Mount Pernon Gazette

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

June 9, 2011

Marcus Smith and Ivory Via at West Potomac High School's prom held Friday, June 3, at the Mark Center Hilton Hotel. More photos, Page 16. PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFET/THE GAZETTE

Full Day Kindergarten Extended to All

Thirty-six schools will have program for first time next year.

By Julia O'Donoghue The Gazette

n Memorial Day alone, three or four parents told M i c h e l e Nellenbach how excited they were that full day kindergarten would finally be coming to Stratford Landing Elementary School next year.

"We are really, really thrilled that it is finally here," said Nellenbach, the Parent Teacher Association present at the school located in Mount Vernon. For the first time in the history of the school system, Fairfax County Public Schools will offer full day kindergarten at all of its elementary schools next year.

Currently, 36 of Fairfax's 139 public elementary schools only offer half-day kindergarten.

"I don't think a half day of school is enough time. You have to teach all the material in three hours instead of six hours," said Nellenbach of half-day kindergarten at Stratford Landing.

SEE FCPS, PAGE 6

Redistricting Alters Candidates' Battleground

Precincts switch from Lee to Mount Vernon.

By Michael Lee Pope The Gazette

ne of the chief architects of the Democrats Senate redistricting plan has redrawn his own district to lose parts of the Lee District and gain parts of the Mount Vernon District. That's by design of state Sen. George Barker (D-39). When the smoke cleared in this year's redistricting drama, Barker's district got rid of one Prince William County precinct and eight Fairfax County precincts. In exchange, he drew the new district to pick up three Prince William precincts, six

Fairfax precincts and six City of Alexandria precincts.

Because Barker was narrowly elected in 2007, when the Democratic Party was at its apex, many have viewed the new map as an attempt to hold a difficult seat by increasing the Democratic voters.

"This is definitely a battleground seat," said Isaac Wood, communications director for the University of Virginia's Center for Politics. "The political calculus the Democrats are using here is that they needed to make this seat more safe while not jeopardizing other seats."

Whether or not the risk will work is up to voters, who will make the final call in November. The old 39th Senate district had 55 percent support for Republican Bob McDonnell during the last

SEE REDISTRICTING, PAGE 7

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Immaculate & light filled 9 years new- brick Colonial w/ four bedrooms and 2.5 bath in Zephyr Commons community. Open two story foyer entrance. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout 1st lvl, and upgraded carpets. Gourmet eat-in kitchen with SS appliances and granite counters. Full length windows, and recessed lighting. 12'ceilings. Fully finished, daylight walkout lower lvl. Beautiful master suite with luxurious master bath, featuring separate shower & soaking tub. Two car garage. Great location only minutes to Ft. Belvoir!

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7506 Mullingar Court

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Alexandria

This custom built Charleston Colonial on private street is loaded with all the upgraded features. Including 10' ceilings, double-sided fireplace, and two levels of gorgeous wood floors. Sunny gourmet eat-in kitchen with SS appliances, Corian counter, and work island. Multiple balconies, hardiplank siding, covered porch and professionally landscaped. Model-home perfect!

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Marcy Bates 703-606-7605



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Brian Murphy 703-731-5799



Alexandria

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4764 Pomegranate Court

This comfortable home has three bedrooms, two updated baths, sparkling renovated kitchen, family room with brick fireplace and an attached double car garage for the "man cave." The shed and deck share a beautiful level lot & fenced back yard with a grand view of Muddy Hole Park & Huntley Meadows Parkland. So much has been done-a great spot to call home.

Pat Grant 703-919-5838



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VEWS



Laurie Ossman, director, Woodlawn Plantation; Kyle Talente, president, Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, and Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland at "Greenway on the Highway."

Promoting Green

Festival spotlights environmentally sustainable food, agriculture and energy.

> BY GERALD A. FILL THE GAZETTE

he Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC) sponsored a "Greenway on the High way" festival on June 5 at Woodlawn Plantation to commemorate the landmark partnership between the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food & Ag-

SFDC, Woodlawn, and Arcadia assembled a variety of free activities and exhibitors to showcase their contributions to making the Route 1 Corridor and southeastern Fairfax a greener place to work, play, and live.

Local non-profits such as Friends of Dyke Marsh and Ten Thousand Villages of Old Town Alexandria showcased their efforts toward environmental conservation and fair trade, respectively. Also exhibiting were



Basima Alagravawi from Mamma's Kitchen hands out free samples to guests during "Greenway on the Highway."

Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, United Community Ministries, and the award-winning nationally recognized Hollin Meadows Elementary School's science and math focus program which presented information about ist students' care



At the Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church information booth are Barbara Nekoba (left) and Andrea Bona.



At the United Community Ministries information booth is Christine Fiske, director, volunteer & community relations coordinator.

of a 14,000 sq. ft. vegetable garden.

Local retail companies such as Mammas Kitchen, Chipolte, Star Catering, Noodles & Co., also participated and shared what they are doing to promote sustainable initiatives. Solo Flooring of Alexandria, ServiceMaster, Washington, D.C., the Maid Brigade, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, My Organic Market, Continuum Energy Solutions, YoKid and Home Performance Solu-

tions, among others, were present to inform the public what they do to assure environmentally friendly practices.

Tim Sargeant, an executive with Dominion Power, termed the first time festival as "the forerunner of a very well attended annual event in future years." Sargeant said he was pleased to participate in the festival and represent his company in promoting environmentally friendly renewable energy

Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber Grows by 87 Members

Biggest growth in membership in years signals upswing in local business climate.

By Gerald A. Fill THE GAZETTE

grew by 87 members as a result of a recent volunteer effort by members. According to Executive Director Holly Dougherty it was the best effort in recent years and predicted that the final tally would reach

100 new members. Current enrollment can only mean more influence for busiis over 400 members.

Tim Sargeant, of Dominion Virginia he Mount Vernon-Lee Cham- Power, chairman of the Mount Vernon-Lee ber membership enrollment Chambe,r said, "I am very excited about the recruiting effort by our members. There is strength in numbers and when we develop legislative and policy positions of interest to our current and new members and convey them to area politicians and government agencies the growth in membership

nesses in our area.

"We made a case with our new members that if you join our organization we will be promoting their business, help them to network with fellow members, and will be a part of an effective marketing campaign through our online and printed business directory.

"This significant growth in membership in a challenging economy portends only positive results for our members, the customers they serve, and our community."

Recruiting leaders for the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber include Michael Gailliot, Hilltop Golf Club, president of the Chamber: Anthony Riolo, Burke & Herbert Bank; Dan Rinzel, Redmon, Peyton, & Braswell, LLP; Rachel Carter, Coldwell Bankers; Barbara Sullivan, Mount Vernon At Home; Mike Whitfield, Hilltop Golf Club, and Nardos King.



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BUSINESS JOURNAL

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> Jeffery McGlothlin 703.798.0137 3305RussellRoad@alexandria-homes.com

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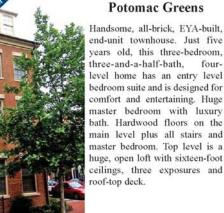
Larger floor plan, highest ceilings, big bright windows, gourmet kitchen, best upgrades, gleaming hardwoods, new carpet, new designer paint inside and out with two-car garage. Beautiful townhome with three extra large bedrooms, three and a half baths, on three levels. Fantastic location ninutes to the Pentagon and DC.

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Present at the ceremony in which Hollin Hall Automotive presented \$10,000 to the **Wounded Warrior Project** (WWP) staff are (from left) Marc Bentlin, general manager, **Hollin Hall Automotive; Wounded Warrior Project repre**sentatives Christine Hill, John Molino, Ralph Ibson, R.J. Meade, and Tom Harvey, president, Hollin Hall Automotive.

\$10,000 Donated to Wounded Warrior Project

ers and extended family, and his mother, Ruth Harvey, recently celebrated their 50th anniversary of service to the Fort Hunt and surrounding Mount Vernon region with a barbecue, raffle, and celebration. Approximately 1,000 customers, family, and friends showed up to join in the celebration and

Hollin Hall Automotive's Tom Harvey, his broth- thank the Harvey family for their service to the community. The raffle raised \$10,000 which was donated this past week in a ceremony in the City of Alexandria at the headquarters offices of the Wounded Warrior Project.

- GERALD A. FILL

Committee Backs Honors Curricula

BY GERALD A. FILL THE GAZETTE

he Education Committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) discussed a proposed draft resolution supporting the restoration of honors curricula throughout the county public school system.

The resolution would need to be approved by the board of directors prior to the MVCCA Vote.

Last week at the monthly meeting of the MVCCA Education Committee chaired by Judy Harbeck, the committee and other interested individuals debated the merits of restoring the honors program (middle tier/ college preparatory), and listened to a presentation by founding member of Restore Honors Curricula (RHC) Kate Van Dyck.

Among the issues discussed were: that students were at a competitive disadvantage in college admissions because of the lack of honors courses, the high failure rate for those opting for AP courses, the School Board regulation 3201.2 which requires " a balanced curriculum so that students at various levels of achievement are able to select appropriate courses to meet individual learning needs" and the lack of an interim college preparatory curriculum places less academically prepared students at a particular disadvantage in the absence of an intermediate college-prep level to build skills and confidence.

Lacking a committee quorum, a resolution was not formally voted on. Harbeck committed to circulating a proposed draft to committee members and, if supported by a majority of the committee, would submit the resolution to the board of directors for their consideration. The next step, if approved by the board, would be to submit it to the full council for a vote later in the month.

Text of the MVCCA Education Committee's proposed resolution reads in part as follows:

"Now, Therefore, be it Resolved that the MVCCA respectfully requests the Fairfax County School Board to direct the Superintendent of Schools to:

"1. Restore and/or establish honors level courses at all FCPS high and secondary schools for, at least, Calculus, English 11 and 12, and Social Studies 10, 11, and 12, as an intermediate Tier between Standard and AP/IB;

"2. Develop curricula for these and all other honors courses which includes specific benchmarks, expectations and assessment tools, demonstrates strong academic rigor and content, and develops critical thinking and communication skills to fully prepare students for college and be-

"3. Implement the restoration/expansion no later than the 2012-13 school year and require the intermediate honors tier to be available in every school.'

Bulletin Board

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

ONGOING

The Mount Vernon Farmers

Market will be held on Wednesdays instead of Tuesdays for the 2011 market season. The market is in the parking lot of the Sherwood Library located at 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane

in Alexandria. The hours are 8 a.m. until noon. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ FarmersMarkets/ or call 703-642-

UCM's Back Porch Thrift Store is in need of donations of furniture. UCM will pick up furniture, as well as other larger donations, or they can be dropped off at the back of the store Monday through Saturday, from 10

a.m. to 5 p.m. To arrange for pick-ups, call 703-768-7106, ext. 320.

Located at the Mt. Vernon Crossroads Shopping Center at 7838 Richmond Highway, Alexandria.

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

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 22



Rex Reiley RE/MAX Allegiance 703-768-7730 rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com



Alexandria Hollin Hall Village \$514,900 1501 Alexandria Avenue

Beautiful 4BR, 3BA Brick, Split level home in Hollin Hall (Waynewood Elementary) w/lovely landscaping. Vaulted ceiling in living and dining areas. Spacious rooms, solid construction,

replacement windows, wood floors on 2 levels, two fireplaces. Lower level walks out thru French doors to extensive ground decking and patio in backyard. Ideal for tertaining. Well-maintained inside and out. This is a great value!



Alex./Mt. Vernon \$519,900 8505 Wagon Wheel Road **Riverside Estates**

Large beautifully updated 5BR, 3BA split w/2car garage. Spectacularly remodeled kitchen w/bump out, hdwd floors, granite, SS appliances, new cabinets, and recessed lights. 3 remodeled baths.

tunning two-tiered decks over look a brick patio, terraced back yard and privacy fence. Front yard is beautiful landscaped! Wonderful neighborhood. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 minutes to Old Town, 35 to Ntl Airport/Pentagon/D.C



Alex./Southwood \$599,900 9011 Nomini Lane

Large stunning 5BR, 3BA split w/ oversized 2 car garage. Updated from top to bottom: kitchen, baths, windows, maintenance free exterior & freshly painted interior. Large bedrooms plus in-law suite on lower level. Professionally land-

scaped yard. Huge, warm & cozy sunroom & family room for entertaining. 2 wood burning FPLs. Premium location: 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Metro & Old Town, 25 to National Airport & 30/35 to Pentagon & D.C. This is a GEM!



Alexandria/Wessynton \$825,000 3003 Doeg Indian Court

Stunning 5BR, 3BA, 2 Level Rambler with WATERFRONT in prestigious Wessynton. Loaded with updates: roof, HVAC system, baths, kitchen, windows, refinished hardwood floors, elec-

ric panel, plus 2 gas FPLs and a garage. Perfect! At \$825,000 the best price you'll find for a waterfront property in Mt. Vernon. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir! Don't miss this-call Rex for Details!



Alex./Westgate 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 sunroom addition. Hardwood flrs main & upper levels. Family rm w/gas FP off kit.

Wood FP in living rm. Lovely kitchen w/corian counters & large picture window facing scenic backyard. Sweet front porch. Large unfin bsmt: ample storage. 5 minutes to Ft. Belvoir.



\$599,000 Alex./Woodland 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



\$685,000 Alex/Riverwood **3712 Carriage House Court**

Superb price on this lovely 4BR, 2.5BA Colonial in prestigious waterfront community of Riverwood. Quiet cul-de-sac & backing to Mt. Vernon Estate. This home has been freshly painted, hdwd floors refinished on

upper level & new carpeting on main level. Updated kitchen & baths plus sun rm & breakfast rm addition. Partially finished basement & 2 car garage. This is a great home! Five minutes to Ft. Belvoir.



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FCPS Extends Full Day Kindergarten Program

From Page 1

THE SCHOOL SYSTEM started phasing in full day kindergarten several years ago but stopped adding the program to any new schools in 2007. School Board members have repeatedly said they wanted full day kindergarten in every school but budget constraints had gotten in the way of expanding the program.

"The parents didn't have to convince us to do full-day K. We wanted to do full-day K," said School Board Member Tina Hone (At-large).

In general, schools with needier populations — a higher percentage of students that qualified for free or reduced-price lunch and needed English-As-a-Second-Language services — had received full day kindergarten. When the roll out of the program stopped, more affluent schools were left waiting.

"I knew this was an issue of equity and fairness and the public felt the same way. We were discriminating against people because they chose to live in certain neighborhoods," said School Board Member Liz Bradsher (Springfield).

In the Mount Vernon area, every single school surrounding Stratford Landing had a full-day kindergarten program. The school's parents were particularly angry that families living in their own neighborhood with the same financial means as them had access to full-day kindergarten when they did not.

"I could have bought a house a block over from mine and my children would have gone to full day kindergarten," said Nellenbach.

EXPANDING full-day kindergarten to all elementary schools would cost approximately \$7.3 million, according School Board Member Tessie Wilson (Braddock), who was the body's budget chair this year.

Some of the full-day kindergarten costs were covered by related savings. For example, the school system's transportation department no longer had to spend as much money on buses to bring two sets of students to and from kindergarten class every day, said Wilson.

According to Wilson, the school system has also seen a jump in retirements, which has resulted in significant savings. As a general rule, younger teachers earn less.

"A younger workforce translates into some savings," said Wilson.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also provided the School Board \$500,000 specifically for the implementation of full-

day kindergarten. The funding was money the supervisors expected to save on the School Age Child Care program (SACC), which the county runs in local elementary schools.

The School Board also used increases in education funding from Virginia and the federal government to help cover the cost of the expansion.

School Board Member Jim Raney (Atlarge) said he was concerned about using the federal funds to pay for a permanent programmatic change, since the money is not expect to be available after next year.

"Next year, we expect a substantial loss in federal funding for our schools. Richmond could give us new unfunded mandates. ... This budget will not be sustainable in fiscal year 2013 and beyond unless the Board of Supervisors provides a substantial increase in the transfer," said Raney.

"I believe full day K is a nice to have but not a must have. Another way to achieve equity is to have half-day K for everybody," said Raney.

TRANSITIONING to full-day kindergarten requires some facility changes, which will cost approximately \$1.5 million in capital expenses, said Dean Tistadt, the school

system's chief operating officer.

Nine schools will receive classroom trailers and 16 schools require interior modifications before full day kindergarten arrives next year. Eleven schools don't need changes at all, said Tistadt.

"I think we are prepared," he said.

In general, the local School Board had a much easier time with budget deliberations this year. Board members passed the 2011-12 school year funding package unanimously March 26.

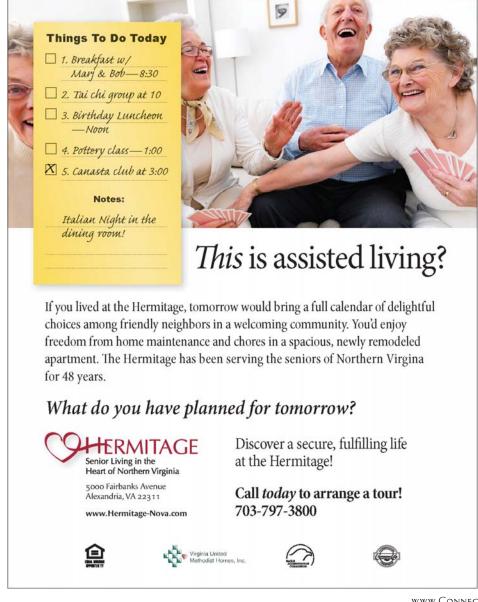
"This was a heck of a lot better than last year's budget," said School Board Member Sandy Evans (Mason).

The School Board was able to eliminate fees for taking Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests. They also capped the sports program fees — which are \$100 per season — to \$200, thereby bringing down the cost for students who play three sports per year.

The school system's employees will also get a pay bump for the first time in three years. They will receive a one percent cost-of-living increase and those eligible will also see their "step increase" in pay this coming school year.

Extra money was also set aside to implement changes to Fairfax County's disciplinary process.





Click on

"Photo Gallery"

Redistricting Alters 39th Senate Battleground

From Page 1

election. The new district had about 53 percent. That makes the new version of the district about 2 percent more Democratic, although still a tough race — especially for a freshman member such as Barker who narrowly won the seat during the last Senate election cycle.

"This is a politically motivated district," said Brenda Hankins, chairwoman of the Alexandria Republican City Committee. "It's so politically motivated that it could end up harming voters because they won't be represented adequately in Richmond."

THREE REPUBLICANS are vying for the chance to take on Barker. The list includes former Justice Department official Miller Baker, special-education assistant Andre Muange and education administrator Scott Martin. Considering the Republicans have a shot at beating the narrowly elected freshman senator, the three potential candidates are focused at taking the fight to Barker.

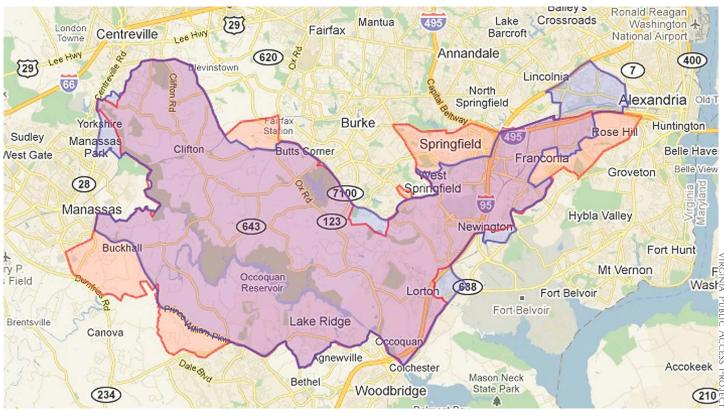
"He's been asleep at the switch on BRAC," said Baker, referring to the thousands of new commuters that are expected to clog regional traffic at the Mark Center. "This is clearly a case of misplaced priorities."

"That's patently absurd," Barker responded. "I was working on this issue before I was even elected to the Senate."

Barker pointed out that he opposed the Mark Center location for the Washington Headquarters Service as a member of the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission. During his time on the commission and as a senator, Barker said, he supported the General Services Administration warehouse location, which was located at the Franconia-Springfield Metro station.

"Obviously this has been frustrating," said Barker. "It's a huge problem, and I'm on the record opposing the Mark Center site."

IN THE SENATE, Barker has been one of the most successful members in terms of getting legislation through the General Assembly. In the most recent session, for example, he was one of two members who were able to get 20 bills or more to the governor's desk. If he is elected to another



The red areas show parts of the district that was lost in redistricting, and the blue areas show new parts of the district. The purple section of the district did not change.

term this year, Barker said he wants to look at ways to attract jobs to Virginia. Two potential legislative fixes he is exploring could include offering tax incentives to new corporations and deferring tax payments during the startup phase.

"We're still looking which incentives will work best," said Barker. "Right now, we're taking a close look at other states that are suc-

cessful with economic development."

On the Republican side, candidates are focused on lowering taxes and decreasing spending. Baker, for example, said he would cut money that goes to public television and public radio. Social issues may also become points of distinction in the general election depending on which candidate emerges as



State Sen. George Barker (D-39)



Andre Muange

tion of the family.'

the G.O.P. standard-bearer.

"I respect life from the moment of con-

ception to the moment of natural death,"

said Muange in a written statement outlin-

ing his campaign platform. "I respect natu-

ral marriage between one man and one

woman and recognize that it is the founda-



Scott Martin



Miller Baker

WHICHEVER REPUBLI-

CAN wins the August primary, Barker is likely to be challenged on the economy. Martin's campaign platform, for example, includes eradicating the state's business and professional occupancy license taxes. On the campaign trail, Martin has been critical of the taxes because businesses must project fu-

ture gross receipts and pay on the projections. That means that some businesses end up paying too much while others pay a penalty for not accurately predicting future business in a difficult economic climate.

"This is not business friendly," said Martin in a written statement outlining his opposition to BPOL taxes. "And I will do all I can to lower and eventually eliminate this anti-business tax."



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OPINION

Still Time To Be a Candidate

And also time to register to vote, primary election day is Aug. 23.

ave you considered running for office? There are quite a few slots open for both major parties in the coming election, and even if you want to seek your party's nomination you have until June 15 to get yourself on the ballot. The primary election is Aug. 23; the general election is Nov. 8, this year.

In Virginia, all 100 seats in the House of Delegates and 40 seats in the State Senate are up for election on Nov. 8,

2011, along with the Sheriff and Commonwealth's Attorney in each jurisdiction, and many local offices as well.

This all comes before any presidential contest. That election is in November 2012. But the news has been about President Obama seeking to raise \$1 billion (seriously?) for his reelection campaign and a colorfully expanding and contracting Republican field (seri-

Long before then, voters in Virginia will make some very serious state and local choices that likely will have more impact on the quality of schools, property values, traffic and transit choices, public safety and all around quality of life than will the presidential race that looms in 2012.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't Vilify **Opponents**

To the Editor:

In a letter to the editor, Mr. Spiegel does a disservice to the community with ad hominem attacks on those who oppose allowing a portion of Westgrove Park to be temporarily used

This is the first election since redistricting, and many Northern Virginia voters will find that they are in a new House of Delegates or state Senate district, and that it takes time to get to know a new set of candidates.

In Fairfax County, where the public schools consume more than half the budget of the entire county, a majority of current school board members have chosen not to seek reelection. Intense issues, including disciplinary policy, school start times, broad and qualitative approaches to course offerings, administrative costs and much more are at stake.

Candidates for school board, a non-partisan office, have until Aug. 23 to file their candidacy. This is one reason that it seemed unfortunate for Fairfax County Democrats to scramble to endorse

school board candidates last month, throwing some established procedures out the window literally in the 11th hour in the process.

In other races, the primary is really the general election. For example, state senate districts 30 and 31 that represent parts of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax, have long-time incumbents Patsy Ticer (30) and Mary Margaret Whipple (31) retiring. A multi-candidate battle for the Democratic primary in each could predict the November results in these heavily Democratic districts.

Even though redistricting has made District 31 nearly 10 percent more Republican according to the Virginia Public Access Project, www.vpap.org, the new district still voted just 44 percent for Gov. McDonnell in the last elec-

as an off-leash dog exercise area until a mas-

use off-leash dog area at Westgrove Park was debated for several months by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations' Envi-

ter plan for the park is developed. Instead of addressing the reasons for their opposition, Mr. Spiegel impugns their credibility and standing. The request from the PACK (Packhouse Association for Canine Kindness) for an interim

EDITORIAL

1:46 p.m., June 4, Woodlawn Plantation

Details

TO RUN

FOR PARTY CANDIDATES, the payment/filing deadline is 5 p.m., Wednesday, June 15 Non-party candidates have until primary election day,

Tuesday, Aug. 23, to declare their candidacy.

TO VOTE

Primary Election Day, Tuesday, Aug. 23 General Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8 The deadline to register for the Aug. 23 primary is Monday, Aug. 1.

Monday, Oct. 17 is the deadline to register to vote or update one's address for the Nov. 8 General

tion. The previously compact district centered in Arlington now stretches all the way to Sterling. Huge swaths of McLean and Great Falls, long in District 32, will now find themselves in District 31.

Similarly, District 30 is nearly 5 percent more Republican, but voted just 41 percent for Gov. McDonnell. The district now stretches down into Mount Vernon, encompassing areas previously in District 36.

These are just a few examples of why it's time to tune in to the local elections.

We invite your suggestions, questions and contributions. The Gazette will print letters to the editor, some columns from candidates, announcements of debates, stories and profiles and more in the coming months.

- MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM On Twitter @marykimm

ronment and Recreation Committee, which I chair. The question of whether to support the request was certainly not a "no brainer," as Mr. Spiegel asserts. The committee spent a great deal of time gathering information, talking to Fairfax County Park Authority staff, neighbors, PACK, and others. As reflected in the published minutes (www.mvcca.org/records.html) for January, February, and March, we debated questions such as: Can the safety of dogs and people who use the park be ensured without fencing the off-leash dog area? Might Westgrove be overwhelmed by users if a dog park is allowed? Would the lack of parking and absence of a trail to the park pose a problem? Do adjacent neighborhoods support the request? Can environmentally sensitive areas in and near the park (such as Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve) be adequately protected if an offleash dog area is established in the park? Committee members held different views on these questions, but they listened with civility and did not attack one another's credibility in the way that Mr. Spiegel attacks those who disagree with him.

After debating these and other questions, the Environment and Recreation Committee passed a resolution in support of the interim use off-leash dog area, and it was passed by the MVCCA General Council in March (see www.mvcca.org/Resolutions/res-E&R-2011-001-Westgrove.pdf). The MVCCA's support for the interim use dog area is subject to several

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

Mount Vernon Gazette

www.MountVernonGazette.com

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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A Connection Newspaper

LETTERS

From Page 8

conditions:

- * The FCPA will present a specific proposal and seek the views of neighboring property owners;
- * A designated "dog owners' sponsoring organization" will monitor the use of the interim dog area in accordance with FCPA guidance;
- * The interim dog area will be located within the area of mowed grass enclosed by an oval asphalt driveway, with the specific design to be negotiated by FCPA staff and the dog owners' sponsoring organization; and
- * Leash restrictions will be strictly enforced outside of the designated dog area, and the Resource Protection Area and natural areas will be demarcated as nodog areas.

The MVCCA further asks the Park Authority to initiate the master planning process for Westgrove Park, and to conduct an inventory of its natural resources in order to inform final decisions about appropriate and compatible uses for Westgrove Park. The MVCCA will continue to try to facilitate efforts to arrive at a community consensus about uses of the park.

As Linwood Gorham, Harry Glasgow, and other members of the Park Authority Board debate the PACK's request for an off-leash dog area, I hope they will not be swayed by bullying attacks. I hope the Board will carefully consider the issues and evidence, listen to all sides with open minds, and treat the views of opponents and proponents alike with respect and consideration. Personally, I believe it is possible to find a solution that balances the clear desire and need for a dog park with the protection and preservation of natural areas and wildlife habitat, and with the safety of dogs and humans. In my view, this requires taking into account the reasons for opposition as well as support, and seeking common ground. Vilifying opponents is undemocratic and ensures a poor and one-sided outcome that is rancorous and divides the community.

Betsy Martin

Moving Forward On Route 1

To the Editor:

I am writing to clarify the facts and possible misconceptions contained in the news story published on June 2 entitled "The Six Year Defect." In sharp contrast to what one might conclude from the headline and story, I and other www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

elected and appointed officials at the state and local level are working together to take the steps necessary to improve transportation along the Route 1 corridor.

In the recently concluded General Assembly session, my resolution to authorize and fund a Route 1 Transit Study from Fairfax County to Quantico passed. The Governor signed my legislation and funding was provided. According to Thelma Drake, director of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Route 1 Transit Study is funded at \$1.5 million for the first year (FY 2012) and \$1.5 million for the second year (FY 2013). Once completed the Virginia Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the local jurisdictions affected, will review a previously completed Centerline Study and make such adjustments as are necessary to properly establish the parameters of the follow-on engineering design and construction improvements. Without the Route 1 Transit Study just passed and funded, no federal funds will be forthcoming.

As everyone is well aware, road, mass transit, and other transportation improvements are sorely needed along the Route 1 corridor. In addition, the impending expansion of Fort Belvoir because of BRAC, the new hospital at Belvoir, the construction of the National Army Museum, and likewise the expansion of Quantico because of BRAC only add to the urgency of Route 1 improvements. The Route 1 Study extends from south of Alexandria through Fairfax and Prince William Counties to Quantico.

While I am appreciative of the attention the Mount Vernon Gazette has devoted to highlighting the needs of the Route 1 corridor in this and previous stories, it is essential that the taxpaying residents in the region be accurately apprised of all the facts. We are indeed moving forward toward a revitalized Route 1 corridor and I am pleased to be playing an active role to make it happen.

Linda T. "Toddy" Puller 36th Senatorial District

Keep Bikes Off Parkway

To the Editor:

The Mount Vernon portion of the George Washington Parkway has become a dangerous obstacle course for motorists due to the steadily increasing volume of bicyclists who choose to use the road instead of the adjacent bike path. Yes, they have the legal right to

ride the road, but it doesn't make it a smart or safe decision. If the trend continues, or expands which appears to be happening, a fatality is only a matter of time.

The beauty of the parkway is characterized by its narrow, winding and hilly terrain. Yet, these very features seriously impede a driver's ability to see far ahead, particularly when the object just over the hill and around the corner is a bicyclist traveling 15 miles an hour offering motorists little to no time to react. (As a motorist, if I were driving that slowly the Park Police would likely cite me for creating a hazard). The situation becomes dire when two cars are traveling in the same direction sideby-side with no possibility of swerving to avoid the bicyclist. Even worse, put a car, a bus and a bike all together traveling in one direction with adjacent traffic coming from the opposite direction and the result will be near certain collisions.

Moreover — and let's face it — many portions of the parkway afford water views and drivers do let their eyes wander to the vistas. Right or wrong, a split second of inattention combined with a surprise bicycle around the bend is a prescription for tragedy.

The bicyclists defend their behavior by claiming that achieving their desired speed on the bike path is difficult and if they do, pedestrians are endangered. It is difficult to have sympathy for these Lance Armstrong wannabees; they have chosen an activity that is incompatible with where they live.

We all know how this ends. Ultimately, a bicyclist will be killed. A life will be lost and another ruined when the driver is charged with vehicular manslaughter. The George Washington Parkway Superintendent will then impose a restriction on bike traffic but by then, it will be too little, too late.

The National Park Service

should restrict bike traffic now to the bike path.

Bob Dane Alexandria

Save The Bay

To the Editor,

Growing up in the Alexandria area my family and I spent many summers boating the local waterways. On longer trips we would visit Point Lookout in Maryland and eventually make it in the Chesapeake Bay. Poultry superfarms are dumping waste directly into the Bay. This dumping creates large dead-zones in the Bay where no life can be sustained. The EPA is in a position to enforce strict rules to limit water pollution in the Bay. I encourage readers to reach

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 24



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Democrats Endorse School Board Candidates

The current state of the School Board race.

Julia O'Donoghue The Gazette

he Fairfax County Democratic Committee endorsed candidates for the school board at Falls Church High School on May 24. Five of the 12 current School Board members have decided not to run for office again in November. Incumbents who will not seek reelection include Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill), Tessie Wilson (Braddock), Brad Center (Lee), Tina Hone (At-large) and Jim Raney (At-large).

School Board Member Liz Bradsher (Springfield) is not running for reelection in her magisterial district but may consider a bid for an at-large School Board seat. She would run as an independent, without the backing of the Republicans or Democrats.

Anyone who meets Fairfax County's residency requirements, pays a fee and gathers 125 signatures can appear on the ballot in the November as a School Board candidate. People interested in running for School Board have until Aug. 23 to declare themselves as candidates.

THE SCHOOL BOARD is technically a nonpartisan office, though being part of the Democratic or Republican slate is an advantage for candidates.

Most people find it very difficult to get elected without backing from one of the major political parties.

Nine of the current School Board members were endorsed by the local Democratic Party in previous elections. The remaining three were endorsed by the local Republican Party.

The Fairfax County Republican Committee will select its slate of School Board candidates at Centreville High School on June 16, according to the political party's

There was no competition for the Democratic Party's endorsement in eight of the nine magisterial district seats. The Democrats have not yet found a candidate to endorse in the Providence District race.

Since they were unopposed, most of the district School Board candidates seeking the Democratic endorsement faced little to no objections at the party's committee meeting this week, though School Board chair Kathy Smith (Sully) experienced a small

When the Sully Democrats presented Smith to the full committee for endorsement, a few hands went up around the room in opposition.

Many of those who opposed Smith were affiliated with a relatively new school activist group called the Fairfax Education Coalition. This umbrella organization includes members of a local teachers union, cess, and people seeking later start times in Park and Associates, in Annandale. high schools.

SIX PEOPLE sought the nomination for the Democrats' three at-large School Board

The sole incumbent, Ilryong Moon, won one of the endorsement slots outright. Amid some controversy, the committee also endorsed newcomers Charisse Espy Glassman and Ted Velkoff for the two remaining atlarge seats.

Reston resident Maria Allen, McLean resident Greg Brandon and Marshall High School graduate Ryan McElveen came up short in the race for the Democrats' at-large endorsement.

Allen said she intends to run for the atlarge seat as an independent, without the Democrats' support. McElveen has said he will drop out of the race overall.

Back in March, the Democratic committee agreed to endorse candidates if they won more than 50 percent of members' votes at the May meeting. But only one candidate, Moon, cleared that hurdle after two rounds of ballots.

With two empty endorsement slots at the end of the night, the committee decided to alter the selection criteria for school board candidates.

Members voted to endorse Glassman and Velkoff, the candidates with the highest number of votes on the second ballot. During that second round, only seven votes separated the winners from the losers of the Democrats' at-large endorsement.

Glassman earned 136 votes; Velkoff earned 129 votes; McElveen earned 122 votes and Brandon earned 117 votes.

Allen had already been knocked out of the running by that point for garnering the fewest number of votes in the first round of

In the general election, voters will be able to vote for three candidates in the at-large race. The three people who win the greatest number of votes countywide win the

School Board candidates endorsed by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee:

ILRYONG MOON — AT-LARGE SEAT

Born in Korea, Moon immigrated to the United States with his family as a teenager and was an English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) student at T.C. Williams High School in the City of Alexandria.

Moon has served three terms on the school board. A resident of Kings Park West, he represented the Braddock District from 1995 to 1999 and has been an at-large member from 2004 to the present. He was the school board's vice chairman in 2005 and chairman in 2006.

Moon has two sons who graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. He is also treasurer of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras.

Moon has a B.A. in East Asian Studies from Harvard University and a J.D. from Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of

advocates for changes to the discipline pro- William and Mary. Moon is partner at Moon,

CHARISSE ESPY GLASSMAN — AT-LARGE SEAT

A resident of Falls Church for 10 years, Charisse Espy Glassman has worked for a number of child advocacy organizations in her professional career.

She was the director of government and public affairs at the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants. While working for the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee, she traveled overseas to evaluate the education systems of over 20 countries, according to her website.

Glassman has served as a substitute teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools and was appointed to the school system's Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee. She now serves on the Fairfax schools' Advanced Academic Program Advisory committee and is chair of the education committee for the local chapter of the

In 1968, Glassman's father was the first African American elected to a local school board in Clarksdale, Miss. Her son attends Haycock Elementary School in Falls Church.

TED VELKOFF — AT-LARGE SEAT

A Rocky Run resident, Ted Velkoff has lived in Fairfax County for 19 years.

He held offices in Parent Teacher Student Associations [PTSA] at Poplar Tree Elementary School, Rocky Run Middle School and Chantilly High School, where he was the organization's president for two years.

One of his two daughters attended South Lakes High School as out-of-district student, so she could enroll in the International Baccalaureate [IB] program.

Velkoff served as treasurer for the campaigns of Sully District School Board Member Kathy Smith and former Del. Chuck Caputo.

Velkoff has master's degrees in both conducting music and computer science from Indiana University. He did his undergraduate work at the University of Cincinnati in

Currently, Velkoff works as a software architect at Integrity One Partners.

JANE STRAUSS — **DRANESVILLE DISTRICT**

Jane Strauss served on the School Board as an appointed member from 1991 to 1993 and as an elected member from 1996 to the present. She was board vice chairman in 2000 and chairman in 2001.

A McLean resident, Strauss is a former elementary and preschool teacher. She is the past president of the Franklin Sherman Parent Teacher Association [PTA] and was previously head of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs.

Strauss earned her undergraduate degree in history from The George Washington University and a master of arts in teaching from Harvard University.

Strauss is program chair of Cappies, an

international program that recognizes excellence in high school theater. Strauss' late husband Bill, founder of the Capitol Steps comedy troupe, started Cappies in 1999.

Strauss' four children went to McLean High School.

PAT HYNES — **HUNTER MILL DISTRICT**

Reston resident Pat Hynes has taught at Fairfax public elementary schools in Vienna and Annandale. Currently, she works at Forest Edge Elementary in Reston.

If Hynes won the November election, she would leave her job in Fairfax County to teach in another school district. Legally, Fairfax County schoolteachers are not allowed to serve on the school board.

Hynes hopes to be the "teacher's voice" on the school board if elected. The candidate is also interested in expanding early childhood education in the county.

Hynes has two children who graduated from Madison High School in Vienna. She was previously PTA president at Louise Archer Elementary School.

VACANT — PROVIDENCE DISTRICT

(The incumbent, Patty Reed, is endorsed by the Republican Party.)

MEGAN MCLAUGHLIN — **BRADDOCK DISTRICT**

Megan McLaughlin is chair of the Fairfax Education Coalition, an umbrella organization for advocacy groups concerned with Fairfax County Public Schools.

She is also president and co-founder of FAIRGRADE, which successfully lobbied the school system to change its grading poli-

Earlier this school year, McLaughlin led efforts to block the school system from parking more than 50 buses on Woodson High School's campus each night.

The Fairfax resident, whose children attend school in the Woodson pyramid, spent six years as an admissions officer at Georgetown University and was also an application reader for Duke University. She has been involved in the Woodson PTA and served as the 2003 Braddock District representative on the Fairfax County School Bond Committee.

McLaughlin earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and has a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland.

KATHY SMITH - SULLY DISTRICT

Kathy Smith has been chairman of the Fairfax County School Board since 2009. She has represented the Sully District representative since winning a 2002 special election.

Smith also served as board chairman in 2004 and board vice chairman from 2007

She worked as an elementary school teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools and is the former PTA president for Chantilly

SEE DEMOCRATS, PAGE 21

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624 Kings Cloister Circle Alexandria, VA 22302

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Stately all brick custom colonial on one acre in a private park setting. 3 car gar, over 6500 finished sq ft, 5+ bedrooms, 4.5 baths on 3 fully finished levels. Professional kitchen, master suite w/ wet bar

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8108 East Boulevard Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

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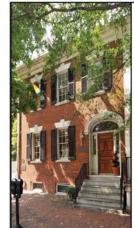


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Jeanne Warner 703-980-9106



Old Town \$1,825,000

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Amazing sunrises & tranquil sunsets are captured by this private waterfront home on nearly 2 acres. Home is pristine with wonderful floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage & navigable water. Near Ft Belvoir & just 18 miles to DC.

Susan Gray Chambers 703-203-9900



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Deevy 703-930-5198



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Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Collingwood Estates \$599,900 1121 Anesbury Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308



Very large five bedroom, three bath & two level rambler in Waynewood School District. New roof, some newer windows and HVAC. Upgraded insulation, hardwoods, den, deck & gazebo.

Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



Sulgrave Village \$1,195,900 1912 Prices Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308

Fabulous New Listing! Beautiful & nearly new brick 4BR, 4.5BA, colonial with 3 car garage. Close-in Mt Vernon location. All the amenities one would expect! Wall mounted 61" plasma TV with sound system & permanent back-up generator.

Ed Pagett 703-518-6161

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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



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Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

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Woodstone \$324,000

7160 Westfield Court, Alexandria, VA 22306

Immaculate 3 level townhouse with 3 bedrooms & 3.5 baths. Rear deck on main level. Lower level with rec room, bonus room & walk out to patio & fenced yard. Backs to trees.



Gavl Warman 703-309-8792



Old Town \$599,000

543 South St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 Absolutely Charming! 3 bedroom plus 2.5 bath brick townhome on quiet courtyard. Hardwood floors, fireplace, built-ins & one off-street parking



Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



Hollindale \$949,000

1615 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306 Charming brick 6BR, 4.5BA Williamsburg colonial featuring



grand entrance hall, well-proportioned rooms, fine moldings & 3 fireplaces. Fully finished walk-out lower level plus over-sized two car garage. This is a gem!

Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



\$279,000 & \$335,000 The Plaza 803 North Howard #262 & 803 North Howard #135

Large 2BR/2BA with den and 2BR/2BA with DR, updated kitchen appls. Fresh paint, neutral carpet, washer/dryer & storage. Garage



parking & easy metro access. ran E. Orr & Mary Edwards

703-623-4070 • 703-907-9800



\$280,000 **Cameron Station** 191 Somervelle Street, Alexandria, VA 22304

Seller Must Sell! Pristine 1 bedroom with 1.5 baths, garage



and off-street parking. 12'+ ceilings, living room with fireplace, patio, pool, park, trails and shuttle bus. Bring offer!

Marie Louise Meyer 703-836-2080



Potomac Greens \$779,000

1719 Potomac Greens Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314

New Price! 4 level townhome in Potomac Greens, 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths & den with French doors. Living room with built-ins & upgraded kitchen. Family room, upper level deck, plantation shutters & 2 car garage.



Carol Hooks 703-509-4199



Stratford Landing \$535,000 2100 Basset Street, Alexandria, VA 22308

Stunning Renovation. 3 bedroom & 2.5 bath home with 1 car garage. Impressive remodeled kitchen & baths. Sunroom plus finished LL family room. Slate patio overlooks lush backyard.

Terry Ann Stevens 757-647-4705



Groveton \$385,000

3512 Groveton Street, Alexandria, VA 22306

Cottage in Alexandria, South. Updated cottage on almost half-acre lot! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, hardwood floors, updated kitchen and baths on one level. Exceptional large fenced rear yard.

Rita McCauley-Redmond 703-447-9114



Jefferson Manor 2802 Albemarle Drive, Alexandria, VA 22303

Short Distance to Metro! Located on a quiet side street, this home offers privacy & convenience. Tastefully renovated 3 levels with HW flrs, 2 full BA, new HVAC, amazing eat-in kitchen & fenced yard with deck. Minutes to Old Town, PTO & DC.

Tom Rickert 703-447-7901



Old Town \$3,500/Month

432 North St. Asaph Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Great townhome with 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces hardwood, updated kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances. A private patio, off-street parking and over 2000



Bonnie Rivkin



\$664,000 Riverside/Fort Hunt 8311 Crown Court Road, Alexandria, VA 22308

Just Reduced! Four bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage, sunroom & cul-de-sac living in a great



neighborhood. Stratford Landing Elementary.

Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788



Captain's Row/Old Town \$1,250,000 126 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Historic charm and character, built in 1793, one block to the River. Includes 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, heart of pine floors throughout and renovated.



Bonnie Rivkin 703-598-7788

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



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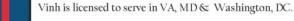
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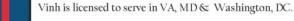
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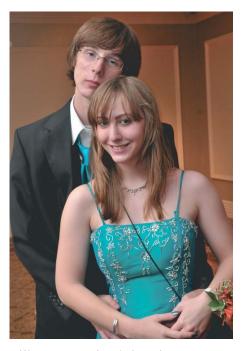




SCHOOLS



Daniel Carriker and Sandra Miller.



Elliot Lay and Leigh Palmer.



Gen Farrell and Randa Elhage.

Photos by Louise Krafft/The Gazette

JD Statz and Amanda Smith.

2011 Prom Night for West Potomac High Students



Cierra Everett and Kaleabe Teshome.



Charlie Romain and Shandra Redfearn.



Marvin Redfearm and Ayanna Rutledge.

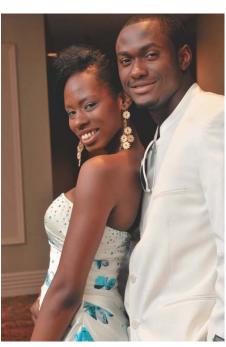


Sherry Been-Kirkland and Iris Cox



Andrew Manous







Stephanie Manous smiles as she prepares to leave with a table setting from the prom.

ENTERTAINMENT

Virginia Yoga Week June 12-19

he fourth annual Virginia Yoga Week will run from June 12-19, offering people of all ages and fitness levels more than 80 discounted or free yoga classes — and the opportunity to raise funds for charities.

From Alexandria to Leesburg, Occoquan to Reston, free and \$5 classes will give everyone the chance to sample yoga classes from many different traditions and styles.

"During Virginia Yoga Week, yoga studios and teachers join together to promote the benefits of yoga for mind, body and spirit. Through the Virginia Yoga Week Karma Project, we also raise funds for those in need," said Margaret Townsend, yoga teacher and founder of Virginia Yoga Week.

Virginia Yoga Week encourages people of all ages and fitness levels to explore yoga, while at the same time raising funds for a variety of good causes, including The Exalted Warrior Foundation, Carpenter's Shelter, People for Haiti, Give Back Yoga, Reston Inter Faith and the Loudoun County Animal Shelter. The donation-based Karma classes form part of the Virginia Yoga Week Karma Project, which promotes the yoga of selfless service.

VIRGINIA YOGA WEEK:

❖ June 12: Love Your Body Day

Virginia Yoga Week opens on June 12 with Love Your Body Day, featuring yoga, live music and massage. Proceeds from the day will benefit Reston InterFaith.

❖ June 17th: Yoga on the Potomac

Yoga on the Potomac at Collingwood Library and Museum in Alexandria will feature a YoKid class for families; a vigorous yoga flow practice to shake off the end of the week blahs, and an uplifting kirtan music concert, along with complimentary refreshments provided by Whole Foods of Alexandria. Yoga on the Potomac will benefit Give Back Yoga and YoKid, organizations that use yoga as a vehicle to support active duty personnel, veterans and at-risk youth.

Paul Frank, executive director of Collingwood Library and Museum, said: "We are grateful for the opportunity to give support back to our military personnel who have given so much, and to increase the educational capability of our children through our participation in Virginia Yoga Week."

❖ June 19: Free Yoga in the Fresh Air in Old Town Alexandria

Virginia Yoga Week's closing event in Old Town Alexandria's Montgomery Park will build on its mantra to 'energize and inspire'. Free outdoor yoga classes will be offered in conjunction with a food drive to benefit both humans and four-legged friends.

Beneficiaries include the Carpenter's Shelter at the Hoffman Center for Homeless Families, King Street Cats, XL Dog Rescue and Dog World, with more complimentary treats from sponsors, Whole Foods Alexandria and Honey Drop beverages.

Visit www.virginiayogaweek.com to find Karma classes, as well as the full Virginia Yoga Week class and event schedule.



Svetlana Avellan/The Gazette

Sara VanderGoot (background) teaches a class called Prenatal Yoga at Mind the Mat in Del Ray.

How Mind the Mat Matters

Yoga classes offer a "union" between the body, mind and spirit.

By Svetlana Avellan The Gazette

t's been three years since Mind the Mat was founded by Sara VanderGoot and co-owner Megan Brown. Located on Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray, with a 14-person staff, Mind the Mat offers classes anywhere from prenatal Pilates, to beginner, intermediate and advanced yoga.

"Our community didn't have a studio like this, where a variety of lessons were taught," said Sara VanderGoot, a specialized massage therapist. She joined with Megan Brown, a licensed physical therapist, to help people release tension and stress within the body.

Mind the Mat's goal is to provide instruction with a focus on individual needs. The studio offers four to six-week series workshops that pertain to specific areas of teaching. "In the past, we have created workshops particularly for runners who have hurt themselves," said VanderGoot.

Although Pilates and yoga share a lot of similarities, yoga, comparing to Pilates dates back as far as 5,000 years ago. Many will find that yoga focuses on its practices on a deeper level

Yoga itself means "union". A union between the body, mind and spirit. For someone who encounters yoga for the first time, VanderGoot said, "Through your physical body, you train your mind to touch your spirit." Not only is yoga a healing process, it also helps those who have been injured, mothers preparing for birth and the ones who want to strengthen their bodies, improve balance, relax or calm the mind.

According to VanderGoot, all instructors at Mind the Mat are certified to teach within their area of expertise, with many being physical therapists as well. Some are licensed nutritionists, nurses, specialized with prenatal care and have worked at the studio for a long period of time. "They do what they do best," she said.

A long-term instructor at Mind the Mat, Debora Jackson

with more than 15 years of experience, added: "Yoga is like maintenance for me. It's a joy; it's when I am the happiest. Yoga is about the teaching, and how you connect with it. It has helped me enhance my life. I feel stronger, calmer, and more relaxed."

Yoga in general is a physical form of stretching. Those who practice yoga will gradually achieve greater endurance, flexibility, and energy. The body will rid itself of toxins, improve circulation and the blood pressure will normalize. One of the major aspects of yoga is the training of how to breathe properly.

"If there is one thing you want to learn, learn how to breathe. I practice what is called Vinyasa, which is another word for breath-driven movement," said Jackson. In other words, Vinyasa is a technique that instructors teach students to move from one pose to another on an inhale or exhale. The result becomes like a dance.

Mind the Mat invites all age groups, including babies with mommies, and experience is not required. "The majority of our clients are women, but we would love to have more men," said VanderGoot.

"I have been coming here for over a year and a half," said Jan Geiger, a user of Mind the Mat and a client of Jackson's. "I started with Pilates due to arthritis, but later moved to yoga. I love it, I have done it for over 10 years now." Geiger is 64 years old and is retired, practices yoga at least twice a week, both at home and at the studio. "My husband always sees a difference in me. I feel upbeat and refreshed." When asked about the instructors, Geiger added, "They are all very well informed. Debora makes yoga fun and is willing to help you with any special needs you need to take care of. Yoga is something I will do for the rest of my life."

It may seem that yoga is a practice that some excel at, but as VanderGoot says, "Yoga is limitless, there is definitely always more to learn."

Mind the Mat is at 2214 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301. To learn more or sign up for classes, visit www.mindthemat.com or call 703-683-2228.



ENTERTAINMENT

Signed George Washington Letter To Be Auctioned

confidential letter written by George Washington to a trusted officer concerning troop maneuvers preceding the Battle of Valley Forge is a highlight of The Potomack Company's June Catalogue Auction on June 11 at its gallery in Old Town Alexandria.

Written on Dec. 1, 1777, to Brig. Gen. James Potter, the dispatch discusses military maneuvers during the Revolutionary War, stressing Washington's instructions "must be kept perfectly Secret" regarding troop preparations while his army was en route to Valley Forge.

The letter is cited in the published papers of George Washington in the Library of Congress and features the distinctive signature of the nation's first president as well as the remnants of the red wax seal that held the contents from view during transit to Gen. Potter.

The Washington letter will be sold by The Potomack Company along with other significant items related to the first American president, includ-



ing an Athenaeum Portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828).

The auction catalogue is available for viewing in gallery and online www.potomackcompany.com. The Potomack Company auction gallery is located at 526 North Fayette Street in Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-684-4550.

Radio Hams from Alexandria Join in Nat'l Deployment

Alexandria's "hams" will join with thousands of Amateur Radio operators who will be showing off their emergency capabilities the weekend of

The public will have a chance to meet and talk with Alexandria's ham radio operators and see for themselves what the Amateur Radio Service is about. Showing the newest digital and satellite capabilities, voice communications and even historical Morse code, hams from

across the USA will be holding public demonstrations of emergency communications abilities.

The Alexandria Radio Club will be demonstrating Amateur Radio at 4800 Ben Brenman Park Drive on June 25-26, and will be located in the far southestern section of the park, past the baseball field. They invite the public to come and see ham radio's new capabilities and learn how to get their own FCC radio license before the next disaster

This annual event, called "Field Day" is the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" sponsored by the ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and backyards around the country.

To learn more about Amateur Radio, go to www.emergency-radio.org.



*Price is per room, plus tax, for a family of up to four. Starting price is based on availability, for a limited time, and will increase closer to event date. Not valid in conjunction with groups

or other offers. Not retroactive. Other restrictions may apply. Individual advance tickets are

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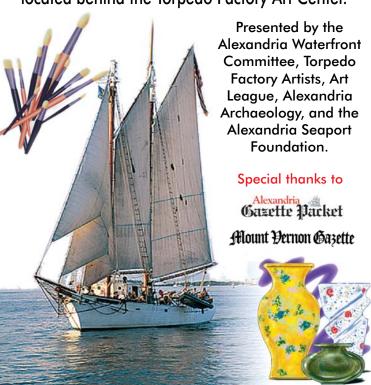
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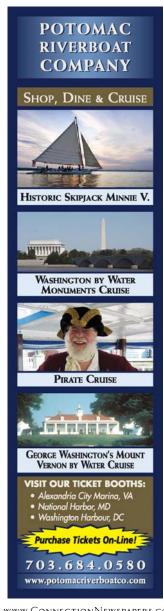
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Music

World Music Dance Party June 24

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

World Music Dance Party. 9

p.m. to midnight. The Torpedo Factory Art Center and Hungry for Music team up to help young musicians in need with a rocking reggae/Afro-pop World Music Dance Party. Tickets: \$15 in advance at

www.hungryformusic.org; \$20 at the door. At the Torpedo Factory in Old Town Alexandria. Call 240-582-6193.

The reggae/Afro-pop World Music Dance Party show features Elikeh and Lucky Dub, both nominees for recent Washington Area Music Association (Wammie) awards. There will be a cash bar, along with light snacks. Proceeds will benefit Hungry for Music, a Washington-based charity that donates new and used instruments to young musicians in need. Musical instrument donations will be accepted at the door.

Led by the Togo-born Serge "Massama" Dogo, Elikeh performs its own brand of Afro-pop and -funk. Dogo covers lead vocals and guitar, and his accompanists play guitar, bass, drums, two saxes, trumpet and percussion. The style is a combination of the '70s Afro-funk and traditional African rhythms. Last year, Elikeh earned Wammies' World Music nominations for top duo/group, vocalist (Dogo), recording ("Adje! Adje!") and instrumentalist (Megan Nortrup, on saxophone).

Lucky Dub plays the feel-good and danceable music that stems from reggae, blending in elements of funk, pop, jazz, and world music. Their result is a little like Sublime, but their fresh sound comes from the melting-pot blend of musicians from California, D.C., the Caribbean, West Africa and Russia. The band's nine core members, led by Gordon Daniels on vocals, guitar and melodica and John Baker on bass, include players on drums, congas, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and keyboards. Since forming in 2008, Lucky Dub has earned



Lucky Dub



Elikeh

Wammies recognition in reggae, and three songs off their debut album "Mindset," released in April, have won Mid-Atlantic Song Competition and WAMA awards.

In 2010, Hungry for Music donated 512 musical instruments throughout the United States and abroad. In February, the charity delivered six alto saxophones to the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center in Alexandria to help the staff begin an after-school program. Last month, five acoustic guitars, three mandolins, three dulcimers, two

banjos and an autoharp went to Junior Appalachians Musicians (JAM), a musical education program started in Galax, Va., that now is in 18 mountain communities in Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina. Says founder Jeff Campbell: "Most anyone will attest to the healing power of music; its ability to soothe in times of tension, its ability to transform sadness and aggression into hope and creativity."

The Torpedo Factory Art Center is located at 105 N. Union St. in Old Town Alexandria.



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PHOTO GALLERY "Me and My Dad"

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gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Mount Vernon Gazette, "Me and My Dad Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed

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Entertainment

THURSDAY/JUNE 9

Vicki Genfan in Concert. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Part of the Second Thursday Music. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Call 703-548-0035 or visit nvfaa.org.

Music at Twilight Concert. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. With the Alexandria Singers. At Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

FRIDAY/JUNE 10

Alexandria Citizens Band Concert. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. At Market Square, 301 King St., Old Town Alexandria. Contact: maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

SATURDAY/JUNE 11

Nat'l Collegiate Solo Concert. 7:30 p.m. Schlesinger Concert featuring the U.S. Army Concert Band and the winners of the 2011 National Collegiate Solo Competition. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria

Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theater. 8 p.m. The evening will begin with "A Baroque Excursion." Next, the dancers will perform "Thunder of the Tides." The final selection will be "An Irish Rhapsody." At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Drive, Alexandria. Visit www.khgdt.org.

www.khgdt.org. **Artistic Rain Barrel Auction.** 5 to 7 p.m. Selected artists have turned rain barrels into one-of-a-kind works of art as part of a creative way to educate the community on the benefits of using rain barrels. Auction takes place at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Springs Road, Alexandria.

Genealogist Char Bah. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Will present "Paths to Freedom," an illustrated lecture on how she tracked free African American families in Alexandria back to the communities where they had been held in slavery. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

"The Healing Passage: Voices from the

The Healing Passage: Voices from the Water." Film screening at 4:30 p.m. Free. Part of Movies With a Mission program. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 12

Jazz at Meade Featuring Paul Carr. 4 p.m.
Donation of \$15. At Meade Memorial Episcopal
Church, 322 N. Alfred St., Alexandria. Call 703549-1334 or visit http://www.meadechurch.org.

Razz-Ma-Jazz Children's Arts Festival. 2 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5. At T.C. Williams High School. Focuses on music, art and literature of the Harlem Renaissance. Presented by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Concerts are 30 minutes and start at 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. Other activities include an instrument petting zoo, face painting, yoga, art stations, and dancing and reading centers. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-0885 or visit www.alexsym.org.

Afternoon With Sally Fairfax. 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Commonwealth Books publisher, James Thompson, will interview Alexandria's grande belle who is expected to answer questions about her aristocratic family and its connections to the founders of Fairfax County, Alexandria City, the British Empire and our great nation. Sally Fairfax is interpreted by the Little Theater's own Beverly Benda. At the Lyceum Museum, 201 S. Washington St., Alexandria. Call 703-838-4994.

TUESDAY/JUNE 14

Author Talk. 7 p.m. Meet the authors "The Park Sisters" (Frances and Ginger Park) talk about their book, Chocolate Chocolate: The True Story of Two Sisters, Tons of Treats, and The Little Shop That Could. Refreshments (chocolate) served. Free & open to the public. Call 703-746-1701. At Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 15

Swing Dancing. 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With Scott Ramminger and the Crawstickers. At Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St., Alexandria

Lunch Bunch Concert. Noon to 1 p.m. With Sir Joe & Free Soul (R & B). At Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

New Zealand Wine Tasting. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. At the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden. The tasting will be led by Wilkinson Wine Cellar and tickets are \$25 per person. A guided tour of the historic Lee-Fendall House will be available during the evening. Contact 703-548-1789 or www.leefendallhouse.org.



Photo by Shane Canfield

Charles Boyington (Henry Lodge) and James Raby (Philip Markham) star in the Little Theater of Alexandria's production of "Move Over Mrs. Markham."

JUNE 8 TO JUNE 17

"Move Over Mrs. Markham." The Markham's 15-year marriage seems just about undone, along with everything and everybody else in this wild and crazy free-for-all. Show times are June 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$17 to \$20. At the Little Theater of Alexandria, located at 600 Wolfe Street, at the corner of Wolfe and St. Asaph Streets, Alexandria. Visit www.thelittletheatre.com or call 703-683-5778, ext. 1.



SUNDAY/JUNE 12

Razz-Ma-Jazz Children's Arts Festival. 2 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5. Focuses on music, art and literature of the Harlem Renaissance. Presented by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Concerts are 30 minutes and start at 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. Other activities include an instrument petting zoo, face painting, yoga, art stations, and dancing and reading centers. At T.C. Williams High School, 3330 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-0885 or visit www.alexsym.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 17

Mount Vernon Swing Band. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Cost is \$4/door. Dancing to a live band led by conductor Owen Hammett. Light refreshments provided by Paul Spring Retirement Community. At Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call 703-765-4573.

Olympic Day. 5 p.m. Features planned sporting

Olympic Day. 5 p.m. Features planned sporting activities, a visit from an Olympian, coordinated by the National Recreation and Parks Association, and a performance by NU ERA. At Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria.

JUNE 17 AND 18

"Setting Sail" Concert. Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Part of the Alexandria Singers' Spring Pops Concert. At First Baptist Church of Alexandria, 2932 King St., Alexandria. Tickets are \$5 to \$20. Call 703-941-7464. Visit www.AlexandriaSingers.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 18

Hooray For Books! Birthday. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hooray For Books! Children's Bookstore is turning 3 this month. Balloons, face painting, and three visits from the fabulous Froggy (11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.) At 1555 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092.

African Heritage Cultural Festival. Noon to 6 p.m. Featured performers include Sandra Johnson, contemporary jazz; SAMO'O and the band JFC, with Caribbean sound; Elikeh, Afro funk music; and the Michael Stephens Project (MSP) R & B. Additional performers include the Alexandria Community Children Theater (ACCT); Hot Topics All Stars Cheer Group; Recreation Center youth performances; and performances by the Alfred Street Baptist, Roberts Memorial United Methodist and Shiloh Baptist church groups performances. At the Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St., Alexandria. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation, or call 703-746-5592.

SUNDAY/JUNE 19

Father's Day Cruise. Celebrate Father's Day aboard the Odyssey and the Spirit of Washington, offering musical entertainment, dancing and cuisine. Cruises are priced at \$69.90 per adult and \$34.95 for children ages 3 – 12; sailing from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and again from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. To book, call 866-404-8439 or reserve online.

Free Father's Day Tours. Three Alexandria museums will offer free tours on Father's Day for all visiting fathers — Gadsby's Tavern, Apothecary and Friendship Firehouse Museums. Gadsby's Tavern, from 1 to 5 p.m.; at 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, from 1 to 5 p.m.; at 105-

107 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria. The Friendship Firehouse Museum, from 1 to 4 p.m.; at 107 South Alfred Street, Alexandria. Visit

www.historicalexandria.org.

Family Tour Day. 1 to 4 p.m. Special tours hosted by Junior Docents who will be stationed at each stop on the tour, including the taproom, bedchambers, ballroom, assembly room and dining room. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

TUESDAY/JUNE 21

Mt. Vernon Genealogical Society. 1 p.m. Free. Features a presentation on "Introduction to the Library of Congress Manuscript Division" by Bruce Kirby. At the Hollin Hall Senior Center, Room 112, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Call Harold McClendon at 703-360-0920 or haroldm@erols.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 22

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/JUNE 23

Music at Twilight Concerts. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Featuring the Alexandria Citizens Band - The City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization. At Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

JUNE 24 THROUGH JULY 10

"The Solid Gold Cadillac." Presented by Aldersgate Church Community Theater. Show dates are June 24, 25, July 1, 2, 8, 9 Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; June 26, July 3, 10 Sunday Matinees, 3 p.m. Advance tickets are \$14/adults; \$11/youth/senior. Tickets at door are \$15/adults and \$12/youth/seniors. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd. Alexandria. Visit www.acctonline.org or call 703-660-2611.

FRIDAY/JUNE 24

Barbershop Bonanza. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Featuring The Harmony Heritage Singers Barbershop Chorus. Also featuring Fo Pas, Sliders and Cliché. Sponsored by the Mount Vernon Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. At Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.

Alexandria Citizens Band Concert. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The City's Oldest Performing Arts Organization. At Market Square, 301 King St., Old Town Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov, 703-746-5592.

Free Eye Exams

UCM's Sacramento Neighborhood Center (SNC) partnered with The Hispanic Institute for Blindness Prevention on Thursday, June 2 to provide more than 50 free vision exams to area residents. Director of the Hispanic Institute for Blindness Prevention, German Valbuena, and his staff of optometrists conducted examinations using a



machine with a standard snellen chart, typically seen in doctors' offices, to check for visual acuity. Patients who lacked vision clarity had the opportunity to purchase corrective glasses at a much-reduced cost. Patients were also tested for glaucoma, an eye disorder that left untreated can lead to blindness.

Democrats Endorse Candidates

From Page 10

High School, Rocky Run Middle School and Poplar Tree Elementary School. Smith is also the former vice president of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs.

Smith graduated from Muhlenberg College with degrees in sociology and elementary education.

JOHN WITTMAN — SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

Fairfax Station resident John Wittman is a longtime member of the school system's advisory committee on career and technical education.

Having worked for a government contractor on purchasing and procurement, Wittman now runs a small home repair business, where he personally provides handyman services to clients.

Wittman's children attended Silverbrook Elementary School and graduated from Hayfield Secondary School. His wife works for Fairfax County Public Schools as an instructional aide in a special education classes.

Wittman has undergraduate degrees in electrical engineering and computer science from Michigan State University and an MBA from Johns Hopkins University.

TAMARA DERENAK KAUFAX — LEE DISTRICT

A Lee District resident for more than 20 years, Kaufax has been active in the PTAs and Bush Hill and Springfield Estate elementary schools.

She is the current chair of the Fairfax County Child Care Advisory Council, which works on providing subsidized daycare to low-income county residents and reviews SACC, the after-school program offered in Fairfax elementary schools.

Kaufax has been a member of the school system's Advanced Academic Program Advisory Committee and Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay's Budget Advisory Committee.

Kaufax manages her own marketing consulting firm and is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University with degrees in political science and business.

A native of Johnstown, Penn., Kaufax was the first person in her family to go to college. Her children attend Edison High School and Springfield Estates Elementary School.

DAN STORCK — MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Mount Vernon School Board Member Dan Storck is running for his third term in office. He was first elected in 2004.

Storck is the former president of the West Potomac High School PTSA and former member of the Fairfax County Public Schools Budget Task Force. He worked as a Head Start administrator and coached youth basketball teams in a Fort Hunt sports league for 15 years.

Storck is a member of the board of directors at two Mount Vernon not-for-profit organizations, Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services and the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation.

Storck's children attended school in the West Potomac pyramid. He owns a consulting firm that works on issues related to health care practices and benefits. He holds an MBA and graduated with a B.S. in finance from Miami University in Ohio.

${\bf SANDY\;EVANS-MASON\;DISTRICT}$

School Board Member Sandy Evans was first elected to the Mason District seat in March 2010. This will be the first general election in which she will stand for office.

Evans is a founding member of the Fairfax Education Coalition, an umbrella organization that represents several advocacy groups concerned with Fairfax County Public Schools. She also co-founded the Start Later for Excellence in Education Proposal (SLEEP), which pushes for later school day start times in Fairfax high schools.

Evans was previously on the board of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs and served as president of the Sleepy Hollow Elementary School PTA.

She is former staff writer for The Washington Post and earned a B.S. in journalism from the University of Maryland-College Park. Her children attended Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

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Institute, The Dawson Academy, and as a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry enables him to provide his patients with the latest innovative techniques in achieving his patients' restored oral health. While patients appreciate his vast experience, they also enjoy the personal time and attention he and his staff are able to provide, explaining each and every option available to them.

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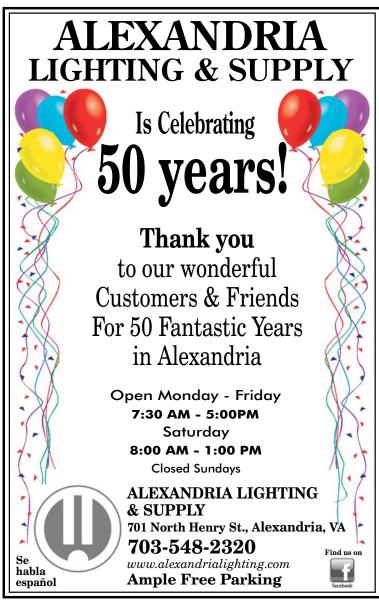
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News



Outdoor Fun MVYAA Softball hosted its third annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 23. This event was organized by the Commissioner, Karen Walker, and several of her key parents and older softball players. The older players helped the younger generation make Easter egg bags and then the Egg hunt began. A game of wiffleball was held and they finished off the day with a picnic.

Lord and Lady Fairfax Named

Sullivan, Johnson in Mount Vernon District.

upervisor Gerry Hyland has announced his choices for the 2011 Lord and Lady Fairfax honors for the Mount Vernon District. They are Barbara Sullivan as his choice for Lady Fairfax and Dale Johnson as his choice for Lord Fairfax.

Sullivan has been a resident of the Mount Vernon District since the early 1980s. She began her career on Capitol Hill as an Assistant Doorkeeper and left the hill as an Assistant in the House Sergeant-At-Arms office.

In early 2001, Sullivan joined the Paul Spring Retirement Community to head the marketing/business development team. She focused on senior issues in the community and continued her education to qualify as a licensed Administrator for Assisted Living in the State of Virginia. After obtaining her license in 2007 she was promoted to Assistant Executive Director.

In June of 2010, Sullivan left Paul Spring to open her own consulting practice focusing on helping seniors maintain their independence at home and offer solutions for families that need more care for their aging parents. In December 2010, she was appointed Executive Director of Mount Vernon At Home, a grassroots non-profit to help seniors in Mount Vernon stay active and independent in their homes and their community. She was a board member from 2008-2010

She served on the Board of Directors for the Mount Vernon Lee Chamber from 2004-2007 and served as Chairman in 2007. In 2006 she was awarded the ProAging Award, Honoring Exceptional Professionals in the Field of Aging, and in 2008 was awarded the Citizen of the Year award from the Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce. Her volunteer activities in the community include the Chamber outreach programs, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Development Council and numerous other programs in the Mount Vernon Community.

Johnson moved to the Active 55+ Spring Hill community in South County and immediately became engaged in helping to lead the continued transformation in Lorton. His involvement began with chartering the Community Association of Spring Hill as he saw that there were opportunities to lead the community and create an environment where community members could have an active voice in their community development process. Through his leadership roles in the South County Federation (Vice President and Transportation Chair), Johnson worked with the community to prioritize transportation needs in the area; he also helped guide the Federation to refine their boundaries and focus on community engagement. And most recently, he led the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force.

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 5

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.

TUESDAY/JUNE 14

"Teaming with Women to Win:
Team to Win Set-asides with
Certified Businesses." 7:30 to
9:30 a.m. Features a panel of
procurement experts including
Allegra F. McCullough, Former
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Opportunity Specialist with the SBA; and Karen Maples, WIPP/owner of Myutiq, LLC. At the Belle Haven Country Club, 6023 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Early bird cost is \$25 for reservations by June 10, and then \$35. Contact the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce at 703-360-6925 or make reservations online at www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org.

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SPORTS

TC Grad Kilby Plays First Home Game for Aces

Alexandria rally falls short against Southern Maryland.

> By Jon Roetman The Gazette

att Kilby wasn't pleased with

his performance at the plate, but the Alexandria native was glad to be back home. Kilby, a former T.C. Williams baseball star who recently completed his freshman season at Navy, played in his first home game as a member of the Alexandria Aces on June 7. Kilby finished 0 for 2 with a base on balls against the Southern Maryland Nationals while transitioning to game use of wood bats in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball

Kilby wasn't the only Ace who struggled with the stick. Alexandria went hitless for six innings and fell behind 3-0. A late Aces rally made things interesting, but the team's record fell to 1-3 with a 3-2 loss at Frank E. Mann Field.

Kilby's first game was June 5 on the road against the Bethesda Big Train.

"It's a great feeling being back home and being able to come out to the field and play," said Kilby, who batted cleanup and was the designated hitter on Tuesday. "... I love hitting with wood. It's how you can tell if someone's a good hitter."

As a senior at TC, Kilby hit .476 with six home runs en route to second-team all-state honors. He batted .459 with five home runs and a single-season school record 37 RBIs during his junior season.

During his freshman season at Navy, he went 6 for 22 (.273) with one double and

two RBIs in 10 games, including two starts. He said the pitching he's seen as a member of the Aces is comparable to what he faced during the spring.

"It's college pitching, the same thing I was facing," Kilby said. "I've just got to get back into the groove and everything and start swinging it a little better."

Kilby will miss two weeks while fulfilling a Navy training commitment in Norfolk, but plans to return by June 25. First-year head coach Corey Haines said he plans to use Kilby primarily as the designated hitter, but the former Titan could see time in the outfield.

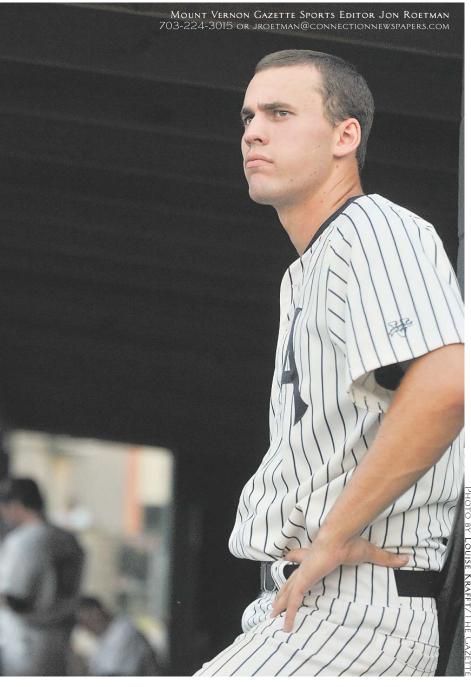
"I think Matt's a big power guy," Haines said. "He brings a threat to the lineup. That's why I've got him in the middle of the lineup. I think he's got a chance to hit a few balls out and get a lot of RBIs in the middle of the lineup, that's why I put him there."

"It's a great feeling being back home and being able to come out to the field and play."

Alexandria Ace and former T.C.
 Williams standout Matt Kilby

Kilby is one of many newcomers to an Aces team that returns only one player — pitcher Daniel Stinsman (Felician College).

"I think they're jelling pretty good," Haines said. "We actually have some roles filled now that are doing pretty good. They all have nicknames for each other, so that's one way you can figure out how they're liking each other, getting to know each other a little bit. I think it's going well even though we've only got one returner and



Former T.C. Williams standout Matt Kilby played his first home game for the Alexandria Aces on June 7.

it's a first-year coaching staff with a whole bunch of new guys, so there's no complaints there."

Jordan Oncay (Wilmington University) went 2 for 3 for the Aces on Tuesday, including a seventh-inning triple that broke

up a no-hitter. Mike Goodwin (Wilmington University) went 1 for 3 with two RBIs.

Haines said the Aces' goal this season is to make the playoffs.

Alexandria will host the Herndon Braves at 7 p.m. on June 11.

SPORTS BRIEFS



Country Club Hosts State Golf Tournament

Mount Vernon Country Club welcomed the Virginia Senior Women's Stroke Play Championship on June 1 and 2. Ninetyeight-degree heat bedeviled the players on the first day, and gusty winds made for tough conditions in the second round.

Alexandria's Shelley Savage won the title, shooting 75-75-150. Springfield's Mimi Hoffman finished second, one stroke back.^o

"The wind was actually tougher than the

Shelley Savage of Alexandria, left, beat Springfield's Mimi Hoffman by one stroke in the 2011 Virginia Senior Women's Stroke Play Championship at Mount Vernon Country Club on June 2.

98-degree heat," Savage said afterward. "It made club selection difficult."

This is Savage's fourth title in this event. Savage is a retired Navy Nurse Corps captain, who works part time at the Virginia Hospital Center in the outpatient surgery center. She is a member of Army-Navy Country Club.

Mount Vernon's Shawn McCullough shot a sizzling 1-under 70 on the first day, but fell back with a disappointing 83 on the second. Three other Mount Vernon members finished in the top 10 of the first flight: Linda DiVall, 75-84—159; Debbie Simpson, 79-81—160; and Susan Podolsky, 82-79—161. Simpson won low net honors in the flight.

The tournament field included 54 women, aged 50 and older, in three flights.
Belle Haven Country Club will host the Virginia Women's Amateur July 11-15.

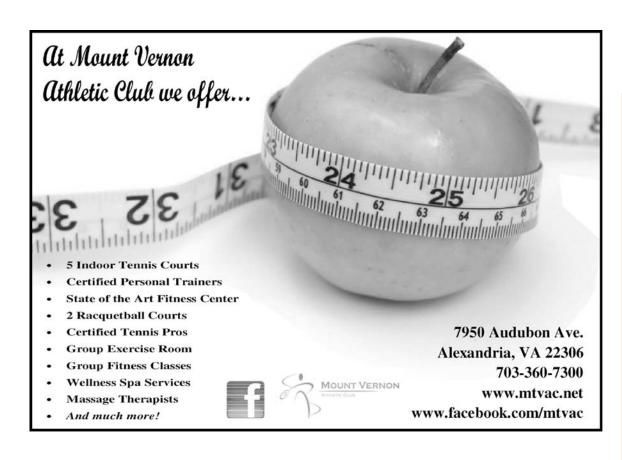
- Michael K. Bohn

American Legion Baseball Players Wanted

The Montgomery College Rockville baseball team is looking for American Legion or showcase-quality players for the fall 2011 and spring 2012 seasons. The Rockville Express of the Cal Ripken League plays their home games at MC Rockville. Contact Coach Rick Price at 240-447-6948 for more information.

Sports Updates On Twitter

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





OPINION



Fashion Proceeds

Deborah Chusmir, president of the Aldersgate United Methodist Women, presented UCM on May 27 with a donation of \$2,640, half of the proceeds from UMW's annual fashion show. Aldersgate United Methodist Women held a luncheon, silent auction, and fashion show raising \$5,280 to benefit UCM and Rising Hope United Methodist Church, with each organization receiving \$2,640 respectively, on Saturday, April 9.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Page 9

out to the EPA and urge them to save this vital body of water.

> **Dylan Johnson** Alexandria

Ineffective Advocacy

To the Editor:

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In May 2005 the latest round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) was announced. Since then we have known the process would effectively bring over 20,000 federal and contractor jobs to the Route 1 corridor and southern Fairfax County beginning September 2011.

What did [Fairfax County Boad of Supervisors] Chairman Bulova (D) do to help the area prepare in the six years since May 2005? Basically, nothing. She has been silent.

As Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations Chairwoman Catherine Voorhees said, "I was shocked and disappointed to listen to [Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova's] remarks in which she recommended no projects for the Route 1 corridor in Fairfax County."

Route 1 is a key to economic development for Fairfax County. At seven miles it is our longest commercial corridor. Still, it is very challenging to attract business

development precisely because of the congestion currently on the road. It will be more difficult after implementation of BRAC. Chairman Bulova has provided poor leadership.

We can do better; our community deserves better. Silence has not worked to serve our best interests. I stand with Democrats, Republicans and independents to advocate for funding of Route 1 Corridor transportation improvements. Both of my opponents remain silent.

I am proud to be the bipartisan candidate for chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Working together we will create effective, sustainable solutions for the challenges confronting our

Fairfax County is one large community with diverse regions and neighborhoods. In fact, we are so large that Fairfax County voters elect 22.5 percent of Virginia state senators and 17 percent of our state delegates.

As chairman, I will work to unite our political team in federal, state and local elected office so together we can achieve important milestones for our community.

Will Radle

The writer is an independent candidate for chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Reach him at FairfaxAdocates@gmail.com.

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OBITUARY

Mr. Elmer Holst, LLD age 82 of Pilot Mountain passed away Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at the Woltz Hospice Home. Mr. Holst was born in Yamhill County, Oregon on October 12, 1928 to Gustav Aldolph and Maria Rahma Holst. He was a retired Attorney with Holst and Hartshorn af-ter practicing law for forty nine years and was a member of White Plains Friends Meeting. He received his Undergraduate Degree at Linfield College in Oregon and his Doctorate of Law Degree from American University in Washington, DC. He served our country in the United States Army and was a nember of Pilot Mountain Masonic Lodge 493 AF&AM and ecently received a sixty year Masonic membership pin. Sur-riving is his wife, Juanita Helen McCraw Holst of the home; prothers and sisters-in-law, Wendell and Imogene Holst of Hopkinsville, KY and Melvin and Joan Holst of Portland, OR and Dorothy Holst of McMinnville, Or. In addition to his pa-rents, Mr. Holst was preceded in death by sisters, June Ranes and Elda Senn and by brothers, Raymond Holst and Herbert Holst Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM Sat-Herbert Holst. Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, May 21, 2011, at White Plains Friends Meeting by Rev. Jake Penley. Burial followed in New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery with military honors by VFW Memorial Honor Guard Mt. Airy Post 2019 and Pilot Mountain Post 9436 and Masonic Rites by Pilot Mountain Lodge #493. Memorials may be made to New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery Fund at P.O. Box 955, Dobson, NC 27017 to White Plains Friends Meeting at 849 Old Hwy. 601, Mt. Airy, NC 27030 or to Heritage Presbyterian Church at 8502 Fort Hunt Rd., Alexandria, VA 22308.

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OBITUARY Robert W. Green MG MC USA (Ret.)

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Defendant

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Plaintiff IN RE: NAME CHANGE

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On Sunday June 5, 2011 of Alexandria, VA, Beloved husband On Sunday, June 5, 2011 of Alexandria, VA. Beloved husband of the late Alicia M. Green. Loving father of Joanne M. G. Janssen, Barbara M. Romyn, Douglas W. Green and Sandra S. McCorkle. Grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of eleven. Relatives and friends may call at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Dr. Alexandria, VA on Thursday 2-4 & 7-9pm and 1 hour before service at church. A Mass of Christian Puricle will be held; Eriday, 11mp. et Geod Shashado Cotholic Burial will be held Friday 11am at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 8710 Mt. Vernon Highway Alexandria, VA. Interment Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to: Capital Caring.

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