



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

Dressed in boots or a second pair of shoes, students at Belle View Elementary worked between raindrops to add more plants to the landscape of the wetlands garden in the field to the south of the school façade.



Karen Mullin of U.S. Fish & Wildlife explains the task to the fourth graders.

Wet Wetlands Garden

Beginning last Wednesday, Oct. 26, the students at Belle View Elementary School took turns helping to plant the fourth garden at the school — a wetlands garden. Belle View Principal Thomas Kuntz noted the school property contains naturally-occurring wetlands. Grants for the wetlands project came from the National Park Service, the National Audubon Society, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of Dyke Marsh, Earth Sangha, Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and Fairfax County Public Schools. When the planting is complete, a walkway will be made so that the students and visitors may walk through it without disturbing the growth. The garden will be used as an outdoor classroom when completed. A formal ribbon cutting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10.



Armed in pairs with shovels and spades, the students begin digging holes for the native plants.

Route 1 Widening Gets \$180 Million

Department of Defense sets aside funds to widen Route 1 near Fort Belvoir.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

The Department of Defense announced Tuesday, Nov. 1, that it will appropriate \$180 million to widen the Route 1 corridor, a long-awaited dream of the region that could finally become a reality in the next few years. The money will pay for widening more than three miles of road from Telegraph Road at the southern end to Mount Vernon Memorial Highway at the northern end, expanding the existing four-lane road to six lanes. The newly expanded road will connect the six lanes at each end, eliminating the bottleneck along the corridor. County officials say the project could be completed as

early as late 2015.

“We’ve been working on this for a long time,” said Laura Miller, BRAC coordinator for Fairfax County. “So I’m really delighted to learn that this is going to happen.”

The money, part of a \$300 million appropriation that was set aside in an earmark before Republicans took control of the House of Representatives, was introduced by U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8) and U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.). Funded through the Army’s Office of Economic Assistance, the earmark is aimed at improving transportation infrastructure facilities that are part of the recent Base Realignment and Closure process. The Army hospital on the base is being expanded

SEE \$180 MILLION, PAGE 3

Heading to the Polls

Voters to decide state and local races.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Election officials in Fairfax County are expecting about 35 percent of registered voters to participate in next week’s election, which is traditionally the lowest turnout in the four-year cycle of elections. Back in 2007, 33.3 percent showed up. And 32.8 percent participated in 2003. Because there are no statewide races on the ballot, the same is likely to be the case this year. Here’s what’s on the ballot this year.

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 36

This is one of the hottest races in Northern Virginia, one that’s the target of financial support from the Democrats and Republicans who both view the seat as a battleground. In redistricting, it became 1.7 percent more Democratic. Although the seat has a Democratic incumbent, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell won the old district by 54.5 percent. Even with the newly redrawn map, the G.O.P. candidate won 52.8 percent of the vote.

Democrat: Toddy Puller
money raised: \$550,000

Puller is a seasoned legislator, serving in the House of Delegates from 1992 to 2000 before moving to the state Senate in 2000. On the

SEE VOTER TO DECIDE, PAGE 7

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PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE GAZETTE

The U.S. Army Golden Knights open the official Fort Belvoir Community Hospital Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Oct. 28 by performing in the skies over the fort and landing in the newly opened hospital parking lot.

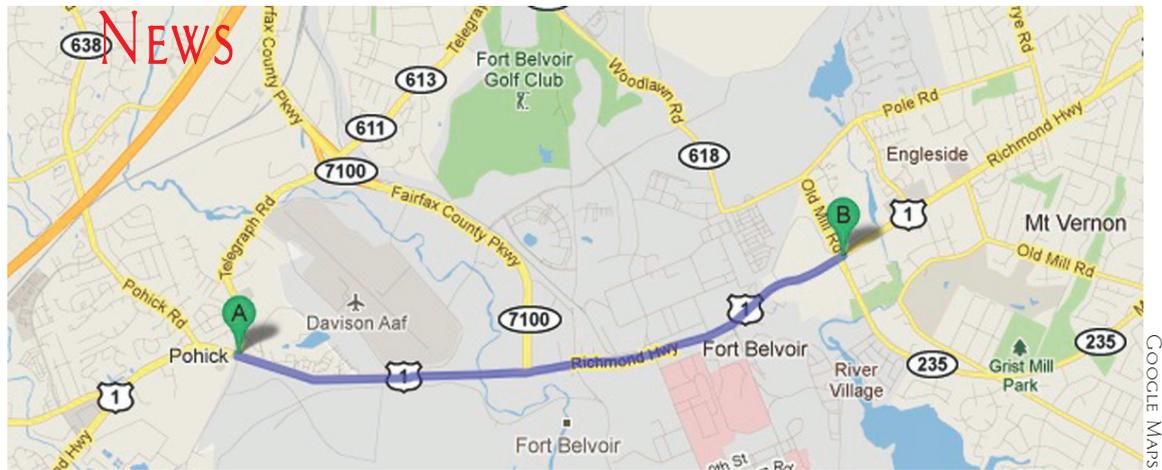


Ribbon Cutting for Hospital

Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Dr. Clifford L. Stanley, Air Force Lt. Col Brandon Beauchan, Commander of the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical Vice Admiral John M. Mateczun, Commander of the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital Col. Susan Annicelli cut the ribbon at the official opening of the new medical complex. The Beauchan's daughter Bethany was the first baby born in the new community hospital.



The newly completed and open Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.



The 3.4-mile stretch of Route 1 that will be widened goes from Telegraph Road on the south to Mount Vernon Memorial Highway to the north.

\$180 Million To Widen Route 1

FROM PAGE 1

to become a regional medical center, taking some of the patient load that will result from the closure of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

"Route 1 couldn't handle the capacity before this new major medical facility opens," said Mark Canale, special projects coordinator with Fairfax County. "Now widening Route 1 has become a critical requirement."

WIDENING RICHMOND HIGHWAY has been an elusive goal for decades, one that has vexed motorists stuck in traffic as congestion grows worse each year. With thousand more motorists added to Fort Belvoir as part of the BRAC process, the Pentagon's appropriation is a recognition that something needs to be done so that traffic can make its way to the new medical facilities at the location in a timely manner. In anticipation of acquiring the funding, Fairfax County approached the Federal Highway Administration about conducting an environmental analysis before the money was even appropriated.

"You can't do improvements until you have the money," said Jack Van Dop, analyst with the Federal Highway Administration, in an interview earlier this year. "But you can't get the money until you do the study."

Fairfax County Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) was pushing for a fly-over ramp that would allow motorists access from Fairfax Parkway into Fort Belvoir near Tulley Gate, although county officials rejected that as too expensive. Instead county officials are hoping to accomplish the widening by using a design-build process, bypassing much of the design phase by hiring a contractor to do it instead of the county finishing construction-ready drawings before the construction can begin.

"This is another step forward a revitalized Route 1," said Del. Scott Surovell (D-44). "This is exactly the type of cooperation necessary to bring real congestion relief and improvements to Route 1 such as new lanes and the extension of the Yellow Line to

Lorton."

RICHMOND HIGHWAY, also known as Route 1, has anywhere between 37,000 to 56,000 vehicles each day. The National Environmental Policy Act requires consideration of potential environmental consequences of transportation improvements, documentation of the analyses and making the information available to the public for comment before implementation. In addition to that, a Federal Highway Administration study currently underway is considering everything from where to put bike paths to whether or not the transit lane should share the road with vehicles.

Surovell said that the money to finally widen Route 1 would not be possible without the persistence of state Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36). During this campaign season, she had taken criticism from her Republican opponent Jeff Frederick that she has spent too long conducting studies and not accomplishing action. Surovell said that this week's news validates Puller's approach.

"This is a huge jumpstart to the ongoing revitalization of the Route 1 corridor," said Puller. "Because we showed that we are serious about working with county, state and federal governments on comprehensive transportation solutions, our grant was able to make it through."

The part of Route 1 that will be widened carries 56,000 vehicles a day and has one of the highest highway crash rates in northern Virginia. Between 2006 and 2008, for example, records show the stretch had 294 crashes on the 3.4-mile section between Telegraph Road and Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, including 13 injuries and one fatality. In 2011 two more fatalities occurred. This part of Route 1 also lacks pedestrian and bicycle access and crosswalks at intersections.

"Securing these funds would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of Congressman Jim Moran and the northern Virginia congressional delegation," Gov. Robert F. McDonnell said.

Cub Scout Pack 1509 Is Collecting Food

On Saturday, Nov. 12, the boys of Cub Scout Pack 1509 and Boy Scout Troop 1509 in Mt Vernon, will be collecting food to help the hungry in the community. All food collected will be brought to Rising Hope United Methodist Church's "Milk and Honey Food Pantry."

Donations will be picked up from homes in the neighborhoods bounded by the following roads: 22308 George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Vernon View Dr., Fort Hunt Road, Elkin St., Londonderry Road, Little Hunting Creek. Bags will be left at homes in these areas on Saturday, Nov. 5. If residents did not receive a bag and would still like to donate food, donations can be left at Rising Hope

United Methodist Church, 8220 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22309.

Items needed include: canned meats/fish, fruit juice, soups, baby formula, Jello, pudding mix, pasta, sauces, canned fruit, canned vegetables, baby cereal, powdered milk, peanut butter, hot or cold cereal. No outdated or opened items.

This food collection is part of Scouting For Food, an effort by Packs and Troops around our nation to fight hunger. Pack 1509 is chartered to St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. Along with year round activities of crafts, outings, games and projects, Cub Scouts seek to be of service to others. For more information on this collection, email pr.pack1509@gmail.com.

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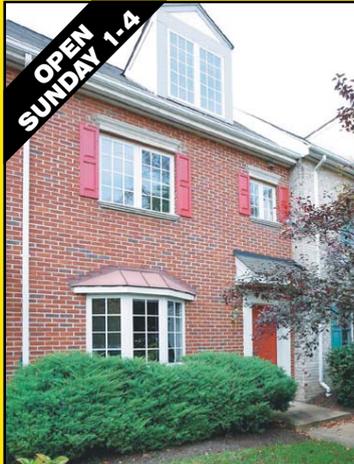
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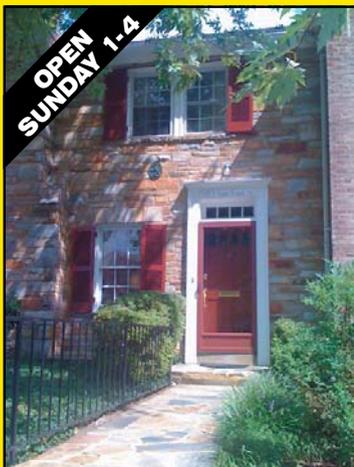
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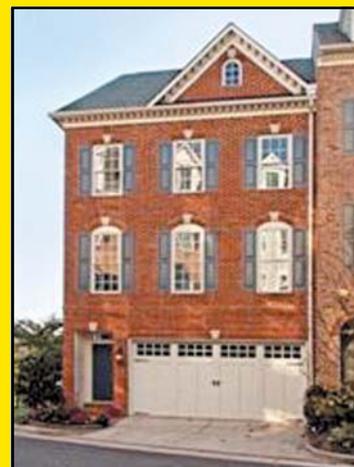


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BUSINESS

Chamber Hosts 2011 Expo

Local business people flocked to the Hampton Inn Wednesday evening, Oct. 26, for the 2011 Prime Time Business Expo.

"We really want everyone to get to know the new members. They are wonderful business people," said Holly Dougherty, executive director of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce.

Of the 45 businesses participating in the convention-style Expo, 18 are new members. The Chamber has added 120 new members this year.

— ED SIMMONS, JR.



With a tiny brush, Sabrina Campbell of Occasionally Cake, located at 8859 Richmond Highway, decorates a soon-to-be exquisite cake.



Among the delicacies served by Jodi Lynn Brown, manager, and Ramsha Ahmed, hostess, of Mamma's Kitchen located at 7601 Fordson Road is Mamma's Rigatoni, a blending of creamy Marsala sauce with sundried tomatoes, spinach and mushrooms.



Greeting the public with a Halloween touch are Steve Homma and Vanessa Wheeler, owner of the garden center Holly, Woods and Vines located at the blue and yellow palm trees on Richmond Highway.

PHOTOS BY ED SIMMONS, JR./THE GAZETTE



Serving Bourbon Chicken is Cheron Burns of Rx Catering, located at 444 Swann Ave.



Pouring wine with a flourish is Corinne Nielsen, a research assistant for United States Homeland Investigations which does background screening and drug testing.

just in time for the summer swim season. A spacious new \$175,000 breakfast room was also added to the 219-all suite business-class hotel.

Mt. Vernon Toastmasters teaches the tips and techniques of becoming a more confident speaker. Founded in 1979, Mt. Vernon Toastmasters is one of the oldest speech clubs in the Alexandria area, and is dedicated to the proposition

that given the appropriate environment, anyone is capable of having a natural public speaking talent.

The club meets the first and third Monday every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway. Visit <http://mountvernon.freetoasthost.org/> or email mtvernontoast@gmail.com.

BUSINESS NOTES

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

Washington Suites Alexandria recently completed an upgrade of its amenities, including a \$70,000 refurbishment of its outdoor swimming pool,

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w/gazebo & hot tub w/fenced, private backyard. Updated baths & windows. LL w/rec rm, half bath & huge utility/storage rm. Over 130K in upgrades & renovations. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir.



Alex./Berkshire East \$374,900
5845 Berkshire Court

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Alex./Riverside Estates \$429,900
8507 Wagon Wheel Road

Lovely, updated, 5 BR/3 BA Split -walking distance to elementary & high schools. Double pane windows, freshly painted interior, & beautifully refinished hwd floors on main level. Lower

lvl offers 2 spacious bedrooms, full bath, family rm w/fpl, large utility/workshop & walkout to a lovely screened porch. Great location. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 25 to National Airport.



Alex./Sulgrave Manor \$369,900
4213 Adrienne Drive

Lovely 3 BR + Den, 2.5 BA Split Level on a huge beautiful .71 acre lot in popular Mt. Vernon community of Sulgrave. Vaulted ceilings on main level, hardwood floors on main & upper levels. Potential for a short sale

& 3rd party approval. Only one trust. Selling As-Is but house is in good shape. Purchasers welcome to do a home inspection. 5 mins to Ft. Belvoir, 15 to National Airport, 25/30 to Pentaton/D.C. Great Opportunity!



Alex./Westgate \$594,900
9010 Volunteer Drive

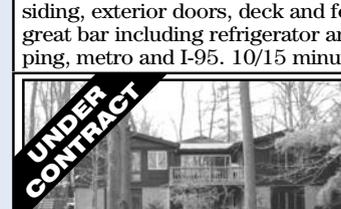
Beautiful traditional colonial w/2-car side garage in fabulous Mt. Vernon location. It is classy! Over .5 acre landscaped corner lot. Stunning sunroom addition. Hardwood flrs main & upper levels. Family rm w/gas FP off kitchen.

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.



Springfield/Bethelen Woods \$364,900
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Beautiful Townhouse - 4BRs/2.55BAs - Updated top to bottom: kitchen, baths, hardwood floors on main level and up and down staircases, HVAC, windows, siding, exterior doors, deck and fencing. Beautiful lower level with great bar including refrigerator and kegerator. Quick access to shopping, metro and I-95. 10/15 minutes to Ft. Belvoir.



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POLITICS

Voters To Decide School Races

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD RACE

In the local race for Mount Vernon District, board member incumbent Daniel Storck, first elected in 2004, is seeking his third term of office. He called attention to his many years of experience on the board and his record of fighting for the needs of Mount Vernon area students.

Storck is a longstanding resident of the area, a parent of children who attended West Potomac High School where he served as PTA president. He holds a degree in finance from Miami of Ohio University. During a recent debate he brought up his support for and/or accomplishments in a variety of areas including full day kindergarten for all students, school-based child care, and pre-school education.

Challenger Michelle Nellenbach is seeking public office for the first time. She is the parent of two children at Stratford Landing Elementary School, serves as president of the PTA, and works on energy and environmental issues for the National Governors Association. She and her family have lived in Fairfax County for the past 8 years. She said her motivation in seeking the Mount Vernon seat was to improve School Board leadership, work to close the achievement gap among Mount Vernon area and other children with special needs, and change the board and school system culture to make it

more responsive to student needs and parental interests.

— GERALD A. FILL

At-Large

AT-LARGE SCHOOL BOARD

Debates over discipline, boundaries, budgets, standardized tests and sleep have generated Fairfax County's most closely-watched and contested School Board race in the board's 19-year history.

Of the 12 school-board seats, six are up for grabs, including three at-large seats. Incumbents Martina Tone and James Raney chose not to seek reelection, which leaves Ilryong Moon, the only incumbent running for a fourth term in the at-large race. Although the school board is officially a non-partisan office, candidates actively seek endorsement by the county's Republican or Democratic committees. In this heated race, partisan strategists have been framing issues along party lines, pitting incumbents as the "status quo," against challengers who are "reformers."

Several organizations endorse candidates, including The Fairfax County Democratic Committee and the Fairfax County Republican Committee. Two main Fairfax County teachers unions — the Fairfax County Fed

SEE AT-LARGE, PAGE 7

**Michele
Nellenbach**



FOR MOUNT VERNON

School Board

Our Schools, Our Voice, Our Choice

Vote for Michele Nellenbach on November 8th

To learn more about Michele's plans to improve Fairfax County schools, please visit:

www.nellenbach.com

Paid for and authorized by Nellenbach for School Board.



Voters To Decide State and Local Races

FROM PAGE 1

campaign trail, she has trumpeted her work setting the stage for bringing money to the Route 1 corridor.

Because she is viewed as potentially vulnerable, the Democratic Party of Virginia contributed \$52,000 to her campaign. Puller has also received major support from interest groups, including \$10,000 from Dominion Power, \$10,000 from the Virginia Beer Wholesalers Association and \$10,000 from the Virginia Wine Wholesalers Association.

Republican: Jeff Frederick
money raised: \$285,000

A former chairman of the state Republican Party, Frederick was forced out of his leadership position after Democrats won Virginia in the 2008 presidential election and Frederick made comments that were viewed by many as intemperate. Now he's hoping to make a comeback, challenging Puller as an ineffective leader who has spent the last two decades pursuing studies on Route 1 rather than achieving action. Despite his previous conflict with the party, his campaign has received \$25,000 from the Virginia Republican Senate Caucus, \$10,000 from the Republican State Leadership Committee, \$10,000 from Gov. Bob McDonnell's political action committee and \$3,000 from the state party he was once led.

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 39

This is one of the hottest races in Northern Virginia, one that's the target of financial support from the Democrats and Republicans who both view the seat as a battleground. In redistricting, it became 1.7 percent more Democratic. Although the seat has a Democratic incumbent, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell won the old district by 54.5 percent. Even with the newly redrawn map, the G.O.P. candidate won 52.8 percent of the vote.

Democrat: George Barker
money raised: \$604,181

Barker is a freshman member of the Virginia state Senate who ousted Republican incumbent state Sen. Jay O'Brien (R-39) in 2007. On the campaign trail, he has touted his record as an effective legislature as one of two members who were able to get 20 bills or more to the governor's desk. He raised more than \$600,000, one of the largest amounts of money raised for any Northern Virginia candidate this election cycle. Most of his money came from the party, including \$295,000 from the Democratic Party of Virginia, \$31,000 from the Virginia Democratic Senate Caucus and \$10,000 from Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw (D-35).

Republican: Miller Baker
money raised: \$256,000

Baker raised \$187,000 during the primary to fend of academic Scott Martin, emerg-

ing victorious in the August primary with 73 percent of the vote. On the campaign trail, Baker has tried to cast Barker as an ineffective legislator, blaming him for the expected traffic congestion expected at the Washington Headquarters Service as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process.

The G.O.P. has targeted the race as a potential ticket, with \$21,000 from the Republican Party of Virginia, \$5,000 from the Republican Committee of the 7th congressional district and \$2,500 from the political action committee controlled by Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli.

STATE SENATE DISTRICT 30

This is an open seat created by the retirement of longtime state Sen. Patsy Ticer (D-30), who was originally elected in 1995. In redistricting, the seat became 4.6 percent more Republican. But the Democrats still have a substantial edge here, and the race is not one that is targeted by the state parties. Election returns show that 36.9 percent of the old district voted for Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell while 41.5 percent of the new district went with the G.O.P. choice.

Democrat: Adam Ebbin
money raised: \$324,569

Ebbin has been a member of the House of Delegates since 2003, when he emerged from a tightly contested primary to become the party's standard-bearer. During the next three election cycles, Ebbin had no Republican opposition. During the primary this year, he raised \$278,000 fending off challenges from Alexandria City Councilman Rob Krupicka and Arlington County School Board member Libby Garvey. After pulling off an upset victory of Krupicka, who had been expected to win early in the race, Ebbin raised \$46,000 during the general election cycle.

Republican: Tim McGhee
money raised: \$7,000

McGhee is a social conservative who says his decision in office would be guided by the United States Constitution and the Virginia Constitution as revised in 1971. Beyond that, McGhee says during his appearances on the campaign trail, all his decisions would be based on "life, liberty and justice." The Republican Party has not targeted his race, although McGhee has received \$600 from the Commonwealth Republican Women's Club and \$250 from the Mount Vernon Republican Women's Club. His Democratic opponent heads into Election Day with about 18 times as much money as McGhee.

HOUSE DISTRICT 44

Democrat: Scott Surovell
money raised: 239,000

A freshman legislator and seasoned lawyer, Surovell is already being talked about for potential statewide office. Surovell has a broad base of support, including \$23,000 from the Democratic Party of Virginia,

\$3,000 from his law firm and \$3,000 from the Virginia Trial Lawyer Association. He's also received money from interest groups, including \$2,500 from Consumer Litigation Associates, \$2,000 from Dominion Power and \$1,500 from the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors.

Republican: John Barsa
money raised: \$112,000

Barsa served in the Army Reserves for almost a decade, including seven years in U.S. Army Special Forces. Republicans have targeted the seat as a potential pickup, so Barsa has received \$75,000 from Dominion Leadership Trust, \$2,500 from the Republican State Leadership Committee and \$1,000 from Gov. Bob McDonnell's political action committee.

Independent: Joe Glean
money raised: \$150

Glean casts himself as a Tea Party alternative to the Republican candidate, although his place on the ballot will serve to divide the opposition to Surovell. Glean reported no contributions that were more than \$100.

HOUSE DISTRICT 45

Democrat: David Englin
money raised: \$177,000

First elected in 2005, this is the first year that Englin is running unopposed by a Republican challenger. He received \$7,500 from Alexandria venture capitalist Robert Henry Dugger, \$6,000 from the Democratic Party of Virginia and 2,000 from the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association.

HOUSE DISTRICT 39

Democrat: Vivian Watts
money raised: \$76,000

Watts is a veteran legislator, first elected to the House of Delegates in 1981. She stepped down in 1986 to serve as Virginia Secretary of Transportation. In 1996, he was once again elected to the House. Her biggest contributor is the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, which gave her campaign \$2,000. She's also received money from a handful of interest groups, including \$1,000 from Association General Contractors, \$1,000 from Dominion Power and \$1,000 from the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association.

HOUSE DISTRICT 42

Republican: David Albo
money raised: \$360,000

Albo has served in the House of Delegates since 1994. Major contributions to his campaign include \$15,000 from the Virginia Bankers Association, \$10,000 from Gov. Bob McDonnell's political action committee, \$6,500 from the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and \$7,500 from the Republican Party of Virginia.

Democrat: Jack Dobbyn
money raised: \$113,000

A native of Mount Vernon, Dobbyn is the vice president of operations at his family's

real-estate business. Most of his money comes from family members, although the Democratic Party of Virginia chipped in \$5,700.

HOUSE DISTRICT 43
Democrat: Mark Sickles
money raised: \$175,000

Sickles has served in the House since 2004. He received \$10,000 from the Democratic Party of Virginia as well as contributions from several interest groups, including \$10,000 from the Virginia Automobile Dealers Association, \$3,000 from the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association and \$2,500 from Appalachian Power Company.

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

Democrat: Gerry Hyland
money raised: \$210,000

Hyland has represented Mount Vernon on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 1988. His campaign received \$18,000 from public employees, \$11,000 from the energy and national resources sector and \$6,000 from the real-estate and construction industry.

Independent: Gail Parker
money raised: \$11

Parker, sometimes known as "Gail for Rail," has launched a number of campaigns in recent years to advocate for increased use of heavy and light rail.

At-Large

FROM PAGE 6

eration of Teachers (FCFT) and the Fairfax Education Association (FEA) — also endorse candidates

For more information on FCFT-endorsed candidates, go to www.fcft.org. For more information of candidates endorsed by the Fairfax Education Association, go to www.fairfaxea.org. Below are candidates endorsed by the FCFT, FEA, Republican or Democratic Committees.

❖ Candidates for the at-large seat are:

Ilyong Moon, the only incumbent running in the at-large race

(Democrat-endorsed; FEA)

Theodore Velkoff

(Democrat-endorsed)

Ryan McElveen

(Democrat-endorsed;)

Lolita Mancheno-Smoak

(Republican-endorsed; FCFT; FEA)

Sheree Brown-Kaplan

(Republican-endorsed; FCFT)

Lin-Dai Kendall

(Republican-endorsed)

Steve Stuban

(Independent; FEA; FCFT)

OPINION

Vote (No Later than) Tuesday, Nov. 8

Voting early could save confusion on Election Day; most commuters eligible to vote early.

You can find Gazette stories about candidates and races, plus letters from readers, on our Website, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

We're keeping this week's editorial short to make room for more letters relevant to the Election.

You can vote early, "absentee in person," from now until Nov. 5 if you think that there is any

chance you could be away from home for 10 hours on Election Day. Anyone who commutes or who has any sort of commitment away from home on Election Day would qualify.

Remember: Saturday, Nov. 5 is the last day to vote early, absentee ballot in-person. Tuesday, Nov. 8 is Election Day, with polls open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

For more election information:

❖ Alexandria Board of Elections, 703-746-4050, <http://alexandriava.gov/Elections>

❖ Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-324-4700, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/

❖ Arlington Board of Elections, 703-228-3456, <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/voterregistration/voterregistrationmain.aspx>

❖ City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/GeneralRegistrar.asp>

❖ Virginia Board of Elections <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Experienced Leader Needed

To the Editor:

I would like to share my appreciation for the contribution of our Mount Vernon School Board representative for the past seven years, Dan Storck. As a retired FCPS teacher who continues to work as a collaborator with FCPS teachers, I am continually impressed by Dan's commitment and dedication to making the smart choices for our schools, teachers and children. I know that most other teachers feel as I do, because both major teacher organizations have endorsed him as well. His academic and essential skills initiatives on ensuring that all students are being prepared with 21st Century skills are well known.

Dan initiated and chaired the first School Board audit committee, as Board Chairman saved \$1 million through his "Smart Sav-

ings" Task Force, and has increased accountability for FCPS fiscal decisions. Central administration has been reduced where possible while the percentage of revenue going to our classrooms has gone up. As a FCPS board member of 7 years, Dan has also led the effort to build new schools in the South County area, new classrooms at Waynewood, Stratford Landing, Riverside and Woodley Hills elementary schools and renovating Sandburg MS beginning in 2012.

Contrary to some reports, Dan has been a major supporter and advocate of the full day kindergarten effort. He was able to roll out full day kindergarten in all but two of the Mount Vernon schools (and 34 others across the county) before the severe recession started and budgets had to be cut. As some people may recall, beginning in 2008, hundreds of millions of dollars had to be cut from the FCPS budget that caused the school board to make difficult decisions.

One of which was to halt the further roll out of full day kindergarten. The severity of the budget shortfall was felt across the county not only impacting full day kindergarten but impacting a freeze teachers' salaries, laying off staff, and imposing fees for athletics, AP tests and IB tests. Through the economic recovery over the past year, Dan worked hand in hand with his community, the School Board and with [Supervisor] Gerry Hyland to secure funding from the Board of Supervisors to make full day kindergarten a reality for all of our children across Fairfax county.

Serious issues face Fairfax County Public Schools in the coming years. We need to hire a new superintendent, deal with funding that has been cut by over \$400 million over the past 4 years, even as the student population has increased by more than 10,000 students. With the departure of six incumbent members that are not running for reelection, we need someone like Dan who has experience and proven leadership skills.

Jeanne Bohlin
Alexandria

Shouldn't Be Close

To the Editor:

I recently read that the election campaign in Virginia's 36 Senate district was said to be close.

I could not believe my eyes because the differences in our candidates could not be more evident.

On one side we have an experienced, moderate Democratic incumbent, Linda "Toddy" Puller, who enjoys an excellent reputation here at home and in Richmond for her hard work, bipartisanship and dedication to her constituents. She has even been endorsed for reelection by Republican 30-year former Senator John Chichester of Stafford who stresses that she "has

no agenda except service to the people of Virginia."

Her opponent, former Delegate Jeff Frederick, by contrast cannot even play nicely within his own party, much less work across party lines as does Senator Puller.

I hope voters of the 36 district will realize what a fine Senator we already have in Toddy Puller.

This election does not deserve to be close.

Drew Hutcheson, Jr.
Mount Vernon

More Than 'Nice Guy'

To the Editor:

The Gazette has recently printed several letters about my being a "nice guy" and a "listener," but implying that I had not accomplished much during my eight years of service as the Mt. Vernon District Member of the School Board. Yes, I do believe that treating everyone with respect and listening to their needs and concerns is essential. But, I also believe (and my experience and results have shown) that those same skills are essential to identifying options and building consensus for getting things done. This is the leadership approach that I have taken as a 3-term School Board Chairman, Chairman of key Board committees and on community boards. We have accomplished a great deal together.

My School Board work and leadership has directly resulted in increased student, parent and community engagement, increased student achievement and graduations across all student groups, full-day kindergarten for all schools, increased SACC and middle school after school support, a 14x increase in career technical skill certifications, new funding for our academically neediest

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

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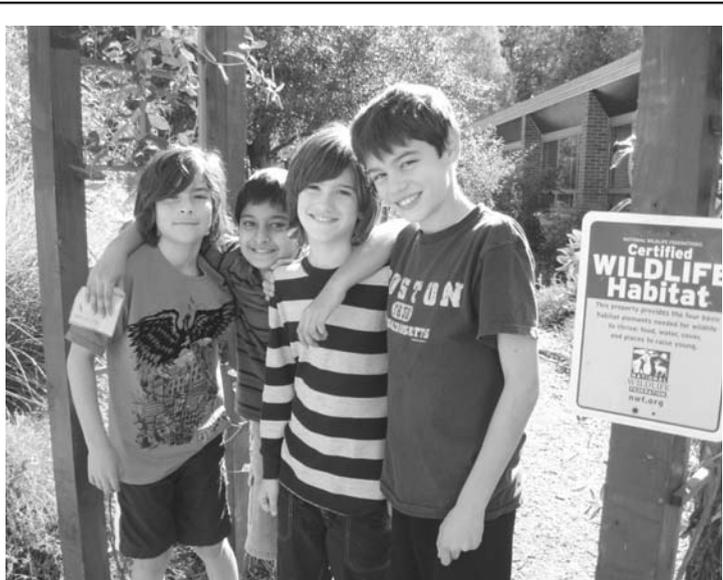
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A Connection Newspaper



Certified Stratford Landing Elementary in Mount Vernon has a Discovery Garden that has been created and maintained by parents and students at the school. The school just got certified by the National Wildlife Federation as a Wildlife Habitat. That means the garden has the four elements that allow wildlife to thrive.

LETTERS

Raise Smiles with Home for the Holidays Project

BY 1ST LT. EMILY VERNON

Growing up in Alexandria, I dreamed of being a nurse, a teacher, or an Indian princess. One thing I never imagined was that I would grow up to become a soldier, let alone an officer, in the U.S. Army on deployment in a war zone.

My childhood centered on activities around the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Old Town Alexandria and home schooling with my siblings in Mount Vernon until eighth grade, when I started attending Carl Sandburg Middle School. I moved on to West Potomac High School, graduating in 2003, and finished up my education with a degree from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2007. Finally, I ended up pursuing a master's in education at GWU and teaching Spanish at KIPP DC: KEY Academy, a middle school in Washington D.C. Along the way, I learned many lessons as I participated in Fort Hunt Basketball, Girl Scouts, West Potomac Drama Department, and West Potomac Cross Country. I learned to do whatever it takes to accomplish my

goals in life, which led me to join the National Guard in 2003, just as the war in Iraq was beginning. The National Guard has taught me valuable leadership skills, helped pay for my education, and provided me with a multitude of opportunities. It also allowed me the opportunity to serve my country by helping provide the logistical support for the war that has been ongoing for my entire military career.

Last year, in the middle of my school year, I found out that I would be deploying to the Middle East to transport equipment. Thankfully, the timing allowed me to finish the school year. However, as a platoon leader, every day that I spend here I worry about the soldiers in our Unit. Not only do I pray that they stay safe, but also that they stay mentally strong as they spend a year away from family and friends.

Most of my soldiers spend a significant amount of time driving in convoys, which means they rarely get to communicate with their loved ones.

Reading the newspapers over here in the Middle East, it seems that this war is one that will be a landmark in our history books,

much like the Vietnam War. It was controversial and dangerous, but we also helped many people in countries in the Middle East. Above all, countless numbers of soldiers had their lives altered by long deployments away from home. As thoughts turn toward the approaching holiday season, many of my soldiers talk to their families with tears in their eyes because they won't get to see their relatives this holiday. They are lonely and one of the moments that most brightens their day is when they are told to stop by the mail room because they have a package. All of the soldiers stop by the mail room on a regular basis, but not all of them receive mail.

I am searching for kind people in the area where I grew up who can send a message of hope to these soldiers, who want to make a final effort to support the soldiers serving in the Iraq War. My goal is to get a small holiday gift for each soldier to brighten their spirits and let them know someone is thinking of them. I would like all of the gifts to be similar so that all soldiers receive an equal gift.

Because of the delivery distance, small \$5-10 gift cards to vendors available here would bless the lives of many homesick sol-



U.S. soldiers in Iraq would welcome some mail.

diers who yearn to be Home for the Holidays. Vendors here are limited to iTunes, Amazon, KFC, Starbucks and Subway. Also, popular titles of new DVDs and CDs would probably be easy to mail as well.

The Alexandria Gazette Packet and Mount Vernon Gazette has agreed to accept and stage the delivery of the gifts.

Mail or deliver for receipt no later than Nov 18 to:

Mount Vernon Gazette
1606 King Street
Alexandria, Va. 22314

Thanks to all of you who feel called to brighten the holidays for these troops.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 8

schools, a needs-based staffing formula for elementary, middle, high and special education students that makes sure that our most academically challenged students get additional support, Student Achievement Goals in Academics, Essential Life Skills and Responsibility to the Community that focus our students' development on our aspirations not an SOL floor, a new FCPS management system that requires the Superintendent to provide the Board with monthly goals/objectives-based reporting, founding the first Board Audit Committee, a "Smart Savings" Task Force saving \$1 million, raises for our teachers after two years of salary reductions and freezes, three new south county schools and other MV District classrooms, an annual Education Summit that brings Fairfax County together to discuss our students' longer-term educational needs and many, many more.

Yes, there is much more to be done, including getting a new Board to add back the several high school honors courses that were eliminated. But, I am very confident that with your support on Nov. 8, these same listening and leadership skills that have proven so successful for our students, schools and community will continue delivering student performance improvements and better schools. It has been an honor to serve you.

Dan Storck

Mt. Vernon District Member
Fairfax County School Board

Importance Of Moderation

To the Editor:

When I ran for the Senate four years ago, I pledged to represent the people of the 39th District with energy, accountability, and full-time dedication. I believe I have accomplished much for the people of Northern Virginia thus far, and would be humbled to receive your vote again on Nov. 8.

Working with both Democrats and Republicans, I was the only Northern Virginia senator to get 20 bills passed this year, with measures to bring jobs to our region, protect women from dating violence, and give our returning veterans in-state tuition rates at our universities. I also carried three successful bills for Gov. McDonnell.

The most gratifying part of working in Richmond is the spirit of balance and compromise that distinguishes us from Washington. With split control of state government, we are able to get more done, such as balancing the 2011 budget unanimously without a tax increase, which resulted in a \$500 million surplus. Extremism and partisanship don't accomplish these goals — moderation and effectiveness do.

I still have much I hope to accomplish in the Senate, such as improving accountability at senior retirement communities, restoring K-12 funding, expanding capacity at our Virginia colleges to get more slots for Virginia students, and developing a long-term funding

source to ease our transportation woes. These are areas in which I believe Democrats and Republicans, the House and the Senate,

and Gov. McDonnell can work together to make real progress.

I would be honored to serve you for another term in the Senate.

George Lincoln Barker

Senator, 39th District
Fairfax and Prince William

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15

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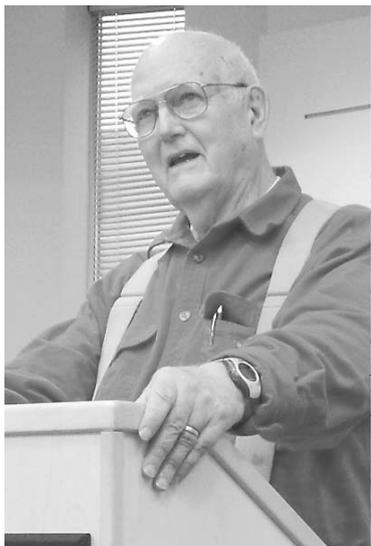
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PEOPLE



Stuart Nottingham



Lesley Tyson



Peter Lattu



Megan McDonald



Eric Johnson

PHOTOS BY ED SIMMONS, JR./THE GAZETTE

Potomac Poets Series Features Five Local Poets

Virginia Poetry Society sponsors event at Martha Washington Library.

BY ED SIMMONS, JR.
THE GAZETTE

About 25 braved Saturday morning's poetically dismal weather with its bone-chilling rain and bouncing hail to hear five local poets read their work at Martha Washington Library.

The Oct. 29 event, called the Potomac Poets Series, was sponsored by the Poetry Society of Virginia and featured readings

by Stuart Nottingham, Lesley Tyson, Peter Lattu, Megan McDonald and Eric Johnson, with introductions by Barry Amis.

Among the poems read by Nottingham, a former regional vice president of the Virginia Poetry Society, were these lines from "Monument to MLK":

"I look around / and see a black family / having breakfast, / a pretty blonde and her black boyfriend / sharing an intimate secret, / several businessmen / in deep conversation, / and a white waitress serving all / with a pleasant smile..."

Lesley Tyson, who hosts Poets Anonymous, was the second poet to read. Lines from her poem "the walls we build," published in "Poets Domain," include:

"We've been talking to our own graven images / of each other so long we've forgotten / who was really hiding on the other

side of the wall / we dug separate graves / to bury the each other remembered / through tinted glass / so we don't recognize the person / across the table."

Reading third was Peter Lattu who hosts the monthly Poetry Readaround at Sherwood Regional Library and gives poetry readings at the Hollin Hall Senior Center. Among his poems was "Halloween 4" inspired by the Virginia Florist window at Hollin Hall Shopping Center decorated for Halloween. An excerpt:

"The hostess / a skeleton / in a white jacket / spectacles / and a feathered pillbox hat / offers drinks / from a bottle / signed with death's own / skull and crossbones..."

Megan McDonald, who also hosts Poets Anonymous, read her poems next. From "Quick Silver Dreams" are these lines:

"I fly with dream messages / in the hope of sleep / I hear the underscore of earth / to pull me back from the illusion / of dream to the here of earth time / and I dream no more. / And quick silver flies alone / bearing messages to no one."

The last to read, Eric Johnson, wrote these lines from "Old Graveyard":

"Faded epitaphs and names from other eras / Hide now on tilted, fallen, weathered stones. / Stark are the remaining angels and / Obelisks trying to stand this stillness... / No one has been here / In a very long time."

The Virginia Poetry Society, founded in 1923 at the College of William and Mary, features a yearly poetry writing contest with 30 categories of competition.

The deadline, Jan. 19, is Edgar Allan Poe's birthday.

A Reading of 'I.M. Green'



Two of Gudrun Hooff's grandchildren, Eloise and Augusta, tell each other their story about the story of "I.M. Green."

Gudrun Hooff and her daughter Maremi Andreozzi invited friends over to the Hooff Cottage on Tuesday, Oct. 25, on South Quaker Lane for the reading of their new book, "I.M. Green."

Gudrun wrote the adventure story of a frog living in a pond near her house in Lorton, Va. and her daughter Maremi Hooff Andreozzi created the illustrations.

The book is presently available online at www.imgreenchildrensbook.com.



husband was assigned overseas in Guam and also by her son's love of stories. Maremi now lives in Mount Vernon with her husband and two children.

Gudrun's inspiration for writing the book is her love of reading to her children and now her grandchildren. Andreozzi was inspired to paint waterlife in the tropics while her



Author Gudrun Hooff reads the story of "I.M. Green" to the children.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/GAZETTE PACKET

PEOPLE

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE



Happy Halloween

Liz, Jennifer and Rex Reiley greet the Trick-or-Treaters on Monday evening with candy and a new book. They decided to give books along with candy to all of the children that visited Liz's home in Hollin Hall. Hundreds of books were purchased. As children arrived, they received candy and then were told to choose a book that they would like to read.

Kayla Hubbell spots a favorite book, Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are." A note was placed in each book concluding with "Please enjoy our gift as a reminder that tough times draw families and communities closer together. And that, too, is a gift." Signed Rex, Doris and Liz Reiley.



**School Board -
Mt. Vernon District**

★★★★

**Keeping our Schools
World Class!**

★★★★

Experienced Leadership Delivering

- ★ Increased Student Achievement & Graduations
- ★ Increased Technical Certifications & Advanced Coursework
- ★ Increased Auditing, Accountability & Classroom Funding
- ★ New Schools, Classrooms & Support for MV District Students

Endorsements

- ★ **Fairfax Education Association:** "A man of great integrity and leadership, our highly recommended choice."
- ★ **Fairfax County Federation of Teachers:** "Dan's proactive leadership has made a crucial difference for our teachers and our students."
- ★ **The Washington Post:** "Mr. Storck has a reputation as a careful listener with a businessman's appreciation for data. He's also not afraid to do battle for things he believes in, as evidenced by his fight to restore summer school. He would provide important continuity."

Re-Elect November 8th | www.DanStorck.org

Authorized and paid for by Dan Storck

John Barsa for Delegate.

Let's stop the bickering and get results.

We need our elected officials to stop bickering like cats and dogs. John Barsa is running for Delegate to end the pointless arguing and actually accomplish things that make a positive difference for Virginia families.

John Barsa will bring people together to get results:

- **Creating jobs** by fostering an environment that encourages small businesses to grow and attracts new employers to our region
- **Expanding** adult education opportunities around Mount Vernon to give people a better chance to retain or get a job
- **Practical solutions** that improve transportation and reduce gridlock now
- **Ensuring** our children have the best schools we can provide

**John
Barsa**
For Delegate

www.votebarsa.com
703-951-7044

Paid for and authorized by Barsa for Delegate.



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~ Saturday, November 5th, 1-4 pm ~ Drop In, Meet & Greet, Refreshments ~
317 Mansion Drive Alexandria, VA 22302



**Unlike anything you've seen before!
Located on one of the finest streets in Alexandria.**

Completely remodeled in 2011. 6000 square feet on 4 fully finished levels, 6 bed rooms, 6.5 baths, library, formal living and dining rooms, sun room. Master suite with gas fireplace, spa-like bathrooms, gourmet eat-in kitchen ~ **\$2,499,000**

Enjoy the just finished outdoor fireplace ♦ Tour the home ♦ Discuss your local Real Estate Market with Alexandria Expert Phyllis Patterson ♦ Meet your neighbors ♦ Ask the builders advice on your own home ♦ Discuss homes not yet on the market ♦

Also Available Saturday Nov 5th
Information, site, and building plans for the fabulous 3/4 acre lot on the corner of Oakland Terrace and Braddock Road. Just listed for \$1,195,000. Build Your Dream home!



Just Listed in Mt. Vernon! Open Sunday 1-4



4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 level, pristine colonial in mint condition w/ library, sunroom, and fully finished basement with kitchen and bar. Over 5500 finished square feet. Sparkling kitchen with stainless steel appliances and breakfast room opens to large 2-story family room with fireplace. Private fenced backyard with hot tub. New hot water heater and heat pump. ~\$675,000

3619 Drews Court Alexandria, VA 22309

Just Listed in Fort Hunt! Open Sunday 1-4



Stunning Colonial on Culdesac. Stratford Elem. 4000 fin sq ft, Steps to Library & Mt Vernon Hospital. 3 finished levels in pristine condition. 2 story foyer. Large kitchen with breakfast area open to family room w/ Vaulted ceilings & fireplace. Beautiful back yard with large deck, quite yard and play set. 4 Bedrooms up and finished lower level with luxury full bath and wet bar. Sprinkler system ~\$719,000

2802 Holland Court Alexandria, VA 22306

SOLD!



1117 Woodcliff Drive Alexandria, VA 22308

Under Contract in 12 Days!



9312 Old Mansion Road Alexandria, VA 22309



With a volume of \$38 Million in 2010, why turn anywhere else? I am your Alexandria Real Estate Expert.

The Market is Moving... Are You?



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Sunnyside **\$504,900**
 3913A Elbert Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22305
Absolutely stunning renovation! Owner has lavished \$\$\$ on top of the line kitchen with LG appliances, maple cabinets, granite counters & gleaming Brazilian cherry hardwood floors! 3 levels, 3BR/3.5BA/1CG! **Nicky McDonnell 703-201-3318**



River Towers **\$160,000**
 6621 Wakefield Drive, #606, Alexandria, VA 22307
Great Opportunity. Why rent when you can own this cute, bright 6th floor, 1BR in popular River Towers. Ready to be updated. Close to shopping and public transportation. Priced to sell! **Ed Pagett 571-237-4753**



Old Town **\$3,175,000**
 712 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
 Circa 1802, this magnificent 5BR +5BA residence boasts a grand entrance hallway with keystone archway, a 40 foot living room, exquisite moldings, 12 1/2 ft ceilings + 5 fps. Reasonably priced. **Donnan C. Wintermute 703-518-6156**

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Wilton Woods **\$605,000**
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Belle Haven Meadows **\$639,900**
 2500 Dawn Drive, Alexandria, VA 22306
Classic Brick Colonial 3600 sq. ft. of custom luxury upgrades. This 5 BR 3.5 BA on a quiet cul-de-sac consist of gourmet kitchen, master suite w/ sitting room, study w/ built-ins, theatre room in renovated LL. **Cathy D'Antuono 703-819-3077**



The Watergate at Landmark **\$209,400**
 309 Yoakum Parkway, #1516, Alexandria, VA 22304
 Resort Living in 1309 sqft 2 BR/2BA w/great views & balcony. Move In Ready! Condo fee covers All Utilities, 24/7 gated security, shuttle to metro, pools, gym & much more. **The Jill & Liz Team - www.jillandliz.com**



Riverside Gardens **\$575,000**
 1905 Old Stage Road, Alexandria, VA 22308
 Great New Price! Great New Look! Gleaming refinished hardwood floors in spacious 5 BR, 3 BA split foyer with a new roof & 2 fireplaces. Fenced backyard. Stratford Landing Elem. Priced to sell! **Terry Ann Stevens 757-647-4705**



The Eclipse **\$349,000**
 3650 Glebe Road South, #247, Arlington, VA 22202
 Stylish 1BR/1BA. Gourmet kitchen w/maple cabs, granite & stainless. Balc. w/sunny view. Contemporary bldg. in great location near DC. Garage & storage. Concierge, pool, fitness Ctr, Rooftop Terrace, Shuttle to Metro. **Eloise Brantley 703-408-4887**



Historic Old Town **\$1,995,000**
 608 Oronoco Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
 Located across from Lee's boyhood home, rare find exquisite 3,000+sqft, 4BR/4.5BA. Landscaped backyard retreat, garage & 4-car parking. Spectacular addition, kitchen renovation & MBR suite. UphamRealEstate.com. **Chris Upham 202-359-1308**



Old Town Alexandria

310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300



*Data based on closed and recorded transaction sides of homes sold for \$1 million or more as reported by the U.S. Coldwell Banker® franchise system for the calendar year 2010. \$USD.
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There's Never Been a Better Time For a Change...



Teachers Say...Get Educated!



Did you know?

Teachers and Parents Agree on School Board candidates!

Did you know that the Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform, and the Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, are endorsing the SAME CANDIDATES for School Board?

- *It's time for a change that will bring the necessary resources to our neediest students, and provide differentiated support for all FCPS kids,*
- *It's time for a change that will bring greater sensitivity and a restorative, educational, and therapeutic discipline process to our children,*
- *It's time for a change that will bring greater professional autonomy for our teachers to start teaching with creativity, and not 'to the test'.*



These candidates will bring about change for the better:

- **Braddock:** Megan McLaughlin • **Lee:** Tamara Derenak Kaufax
- **Providence:** Patty Reed • **Dranesville:** Louise Epstein
- **Mason:** Sandy Evans • **Mt. Vernon:** Dan Storck
- **Hunter Mill:** Pat Hynes
- **At-Large:** Lolita Mancheno-Smoak, Steve Stuban

Every child, parent, and teacher matters.

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 8TH ~ SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS MATTER!

VOTE FOR THE FCPS BOND REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 8TH TO IMPROVE OUR SCHOOLS!

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 9

counties and the City of Alexandria

Sheriff's Accomplishments

To the Editor:

This is what I hate about politics — the exploitation of non-issues to demonize a dedicated public servant. It's an ugly business and it puts another nail in the coffin of good government. That's what the race for Fairfax County sheriff has become.

Let me tell you about my experience. As a Fairfax County Supervisor, I have worked closely with Sheriff Barry over the past four years. He's saved taxpayers millions of dollars through his innovative programs. His Community Labor Force assigns teams of non-violent inmates to work on County public works projects such as graffiti removal, blight abatement, snow removal, bus stop maintenance, and even mowing of medians. That's saved taxpayers \$1.5 million a year. Sheriff Barry recently expanded this program to the County's Stormwater Management Division to maintain and repair key County stormwater structures.

Additionally, Sheriff Barry has

made responsible reductions to the Sheriff's Department during the worst recession of our generation, returning \$2.5 million last year and \$1.5 million this year to County taxpayers. His privatizing of the jail and the kitchen has saved us another million. He understands how to respond to the worst recession of this generation.

He's recovered more than \$2 million for the county by booting cars of tax scofflaws and collecting delinquent parking fines and he's successfully grown our Federal grant collections by more than \$8 million.

Sheriff Barry has a history of community involvement. Take a look at just a few of the ways he helps our communities. There's the annual Shop with a Sheriff event to buy school clothes and supplies for underprivileged children and the Project Lifesaver program that helps to locate children with autism or adults with Alzheimer's who have wandered and are lost. Under Sheriff Barry's guidance, deputies partner with local corporate sponsors and community businesses to provide state-of-the-art child identification, fingerprinting, and child safety seat inspections at no cost to parents.

The election of the sheriff is not always on voters' radar screens but

I can tell you that who we elect matters. I hope you will join me on Nov. 8 in voting for our sheriff, Stan Barry.

Jeffrey C. McKay
Lee District Supervisor

Diligent And Creative

To the Editor:

I want to voice my strong support for re-electing Dan Storck to the school board. My first interactions with Dan were in 2004. What struck me was the deep interest he took in our community's concerns and how diligently he worked to find creative solutions. Through the years, he has continued to be great listener and leader.

Most recently, he was instrumental in instituting universal full-day kindergarten, demonstrating that he supports all children in the Mount Vernon district, even those in the two schools without FDK. I saw Dan not only fight for county-wide FDK but also for teachers pay and for summer school in Mount Vernon. He is an excellent advocate for his district.

With all the upcoming retirements from the school board, we have never needed Dan's leadership more. A number of programs

of particular importance to Mount Vernon may be at risk. Mount Vernon and Fairfax County need Dan Storck's experience on the school board.

Randy Becker

Sensible Listeners

To the Editor:

School Board races should be about improving the quality of our children's education. Instead, the school board race this year has deteriorated into one side arguing for the dismantling of our current system in favor of Tea Party-charged ideals that pit the "haves" against the "have-nots."

Ryan McElveen, Ilryong Moon, and Ted Velkoff recognize the need for increased funding as our population increases and have been presenting a positive message of reforming the school system to offer more 21st century skill-based learning. On Nov. 8, the choice is clear. We need to elect sensible listeners who will be positive examples for our children, not candidates who think they have all the answers. We need to elect Ryan McElveen, Ilryong Moon, and Ted Velkoff.

Katie Lee, Alexandria

Offer Hope at Rising Hope this Thanksgiving

•Thanksgiving Food Basket

Every Thanksgiving, Rising Hope provides all the fixings for between 300-325 families.



A list of items needed includes hams, turkeys, roasting chickens, canned broth or gravy, boxed stuffing, mac & cheese, rice & dried beans, boxed corn bread & muffin mix, canned vegetables, canned yams or sweet potatoes, canned or powdered milk, canned fruit and boxed potatoes.

Deliver no later than November 15; Baskets are distributed on the 16th & 17th.

•Thanksgiving Day Meal

Every Thanksgiving Day, we need volunteers to feed a hot Thanksgiving meal to about 50-60 hungry people who walk in off the street.

For details, phone 703-360-1976
Rising Hope Mission Church,
8220 Russell Road, 22309
Special thanks to

Mount Vernon Gazette

SCOTT SUROVELL: Our neighbor. Our values. Our Delegate.

Born and raised in Mount Vernon, Scott Surovell has been committed to putting our community first his whole life. As our Delegate, he's focused on real solutions in the Warner-Kaine tradition, addressing the challenges facing our Commonwealth.

- ★ Helped secure and fund \$3 million toward the US 1 Transit Study, the first legally required step to widen US 1 and extend the Yellow Line.
- ★ Led the fight to restore and protect \$300 million per year of federal and state Metro funding.
- ★ Protected over \$150 million of Fairfax County school funding from proposed cuts by the Richmond Republicans.
- ★ Passed seven bills including eliminating the school bus reckless driving loophole, making our children safer on the way to school.

Endorsed by

The Washington Post

"A politically astute freshman ... who's been a strong advocate for revitalizing Route 1."

VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8!
POLLS OPEN 6AM-7PM

Paid for and authorized by Scott A. Surovell for Delegate.

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ALEXANDRIA

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Managing Broker
Bill Jourdan

ALL of these properties are OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6th from 1pm - 4pm!
TOUR our homes. . . TALK to a PROSPERITY MORTGAGE loan officer

OPEN SUN **JUST LISTED**

7929 Bayberry Dr
\$549,000
Spacious Home-Two Car Garage!
A large home in prime location with an oversized 2 car garage for under \$550,000 is the hardest property to find! Spacious home with 5 levels, 4 bedrooms including private master suite, hardwood floors and many updates throughout. Gorgeous setting minutes from Old Town. OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; R-Candlewood; L-Bayberry.

OPEN SUN

3805 Riverwood Rd
\$679,000
Unique Opportunity!
Large home just substantially updated priced for immediate sale! Many fab features include: 3 fin levels, 4BR, updated kitchen and baths, new HVAC system and side load two car garage. Home was just completely redecorated and is in "move-in" condition. Prime location on large corner lot. Best price in neighborhood. OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past estate; L-Old Mount Vernon Rd; L-Riverwood Rd.

OPEN SUN

2300 Candlewood
\$585,000
Expanded Tri-Level!
Builder's own! Exceptionally large well maintained home for the money! Fabulous property in prime location featuring 4 bedrooms, bright open floor plan, finished lower level and large breakfast kitchen area. Most major rooms have been substantially expanded. Private backyard features large pool and deck. Unique opportunity! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; R-Candlewood.

OPEN SUN **JUST LISTED**

8723 Badger Dr
\$439,000
Stunning Renovation!
Completely renovated - shows like model home! Prime location on huge lot fronting quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Virtually every major component including roof, appliances, kitchen and baths are brand new! Just minutes from Fort Belvoir. Great value! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S, past estate; R-Old Mill; R-Badger.

OPEN SUN **JUST LISTED**

8612 Fort Hunt Rd
\$739,000
Total Renovation - Fort Hunt Area!
Classic brick colonial just totally renovated from top to bottom by one of area's leading builders. Special features include: three luxuriously finished levels, large room sizes, gourmet kitchen, four BRs, including stunning master suite, updated baths, gorgeous hardwood floors, garage parking and fabulous private backyard. Sought after Fort Hunt area! OPEN SUN 11/6, 1-4! GW Pkwy S; R-Collingwood; L-Fort Hunt Rd.

NEW PRICE

3718 Carriage House Ct
\$699,000
Riverwood Opportunity!
Spacious 5 bedroom home on quiet cul-de-sac in prestigious waterfront community. 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!

JUST LISTED

9387 Mount Vernon Cir
\$979,000
Majestic Home-Mt. Vernon on the Potomac!
Unique opportunity-bargain price on property with true estate potential in area's leading waterfront community. Private marina access. Home offers approx 6,000 sq ft living space, brick exterior, spacious rooms, open kitchen-fam room, high ceilings, library with custom built-ins, 3 finished levels, 4FPs and oversized garage. Half acre grounds, custom pool.

NEW PRICE

8890 McNair Dr
\$699,000
Pristine Custom Colonial!
Custom colonial in enclave of 17 homes on quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by grounds of Mt Vernon Country Club. Many fabulous features include: large room sizes, stained hardwood floors, updated kit & baths, open kitchen-family room, upgraded trim detail & custom built-ins. Spacious master suite and 2 car gar. Pristine condition on gorgeous professionally landscaped lot.

NEW PRICE **JUST LISTED**

4009 Colonial Ave
\$749,500
New Home-Gorgeous Site!
Pre-construction opportunity-fabulous home by Wakefield Homes on gorgeous half acre level lot on quiet street in the heart of Mt. Vernon. Popular Belle View model with open floor plan, fabulous amenities and quality construction that have made Wakefield Mt. Vernon's leading builder for generations. Exceptional value-priced significantly lower than other new home on street. (Pre-construction picture is of similar house)

SOLD!

4503 Ferry Landing Rd
\$585,000
One
Level Luxury!
Rare opportunity
Spacious one lvl home in premier

SOLD!

1907 Rampart Dr
\$587,000
Stunning Home
Amazing Price!
Owner moved and sell now! Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to acquire a

SOLD!

4313 Amblewood
\$298,000
Terrific large
end unit townhouse
just minutes to Fort Belvoir. In

\$ 419,000
Alexandria
6910 COLUMBIA DR
VALUE ADDED! Both lvs of hardwood floors refurbished & refinished plus paint (\$ 4K in improvements) add to newer HVAC, HWH, siding, windows, kit & prof. landscaping. 3BR/2BA Cape-W Potomac pyramid. DIR: S on Ft Hunt, R on

Louise Devers 703.795.9944
Glenn Witucki 703.518.8708

\$ 699,900
Waynewood
1012 CROTON DR
Great attention to detail!
• 5 Fin. lvs / 2,700 SF
• New Baths, New Windows, 5 New Skylights, New Roof
• Dual Zone

New open Kit w/SS Appls. + Granite CT
FD's open to Florida Room
200 Amps. Electrical upgrade
And much more...

Martine Irmr 703.346.7283

\$ 409,623
Grove at Huntley Meadows
3409 BLUE MALLARD LANDING
Pristine, fully finished 3 level home, 3BR/2.55BA, 2 SGD walkouts, lower level gas fireplace, large enclosed redwood deck, foyer/ kitchen have wood floors, 1 car garage, community pool, 1 mile to Metro, minutes to 95/495, Ft Belvoir & shopping.

Janice Allen 703.509.0906

\$ 345,900
Fairfax
5435 CROWS NEST CT
Bright and spacious w/lots of designer touches: chair & crown molding, top-of-the-line glass pane doors to brick patio, granite, eco-friendly Pergo & more! Kitchen has breakfast area, large LR w/frpl & sep DR w/French doors to oversized deck. Close to VRE.

Georgia McLaughlin / Patricia Landaeta 703.628.4663

\$ 975,000
Alex / Mt Vernon
4712 NEPTUNE DR
Stunning property w/ great water views & boat dock on Dogue Creek Lagoon gives easy access to the Potomac. Beautifully updated, great entertaining spaces in & out. 2-car gar, pool, 5 acre lot + more.

Betty Quirk & Suzanne Backus 703.338.3594

\$ 369,900
Alexandria
8109 WINGFIELD PL
Hollin Hall Opportunity! Great chance to renovate/expand this 2 level, brick rambler. Backs to woods in a fabulous cul-de-sac location. Home is habitable, but in need of updating and/or remodeling. 2BR/1BA.

Adele dePolo 703.298.5987

\$ 590,000
Alexandria
6106 MULBERRY CT
New kitchen & baths, hardwood everywhere, screened porch, deck & private fenced backyard. All this & a lovely quiet neighborhood close to Ft. Belvoir, Alexandria, DC & Huntington Metro. You have to see this home to appreciate it.

www.bonnieclarkrealtor.com
Bonnie Clark 703.725.9449

\$ 379,900
Alexandria South
6620 DALEBROOK ST
Reduced 4 quick sale! 4 lvl brick atop pretty knoll - fresh paint, private yard w/Koi pond. Wood fls on 2 lvs. Kit has granite & SS. Rec rm w/raised hearth brick FF. Tons of storage in bsmt. Huge enclosed porch. Major systems updated: windows, roof, AC, H2O heater & W/D. Near schools, Metro, shops, EZ access to Old Town / DC.

Mary Siverson 703.209.6918

\$ 649,000
Waynewood
907 DALEBROOK
Rarely available "Amberly" center hall colonial. 3 levels, 4BR, renovated kit, finished walk-out basement, large screened porch off LR, garage & huge, fenced private backyard. Walk to pool, park & school.

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

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 5!
\$ 399,000
Alexandria / Huntington
5825 BERKSHIRE CT
WALK TO METRO. Spacious 3 level TH on quiet court w/3BR up, 2.5BA, large eat-in kitchen, family room fireplace, walks out to huge yard, new HVAC, HWH, many updates Call...

ReneeSellsAlexandria.com
Renee Reymond 703.507.5330

\$ 400,000
Fairlington Villages
"COLUMBUS ST S"
JUST LISTED! Beautiful 3 level, 2BR/2BA townhouse w/hardwood floors thru-out, big living room w/great views, remodeled kitchen w/granite, private landscaped patio, basement fully finished w/huge rec room & den, modern appls, new energy efficient A/C, reserved parking, pool, tennis & other fantastic amenities.

Joe Dobbyn 703.489.3710

\$ 575,000
Alex / Hollin Hills
7308 REBECCA DR
Expanded & updated 3BR/2BA mid-century home on .47 acre. Open kitchen/dining/living w/full wall of glass overlooking patio w/valley & sunset views. Ext. just painted! Updated electric, window treatments, high end doors & landscaping.

Mike Shapiro 301.503.6171
Sean Satkus 703.887.2116



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\$75 off from us!

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Laser, Injectables, Skincare
3 Days!!!

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purchase - 703.339.1214

WELL BEING

Got Troubles? Get a Dog

Canines specialize at making people happy.

By ED SIMMONS, JR.
THE GAZETTE

Feeling low? Need some cheering up? As Mount Vernon area veterinarians and dog owners will say, a good way to get happier, and stay happier, is to adopt a dog.

"It's important to have a consistent presence that unquestioningly enjoys being with us," said Dr. Ami Krasner, a veterinarian at Hollin Hall Animal Hospital. "They're great companionship and for some people they literally are their best friend. They help us live longer, healthier, happy lives."

Studies have shown that merely petting a dog lowers our heart rate and blood pressure. Interaction with them even decreases cholesterol and triglyceride levels, in addition to lessening feelings of loneliness.

As Dr. Elias Souri, a veterinarian at Hybla Valley Veterinary Hospital, said, "Dogs provide comfort and support, particularly with the elderly. When the kids are gone, and maybe a spouse has died, a dog is an object of affection that gives structure to life, something to look forward to."

Studies have shown that nursing homes that feature companion animals have a re-



PHOTOS BY ED SIMMONS, JR./THE GAZETTE

Dr. Ami Krasner and Lucy.

duced need for medication. Emotionally, dogs improve our mood, whether we're elderly or young.

Then there's the plain fun of having a dog.
SEE GET A DOG, PAGE 20

Keeping Fairfax Families Safe

Cooper for Sheriff



Strong Leadership With a Tough on Crime Agenda

"I have dedicated my life, first as a sergeant in the U.S. Army and later as a Fairfax County Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant, to making our Country, County and neighborhoods safe. As your Sheriff, I will not sit behind a desk. I will be out in the community, as I have been for over 23 years, standing side by side with fellow law enforcement officers. Together we will arrest the 4000 fugitives living in our neighborhoods, fight the gangs that are infecting our schools, and run a tough and secure jail."

- Bill Cooper, Deputy Sheriff Lieutenant (Ret.), Fairfax County

"Bill Cooper is a true public servant and will do an outstanding job as the next Sheriff of Fairfax County. Bill's exemplary service to the County in the Sheriff's Department is commendable and his commitment to taking leadership positions shows he is ready to lead the department. Bill Cooper will do exactly as he says: Keep Fairfax Families Safe. Please join me in supporting Bill Cooper for Fairfax County Sheriff on November 8."

- Governor Bob McDonnell
71st Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Supported by Deputies, Police Officers and Firefighters

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PASSIONATE PEOPLE



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Two River Towers Condos for Sale

[Belle View Neighborhood ~ Just South of Old Town]

Resort-like living on 26 acres! Landscaped gardens, pool with cabana, tennis courts, picnic grove, garden plots, etc. Enjoy Mt. Vernon trail, shopping nearby, commuter bus to METRO, ample parking! Condo fee includes all utilities. VA & FHA approved.

Fabulous views of the Potomac! Spacious two bedroom condo nestled in the trees, expansive living area flooded with light, gleaming hardwood floors & ample closet space. **You'll love it at \$239,500**

6641 Wakefield Dr – Unit 913 – Open Sunday 1 to 3

Charm and privacy are yours from this secluded patio unit opening to landscaped grounds: updated kitchen, two bedroom, 1½ baths, closets galore. Make it yours!
6621 Wakefield Dr – Unit 109 – Open Sunday 3 to 5



Team Maison 703-310-7880

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6354 Walker Lane, Suite 100
Alexandria, VA 22310



HELP WANTED:

Full Time Editorial

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WELL BEING



Marlowe, reports Leslie Reiman, is a big, friendly greeter. Under her other hand is Jack.

Got Troubles? Get a Dog

FROM PAGE 18

At Fort Hunt Animal Hospital, Dr. Jennifer Bowles said, “Watching a puppy play instantly brings a happy feeling. That’s why they have the puppy in the Cottonelle commercial.”

Studies have also shown that families that get a dog report greater happiness. “Even for young families,” said Dr. Bowles, “having a dog can help children learn responsibility and can stave off depression. They probably increase endorphins.”

Dogs also don’t hold grudges. “They’re very forgetful,” she added, “in a good way.”

Dog lover Deborah Allers, church secretary at Rising Hope Mission Church near Route 1, overflows with love for her little dog Chauncey, saying, “Nobody

loves you like a dog. When I come home and pet him, I can just feel the calmness. When I’m away, he’s sitting in the window waiting for me to come home.”

Gleeful dog homecomings also make life special for Leslie Reiman of River Farm Drive. “You can come home even in a horrible mood and when your dog comes up, it’s an immediate stress reducer,” she said. Her Great Dane, Marlowe, weighs in at 175 pounds of stress-relieving, unqualified friendliness.

Whether it’s a huge dog like Marlowe or a cute little one like Chauncey, bringing a dog into the home is a prescription for a happier life.

“If you love and provide for them,” said Deborah Allers, “they’re your ‘Forever Friend.’”



Dr. Elias Souri.



Dr. Jennifer Bowles and Vet Assistant Shannon Rohr with Dexter.

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Schedule for the Alexandria Film Festival

The fifth-annual Alexandria Film Festival will kick off a four-day celebration of cinematic arts, featuring emerging and established filmmakers from all over the world Thursday, Nov. 3 through Sunday, Nov. 6.

More than 200 high-quality, independent, short and feature length films, documentaries, animation and narrative entries from 25 countries were received — some from as far away as China and Australia, said Pat Miller, chair of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

Two new locations will be added to this year's festival — the Alexandria Black History Museum and the Four Mile Run Community Center.

The Alexandria Black History Museum will feature "Checkers at 9th & S" about a checkers club whose members gather for camaraderie, trash talking, and competitive checkers playing. "Meet The Shark," "Chicago," "The Stealer," "Boy Wonder," "The Weasel," "Johnnie Cool," "The Hawk" and "The Master of Disaster," among others.

Special guests include Director Peggy Fleming and the men from The Capital Pool Checkers Club. Q&A with audience.

The Four Mile Run Community center will feature a first-time outdoor celebration with an exciting lineup of Latino films Friday, Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. This special event is free and open to the public.

The festival will conclude Sunday, Nov. 6 with a celebration of this year's Festival Jury Prize Winner "Des Indiens Comme Nous," ("Indians Like Us"), a quirky and touching film about a group of French people who share an obsession for everything Native American. When they finally arrive in the United States, they discover the reality is quite different from their idealized vision.

The 2011 Film Festival, organized and presented by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and the Alexandria Office of the Arts, Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities, exhibits both curated and juried films that range in length from 5 minutes to 2 hours and cover a wide range of subject matter. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the website at AlexandriaFilm.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Thursday/Nov. 3

OLD TOWN THEATER 815 King Street

ED HARDY TATTOO THE WORLD 9 p.m.
An artist's journey, his unexpected rise to cult status and his phenomenal influence on pop culture. With one foot in the world of tattooing and the other planted in the fine arts, each informed the other.
(Documentary, 86m, USA) Director: Emiko Omori. Special Guest: Emiko Omori. Q&A with audience.

Friday/Nov. 4

GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL 101 Callahan Drive

JOUEUSE (QUEEN TO PLAY)
7 p.m. - Auditorium
Sandrine Bonnaire and Kevin Kline shine in this sophisticated drama set in idyllic Corsica. Middle-aged chambermaid Hélène's newfound obsession with the game of chess leads her to seek the tutelage of a reclusive American expat, transforming both of their lives in the process.
(Drama, 97m, France) Director: Caroline Bottaro. French with English Subtitles

FOR AARON: THE DOCUMENTARY
7 p.m. - North Lodge
A heart and soul film about coping with the death of a best friend by honoring life, not loss. Follow two lifelong friends as they embark on the greatest journey of their young lives as they cycle across America discovering just how far friendship, faith and family will carry.
(Documentary, 111m, USA) Director: Justine Jarrett Special Guests: Justine Jarrett and Geoff Piraino (Cast Member). Q&A with audience.

PROTEKTOR
D.C. Premiere 9 p.m. - Auditorium
A young married couple finds themselves on opposite sides of the conflict after the Nazi occupation learns that the wife, a film actress, is of Jewish descent. Meanwhile, her husband, a conflicted Czechoslovak Radio journalist, believes he can protect her by becoming the voice of Nazi propaganda in the occupied country.
(Drama, 98m, Czech Republic) Director: Marek Najbrt Czech and German with English Subtitles

WISH ME AWAY
9:15 p.m. - North Lodge
An intimate look at Chely Wright, the first country music star to come out as gay. After a lifetime of hiding, she shatters cultural and religious stereotypes, exposes her truth to her family and fans, and reveals how "Don't Ask Don't Tell" has found its way into the country music world.
(Documentary, 87m, USA) Directors: Bobbie Birleffi and Beverly Kopf.

Friday/Nov. 4

ATHENAEUM 201 Prince Street

TOUCHED BY A LAWYER 7 p.m.
Phil has a phenomenal ability, but one that — practically speaking — seems all but useless. That is, until an accidental encounter convinces him that he may have a chance to be a real superhero.
(Comedy, 5m, USA) Director: William R. Coughlan. Special Guest: William Coughlan. Q&A with audience.

AIR World Premiere
7:25 p.m.
A fast-paced action adventure about falling in love at the end of the world. When all the air on the planet instantly becomes un-breathable, two people find each other as they struggle to survive.
(Drama, 14m, UK) Director: Keir Burrows

A LOVE STORY...IN MILK (World Premiere)
7:40 p.m.
The path of true love never does run smooth... especially if you're a bottle of milk. Follow these star-crossed lovers from factory to fridge and beyond.
(Romance, 2m, UK) Director/Writer: Danann Breathnach. Special Guest: Thembisa Cochrane (Producer). Q&A with audience.

SECRET CLUB
D.C. Premiere 8:15 p.m.
The film tells the story of Kyle who is bored of high school and its equally boring clubs until, listening to the morning announcements, he hears about the mysterious Secret Club. By 16-year old Ben Kadie, the festival's youngest featured filmmaker.
(Comedy, 3m, USA) Director/Writer: Ben Kadie.

ATROZ (AWFUL)
D.C. Premiere 8:20 p.m.
Atroz is a curmudgeon teddy bear who tells us the lengths that he will go to flee from his owner, Luna, a girl that harasses him every moment with her devotion.
(Comedy, 9m, Spain) Director: Francisco Alvarez. Spanish with English Subtitles

GRANT ST. SHAVING COMPANY
D.C. Premiere 8:30 p.m.
An Indian widower visits his workaholic daughter in New York. When he breaks his favorite razor, a first anniversary present from his late wife, he sets off on his own to find the shop they visited long ago.
(Drama, 14m, USA) Director/Writer: Payal Sethi.

GOD AND VODKA
D.C. Premiere 8:45 p.m.
A lyrical drama about a writer's final attempt to capture the words and moments, both touching and comedic, of a relationship that ended all too soon.
(Romance, 28m, USA) Director/Writer/Actor: Daniel Stine. Special Guest: Daniel Stine. Q&A with audience.

FOUR MILE RUN COMMUNITY CENTER
4109 Mount Vernon Avenue

IN THE IMAGE OF GOD
7 p.m.

After several years of getting to know her neighbors of Chirilagua and building trusting relationships, Dawnielle Miller now runs after-school mentoring and Bible study programs for children in the community. She describes her spiritual calling to social justice and the difficult sacrifices it requires.
(Documentary, 7m, USA) Director: Gillian Ray.

CINEMA LIBERTAD
7:15 p.m.
Two young friends give life back to the old and abandoned Cinema Libertad. With the use of a ray of light, they tell stories to the people living inside the old movie theater.
(Drama, 25m, El Salvador) Director/Writer: Arturo Menendez. Spanish with English Subtitles

AUSENTES (THE ABSENT ONES)
7:45 p.m.
An intimate look at the emotional relationships between mothers and children separated by immigration, and the physical and legal barriers that prevent them from reuniting.
(Documentary, 36m, USA) Director: Tomas Guevara. Special Guest: Tomas Guevara Spanish with English Subtitles

DREAMING NICARAGUA
U.S. Premiere 8:30 p.m.
A moving portrayal of five children submerged in poverty in Nicaragua. Filmed with gut-wrenching honesty, humor and joy, this film witnesses the courage and dignity of the human spirit while facing a dark side of our modern world.
(Documentary, 60m, Spain) Director/Writer: Marcelo Bukin. Special Guest: Marcelo Bukin Spanish with English Subtitles

ATROZ (AWFUL)
D.C. Premiere 9:30 p.m.
Atroz is a curmudgeon teddy bear who tells us the lengths that he will go to flee from his owner, Luna, a girl that harasses him every moment with her devotion.
(Comedy, 9m, Spain) Director: Francisco Alvarez. Spanish with English Subtitles

Saturday/Nov. 5

GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL 101 Callahan Drive

UNFINISHED SPACES
D.C. Premiere
1 p.m. - Auditorium
An enlightening story about the atmosphere of revolutionary Cuba and how Fidel Castro strove to create an entirely new language of Cuban architecture. This is the story of the rise and fall of the National Arts Schools and the recent efforts to restore these abandoned spaces, but still extraordinary, spaces.
(Documentary, 93m, USA) Director: Alysa Nahmias and Benjamin Murray. English and Spanish with English Subtitles

GESTACIÓN
1 p.m. - North Lodge
Entangled in an emotional whirlwind of first love, two teenagers face the consequences of their carelessness and the hypocrisy of the adults in their lives. When Jessie learns she is pregnant, she and Teo discover the punishment of the Latin-American double standard. Inspired by a true story.
(Drama, 91m, Costa Rica) Director: Esteban Ramírez Spanish with English Subtitles

THE PRUITT-IGOE MYTH
3 p.m. - Auditorium
The transformation of the American city in the decades following World War II, through the lens of the infamous Pruitt-Igoe public housing development and the words of the St. Louis residents who called it home. Some blamed the architecture, some blamed the government and others blamed the residents.
(Documentary, 83m, USA) Director: Chad Freidrichs.

LATZUF (FLOATING)
World Premiere
3 p.m. - North Lodge
Reut's parents don't know how to make her lose weight, so they send her for therapy at a children's ward for eating disorders. In the hospital, Reut meets Lilach who is the complete opposite of her, a skinny and pale anorexic.
(Drama, 30m, Israel) Director/Writer: Inbal Givolter. Hebrew with English Subtitles

LEAP BEFORE YOU LOOK
D.C. Premiere
3:30 p.m. - North Lodge
Faced with his wife's desire to become a mother, a filmmaker goes on a quest to find out how people decide to have kids and identify the sources of his own hesitation. What emerges is an intimate story, peppered with humor and poignancy.
(Documentary, 21m, Mexico/USA) Director: Stephane Goldsand. Special Guest: Stephane Goldsand. Q&A with audience. English and French with English Subtitles

DOWN IN NUMBER 5
East Coast Premiere
4:10 p.m. - North Lodge
A terminally ill coal miner struggles to find refuge for his 40-year old son with Down Syndrome. Based on a true story.
(Drama, 17m, USA) Director/Writer: Kim Spurock. Special Guest: Kim Spurock. Q&A with audience.

SOMETHING VENTURED
5 p.m. - Auditorium
Behind some of the world's most revolutionary companies are a handful of men who, through timing, foresight, a keen ability to size up other people, and a lot of luck, saw opportunity where others did not: these are the original venture capitalists.
(Documentary, 84m, USA) Director: Daniel Geller and Dayna Goldfine.

CANCER PANTS
East Coast Premiere
5 p.m. - North Lodge
The intimate story of spirited 36-year-old Ro Poulson's battle to survive after she is unexpectedly diagnosed with stage III breast cancer. With her partner Julie, they engage their circle of friends, family and local community to find meaning and enrichment in their journey.
(Documentary, 80m, USA) Director: Nevie Owens

SEPARATION ANXIETY
East Coast Premiere
6:45 p.m. - North Lodge
Two childhood friends, Quinn and Jess come to terms with their once-innocent relationships as they grieve over the loss of their best friend Bailey and the mystery surrounding his death. The friends question: was it an accident, or did Bailey commit suicide following a string of rejections?
(Drama, 94m, USA) Director: Cole Simon.

THE FAIRY
D.C. Premiere
7 p.m. - Auditorium
The latest lark from the semi-absurdist comedians who brought you 2009 Alexandria Film Festival hit "Rumba." A hotel night clerk in the city of Le Havre meets a shoeless woman who claims to be a fairy. The fairy grants him three wishes. The clerk asks for a scooter and an endless supply of gas, but what he really wants is the love of the fairy herself.
(Comedy, 93m, Belgium) Director: Dominique Abel, Fiona Gordon and Bruno Romy. French with English Subtitles

THE GENERAL
8:45 p.m. - Auditorium
A silent film classic with live organ accompaniment. Johnny loves Annabelle Lee and his train "The General." When Civil War breaks out, he is turned down for service but Annabelle thinks it's because he's a coward. When Union spies capture The General with Annabelle on board, Johnny must rescue both his loves.
(Comedy, 107m, USA) Directors: Buster Keaton and Clyde Bruckman. Special Guest: Organist Andrew Simpson

RAPT
D.C. Premiere
8:45 p.m. - North Lodge
A rich industrialist is brutally kidnapped. As he physically and mentally degenerates in imprisonment, his double life threatens to emerge while the kidnapers, police and the board of his company negotiate the ransom of 50 million euro.
(Thriller, 125m, France) Director: Lucas Belvaux French with English Subtitles

GIL'S BROTHER
World Premiere
10:45 p.m. - North Lodge
A young man dreams of escaping the dead-end suburbs where he grew up, but on the night of his cousin's wedding, he discovers that he must first stand up to his abusive father to save his younger brother.
(Drama, 13m, USA) Director/Writer: Corey Bodoh-Creed.

PROFILE
D.C. Premiere
11 p.m. - North Lodge
Caro has just gone shopping when she is approached by Thomas. He seems to know her, but she can't remember him. When he convinces her to have a coffee with him, Caro has no idea of the surprises this encounter will bring.
(Drama, 7m, Germany) Director/Writer: Timo Pierre Rositzki. German with English Subtitles

ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM
902 Wythe Street

ONE PUNCH AT A TIME
World Premiere 4 p.m.
Asia Stevenson had a difficult childhood. But the 18-year old found love, friendship, and family at the Headbangers Boxing Club in Washington D.C. Follow Asia on her quest to qualify for the first women's U.S. Olympic boxing team in the 2012 games in London.
(Documentary, 8m, USA) Director: Lawrence Dortch. Special Guest: Lawrence Dortch. Q&A with audience.

CLOSE TIES: TYING ON A NEW TRADITION
World Premiere 4:25 p.m.
An intimate look at a rite-of-passage ceremony that connects teenage boys with male role models. The ceremony at this New Orleans barbershop was created as a way to strengthen communities struggling with crime, poverty and alarming high school drop-out rates.
(Documentary, 30m, USA) Director: Gemal Woods. Special Guest: Director Gemal Woods. Q&A.

CHECKERS AT 9th & S
5:10 p.m.
Saturday afternoons, the checkers club members gather for camaraderie, trash talking, and competitive checkers playing. Meet The Shark, Chicago, The Stealer, Boy Wonder, The Weasel, Johnnie Cool, The Hawk and The Master of Disaster, among others.
(Documentary, 10m, USA) Director: Peggy Fleming. Special Guests: Director Peggy Fleming and the men from The Capital Pool Checkers Club. Q&A.
5:40 p.m. The audience is invited to bring their best game and face off with members of The Capital Pool Checkers Club.

ATHENAEUM
201 Prince Street

MISS SOUTH PACIFIC: BEAUTY AND THE SEA
World Premiere 6 p.m.
Contestants compete in a week-long pageant for the crown of Miss South Pacific. Addressing the theme of Climate Change and its impact on their countries, the Queens explore judges and viewers to reduce global carbon emission lest their island homes will be lost to rising seas.
(Documentary, 39m, USA) Director/Co-Writer: Mary Lambert.

TAILOR MADE: THE LIFE OF GEORGE DES PARIS
World Premiere 6:45 p.m.
The story of a French immigrant who worked his way up from homelessness in Washington, D.C. to become an accomplished tailor. George des Paris' custom suits have adorned every U.S. president since Lyndon Baines Johnson.
(Documentary, 8m, USA) Director: Antonio Azios.

HIDDEN BOOKS - THE ART OF KUMI KORF
World Premiere
7:15 p.m.
The beautiful work of book artist, printmaker and painter Kumi Korf is illuminated in this captivating documentary. Born in Japan and now living in Ithaca, NY,

Kumi's work can be found in the Library of Congress, New York Public Library, and Tate Library, among others. ((Documentary, 28m, USA) Director: Sam Hampton. Special Guest: Sam Hampton. Q&A with audience.

DECEMBER 15
World Premiere 8:15 p.m.
The holiday season in New York City is captured by two young photographers who have a chance encounter.
(Romance, 4m, USA) Director/Writer: Ryan Russell Smith. Special Guest: Ryan Russell Smith

COME WANDER WITH ME
8:20 p.m.
During a phone conversation, a young photographer tells his friend the strange events that happened to him the day before. While taking pictures, he notices a striking woman pushing a completely bandaged man in a wheelchair. The woman whispers something in the man's ear...then disappears.
(Drama, 6m, USA) Director/Writer: Hugo Coulais. Special Guest: Hugo Coulais

SHAKESPEARE HIGH
D.C. Premiere
8:30 p.m.
Follow a diverse group of SoCal students as they prepare for and compete in the 90th Drama Teachers Association of Southern California Shakespeare Festival. This film documents the power of arts in young people's lives. Featuring Kevin Spacey, Mare Winningham, Val Kilmer and Richard Dreyfuss.
(Documentary, 88m, USA) Director: Alex Rotaru.

Sunday/Nov. 6

GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL 101 Callahan Drive

OK BUCKAROOS
East Coast Premiere
1 p.m. - Auditorium
1 pm - 2:21 p.m. OK Buckaroos
In the '60s, he was a street singer. In the '70s he led a musical movement. In the '80s he walked away from the recording industry. This is the life, music and good times of famous Austinite Jerry Jeff Walker.
(Documentary, 80m, USA) Director: Patrick Tourville. Special Guest: Patrick Tourville

FOR THE NEXT 7 GENERATIONS
1 p.m. - North Lodge
In 2004, thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers from all four corners, moved by their concern for our planet, came together at a historic gathering, where they decided to form an alliance to fight the destruction of Mother Earth and indigenous ways of life. Narrated by Ashley Judd.
(Documentary, 85m, USA) Director: Carole Hart. Special Guest: Carole Hart

WHERE SOLDIERS COME FROM
2:30 p.m. - Auditorium
Enticed by a \$20,000 signing bonus and college tuition support, best friends Dominic and Cole join the National Guard. The young men from Michigan's Upper Peninsula are sent to Afghanistan and serve their time but they have all become increasingly disillusioned about their mission.
(Documentary, 91m, USA) Director: Heather Courtney.

WEEP LIKE A WATERWHEEL
World Premiere
2:45 p.m. - North Lodge
The Afghanistan Women Council was founded in 1986 by the charismatic and dedicated Fatana Gailani to provide poor women education in health, literacy, and job skills. Today the organization has centers throughout Afghanistan and graduates over 400 literate, skilled women every year.
(Documentary, 14m, Afghanistan) Dir: Alex Footman.

WEAPON OF WAR
3 p.m. - North Lodge
Wherever war breaks out, men with guns rape. During the decades of conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo hundreds of thousands of women and girls were brutally raped. Captain Basima is working as a priest in Congo's army and urges perpetrators of rape to change. Just like he did.
(Documentary, 58m, The Netherlands) Directors & Producers: Ilse and Femke Van Velzen. French with English Subtitles
4 p.m. - North Lodge
Panel Discussion with Abby Disney, Kathleen Keuhnast & Suraya Sadeed & Clips of Women, War & Peace [ABBY DISNEY AND CLIPS TO BE CONFIRMED]

VOICES FROM MARIEL
World Premiere
4:30 p.m. - Auditorium
Discontent with political and economic oppression, 125,000 Cubans fled their homes through the port of Mariel and sailed to the United States in 1980. Thirty years later one Marielito risks returning home to a country that rejected him to reconnect with friends and loved ones he left behind.
(Documentary, 79m, USA) Director: James Carleton. Special Guest: Director James Carleton. Q&A with audience. (TO BE CONFIRMED)
English and Spanish with English Subtitles

DES INDIENS COMME NOUS - Winner of the Alexandria Film Festival Jury Prize
East Coast Premiere
6:15 p.m. - Auditorium
A group of French people share an obsession for everything Native American. But their big dream is to travel to the United States and meet some real Native Americans. When they finally arrange for a 2 week-drive across the Midwest in an R.V., they discover the reality is quite different from their idealized vision.
(Documentary, 55m, France) Director: Sylvie Jacquemin. English and French with English Subtitles

AWARDS CEREMONY
7:15 p.m. - Auditorium
Free, no ticket required
CLOSING RECEPTION
7:30 p.m. - Grand Masonic Hall
Free, no ticket required



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FINE ARTS

NOW THROUGH DEC. 31

"The Art From Three Rivers."

Presented by The von Brahler Ltd./ Gallery, the work will be on display at the American Horticultural Society's River Farm headquarters. The exhibition will feature paintings by Nikolai Antyuchin of Russia's Moscow River, Yuri Kokoyanin's paintings of St. Petersburg's Neva River, and art by Robert Murray from the Potomac River. Call 703-798-8686 or vbgpromo@aol.com.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 7

"Input Output" by Jackie Hoysted.

Comprised of paintings, ceramic sculptures, and digital photographs, Hoysted leaves the distinction of "what is the original vs. what is the copy" up to the viewer. Encaustic Demonstration is Saturday, Nov. 5 from 1 to 2 p.m. At the Art League Gallery at the Torpedo Factory.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 13

"Fissures, Fossils and Fragments."

Free. Jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces will be exhibited. At Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Studio 18, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Old Town Alexandria.

NOW THROUGH DEC. 4

Artist Carol Reed. Carol Reed's abstract works on paper feature bold shapes, usually in charcoal or ink on paper, that dance alone or with similar shapes. Artist's reception is Sunday, Oct. 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. Artist's Gallery Talk on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 4 p.m. At the Athenaeum Gallery, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Visit www.nvfaa.org

NOW THROUGH DEC. 4

"Artful Eating: Tablescapes." At the Torpedo Factory Art Center's Scope Gallery. Hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with Thursdays open until 9 p.m. The gallery is located at 105 North Union Street, ground floor Studio 19, Alexandria. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-



NOW THROUGH DEC. 10

Back to Nature — Paintings From

Life. Landscape and still life paintings by Christine Lashley and Trisha Cherrington Ratliff. Artist's reception is Saturday, Nov. 12 from 3 to 7 p.m. At Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Dr., Alexandria.

www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

NOV. 15 TO JAN. 8

"All That Glitters." Artists are inspired by everything that is not gold. Featuring jewelry, sculpture, clothing and wall pieces. At Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery, Studio 18 of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 North Union St., Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.Potomacfiberartsgallery.com.

NOV. 4 TO DEC. 18

Artist Samuel Miranda. "Collective Inheritance Installation." Opening reception is Saturday, Nov. 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.; Artist's Presentation at 7 p.m. At the Schlesinger Center Margaret & Joseph L. Fisher Gallery, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria.

6288 or visit www.torpedofactory.org/galleries/scope.

NOV. 4 TO 27

Del Ray Dozenz Photography Show. Del Ray Artisans Gallery hosts an all-photography show that highlights the skills of DRA members. This builds on the success of the previous photography shows with an expanded cadre of participants. Artist's reception is Friday, Nov. 4, 7-10 p.m. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

NOV. 5

2nd Annual Vices of Virginia! 4 to 8 p.m. The Vices That Made Virginia is a celebration of the finest epicurean and otherwise enticing diversions that define the Old Dominion. Admission is \$125. At Woodlawn Plantation, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Call 703-780-4000. For tickets, go to <http://arcadia.ticketleap.com/vices>.

NOV. 9 TO DEC. 4

FotoWeekDC 2011 Celebration + Small Works Show. Second Thursday Night Art Night is Nov. 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. Artist's reception is Saturday, Nov. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery West is celebrating FotoWeekDC 2011 by filling the walls with an eclectic show of photographs by gallery members. Visit www.gallery-west.com or call 703-549-6006.

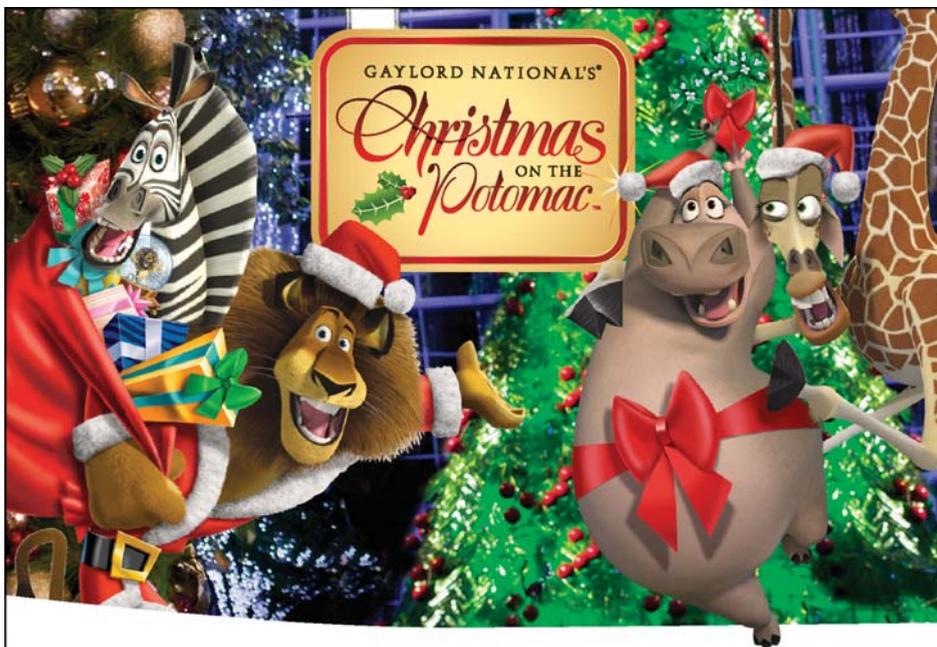


Aldersgate
United Methodist
Women's
Christmas Market &
Silent Auction

Saturday, November 12, 2011
9 am - 2 pm

We will have Unique High End Vendors,
Crafts, Jewelry, Youth sponsored
White Elephant Sale, Collectable's,
Children's Shop, Bake Sale & A Huge Silent Auction
Your Opportunity to benefit Local and
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Alexandria, VA 22308
703-765-6500 or www.aldersgate.net

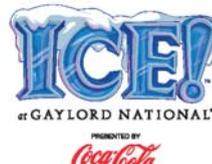


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HELP WANTED:

Part-time graphic artist to help on deadline with building ads, page layout, photo processing and other aspects of producing our 15 weekly newspapers. Must be able to work Tuesdays plus part of Monday or Wednesday as needed. Hourly rate. Send letter, resume to resumes@connectionnews.com.



ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THROUGH DEC. 19

Tavern Toddlers. Mondays between 10:30 a.m. and noon. Cost is \$7/group of three. A five-visit pass is \$30. A weekly open playtime and a new craft activity each week. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal St., Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 5

"Fools" by Neil Simon. Tickets are \$5. Show times are Oct. 28, 29 and Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Presented by the Stage One Players at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Upper School, 1000 St. Stephen's Road, Alexandria. Visit www.sssas.org/arts.

NOV. 3 - 6

Alexandria Film Festival. This fifth-annual festival brings high-quality short and feature length films, documentaries, filmmaker panels, and arts presentations at the Masonic Memorial, Old Town Theater, Athenaeum, Black History Museum, Four Mile Run Community Center. The four-day celebration of film highlights the talents of local, national, and international filmmakers. Tickets \$10/film or showcase. Get tickets and film information at www.AlexandriaFilm.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 4

"The Future of Food." 7 p.m. A 2004 film offering an in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly filled U.S. grocery store shelves for the past decade will be shown at Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, Hollin Hall Fireplace Room, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Donations accepted. 703-765-0595 or gpcourchot@yahoo.com

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

Get Your Rear in Gear. 5K Run/Walk in honor of former White House Press Secretary Tony Snow. A fund-raiser for colon cancer prevention, screening and education. Festivities begin at 8:30 a.m. at Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria. Register at www.getyourrearingear.com.

Top of the Town Walk Around. 10 a.m. Free. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. Activities will include a stair climb, games on YMCA's Ph.D. moving playground, workouts with CrossFit Old Town, an opportunity to meet with firefighters and to check out a fire truck, a potato sack race, cardio boxing with Fit2Be, and a chance to win raffle prizes. The event, planned in collaboration with Quantico Belvoir Regional Business Alliance, will be hosted by Mayor Euille and the Wounded Warriors. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Contact Carrie Fesperman Redden, Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria at 703-746-4914 or carrie.fesperman@vdh.virginia.gov.

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra/Symphonic NOVA. 8 p.m. Saint-Saens' Symphony No. 3, "Organ." Schubert/Liszt: Wanderer Fantasy, Thomas Mastroianni, piano. Tickets \$5 to \$65. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall & Arts Center 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria. Visit alexsym.org or 703-548-0885.

"Toward Net-Zero Energy Fair." 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. At Mount Vernon Unitarian Church (MVUC), Meeting House, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria. Visit www.mvuc.org/netzero.

Author Michael Lee Pope. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Will discuss the "savage art" of early 19-century political cartoons. This lecture was sparked by his research for his new book, Hidden History of Alexandria, D.C. The cartoons, many of which illustrate his book, reveal the complex politics and vicious partisanship of the era. At Barrett Branch Library, 717 Queen Street, in Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-1706.

Alexandria Art Market. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The market boasts amazing artwork from local artists, music from multicultural musicians and great food from local restaurants. At Colasanto Park in the heart of Del Ray. Free and open to public. www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or DRALexandriaArtMarket@gmail.com to apply.

Bridging the Gap. 7:30 p.m. A violin and double bass duo which promises an evening of really fun and unusual music. Part of Concerts at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Tickets are \$20/adults; \$15/seniors; \$10/students. Call 703-765-4342.

SUNDAY/NOV. 6

Concert With a Cause. 4 p.m. Free. With Teal Ruland, soprano. The free will offering beneficiary will be The Fund for Alexandria's Child, which helps children in foster care and those at risk of abuse or neglect by providing them with a range of enrichment activities from summer camp to participation in sports, dance, art, or karate. At the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 South Fairfax St., Alexandria.

Orchestral Brilliance. 3 p.m. American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras with guest artist Jeffrey Jacob, piano. Tickets are \$14/adult; \$10/seniors; \$10/student. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, 3001 North Beauregard Street, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria. Visit www.aypo.org, events@aypo.org, 703-642-8051.

"Mariel" Film. 4:30 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. Documentary about the 1980 incident in Cuba when nearly 125,000 citizens boarded boats at the Port of Mariel to come to the U.S. Admission is \$10. At the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria.

MONDAY/NOV. 7

Camp Dinner. 6:30 to 9 p.m. The R.E. Lee Camp #726, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will hold a camp dinner catered by the Royal Restaurant. Speaker Doug Batson who will portray Lee's maverick general D.H. Hill will speak in the first person on significant events in 1862: Seven Pines, Seven Days Battles, the Dix-Hill POW Exchange Protocol, Lost Order 191, Battles of Boonesboro (South Mountain) and Sharpsburg. Cost to attend the dinner is \$25/advance; \$30/door. RSVP to Mr. J.J. Smith at 703 299-1725. At the American Legion Post 24 Hall, 400 Cameron Street at S. Royal Street behind Gadsby's Tavern. Visit www.leecamp.org.

TUESDAY/NOV. 8

Foster Parent Orientation. 6 to 7:30 p.m. The City of Alexandria will hold a free, no obligation information session for prospective



"Inherit the Wind" cast members Eliza Lore (Rachel Brown) and Joe Quinn (Bert Gates).

NOV. 11, 12, 13

"Inherit the Wind." West Potomac Drama Department presents "Inherit The Wind," a fictional retelling of the 1925 "Scopes Monkey" Trial. Friday Nov 11 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Kogelman Theater, West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria. Tickets \$10. Call 703-718-2585.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 24

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 23

foster parents. An agency representative will be on hand to answer any questions. At Beatley Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Call 703-746-5858 or email Christine@beatley.gov.

NOV. 9, 16, 21, 30

Free Group Vocal Lessons. 7 p.m. The lessons will be conducted by Ozzi Mask, master director of Potomac Harmony Chorus, Sweet Adelines International. Held at The Hermitage in Northern Virginia, 5000 Fairbanks Ave., Alexandria. To reserve your spot, call 703-764-3896 or visit www.potomacharmony.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 9

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/NOV. 10

The Big Cheese. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. At The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. Visit www.nvfaa.org or call 703-548-0035.

Promoting Native Bee Abundance. 7:30 p.m. Join Maria Van Dyke, the Program Coordinator for Virginia Working Landscapes for a slide lecture about the importance and habitat requirements of native bees. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Call 703-642-5173.

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

Spirit of the Civil War. 7:30 p.m. Donation of \$10/adults; \$5/students. NOVA's 80-member, in-house performance ensemble, The Alexandria Band, and its 100-member NOVA Community Chorus will be joined by the Mount Vernon Concert Band and the Arlington Children's Choir to perform Civil War period music. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

Veterans Day Program. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Alexandria Black History Museum's annual Veterans Day program, co-sponsored by the Alexandria Branch of the NAACP, at the museum, 902 Wythe Street. Visit www.alexblackhistory.org or call 703-746-435

Veteran's Day Concert. 3 p.m. With the Air Force Strings. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Call 202-767-5658 or visit our homepage: www.usafband.af.mil

"At the Crossroads of History: Bailey's through the Century." 8:15 a.m. Tickets are \$30/person. Keynote speakers include Frank J. Williams, a retired Rhode Island Supreme Court chief justice and chair of the Lincoln Forum, and Dr. Edna Greene Medford, chair of Howard University's history department and board member of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation. At the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Contact Dr. Wendy Matthews at wmatthews@nvcc.edu or 703-845-6252 or Ken Balbuena at kpbalbuena@nvcc.edu.

Holiday Marketplace. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. With 20 vendors selling everything from hand-crafted art and accessories to reps from local businesses providing services from party planning to hand-picked childrenswear and toys. At St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, White Hall, 8531 Riverside Road, Alexandria.

Mount Vernon Celebrates Veterans Day. 11 a.m. Harmony Heritage Singers perform; 2 p.m. wreathlaying at the tomb of George Washington. Cost is \$15/adults; \$7/children 6-11; and free under age 6. At Historic Mount Vernon Estate.

Fashion Show and Silent Auction. 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets are \$43. Sponsored by the Board of Lady Managers, Founder and Supporter of INOVA Alexandria Hospital. Fashions by Lord & Taylor and modeled by INOVA Alexandria physicians, nurses and staff. Proceeds support the Board of Lady Managers current pledge to purchase anesthesia machines for the Surgical Service. At the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center. Contact Lynda West 703-836-8853.

NOV. 11, 12, 13

"Inherit the Wind." West Potomac Drama Department presents "Inherit the Wind," a fictional retelling of the 1925 "Scopes Monkey" Trial. Friday Nov 11 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Kogelman Theater, West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria.



NOV. 11, 12, 18, 19

"The Laramie Project." 7:30 p.m. The Laramie Project is a play that tells the story of the brutal beating and death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, in Laramie, Wyo. Presented by T.C. Williams High School. Tickets are \$5/students; \$10/adults.

HS, Thomas Jefferson HS, Washington Lee HS, Waynewood ES, West Potomac HS and Yorktown HS. To be held at Carl Sandburg Middle School, 8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Visit www.mvccct.org or call 703-360-0686.

NOV. 11, 12, 18, 19

"The Laramie Project." 7:30 p.m. The Laramie Project is a play that tells the story of the brutal beating and death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, in Laramie, Wyo. Presented by T.C. Williams High School. Tickets are \$5/students; \$10/adults.

SATURDAY/NOV. 12

Christmas Market & Silent Auction. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. High-end vendors, crafts, jewelry, collectibles, youth-sponsored White Elephant Sale, children's shop, bake sale, Casserole's to Go, homemade café lunch and silent auction. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd., Alexandria. Call 703-765-6555 or www.aldersgate.net.

Anniversary Ball. 8 p.m. At Gadsby's Tavern Museum. At a reception at 7 p.m., enjoy a preview tasting of the new Winter Menu by Klaus Keckeisen, executive chef of Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant. The ball begins at 8 p.m. and features a variety of English country dances, live music, dessert collation, and cash bar. Period costume optional; "after-five" attire encouraged. Tickets for the reception and ball are \$75 per person, and tickets for the ball only are \$45. Advance reservations are required. At 134 North Royal Street, Old Town Alexandria. Call 703-746-4242 or www.gadsbystavern.org.

Swordsmen's Rendezvous. Join Gadsby's Tavern Museum for a unique living history program as you learn a skill all 18th-century gentlemen must know – swordplay! Swordsmen tours are between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., with each tour lasting one hour. Admission is \$6/person, ages 5 and up. At 134 North Royal Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. Visit www.gadsbystavern.org or call 703-746-4242.

Back to Nature — Paintings from Life. Landscape and Still Life Paintings by Christine Lashley and Trisha Cherrington Ratliff. Artist's reception is Saturday/Nov. 12 from 4 to 7 p.m. At Broadway Gallery, 5641-B General Washington Dr., Alexandria.

Choreographers Collaboration Project. 7 p.m. Admission is \$10/adults; \$5/kids 12-17. Will present repertory and new works-in-progress, plus, improvisation inspired by scientific concepts. At the Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria. For information, ccpdance@gmail.com, 703-683-2070, www.ccpdance.org.

Volunteer Appreciation & Holiday Party. 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrating 50 years of Archaeology in Alexandria. At the Alexandria Archaeology Museum, 105 N. Union St., #327, Alexandria. Call 703-746-4399 or Archaeology@Alexandriava.gov.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With harpist Yolanda Kondonassis. Mozart's Symphony No. 10, Barber's Adagio for Strings, Ginastera's Harp Concerto, Barber's First Essay for Orchestra, and Schubert's Symphony No. 5. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

"Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders." 4:30 p.m. Part of Movies with a Mission Series. At the Alexandria Black History Museum, 902 Wythe St., Alexandria. Call 703-746-4356 or visit www.alexblackhistory.org.

Boston String Quartet Concert. 7:30 p.m. The Boston String Quartet is seeking 104 high school orchestral, band, and choral students to join them for two days of workshops, master classes, and rehearsals, culminating in a final performance. At The Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus. Students can pre-register until Oct. 23 at www.xibus.org. Call 617-875-7851.

Tickets \$10. Call 703-718-2585.

NOV. 11 TO 20

The Sound of Music. Show times are Nov. 11, 12, 18, 19 at 7:30 p.m.; matinees on Nov. 13, 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10/advance; \$12/door. Presented by the Mount Vernon Community Children's Theater. Schools represented by the cast include Bishop Ireton, Browne Academy, Burgundy Farm, Carl Sandburg MS, Fort Hunt ES, George Washington MS, Home Schools, Key MS, Lyles Crouch ES, Mark Twain MS, Maury ES, Mount Vernon HS, Oakridge ES, St. Bernadette's, St. Louis, St. Mary's, Stratford Landing ES, TC Williams

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Job Announcement

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The American Clean Skies Foundation (ACSF) is a Washington D.C. non-profit founded in 2007 to advance America's energy independence and a cleaner environment through expanded use of natural gas, renewables and efficiency. ACSF carries out its mission primarily by encouraging large scale fuel switching in the electric power sector based on innovative regulatory and business proposals; and promoting alternative fuel vehicles, especially natural gas powered vehicles, using public policy tools and demonstration projects. Both of these program initiatives seek to catalyze change through carefully targeted government interventions and entrepreneurial activity. ACSF also supports a wide range of educational and media programs, including white papers, conferences, workshops, TV shows, films, and web sites, to advance its goals.

ACSF seeks a Clean Power Program Director to manage a cutting edge project in Alexandria, VA (see www.potomacrivergreen.com) and similar initiatives in other states. Candidates should be entrepreneurial with outstanding organizational and communication skills. Knowledge of local metropolitan Washington, D.C. zoning processes, local energy and environmental authorities, real estate development practices, and the National Park Service, are preferable. Experience working on clean power/coal retirement issues, experience with one or more aspects of the nation's electric grid and one or more advanced degrees (MBA, MPP, MPA), a plus. The Program Director reports directly to the CEO of the American Clean Skies Foundation (ACSF). The Program Director may help recruit additional staff for the Program. Some travel may be required.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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The West Potomac girls cross country team won its second consecutive Patriot District championship on Oct. 26 at Burke Lake Park.



PHOTOS BY ED LULL

West Potomac's Brady Corum finished fourth at the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26 and helped the Wolverine boys to a second-place team finish.

West Potomac Girls Repeat as District Champions

Wolverine boys finish second, advance to regionals.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

West Potomac senior Dale Lescher wanted no regrets, so she chased after West Springfield's Mattie Wittich and approached the finish line with everything she had.

"I knew this was my last districts since I'm a senior, and I knew that if I didn't pass her I was just going to be mad afterward," Lescher said. "So I was like, 'I might as well kill myself now and be happier later.'"

Lescher passed Wittich for seventh place

at the Patriot District cross country championship meet on Oct. 26 at Burke Lake Park. Lescher and each of her four point-scoring teammates earned all-district honors with a top-15 finish and West Potomac captured its second consecutive district title.

"Dale's just got that competitive spirit," West Potomac head coach Jenn Dietz said. "She's had a number of finishes like that so it's not surprising, but it makes a big difference on your team. ... It's a matter of digging deep and she does it very well."

Sarah Jane Underwood led West Potomac with a fourth-place finish, recording a time of 18 minutes.

"This is the best I've ever ran on this course," Underwood said. "I'm really happy with my performance and hopefully I can drop my time even further at regionals."

Lescher crossed the finish line in 18 minutes, 29 seconds. Katie Genuario (18:39)

finished 10th, Sophia Passacantando (18:40) was 11th and Colleen Boyle (18:50) finished 12th. Each of the five turned in a personal-best time.

Lake Braddock's Sophie Chase won the event with a time of 17:12, followed by West Springfield's Caroline Alcorta (17:40) and Lee's Bailey Kolonich (17:51).

West Potomac won the meet with 44 points. West Springfield (65), Lake Braddock (74) and T.C. Williams (113) earned the other automatic regional team berths.

The West Potomac boys finished second with 78 points, 17 behind district champion Lake Braddock. Woodson (90) and West Springfield (103) also earned team berths.

Brady Corum led the Wolverines with a fourth-place finish, posting a personal-best time of 15:31.

"We did pretty well," Corum said. "Going into the season, some people didn't have

the greatest expectations for us, but I think we turned it around pretty well. We had some guys step it up. Corey Rosenberg looked pretty good. I still think we can run a little bit better. At regionals, we'll definitely be making a bid for that No. 4 spot [and an automatic team berth to states]. It's definitely doable."

Rosenberg finished 12th with a time of 16:09. Marc Lotterie (16:20) finished 17th, Crispin Bernier (16:26) was 20th and Kyle Swords (16:43) finished 25th.

"For four of [the team's seven] boys, it was their first district championship race," Dietz said, "so to keep the team in second and move it on to regionals, they should be proud of that."

The West Potomac girls and boys will compete at the Northern Region championship meet on Thursday, Nov. 3 at Burke Lake Park.

West Potomac Clinches Football Playoff Berth

Wolverines to play for district title against T.C. Williams.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE GAZETTE

After barely missing the playoffs in 2008 and a dismal two-win season in 2009, the West Potomac football program opened 2010 Patriot District competition with five consecutive victories and hopes of a district title.

Sitting at 6-2, the Wolverines lost at home to eventual Northern Region champion Lake Braddock. Still, a win in the regular season finale against 3-6 Annandale would likely earn a playoff berth. However, the Atoms

upset the Wolverines, and West Potomac once again fell short of the postseason.

One year later, West Potomac entered its Oct. 28 contest against West Springfield in need of a victory to clinch a playoff berth. This time, there would be no letdown.

The Wolverines throttled the Spartans 48-13 at West Potomac High School, wrapping up the program's first playoff berth since 2007. The Wolverines will conclude the regular season with a road game against T.C. Williams at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5. With a victory, West Potomac (6-3 overall, 5-1 Patriot District) would secure at least a share of the district title with hopes of earning the No. 4 seed and a home playoff game.

"We just finish a little better" than in previous seasons, West Potomac head coach Eric Henderson said. "It just seems like

SEE WEST POTOMAC, PAGE 29



PHOTO BY RICHARD MARLE

West Potomac running back Brandon Johnson rushed for 157 yards and a touchdown against West Springfield on Oct. 28.

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WELLBEING

Butting Out

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE GAZETTE

Dean Adams says that he has been smoking for 25 years. The Alexandria-based bartender has only tried to quit once, a cold-turkey attempt that was unsuccessful.

"It's kind of a manic thing for me," said Adams. "I smoke all the time, probably a pack to a pack and half a day."

He plans to try again on Nov. 17, a day designated as the Great American Smokeout, a campaign launched by the American Cancer Society to spotlight the dangers of tobacco use and the challenges of quitting.

"Most smokers make three to five serious quit attempts (i.e., for 24 hours or more) before they are finally successful," said Thomas J. Glynn, Ph.D. Glynn resides in Great Falls and is the Director of Cancer and Science Trends for the American Cancer Society. "Deciding to quit smoking seems easy, but actually doing it is where the real challenge begins. That's why the Great American Smokeout can be so helpful — it gets smokers on the road to being smoke-free."

ONE OF THE GOALS of the Great American Smokeout is to raise awareness and make smokers aware of the obstacles to smoking cessation and the resources available to deal with those barriers.

"Cigarettes have a strong physiological pull on their users," said Glynn. "Nicotine maintains their physiological dependence, and the routines of smoking — reaching for the pack, lighting up ... the cigarette after a meal, etc., maintains their psychological dependence."

Medical experts say that before deciding on a cessation method, a smoker must first have a desire to stop. "Most important is for the smoker to want to quit," said Dr. Jasmine Moghissi, of Fairfax. "It is almost impossible to get your wife/son/mother/cousin to quit if they don't want to. It has also been my experience that it is extremely difficult for someone to quit for their future health. If the smoker wants to quit because it's a filthy, smelly, dirty habit — that seems to be most effective."

Tools for quitting run the gamut from hypnosis and acupuncture to medication and laser therapy. Glynn says that no one method works best.

"Recent studies do suggest that a combination of medications [such as] Varenicline or Chantix and nicotine gum and counseling — either individual, group or by phone — may work best for many people."

Maureen Meehan, a certified hypnotist with Maryland Hypnosis, is a former substance abuse counselor who found hypnosis to be an effective tool for addressing addiction. "The reason it works so well to help people become non-smokers is because it deals with your subconscious mind which is powerful, alert and awake," said Meehan. "We talk to the subconscious mind and tell it to cut the cord to bad habits." Meehan says her method has a high success rate.

VIRGINIA HOSPITAL CENTER in Arlington offers a two-week smoking cessation class several times a year. "We teach smokers how to conquer the three aspects of smoking: addiction, habit and psychological dependency," said Cathy Turner. Turner resides in Burke and is Virginia Hospital Center's director of

"Great American Smokeout" gets smokers on the road to quitting for good.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS J. GLYNN

Thomas J. Glynn, Ph.D., of Great Falls, the director of Cancer and Science Trends for the American Cancer Society, says most smokers attempt to quit three to five times before they are successful.

health promotion as well as its smoking cessation instructor.

Psychologist Dr. Gayle K. Porter, of the Gaston and Porter Health Improvement Center in Potomac, Md. has counseled those who have stopped smoking successfully.

"I've worked with people who've been addicted to a variety of substances, and smoking was the most powerful addiction to give up," said Porter, a former faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. "It is like a friend that never leaves. If you're lonely, sad, angry, you can always light up."

Along with Dr. Marilyn Gaston, Porter wrote "Prime Time: The African American Woman's Complete Guide to Midlife Health and Wellness." The book includes an eight-step smoking cessation plan.

"First and foremost is stress reduction," said Porter. "If you're stressed, it is going to be hard to stop smoking, and if you've already stopped smoking and you're stressed, it is going to be difficult not to resume. You have to get control over your stress."

Porter and Gaston also founded Prime Time Sister Circles, a health support group that includes a component designed to help smokers kick the habit. Porter believes a team effort is necessary.

"It is important that people who are trying to quit smoking have support," she said.

Another smoking cessation tool is tobacco control. A study by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows a link between strong tobacco control policies and a reduction in the adult smoking rate in the U.S.

"These findings add urgency to the continued need for strong tobacco control laws ... including tobacco tax increases, strong smoke-free laws ... and policies that are proven to reduce adult smoking rates and discourage kids from ever starting to use tobacco ..." said John R. Seffrin, Ph.D., chief executive officer of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action network.

Maryland's current cigarette tax is \$2 per pack, the 11th highest in the nation, while Virginia's current cigarette tax is \$0.30 per pack, the second lowest in the nation. Maryland's smoke-free law requires all of the state's workplaces, restaurants and bars to be 100 percent smoke-free.

SPORTS

West Potomac Clinches Playoff Berth

FROM PAGE 27

we're a little more centered this year."

Senior receiver Tyrone Jenkins finished with four receptions for 55 yards and three touchdowns. He showed the ability to turn a short reception into a long gain and the speed to get open by running by a defender.

"Last year, a lot of the seniors took off last game against Annandale because they thought it would be an easy win," Jenkins said. "This year, we knew that West Springfield was a good team and we couldn't sleep on them, so we had to go and do what we had to do."

West Potomac senior running back Brandon

Johnson carried 19 times for 157 yards and a touchdown. He also pulled in a 15-yard touchdown reception from Caleb Henderson.

"I think the seniors are more determined" this season, Johnson said. "We've got more determination this year. We've got a lot of unity. Everybody's pulling together. Everybody's mindset is to win states. ... Being a senior, I want to leave on a good note."

Caleb Henderson completed 16 of 23 passes for 257 yards, five touchdowns and one interception. Sophomore receiver DeMornay Pierson-El had eight receptions for 133 yards and a score.



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From Horror-Hosting to Movies to Music

Mount Vernon's Christopher Inlow pursues performance and full-time day job

BY MAYA HOROWITZ
THE GAZETTE

Christopher Inlow is making a name for himself in the Northern Virginia entertainment industry. From singing in an alternative/metal band, Above the Silence, to acting in the crime drama, "Deer Crossing," to organizing and performing in "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," Inlow is busy making his mark on the D.C. scene.

"He seems like a multitasking person," said Christian Grillo, founder of Potent Media and director of "Deer Crossing." "He's a musician, he's into filmmaking, he has a side gig horror-hosting. He seems like he's got his hands in a little bit of everything. I respect that about him. He's a go-getter."

Inlow was born Oct. 7, 1976 in Mount Vernon. As a child, he said he was hyper. "I was raised watching old horror movies and old sci-fi movies," said Inlow. "I liked to write. I played sports. I liked to act and sing."

He acted in his first play at age 5 at his church. He played an angel. "I had big tinfoil wings," said Inlow. "I remember absolutely loving it. I remember at that point, that's what I wanted to do. It kind of went from there."

Inlow joined his first band, Anathema, at age 15. He went to Mount Vernon High School where he said there were a lot of athletic programs, theatre programs and children in his neighborhood. He also attended Bryant High School.

He managed restaurants after high



Christopher Inlow performs with Above the Silence at the 9:30 Club.

school. In his spare time, he sang in bands, wrote screenplays and poetry, acted with the group Black Star Entertainment and was featured in a reggae music video.

He moved to Springfield for some time, but decided to come back to Mount Vernon.

"I'm used to it," said Inlow. "I love it. My parents live in Mount Vernon. My church is in Mount Vernon. Everything that I'm used to is in Mount Vernon."

His son, Christopher Inlow, was born in February 1999.

"After my son was born I didn't do anything for a few years," said Inlow. "It was until the past three or four years I really started kicking things in, when my son got a little bit older."

Currently, Inlow is involved in a number of projects around town.

He owns a DJ and karaoke company with his older brother, Rich, called Triple I.

He is the lead singer in the alternative/metal band, Above the Silence, which has an album coming out soon. He noted that the music is written by the band, is not covers and there are no vulgar words in it. "Some of the stuff is radio friendly," said Inlow.

"He's a talented guy," said Chris Scott, the

drummer for Above the Silence. "Inlow's got a lot going on. ... I'm looking forward to seeing what the future holds for us."

For the past three years, Inlow has played Slo Frank on the three-time Telly award-winning horror-hosted public access program Monster Madhouse, which is broadcast in Virginia, California, Texas and Pennsylvania.

"He's your Frankenstein type character but he's very slapstick," said Inlow. "I took the voice of Al Bundy from 'Married with Children' and mixed it with Patrick from 'SpongeBob Squarepants' then mixed it with a couple of other characters to get his walk. He's your off-the-wall idiot. If he was going to solve a problem, it would totally be by accident. He's a happy go lucky monster that's picked on but it doesn't bother him because he's a strong guy. He's Frankenstein."

MONSTER MADHOUSE features a band made up of cast members called the Monstertinators, which Inlow sings for.

"It's basically rock 'n roll," said Inlow. "It revolves around scary monster stuff. Ads to the show to have that kind of rock atmosphere."

Author and illustrator John Dimes saw Monster Madhouse and took a liking to the character of Slo Frank. He offered Inlow a part modeling as the lead character for the comic book, Bizarre Bazaar.

"Basically I acted out scenes and had pictures taken of me and he'll take those pictures and go online and add stuff to it and make it a comic," said Inlow. "The comic in general reminds me of a '50s horror type comic book."

On Saturday nights, Inlow is one of five leaders of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" cast at University Mall. He organizes behind the scenes and acts during the show.

"I play the criminologist," said Inlow. "I'm an entertainer. I like being in front of an audience in general. You get to interact with the audience. Rocky Horror is a movie and stage production at the same time."

He recently guest hosted at the Washington D.C. Spooky Movie International Film Festival, introducing films and doing interviews.

Inlow acted in the crime drama "Deer Crossing," which will be released early next



Christopher Inlow as Slo Frank on Monster Madhouse.

year. "He pretty much just plays a twisted little, sort of a slow character," said Grillo. "He's in the climactic scene of the movie — the birthday party they're throwing for the abducted child. ... I gave him a shot at playing a small part in a big scene and he did really well in it."

Grillo said he would definitely work with Inlow again. He noted that Inlow had contacted him to do research for the part and that had shown that he really cared about doing a good job.

"Sometime in mid November, after some of the craziness wears off," Inlow will begin taking some of the short stories he's written and putting them together for a hosted coloring book. A hundred per cent of the money raised will go to Scares that Care, an organization that raises money to fight childhood disease and illness.

"I'm going for a Twilight Zone meets Creep Show format," said Inlow. "There are a couple different artists involved. It will have little, weird, twisted stories in it."

Inlow will be acting in the upcoming film, "Ninjas v. Monsters." It is the third part of an award-winning trilogy. "It's kind of your action, horror, comedy type film," said Inlow.

Casting is still open for this film. To get involved, go to ninjaswin.com.

Despite all of these projects, Inlow maintains a 50-hour a week job at a collision shop in Alexandria.

Asked how he finds the time for his entertainment career he said, "I have no idea. I just do. If you really want to do something you find the time. You can do anything in the world you want to do. I have managed to find a way. Seems to be going fairly well. It's not really finding it's creating that time. I'm usually spending my time doing one of these projects or being with my son."

He cares about what the work he does.

"This is what I love to do. This is how I'm wired. I don't understand it myself sometimes. I love bringing other people's visions to life."

He sees the common thread of his projects as that they are all forms of expression.

"It's all visions," said Inlow. "It's all creation, creating different worlds, letting other people see different worlds, taking other people on vacations, different kinds of characters and, in a sense, monsters are a different kind of character."

To learn more about Inlow or find out about his upcoming projects, <http://facebook.com/christopherinlow>.



PHOTOS BY GERAUD A. FILL/THE GAZETTE

Pumpkin Sale

St. Luke's Episcopal Church held its Pumpkin Patch Sale on Oct. 15. Church volunteers include: Betsy Perry; Janet Moffit; Liza Gheesling; Cathy McPeck, chair, Pumpkin Sale; Aidan Perry and Alex Perry.

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BEAUTIFULL UPDATED
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KINGSTOWNE **\$399,000**
WALK TO SHOPPING & MOVIES
Large 3 level townhome, ceramic tiled entry foyer, hardwoods thru main rooms including front kitchen with breakfast area and stainless appliances, granite counters. Skylights in upper hall and master bath. Finished lower level with fireplace & full bath. 3 Bedrooms, 3.5 baths. **Directions: 495 to South on Van Dorn, enter Kingstowne, right on Kingstowne Village to residential area. Left Summer Ridge, Right Darby Towne.**

CALL LINDA SWEENEY 703-203-1005



**OPEN
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SPRINGFIELD **\$450,000**
FRANCONIA FOREST COLONIAL
Center hall colonial featuring large rooms, main-level family room with fireplace off eat-in kitchen, separate dining room, 1st floor laundry - 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2-car garage all on cul-de-sac lot ideally located with easy access to Metro. **Dirs.: Franconia Rd to north on Fleet, immediate right to Franconia Station Ct, Left Franconia Station Ln, Right Marcy Ct to 6254.**

CALL PAUL KAEPPPEL 703-924-7115



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CONTRACT**

FORT BELVOIR **\$469,000**
4 PRISTINE LEVELS
Impressive townhome with open floor plan, detailed brick exterior, detailed interior woodwork & accent columns. Bright with natural light from many floor-to-ceiling windows. Open kitchen with center work island, and family area with gas fireplace. Deck overlooking treed common area. Lower level walk-out. **Directions: From 7100 at Ft Belvoir - Rt 1 south to 2nd Inlet Cove entrance on right. 7106 Point Replete is straight ahead on right.**

CALL HEIDI KABLER 703-850-2558



ALEX. SO. **\$259,000**
READY & AFFORDABLE
Three-level townhome near Ft Belvoir. Very attractive kitchen with stainless steel appliances and marbled ceramic flooring. Deck off kitchen overlooks trees. Finished walk-out lower level. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths. **Dirs.: From Ft Belvoir, north Route 1 to left on Sacramento, left Southlawn to 8543.**

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HUNTINGTON **\$365,000**
METRO CONDO
Offering luxury & convenience, this beautifully appointed condominium is yours w/all of Midtown at Huntington's amenities + 2 gar. spaces. Open kitchen w/granite counters, stainless appliances, large light-flooded rms. Balcony overlooks pool. 2 BR, 2 BA. Easy walk to Metro. **Dirs.: From Alex, Route 1 south, right Huntington, right Metro View, right Midtown.**

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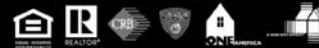
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