

# Mount Vernon Gazette



MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

JULY 21, 2011



Campers rush to the courtyard and watch as the balloon floats are gathered and checked for damage. Each of the floats carried a small basket with an egg.



Benjamin, Gabriela and Henry freeze as the music stops in the dance class.



Caitlin Roche helps one of the swim class campers with back floating at Browne Academy.

## Summer Fun at Summer Camp



Paul Cummins helps Eddie with the construction of a birdhouse.

PHOTOS BY  
LOUISE KRAFFT/  
THE GAZETTE

## Campaign for Cash

Democrats post fundraising numbers as primary approaches.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
GAZETTE PACKET

With the race to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) headed into the final few weeks before the August Democratic primary, second-quarter campaign finance documents show the three candidates have posted strong numbers. That's an indication that the race is tightening up as the crucial primary approaches. Political analysts say the stakes are especially high with the primary because the winner is likely to prevail over the Republican candidate in a district that leans heavily Democratic.

"This is a district that the Democrat can easily win, so the real action in this race is with the primary," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of

Virginia's Center for Politics. "And it's clear from the fundraising totals that this race is drawing a lot of action."

Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey posted the strongest showing for the second quarter, raising \$114,000. City Councilman Rob Krupicka raised \$110,000, and Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49) raised \$103,000. Garvey's campaign team was quick to declare victory, issuing a press release Saturday afternoon announcing that the Arlington School Board chairwoman had out-raised her competitors.

"The fact that Libby Garvey has been able to out-raise her opponents without having to accept the kind of lobbyist money that normally fuels our elections is a great thing for Virginia," said Garvey

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 4

## Advocates for Children Fairfax CASA recruits volunteers at Sherwood Library meeting.

BY DENISE LEW  
THE GAZETTE

Fairfax CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) came to Sherwood Library on Saturday, July 16 to recruit volunteers to advocate against child abuse or neglect.

CASA's mission is to advocate for the best interests of neglected or abused children referred by the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. The ultimate goal is to place each child in a safe and permanent home.

CASA, a national organization, was founded by a judge concerned about making important decisions about the futures of abused and

neglected children under his protection. This sparked the idea of a volunteer citizenry to voice the best interests of children while in court. Volunteers undergo a screening process complete with training and are appointed by judges. Once assigned a case, they are responsible for seeing the child twice a month and speaking with people involved in the child's life to ensure that the child is well cared for and needs are being met.

It is sometimes emotionally difficult, especially if the child has been physically or sexually abused. "These children are fragile. They are getting back on their feet. You talk to all the service providers, visit children, talk to par

SEE ADVOCATES, PAGE 23

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[www.judburke.com](http://www.judburke.com) MLS ID# AX7612433



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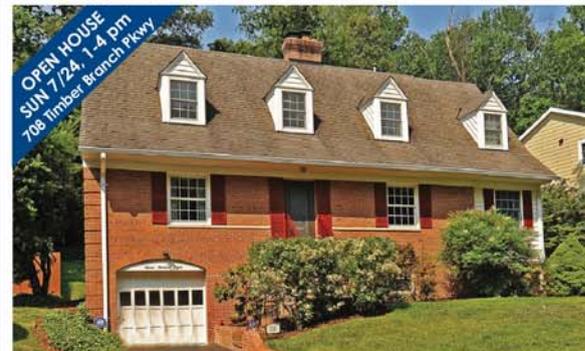
Delightful unit filled with surprises! Exquisite renovation of the kitchen and bath. Stainless steel appliances, Beluga blue granite, American Woodmark maple cabinets, separate bar with wine bottle cooler. Bath includes a floating vanity with a yellow onyx marble vessel sink, Venetian bronze fixtures, hand installed cobblestones and a rain showerhead. Large walk-in closet and extra storage convey with the unit. Close to Braddock Metro, airport, all of Old Town's charms.

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# 30 Years of Creating Trophies, Awards

Dick DeCosta's business is based on customizing.

BY GERALD A. FILL  
THE GAZETTE

Approximately 30 years ago Dick DeCosta began his business in the garage of his home on Collingwood Road by designing trophies, T-Shirts, jackets, and awards for the Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association. Now, many years later, and located in his own business office building on Bellhaven Road in the Bellevue community, he operates a business with sophisticated equipment that allows him to create beautiful works on wood, metal, glass, and fabric to monogram, engrave, embroider trophies, T-Shirts, jackets, and other items on a customized basis. DeCosta looks back on his life and 30-year-old business in the Mount Vernon community.

## Q. What exactly do you do at DeCosta's Inc.?

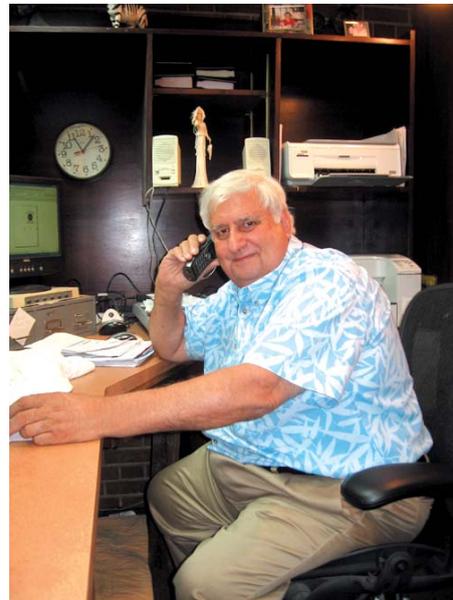
A. I engrave trophies, plaques; imprint T-shirts, jackets, pants; monogram towels, jackets, shirts, hats, and prepare other types of custom designs for awards, and special recognition certificates.

## Q. What was the most important thing you did to make you a successful businessman through the years?

A. I cared about the quality of work that I did for my customers. So much so that the trust that I created resulted in about 80 percent of my business generated by word of mouth referral. I have done very little advertising. I stand by my work and my customers know that it will be quality work, on time, and on budget.

## Q. You are well known in the local youth leagues, with the schools, among businesses, and other civic and social organizations. In addition to your business reputation how did you "give back" their loyalty and sustain their support?

A. Well, as I said before, quality of work was my major calling card. Also, for many years I served as a youth league coach in football, soccer, baseball, and softball. I have



Dick DeCosta

in the past volunteered at Aldersgate Church, and from time to time I have allowed young adults who needed a place to stay temporarily to use our home for various periods of time. Typically, they were referred to me by counselors, ministers or friends. I enjoyed every moment, every experience as a volunteer and mentor. Currently I have three young adults staying in my home temporarily.

## Q. Back in 2003 hurricane Isabelle flooded parts of the Bellevue area where your business is located. I understand it affected your business. Tell me about what happened. How did you survive the flooding?

A. I took in several feet of water. My office and equipment were severely damaged, carpet ruined, equipment seriously damaged by mud and water. It was literally a mess and on the first day after the flood that I and others were allowed to inspect our property I sat in my office and wondered what I was going to do and whether I would survive. All of a sudden I looked out in the parking lot through the front office window and I saw people arriving; customers, neighbors, church friends, and Holly Dougherty of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce. Maybe 20 volunteers. I will never forget the feeling and recognition that the community knew of my predicament and came to help me clean up and begin the survival process. I will never be able to adequately express my grati-

## Profile

### RICHARD DECOSTA

Age: 69  
Family: Married to Charlotte; children: Richard, Tom, and his wife's daughter, Stefanie, and nine grandchildren.  
Hometown: Washington, D.C.

tude for what they did to clean up and replace carpeting, windows, save my equipment, and Holly bringing bags of food to feed the volunteers. Their efforts saved my business and made me determined to do what was necessary to reopen shortly thereafter, and here I am today, eight years later. That was and is special, and in keeping with the community support atmosphere that permeates the neighborhood.

## Q. You keep saying this is a service business and that you have had a great business career all these years. Can you look back and recount any particularly unusual event that stands out above others?

A. There are many, such as the previously described spontaneous volunteer effort to help me clean up after the flooding. But one other event stands out, not because of what it meant to my business, but how special it is to come to work not knowing what life will bring. I remember above all others what it means to be a witness to life's miracles that can't be predicted. One day I was in the office and noticed two people, a man and woman talking to each other at our counter. Through their chance meeting they discovered that they both came from the same town, attended the same elementary school, and lived on the same street. In short order they amazingly discovered that they were brother and sister; separated by being committed to adoption they had lost touch and been separated all their lives. They met again after an equivalent lifetime in my front office. Everyone in the office was crying by the time they realized what had just happened. Good and bad has happened to me; however, I will not dwell on the unfortunate experiences, only the good ones. This was definitely one to cherish.

I have been blessed by a wonderful and loving wife and children, and a supportive and uniquely inclusive community that has given me so much in my life and business. I continue to love coming to work every day to meet the creative challenges inherent in my business. I consider myself a lucky guy.

# Citizens React To Deficit

Amid negotiations over the national debt, residents join in discussion.

BY ROSS SYLVESTRI  
GAZETTE PACKET

As President Barack Obama and members of Congress struggle to come to an agreement to raise the debt ceiling, which is the amount of money that the federal government can borrow, the constituents of U.S. Rep. Jim Moran's (D-8) district met July 11 at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association building in Arlington to learn more about the issue.

The meeting began with a presentation by Jeff Thiebert, the national grassroots director of the Concord Coalition, a non-partisan organization that advocates for sustainable government spending and reducing the federal deficit. Thiebert explained the process of how the budget is planned and appropriated. He said that mandatory spending — spending that is automatically appropriated every year and that, "doesn't have to go through the annual appropriations process" — currently makes up 63 percent of the federal budget. This includes interest payments on the federal debt and entitlement programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. Overtime, these programs, along with interest on the debt, will continue to consume more and more of the federal budget. "In 10 years, it will grow to about 72 percent of the budget."

After Thiebert's presentation, attendees gathered in small groups to discuss reducing the deficit. All groups were given a list of spending and tax proposals put together by the Concord Coalition and had to vote on each proposal. Some of the ideas would've decreased the deficit and others would've increased it. Some of the



Jeff Thiebert, national grassroots director of the Concord Coalition.

## Child Author Raises Money for Seizure Assistance Dog

Evan Moss, a 7-year-old from Alexandria, needs to raise \$13,000 to defray the cost of a seizure assistance dog to help cope with his epilepsy. In response he wrote and illustrated a book, "My Seizure Dog," imagining the adventures ahead when the dog arrives. To kick off the fundraising campaign, Evan will be signing the book at Grounded Coffee Shop, 6919 Telegraph Road, Alexandria on Sunday, July 24, 1-3 p.m.

Evan began having seizures as a one

month old and by the time he was 4 years old, he was having 300-400 seizures a month. At this age he underwent brain surgery to control his epilepsy and left the hospital seizure-free. He had freedom from seizures for almost two years but the seizures returned.

4 Paws for Ability, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, recently selected Evan to receive a seizure assistance dog.

It costs 4 Paws for Ability \$22,000 to pro-

quire and train a service dog. To cover that cost and to enable them to help as many people as possible, they ask each recipient family to raise \$13,000.

All the proceeds from the book signing will go toward the training and care for Evan's seizure assistance dog. Books are also available online at <https://www.create-space.com/3626033>. To learn more about Evan or to make a donation, visit <http://www.crowdrise.com/Dog4Evan>

SEE CITIZENS REACT. PAGE 5

# Candidates Post Fundraising Results

FROM PAGE 1

campaign manager Kirk McPike in a written statement. “Libby offers a fresh perspective on how to get things done in Richmond, and this report shows that people are responding to that.”

**THE DEMOCRATIC** primary to replace Ticer is one of the hottest races in Virginia this election cycle, and all three Democratic candidates have posted some of the strongest numbers statewide. An analysis conducted by the Virginia Public Access Project shows that the three Democratic candidates for the primary to replace Ticer are among the top-tier candidates in fundraising overall this cycle. Krupicka has raised the most money overall, posting \$201,000. Ebbin is second place overall with

\$186,000, and Garvey trails with \$164,000.

“There’s more money in Northern Virginia, so you would expect the candidates there to be raising more money,” said Kondik. “In my opinion money can be over-rated in politics because the person who raises the most amount of money doesn’t necessarily win.”

One thing is clear — candidates are eager to get their message out in what’s expected to be a low-turnout primary. Because the once-in-a-decade redistricting process, the normal June primary has been pushed back to August. That means that candidates are scrambling to get their message out at a time when many people are vacationing or are otherwise disen-



**Del. Adam Ebbin (D-49)**



**Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka**



**Arlington School Board Chairwoman Libby Garvey**



**Tim McGhee**

## Republican Trails In Fundraising

Each of the three Democrats running to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30) have raised more than \$100,000 in their pursuit for the open seat in the Virginia state Senate. Yet the lone Republican in the race, Tim McGhee, has been able to raise only a fraction of that.

Campaign-finance documents show McGhee has raised \$3,000. His largest contributor is the Arlington Republican Women’s Club, with \$150. McGhee said he’s not concerned about the disparity.

“I am very optimistic about this campaign, both its current status and its outlook,” said McGhee in an email. “This campaign has already been able to get its message out even before funding reached its current levels, and the outlook is only improving.”

— MICHAEL LEE POPE

gaged. That means investing tens of thousands of dollars in direct mail to grab attention.

“If this race is about who raises the most money, we’d be ahead. But it’s not about raising money,” said Carter Batey, Krupicka’s campaign manager. “The goal is to

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 23

### EBBIN’S TOP DONORS

Lori Friedman Alexandria	\$19,889
Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund Washington, D.C.	\$8,500
Mid-Atlantic Community Fund Washington, D.C.	\$5,000
Gus Dimillo Alexandria	\$3,500
Firefighters, Local 2068 Alexandria	\$3,000

### KRUPICKA’S TOP DONORS

Robert Henry Duggar III Alexandria	\$7,408
Stones Phones Cathedral City, Calif.	\$5,300
Hubert Hoffman III Alexandria	\$5,000
Rob Krupicka Alexandria	\$5,000
Just a Honky Tonk, LLC Alexandria	\$4,000

### GARVEY’S TOP DONORS

Ticer for Senate Alexandria	\$20,000
Louis Brown Jr. Alexandria	\$7,144
Robert Hemphill Jr. Arlington	\$6,324
Jean Quay Madison, Wisc.	\$3,000
Jenny Becherer Arlington	\$2,810

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**Things To Do Today**

- 1. Breakfast w/ Mary & Bob — 8:30
- 2. Tai chi group at 10
- 3. Birthday Luncheon — Noon
- 4. Pottery class — 1:00
- 5. Canasta club at 3:00

**Notes:**

Italian Night in the dining room!

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**United Community Ministries Food Pantry** accepts donations of food Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. & the first Sunday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306. People dropping off donations should enter through the gates on the right side of the building, drive around to the back of the building and ring the bell at the green door.



**In Appreciation** Approximately 90 Girl Scouts, who attend Waynewood Elementary School, gathered to present Principal James Meier with a certificate and plaque of appreciation on June 20. These awards, approved by the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital, recognized Waynewood for its high degree of service and support to the Girl Scout movement over many years.

## Citizens React to Federal Deficit

FROM PAGE 3

proposals listed were gradually eliminating the mortgage interest deduction, letting some or all of the tax cuts from 2001 and 2003 expire, freezing defense spending, and gradually raising the retirement age for Social Security. There was also a proposal to eliminate the \$1 bill.

Members of each group didn't always agree with each other on specific proposals. However, despite their differences, every participant was respectful of

one another. Alex Zaloum, a recent graduate of Yorktown High School and resident of Arlington, enjoyed the discussions because he and other attendees were able to talk to each other and give their opinions about the issues. "It wasn't just someone just some one telling you their ideas," said Zaloum, "We got to talk out some of the major debt issues with strangers who were also well educated and very smart, and it was just fun to see what other people

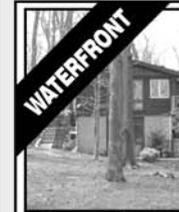
SEE DEFICIT, PAGE 20



**Camping and Fishing** Calm seas and rock fish (stripped bass) were in plentiful supply during Boy Scout Troop 1509's fishing campout to Solomon's, Md. over the first weekend in June. More than 30 scouts and adult leaders from the Mount Vernon area made the 90-minute drive to Solomon's Navy Rec Center for two nights of camping and swimming, highlighted by a four-hour chartered fishing trip on the Chesapeake Bay. For more scout information, contact Troop 1509 by visiting its website at [www.troop1509.org/](http://www.troop1509.org/)



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**Alex./Southwood \$589,900**  
**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 landscaped 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!



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



**Alex./Woodland Park \$759,999**  
**3225 Woodland Lane**  
 Beautiful, updated contemporary on spectacular .84 acre wooded, waterfront lot w/shared dock. Wonderful view from a wall of double pane picture windows. Remodeled kitchen & master bath suite & newer high efficiency HVAC. Lovely sun rm addition w/gorgeous views of landscaped brick walkway, patio & water. Lg 2 car garage. Walk to Mt. Vernon Estate or GW bike path. Enjoy a scenic commute along the Potomac River. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Metro & Old Town, 25 to Natl Airport & 30/35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alex./Riverside Estates \$499,900**  
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**Alex./Woodland \$565,000**  
**3232 Woodland Lane**  
 Lovely 5 bedroom , 3.5 bath home on a spectacular .48 wooded lot in prestigious Woodland Park. Stunning sun room addition in 2006. Cherry cabinets & corian counters in large remodeled kitchen and updated baths, freshly painted interior and newer energy efficient replacement windows. Spacious double carport with ample storage. Community boat ramp for water access. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to Metro & Old Town, 25 to Natl Airport & 30/35 to Pentagon/D.C.



**Alexandria**  
**Hollin Hall Village \$489,000**  
**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 entertaining. Well-maintained inside and out. This is a great value!

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# WMATA Considers Yellow Line Extension

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL  
DELEGATE (D-44)



**T**here has been talk in the papers lately about the Metro and the Yellow Line. This article is an update on some of the recent efforts by your state legislators.

First, a few months ago, multiple committees of Supervisor Hyland's Visioning Task Force cited the extension of the Yellow Line from Huntington south towards Fort Belvoir as the number one economic development priority for our area. After the Washington Post reported that Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) was updating their

**COMMENTARY** Metro system map for the first time in 30 years, Senator Puller and I wrote to the WMATA Board asking that a Yellow Line extension be included in the new map. In response to our letter, Senator Puller and I met with WMATA staff here in Mount Vernon to discuss the timeframe for extending the Yellow Line.

WMATA is currently in the process of revising their long-term plans. They are ex-

ploring extensions and expansions of existing metro lines, bus service, trolleys and bus rapid transit. Everything is on the table as they plan for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area over the next forty years.

WMATA made clear that their next map will not reflect new lines until the proposed lines are cleared environmental studies, included in a regional plan and officially added by the WMATA Board. This step has not yet occurred for even the Silver Line.

However, WMATA is considering an extension of the Yellow Line — along with Blue and Orange extensions as part of their long-term plan. WMATA staff provided a map showing the homes of people who currently use the Huntington Station parking lots. Users are stretched from Lorton and Springfield to Prince George's County, although about 75 percent are located between Huntington Avenue and the Potomac River in my district. I have posted the map on my blog.

Staff also provided us planning documents contemplating proposed Yellow Line extension with stations at Penn Daw, Bea-

con Hill Road, Gum Springs, Pole Road, Woodlawn, Fort Belvoir, Telegraph Road, and Lorton. I have posted the map on my blog along with a Powerpoint presentation regarding their long-term plan and other possible extensions of the Yellow, Blue, and Orange Lines.

WMATA is currently studying the economic, engineering and funding feasibility of these extensions by looking at ridership, system impacts and trip impacts. Currently, the Route 1 Corridor is not zoned for the density of 10-12 housing units per acre at station locations necessary to support a Metro Line extension — that will need to change if we want an extended Yellow Line.

Additionally, WMATA has a \$6 billion maintenance backlog that is their present capital priority. They are also looking at ridership impacts to the core of the system, which will reach maximum capacity by 2025-2030 without any expansion. WMATA is considering express trains, double tracks in the downtown core and/or above-ground street cars. They are also looking into facilitating cross-county traffic by circumferential rail so mass transit from Anacostia to Mount Vernon to Tyson's Corner is more feasible.

WMATA made an important point that a

Yellow Line extension must be a local government priority before it will happen. We are not the only part of the Fairfax County who wants to extend Metro lines. Orange and Blue Line extensions would benefit other parts of Fairfax and Prince William Counties, and they are already starting to organize with the support of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors.

Whoever is the most organized, has laid the most planning groundwork, has the most business and community support and has the funding in place will get their line first. I am hopeful that our federal assets will put some federal funding on the table and move us up the list. Again though, a Yellow Line extension must be the number one priority for Fairfax County if it is to occur before that of the Orange and Blue Lines.

The widening of U.S. 1 and extension of the Yellow Line is the most important way to bring jobs, new retail, revitalized housing and congestion relief to our area. Moving forward, I hope to be a leading advocate for making this possible, along with Senator Puller and Supervisors Hyland, McKay and Bulova. If you have any questions, please send me an email at [scottsurovell@gmail.com](mailto:scottsurovell@gmail.com). It is an honor to serve as your delegate.



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## From the CEO

Statement of Peter C. Labovitz,  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Connection Newspapers, LLC

JULY 19, 2011

For more than 20 years I have been honored to be President and Chief Executive Officer of the Connection Newspapers, which serve the people of Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland. Since The Alexandria Gazette was founded in 1784, our organization's journalism has played an essential role in our communities.

But like all American newspapers, in recent years the Connection Newspapers have faced daunting technological and economic challenges. We have weathered repeated crises that killed or crippled many others in the news media. I am proud that we have kept these vital community voices alive.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when the country came to a virtual standstill, our revenues temporarily plummeted. And when the severe recession began in 2007, our revenues plunged again, often failing to cover our operating costs.

During these two periods of great financial duress, our organization filed all of our required tax returns but did not pay all of its federal payroll taxes in full. We initially fell behind after 9/11. Most of the payroll taxes in this period were paid, but some balances remained due. For several quarters in 2007-2008, we again fell short.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Connection Newspapers, I take personal responsibility for this significant failure in oversight and in the organization's management systems. I am deeply sorry this happened.

I am personally making arrangements to pay the most recent shortfalls in full. We have changed our organization's processes to ensure that nothing like this happens again. We have been current on our payroll taxes for more than three years. No employee of Connection Newspapers has suffered any financial loss whatsoever because of this.

On July 19, 2011, I pled guilty to two misdemeanor charges of failure to make timely payments of payroll taxes in the U.S. District Court in Alexandria. To our employees, our readers, our communities and local and federal governments, I apologize. I understand that newspapers are a public trust and I know our entire organization works hard every day to earn that trust. I will do all I can to sustain that trust as we go forward.

It's my privilege and responsibility to serve as steward of these historic and vital newspapers. I hope to continue in this role. I am committed to doing whatever I can to ensure the Connection Newspapers adapt to these very difficult and challenging times and continue serving our communities for years to come.

## Write

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

Letters to the Editor  
The Gazette  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9410.

By e-mail: [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@connectionnewspapers.com)



**Children Get Shoes4Kids** Some 48 children residing at Mondloch House Family Shelter, Alexandria Community Shelter, and New Hope Housing transitional housing programs were given a new pair of athletic shoes on June 9. The project is part of Shoes4Kids, which is supported by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and physical therapists, physical therapy assistants and physical therapy students from around the country. Above, Dr. Bini Litwin with the APTA shows that even the youngest residents of Mondloch Shelter were fitted with new shoes at New Hope Housing's Shoes4Kids event.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Consider the Bigger Picture

To the Editor:

I couldn't help but feel surprised by the contrast between the one paragraph description of the fire in Stratford Landing versus the one and a half page spread, for two weeks running, of neighbor-bashing over leash laws. The best thing about moving from the City of Alexandria to the Mount Vernon area has been the neighbors and the calm pleasant neighborhood. This is an area where people take in your recycling bins if you forget, buy you a drip hose if your trees are wilting, look after your pets while you are on vacation, remember to ask how your kids are doing, tell you if your power lines are down and smile and say hello each morning.

When a nighttime fire broke out on Child's Lane, it was my neighbor who was the biggest hero, vaulting over a fence, running through a burning yard, rousing the neighbors — all the while talking to the fire department on his telephone. Now, that's the kind of multi-tasking we are all grateful for. Other neighbors offered lawn chairs to the homeowners and a place to sleep for the night. It is this kind of cooperation that makes the area a good place for both families and retirees.

True, sometimes an off leash dog has harassed and even bitten my

dog. On the other hand, my dog has harassed a neighbor and the postman. Yes, a leaf blower in the early hours or a late-night noisy party might disturb sleep. Yet, I appreciate the calm response when my tree falls on a neighbor's fence or my waterline breaks and douses a neighbor's yard.

At the end of the day, most neighbors are pleasant, helpful and deserving of respect, despite their imperfections. By ignoring the small annoyances and focusing the big picture, I have found that when there is a problem, my neighbors are watching my back.

**Rebecca Hecht-Lewis**  
Stratford Landing resident

### Idyllic Neighborhood

To the Editor:

Although it's way past New Year's, I have made a new resolution. I am going to save all the money I can, just so I can move to the Stratford Landing area of Mount Vernon.

Several years ago, it was this neighborhood that got a law passed to prevent a UPS driver on his lunch break from feeding the birds ([tinyurl.com/geeselaw](http://tinyurl.com/geeselaw)). And now there have been a bunch of letters to the editor about surveillance of dogs being walked by their owner without a leash connected.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

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

Newspaper of Mount Vernon

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A Connection Newspaper

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 8

If these people have nothing better to concern themselves with, it must be a pretty idyllic place indeed.

**Ronald Scott**  
Alexandria

## Dog Days of Summer

To the Editor:

Well it looks like the dog days of summer are here.

In his July 14 letter to the Gazette, Mr. Chacones writes that I admitted to "providing alcohol to minors." Wrong — what I said was "Before my son was 21 years old, I let him share some beer with me" — meaning that my son was 20 at the time; well over 18 years old and an adult, not a minor. No doggie treat for Mr. Chacones.

Meanwhile, Mr. H. Jay Spiegel stated that this issue is nothing personal. Really? In the past 11 years, he has written letters about me using the following words: disparaging, defamatory, derogatory, illegal, irresponsible, mean-spirited, nefarious, and vile. I wonder what he calls people when it is personal? And, several readers of the Gazette have pointed out to me that while he criticizes others for leash law violations, at the same time he has suggested that county officials not issue tickets to those who walk their dogs off leash at Westgrove.

On the lighter side, I had quite a laugh when I read other passages from Mr. Spiegel's letter.

His letters are so numerous and so long that he appears to have confused himself. First he writes a letter complaining about my dog being off leash, then he sends me an email saying that the only thing "more unsafe than riding a bicycle with a dog running ahead off-leash is riding a bicycle with a dog running alongside on-leash."

During the dog days of summer, some people have too much time on their hands. I offer the following homework essay: If an activity is legal, does that mean it is safe? And if an activity is illegal, does that mean it is un-safe? Please limit your answer to 2,500 words, and provide examples and photos where people have "no expectation of privacy."

Woof Woof.

**Tom Lehner**  
Alexandria

## Get Involved; Write Letters

To the Editor:

In last week's Gazette, long-time Stratford Landing resident Melvin Bielawski opined that the late Peter Brinitzer, 30-year president of the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association (SLCA), would be "shaking his head" concerning the discussion of dogs and dog parks on these pages. From my clear recollection, Mr. Brinitzer was a one-man neighborhood watch, seen daily, patrolling

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 14



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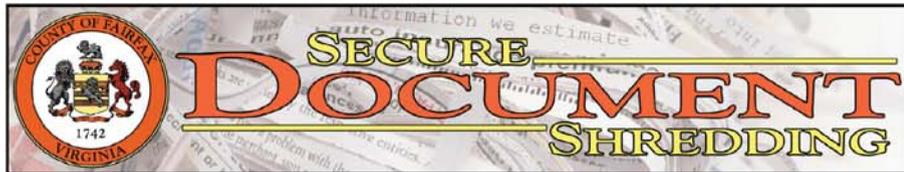
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Please remove all paper from binders and binder clips.

**NOTE:** This event is **not** for medical service providers - it **does not** fulfill HIPAA requirements for document destruction.



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- such as keyboards, scanners, printers, speakers, etc. -  
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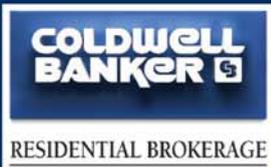
These **FREE** events are available to Fairfax County residents only. For complete details, go online to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling), or call 703-324-5052, TTY 711.



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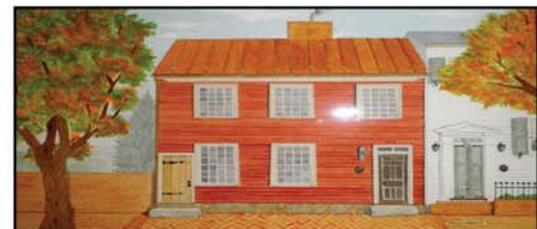


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Sherry York 703-625-3377



**Cameron Station \$527,000**  
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**Old Town \$925,000**

314 Commerce Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

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Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156



UNDER CONTRACT

**Alexandria/Beverly Hills \$419,000**  
716 West Glebe Road, Alexandria, VA 22305

Charming renovated all brick end row house. Glamorous kitchen with granite, SS with breakfast bar. 3BR, 2.5BA plus driveway and large fenced yard. Fabulous lower level recreation room. Located approximately 1 mile to Del Ray.



Liz Bucuvalas 703-626-8400



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**Wellington \$595,000**  
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Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



OPEN SUN 1-4

**Kings Cloister Circle \$1,495,000**  
624 Kings Cloister Circle, Alexandria, VA 22038

Flawless retreat! Bright location in cul-de-sac backing to trees. Cooks kitchen opens to tiered deck. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage, wood floors on main and upper levels plus 2 custom staircases. [www.PhyllisPatterson.com](http://www.PhyllisPatterson.com).



Phyllis Patterson 703-518-6158



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**River Towers \$295,000**  
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Denise Davis 571-332-8531



OPEN SUN 1-4

**Hollin Hall \$499,900**  
1911 Ingram Place, Alexandria, VA 22308

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Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



**Sulgrave Village \$1,195,000**  
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Ed Pagett 703-518-6161



OPEN SUN 1-4

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**OPEN SUN!**

8890 McNair Dr  
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Fairfax Station  
"S-P-R-E-A-D O-U-T"  
Spacious "Strathmore" model on cul-de-sac lot. 6BR/4FBA - 3 car garage. Soaring ceiling in oversized fam rm w/over 4,400 sqft of living space & full unfin bsmt w/outside entry & rough-in for another FBA. 1st floor master - Backs to common open space. South County schools. Great price for house size.

Louise Devers 703.795.9944

**NEW LISTING!**  
\$530,000  
Yacht Haven Estates  
"YACHT CLUB"  
2 houses down from Mt Vernon Yacht Club, w/130 boat slips & pool along the Potomac River. Sun porch, decks, & family room w/FP. SS appl. & hardwood floors. Attached garage. 1/2 acre lot. Less than 1 mile to GW Pkwy & Ft. Belvoir.

Sara Rothwell 703.472.5289

**JUST LISTED!** **OPEN SUN!**

3718 Carriage House Ct  
\$719,000  
*Riverwood Opportunity!*  
Spacious 5BR home on quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious waterfront communities. Fabulous home features, updated kitchen, baths and gorgeous hardwood floors. Bright open floor plan with open kitchen-family room. Private fenced rear yard. Community river access. Great Value! **OPEN SUN 7/24, 1-4.** GW Pkwy, past Estate, L-Old Mt Vernon Rd, L-Riverwood, L-Carriage House.

**JUST LISTED!**

8320 Felton Ln  
\$615,000  
*Collingwood Stunner!*  
Spacious home just renovated. All major components including roof, kitchen, appliances, baths, flooring, lighting, furnace, A/C, water heater & windows are brand new! Custom quality trim, ceramic & paint. Oversize 2 car gar. Four levels of updated luxury on gorgeous, professionally landscaped, fenced lot in the heart of Collingwood-Waynebrook neighborhood.

**JUST LISTED!**

1916 Shiver Dr  
\$585,000  
*Total Renovation-Mins from Old Town!*  
Better than new! Top to bottom renovation of this fabulous 5BR, 3BA home on quiet street just 4 miles to Old Town. Top quality updates include: gourmet kitchen, all baths, thermal windows, roof & more! Property also features: large sunroom, 2FP, gorgeous hwd flrs, expansive deck and fenced lot.

**NEW PRICE!**  
\$595,000  
Old Belhaven Towne  
6308 OLDE TOWNE CT  
This home boasts both charm & convenience. Enjoy quick access to the GW Pkwy for commuting & pleasure! 3BRs/3.5BAs, separate living & dining rooms, 2 FPs & a huge family/rec room.

Catherine.Foltz@longandfooster.com  
Catherine Foltz 703.626.6914

**OPEN SUN DAY 1-4!**  
\$695,000  
Waynebrook  
907  
DALEBROOK DR  
**JUST LISTED!** Rarely available center hall colonial. 3 levels, 4BR, finished basement, large screened porch, garage & huge, private backyard. Walk to pool, park & school.

www.WaynebrookRealtors.com  
Anita Vida D'Antonio & Elke Kohler  
202.460.1809

\$600,000  
Old Town  
"FANTASTIC VALUE"  
Rarely available, remodeled, 1890 Brick Victorian in Old Town. 3 lvs of historic charm w/modern conveniences + parking for 2 cars & patio. Kit 2yrs new/granite, SS, cabs. HW. FP. Attic. Basement. Near King St, Metro, Potomac & Whole Foods. *Do not miss this one!*

Call for more information:  
Deborah Alea 703.447.1315

**NEW PRICE!**

1205 Cedar Dale Ln  
\$1,250,000  
*Pre-Construction Value!*  
Rare new home opportunity just off GW Parkway! Fabulous price on spacious Fairfax model by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading custom builder. Craftman architecture with full front porch to enhance natural beauty of gorgeous 1/2A lot. Home is loaded with upgrades and custom features and located in Waynebrook School Dist. Priced thousands below other new homes in area! (Pic is similar home)

**UNDER CONTRACT!**

4003 Belle Rive Ter  
\$1,895,000  
*River Front Opportunity!*  
Owner wants immediate sale and has priced home accordingly. Previously listed at \$4.8 mill! Spacious custom home designed to capitalize on breathtaking river views from every corner of the home. Open floor plan with app. 11,000 sq ft of luxury. Extensive balconies, patio & roof deck embrace the majestic setting of this elevated lot overlooking the Potomac River! **OFFERS INVITED!**

2005 Westfield St  
\$625,000  
*Fabulous Home-Great Location!*  
A few blocks from River and GW Parkway, this fabulous home has been updated and expanded! Over \$104,000 in top quality updates have been recently completed! Features include: family room with cath. ceiling, updated kitchen, top of the line cabinetry, appliances and Virginia soapstone countertops, 4BR, 2.5BA, spacious lower level. Private landscaped grounds on quiet cul-de-sac.

**PRICE REDUCTION!**  
\$515,000  
Alexandria House  
"SHOW STOPPER"  
Move in ready 2BR/2.5 BA condo. You must see this great unit featuring HW, lg closets, updated BAs, lg floor-to-ceiling windows/doors, southern exposure full of light, views of gardens & plaza. A great community to live in with lg balc, rooftop pool, 2 lvs prkg, mins to DC/airport, 24 hr concierge & more. *Details call...*

Ann Kavalljan 703.626.9171

\$719,000  
McLean  
"GORGEOUS LOT"  
Well maintained & updated home inc: kit expanded overlooking breakfast room & family room addition; master also expanded w/sitting room & door leading to rear deck. 2 wood-burning FP, huge LL rec room; private lot w/mature trees & landscaping.

Virtual Tour: www.bobskinnerhomes.org  
Bob Skinner 703.598.7279

**PRICE REDUCTION!**  
\$289,000  
Fairlington / Arl.  
4601 31st RD S #B2  
1 lvl 2BR / 1BA in Fairlington Villages. Enjoy summer days & evenings on the porch opening up from DR. Fresh paint & gleaming hwdws make this unit show beautifully. Lge storage space convays + parking. Near shops/restaurants in Shirlington - min to Pentagon & DC. Pool & tennis courts.

Mary Bourke 703.906.5825

**NEW PRICE!**

8723 Bluedale St  
\$519,950  
*Owner Says Sell Now!*  
Check this price-owner want immediate sale and has slashed price accordingly! Spacious 5BR, 3BA home in premier Stratford location. Originally on the market for \$567,500. This home has had significant updates and is in excellent, move-in condition. Absolutely best Stratford area value available. Don't miss out on it!

**JUST LISTED!**

1203 Falster Rd  
\$519,950

**SOLD!**

Spacious 5 bedroom home on truly magnificent private 19,000 sq ft

**NEW PRICE!**

4503 Ferry Landing Rd  
\$599,000  
*One Level Luxury!*  
Rare opportunity - Spacious one lvl home in premier Yacht Haven location! This home has been updated & offers many features: open floor plan, updated kit and baths, stunning MBR suite w/cath. ceiling and luxury bath, sunroom and 2 car gar. Looking to eliminate stairs & not sacrifice size and amenities - this is it!

\$265,000  
Lansdowne  
"MOVE-IN READY"  
End unit TH meticulously maintained by original owner. LR w/wood-burning FP, fenced backyard, unfinished basement & plenty of storage. 2 BR/1.5BA, 2 assigned parking. Community pool, tennis & tot lot. Just minutes from Ft Belvoir, I-95, Springfield Metro, Kingstowne + more.

www.susanmovesyou.com  
Mindy Brubaker 571.242.9913

\$499,900  
Hollin Hall Village  
"FANTASTIC"  
2 level renovated / expanded home. Minutes to Old Town, Ft Belvoir, walk to shopping, Waynebrook ES. Very private cul-de-sac location, huge fenced backyard w/playset area, deck finished basement w/full BA, large kitchen & family room addition.

anita@homesfromanita.com  
Anita Vida D'Antonio 202.460.1809

\$800,000  
Alex/Mt Vernon  
"WATERFRONT"  
Experience wildlife & the creek from this Waterfront contemporary located on Little Hunting Creek. Enjoy the views from 3 decks & launch your boat from your private dock. 3 first fl BRs & 2 FBA. LL lvl rec room w/space for an extra BR/BA. E-Z access to Old Town, Metro & Potomac.

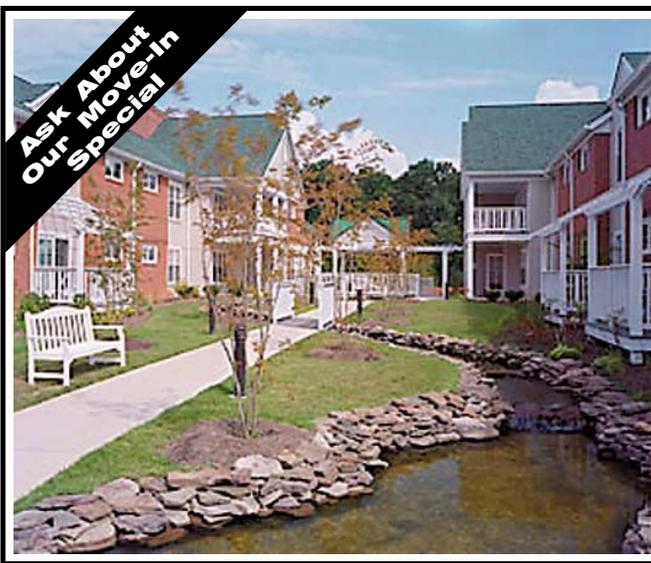
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## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

our community in his car. I daresay if he had observed a man riding his bicycle with a dog running ahead off leash, Mr. Brinitzer would have followed the man home to identify him and the man would have been lucky to receive a single warning before the authorities were informed. I have been much more patient, waiting until over 100 observances before writing the Gazette.

Also, Lisa Thompson wrote in to provide her interpretation of the County leash law, that, according to her, it is only enforceable if the dog enters my property or approaches me. Ms. Thompson is misinformed. Section 41.1-2-4 of the County ordinances states:

"... No dog shall run unrestricted, as defined in Section 41.1-1-1, in the County. Any person who is the owner of a dog found unrestricted in the County shall be in violation of this Section ... Any dog found unrestricted ... shall be impounded, except that if the rightful owner of the dog can be immediately ascertained and located, then that owner shall be allowed to have custody of the animal, but shall be subject to issuance of a summons for violation of this Section." Section 41.1-1-1 defines "unrestricted" as follows: "Unrestricted means not under the

control of the owner or his agent either by leash, cord, chain, or primary enclosure when off the property or premises of the owner or custodian. An electronic device does not qualify as a leash, cord or chain."

Ms Thompson also expressed her pleasure that the July 7 Gazette did not include a letter from me. She may be surprised, but I share her pleasure. My purpose in writing letters to the Gazette is to educate our community about what I believe are important issues and to make sure the community is aware of the doings of the MVCCA and our supervisor, since it is my perception, shared by many others, that the machinations of community decision-making are often a mystery to the affected citizenry. I hope others will take up the gauntlet and write their own letters about issues of importance. When that occurs, my comments likely won't appear in print as often because the editor likes to give new letter authors preference over those who write in more frequently. That would be fine with me. I hope that occurs more and more often as a sign of reduced community apathy and that over time, a greater variety of letter writers have their letters published.

H. Jay Spiegel

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# MEET JANE...

# JANE IS THINKING ABOUT LISTING HER HOUSE FOR SALE, BUT SHE'S A LITTLE UNSURE.



### HERE'S WHAT JANE'S TRUSTED REALTOR® HAD TO SAY...

- ✓ 1. Low mortgage rates are predicted to rise soon.
- ✓ 2. Inventory is low.
- ✓ 3. Higher down payments may be on the horizon.



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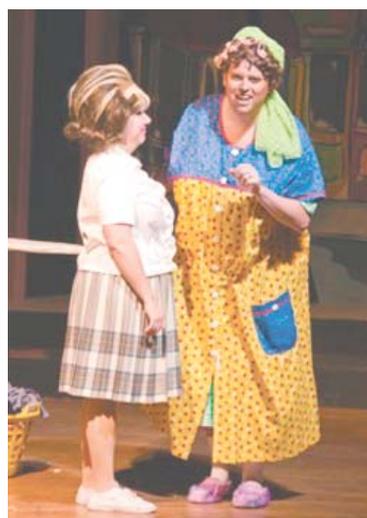
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**The Dynamites: Zaria Stott, Amanda Corbett, Samantha Williams, with Shannon Kingett.**



**Shannon Kingett as Tracey Turnblad with Sam Jones as Link Larkin.**



**Shannon Kingett as Tracey; Christopher Harris as Edna**



**Sam Jones as Link Larkin; Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad**

## Think Mink

**“Hairspray’s” Mink Stole to headline LTA talkback discussion.**

BY JEANNE THEISMANN  
THE GAZETTE

In the book “Shock Value,” award-winning filmmaker John Waters describes Mink Stole as the best actress he has worked with. One of Waters’ original Dreamlanders, the cult favorite’s memorable roles include the villainous Connie Marble in “Pink Flamingos,” Tiffany Davenport in “Female Trouble,” Dottie Hinkle in “Serial Mom” and Tammy Turner in “Hairspray,” which opens July 23 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

“I am very excited to see the play,” said Stole, who will be headlining a talkback with the LTA cast and crew following the Aug. 5 performance of the show. “I saw the original play with Harvey Fierstein on



**Mink Stole as Tammy Turner with Shawn Thompson as Corny Collins in the John Waters film “Hairspray.”**

Broadway and loved it but this will be the first time I will be seeing it on a small stage.”

Stole, who received the Boston Underground Film Festival’s first Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010, was part of the original 1988 film that became a Tony Award-winning Broadway musical in 2003. A 2007 remake of the original film starred John Travolta, Nikki Blonsky and Michelle Pfeiffer.

“My film role isn’t in the stage version of Hairspray,” said Stole, who recently moved

back to her native Baltimore after 30 years of working in New York and Los Angeles.

“Filming ‘Hairspray’ with John was wonderful,” Stole said. “This was my sixth or seventh movie with him but was a big step up for me and other actors like Divine. This was our first union film and we all had a great time.”

“Hairspray” takes place in 1962 Baltimore, where plump teenager Tracy Turnblad dreams of dancing on The Corny Collins Show, a local TV dance program. When Tracy wins a role on the show, she becomes an overnight sensation and uses her newfound celebrity status to launch a campaign to

integrate the show. “I can’t wait to see this version of the show,” said Stole, who is a friend of LTA assistant stage manager Jim Hutzler. “I got a tour of the theater last week and it’s really beautiful and charming. With a cast of 30, it will be interesting to see how they transition the production to a smaller stage.”

Directed by Sue Pinkman, the LTA cast includes Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad, Sam Jones as Link Larkin, Christopher Harris as Edna, Larry Grey as Wilbur and Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle.

The Aug. 5 actor’s talkback will be a first for Stole, who is currently working on her debut CD titled Do Re MiNK!

“I’ve never done a talkback before and am really looking forward to it,” Stole said. “This is such an energetic production and the excitement of the LTA cast and crew is contagious. It’s going to be a wonderful evening.”

*Hairspray runs from July 23 through Aug. 13 at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria. A talkback with Mink Stole and the LTA cast will be held following the Aug. 5 performance. For tickets or more information, call 703-683-0496 or visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com).*

### LOCAL THEATER

#### JULY 23 TO AUG. 13

**“Hairspray.”** Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Directed by Sue Pinkman; Music Direction by Chris Tomasino; and Choreography by Ivan Davila. CAST: Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad, Sam Jones as Link Larkin, Christopher Harris as Edna, Larry Grey as Wilbur, Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle, Adrian Cabbage as Seaweed, Jaclyn Young as Penny, Christina Kidd as Amber, Janette Moman as Velma, Gardner Reed as Corny, Gina Tomkus as Prudy, Marissa Moody as L’il Inez, Scott Strasbaugh as Mr. Pinky, Mark Williams as Mr. Spritzer. Members of the

ensemble include Andrea Berting, Amanda Corbett, Maureen Eul, Jonathan Faircloth, Meg Glassco, Blake Hopkins, Caitlin Jackson, Derek Marsh, Jody Parker, Chris Rios, Maria Simpkins, Zaria Stott, Ryan Walker, Samantha Williams, Jacob Wittenauer and Roger Yawson. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-0496.

#### NOW THROUGH AUG. 6

**“Visit to a Small Planet” by Gore Vidal.** A comedy with keen and witty observations about American and human foibles. Presented by the American Century Theater. “Visit to a Small Planet” runs through Saturday, Aug. 6. Show times are

Thursday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets at [www.americancentury.org](http://www.americancentury.org) or by calling 703-998-4555. At Gunston Theatre II, 2700 South Lang St., Arlington.

#### NOW THROUGH JULY 30

**“Titus Andronicus” by William Shakespeare.** Tickets are \$15. Presented by the Empty Chair Theatre Company. At the Theatre on the Run Black Box at 3700 Four Mile Run, Arlington. Visit <http://www.emptychairtheatre.org/> or contact [boxoffice@emptychairtheatre.org](mailto:boxoffice@emptychairtheatre.org).

### Summer Art Contest

The Center for Alexandria’s Children invites Alexandria’s youth to unleash their crayons and creativity for its summer art contest, Alexandria: One City, Many Colors. Children may submit multiple entries, and prizes will be awarded within each age category. A panel of Center judges will select winning entries. Prizes include: 1st Place Winner in each category: \$50 cash prize; 2nd Place Winner in each category: \$25 cash prize; and, 3rd Place Winner in each category: \$10 cash prize. Contest registration forms, rules and regulations can be found at [www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org](http://www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org). All participating artists will be acknowledged with a certificate of participation. A completed registration form must accompany each entry to be eligible. Entries must be postmarked or hand-delivered by Friday, July 22, 2011 to The Center for Alexandria’s Children, 1900 North Beauregard St., Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22311. Visit [www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org](http://www.centerforalexandriaschildren.org).

## DINING

# Frozen Treat for The Summer Heat

Boccatto Gelato & Espresso opens new store on King Street.

BY ABBY MARCUS  
THE GAZETTE

**C**ristian Velasco and Rob Shelton, co-owners of Boccatto Gelato & Espresso, are bringing their Arlington gelateria to King Street in Old Town. With the Wednesday, July 20 opening, the owners introduced Alexandrians to their frozen treat. They offer interesting gelato and sorbet flavors such as pistachio, pineapple basil, salted caramel, and cake batter, as well as coffee and tea.

The duo decided to go into business together after being in the restaurant business for years. They wanted a concept they could be passionate about and their search led them to coffee and tea service. They wanted to utilize Velasco's culinary experience, and so included gelato to finish the concept for what would become Boccatto. They sublet a Latin Market in Arlington in 2008 and opened their Clarendon location.

Old Town was always a market they wanted



**Co-owners Cristian Velasco and Rob Shelton.**

to include. "I love that there is a lot of history and a complex, sophisticated community," says Velasco. The location at 1012 and 1014 King Street was chosen for its older building and to be farther from the waterfront and more a part of the neighborhood. They are planning for their next store in Bethesda and



PHOTOS BY ABBY MARCUS/THE GAZETTE

**The Alexandria Boccatto Gelato & Espresso is open for business.**

considering expansions into Washington, D.C., and Tysons Corner. But the key for them is the choice of neighborhoods. Shelton says: "We're not opening a store in Chinatown, we're looking more at Capitol Hill or Eastern Market. We want to be a cozy place, not commercialized."

They strive to present a different kind of product and Velasco emphasizes the importance of perfecting their presentation. "It is about pre-

senting the product beautifully. Everything is beautiful, even beautiful machines," he says. Shelton, who has a background in construction, did much of the work in the store himself. In addition to the presentation, their style is reflected in the gelato itself, which Shelton dubs "pure American gelato." The gelateria does not emulate the Italian or Argentinian styles, but offers non-traditional flavors to create its own American style, he said.

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WATERFRONT

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# ENTERTAINMENT



FRIDAY/AUG. 5

**The Band POCO.** 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$35. At The Birchmere, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 31

**Alexandria Arts and Crafts Fair.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Sunday. Features some of the areas' best artists and artisans and includes jewelry, glass works, ceramics and pottery, hand woven products, and other crafts. At St. George Gallery, 105 North Alfred Street, in the heart of Old Town Alexandria.

SUNDAYS IN JULY

**Civil War Sundays.** 1 to 5 p.m. Free. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, located on the third floor of the Torpedo Factory art Center, 105 North Union Street, #327, Alexandria.

EVERY THURSDAY

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

NOW THROUGH OCT. 30

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



Julia Murney



Marc Kudisch

NOW THROUGH AUG. 6

**Signature's Sizzlin' Summer Cabaret.** Cabarets will include "Let Me Sing" and "I'm Happy" ("The Music of Irving Berlin"), a collection of Berlin favorites featuring Sherri L. Edelen, James Gardiner, Matt Pearson and Bayla Whitten. Solo cabarets include Erin Driscoll ("[title of show]," "Sweeney Todd"), and last year's Sizzlin' Summer artists Bob McDonald and Sandy Bainum ("Sunset Boulevard"). Tickets for all cabarets are \$20/\$25 each. Signature offers a special All-Access Pass for \$125. Call 703-820-9771 or visit [www.signature-theatre.org](http://www.signature-theatre.org).

NOW THROUGH AUG. 6

**Signature's Sizzlin' Summer Cabaret.** Cabarets will include "Let Me Sing" and "I'm Happy" ("The Music of Irving Berlin"), a collection of Berlin favorites featuring Sherri L. Edelen, James Gardiner, Matt Pearson and Bayla Whitten. Solo cabarets include Erin Driscoll ("[title of show]," "Sweeney Todd"), and last year's Sizzlin' Summer artists Bob McDonald and Sandy Bainum ("Sunset Boulevard"). Tickets for all cabarets are \$25 each. Signature offers a special All-Access Pass for \$125. At Signature Theater, 4200 Campbell Ave., Arlington. Call 703-820-9771.

THURSDAY/JULY 21

**Swing Machine.** 8 p.m. At The Carlyle Club, 411 John Carlyle St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-8899. Visit [www.thecarlyleclub.com](http://www.thecarlyleclub.com).

FRIDAY, JULY 22

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30-11 a.m. Explore the exciting world around us with some favorite stories and songs! Ages 2 and under. Free. At Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [megan@hooray4books.com](http://megan@hooray4books.com)

**Suite Drive and Golf Tournament.** Mount Vernon Chapter, American Society of Military Comptrollers, 2-5 p.m. Fort Belvoir Golf Course, 8450 Beulah St # 2920, Alexandria. Join in a suite drive to support FACETS and a golf tournament. Cost is \$75 for golf, lunch, and prizes. Opportunity to win a car with a hole-in-one contest. Contact [gary@gdbrooks.com](mailto:gary@gdbrooks.com) or register at: <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=cgtxr>.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

**Go Green Event.** 2 to 4:30 p.m. Free. "Addicted to Plastic" film screening at Beatley Library, 5005 Duke St., Alexandria. Visit [www.alexenvironment.org](http://www.alexenvironment.org).

**Wee Ones Storytime.** 10:30-11 a.m. Explore the exciting world around us with some favorite stories and songs! Ages 2 and under. Free. At Hooray for Books, 1555 King St., Alexandria. Call 703-548-4092 or visit [megan@hooray4books.com](mailto:megan@hooray4books.com)

**Installation Appreciation Day.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Belvoir Federal Credit Union as a way to celebrate Fort Belvoir's military and civilian communities. Activities available for children include a rock climbing wall, moon bounce and clown, as well as face painting and balloon animals. Visitors will have the chance to win more than 20 prizes, including a free cruise. Visit [www.BelvoirCreditUnion.org/iad2011](http://www.BelvoirCreditUnion.org/iad2011)

**Pianist Victoria Bragin.** 8 p.m. Admission is \$15. Will perform a special "Blue Ribbon" salon recital at the



(From left): Jacklyn Young as Penny, Christina Kidd as Amber, Shannon Kingett as Tracy, Christopher Harris as Edna.

JULY 23 TO AUG. 13

**"Hairspray."** Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m. Directed by Sue Pinkman; Music Direction by Chris Tomasino; and Choreography by Ivan Davila. CAST: Shannon Kingett as Tracy Turnblad, Sam Jones as Link Larkin, Christopher Harris as Edna, Larry Grey as Wilbur, Brenda Parker as Motormouth Maybelle, Adrian Cabbage as Seaweed, Jaclyn Young as Penny, Christina Kidd as Amber, Janette Moman as Velma, Gardner Reed as Corny, Gina Tomkus as Prudy, Marissa Moody as Lil Inez, Scott Strasbaugh as Mr. Pinky, Mark Williams as Mr. Spritzer. Members of the ensemble include Andrea Berting, Amanda Corbett, Maureen Eul, Jonathan Faircloth, Meg Glassco, Blake Hopkins, Caitlin Jackson, Derek Marsh, Jody Parker, Chris Rios, Maria Simpkins, Zaria Stott, Ryan Walker, Samantha Williams, Jacob Wittenuer and Roger Yawson. At the Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-0496.

Lyceum in Old Town Alexandria. Her program features works by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Debussy, and Schumann. At The Lyceum, 201 South Washington St., Old Town Alexandria.

3330 King St., Alexandria. Call 202-767-5658 or [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil)

THURSDAY/JULY 28

**Music at Twilight Concerts.** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Alexandria Harmonizers (Men's Barbershop). At Fort Ward Park Amphitheater, 4301 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**18<sup>th</sup> Century Dance Classes.** 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$30/series or \$12/class. Learn the dances of Jane Austen's time. Dance master Corky Palmer will lead the series in preparation for the annual Jane Austen Ball on Aug. 13. Reservations at 703-746-4242 or [www.gadsbystavern.org](http://www.gadsbystavern.org).

FRIDAY/JULY 29

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

SATURDAY/JULY 30

**Happy Birthday Jerry Garcia: The U-Liners Tribute.** 8:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15/door. At IOTA Club & Café, 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. Call 703-522-8340 or visit [www.iotaclubandcafe.com](http://www.iotaclubandcafe.com).

**Cocker Spaniel Adoption Show.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come meet cockers of all ages available for adoption. Dogs are spayed or neutered. At Alexandria Hybla Valley Petsmart, 7690 Richmond Hwy. (U.S. 1), Alexandria. Call 703-533-2373 or visit [www.cockerspanielrescue.com](http://www.cockerspanielrescue.com).

SUNDAY/JULY 31

**Butterflies for Families.** 10 a.m. to noon. Join recently graduated Virginia Master Naturalist and avid butterfly enthusiast Mary Alexander on a walk along Huntley Meadow's boardwalk looking for interesting butterflies. At Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 3

**Swing Dancing.** 9 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the band, The Thrillbillies. At Nick's Nightclub, 642 South Pickett St., Alexandria.

**Summer Concert Series.** 8 p.m. Free. "Tunes of 'Toons." The U.S. Air Force Band — The Concert Band and members of the Singing Sergeants. At Bishop Ireton High School, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria. Call at 202-767-5658 or [www.usafband.af.mil](http://www.usafband.af.mil).

WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

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

**Lunch Bunch Concert.** 12 to 1 p.m. Joe Rathbone (Indie Pop). At Canal Center Plaza, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria. Contact: Special Events, [maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov](mailto:maureen.sturgill@alexandriava.gov), 703-746-5592.

**Music in the Parks.** 7:30 p.m. With the U.S. Army Blues Band. At Lee District Park in Alexandria.

**Summer Concert Series.** 8 p.m. Free. "A Tribute to Stan Kenton." The U.S. Air Force Band — The Airmen of Note. At T.C. Williams High School,

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## FINE ARTS

### SATURDAY, JULY 23

#### Battle Cries: Music and the Civil War.

1 to 2 p.m. Free. The Art League celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War with a special history presentation from Civil War historian Christian McWhirter, Assistant Editor for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln. At The Art League Gallery, Room 21, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. To register, call 703-683-1780 or email gallery@theartleague.org.

### NOW THROUGH JULY 24

**"Up in Smoke." Kiln Club Show.** At 105 North Union Street, Ground Floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

### THURSDAY/JULY 28

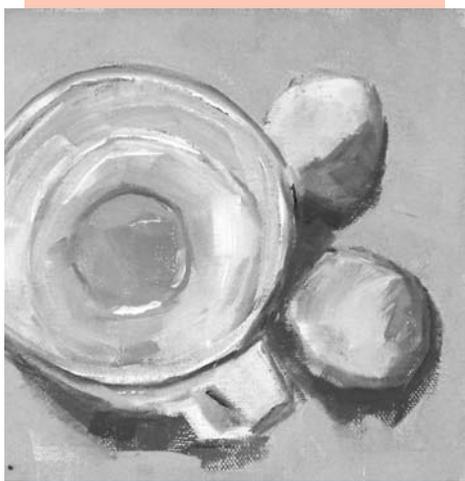
**Tory Cowles: Living LARGE!** 6 to 8 p.m. Art Panel: Why Does Art Move You? Kids Art Activity July 30, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. painting activity inspired by Tory Cowles exhibition. At the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Target Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Alexandria. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/target; 703.838.4565, x4

### SATURDAY, JULY 30

**Living LARGE! Kids Art Activity.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. Children are invited to create their own abstract paintings inspired by Tory Cowles' solo exhibition, Living LARGE! All art materials will be provided. At the Torpedo Factory, Main Hall, by the spiral staircase, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria.

### NOW THROUGH JULY 31

**Poetry of Light.** Pastels by artist Rachel Estrada. Closing Reception: Saturday, July 30, from 5 - 7 p.m. At Gallery



### MONTH OF JULY

**"Artistic Visions."** Twenty artists in multiple media will showcase their recent artistic expressions. A summer show and sale at the Gallery at Convergence. Meet the artists reception is July 22 from 5 to 8 p.m. At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.arlingtonartistsalliance.org.

West, 1213 King Street, Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call at 703-549-6006.

### NOW THROUGH JULY 31

**JAT: Paper, Brass and Process.** Art work by Jonathan Thompson. In Paper, Brass and Process, JAT explores Victorian-themed issues of beauty and violence with emphasis on process and technique. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret W. & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery.

### NOW THROUGH JULY 31

**Exhibition of Commemorative**

**Wares.** Features ceramic wares that reflect the Alexandria community's keen interest in current and historic events. At the Lyceum, 201 South Washington Street, Old Town Alexandria. Open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$2 admission. Call 703-746-4994 or visit www.alexandriahistory.org.

### SUNDAY/JULY 31

**Coffee + Critique + Conversation.** 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Photographers of all levels are invited to share their work, ideas, and questions. Call 703-683-2205. At Multiple Exposures Gallery, Studio 312, The Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria.

### AUG. 2 TO OCT. 3

**"Forgotton" and "Off Season."** Works by photographers Sandy LeBrun-Evans and Eric Jonson. Opening Reception is Aug. 7 from 3 to 5 p.m. At Multiple

Exposures Gallery, Suite 312, Torpedo Factory Art Center. Call 703-683-2205.

### AUG. 2 TO SEPT. 11

**"Satellite Images."** Free. Jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces will be exhibited. At Studio 18 in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union Street, Old Town Alexandria.

### AUG. 3 TO SEPT. 4

**The Power of Color III.** Artist's reception is Saturday, Aug. 13 from 5 to 8 p.m. At Gallery West, 1213 King Street, Old Town. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

### AUG. 5 TO 28

**States of Mind Exhibit.** 7 to 10 p.m. Join Kimberley Bush, Ellyn Ferguson, Lesley Hall, Fransi Kaye, Katherine Rand, Gloria Vestal, and Tracy Wilkerson as they showcase encaustics, abstract art, figurative works, stained glass, and mixed media artwork. Opening Aug. 5 from 7 to 10 p.m. At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

### NOW THROUGH AUG. 28

**Drawing Analogies.** Features seven artists who are united in that they are trying to explore and understand aspects of their worlds through the creation of drawings. Artist's reception is Sunday, July 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. At the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince Street, Alexandria. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

### SEPT. 7 TO OCT. 2

**"Suburbia."** Oils by Parisa Tiernaz. Artist's reception is Saturday, Sept. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. Presented by Gallery West, 1213 King Street in Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gallery-west.com or 703-549-6006.

### NOW THROUGH SEPT. 30

**River Farm Exhibition.** River Farm, the historic property near Old Town Alexandria which houses the American Horticultural Society, has opened its newest botanically-themed exhibition. Admission is free, though donations are welcome, and gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays, and 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday. The property is closed Sundays. This show features paintings by Juleen Stacy, who also curated the show, as well as photography by Deb Booth, Brian J. McGahren and Dave Costa. For directions go to River Farm's website, http://www.ahs.org/river\_farm/directions.htm.

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had to say about it.”  
Halfway through the meeting, Moran arrived to discuss the budget negotiations going on currently in Congress and his thoughts of what should be done to deal with it. He proposed a balanced approach of spending cuts and tax increases. After the speech, he went around the room to talk to his constituents.

**AT THE CONCLUSION** of the meeting, Moran said that the meeting was, “an opportunity not only for my constituents to be educated, but to educate me on how they feel about these issues.” He was surprised to find out that many of his constituents had a lot of agreement on what to cut from the federal budget. “I was stunned that there was near unanimous [agreement] that we should freeze the defense budget. The vast majority of people thought that we should take away the mortgage interest deduction. I would not have known that unless we had a session like this. I think there were a lot of Republicans as well as Democrats. It was a good reflection of the constituency as a whole.”

However, when asked about how discussions on Capitol Hill are going, Moran replied that they’re “not as well as the one tonight.” Congress has until Tuesday, Aug. 2, to reach a deal to raise the debt limit. Otherwise, according to the Concord Coalition’s Thiebert, the United States would default on its debt for the first time in its history. If that does happen, Thiebert says that interest rates will rise, thus increasing the cost of borrowing, and the country wouldn’t be able to borrow more money to “pay its bills.” The Secretary of the Treasury would decide who would be paid first with what money the federal government already has. Thiebert is hoping that it doesn’t come to that. “Default isn’t an option. We’ve known this is coming. This isn’t something new.” He said that all that’s really needed is the political leadership to come to a deal.

## Two-Alarm Electrical Fire Damages Home

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a garden apartment fire, Sunday, July 10, at approximately 3 a.m., in the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County. The apartment is located at 7803 Belford Drive.

Firefighters encountered heavy smoke and fire coming from the middle and roof area of the three-story building upon arrival. The Incident Commander requested a second alarm, bringing more than 60 firefighters to the emergency scene. It took firefighters approximately an hour to extinguish the fire. A total of 36 occupants have been displaced. Red Cross is assisting all the occupants. The building fire alarm provided early warning allowing everyone to escape unharmed.

Cost of damage is to be determined. According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental. An electrical event in the building caused the fire.

# Athletes Look at Colleges

Reviewing options for their next step.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE GAZETTE

Senior pictures. Maintaining good grades. Prom. Success in athletics. Enjoying one's final year.

Between having fun and taking care of business, there is plenty on the minds of teenagers entering their senior year of high school. Arguably the most important focus is successfully navigating the transition to college — a task some have under control earlier than others.

For those looking to play a sport — or sports — in college, a level of uncertainty can accompany an already stressful period of life. Athletes who aren't considered elite and don't have Division I schools knocking down their door to offer a scholarship are left to prove themselves as seniors and hope they find a school that's interested and fits what they're looking for.

Rising Mount Vernon High senior Stanley Gorman said his uncertainty about where he's going to college will motivate him during the 2011 season.

Gorman is a 5-foot-11, 230-pound defensive lineman who is entering his third year on the varsity for the Majors and ready for a breakout season.

"I'm excited because it's my last year," Gorman said. "I wanted to prove a point this year. ... Nobody knows about me."

Gorman is looking to improve in multiple areas. He said he improved his grades during his junior year and wants to continue to do so. On the field, he has a drive to not quit.

"What I have is hustle," Gorman said. "I never give up on plays. I'm going to be committed on and off the field. I'm always going to be in the weight room working out and trying to get better."

While confident he can succeed, becoming a senior is on Gorman's mind.

"It's kind of [nerve-wracking] when you



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Mount Vernon rising senior Stanley Gorman said the desire to make himself known to college coaches is his motivation for the upcoming 2011 season.**

think about it," he said. "Three years ago I was a freshman and now I'm a senior and it's my last year."

Gorman's teammate, Graig Hunter, is a 5-foot-11, 245-pound defensive lineman for the Majors who is also undecided about his college plans. Hunter said he attended a lineman camp at the University of Maryland and is training with his former high school in Michigan to help prepare for the 2011 season.

"I'm not really nervous because I know I'm going to a college to play football, I just don't know where," he said. "I'm pretty confident I'm going to play. ... I'd like to play DI, but I'm fine with DII."

Playing football is a goal for Hunter, but finding a school with quality academics where he can study graphic design is also important to him.

"I feel education comes first, really," Gorman said. "I would rather go to a school with a good football team, too, but I don't want to go to a school with a poor education system."



**Some 15 preschoolers from UCM's Bryant Early Learning Center were recognized during a school-wide ceremony on Friday, June 24. The graduating class included seven "BEL Babies," children who have attended UCM's Bryant Early Learning Center since they were infants, and have continued through pre-kindergarten.**

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# West Potomac Hosts 'Air Raid' Football Camp

**Coach Henderson builds relationships with participants.**

**O**n July 19, the "Air Raid" football camp provided a place for 11 youngsters to gather and throw the football around at West Potomac High School. What the camp could mean to the future of the Wolverines' program has potential to be far more valuable.

"I've already identified an 11-year-old who has got a nice throwing motion," West Potomac head coach and camp director Eric Henderson said. "He could really turn into

something. ... You never know who [you're going to] find."

Henderson said the camp is intended to be "low key" while he gives his assistant coaches some time off during the summer. However, the coach sees the camp as a time to bond with athletes ranging from ages 7-14.

"It's important for me to get to know the younger kids," he said. "... If I know more of the kids, it prevents them from seriously considering going to private schools, that's the first thing. The second thing is that I get a sense of our talent level as it's coming though and then you can kind of think about schemes. ... Third of all, it's football. I just enjoy being around football."

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

**The "Air Raid" football camp at West Potomac High School gives participants a chance to have fun and bond with Wolverines head coach Eric Henderson.**

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### AAU Cardinals Finish Fourth

On July 8-11, the Cardinal sixth-grade boys AAU team from Mount Vernon competed at Boo Williams Sports Complex in Hampton, in the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Division 3 East Coast National Tournament and captured fourth place for the sixth-grade boys division.

The tournament consisted of 52 teams from many parts of the country. They played eight games (three pool games and five single-elimination bracket games) in a span of four days. Although the Cardinals lost their first pool game to the Maryland Suns 42-41, they won five consecutive games against the following teams to earn the birth in the final four: Pennsylvania Central Penn Ballers (46-30), Connecticut New Haven Boys and Girls Club (50-20), Pennsylvania Malvern Legends (39-27), New York East Coast Panthers (38-37), New York Upstate Elite (59-53). The Cardinals fell short in the semifinals and the third-place game.

With this accomplishment, the Cardinals surpassed their previous year's achievements when the 2010 fifth-grade team made it to the round of 16.

Since March, the Cardinals have won the following titles: Champions of the Baltimore Alliance Tournament; champions of two Youth Basketball of America (YBOA) State Qualifying Tournaments; champions of Virginia State YBOA Tournament (2010, 2011); champions of two local tournaments (Nova Suns Elite Classics and Cardinal Pre-National). The team also finished runner up in the Potomac Valley AAU Division 3 District Qualifying Tournament (champions in 2010).

The Cardinals concluded their tournament season (March to July) with an

overall record of 43-12. And since the winter 2007 season, the team has compiled a record of 245-97.

### Fort Hunt Girls Lacrosse Sweeps Championships

Fort Hunt Youth Girls Lacrosse swept the Northern Virginia Youth Lacrosse League "A" Division championships, including: Fort Hunt 7/8 A over Falls Church (7-5), Fort Hunt 5/6 A defeating Alexandria (8-7) and Fort Hunt 3/4 A over Great Falls (9-6). The three A Division FHYL girls teams finished the regular season with a combined record of 23-1 and the Fort Hunt 7/8 A and 5/6 A were repeat champions, defending their 2010 titles. In addition, the Fort Hunt girls teams participated in seven of the nine NVYLL A, B and C Division championships, winning five titles.

### Fort Hunt Coaches Needed

The Fort Hunt Football and Cheerleading Program is looking for coaches for football, flag football and cheerleading. No experience necessary.

Becoming a volunteer coach is an excellent opportunity to give back to the community, be a positive role model to many young kids and do something for the greater good. If interested, contact Tina McCammon, assistant commissioner at [tina.mccammon@yahoo.com](mailto:tina.mccammon@yahoo.com).

### Fort Hunt Football, Dance Camps

The Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association will hold football and cheer and dance camps July 25-29 at Carl Sandburg Middle

School. Both sessions run from 6-8 p.m.

The football camp will be introduce new players to basic concepts and will be non-contact and very low intensity. The cheer and dance camp will teach basic cheerleading and dance moves and will be a stepping stone to more organized and focused routines.

Cost is \$80 per session or \$150 for both. If one is unable to pay the camp fees, a confidential financial hardship can be arranged.

Visit the FHYAA Website at [fhyaa.org](http://fhyaa.org) to register. Contact Tina McCammon, assistant commissioner, at [tina.mccammon@yahoo.com](mailto:tina.mccammon@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Fort Hunt Flag Football Program

The Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association will field a flag football program for boys and girls ages 5 and 6 (as of Aug. 1, 2011) this year. Registration is open until goals of 64 players and 10 on a waiting list are met (waiting list players if not selected to teams will receive full refunds). Practices begin on Aug. 8 and will run from 5-6 p.m. Regular season games will start Sept. 17 and run through Oct. 8. Playoff games will be held Oct. 15 and the championship game is Oct. 22.

Cost is \$100 per player. Visit the FHYAA Website, [fhyaa.org](http://fhyaa.org), to register.

### Summer Baseball Camps

The StrikeZone Academy, an indoor baseball training facility located in Alexandria, is offering week-long summer baseball camps for the weeks of Aug 1, Aug. 15 and Aug. 29. Camps run from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday. The target age group is from 7-11 years old. Extended hours from 1-4 p.m. are available as well. Cost is \$160 per week for the morning session and \$160

per week for extended hours. All camps are held indoors in a climate-controlled facility, so parents have no need to worry about security, excessive heat, bugs, or lack of cold water and restroom facilities. Interested parents can register online at [www.thestrikezoneacademy.com/clinics](http://www.thestrikezoneacademy.com/clinics), via telephone at 703-823-0061, or stop by in person at 826 South Pickett Street, near the intersections of South Pickett and South Van Dorn Streets.

### WP Boys Basketball Summer Camps

West Potomac will host a basketball camp July 25-29 for boys ages 7-16. Cost is \$120. Contact West Potomac head coach David Houston at [djhouston@fcps.edu](mailto:djhouston@fcps.edu) for more information.

### 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](https://twitter.com/jonroetman) for sports updates around Northern Virginia.

# Advocates for Children

FROM PAGE 1

ents, and monitor the parents' compliance with court orders," said Fairfax CASA volunteer Dennis Zimmerman, a retired government worker who said the program has positively impacted his life. Ultimately, CASA volunteers communicate their evaluations and recommendations in a report presented to the judge in court.

"The judges tell us that they find the reports extremely valuable. They appreciate the independent factual information that the volunteers are able to provide to the court," said Elisa Kosarin, associate director of recruitment and training for Fairfax CASA.

Volunteers show their dedication to the mission of CASA by giving much of their own time. Last year, volunteers donated more than 24,000 hours, valued at more than half a million dollars, and drove over 150,000 miles while serving their cases. "We are providing services that Fairfax County could not afford," said Lisa Banks, executive director for Fairfax CASA.

Volunteers also form deep



**From left: MaryAnn Wohlford, supervisor for Fairfax CASA; Dennis Zimmerman, CASA volunteer, and Elisa Kosarin, associate director, recruitment and training for Fairfax CASA.**

friendships with the children that sometimes last well beyond a case. "We all really believe in this mission and that we are making a difference in the lives of children and that's what drives us every day," said Banks.

For more information about volunteering for CASA, contact Elisa Kosarin at 703-273-3625 Ext. 22 or [ekosarin@casafairfax.org](mailto:ekosarin@casafairfax.org) or visit <http://www.casafairfax.org>

# Candidates Post Results

FROM PAGE 4

raise enough money to accomplish what you want to do with your budget, and we're comfortable we've done that."

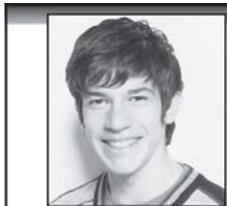
**ALTHOUGH** the fundraising totals for the second quarter were similar, the candidates are headed into the final stretch with vastly different amounts of cash on hand. Garvey has \$88,000 and Ebbin has \$70,000. Krupicka trails behind

with \$45,000 cash on hand for the final few weeks of the campaign.

"I find it a little surprising that Rob would spend himself down so dramatically," said Kirk McPike, Ebbin's campaign manager. "He's headed into the final stretch with few resources."

The final few weeks of a campaign are traditionally a time when the big checks are written.

"Now's the time to be spending," explained Kondik.



Patrick from France, 17 yrs. Loves the outdoors and playing soccer. Patrick's dream has been to spend time in America learning about our customs and attending American high school.



Elisa from Italy, 16 yrs. Likes to play tennis, swim, loves to dance. Elisa hopes to play American softball and learn American 'slang' while in the USA.

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