House of Delegates appear to have a gentleman's agreement in place to focus on their own branch of the legislature and not interfere with each other's lines. So Democrats will gerrymander the senate lines and Republicans will gerrymander the delegate lines.

In Northern Virginia, many of these districts sprawl and crawl out like amoebas to capture a given precinct if it will help or hurt partisan balance. Instead districts should be designed for good representation, shared high school boundaries, shared land use concerns, shared traffic challenges, shared public safety concerns. It's unrealistic to think that part-time legislators will be able to master the nuances and needs that spread out across three or more jurisdictions, as some delegate districts do.

Delegate districts in particular are the small-

est unit of representation for many people, with about 80,000 residents to be included in the newly drawn districts. These districts can and should focus compactly on communities.

Meanwhile, in Fairfax County local government, the likely outcome of redistricting will be the status quo, with nine supervisor districts, even though Fairfax County's population has grown by more than 10 percent and so could easily support another district. An additional district would allow for elected officials, both supervisors and school board members, to focus on a smaller number of residents, roads, schools and issues. Fairfax should also consider adding a couple of at-large seats in the future to balance the power of a single supervisor.

Arlington's county board is elected entirely at-large, but should consider changing to have some political districts that could broaden representation for minorities — ethnic minorities, economic minorities and political minorities.

No one actually making decisions seems to be interested in creating districts that best represent the residents of the districts.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Broader Perspective

To the Editor:

The ongoing debate in the pages of the Mount Vernon Gazette over the request from a minority of citizens to make Westgrove Park essentially an ad hoc off-leash dog park has allowed public officials to avoid serious public, scientifically-sound consideration of natural resources — that benefit the people of the entire community. The debate has gone to the dogs.

Instead of being side-tracked with the pros of dogs or the cons of their impact, we should debate the issue within the much larger context of land use within the existing park management process of the Park Authority. Determining the highest value public use of natural areas and parks at the system-wide level is executed with a park master plan for an individual property. The property in question is Westgrove Park, a 22-acre site with limited development that is connected to Dykes Marsh Wildlife Preserve and, therefore, the Potomac River.

Fairfax County has one of the most educated populations in America: we should start acting like it and take a serious look at the degradation of naturally-occurring systems that benefit us and the long-term impact of our deci-

sions that can have costly effects for all the citizens of Fairfax County.

A 22-acre hardwood forest and wetland property should be considered for its "value" beyond simple aesthetics or pure recreation. Any swath of green space should be evaluated for the natural utilitarian value to humans now or in the future. Given the very poor health of the county's streams, what ecological services are being provided from Westgrove Park in the form of filtration of contaminants or sedimentation of Virginia's water resources? Would citizens in the area and taxpayers enjoy cheaper stormwater flood controls with some restoration? In light of Northern Virginia's failing grade with EPA for clean air, what hardwood forest resources should be kept to improve carbon sequestration, and perhaps save money for the public at large with decreased health effects? Could we enjoy these ecological services in complement to well-planned recreational uses?

These questions may be too big for the Park Authority's process, but shouldn't we at least start by using the established park master plan process relying on additional expertise from the Departments of Planning and Zoning and of Public Works and Environmental Services?

With a more educated approach to natural area land use, Fairfax County taxpayers may enjoy savings or revenue. According to the state of Delaware, wetlands preservation saves the government \$22 million per year in various forms of flood control and water filtration in hardwood wetlands. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority prevented spending \$180 million on a filtration plant with preservation of watersheds around the Quabbin and Wachusett reservoirs. Other governments are maximizing EPA regulations that allow developers to pay into government-controlled mitigation banks that create revenue to build necessary capital for wetlands restoration in the jurisdiction over time. How can our natural resources be better valued by the county?

Fairfax County Park Authority needs to develop a master park plan for Westgrove Park before unleashing the dogs.

Anita Drummond

Perfect for Off-Leash Park

To the Editor:

In response to Ms. Quigley's letter regarding Westgrove Park, I write to respectfully disagree.

I am an enthusiastic supporter

of Dyke Marsh and the efforts to make and keep it clean. I wholeheartedly support efforts to protect the flora and fauna in our neighborhood, and I share Ms. Quigley's interest in birds, butterflies and wild critters of every type.

However, the proposal to allow Westgrove Park to be an off-leash dog area on an interim basis does not conflict with any of those interests. I believe the misunderstanding could be remedied with a 5-minute walking tour of the park.

To begin, the woods between Belleview Elementary School, along Ft. Hunt Road, and between the park and the Westgrove neighborhood immediately to the south will remain unchanged by the proposed interim use.

The smaller of the two fields in the park, the one closest to River Towers and which is separated from the main field of the park by dense vegetation and trees, will remain unchanged by the proposed interim use because it will remain almost entirely unused by dog owners and off-leash dogs — it's too difficult to access easily.

The larger field, which is ringed by a paved oval — about the size and shape of a quarter-mile track — is now regularly mowed by the County. The current primary use of the park has dogs and dog own

Mount Vernon Gazette

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#22 Indiv. Volume



Brandy Buzinski
#23 Indiv. Volume



Gary Ansley
#24 Indiv. Volume



George Myers
#25 Indiv. Volume



Anya Macklin
#26 Indiv. Volume

President's Club \$3-5 Million



Pat Wilson



Marcy Covarrubias



David Okonsky



Sheryl Powers Vermont
& Paula Powers



Renee Reymond



Susan Houghton



Michael Lekas



Judy Pisciotta



Adele dePolo



Rich Ragan



Franki Roberts



Pat Richards



Inderjeet Jumani



Margaret Keagle



Catherine Foltz



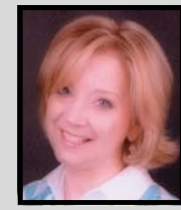
Denise Elfes



Dina Gorrell



Margaret Ruhe



Nanci Sale



Klanci Vanderhyde



Pat Tierney



Susan Batchelder

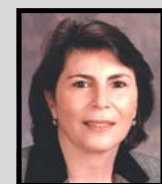
Director's Club \$2-3 Million



Daniel Lusk



Annelise Smith



Anne Hambley



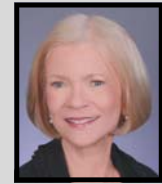
Jane Harter



Walid Ashoor



Jill DiPasquale



Leah Chapla



Mary Taylor



Steven Hollowell



Chuck Harris



Suzanne Briar & Bob Wood



Margaret Miller



Ginger Webre



Sheila Kolb



Katherine Ward



Martha Deal



Ellen Young



Jason Sanders



Katalin Melamed



Connie McKeen



Candace Johnson



Brenda Jourdan



Lucille Deuilis



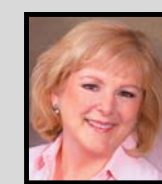
Ann Logsdon



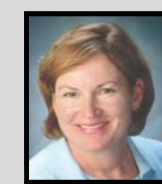
Bonnie Apple



George Charuhas



Bonnie Clark



Cathy Snyles



Rich Webber



Deborah Alea



Janice Allen



Bob Polson



Steve Kindrick



Marty Mullen



Pat Garrity



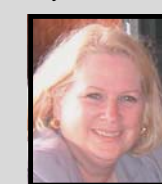
Glenn Witucki



Ben Grouby



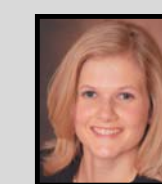
Peggy Baldwin



Rose Mary Cousins



Heidi Kohler



Kari Saathoff



Virginia Jacob



CHRIS WHITE

#1 Long and Foster Agent in Virginia - 2009!



8900
Camden St
\$698,500
*Spectacular Property-
Super Value!*

Stately, columned Mt. Vernon colonial on gorgeous, elevated corner lot in premier Stratford location. Numerous special features include: bright, open floor plan, stunning family/sun room, 6BR, 3BA, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, updated kitchen, 2 car garage. Ultimate privacy for deck and backyard. Unique opportunity! OPEN SUN 3/27, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Stratford; R-Camden.



1907
Rampart Dr
\$675,000

Expanded and Updated!
One of the most truly spectacular properties in Ft. Hunt area! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan. Back of home was expanded resulting in breathtaking, glass walled, open kitchen/family room and main level master suite. Fabulous features include: updated gourmet kitchen w/granite and custom cabs. Expansive deck! Great location! OPEN SUN 3/27, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Collingwood; L-Riverside; L-Rampart.



2205
Basset St
\$715,000
*Total Renovation!
Prime Location!*

Unique Opportunity-Fabulous 3 level Colonial. Totally renovated and updated from top to bottom. Custom features include: brick exterior, bright, open floor plan, hwd flrs, 3.5 updated baths, 4 large BRs with luxurious master suite, 2FP and fin LL with direct outside entrance. Prime cul-de-sac location. Fenced level lot. Move In Ready! OPEN SUN 3/27, 1-4. GW Pky S; R-Stratford; L-Basset.



8919
Union Farm Rd
\$560,000
*Updated Home -Tranquil
Location!*

Made for entertaining! Shows like a model home! Remodeled inside and out! New kitchen with stainless and granite, baths with new fixtures and ceramic tile, designer paint and new carpet. Pool and deck were redone in 2009. Upper deck and lower patio create a wonderful outdoor space for all seasons. Quiet street overlooking golf course and backs to woodland. OPEN SUN 3/27, 1-4. GW Pky S, past estate; R-Old Mill; L-Union Farm.



9316
Allwood Dr
\$489,500

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.



3932
Ft Worth Ave
\$959,000
*Updated Colonial -
Seminary Ridge*

Exciting new listing! Spacious 3LVL colonial in prime Seminary Ridge location. Home is in pristine condition with many fabulous features including: 4 large BRs, updated white kitchen, newly finished hardwood floors, luxurious master suite and oversized 2 car gar. Deck overlooks private grounds. Walk to St. Stephens/St. Agnes School.



8310
Riverside Rd
\$689,500
*Classic Colonial-Many
Updates!*

SOLD IN 3 DAYS!



4117
Robertson Blvd
\$719,000
Upgraded Throughout!



9316
Heather Glen Dr
\$650,000
*Price Slashed-
Large Colonial!*



9212
Cherrytree Dr
\$675,000
*Expanded and
Updated!*



7106
Colgate Dr
\$499,500
*Hollin Glen—
Super Value!*



2335 Creek Dr \$989,900



Waterfront Perfection!



8714
Bluedale St
\$629,000
Stratford
Landing!

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



6515
Princeton Dr
\$749,900
*Classic Colonial -
Near Old Town!*

4504
Neptune Dr
\$479,900
*Prestigious Yacht
Haven Estates*



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THEATER

Aldersgate Introduces Area to Whodunit

“Design for Murder” at Aldersgate.

BY BRAD HATHAWAY
THE GAZETTE

In “Design for Murder” the Aldersgate Church Community Theater has found a script for a mystery which has one thing going for it: no one in the audience is likely to know who the guilty party is because no one will have seen it before at any other local theater.

AS FAR as the company can determine, this is the area premiere of the play by George Batson. He was a prolific crafter of mysteries and comedies for stage and television in the 1940s and 50s, some combining mystery and comedy. This one is more a straight forward mystery of the British school that most people think of when the name Agatha Christie is mentioned. At least as directed by Liz Owens, the concentration is clearly on the question “Who done it?”

Gail Seavey plays a widow maintaining a mansion long after the passing of her husband. It is too big a house for her and her one grown son, but she’s loath to part with it. To do so would be to let go of her connection to her late husband’s world.

The events begin on the night of a party she’s thrown to celebrate the engagement of her son, played with just a hint of high-society haughtiness by Peter Johnson. The son, it seems, hasn’t quite finished sowing his wild oats and isn’t really ready to settle down.

Their sexy maid, played by Vanessa Stolzoff, seems to have shaken up the household a bit as she is supposed to meet the son

after the party for a late night get together while the chauffeur also expects to have her late night attentions. When she turns up dead the next morning, a police inspector played by Elliott Bales is on the case. It turns out that the inspector has a few connections to the household beyond his official duties.

Complications are added to the mix as the chauffeur, played by Richard Isaacs with a strong streak of self confidence, gives every impression of being so full of himself that the audience believes he could be the murderer — that is, until he is removed from suspicion in a surprise that ends the first half of the show.

Two neighbors are played with flare by Paula Vickers and Liz Isbell, although things get a bit confusing when Isbell also doubles as the senior member of the household staff. It is not clear why these two roles could not be performed by two different actresses in order to avoid having the audience wonder if the plot might revolve around some connection between the two characters.

Rounding out the cast are Lynley Peoples as a mysterious replacement for the deceased maid and one additional policeman, played by Kevin Harr.

The well-paced performance delivers all the clues the audience might need to try to guess “whodunit” before the final curtain but doesn’t give them much reason to care. It is a case of, if you’re going to go to a mystery play you might as well play along and try to solve the puzzle.

Aldersgate’s multi-purpose room can be a difficult space to mount a production. The director and her



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALDERSGATE CHURCH COMMUNITY THEATER

From left: Peter Johnson, Vanessa Stolzoff, Liz Isbell, Paula Vickers, Richard Isaacs and Gail Seavey in the Aldersgate Church Community Theater production of “Design for Murder.”

set designer and producer, Bailey R. Center, take advantage of the fact that the play takes place entirely in one location to build a single well detailed set of the main room of the home on the Hudson River where family, visitors and staff all interact as the mysteries multiply.

Adding to the atmosphere of the piece is a lighting technique that works well for this particular play with its multiple scenes within each act. Owens has her lighting designer dim all but one light at the end of each scene, holding one final spot for a few

more seconds to put a finishing touch on the final moment. It works well, although the cooperation between lighting designer and director might not be too surprising. The lighting designer is director Liz Owens’ mother, Nancy.

Brad Hathaway reviews theater in Virginia, Washington and Maryland as well as Broadway and writes about theater for a number of national magazines. He welcomes feedback from those he writes about and those he writes for. He can be reached at brad.hathaway@verizon.net.

Where & When

The Aldersgate Church Community Theater production of “Design for Murder” plays at the Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road through April 3. Performances are Friday - Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. with a special Thursday dinner show at 7 p.m. on March 31. Tickets are \$11 to \$15 (\$25 to \$30 for the dinner show). Log on to www.acctonline.org.

FINE ARTS

MARCH 26 THROUGH APRIL 16

Perception: Value and Form. The Art of Lisa Tureson. Artist’s reception is Saturday, March 26 from 5 to 8 p.m. At Broadway Gallery, 5641 B General Washington Drive, Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 27

Objects & Apparitions by Renee Lachman. The Objects and Apparitions exhibition is an eloquent tribute to its namesake; a poem written by Octavio Paz for Joseph Cornell. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, NVCC Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 27

Beyond Form: Expressing Art Exhibit. All-media show exploring the color, energy and simplicity inherent in abstract artwork. Details at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or bplummer11@verizon.net.

NOW THROUGH APRIL 24

Artistic Duo II. Noon to 4:30 p.m. daily. Featuring a joint display of landscape and floral watercolors by Carolyn Grossé Gawarecki and photographic subjects by

Stephen J. Gawarecki. Meet the artist’s reception is Sunday, March 27 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. At Green Springs Gardens Horticultural Center, 4601 Green Spring Road, Alexandria.

APRIL 4 TO MAY 1

“Flowers & Garden: Outdoors and In.” This potting season, come to the Torpedo Factory Art Center’s Scope Gallery to see some ceramic groundbreaking odes to fleglings and flora, focused on home and garden clay accents. At Scope Gallery, 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

APRIL 5 TO JUNE 5

Two Visitors Exhibit. Photography by Laurie Sand and Colleen Spencer Henderson. Opening reception is April 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. At Multiple Exposures Gallery at the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union Street, Studio 312, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2205.

FRIDAY/APRIL 8

3 North Carolina Poets. 8-10 p.m. Washington, D.C.’s Ruthless Grip Poetry Series visits Del Ray

Artisans for National Poetry Month. Acclaimed North Carolina writers Lee Ann Brown, Chris Vitiello, and Dianne Timblin will read from their works. Email Bryan Koen (bwkoen@gmail.com) or visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

APRIL 1 TO MAY 1

It’s Only Rock ‘n’ Roll, But I Like It! Del Ray Artisans’ April show, pays homage to all things Rock ‘n’ Roll. All-media show, juried by Fierce Sonia and Jen Chappell. Meet the artists at the opening reception, Friday April 1, from 7-10 p.m. A day of rock-themed movies is planned for Sunday, April 10 noon-9 p.m. An open mic lyric slam is planned for Sunday May 1, 2-4 p.m. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or Fiercesonia@aol.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 5

From Social Work to Sculpture. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Featuring Carol Gellner Levin, Torpedo Factory Artist. At Morrison House, 116 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit www.morrisonhouse.com or call 703-838-8000.



Water Marks: Barry D. Lindley’s Solo Exhibit of Watercolor Paintings

NOW THROUGH APRIL 4

Water Marks. Watercolorist Barry D. Lindley creates striking paintings portraying the effect water has on natural and man-made objects. Artist’s Talk is Saturday, March 26 at 1 p.m. On Display in the Art League Gallery.

ENTERTAINMENT

EVERY THURSDAY

Environmental Activists Needed. 6 to 9 p.m. Clean up your community, your country, your planet — meet with the Sierra Club at its new NOVA Hub in Del Ray, 2312 Mount Vernon Ave., Suite 206, Alexandria. RSVP to Phillip Ellis, Sierra Club Field Organizer at 571-970-0275 or phillip.ellis@sierraclub.org.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 31

Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition. America's oldest and largest display of historic and contemporary needlework will be showcased at the 48th Annual Woodlawn Needlework Exhibition. Hundreds of needle workers from around the world, both professional and amateur, enter their creations each year. Demonstrations throughout the month will highlight a variety of techniques for the visitor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday - Monday during March. Admission prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students through 12th grade. At Woodlawn Plantation, 9000 Richmond Highway, three miles west of Mount Vernon. Call 703-780-4000 or visit www.woodlawn1805.org.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 27

March Madness Fundraiser. The Target Gallery and the March of Dimes are teaming up to raise money in an exhibition fundraiser called March Madness. This is an exhibition of 200, 10x10-inch works of art.
* Friday, March 25, 7-11 p.m. March Madness Art Party: At the Main hall of Torpedo Factory Art Center, outside of the Target Gallery.

NOW THROUGH THROUGH APRIL 3

"Design for Murder." A whodun' it murder mystery by George Batson, produced by Bailey R. Center and directed by Liz Owens. Presented by Aldersgate Church Community Theater. Tickets are \$15/adults; \$12/youth/seniors. March 18-April 3 Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; March 20, 27, April 3 Sunday Matinees, 2 p.m.; and March 31 Special Thursday, Dinner Show, 7 p.m. Dinner show tickets are available online and must be purchased by Monday, March 28 before 5 p.m. Dinner show ticket prices are \$30 for adults and



SATURDAY/MARCH 26

"Young at Heart." 7 p.m. Spring modern dance performance. Sponsored by the Choreographers Collaboration Project, a modern dance company based in Alexandria. Admission: \$10/adults; \$5/kids 12-17. At Minnie Howard Middle School, 3801 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Call 703-683-2070, or ccpdance@gmail.com or www.ccpdance.org.

\$25 for youth. Discount tickets at www.acctonline.org. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd. Alexandria. Call 703-660-2611.

THURSDAY/MARCH 24

Toast to Fashion. 6:30 to 10 p.m. Hosted by the Junior Friends of The Campagna Center. Fashion show, marketplace, raffle, gift bags, food, drinks and awards ceremony. Tickets are \$45/advance; \$60/door. At Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria. Visit www.campagnacenter.org or call 703-549-0111.

MARCH 24-26

Annual Book Sale. Mount Vernon Unitarian Church annual book sale has been a fixture in the Mount Vernon/Alexandria community for years. Hours are Thursday, March 24 from 1 to 5 p.m.; Friday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Special \$5/bag of books. At 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Call 703-765-5950.

FRIDAY/MARCH 25

Very Hungry Caterpillar Storytime. 10:30 to 11 a.m. The Very Hungry Caterpillar will help celebrate Very Hungry Caterpillar Day. Don't miss this special storytime, the only D.C. area appearance of this fun costume character! At 1555 King Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092. www.hooray4books.com.

NOVA Idol Finale. 7 p.m. Cost is \$10/general admission. Nine of NOVA's top singing sensations will battle for the title of NOVA Idol. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, NVCC Alexandria Campus, 3001 North Beauregard St., Alexandria. Contact Brenda Lewis-Holmes, 703-845-6162, blewisholme@nvcc.edu.

Mount Vernon Choral Pyramid Concert. 7 p.m. Free. All the schools that feed into MVHS are having a USO-themed concert. At Mount Vernon's Field House. Includes music from Ella Fitzgerald, the Andrews Sisters, as well as patriotic songs.

Evening of Music. 8 p.m. Free. Presented by the U.S. Air Force Band Chamber Players. At George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or visit www.usafband.af.mil.

St. Petersburg Trio. 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Washington Balalaika Society. The Trio, all members of the Washington Balalaika Society orchestra, met while studying at the prestigious Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in St Petersburg, Russia. Tickets are \$25/door; \$20/advance. At the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington Street, Alexandria. See www.balalaika.org or call 703-549-0760.

MARCH 25 THROUGH APRIL 2

"Little Shop of Horrors." At the Theatre at Bryant High School, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Friday, March 25 - 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, March 26

- 2 p.m.; Saturday, March 26 - 7:30 p.m.; Friday, April 1 - 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 2 - 2 p.m.; Saturday, April 2 - 7:30 p.m. Visit www.metrotheater.org for tickets.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 26

Green in the Spring Show. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop by and meet both business owners — Gold Works and Truly-Life — and discover the combined collection of custom jewelry and eco-friendly gifts. At Gold Works, 1400 King Street, Alexandria.

SATURDAY/MARCH 26

National Craft Month. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Open house with fiber/children and baby items. At A Show of Hands, 2301 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria.

Dance for a Cure for Cystic Fibrosis. Noon to midnight. A dance marathon to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. At Bishop O'Connell High School, 6600 Little Falls Road, Arlington.

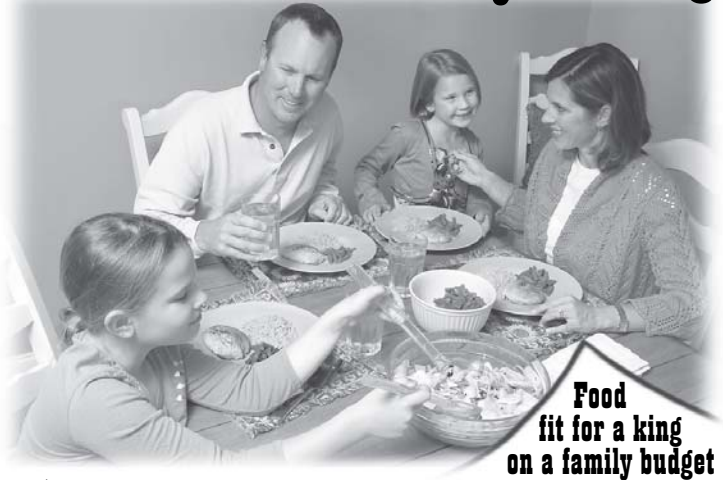
Concert. 7:30 p.m. Ron Erler, oboe, and Neil Weston, organ, in recital. Music of Telemann, Vivaldi, Reicha, Solak, Parry and Bitsch. Cost is \$20/adults; \$15/seniors; \$10/students; \$5/children under 10. At St. Luke's Episcopal, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4342.

Fort Hunt Preschool Rummage Sale. 8 a.m. to noon. Features high-quality used infants', children's and maternity gear, including clothing, toys, games, books and furniture. There will also be some great household bargains on linens, kitchenware and decorative/seasonal items, etc. At Fort Hunt Preschool, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.forthuntpreschool.com or call 703-768-7584.

Great Rum Punch Challenge. 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy different rum punch creations from local distilleries, restaurants and caterers and vote for your favorite, as Bacardi defends its title. The winner will be announced at the end of the evening. Tickets, which include admission (food and drink all evening), are \$50 per person, or \$100, which include admission and a special VIP pre-event tasting of Bacardi's special rums. At Gadsby's Tavern, 134 North Royal Street, Old

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15

The Best in Family Dining



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www.christthesaviouranglican.org
703-953-2854

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Saturday Evening 5:00 pm; 6:30 pm (en Español)
Sunday 7:30; 9:00; 10:30 am; 12:00 Noon
2:00 pm (en Español)
6:30 pm Mass (starts Sept. 12)
Weekdays (Mass or Communion Service) 9:00 am (followed by Rosary)
Children's Liturgy of the Word Sundays (Sept.-July) during 9:00 am Mass (English)
Sign Language Interpreter Sunday at 9:00 am Mass
8710 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria VA, 22309
Tel: 703-780-4055 Fax: 703-360-5385 www.gs-cc.org
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Faith, Works & Family
5614 Old Mill Road, Mt. Vernon, Virginia (Just outside Ft. Belvoir's Walker Gate)
Office: 703-780-3081 • www.StJamesMV.org
Sundays: 8 am - Holy Eucharist, All Education programs - 9:00am
10:15 am - Holy Eucharist - music
Wednesdays 12:00 noon: Bible Study
You're invited! Please join us for:
March 13-April 10, 6:00pm Lenten Evening Study: Embracing an Adult Faith by Marcus J. Borg (soup and salad supper provided)
Who is God? Who was Jesus? What is salvation?
How do we practice our faith? How do we live in community?
April 14th, SPECIAL EVENT, 6:30: An Evening with Dr. Diana Butler Bass
Contemporary Religious Trends: The End of Religion, or a New Beginning?
(hors d'oeuvres, book signing, & dessert - please register)

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 14

Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Wonders of Science Demos. 1 to 3 p.m. Discover curious objects, from poison bottles to dragon's blood, and find out how they were used. Tours will be held every 30 minutes. Admission is \$6. At the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, 105-107 South Fairfax Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-3852 or visit www.apothecarymuseum.org.

Annual Concert for Epilepsy. 7 p.m. With artists Little Big Town, Josh Turner, and The Wil Gravatt Band. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased at <http://www.concertforepilepsy.com>. Proceeds go to the Epilepsy Foundation of America. At the Gaylord National Convention Center, National Harbor, Md. Visit www.concertforepilepsy.com or contact: chad@concertforepilepsy.com or call 202-309-2440.

Rae Pica In Person. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Will be speaking on "The Whole Child: Thinking, Feeling, Moving." Sponsored by Children Together at the First Baptist Church in Alexandria. Visit www.children-together.org or www.movingandlearning.com.

Black Opal: Celebrating a New Generation of Leaders. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$65. A fundraising event to support scholarship and other community empowerment programs. Sponsored by Northern Virginia Urban League Young Professionals Network. At George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria. Tickets available for purchase at www.nvulypn.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 27

Longaberger Basket Bingo. 2 p.m. Admission is \$15/advance; \$20/door. At West Potomac High School, cafeteria, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Preorder ticket information available on www.wolverineband.com. Sponsored by the West Potomac Band Patrons Organization.

Free Concert. 4 p.m. Free. Pianist Sara Leila Sherman and soprano Aleksandra Dubov. The performance will feature a wide variety of styles from Baroque music of 17th Century Europe to 20th century American music. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria.



MARCH 25, 26, 27, APRIL 2, 3

"Annie." Presented by MVCCT. Show times are 7:30 p.m. nightly with an April 3 matinee at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$8/students; \$10/seniors and are available for purchase online at www.mvcct.org. Organized groups receive a discount and can order group tickets by calling 703-360-0686. At Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

Celebrating a Century. 2 p.m. Presented by the U.S. Marine Band. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria. Call 703-845-6156 or www.schlesingercenter.com.

Concert with a Cause. 4 p.m. Betsy and Annie Trimmer, mother and daughter flute duo with flute choir and organ. Accompanied by Sherry Graveson, organist of the First Baptist Church on King Street and Flute choir. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St.,



Hilary Hahn



Valentina Lisitsa

FRIDAY/MARCH 25

Japan Relief Concert. 7:30 p.m. Virtuoso violinist Hilary Hahn and Virtuoso Pianist Valentina Lisitsa will present a Benefit Concert. At Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2701 Cameron Mills Road, Alexandria.

Alexandria.

Community Lodgings Spring Event. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Community Lodgings' 6th Annual Spring Event, "Spring Forward to Union Street," to raise awareness and funding for Alexandria's homeless. To purchase tickets, call 703-549-4407. At Union Street Public House, 121 South Union Street, Old Town, Alexandria. Visit www.communitylodgings.org.

Scrapbooking Workshop. 1 to 3 p.m. Join scrapbooking expert Claudia Lopez-Viñas for this hands-on scrapbooking workshop. Materials will be provided. Cost is \$7/person. RSVP to 703-548-1789. At Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden. Visit www.leefendallhouse.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 29

Fearless Ladies Breakfast. 8 a.m. Suggested donation: \$20. Sponsored by the Full Cup. Two keynote speakers will share their stories about living through domestic violence. Proceeds benefit Becky's Fund (www.beckysfund.org). RSVP to lindsey@thefullcup.com by March 25.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 30

DJ Dance Party. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$6. With DJ Dabe Murphy. At Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St., Alexandria.

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

"Straightlaced — How Gender's Got Us All Tied Up." 7 p.m. Free film screening. How pressures around gender and sexuality are shaping the lives of American teens. At the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St., Alexandria. RSVP to Erika.Kleiner@alexandriava.gov.

MARCH 31 THROUGH 2012

"Nurses, Spies and Soldiers: The Civil War at Carlyle House." Free admission. Hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sundays noon to 4 p.m. At Carlyle House Historic Park, 121 N. Fairfax Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-549-2997 or e-mail: Carlyle@nvrpa.org.

APRIL 1 AND APRIL 2

"Hansel and Gretel." 7 p.m. Presented by the Rose Hill ES Players. Tickets are \$3/children; \$5/adults. At Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Call 703-313-4200.

APRIL 2 THROUGH OCT. 30

Civil War Walking Tour. Saturdays and Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Covers the changing role of African Americans on the estate, views on George Washington from the perspective of Union and Confederate supporters, and the Washington-Robert E. Lee connection. At Historic Mount Vernon. Cost \$5 in addition to Estate admission: \$15 adults; \$7 children (6-11); free for children 5 & under. Visit www.MountVernon.org or call 703-780-2000.

SATURDAY/APRIL 2

April in Paris Gala. 6 p.m. cocktails; 7:15 dinner; 8:30 live auction; 9 p.m. dancing. Tickets are \$135/person. Sponsored by the Friends of UCM. At the Mount Vernon Country Club, 5111 Old Mill Road, Alexandria. Contact Diane Tollefson at 703-980-2757 or dtollefson@cox.net.

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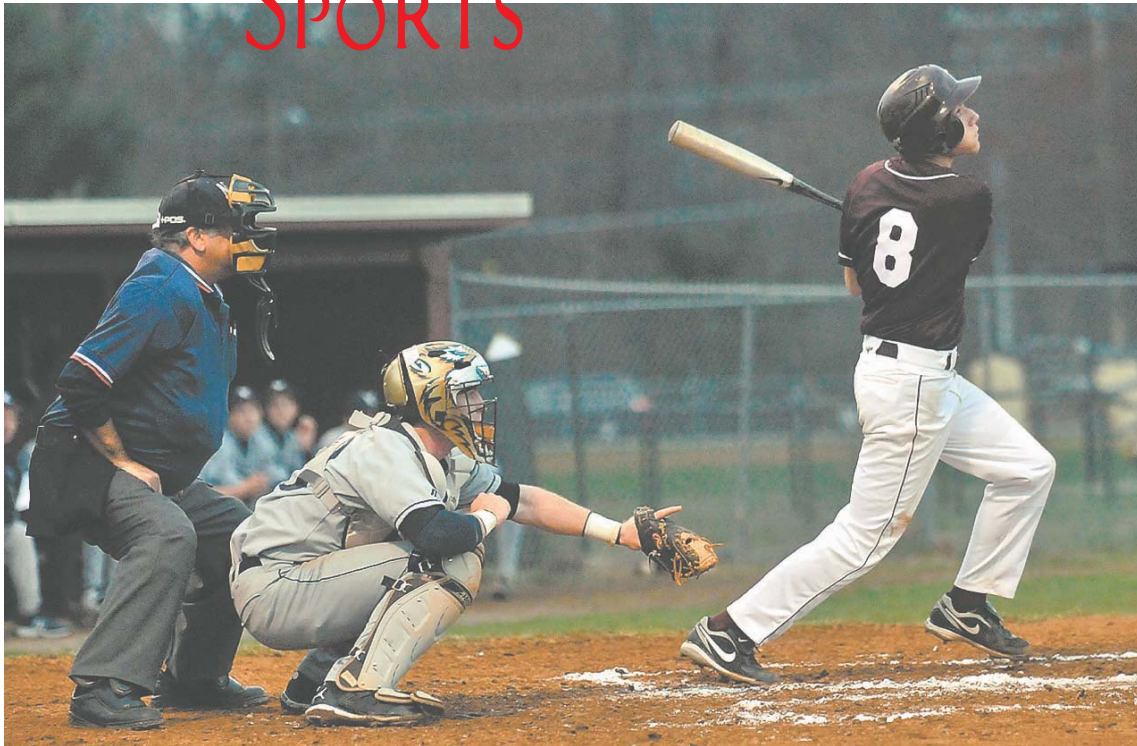
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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

**Junior Justin Boutin is expected to make an impact on the mound this season.**

George Palacio and the Mount Vernon baseball team lost to Washington-Lee on Tuesday.

Inexperienced Mount Vernon Taking Lumps Early

Majors drop to 0-2 with loss to Washington-Lee.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

Mount Vernon starting pitcher Justin Boutin took the mound on Tuesday despite recently having his wisdom teeth removed. The Majors' projected starting catcher, Kyle Quigley, missed the game after receiving 10 stitches in the forehead from an inadvertent bat strike. Third baseman Logan Beougher, a 6-foot-4, 285-pound power hitter, was so frustrated by not getting any pitches to hit that he called the opposing team's tactics "low."

Not much has gone right for the Mount Vernon baseball team during the infant stages of the 2011 season. The Majors dropped to 0-2 with an 11-0, five-inning loss to Washington-Lee on Tuesday. Mount Vernon lost its season opener against West Potomac, 15-6, on March 15.

Mount Vernon is feeling the loss of seniors Andrew Sable (shortstop), Mike Murdock (pitcher) and Jimmy Woehrle (pitcher) from the 2010 team that finished 17-6 and reached the regional tournament. The Majors are struggling in all facets of the game, but while hitting and defense are likely to improve through repetition, the team is still trying to establish whom it can depend on for pitching.

"Right now we're kind of in a rebuilding process," head coach Luke Sable said after the loss to W-L. "We lost some key seniors and some of those seniors were our key pitchers and that's what we've kind of

struggled [with] so far. ... We've got a really good group of young kids; it's just a matter of making the plays."

Junior right-hander Boutin, seniors Collin Bowyer, Tre Cooke and junior David Lehner are starting pitching candidates, Sable said.

On Tuesday, Boutin allowed five hits and four earned runs while striking out three, walking three and hitting a batter in 3-plus innings.

"I felt I could have done better, but it's the [second] game of the season," Boutin said. "I can recover from this and learn what I did wrong and work on that."

Offensively, the first three batters in Mount Vernon's lineup hit from the left side. Sable said Bowyer, Boutin and senior Victor Lenske are good contact hitters and should give opponents trouble as the season continues.

Beougher, a fullback and lineman on the

school's football team, is a big, strong right-handed hitter in the cleanup spot. After the game, he vented his frustration over being walked twice.

"Eight balls and zero strikes, that's just low of them," Beougher said. "It's even lower when we're down by that many runs and still" nothing is in the strike zone.

Cooke and Pat Reamy are also likely to contribute offensively.

Mount Vernon will host Stuart at 7 p.m. on March 25. Beougher said the Majors "need to turn this around quick," a statement that has to do more with fixing team chemistry than improving talent.

"Skill is not as big of a problem as cohesiveness right now," he said. "Right now we need to work as a unit and trust each other and have each other's backs more than we do right now. ... [Adversity] brings out different sides in different people. It's a real test of character from now on."

SPORTS BRIEFS

West Potomac Baseball Undefeated

The West Potomac baseball team improved to 3-0 with a 16-1 win over Lee on March 19. The Wolverines have outscored their opponents 49-9 in three games, including an 18-2 win over Edison and a 15-6 victory against Mount Vernon. West Potomac will host South County at 6:30 p.m. on March 25.

West Potomac Softball Beats Mount Vernon

The West Potomac softball team defeated Mount Vernon 10-0 in its season opener on March 17. The Wolverines will host South County at 6:30 p.m. on Sept.

25. The Majors will host Stuart at 7 p.m. on the same night.

MV Boys Soccer Wins

The Mount Vernon boys soccer team improved to 2-0 with a 1-0 win over Lee on March 18. Erik Rodriguez scored the Majors' goal on an assist from Simond Kargbo. Mount Vernon will travel to face Wakefield at 7 p.m. on March 24.

MV Girls Soccer Falls

The Mount Vernon girls soccer team lost to Lee 3-0 on March 16. The Majors will host Wakefield at 7 p.m. on March 24.

MV Boys Lax Loses

The Mount Vernon boys lacrosse team lost its season opener against South County 8-5 on March 17. The Majors will host a tournament on March 25-26.

Pantherlon 5K Is April 30

The 22nd annual Carl Sandburg Pantherlon 5K Run and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk will be held at 8 a.m. on April 30 at Carl Sandburg Middle School, located at 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria.

This year's race will feature professional runners and coaches offering free 20-minute clinics before both the 5K and 1 mile fun run to all registered kindergarten through eighth-grade runners. Topics will

include proper stretching, warm-up techniques, race form and race strategy, each targeted to the various age groups. After the race, runners and families may visit kiosks manned by many of the D.C.-area running clubs and running stores to discuss nutrition, find age appropriate follow-up races and ask questions.°

For more information, contact Rebecca Bostick at 703-768-2250 or rbarch@mindspring.com.

Sports Updates On Twitter

Follow sports editor Jon Roetman on Twitter at @jonroetman for sports updates around Northern Virginia and Montgomery County, Md.

Schools Supply Fresh, Local Food

FROM PAGE 6

it can be a difficult for schools to move from a traditional catering service to her company, with its emphasis on fresh produce and healthier food.

“There are lots of kids that would be happy to have a burger and fries every day. I think a lot of schools have made the transition away from that food even at the risk of the students not always being so happy,” she said.

It can also be a challenge to incorporate everyone’s preferences, particularly at a boarding school. Episcopal serves breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days per week. There are approximately 600 people including faculty, staff and their families who live on campus that sit down at each meal.

“As a rough break down, I would say freshman boys and senior girls like very different things to eat. ... But we have things we try to throw into the mix that give them exposure to different kinds of foods and different kinds of cuisine,” said Badoux.

Even if a school is striving for a healthier menu, it is important to keep some of that well-known, “fun” food — like pizza and chicken tenders — in the line up so the students don’t revolt entirely.

“The top 10 foods will always be things like chicken tenders, burgers and pizza. We have interesting whole grains we serve but we also make mac and cheese from scratch,” said Badoux.

In general, Episcopal’s move toward healthier cooking had paid off and Badoux appears to be striking a balance, according to Christina Holt, a school spokesperson.

“A recent survey of students and faculty showed that 89 percent of people really enjoy the food. Most either thought it was really good or excellent,” said Holt.

WHEN CADYN Harrington brought home cilantro from the Bullis School garden a few weeks ago, her mother used the herb to tint Cadyn’s smoothies and eggs green for Saint Patrick’s Day.

“I like to eat [vegetables from the garden] a little bit more. Gardens are kind of convenient. You don’t have to go to the store and buy the vegetables if you have a garden,” said Cadyn, a third-grader at Bullis, a private school in Potomac, Md.

“[The vegetables] are fresher. They are straight out of the garden and all you have to do is clean them,” said Ethan Isaacson, another third-grader in Cadyn’s class.

Third-grade teacher Carolyn Cohen incorporates the vegetable garden into many of her science lesson plans, teaching the students about sustainable farming along the way.



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE GAZETTE

Burgundy Farm Country Day School has several plots where students and faculty grow vegetables.

A few weeks ago, Cadyn, Ethan and other third-graders planted sugar snap peas, picked cilantro and learned how to compost. In April, Cohen plans to teach her students how to plant potatoes and peanuts.

“We put the seeds about an inch apart using a tape measure,” said Cohen.

Students get to take home some of the produce they personally grow but many of the garden plots at Bullis are used to supply vegetables to the school’s cafeteria, particularly the salad bar, said Susie Zimmermann, a Bullis spokesperson.

“We have plots for faculty and staff use too but quite a few of our plots are just for the dining hall,” said Zimmermann.

Bullis labels the food at the salad bar that comes from the school garden and the program — started by alumni a couple of years ago — is extremely popular. Bullis is in the in process of building a second set of elevated garden beds, which will nearly double the amount of growing space available at the school, said Zimmermann.

In 2006, approximately 26 percent of Maryland teenagers surveyed between ages 13-18 were considered obese or overweight, a rate nearly three times as high it was in 1970, according to information on the Maryland government website.

Like most other parts of the country, very young Maryland children tend to even heavier than teenagers. In 2006, approximately 30 percent of children between 2 and 5 years old tracked through Maryland Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance were considered obese or overweight.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

ers walking around the track and on this field, where the grass is thick, lush and healthy. The proposed interim use would allow dogs to remain almost exclusively in this larger field, but off-leash for training, exercise or play.

Finally, because of the surrounding trees, when you visit Westgrove Park you will see that the current and contemplated uses of the park are hidden from public view. Owners and dogs can exercise and play in private, and the park is closed after dark.

The requested interim use is such a minor change from the way the park is currently used, once you come down and have a look around, it is hard to fathom any serious resistance to the idea.

When I read Ms. Quigley's letter, she seems to be more accurately describing the much larger, more natural and more beautiful Mt. Vernon District Park, just across Ft. Hunt Road from Westgrove Park, and I would join her in opposing any use of that larger park which would destroy its tranquility and natural state.

But this very reasonable request to "release the hounds" is a no-brainer. Virtually no cost and no impact. Let's get this done and save our disagreements for more difficult questions.

Donne Colton

(on behalf of Jules and Chelsea)

Impartial Redistricting

To the Editor:

Scott Surovell's column ("44th Changes ...," March 10-16) was typically open-minded and informative. We are fortunate to have such a capable, committed person as our delegate. When necessary he will speak his mind, but at this point he makes only the reasonable observation that, "I support bipartisan or nonpartisan redistricting." Yes, and so should all of us. I hope Delegate Surovell's wish comes true that the 44th district remains about the same, but I am more concerned about our state as a whole.

We don't know at this point what the Virginia governor's bipartisan commission will recommend or what the legislature will do in response. Nevertheless, we should all be aware that this is happening and let our elected representatives know that we will not tolerate obvious political perversion of what should be a straight-forward process. Whether we are Democrats or Republicans we should insist that redistricting everywhere be done fairly and impartially.

Ron Brandt
Alexandria

Write

The 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. Email to: gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

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