

Mount Vernon's Hometown Newspaper • A Connection Newspaper

October 25, 2012



Photo by Louise Kraft/The Gazette

District Champions

The Mount Vernon field hockey team won its third National District title in four years with a 2-0 victory against Yorktown on Oct. 22 at MVHS. See story, page 25.

Eminent Question

Voters to determine fate of amendment to limit the use of eminent domain.

By Michael Lee Pope
Gazette Packet

Nowhere is the debate about eminent domain more intense than the foot of King Street in Alexandria, where city officials threatened to take land owned by the Old Dominion Boat Club using the power of eminent domain for flood mitigation. The land is currently leased by the club as parking, creating a perpetual source of revenue for the organization. As a result, an amendment to the Virginia constitution that will be on the ballot in November could have drastic consequences.

"Any use of eminent domain after this amendment passes, could potentially be more expensive for the city," said City Attorney James Banks. "How much more expensive, I have no idea — nor does anyone else because it requires further definition by the General Assembly."

Across Northern Virginia, local government officials are concerned that the amendment could increase the cost of public-works projects such as building roads. The language of the amendment allows land owners to seek damages from local governments if they can prove a loss of profits or a loss of access. If a county government prevents traffic from turning into a parking lot, for example, a retail outlet could seek damages for loss of access to the business. The Old Dominion Boat Club, on the other hand, could seek damages for the loss of profits on the parking spaces.

"Virginia has one of the worst state constitutions in the entire country with regard to property rights," said Ilya Somin, professor of law at George Mason University. "Most state constitutions say you can only take property for a public use. But what the Virginia constitution currently says is you

Voice Heard, Commitments on the Way

Hyland discusses strategy for funding field improvements.

By Yuhan Xu
The Gazette

Playing on uneven athletic fields that have rocks and broken glass, West Potomac High School football and lacrosse players are referred as "West Poor" by their opposing teams. This is not OK with Mount Vernon

District Supervisor Gerald Hyland.

"What I'll do is knock him on his butt," said Hyland, who recalled that he played football on a field just like that years ago.

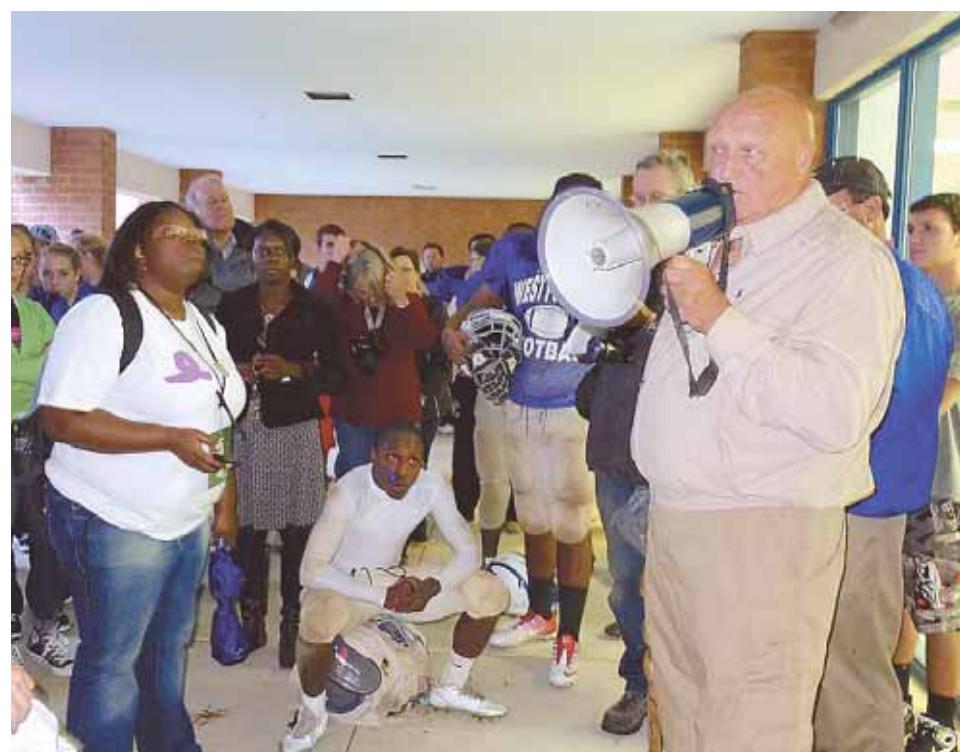
"I'll say this unequivocally," Hyland said at the meeting with parents, students and VOICE leaders at West Potomac High School on the rainy evening of Oct. 15. "We're going to find a way to have artificial turf fields

at both West Potomac and Mount Vernon. That is going to happen."

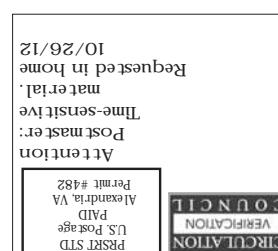
During the past few months, Hyland has been working with a group called VOICE (Virginian Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement), Fairfax County Board Supervisor Jeffrey McKay, the Park Authority and School Board to address the need for more after-school programs, better recreational facilities and transportation home from after-school activities for youth along lower-income Route 1 community.

Hyland said he's committed to looking for proffers from developers, and some developments are occurring. He has met with a developer who's building a residential development along Huntington Avenue, and they've already had an agreement towards a half-field. "A number of other developments that will occur," said Hyland. "When the developers meet with me, I will be asking them to do the same thing to help us contribute funds towards artificial fields. But it's going to take a little time to get all

See Improvements, Page 7



Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerald Hyland (right) addresses parents, students and VOICE leaders.



See Domain, Page 4



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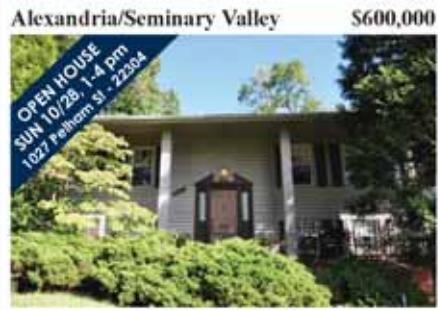
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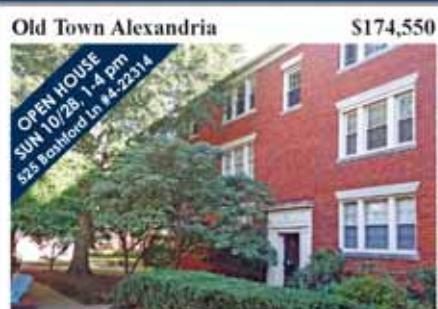
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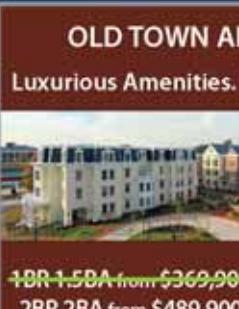
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What Would \$155 Million Bond Package Buy?

New fire stations, library renovations, park improvements and more on Nov. 6 ballot.

By Victoria Ross
The Gazette

On a recent Saturday afternoon, Monique Bell of Oakton was helping her 5-year-old daughter McKenzie sort through a dozen Halloween craft books at the Reston Regional Library.

The library, one of the busiest branches in Fairfax County, has a collection of more than 215,000 volumes and circulates more than a million books a year.

For children, there is a separate wing with everything from board books for infants to chapter books for school-age readers; special events such as Spiderella's Spooktacular Tales, and a full-service children's information desk.

"We're new to the area," Bell said, "but this has already become one of our favorite places. It's where a lot of moms spend time. We love all the story-time events."

Built in 1985, the 30,000-square-foot library is located north of the Reston Town Center and near the planned Reston Parkway Metro station. Because that area may be redeveloped into a more urban, mixed-use center, the library may be relocated.

The \$10 million project, which includes site studies, design and construction of a new library, is just part of Fairfax County's \$155 million bond package on the ballot Nov. 6. Specifically, the ballot will include



Firefighters pull rescue boats for Huntington residents whose homes were flooded during Tropical Storm Lee.

four bond referendums for parks, public safety facilities, and storm water projects.

"I didn't know about the project, but I can't imagine not supporting library projects," Bell said. "They're important for our children, like good schools, and one of the reasons we moved here."

IF MOST VOTERS think like Bell, their approval of the bond package would allow the County to borrow \$25 million to redesign the Reston library, as well as renovate three other libraries: Pohick Regional, Tysons-Pimmit Regional and John Marshall Community libraries.

The public safety bond would raise \$55 million, including \$35 million to replace three fire stations—Baileys Crossroads, Jefferson and Herndon—and \$20 million to renovate 22 courtrooms in the Jennings

Judicial Center.

The \$75 million park bond for local and regional parks, according to County officials, would generate \$63 million toward a 10-year, \$435 million capital improvement plan and \$12 million to renew a four-year plan to contribute capital funds to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. Another \$30 million is earmarked for a levee and other storm-water improvements in the Huntington community.

"The projects the bond referenda will pay for are community priorities that essentially enhance our quality of life," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large). She said Fairfax County's triple-A credit rating—one of only 39 counties in the country to earn the rating—allows the County to borrow money at a low cost to pay for public facilities and infrastructure. She said the County has a fiscally-conservative policy of rapid debt retirement and strong debt management. Since 1978, the County has saved more than \$543.28 million on bond and refunding sales as a result of the triple-A ratings. Bulova said none of the bonds are expected to raise tax rates for residents.

"The County has benefited from the low cost of construction to make these kinds of improvement to our parks, libraries and public safety facilities. It's the silver lining, so to speak, in the economic downturn," she said.

Because the bonds spell out the type and cost of projects, Bulova said money cannot be shifted around for other projects. "When you vote, you will know exactly where your money is going," Bulova said.

In Fairfax County, bonds typically have a high rate of passage and, for the most part, have bipartisan support from the Board of Supervisors.

"All residents benefit from parks, libraries, and, of course, the courthouse renovations. Efficient handling of court cases come from better facilities. Park and library funds are spent in an order established based on

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BONDS?

For general information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond

Check out the YouTube links to three videos about the bonds:

Library: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34763GH7Q4c>

Public Safety: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JL_zmihiY

Stormwater: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W13ZQq94IJk>

Participate in two upcoming AskFairfax! Online forums:

Monday, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/AskFairfax/ActiveDiscussion.aspx?roomid=43

Monday, Oct. 29 at 10 a.m. on the Parks bond exclusively at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/AskFairfax/ActiveDiscussion.aspx?roomid=45

needs. Over time that covers the whole County," said Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock).

However, a partisan divide separated supervisors on the \$30 million storm water bond referendum, which would provide flood-prevention measures such as a new levee for residents in Mount Vernon's flood-prone Huntington community.

In April, Huntington residents appeared before the board, asking the County to support measures that would protect their community from continued flooding along Cameron Run. On Sept. 8, 2011, during Tropical Storm Lee, Cameron Run peaked at 15 feet and flooded homes, causing the evacuation of more than 200 residents.

"We have 1,341 signatures from people who support our request. By our count, 1,193 of them are Fairfax County residents," said Huntington Community Association (HCA) secretary David Coon, who spoke about the community's "Stop the Floods" campaign at the April 12 board meeting.

During the May 22 board meeting, Supervisor Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon) urged the board to include a \$30 million bond referendum for flood-prevention measures in Huntington, arguing that the County should fulfill a 40-year-old promise to protect the neighborhood. Homes in the Huntington community were built in the 1940s and 1950s, before rules against developments in a floodplain existed. Hyland argued that residents wanted to protect their existing homes rather than support redevelopment options. Currently, there are 180 homes in the FEMA-designated floodplain that are at risk.

THE BOARD'S THREE Republican supervisors—John C. Cook (Braddock), Michael R. Frey (Sully) and Patrick S. Herrity (Springfield)—opposed the extra bond referendum for flooding.

"I voted against the storm water bond because it only helps about 200 households in Huntington," Cook said. "It will significantly increase the value of those homes, which is good for them, but at others' expense." Cook said supervisors should have explored the option of a private developer who had expressed an interest in buying the homes and building an apartment building, which would meet current FEMA floodplain regulations.

How Bond Money Will Be Spent

Public Libraries — \$25 Million

♦ John Marshall Library — \$5 Million: The 16,500-square-foot library opened in 1974, and customers borrow nearly 19,000 items per month. The building will be renovated and expanded. The library is located in the Lee District, which is expected to have a 17 percent growth in population by 2030.

♦ Pohick Regional Library — \$5 Million: Opened in 1986, this library loans out nearly 58,000 items per month, and the 25,000-square-foot building will be renovated. The library is located in the Springfield District, which is expected to have a 5.6 percent growth in population by 2030.

♦ Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library — \$5 Million: Customers borrow nearly 43,000 items per month from this library, which opened in 1986. The 25,000-square-foot interior will be renovated to provide more public space. The library is located in the Dranesville District, which is expected to have a 12.9 percent growth in population by 2030.

Public Safety — \$55 Million

♦ Fire Stations — \$35 Million

♦ Baileys Crossroads Fire Station — \$9 Million: Built in 1974, the roof of the 11,000-square-foot station collapsed during the 2010 blizzard, also known as "snowmageddon." The station will be replaced with 16,900-square-foot, four-bay (two drive-through bays) fire station. Continuous fire and rescue service will be provided to the community during construction of the new station.

♦ Herndon Fire Station — \$12 Million: The existing 8,162-square-foot station, built in the 1950s, is one of the oldest in the county. A new 14,500-square-foot station will be constructed at the existing site, and will include three bays (with one bay sized to park vehicles in front of each other), as well as 20 underground parking spaces.

♦ Jefferson Fire Station — \$14 Million: Now 48-years-old, the 14,670-square-foot fire station is scheduled to be replaced; the station lacks sufficient space for equipment for the Technical Rescue Operations Team, as well as adequate accommodations for female personnel. A 2005 study rated the station as "in poor condition" overall.

♦ Courthouse Renovations — \$20 Million: Built in the early 1980s, the courtrooms in the original Jennings Judicial Center — now known as the Fairfax County Courthouse — have been in constant use by the public. Bond funds are slated to renovate 22 courtrooms, nine for the General District Court and 13 for the Circuit Court.

Renovations include making courtrooms compliant with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), security upgrades and video conferencing to allow for video arraignments and testimony from remote witnesses.

*Parks and Park Facilities — \$75 Million: If approved, the county currently plans to use this bond money to buy land, renovate and expand existing

See Bond Money, Page 24



A vote for the Library is a vote for the people of Fairfax County

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- Make critical technological updates
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For more information, please join us at **Bond Referendum & Reception**, 10/28/12,
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News



Photo by Michael Lee Pope/The Gazette

Alexandria city officials have threatened to take these parking spaces using the power of eminent domain. If an amendment to the Virginia constitution is approved by voters in November, members of the Old Dominion Boat Club could seek damages for a loss of profits.

Eminent Domain on November Ballot

From Page 1
can condemn property for any reason the legislature defines as a public use."

THE AMENDMENT before voters this year is, in many ways, part of the backlash against the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Kelo versus City of New London. Virginia is one of 44 states that enacted legislation limiting how eminent domain could be used in the wake of the decision, a five-to-four ruling that opened the door to governments taking private property for "public purpose," even if that means economic revitalization. Legislators have already passed a law that prevents government officials from condemning property for economic development or private use, although supporters of the amendment say the amendment would be more permanent than a statutory restriction.

"Institutionalizing it in the constitution prevents the legislature from backsliding on this later as they would quite possibly be inclined to do as public opinion moves on to other issues," said Somin. "In the short run, that part of the amendment would change very little, but it would entrench this against future change by the legislature, which I think is very important."

The language of the amendment goes beyond codifying the existing prohibition against taking private land for public use. It also creates a new way for landowners to seek damages from local governments if they can prove in court that they have lost access or profits. That concerns local government leaders who are worried that the new limitations might dramatically increase the cost of public-works projects while inflicting unintended consequences on unsuspecting property owners.

"There may be a perverse incentive now to look at residential property rather than commercial properties when jurisdictions might be looking at emi-

nent domain said state Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31). "This compensation for lost profits is going to be a complicating factor."

THE POLITICS of eminent domain are not strictly partisan, although Republicans seem united in their support of the amendment. State Sen. George Barker (D-39) voted for the amendment last year in an effort to strip out language adding the ability of property owners to seek interest on top of the loss of profits and loss of access. This year, he voted against the bill, which he says he opposed all along.

"It's nowhere near as bad as the proposal that came out of committee last year," said Barker in an interview earlier this year. "But it still has very significant negative consequences in terms of cost, and it's also something that would be very difficult to change."

"I'd be surprised if it didn't pass because when given the opportunity to limit eminent domain, voters would probably decide to do that."

— Kyle Kondick, analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics

ment, but many say the threat of eminent domain could be enough to turn the tide in favor of the initiative.

"I can imagine why Democrats in Northern Virginia wouldn't be as keen on the amendment as folks in other parts of the state because one can imagine eminent domain being used more because of all the development in Northern Virginia," said Kyle Kondick, analyst for the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "I'd be surprised if it didn't pass because when given the opportunity to limit eminent domain, voters would probably decide to do that."

If the amendment is successful, members of the General Assembly will have to pass another bill outlining what would constitute a loss of profits and a loss of access.

News



At the end of the day, the trash waits for the pick-up truck for proper disposal.

Photos by
Louise Krafft /
The Gazette

Cleanup at Little Hunting Creek



Shopping carts from Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Michael's PetSmart, Target and TJ Maxx were reclaimed from the creek this past weekend.



Del. Scott Surovell adds more trash to the growing pile in the parking lot on Seven Woods Drive.



Rob Surovell combs the ground surrounding the creek bed at Janna Lee Avenue for discarded trash on Saturday afternoon.



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Alex./Yacht Haven \$939,000

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Alex./Wessynton \$624,900
8802 Four Seasons

Large, stunning, contemporary Colonial in popular Mount Vernon Community of Wessynton. This lovely home is highly updated: kitchen remodeled in '07, HVAC & hot water heater replaced '07, energy-efficient replacement windows, freshly painted interior - family room w/vaulted ceiling off kitchen - large beautiful picture windows throughout overlook a large, private, landscaped lot on a quiet cul-de-sac - In-law bedroom & bath on main level - 5 minutes to Fort Belvoir - This is a Keeper!



Alex./Mt. Vernon \$452,900
8620 Curtis Avenue

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Alex./Mt. Vernon Woods \$319,000
7901 Martha Washington Street

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Hyland Discusses Strategy for Funding Field Improvements

From Page 1

the money we can gather."

Since the launch of the campaign on June 11, VOICE held tours and had Hyland and McKay coming to update progress. They worked with a local soccer league on how to engage more youth in after-school activities. And they scheduled a meeting with a representative from Costco, trying to make an agreement to carve out a space for children to play in Murraygate Village and Audubon.

Tuck Bowerfield, rector of St. Louis Episcopal Church and co-chair of VOICE, said it's remarkable to have people from West Potomac and Mount Vernon high schools working together for the same goal. And they've met with Park Authority to secure commitments for improvements at parks such as Muddy Hole and worked on planning a recreational center for youth on Route 1.

"We need to raise \$50,000 engineering [cost] for each field," said Rick Genuario, booster president at West Potomac High School. "That is our commitment — to fundraise, to kick start the engineering of both fields. We need to start looking at that."

School Board member Dan Storck said there needs to be equity across the school

Route 1/Mount Vernon Youth Agenda

1. Make improvements to fields at Mount Vernon Woods Park, MLK Park, Muddy Hole Park and Bucknell Elementary School.
2. Near Murraygate Village and Audubon:
 - * Initiate a public-private partnership to resurface a parking lot to create a rectangular field.
 - * Initiate planning for a full-service recreation or community center with low-fee programming.
3. Install two synthetic turf fields at Mount Vernon High School and another two at West Potomac High School.
4. Get Fairfax Connector service after school that runs directly between Sandburg and Route 1.
5. Pilot a robust after-school program at Bucknell Elementary School and create a full-scale tutor/mentor program at Sandburg Middle School.

system. He supports Hyland's idea to have boosters help contribute to the cost of improvements at schools.

"This is a great success," concluded Bowerfield. "We got full support of the School Board, the County, and the Park Authority. I think this is an outstanding result."

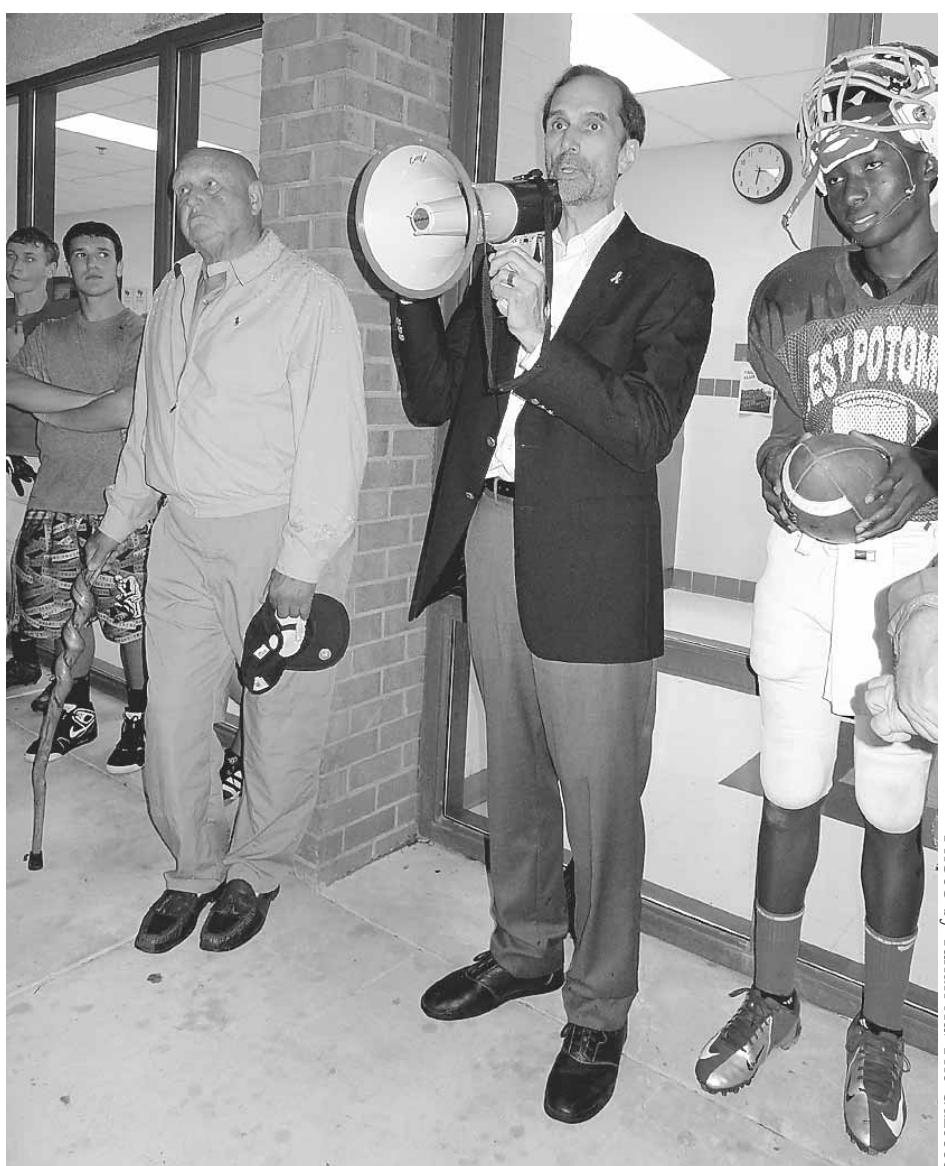


Photo by Yuhan Xu/The Gazette

Dan Storck, Fairfax County School Board member, speaks at the meeting.



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News Briefs

Pedestrian Killed on Richmond Highway

Police are investigating a fatal pedestrian crash that occurred around 1:50 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18. A 64-year-old man was operating a 2002 Kenworth dump truck northbound in the right lane of Richmond Highway just south of Huntington Avenue. A man walked into the unlit roadway, crossing left to right and walked into the path of the oncoming dump truck. The driver took evasive action but was unable to avoid striking the man.

The driver stopped and called police. The pedestrian, Michael Ingram, 27, of Washington, D.C., was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital and pronounced dead. Speed and alcohol are not a factor for the driver. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Police Shooting Called Justified

Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F Morrogh has informed Colonel David M. Rohrer, Chief of Police, that in his legal opinion the officer who fired his weapon in a July 8 incident did so justifiably in fact and law. No charges will be filed against the involved officer, PFC Edward Carpenter. Carpenter has been with the department seven years and is currently assigned to the Mount Vernon District Station.

Around 11:20 p.m. on Sunday, July 8, two officers observed two males acting suspiciously in the area of Frye Road and Madge Lane. The officers approached both males and one fled on foot.

The two officers briefly pursued the man and attempted to detain him. During the struggle the suspect produced a handgun and fired shots toward the officers. One officer, Carpenter, returned fire, striking the suspect. The man was transported to Inova Mount Vernon Hospital and pronounced dead a short time later. The second suspect fled on foot. The deceased was identified as Nicholas Allen Kaelber, 21, of Woodbridge.

Meeting on Wetland Restoration Plan for Park

Fairfax County Park Authority staff members and wetlands design professionals from Wetlands Studies and Solutions, Inc. will present a wetlands restoration plan for Huntley Meadows Park, a 50-plus acre freshwater wetland on Thursday, Nov. 29, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the park Visitor's Center located at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. in Alexandria.

For information about Huntley Meadows Park, visit online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows-park/restorationproject.htm>.

Event Spotlights Domestic Violence

In honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Women's Group of Mount Vernon, Inc. is sponsoring a Grand Day celebration on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Gum Spring Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road in Alexandria.

Grand Day celebrates survivors and pays tribute to those who have lost their lives at the hands of domestic violence. Local leaders including Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; Jeff McKay, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; state Del. Scott Surovell and state Sen. Toddy Puller have confirmed attendance to the event.

The event, which is free of charge, will educate the community on the signs and prevention methods for domestic violence. This includes workshops and resources on domestic violence. Free childcare will be available on site. Keynote speaker Donna Marziliano, a domestic violence survivor, will share her story during the event.

People



Photos by Louise Kraft/The Gazette

Sheba, Macaria, Georgie and 3-month-old Matoskah watch the visitors come and go at the fair.

Fall Rummage and Craft Fair

Tables filled the east parking lot at Mount Vernon High School on Saturday, Oct. 20, for the annual fall rummage sale. Inside the school cafeteria, new authors, jewelry designers, boutique owners and craft vendors set out their creations for shoppers to browse and purchase. Kathy

Brown of Sugar Hollow Farm brought Sheba, Macaria, Georgie and young Matoskah, four of her alpacas to the fair. Brown operates Sugar Hollow Farm in Lorton where she spins and knits the alpaca wool into scarves and clothing. The alpacas live on a farm with other alpacas in Capon Bridge, W.Va.



Fairfax County Public School librarian and children's author Susan Dickerson Vinesky displays her most recent work, "Little Brown Bat #401" at the craft fair.



John and Kim rearrange their rummage sale tables during an ebb in the traffic on Saturday afternoon.



Top It Off owner Laura Colligan and her daughter Emily greet shoppers at the fair.



Sisters Gail Lange, Jeri Ferguson, Sherri Boswell and Karla Dobson of I.C. Creations display a few of the hand-made centerpieces.

People



Lyn Finnigan, Darleen Clark, Deborah Bennett and Mary Jane Thornton



Marge Silverberg and Claudia Madigan



Gail Simpson, Sharon Roberson and Estelle Gibson

Viva la Diva

The 29th Annual Yacht Haven Garden Club Fashion Show, Luncheon & Silent Auction was held on Thursday, Oct. 18, at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club. Fashions and furs were courtesy of Bloomingdale's in Tyson's Corner. Bloomingdale's personal shopper manager Effie Elkorek emceed the show. Michael Habib, Kevin Scherrer, Carrick Herbert and Gil Siegert served as escorts for the models. Fashion show co-chairs were Denise Wight and Deborah Alea. Proceeds from the annual event benefit area and community activities that include American Horticulture Society; local Boy Scout and Girl Scout projects; historic preservation of Gunston Hall, Mount Vernon, River Farm and Woodlawn Plantation; neighborhood entrance marker beautification projects; gardening project at Mount Vernon High School; support of Fern Valley at the National Arboretum, World Gardening, and Friendship Garden; United Community Ministries Fresh Food donations, and the Wildflower Garden and Invasive Plant Control.



Bloomingdale's personal shopper manager Effie Elkorek appears on the runway with Yacht Haven Garden Club members dressed in fashions from Bloomingdale's. Pictured are: Belle Bredehoft, Terra Defibaugh, Pam Gaddy, Bonnie Lilley, Alexandra Perryman, Marcia Siegert, Diane Case, Linda Ely, Linda Herbert, Sue Lord and Suzanne Scherrer.

Photos by Louise Kraft/The Gazette



Pam Gaddy waits for the signal to start the show at the Fort Belvoir Officers Club.



Marcia Siegert



Suzanne Scherrer



Marcia Siegert

Opinion

Be Part of the Children's Gazette

Call for student artwork and writing; deadline Dec. 3.

During the last week of each year, The Gazette devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

The annual Children's Gazette is a tradition of well over a decade, and we begin getting inquiries from teachers and parents about submitting artwork and writing almost as soon as summer is over.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide the submissions by Monday, Dec. 3.

Some suggestions:

❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format.

❖ Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most

looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? What is the best or worst thing that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever given? Ever received?

❖ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, etc.

❖ Poetry or other creative writing.

❖ Opinion pieces about family, friends, movies, traffic, sports, food, video games, toys, trends, etc.

❖ News stories from school newspapers.

We welcome contributions from families, public and private schools, individuals and homeschoilers.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette in the Mount Vernon Gazette to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Gazette, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Dec. 3. The Children's Gazette will publish the week of Dec. 27, 2012.

Halloween Parties, SoberRide

Halloween is now as much of an adult party as a children's festival. Along with the Fourth of July, the holiday period including New Year's Eve and a few other dates, Halloween stands out as a holiday connected to an increase in drinking and driving.

If you will be out celebrating with alcohol, you can plan ahead. Assign a designated driver. Celebrate at home. Take public transportation.

But if these plans fall through, the non-profit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) Halloween SoberRide program provides a safety

net.

For six hours from 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31 until 4 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1, SoberRide serves as a way to keep impaired drivers off the road. During this six-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to a \$30 fare), safe way home.

Sponsors of this year's Halloween SoberRide offering include: Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Diageo, Giant, MillerCoors, Red Top Cab of Arlington, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, Volkswagen Group of America and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 55,694 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. For more information visit www.wrap.org

Last Call

Letters to the editor from local residents about the upcoming election should be received by Friday, Oct. 26 to be considered for publication. Letters on candidates, bond questions, election procedure or any other local, election related topics are welcome and encouraged. Ideal letters will be about 200 words and convey opinion with civility. Send letters to smauren@connectionnewspapers.com

— Mary Kimm,

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Letters

Stop All Illegal Signs

To the Editor:

Your Oct. 15 article "The Message is Not the Median" is welcomed by so many and this is a first great step in stopping sign pollution along our roadways. Fairfax County should go one step further however, and get permission to go after all those illegal "business" signs that pollute all year round along the Route 1 corridor, Fort Hunt Road and other roadways.

Imagine each fine of \$100 collected for each sign. Anyone could easily see that the amount collected would add up to a lot of money for the county — and could fund all sort of programs. OK, imagine the other side of success — no more illegal signs from local businesses, no more new apartment rental advertisements, and

Mount Vernon Gazette

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A Connection Newspaper



Snapshot

8:29 p.m., Oct. 22: Fans of the Mount Vernon girls varsity field hockey team wait for the players to return to the sidelines following their victory over Yorktown in the National District finals.

Letters

From Page 10

no more "I Buy Cars" and "I buy Houses" posted to VDOT signs that impair drivers' full vision of the roadway. Why stop with the politicians? Stopping illegal signs is a win-win for the county and its residents.

Danny Selnick
Alexandria

Important Choices

To the Editor:

This November's election is one of the most critical in a long, long time because it's a choice between freedom and opportunity or big government, more dependency and loss of freedom.

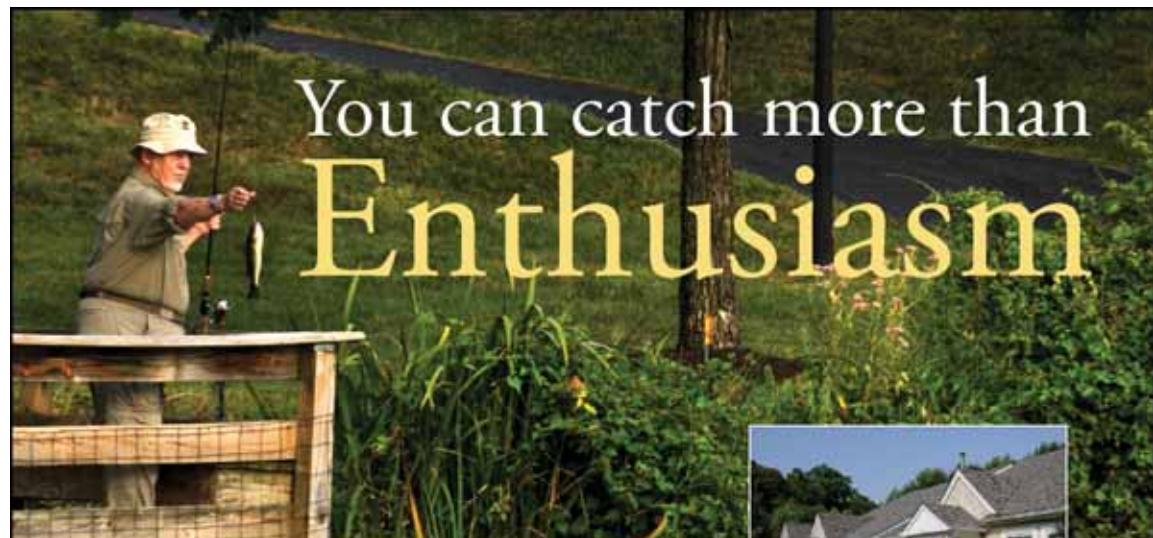
During the last four years, dependency has increased substantially. People looking for work or underemployed total 23 million forcing them to apply for food stamps and/or unemployment compensation. Food stamp recipients total 47 million or a 17 million increase since the current administration took office. Individuals on food stamps and/or unemployment compensation are restricted from fully taking care of themselves and/or their families

and realizing their dreams for success because of limited income. Also, dependency generally restricts freedom of speech because persons are reluctant to speak out for fear of losing benefits. Further, freedoms are lost when big government dictates what we can eat or not eat, drink and what light bulbs we must use. Moreover, constitutional freedoms are restricted when government dictates and forces religious organizations to provide free contraceptives even though it is against their religious beliefs and finally, if you don't have health insurance, Obamacare forces you to buy health insurance or be taxed. Freedom of choice is gone.

We need to elect persons who have experience promoting hands up and not dependency or handouts and who promote opportunities for everyone who want to work and achieve and lead a good life free from government mandates.

Keep in mind whether big government and dependency or opportunities and freedoms are the answers when voting in November. The future is in your hands.

Frank Medico
Mount Vernon



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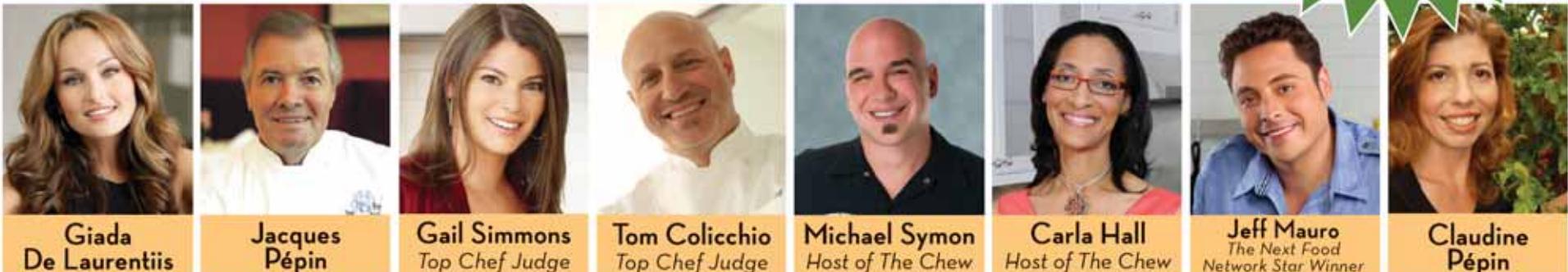
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News

The Passover Amendment

**Amendment would
give General Assembly
more flexibility.**

By Michael Lee Pope
The Gazette

Every year, the Virginia General Assembly convenes several weeks after the session to react to the governor's vetoes. The "veto session" frequently conflicts with Passover — the Jewish festival that commemorates the flight of the ancient Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. That posed a problem for former Del. David Englin (D-45). Should he remain true to his religion and skip the important legislative session. Or should he remain true to his constituents?

"During my first year in the General Assembly, the reconvened session fell on Passover," said Englin, who now lives in California. "That's when I learned that the Virginia constitution gives the General Assembly zero flexibility over the date of the reconvened session, which happens after every regular session."

The state constitution stipulates that the General Assembly must convene on the sixth Wednesday after the session. Because

of the way the calendar falls, that frequently coincides with Passover. For Jews, the conflict creates a difficult decision — one that had Jews such as Englin and state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) working on one of Judaism's most important holidays.

"For Jews, it's an important holiday," said Ebbin. "And every member of the General Assembly should be able to practice their religion."

Because the language at issue is in the text of the constitution, the only way to create flexibility is by creating another constitutional amendment. That's what will be before voters this November. The language on the ballot won't say anything about Passover, though. Instead, it will present voters with a question about whether the constitution should be amended to allow the General Assembly to delay the veto session by a week.

"The fate of the commonwealth will not rise or fall with this amendment," said Englin. "However, voters should support it because it makes sense to give the General Assembly a small amount of flexibility over its own calendar to deconflict with important events, without allowing so much wiggle room that people could play politics with the schedule."

The amendment has no organized oppo-

See Passover, Page 26

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Opinion

Eminent Domain Amendment's Costs

By Scott A. Surovell
And Linda T.
"Toddy" Puller



Next month, Virginia voters are being asked to change language in the Virginia constitution that dates to George Mason. Taxpayers should be wary.

In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Kelo v. New London* after the city of New London, Conn., condemned 15 holdout homes as part of a redevelopment of an area designated "economically distressed." Justice John Paul Stevens held that condemning land for a broad redevelopment project was a valid "public use" under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. But he went on to say that there was nothing prohibiting state governments from enacting more restrictive provisions.

In 2007, the Virginia General Assembly did exactly that, enacting legislation that prohibited the state and local governments from doing what New London did. Today in Virginia, state and municipal officials cannot condemn property unless it is ultimately owned by the government, a utility or a public service corporation.

Notwithstanding that, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and two Republicans in the General Assembly running for attorney general have led a charge to place this statutory prohibition into Virginia's 236-year-old Declaration of Rights. But they went further than the current law. Businesses were able to add language to the proposed amendment requiring taxpayers to compensate landowners not just for the value of condemned land but for lost profits and lost access. Taxpayers should be concerned.

First, the proposed amendment flunks the constitutional drafting test. The language in the Fifth Amendment is virtually identical to existing language in Article I of the Virginia constitution because James Madison borrowed the concept from George Mason, who had written it into the Declaration of Rights in 1776. It has stood virtually unchanged for 236 years.

Now, the amendment aims to delete George Mason's 13 words, plus 11 added in a 1971 revision, and replace them with 199 words of detailed policy prescriptions. Putting such details into a constitution is tantamount to putting all of the electrical wiring for your house into your concrete foundation.

Poetry

Halloween

the skeletal queen
just out of the half-shell
now in a birdbath
splashes around
pink shower cap on
sponge in hand
her mirror awaits
to primp for the ball
her dress
raven-delivered
airmail express
rats bear bonbons
to their bony queen
getting ready to party
with witches and ghouls
and things better not seen
except on Halloween
in the Virginia Florist window
— Peter Lattu

Police Investigate Armed Robbery

Police are investigating an armed robbery at the 7-Eleven at 2405 Fairhaven Avenue. Three suspects entered the store around 4 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 22, produced a pistol and demanded money from the clerks.

The clerks complied; the suspects stole money and merchandise and left in an unknown vehicle. There were no injuries.

The suspects are described as two black females and one black male. All wore full face masks and black, hooded jackets. One woman was heavyset and the other wore blue jeans and a maroon-colored top.

Anyone with information is



asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail at www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

I'm Phillip Norris - Your Alexandria Neighbor



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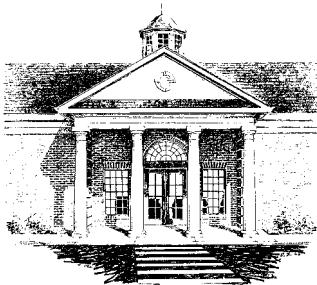
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Bulletin Board

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is the Thursday at noon.

ONGOING

UCM's Back Porch Thrift Store is in need of donations of furniture. UCM will pick up furniture, as well as other larger donations, or they can be dropped off at the back of the store Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. To arrange for pick-ups, call 703-768-7106, ext. 320. Located at the Mt. Vernon Crossroads Shopping Center at 7838 Richmond Hwy.

Volunteers Needed. AARP Tax-Aide, a national volunteer-run tax counseling and preparation service for low to moderate income and elderly citizens, needs volunteers to electronically complete and file federal and state income tax forms for the 2013 tax season. The program offers free five-day training using IRS computers and software. Volunteers become IRS Certified Tax Counselors after completing and passing the IRS examination. Training sessions will be held in Annandale, Centerville and Alexandria in Dec. 2012 and Jan. 2013. Visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Training Courses. The American Red Cross in the National Capital Region will host training courses in CPR, First Aid, and AED in the Alexandria and Fort Belvoir offices. These classes offer a two-year certification. Classes range from \$70-\$110 and will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays, dependent upon the participant's choice. Advance registration is required. To register for a class or find another class in your area, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcross.org/takeaclass.

EVERY THURSDAY

Dance for Parkinson's Disease.

1:30-2:30 p.m. At Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Rd. Those with Parkinson's and caregivers are welcome. No dance experience necessary.

TUESDAYS/THROUGH NOV. 27

Seminars. 12:30-2:30 p.m. Join Fairfax County's Independent Living Project, a free series of educational seminars for older adults, along with exercise or yoga classes for strength and balance. The program also provides home safety visits for 60+ adults and adults with physical disabilities. Participation in the full project is advised, and space is limited. At 7000 Schoonmaker Court. Register with Jennifer Edge at 703-324-7210, TTY 711 or email Jennifer.Edge@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/independent.htm>.

THROUGH DEC. 7

Medicare Open Season. Howard Houghton will discuss what people need to know about the 2013 Medicare health and drug plans at these free Fairfax County presentations. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/vicap.htm. Monday, Oct. 29, 10:15 a.m. Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Call to register: 703-765-4573, TTY 711.

FRIDAY/OCT. 26

Computer Lab Open House. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet the instructors and one-on-one volunteers, preview their curriculum and try the lab terminals. Light refreshments served. Call 703-765-4573 to reserve a seat. Hollin

See Bulletin Board, Page 26
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Torpedo Factory
112 Union Street TH-112, Alexandria, VA 22314
3 BR 2.5 BA Brick TH in Torpedo Factory Residences. Garage + views of MD, Potomac & Alexandria from top flr mock balcony. Quiet community steps from King St shops & restaurants.
Jolee Rubin 703-548-0697



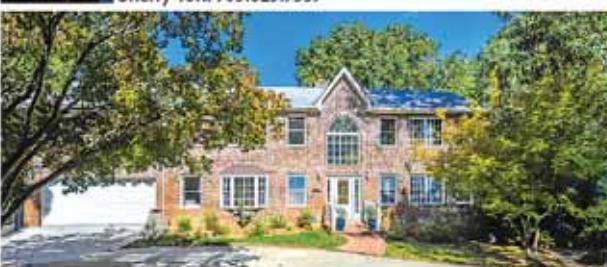
Janneys Lane Area
2933 Bryan Street, Alexandria, VA 22302
Great for entertaining, expanded & renovated, big kit opens to family rm, fabulous decks & views! Low maint yard, garage, 3FP, 4BA, wonderful master BR suite w/ huge BA & closet.
Sherry York 703.625.7337



Old Town
207 Wilkes Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
One block to river/parks in Old Town SE Quad. Historic character & outstanding top end renovation w/ Subzero/Bosch. Open flrpln, tons of light, grt outdoor space. www.207Wilkes.com
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



Old Town Alexandria
228 Columbus Street N, Alexandria, VA 22314
The Muir House c.1890 Romanesque Glenn Brown design (White House/senate architect), 4800sqft, 3BR/3FB/3HB/SFP, sun-filled oversized rooms, roof garden w/ views. www.228columbus.com
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



Indian Spring
6532 Spring Valley Drive, Alexandria, VA 22312
5,000+sqft SFH 2/3 acre wooded lot breathtaking views. 8BR/4.5BA/2FP & open flrpln great flow for entertaining. Tons of light, 2-car gar + circular drivwy. www.6532SpringValley.com
Chris Upham 202-359-1308



Del Ray
313 Monroe Avenue E, Alexandria, VA 22301
Charming multi-family, 4 unit bldg on lge lot w/ driveway, ample parking & 2 car gar. Units all occupied w/rents totaling \$7010/mo. Walk to shops & restaurants. www.sherryork.com
Sherry York 703.625.7337



Old Town Alexandria

310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300

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The property information herein is derived from various sources that may include, but not be limited to, county records and the Multiple Listing Service and it may include approximations. Although the information is believed to be accurate, it is not warranted and you should not rely upon it without personal verification.

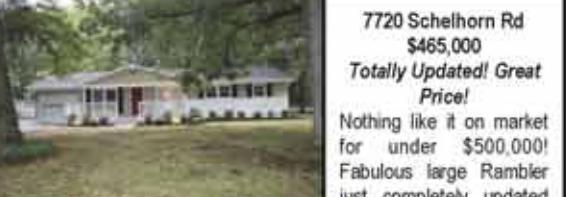
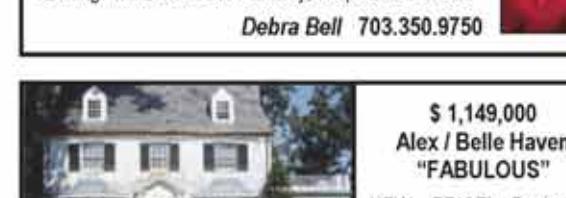
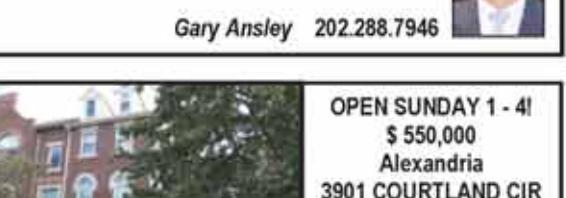
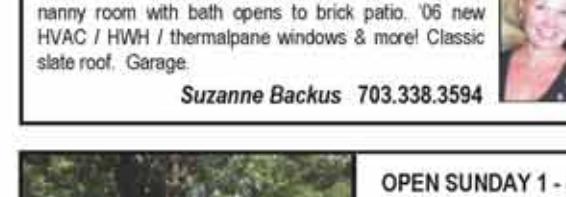
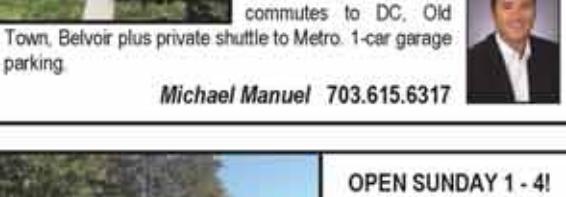




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RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • TITLE • INSURANCE



<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUN</p> <p>NEW PRICE!</p> <p>9313 Heather Glen \$579,000 <i>Gorgeous Home!</i></p> <p>Updated with top quality materials and craftsmanship-\$160K in updates and renovations! Exceptionally bright, open floor plan, spacious family room off updated eat-in kit, separate dining room, gorgeous hdwd flrs. Pella replacement windows, expanded master and large deck overlooks fenced rear yard. OPEN SUN 10/28, 1-4! GW Pky S, past Estate; L-Ferry Landing; L-Heather Glen.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>7720 Schelhorn Rd \$465,000 <i>Totally Updated! Great Price!</i></p> <p>Nothing like it on market for under \$500,000! Fabulous large Rambler just completely updated on spectacular large level lot in prime close-in location. Many features include brand new gourmet kitchen, new baths, open floor plan, 4BRs, hdwd flrs, distinctive front porch entry, huge exterior deck, garage and extra parking. Unique opportunity!</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 335,000 Alexandria 1010 PRINCE ST, #1</p> <p>NEW PRICE! The perfect blending of historic charm with new world appointments. Wonderfully bright, large 1st floor condo which has been remodeled and move-in ready! New paint, floors refinished, brand NEW kitchen plus all that Old Town offers. Close to Metro.</p> <p>www.brianandjerry.com Brian Hong & Jery Beamer 703.929.5764</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 475,000 Alexandria "SOPHISTICATED & SPACIOUS"</p> <p>Move right into this pristine 3 level garage townhouse nestled in cul-de-sac in convenient Kingstowne. Walk to schools, shops and eateries! 3 BR, 2 Full BA, 2 Half BA with finished walkout LL. Wonderful outdoor space on oversized deck and stunning patio. Recently updated kitchen, new paint, windows and more. Hurry!</p> <p>www.marytaylorrealtor.com Kim Muffler 703.282.7739</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 565,000 Alexandria South "NEW PRICE!"</p> <p>Move in Ready! Gorgeous gourmet kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, large deck overlooking lovely .5 acre yard. 3BR and 2 full BA. Large rec room with tons of closet space. HVAC, furnace and HWH replaced within the last 2 years. The owners love their home and you will love it too!</p> <p>www.marytaylorrealtor.com Mary Taylor 703.785.5619</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 764,000 Alexandria South 2914 POPKINS LN</p> <p>Celebrate the holidays with room for all your family and friends. Custom-built in 2006, this 3,444 sq ft beauty has 3 finished levels with 6BR, 3.5BA, 2-story foyer and family room with massive stone fireplace, spacious kitchen with granite and maple, master BR with sitting room and so much more. Call for details.</p> <p>www.margaretkeagle.com Call for more information: Margaret Keagle 571.332.5264</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>NEW HOME</p> <p>8313 Mount Vernon Hwy \$789,000 <i>Brand New!</i> <i>Amazing Price!</i></p> <p>Brand new home opportunity in prime Mt. Vernon location by Wakefield Homes. Custom home with many modern amenities and upgrades. Features include: expanded master bedroom suite, front porch, gourmet kitchen, high ceilings, 2 car garage. Fabulous new home amenities combined with convenience of a prime Mt. Vernon location.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>9317 Old Mansion Rd \$859,000 <i>Updated Colonial-Near River!</i></p> <p>Classic Colonial tastefully updated and expanded resulting in one of area's most distinctive properties! Fab features: 3 fin levels, stunning expanded custom kit opening to sunroom, 4BRs, fab master suite, 3.5BAs, 2FPs, oversize 2 car garage and custom stone patio. Gorgeous cul-de-sac setting bordering riverfront estates. A truly special property!</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 519,000 Alex / Riverside Est. 8516 WAGON WHEEL</p> <p>PRICE REDUCED TO \$519,000! 3BR/2BA single family home with gourmet kitchen with upgraded appliances and granite, family room with fireplace, living and dining rooms. Wall to wall carpet, hardwood floors and beamed ceilings. Laundry and media room in finished basement. Fantastic fenced-in backyard with lots of privacy and a huge deck for relaxing. Minutes to GW Parkway, shops and eateries.</p> <p>www.debrabell.com Debra Bell 703.350.9750</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 385,000 Alexandria "SINGLE FAMILY FOR UNDER \$400K"</p> <p>Updated SS appliances, windows, HVAC, and fresh neutral paint. Large front bay window, wood floors, mud room with lots of storage. Main level bedroom plus two full baths. Back porch and fenced-in lot with shed. Minutes to GW Pkwy, shopping, restaurants, rec center and library. 3BR/2.5BA</p> <p>www.valklotz.com Val Klotz 703.303.9744</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 1,000,000 Alexandria / Mt Vernon "WYCLIFFE"</p> <p>This spacious light-filled Colonial is introduced by a 2-story foyer with marble floor. Formal living/dining rooms with hardwood floors and a 2-way fireplace with adjacent sunroom. The kitchen with granite counters and cherry cabinets opens to the family room that leads to a brick patio. The UL boasts 2 MBRs and 2 additional BRs. LL game room, fireplace and 5th BR/BA.</p> <p>www.marylousage.com Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 447,000 Springfield "METRO 2 WAYS!"</p> <p>Either walk to Metro or take the community shuttle ... your choice! 4BR/3.5BA, large rooms, gas fireplace in huge LL rec room. Large deck off first floor. Walk-out LL that backs to woods/trees for maximum privacy. 2 assigned parking spaces.</p> <p>www.garyansley.com Gary Ansley 202.288.7946</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>8614 Camden St \$525,000 <i>Spacious Contemporary!</i> <i>One Level Living!</i></p> <p>One of Stratford's largest contemporary models featuring striking open floor plan with 4-5 bedrooms & exceptionally large room sizes. Numerous updates include roof, thermal windows, water heater & electrical. Features include large deck with hot tub, private rear deck & covered parking.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>4005 Quisenberry Dr \$549,900 <i>Expanded Colonial-Fabulous Price!</i></p> <p>Nothing like it in prime Mt. Vernon location for under \$600,000! Classic 3 level Colonial on large corner lot with many fabulous features including: open kitchen-family room; 2 master suites, oversize two car garage and large deck overlooking fenced rear yard. Combination of size, features and location typically found in much higher priced homes. Super Value!</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 1,149,000 Alex / Belle Haven "FABULOUS"</p> <p>NEW PRICE! Backs to parkland, this 5BR / 4BA brick Colonial was totally renovated - 2 main level family rooms; gourmet kitchen, luxury Master Suite including marble bath, sunken tub, jetted shower, deck. Walk-out lower level with fireplace, nanny room with bath opens to brick patio. '06 new HVAC / HWH / thermal pane windows & more! Class slate roof. Garage.</p> <p>www.marylousage.com Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 450,000 Alexandria South 6625 HULVEY TER</p> <p>NEW PRICE! Great renovation of this brick 2-level rambler with 4BR/3BA. Spacious kitchen with granite counters and tile floors with access to upper level patio for BBQs. Beautiful large fenced yard with gardens, greenhouse and lower level brick patio.</p> <p>www.marylousage.com Mary Lou Sage 703.851.5441</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>\$ 409,000 Alexandria / Montebello "J MODEL"</p> <p>NEW PRICE for the largest model with great views. 3BR / 2FBA with lots of windows, balcony, enclosed sunroom and new HVAC. Gated community in a park-like setting offers resort style living with amenities galore: bowling, party/exercise rooms, 2 pools, tennis, and more! Quick commutes to DC. Old Town, DC, Shirlington, Del Ray.</p> <p>www.michaelmanuel.com Michael Manuel 703.615.6317</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 550,000 Alexandria 3901 COURTLAND CIR</p> <p>Rarely available 2-car garage, and courtyard setting, a prime location within Lenox Place! 3BR/2FB/2HB, brick end townhouse. Marble entry, hardwood floors, 2 gas fireplaces, plantation shutters, vaulted ceilings, generous room sizes and more. LL walk-out to fenced-in patio. Minutes to Pentagon, Old Town, DC, Shirlington, Del Ray.</p> <p>www.inderjeetjumani.com Inderjeet Jumani 703.472.8804</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>RIVERFRONT</p> <p>4003 Belle Rive Ter \$1,495,000 AMAZING \$500,000 BELOW TAX VALUE!</p> <p>8775 square feet river front mansion at incredible bargain price. Owner wants immediate sale & close by end of year. One of area's best water front opportunities in years! Designed by leading custom builder to capitalize on stunning water views from virtually every major room in house.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>2406 Wittingham Blvd \$599,000 <i>Updated Charming Colonial!</i></p> <p>The home you have been waiting for! Classic 3 level Colonial in prime Stratford Landing location. Features include: updated gourmet kitchen, 4 large BRs, "Andersen" thermal windows, updated baths, screened porch and side load 1 car garage. Walk to neighborhood pool! Unique opportunity!</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 749,900 Alex / Plymouth Haven 8915 FT HUNT RD</p> <p>Totally renovated, charming rambler on huge lot across from the Ft Hunt Park. Huge back addition with master suite wing. Designer touches, open kitchen, formal dining room, library, all 4BRs on one level, 3 full BAs.</p> <p>www.WaynewoodRealtors.com anita@homesfromanita.com Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 724,900 Alex / Waynewood 1010 DANTON LN</p> <p>Easy living in this inviting home with 4 finished levels, 4BR/3.5BA and a walk-up attic. Holiday entertainment is a breeze with kitchen, family, living and sunrooms, plus a wonderful deck overlooking the community park, all on the same level. Oak floors thru-out, gas heat/cooking. Fab neighborhood, can walk to schools, pool and more!</p> <p>The Kohler Team Heidi 703.609.7367 & Elke 703.967.7633</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>OPEN SUNDAY 1 - 4! \$ 624,900 Alex / Plymouth Haven 8921 FT HUNT RD</p> <p>NEW PRICE! Totally renovated 2 level home on more than half an acre lot overlooking Fort Hunt Park. Beautiful, private setting, plenty of room to build on! Huge open kitchen/dining/living room area. Double carport, fenced backyard. 4BR/3BA.</p> <p>www.WaynewoodRealtors.com anita@homesfromanita.com Anita 202.460.1809 & Elke 703.967.7633</p> </div>	<p>RENTALS</p> <p>7501 Ashby Lane, #F \$1,750 Stratford Place Garden 2BR / 2BA Suzanne Briar 703.728.4999</p> <p>8110 Carlyle Place \$2,200 Hollin Hall Village Ranch 2BR / 2BA Margaret Keagle 571.331.5264</p> <p>1900 Rollins Drive \$2,350 Bucknell Manor Rambler 2 level / 3BR / 2BA Louise Devers 703.795.9944</p> <p>7615 Grey Goose Way \$2,450 Grove at Huntley Meadows Townhouse 3 level / 3BR / 2.55BA Margaret Ruhe 703.599.7527</p>
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Commonwealth of Virginia polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. rain or shine.

The League of Women Voters of Arlington, the Fairfax Area, Falls Church, Loudoun, and the Prince William Area Member-At-Large Unit, cooperated to produce this Voters' Guide to assist citizens in their decision making process as they prepare to vote.

A strictly nonpartisan political membership organization, the League of Women Voters (LWV) encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. **The League of Women Voters does not support any political party or candidate.**

Questionnaires were sent to all candidates who qualified to appear on the November 6, 2012 ballot. The LWV of Virginia sent questionnaires to the candidates for the U.S. Senate. The above-referenced Northern Virginia Leagues sent questionnaires to candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives representing our region.

Biographies and responses to the questions appear verbatim as written by the candidates and are not edited except to comply with Voters' Guide style and stipulated word and space limitations. A “//” at the end of their text indicates the word limit was exceeded. The candidates' original responses are on file with the Virginia and/or Northern Virginia Leagues respectively. Candidates are listed in the order in which they will appear on the ballot, as determined by lot by the Virginia State Board of Elections. This Voters' Guide identifies political party and incumbency by each name:

(R) = Republican, (D) = Democrat, (C) = Constitution, (L) = Libertarian, (G) = Green,

(IG) = Independent Green, (I) = Independent

(*) - Incumbent

For additional information on the Fall 2012 Voters' Guide, or the League of Women Voters, please visit the LWV of the Fairfax Area at www.lwv-fairfax.org or call 703-658-9150.

You may also find comprehensive, nonpartisan information on the November 6, 2012 elections on the LWV's interactive online website, www.VOTE411.org, sponsored by the LWV Education Fund.

For information on, voter registration, your precinct, the district in which you are eligible to vote, where to vote; what you will be voting on; what identification is permissible; or absentee voting; contact your local election office:

Fairfax County Office of Elections 703-222-0776
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections

City of Fairfax General Registrar 703-385-7890
www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/GeneralRegistrar.asp

You can also contact the Virginia State Board of Elections at 800-552-9745
or visit www.sbe.virginia.gov

IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE

Officers of Election are required to request identification from each voter. Virginia law changed this year, the Affirmation of Identity option is no longer available. New voter registration cards were mailed to all voters at the address on record. Please check your registration prior to election day. The deadline for changes was October 15. If you do not bring identification you may still vote a provisional ballot but must present identification to the local Electoral Board, by noon the Friday following the election, for your vote to be counted.

PLEASE BRING IDENTIFICATION WHEN YOU GO TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012.

Acceptable forms of identification can be **any ONE** of the following:

- Virginia voter registration card
- Valid Virginia driver's license
- Military identification card
- Any Federal, Virginia state, or local government-issued ID
- Valid student ID issued by any institution of higher education located in Virginia
- Employer-issued photo ID card
- Concealed handgun permit
- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter
- Social Security card (may not satisfy special federal ID requirements)

The League of Women Voters:

2012 Voters' Guide

United States President

The League of Women Voters Education Fund invited all qualified presidential candidates to provide biographical information and responses to six specific questions.

Candidates were qualified if they met the following criteria:

1. The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for President;
2. The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes; and
3. The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website by the date of publication.

Responses were limited to a specific number of characters and were truncated thereafter. If a candidate did not respond by the date of publication, "Candidate has not responded." is printed.

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Race: United States President

Qualifications: U.S. natural born citizen, at

least 35 years of age.

How Elected: The presidential election is solved state by state by the sum of electoral votes garnered. In Virginia the total of 13 electoral votes (11 Congressmen, and 2 Senators) are cast for the winner of the statewide popular vote. The Electoral College designee, of the winning candidate, cast their vote at a meeting in December after the vote totals are certified. Nationally a total of 270 or more votes are required to win.

Duties: The President is the head of state of the United States of America and is the Chief Executive Officer and is the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are described in the Constitution and federal law. The President appoints the members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices and federal judges, subject to Senate approval. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation

to the United States Congress.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.
Base Salary: \$400,000 per year.

SIX QUESTIONS:

1. Please identify your top **three goals** if elected.
2. In this time of high unemployment, what are the most important things that should be done to improve our nation's **economy**?
3. How can the federal government, in collaboration with other levels of government, provide an equitable, quality **public education** for all children pre-K through grade 12?
4. Please explain why you do or do not support cutting Medicare and Social Security to address the **federal deficit**.
5. Please explain why you do or do not support requiring timely and full disclosure of all **political expenditures** in federal campaigns.
6. Please explain why you do or do not support the Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to enforce strong **clean air and clean water** standards in America.

Mitt Romney (R)

www.mittromney.com



Personal Statement: I am running for president because I believe in America and know that our best days are still ahead. I will make it my priority to create 12 million new jobs and get our economy going again.

Three Goals: The first priority of a Romney Administration will be to create 12 million new jobs and get our economy going again. We must get our fiscal house in order. President Obama has put our nation on an unsustainable course. As president, Mitt Romney will set the country on the path to a balanced budget. And he will ensure we have a military so strong that no adversary would want to test it.

Economy: Mitt Romney will get America back to work by reforming our tax code so businesses can hire more workers, developing our domestic energy resources to create new jobs here at home, reversing burdensome job-destroying regulations—including Obamacare, and ensuring Americans receive education and training for today's jobs. His plan will also get spending under control to prevent a debt crisis.

Public Education: Mitt Romney believes that this important goal begins with providing parents with increased choice and information. He has put forth a plan that would allow federal funding to follow low-income and special needs students to the school of their choice. This plan also would support high quality charter schools in scaling up and reward states that recruit and retain the best teachers.

Federal Deficit: Entitlement programs like Social Security and Medicare are large parts of the federal budget. Mitt Romney's plan to reform these programs will not only protect the benefits and services of current seniors and those nearing retirement, but will strengthen the programs so they are available for future generations.

Political Expenditures: Mitt Romney understands that money can be a corrupting influence in politics. But layers of regulations have not taken money out of politics; they have instead created a system of PACs that are not accountable to the candidates they support. He believes the best solution is swift and full disclosure of all donations to candidates. This allows the American people to hold politicians accountable.

Clean Air and Water: Mitt Romney is proud of the environmental progress that we have made to improve our nation's air and water quality and supports continued progress. However, while our air and water laws have served us well over the years, he recognizes that they are significantly out of date and in need of reform.

Barack Obama (D)*

www.barackobama.com



Three Goals: As a nation, our challenges can be met by rebuilding the middle class and our economy on a stronger foundation. I have laid out a set of concrete goals on manufacturing, energy, education, national security, and the deficit that will create jobs, expand opportunity, and create an economy build to last.

Economy: When I took office we were losing private sector jobs at a rate of nearly 800,000 a month. Now we have experienced 30 straight months of private-sector job growth, creating 4.6 million private sector jobs. I have proposed steps to create a million more jobs by preventing teacher layoffs, putting construction workers back to work, bringing jobs back from overseas, and helping small businesses grow.

Public Education: My administration spurred 46 states to raise standards for teaching and learning and strengthened Head Start. Millions of students are paying less for college because we cut student loan subsidies for banks and doubled scholarships. We will recruit 100,000 math and science teachers, train 2 million workers for real jobs through community colleges, and cut the growth of tuition in half.

Federal Deficit: Social Security and Medicare are sacred compacts with seniors who earned benefits after a lifetime of hard work. I added eight years to the solvency of Medicare without cutting benefits by cracking down on waste, fraud, and subsidies to insurance companies. I have proposed steps to strengthen Medicare and Social Security without slashing benefits or subjecting it to the whims of the stock market.

Political Expenditures: Powerful special interests should not drown out the voices of the American people. We need to pass the bipartisan Disclosure Act that would establish the toughest-ever disclosure requirements for election-related spending. I also support campaign finance reform, by constitutional amendment if necessary.

Clean Air and Water: Nothing is more important than ensuring the air we breathe and the water we drink is safe. We have broken decades of gridlock to double fuel mileage standards, effectively cutting your cost at the pump in half and reducing air pollution. And we've set standards for new mercury and other toxic air emissions from power plants and other sources that combined will save up to 21,600 lives a year.

Virgil Goode (C)

(Candidate did not meet the LWVEF criteria for the presidential questionnaire.)
www.goodeforpresident2012.com



The League of Women Voters: 2012 Voter's Guide

Gary Johnson (L)

www.garyjohnson2012.com

Personal Statement: After having built a successful business, I entered public service by asking the people of New Mexico to give me an opportunity to bring common sense leadership to the Office of Governor. I pledged to reduce taxes, reduce the size of state government //

Three Goals: 1. Balance the Federal Budget. 2. Cut Federal spending by the amount necessary to eliminate deficit spending without raising taxes. 3. Remove the United States from unnecessary and costly foreign wars and interventions, including Afghanistan.

Economy: The Federal Budget must be brought under control to eliminate the massive deficits that are threatening the economy and our security. Removing the burden of deficits and debt will restore confidence and free up capital to permit the economy to grow. I advocate a consumption tax which would allow us to eliminate taxes on income, capital gains and businesses – creating millions of new jobs.

Public Education: The Federal government cannot and should not try to provide public education. Decades of increasing federal interference in education has done little other than stifle innovation and competition in public education. Education should be left to the states, which will permit the types of innovation and education choices that will allow us to regain its competitive advantage in global education.



United States President

Jill Stein (G)

www.jillstein.org



Personal Statement: We can't afford four more years of Wall Street bailouts and an economy for the superrich. We must guarantee every individual a job at a living wage, quality health care, tuition-free education, Social Security and a healthy climate and environment.

Three Goals: I stand for a Green New Deal that will deliver 1) A recession-proof economy that provides a job at a living wage for every American willing and able to work, 2) An economy based on clean, renewable energy, 3) Replacement of the predatory Wall Street banks with a public interest banking system, and 4) A real democracy in which politicians are accountable to voters not big money donors.

Economy: My Green New Deal will create 25 million jobs through a nationally funded but locally controlled direct employment initiative. This will eliminate long term unemployment by letting workers simply go to the local employment office and get a job. It will deliver the most effective stimulus of all: millions of workers with paychecks.

Political Expenditures: Full and immediate disclosure and transparency for campaign contributions and expenditures is the only effective way to give the American public confidence in the system and allow them to make their own decisions regarding the propriety of how one candidate or another finances his or her campaigns.

Clean Air and Water: The Federal government's most fundamental role is to protect citizens. To the extent that fulfilling that role requires enforcement actions by the EPA, that enforcement should be reasonable, but adequate to protect us from harm. The EPA, however, should not be in the business of managing the environment through regulations that force decisions that should be left to the marketplace, such as energy.

Public Education: I will end Washington's attempts to promote high stakes testing, corporatization of public schools, and destructive union-busting schemes. I will repeal the misguided No Child and Race to the Top laws and refocus on creating schools that prepare students for lifetime learning: full funding, small class sizes, teachers that are well trained, respected, and compensated,

and parental involvement.

Federal Deficit: Neither Medicare nor Social Security will be cut under the Green New Deal. I will guarantee health care for everyone under a Medicare for All reform that will save trillions by streamlining the massive, wasteful, health insurance bureaucracy and ending runaway medical inflation. I will make Social Security permanently solvent by lifting the income cap on the payroll taxes.

Political Expenditures: I support full disclosure of donor identities. But we must do more to eliminate the poisonous impact of big money on our democracy. We must amend our Constitution to prevent corporations from stealing our democratic rights by claiming the same rights as real people. We also need to end the buying of elections by providing clean money funding for candidates that agree to spending limits.

Clean Air and Water: We cannot afford the health injuries, natural resource losses, and ecological disintegration that result from lax EPA enforcement. I will require EPA to address new threats to our air, land, water, and climate from hydrofracking, deepwater drilling and more. EPA must fully implement the ozone standards that were killed by the Obama Administration.

Race: United States Senator

Qualification: 30 years of age, nine years a citizen: resident of the state represented.

How Elected: By popular vote as stipulated in the 17th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Duties: Originate and pass legislation, approve presidential appointment, ratify treaties, conduct impeachment trials.

Term: Six years.

Base Salary: \$174,000 per year.

George F. Allen (R)

www.georgeallen.com

Biography: Virginia House of Delegates, 1983-91; U.S. House of Representatives, 1991-93; Governor of Virginia, 1994-98; U.S. Senate, 2001-2007. BA/JD, University of Virginia. Author, *What Washington Can Learn from the World of Sports*; Founder, American Energy Freedom Center. Home, Mt. Vernon (Fairfax County). Wife, Susan (married 26 years); children – Tyler, Forrest, Brooke.



Deficit: We must reduce the deficit with spending restraint and economic growth, not higher taxes on Virginia families and small business owners. Eliminate unaccountable Czars, start implementing the Government Accountability Office's recommendations for eliminating duplication and waste. Long-term reform should be a Balanced Budget Amendment with line-item veto authority to the President to cut wasteful spending.

Filibuster rule: The filibuster should not be used to deny nominees the fairness of an up or down vote, as happened to Miguel Estrada and John Bolton. There's a larger leadership failure in the Senate today, with no budget in 3 and a half years and Senators being denied the opportunity to offer and debate amendments. The solution is new leadership committed to the transparency, accountability and fairness the American people expect and deserve.

Foreign policy: The immediate imperative is stopping the devastating defense cuts being forced by last summer's sequestration deal, placing our military and 200,000 good Virginia jobs in jeopardy. As Senator, I'll work with Democrats and Republicans to keep our armed forces strong and keep our promises to veterans and their families for the benefits they've earned. Whether it's to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran, ongoing terrorist threats, crumbling dictatorships in the Middle East or the challenges in the Asia-Pacific region, America must be strong militarily and economically to protect our interests, stand by our allies, and be a beacon of freedom to oppressed people.

Restore trust: Withhold the pay of Members of Congress if they do not complete budget/appropriations bills on time. Congress should live under the laws they impose on others. I'll bring Virginia's voices to Washington and work with those on both sides of the aisle for a more effective, accountable, efficient government and positive solutions that free our economy to create the jobs while unleashing our American energy resources for more affordable fuel, food and electricity.

Timothy M. Kaine (D)

www.kaineforva.com



Biography: Tim Kaine graduated from the University of Missouri and Harvard Law School. After practicing law for 18 years, Tim served as Councilman and Mayor for the City of Richmond from 1994 to 2001. Tim served as Virginia's Lieutenant Governor for four years and was elected Virginia's 70th Governor in 2005.

Deficit: The federal deficit is a pressing problem, but by pursuing a balanced approach, we can find a middle ground with significant cuts and targeted revenues. Allowing the government to negotiate prescription drug prices for Medicare could save up to \$25 billion per year. On the revenue side, there are some that refuse to consider any revenues and some that believe we should allow the Bush tax cuts to expire at \$250,000. I support a compromise. If we allow the Bush tax cuts to expire for those making over \$500,000 per year, we would raise over \$500 billion over the next ten years. The Senate needs leaders who know how to work together and compromise, which I will do if elected.

Filibuster rule: I strongly support revisions to the filibuster rule. I would propose leaving the 60 vote threshold to overcome a filibuster intact, but requiring the individual requesting the filibuster to stand on the Senate floor and openly declare

why they are blocking the legislation. If a Senator feels strongly enough to use the filibuster, the American people deserve to know why such an action was taken. I would also consider limiting the filibuster to final passage votes.

Foreign policy: The United States has made significant progress in dismantling Al-Qaeda, and we must continue a safe drawdown of our troops in Afghanistan. We must stop Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. We need a more comprehensive strategy for building alliances in the Americas. Finally, America should not deploy our military into war without a Congressional vote.

Restore trust: Elected officials should be held to high ethical standards. I support full disclosure of campaign donations and the repeal of Citizens United. As Senator, I will also support a strong Government Accountability Office and would look for other ways to ensure the transparency of government actions and spending.



The League of Women Voters: 2012 Voter's Guide

United States House of Representatives: 8th Congressional District

Race: United States House of Representatives

Qualification: 25 years of age, U.S. citizen at least seven years.

How Elected: By popular vote within the district

Duties: Legislative powers, with responsibility for making laws, raising revenue and adopting the federal budget, sole power of impeachment.

Term: Two years.

Base Salary: \$174,000 per year

THE QUESTIONS

The following questions were sent to all House of Representative candidates that qualified to be listed on the Virginia ballot in our region.

1. What will you do as an elected official to build a sense of government accountability and to **restore** citizens' **trust** in our government?
2. To put our **fiscal** house in **order**, what **specific** programs would you cut and/or what new revenue would you propose?
3. What, if any, legislation would you support to lessen the **economic effect** that decreased federal spending, especially on defense, is likely to have on many parts of Virginia?
4. What **specific immigration reform** measures should Congress address in the new term?

J. Patrick Murray (R)

www.patrickmurrayforcongress.com

Candidate has not responded.

James P. Moran Jr. (D) *

www.jimmoran.org

Biography: Congressman Moran has dedicated his life to public service in Northern Virginia. He sits on the Appropriations Committee, serving as Interior and Environment Subcommittee Ranking Member. He chairs the Animal Protection Caucus, the Congressional Health Prevention Caucus, and serves on the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee.



Restore Trust: Citizens should have the right to demand accountability for the money its government spends and for the priorities its elected representatives support. To build greater trust in government, we need to be willing to work toward a common purpose with people from different perspectives, in order to achieve a more peaceful, just and sustainable world. I have also sponsored legislation to overturn the Citizens United decision and require full disclosure of the sources of all politically directed spending. I opposed all efforts to demonize and diminish government's roles in our lives. We need smarter, not smaller government.

Fiscal Order: The \$4 billion dollars of tax subsidies given to the most profitable oil companies who make much of their extraordinary profits by extracting from public lands should be ended. The agricultural subsidies that go towards industrial farming of animals and commodities, controlled by already wealthy agribusiness, should be cut and reoriented towards local growers of healthier fruits and vegetables. We spend billions on weapons designed to win the types of wars of the past, against nations who are becoming economically interdependent on our mutual survival and prosperity.

Economic Effect: I intend to prevent the pending sequestration from being implemented, which would irrationally destroy much of the investment in technology, security and intelligence activities which provide hundreds of thousands of jobs in Northern Virginia. The budget needs to be balanced by bringing revenue from 15% up to 20% of GDP.

Immigration Reform: I'm an original sponsor of the Dream Act, to enable law-abiding, successful students who came to this country as undocumented children, to be able to afford a college education. I have also cosponsored comprehensive immigration reform to enable people who can speak English, pass a civics test, who have no criminal record and who have paid any back taxes, to get on a path to citizenship.

Janet Murphy (IG)

www.votejoinrun.us/id42.html

Biography: Education — BA McGill University, MS University of the District of Columbia; Professional — Real Estate and Computers, Software Testing and System Analysis; Community Involvement — Volunteer at Virginia Hospital Center, Youth Tennis Coach, Community Music Background in Housing, EPA Programs and Databases, Financial Systems, Cost Analysis for Defense, Communication.



Restore Trust: Call for a new investigation of the events of September 11, 2001 to be put before the Congress to determine how it came to pass. Enact false flag legislation when we are committing troops or initiating a conflict, to prove who is behind a particular attack or event. Prohibit including any other foreign country's interests into our political platforms. Resolve to include in the oath of Federal office a congressman, senator, or president takes, that the duty and allegiance of the office is to the people of the United States and shall supersede any other oath they make have taken or allegiance they may have, such as to the Mormon faith or any other religion, or country such as Israel, or to the Tea Party or to any corporation.

Fiscal Order: Cut subsidies to oil, auto, asphalt and cement. Cut subsidies to agriculture where their practices are inhumane to animals or toxic to the environment. Enact a transaction tax on stock and bond trades across the board much like Superfund was enacted to rein in and clean up all chemical companies' toxic practices to the environment.

Economic Effect: Job-forward approach, based on salaries which will be lost, not including overhead, profit, G&A; create no-worker-left-behind initiative to include training for new technology and new jobs including healthcare employment, green energy development, green housing technology, local farming, history, recreation, infrastructure, (more trains less traffic), education (more teachers in the classroom), environmental protection and conservation (citizens conservation corps). Incentivize big contractors to immediately refocus on peacetime future and manufacturing.

Immigration Reform: Cease any further budget for La Barda, the fence between US and Mexico. Support pathways to citizenship for those who want that, and their families. Institute amnesty windows for immigrants who are here to establish a legal presence. Dual citizens shall not be eligible to run for public office.

Jason J. Howell (I)

www.votejasonhowell.com



Biography: Jason Howell is an **Independent** candidate for U.S. Congress. He has lived in Northern Virginia for 25 years, worked in mostly accounting and finance for nearly 20 years and has spent 0 years prior as a politician. He is running as a fiscally responsible, socially reasonable and personally relatable candidate.

Restore Trust: To restore citizens' trust in government I am taking the tough campaign road and running for office as an Independent. This gives my neighbors an unfiltered opportunity to evaluate my candidacy. When they send me to Congress, they are at the same time stiffening the spines of the other 434 U.S House Representatives who will think, "If his voters sent him here, then maybe we too can vote our conscience rather than our party platforms."

Fiscal Order: To put our fiscal house on the trajectory of balanced budgets both revenue (tax) increases and expense reductions will be taken into account. I will work to eliminate tax loopholes (i.e., H.R. 1935 to treat "Carried Interest" income as ordinary income rather than investment income (nearly \$18Billion in additional revenue over 10 years). I will specifically work to broaden our national tax base by adjusting H.R. 4173 (Dodd-Frank Act) so small banks that only lend and deposit are granted exemptions. To capture expense reductions I will partner with the GAO's newly required report that highlights 81 areas of government program duplication, overlap, and fragmentation.

Economic Effect: To lessen the economic effect of decreased federal spending in our area, I support legislation that spreads telecommuting policy government wide, especially within the DoD. The USPTO currently leads the government in telecommuting policy use with 68% of their workers telecommuting. This has saved \$20 million so far for this less than 10,000 employee agency. With over 3 million employees to work with the opportunities are tremendous.

Immigration Reform: Congress should specifically address comprehensive immigration reform that outlines a mission, strategy and specific tactics for people entering the country both temporarily and permanently. My first specific proposal is to change the accounting rule applied to user fee agencies like USCIS that are a disincentive to processing applications more quickly.



The League of Women Voters: 2012 Voter's Guide

United States House of Representatives: 11th Congressional District

Race: United States House of Representatives

Qualification: 25 years of age, U.S. citizen at

least seven years.

How Elected: By popular vote within the dis-

trict

Duties: Legislative powers, with responsibility for making laws, raising revenue and adopting the federal budget, sole power of impeachment.

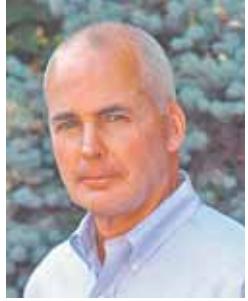
Term: Two years.

Base Salary: \$174,000 per year

Chris S. Perkins (R)

www.perkins2012.com

Biography: Colonel Chris Perkins is a retired United States Army Special Forces officer (Green Beret) and small business owner. He and his wife, Petra, reside in Lorton, Virginia. Their daughter, Alex, is a graduate of Virginia Tech, and their son Nick recently graduated from West Point.



Restore Trust:

As a senior military officer, I was held to the strictest standards of duty, honesty, and integrity. I intend to bring that same ethos to Congress. I was also raised to believe that a 'half truth' is a 'half lie', and I therefore pledge complete transparency and accessibility to my positions and votes regarding all issues.

Fiscal Order: Government spending on entitlement programs will consume 48% of next year's budget. This is absolutely unsustainable and must be addressed immediately and in a bi-partisan manner in order to save them for future generations. I also believe that wars should be funded by a combination of program cuts and increased revenues, and not the government 'credit card'.

Economic Effect: Northern Virginia will be the second hardest hit region in America by the devastating defense cuts known as 'sequestration' that my opponent voted in favor of. As a future member of the Armed Services Committee, I would fight to reverse these cuts and substitute a more balanced approach that includes reforming unsustainable government programs that have outgrown their original intent. We absolutely need to live within our means, but we need a sound plan that includes pro-growth revenue, regulatory and entitlement reforms and one that does not sacrifice national security — the federal government's primary responsibility.

Immigration Reform: As someone who spent a career in special operations and the national security arena, I believe we can secure our nation's borders through a combination of increased manpower and advanced technology. I also believe that we must firmly and compassionately deal with the situation involving those persons that entered this country illegally simply seeking a better life for themselves and their families. We should consider a 'statute of repose' of sufficient length to provide a path to gaining legal status without further encouraging unlawful entry.

THE QUESTIONS

The following questions were sent to all House of Representative candidates that qualified to be listed on the Virginia ballot in our region.

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2. To put our **fiscal house in order**, what **specific** programs would you cut and/or what new revenue would you propose?
3. What, if any, legislation would you support to lessen the **economic effect** that decreased federal spending, especially on defense, is likely to have on many parts of Virginia?
4. What **specific immigration reform** measures should Congress address in the new term?

Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly (D)*

www.gerryconnolly.com

Biography: I graduated from Maryknoll College and earned a M.A. in Public Administration from Harvard. Before being elected to Congress, I served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five years as Chairman. I also worked 20 years in the private sector for IT companies.



Restore Trust:

The most important part of my job is helping constituents solve problems. Whether that means helping a veteran get a well-deserved Purple Heart or assisting a family facing foreclosure, I always do everything in my power to be of assistance. I also hold regular telephone town hall meetings where thousands can listen in and ask me whatever they like. I hope that personal connection and responsiveness helps to restore some level of trust in our government.

Fiscal Order: I cosponsored pay-as-you-go legislation to ensure that all new spending or tax cuts are fully paid for. Furthermore, I joined with Republicans and Democrats to support an effort to cut \$4 trillion from the deficit over ten years with a mix of spending cuts and new revenue. A balanced, bipartisan approach is the only way to get our nation's fiscal house in order.

Economic Effect: Federal spending — defense and domestic — drives Northern Virginia's economic growth and prosperity. I have consistently fought House Republican efforts to slash critical federal investments that benefit our community and nation and will continue to do so. Drastic cuts can and should be avoided if both parties are willing to give up their respective orthodoxies and work together to reduce the deficit in a responsible way. This summer I called on Congressional leadership to cancel the August recess and work on a plan to prevent sequestration.

Immigration Reform: Our immigration system is broken from top to bottom and needs comprehensive reform. Locally, I have worked with our technology industry in an effort to increase the number of H1B visas for high skilled workers.

Peter M. Marchetti (IG)

www.marchetti.forcongress.net

Biography: I am an IT professional with 15+ years of experience. Born and raised middle class, I am simply an average American who has grown tired of the partisanship and gridlock in Congress. I am an intelligent, well-read, rational adult who recognizes that there are no easy solutions for America's problems.



Restore Trust:

Four words: One law for all. Repeatedly, Americans see their leaders and captains of industry violate the law with no consequences. Anyone who commits a crime MUST be prosecuted, whether they be a poor urban youth, the president of a multi-national corporation, or even the President himself. I will tirelessly work to enable and even require criminal prosecutions for crime, no matter who the perpetrator is.

Fiscal Order: Let's start by ending the wars. ALL of them; Iraq, Afghanistan, the War on Terror, The War on Drugs, etc. We spend hundreds of billions per year on wars we cannot win, and are strengthening our enemies. Raising taxes on the profits of TBTF corporations, ultra-wealthy individuals will help, but is not enough. We need to have a very serious conversation about the things we expect our government to pay for from current tax receipts. We cannot be content to merely cut deficit spending, we must cease all deficit spending immediately. We must address the cost of health care — not what government spends, but the structure of the medical industry and how healthcare is delivered. Anyone who says we can fix Medicare without reducing benefits is lying unless they have a plan to change the entire medical industry.

Economic Effect: Legislation to offset the military spending decreases with federal spending on thorium liquid salt nuclear reactors; a proven technology that CANNOT melt-down or be weaponized. This will create jobs and increase our energy security.

Immigration Reform: Immigration reform is a wedge issue, used for no purpose other than to keep the American people divided. Immigrants already in the US are part of our economy, our communities, and our families. Let's give them a legitimate path to citizenship so they can pay taxes and be proud members of our communities.

Joe F. Galdo, Jr. (G)

www.joegaldo.com

Biography: Led national efforts in energy, defense. Collaborated with industry, state agencies, non-profits across U.S. Served on industry advisory committees, inter-agency working groups. Worked on program reviews, federal budget, legislation, National Energy Strategy. Experience in government, private sector, and as business owner. Fairfax resident 30 years. Married 43 years. Ph.D., physics.



Restore Trust: I would begin by being an example of responsible and open government: demonstrating integrity, and independence from special interests and party influence in working for the best interests of Northern Virginia and the nation; establishing more meaningful and frequent communications with voters; and taking a leadership role in achieving the platform goals promised to voters, actively developing popular support as well as convincing other members of Congress to support legislation advancing these goals.

I would also strive to reform Congress. I support a six-term limit for the House of Representatives, "no budget, no pay" legislation, campaign finance reform, line item veto, and proportional distribution of committee and subcommittee chairs instead of majority party take all.

Fiscal Order: A simplified and equitable tax code that, for individuals, includes eliminating tax preferences for capital gains, expanding the number of tax brackets, and reestablishing 1960's effective tax rates for the top 10%, would provide the foundation for creating a budget surplus and paying down the debt. For corporations, it would tax revenue over \$500,000, rather than taxing profits. Overall, this would generate \$425 billion more in tax revenues than collected under current law, and even more if it reduces tax fraud and simplifies compliance and enforcement. Other potential sources of additional revenue could add another \$35 billion, reducing the projected 2014 deficit from \$777 billion to \$317 billion or less.

Economic Effect: I support expansion of worker retraining programs; and eliminating unfunded mandates, increasing support to state and local governments, and reducing the cost of education and health care to put more money back into the economy and create jobs.

Immigration Reform: In addition to reintroducing and passing the DREAM Act, if it is not enacted in this session, Congress should address a permanent solution to the immigration problem by crafting an enforceable, rational, and fair immigration law.



The League of Women Voters: 2012 Voter's Guide

United States House of Representatives: 11th Congressional District

Race: United States House of Representatives

Qualification: 25 years of age, U.S. citizen at

least seven years.

How Elected: By popular vote within the dis-

trict

Duties: Legislative powers, with responsibility for making laws, raising revenue and adopting the federal budget, sole power of impeachment.

Term: Two years.

Base Salary: \$174,000 per year

THE QUESTIONS

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4. What **specific immigration reform** measures should Congress address in the new term?

Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)

www.honestyandethics.com



Economic Effect:

I'm not trying to tell you it's black or it's white,

Like the guys on the left or on the right.

They're trying to give blind to the sight,

It's up to you to get down for the fight.

Stop wasting taxes and killing all our dreams,
Quit making wars just to feed the machine.
Cut the red tape so we can all escape,
If the rules are fair I'll take you there we'll make this country great.

Immigration Reform:

They keep on giving us the same two choices,
Tell us what to think with the same tired voices.
How could this happen, we were never consulted,

I sit in disbelief, I'm amazed and insulted.

Vote for me so we can finally begin,
To right all the wrongs and end all the spin.
For and by the people is the way it's gotta be,
So knuckle up cast your vote and get behind me.

Mark T. Gibson (I)

www.Gibson4congress2012.com



Biography: Resident of Fairfax since 1997 and a lifelong Washington area resident. Master's degree in Economics and over 20 years of management success. Currently serve as chief operating officer for a small business in Fairfax. Have never held or run for any political office.

Restore Trust: Emphasize cooperative action and transparency in all legislative decisions. Re-organize Congressional committees to minimize legislative tinkering, multiple committee memberships, and backroom deals. Meet voters and media during weekly social events and press briefings.

Fiscal Order: Maintain retiree benefits for current participants (adjusted for inflation) but raise the age of eligibility to 70 within 20 years; phase in graduated benefits based on income of new beneficiaries. Eliminate all subsidies and duplicative programs. Move away from fee-for-service healthcare and remove barriers to national insurance markets, cost competition, and buyer participation. Begin tax reform: a single-rate system with no deductions or credits, equal treatment of wage and nonwage income, and elimination of employment taxes. Eliminate corporate income tax for retained earnings and earnings distributed to U.S. taxpayers. Move all new U.S. Government employees to defined contribution retirement plans similar to 401(k). Replace open-ended post-em-

ployment benefits with increases in current pay or retirement account contributions. Phase in pollution taxes to pay the full cost of remediation and encourage diversity of energy sources.

Economic Effect:

With unemployment below 4 percent in Northern Virginia the key is to make a gradual, orderly transition to a more diversified economy. Decreases in defense spending must focus on management overhead and antiquated programs, not service members and readiness.

Immigration Reform: Ensure there are no barriers or disincentives to free movement of American workers. Establish a guest worker program based on skill, knowledge, and employer need. Offer permanent resident status to qualified foreign-born graduates of American colleges. Establish a substantial yet reasonable fee for all immigrants wanting to become citizens with no further fine or punishment. Allow established illegal immigrants to move to citizenship or guest worker status without being deported; deport all those that do not establish legal status.

Proposed Amendments to the Virginia Constitution

More information can be found at www.sbe.virginia.gov

erty; and (iii) to prohibit the taking or damaging of more private property than is necessary for the public use?

Proposed Fairfax County Bond Referenda

More information can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond

PARKS AND PARK FACILITIES BONDS

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the parks and park facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds with any other available funds to finance the cost of providing parks and park facilities including the acquisition, construction, development and equipment of additional parks and park facilities, and the purchase of permanent easements for the preservation of open-space land and the development and improvement of existing parks and park facilities by the Fairfax County Park Authority, and including an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000 allocable to the County as its share of the cost of parks and park facilities to be acquired, constructed, developed and equipped by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority?

PUBLIC SAFETY BONDS

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the public safety facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$55,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of providing public safety facilities, including the

construction, reconstruction, enlargement, renovation and equipment of civil and criminal justice facilities, police training facilities and stations, fire and rescue training facilities and stations, including fire and rescue stations owned by volunteer organizations, and the acquisition of necessary land?

PUBLIC LIBRARY BONDS

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the public library facilities bonds previously authorized, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$25,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of additional public library facilities, the reconstruction, enlargement and equipment of existing library facilities and the acquisition of necessary land?

STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BONDS

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$30,000,000, for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to finance the cost of providing storm drainage improvements to prevent flooding and soil erosion, including the acquisition of necessary land?

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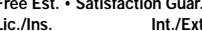
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Zone 3 Ad Deadline:
Tuesday Noon

21 Announcements

25 Sales & Auctions

101 Computers

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to members of the NY, nonprofit, American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc., that eligible ASCO members may vote by proxy ballot from Oct. 15 to Nov. 20, 2012 to elect the President Elect, three seats on the Board of Directors, and three seats on the Nominating Committee for service beginning on June 3, 2013. Information about proxy ballots is available at www.asco.org. Completed proxy ballots will be delivered to the ASCO President or his designee for casting at a meeting held on Nov. 26, 2012, 8:30-9:00 AM at ASCO Headquarters, 2318 Mill Road, Suite 800, Alexandria, VA 22318. Members with questions can email ASCOelection@asco.org or call 571-483-1316.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Hessie Gant Goble, brothers, J.C. and Robert Goble; sisters, Louise Howell and Rachel Sigmon.

Survivors include his son, Jimmy Goble of Alexandria, Virginia; a sister, Alice Bowman and husband, Haven of Taylorsville; nephew, Steve Sigmon of Hickory; cousin and guardian, Sarah Ann Tammaro of Maryland, and several other nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at 11:00 am Friday, October 19, 2012 in the Taylorsville Cemetery. The Rev. Bill Smith will officiate. Military Burial Honors will be accorded by DAV Chapter # 84 of Taylorsville. The family will receive friends from 10:00 until 10:30 am Friday at Adams Funeral Home.

Condolences may be sent to the Goble family at www.adamsfunerals.com.

Adams Funeral Home and Cremation service is assisting the Goble family.

26 Antiques

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Looking to start the school year strong? Tutoring is available in the Northern Virginia area! Dean's List College Graduate with 7 years of Experience. Accounting/Finance Degree. All grade levels, specializing in Math, English, Spanish. Call Hal @ (703)864-6616. Tutoring rate is \$50/hr. Mention this ad and receive 20% off your first session!

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21 Announcements

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Concert Against Hate

The West Potomac High school Chamber Singers, joined by six seniors from Bella Voce, performed in the Concert Against Hate at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on Monday, Oct. 15. This is the third year that students from WPHS have been asked to participate in the Anti-Defamation League-sponsored concert. WPHS students, combined with the advanced groups from Centerville, Madison and Langley high schools, performed "You'll Never Walk Alone" accompanied by the National Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Maestro Emil de Cou. The choir included the following WPHS students: Paige Atkins, Katie Carbone, Sahou Diallo, Katya Egly, Emma Harris, William Havarane, Tommy Kester, Meghan Mallon, Madeline Marshal, Freddie Perez, Carlo Rivera, Kristi Thomas, Emily Wear, Meggie Webster, Tegan Wilson and Amin Yachnes.

How Bond Money Will Be Spent

From Page 3

facilities, improve community parks and fund the county's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's capital improvement plan.

♦ Fairfax County Park Authority — \$63 Million: The Fairfax County Park Authority administers 23,194 acres of parkland and 420 individual parks. These include parks that provide countywide services, such as camping, golf, ice skating and swimming as well as RECenters.

♦ Community Parks/New Facilities — \$7.28 Million: A wide array of park and recreational facilities is included in this category such as the first phase of improvements at Monticello Park, Hartland Road Park and White Gardens and continued phased development at Laurel Hill Park and Patriot Park. Countywide improvements in park signage and funding of the Mastenbrook matching grant program are also included.

♦ Facility Expansion — \$19.49 Million: An expansion to Spring Hill RECenter features new fitness space, renovations to the locker rooms, the addition of multipurpose activity rooms and a new gym area. Twin Lakes Golf Course would expand its Oak Room facility to increase capacity for tournaments and an events pavilion would be built at Greendale Golf Course. Oak Marr RECenter would be expanded featuring new fitness spaces and improved facility flow. Additional features at the Water Mine at Lake Fairfax would be added to enhance the visitor experience and increase capacity.

♦ Existing Facility Renovation — \$23.30 Million: Renovations of existing facilities include paving of a portion of the Cross County Trail in Wakefield Park. An outlay of \$2.2 million would fund trail upgrades and connections to the park trail network. Various athletic field improvements such as converting to synthetic turf, field upgrades and lighting improvements would be funded for many athletic fields.

♦ Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) — \$12 Million: Founded in 1959 with a

focus on land conservation, NVRPA is supported by Fairfax, Arlington and Loudoun counties, and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church. These six jurisdictions have worked cooperatively to develop a regional park system encompassing 25 parks and more than 11,000 acres of land. In Fairfax County, NVRPA protects more than 8,000 acres — most of which include environmentally-sensitive watersheds along Bull Run and the Potomac and Occoquan rivers.

NVRPA generates more than 83 percent of its operating budget through user fees and grants. The majority of NVRPA's capital improvement and land acquisition costs are shared by its six member jurisdictions. The parks bond question asks the voters whether to authorize Fairfax County to borrow money to fund its share of the costs of parks and park facilities to be acquired, constructed, developed and equipped by NVRPA.

Some specific projects planned include waterfront enhancements at Occoquan; W&OD Trail renovations and safety improvements; campground improvements at Bull Run and Pohick Bay; and renovations at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

♦ Storm water — \$30 Million: The money would be used for storm drainage improvements to prevent flooding and soil erosion, primarily in the Huntington community. In June 2006, 160 homes were flooded, and 161 homes were damaged in 2011 during Tropical Storm Lee. Currently, there are 180 homes in the FEMA-designated floodplain that are at risk.

At Fairfax County's request, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers studied the best ways to protect Huntington from future floods. The study examined a number of options, including dredging Cameron Run, buying the flood-prone properties and flood-proofing individual homes.

The study found that building a levee and a pumping station is the most cost-effective way to reduce flooding in the neighborhood. Bond funds are planned to pay to complete the design and build a 2,865-foot-long levee and pumping station, along with buying any land needed for this purpose.

Sports

Mount Vernon Gazette Sports Editor Jon Roetman
703-224-3015 or jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com



Mount Vernon's Lizzy Sagar swings while defended by Yorktown's Tierney Patton during the National District championship game on Oct. 22.



Mount Vernon senior forward Tamara Warren reaches in to defend against a Yorktown player during the National District championship game on Oct. 22.

Photos by Louise Krafft /The Gazette

MVHS Field Hockey Wins 3rd District Title in 4 Years

Majors beat Chantilly in opening round of regionals.

By Jon Roetman
The Gazette

Monday marked the fourth consecutive season the Mount Vernon field hockey team appeared in the National District championship game. Thanks to a pair of goals by senior Gabby Ocker, the Majors made it three district titles in four years with a 2-0 victory against Yorktown.

While the victory was sweet, it was the following evening that carried more importance to Ocker.

The Mount Vernon field hockey team had not won a regional tournament game since 2007, the year prior to the arrival of head coach Jessica Edwards, who was named 2012 National District Coach of the Year. The district championship game had been pushed back to Monday due to poor field conditions at MVHS, so the Majors would play a regional tournament contest the following evening.

"I almost think it's more important than winning the district championship," Ocker said Monday about wanting to advance past the first round of regionals, "because we've been so close ever since I started playing."

After going undefeated in district play, the Majors finally got over the regional hump.

Mount Vernon defeated Chantilly, 1-0, on Tuesday, Oct. 23 in the first round of the Northern Region Tournament at MVHS. Lizzy Sagar scored the game-winner off an assist from Jane Heller with 12:50 remaining in the contest. The goal

came off one of Mount Vernon's 11 corners. Chantilly, the No. 4 seed from the Concorde District, finished with three corners.

The victory advanced Mount Vernon to the quarterfinals, where the Majors will face West Springfield, the Patriot District's No. 3 seed, at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 26. Mount Vernon enters the contest with a 16-3-1 record, but the Majors were 0-1-1 in two meetings against West Springfield (15-3-1) during the regular season. The Spartans defeated the Majors, 2-0, in the season opener for both teams on Aug. 22, and the teams played to a 1-1 tie during the Under the Lights Tournament at Lee High School on Aug. 24. West Springfield entered the Patriot District Tournament as the top seed, but the Spartans lost to No. 4 T.C. Williams in the semifinals.

"We actually took a lot away from playing them the first time and made some adjustments which really helped us the next time we played them," Edwards wrote in an email. "... [The Spartans] always play a good, clean passing game, so I expect our girls to have to stay on their angles well, and pressure the ball, so they can't get successive passing. And we need to play a possession game and take every opportunity we earn."

In the district championship game on Oct. 22, Ocker scored a pair of goals in the first half to lead Mount Vernon to victory.

"I thought [Ocker] played really well," Edwards said after the game. "... She works her butt off at practice." Mount Vernon is 11-0 against opponents from the National District, outscoring those teams 37-1. In 20 total games, the Majors have outscored their opponents 49-7 with 15 shutouts.

"At the beginning of the season, our team goal was to dominate and that's what we did," Ocker said. "We dominated the district [and] we dominated this game because of all the preparation we had."

— Mount Vernon senior
Gabby Ocker



Mount Vernon's Gabby Ocker, right, is congratulated by Tamara Warren after scoring one of her two goals during the National District tournament final on Oct. 22.

Bulletin Board

From Page 14

Hall's computer lab, 1500
Shenandoah Rd.

OCT. 26-27

The Art of Marriage Video Conference

The Art of Marriage video conference will be hosted by Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Dr. Refreshments will be served on 7-9:30 p.m. and on Oct. 27 from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The Art of Marriage Event consists of six video sessions that combine dramatic stories, real-life testimonies, expert interviews, humorous vignettes and

other teaching methods to lay out God's design for marriage in a fresh, engaging way. Guests attending the event are each provided a manual with projects to help them apply the principles taught in each session, augmented by dozens of articles and additional content to help them dive deeper. Register at 703-360-4370.

SATURDAY/OCT. 27

Free Mammogram. To celebrate the growing awareness around breast cancer, this free screening is available to all women over 40 who have a physician order. At Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, 2501 Parkers

Ln. Registration is required. Call 571-423-5400.

Grand Day Celebration. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. In honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Women's Group of Mount Vernon, Inc. is sponsoring a Grand Day celebration at the Gum Spring Community Center, 8100 Fordson Rd. Grand Day celebrates survivors and pays tribute to those who have lost their lives at the hands of domestic violence. Local leaders including Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; Jeff McKay, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; Virginia State Delegate Scott Surovell

and Virginia State Senator Toddy Puller have confirmed attendance to the event. The event is free and will educate the community on the signs and prevention methods for domestic violence. Free childcare will be available on site.

Workshop: "I Love Myself — I Know I'm Grand." 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Featuring speaker Donna Marziliano, domestic violence survivor. Childcare and lunch provided. Workshops in Spanish. Special candlelight vigil Oct 26, Sherwood Hall Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane at 7-9 p.m. At Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Rd. Email womensgroupmv@hotmail.com for more information.

SUNDAY/OCT. 28

Free Pre-Halloween Event. 5:30-7

p.m. Plymouth Haven Baptist Church located at 8600 Plymouth Dr. will sponsor a pre-Halloween Identikit event that will provide hand/finger printing for children five years old to sixth grade. The Identikit kit will be given to the parents to store at their own discretion in the event such would be needed for their child. During that time there will be a parent information time provided to ward off stranger danger, familiar faces danger, and internet dangers children face today. The event is limited to 100 children. Register at 703-360-4370.

MONDAY/OCT. 29

Medicare Session: "Getting Through the Medicare Maze."

10:15 a.m. Call 703-324-4600, TTY 711. Hollin Hall Senior Center for Creative Retirement, 1500 Shenandoah Rd.

Safe Driving Course. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Improve driving skills and possibly decrease auto insurance costs. \$12 for AARP Members and \$14 for non-members. Checks payable to AARP at time of sign-up. Call 703-765-4573 to reserve a seat. Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd.

NOV. 1-30

Training Courses. The American Red Cross in the National Capital Region will host training courses in CPR, First Aid, and AED in the Alexandria and Fort Belvoir offices. These classes offer a two-year certification, a choice of free digital or affordable print materials, and digital refreshers. Classes range from \$70-\$110 and will be held Monday through Saturday, dependent upon the participant's choice. Advance registration is required. To register for a class or find another class in your area, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcross.org/takeaclass.

SATURDAY/NOV. 3

Church-wide Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Baked goods and lunch also available for sale. At Cameron United Methodist Church located at 3130 Franconia Rd. Rain or Shine. Contact

Marilyn by Oct. 22 at 703-765-6817 to purchase a table for \$20 if you want to be a seller.

THURSDAY/NOV. 8

From Distressed to De-Stressed: Making Wellness a Priority for Women. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce is

sponsoring another Women in Business program, "From Distressed to De-Stressed: Making Wellness a Priority for Women," at the Historic Mount Vernon Inn. Hilaire Henthorne will discuss the top stressors for women and what can be done to minimize stress. Women in Business supports women by providing educational and networking opportunities that help them grow personally and professionally. To make reservations, call 703-360-6925 or visit www.MtVernon-LeeChamber.org

THURSDAY/NOV. 15

"Chart Your Retirement" 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. George Mason University is offering a non-credit, 8-hour class at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Participants will discuss changing roles and relationships, work, the value of community involvement, and changing family commitments. Presenters will share tools to create a customized retirement plan. Since this is part of a pilot project for potential research, the university is offering this class at a reduced rate of \$40. Contact Lois Tetrick at ltetrick@gmu.edu

SATURDAY/NOV. 17

Volunteer Session. 11 a.m.-noon. A new case of child abuse or neglect enters the Fairfax County Domestic & Juvenile Relations Court system once every 36 hours. These children need caring advocates to help ensure that they grow up in safe and permanent homes. Fairfax CASA trains volunteers to advocate for a child's best interests in Court. If you seek a volunteer role with real purpose that can create real change, please attend Fairfax CASA's upcoming information session at the Sherwood Regional Library. For reservations or information, contact Elisa Kosarin at 703-273-3526, ext. 22, email ekosarin@casafairfax.org, or visit www.fairfxcasa.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 29

Public Information Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fairfax County Park Authority staff members and wetlands design professionals from Wetlands Studies and Solutions, Inc. will present a wetlands restoration plan for Huntley Meadows Park, a 50-plus acre freshwater wetland. The public information meeting is in the park Visitor's Center located at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Working closely with the public, wetland experts and design professionals, park staff and volunteers gathered data, developed project goals and worked through several designs over the years. The final design will be presented.

The Passover Amendment

From Page 12

sition, and passed the General Assembly overwhelmingly. It's received very little attention, though. Many voters remain unaware that it's even on the ballot.

"The way I explained it at the Fairfax County Democratic Committee when they asked me to explain it to them, I said it's one view but if you really hate Jews just vote no," joked Del. Scott Surovell (D-44).

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Entertainment

Ghoulish Halloween Cooking

Spooktacular ideas for making halloween treats with children.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Gazette

Looking to add a bit of sugary fright to Halloween? From swamp juice and mummy pizza to haunted gingerbread houses and spider cupcakes, local culinary experts say ideas for frightful treats abound.

"Halloween is really a kids' holiday. It's fun and there are lots of ways to incorporate the holiday into cooking," said Holly Utt, director of operations for Tiny Chefs cooking school with classes in Potomac, Alexandria, McLean, Oakton, Springfield and Arlington.

Susan Hemphill, manager of Just Cakes in Bethesda, suggests adding a bit of spook to a traditional gingerbread house. "You can use gingerbread houses, but prepare icing and dye it black, orange or purple," she said. "Instead of using candy canes and gumdrops, use things like candy corns and licorice ropes candy in Halloween colors like black and oranges." Hemphill is offering a haunted house decorating class for children on Saturday, Oct. 27, at Just Cakes.

Halloween is really a kids' holiday. It's fun and there are lots of ways to incorporate the holiday into cooking."

— Holly Utt, Tiny Chefs

of a scarecrow."

On Oct. 27, Tiny Chefs is offering a Halloween-themed cooking class for children at the Falls Church Community Center. "We'll make spooky treats galore, like Pizza Mummies, Edible Spiders & Swamp Juice to wash it all down," said Utt.

Christine Wisnewski, an instructor at Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna, believes in moderating sweets on the most candied holiday of the year. "Given that Halloween has become synonymous with sugar-overload, I like to approach homemade Halloween treats with a 'less is more' approach," she said. "I am not a huge fan of cupcakes with heaps of too-sweet, neon-colored icing. I like to go light on the frosting or skip it all together [and instead use] a light glaze of dark chocolate ganache embellished with decorations made from melted white chocolate. White chocolate spider webs atop dark chocolate glazed cupcakes look great."

Utt believes that cooking classes can be educational while still maintaining a spooky spirit. A few of her

tiny chefs made a pretzel-based snack called Scarecrow Mix recently. "We had an interesting discussion about why it is called scarecrow mix," said Utt. "We talked about how scarecrows have different parts that are put together. The pretzels could be the straw and they were trying to match the different parts with what could be the part



Photo courtesy of Christine Wisnewski

From ghost cookies to spider web treats, local culinary experts say options for homemade Halloween treats are plentiful.

Creating Edible Spider Web Decorations

"First, find a very basic spider web image to serve as a template, or draw one yourself. Line a sheet pan with parchment or wax paper and slip the template under the paper. You should still be able to see the design. Melt 2 cups of white chocolate chips in the microwave for 30 seconds. Stir chips and continue heating in 10 second increments stirring after each interval, until chocolate is melted and smooth. Pour chocolate into a piping bag with a small pastry tip, or a small re-sealable bag. Snip off an 1/8" of an inch off the corner of the bag. Slowly trace over the

spider web design with the white chocolate, making sure you connect all of the lines. Move the template and repeat with the remaining melted chocolate. Chill chocolate spider webs until firm. Gently pry spider webs off parchment and use them to decorate cupcakes. Piping requires a little bit of manual dexterity, so this project is best for older kids. Once you've got the hang of it, don't limit yourself to small spider webs. One large web atop a dark chocolate cake makes a striking decoration."

— Christine Wisnewski

Calendar

E-mail announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Photos and artwork are encouraged. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

THURSDAY/OCT. 25

Ghosts and Folklore. 7 p.m.

Alexandria is one of the most haunted cities in the country. Michael Lee Pope (author of Ghosts of Alexandria) and JJ Smith (author of Haunted Alexandria and Northern Virginia) join Betty Ward of Footsteps to the Past to share stories of the Female Stranger, Swope House and Ramsay House. A coffee and dessert reception follows the stories. Those who dare may take a short ghost walk at the end of this event. Admission \$10. The Athenaeum, 201 Prince St. Call 703-548-0035.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 25-27

Steel Magnolias. Group Therapy

Productions presents Robert Harling's comedy-drama Steel Magnolias at the Convergence Sanctuary 1801 N. Quaker Ln. All proceeds from the show will benefit Empowered Women International. Hours are 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 25 & 26, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Oct. 27. (Tickets/suggested donations are \$20. Tickets may be purchased by emailing gt.productions9@gmail.com.

OCT. 25-28

Fall Haul Extended Hours Sale.

Twig Thrift Shop located at 106 North Columbus St. holds its Fall Haul Extended Hours Sale. In addition to regular store hours from

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the shop will be open extended evening hours on Thursday, Oct. 25, and Friday, Oct. 26, from 5-8 p.m., regular Saturday hours 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and extended hours on Sunday, Oct. 28, from 1-4 p.m.. All proceeds benefit Inova Alexandria Hospital. Call 703-683-5544 or visit www.thetwig.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 26

Autumn Carnival. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Fort Hunt Elementary School's PTA will be hosting the Autumn Carnival. The event will feature free carnival games/bingo, crafts and other surprises. Food will be available for purchase and costumes can be worn. Parents, staff and middle/high school students will be serving as volunteers for this community event. The PTA is providing a bus for the Creekside Community. Contact Liz Maurer at elm.1028@gmail.com.

OCT. 26-27

T.C. Williams Drama Department

Presents "The Island of Dr. Moreau." 7:30 p.m. Adapted by Robert Kauzlaric, based on the novel by H.G. Wells. The play follows a shipwrecked Londoner who lands on the island of a scientist whose animal experiments create human-like beasts. The play confronts not only the ethical issues, but the very nature of humanity. Tickets available at the door and are \$5 for ACPS students/employees and senior citizens; \$10 for adults.

SATURDAY/OCT. 27

Choreographers Collaboration

Project Fall Concert. 7 p.m. Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 kids 12-17, kids under 12 free. "Standing Room Only" is a modern dance concert created specifically for the Athenaeum gallery space to allow the audience to see the dances and Athenaeum artwork from multiple perspectives. 201 Prince St. Call 703-683-2070.

Birchmere Shows. 7:30 p.m. Special guests for Tom Paxton's 75th birthday celebration show to include Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxers, Debi Smith, Robin Bullock and more. Visit <http://www.cathymarcy.com> or <http://debismith.com> or <http://www.robinbullock.com>. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Spooky Saturdays at the Athenaeum. 1-2 p.m. Eerie Origami. Free. Recommended for children 6-9 years old. (The Athenaeum is located at 201 Prince St. Visit www.nvfaa.org.

Trick or Treat with the Boo-tiques. 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Ghouls and goblins, witches and wizards of all ages will be trick or treating with the Old Town Boutique District this Halloween. 35 member stores will be handing out treats — and maybe some tricks.

Funeral & Ghost Tour. 6-9 p.m. Step back in time and be a part of this historic funeral and learn about mourning practices in early America. Admission is \$15 including a ghost tour of Old Town, during which participants will visit the candlelit



Photo Contributed

MetroStage Yard Sale

Costumes, props and household goods are just some of the items that will be available at the first MetroStage Theatre yard sale. Stop by Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and shop for bargains and holiday gifts including MetroStage mugs and folk art prints of Old Town. Learn more about the upcoming season of plays that includes the traditional MetroStage holiday show "A Broadway Christmas Carol," which will run Nov. 15-Dec. 23. Included in the sale are a set of six dining chairs from "Glimpses of the Moon," globes and maps from "Lonely Planet" and other show memorabilia. 1201 N. Royal St. (parking lot entrance on Third Street). Call 703-548-9044.

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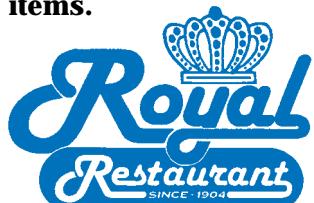
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Entertainment



The ladies in Truvy's beauty parlor react to the news about Annelle's past. From right: Tricia O'Neill-Politte (Clairee), Rachel Rose Gracy (Annelle), Janette Moman (Truvy), Suzanne Martin (M'Lynn) and Mary Lou Bruno (Ouiser).

'Steel Magnolias' Women Helping Women

Group Therapy Productions presents Robert Harling's comedy-drama "Steel Magnolias." All proceeds from the show will benefit Empowered Women International. "Steel Magnolias" focuses on the camaraderie of six southern women who talk, gossip, and harangue each other through the best of times and comfort and repair one another through the worst. The play is alternately hilarious and touching with six female characters that are delicate as magnolias yet as strong as steel.

Performances will be at the Convergence Sanctuary, 1801 N. Quaker Lane on Thursday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 27, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 (suggested donation). No one will be turned away, pay what you can to support Empowered Women International. General admission. Cash or check only. Tickets may be purchased from any cast member or by email at gt.productions9@gmail.com.

Calendar

From Page 27

Carlyle House to view the coffin and pay respects to surviving family members. At 9 p.m., return to Carlyle House to escort John Carlyle's body to the Old Presbyterian Meeting House and visit his lantern-lit grave. Call 703-683-3451 to purchase ticket. Reservations are recommended. Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. **Book Signing.** 2-4 p.m. Lela Lane, a resident of Alexandria, will be available to sign copies of her book, *Bloodlines: The Ancestry*, at Grounded Coffee Shop, 6919 Telegraph Rd.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY/OCT. 27 & 28
Fall Harvest Family Days. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mount Vernon welcomes the autumn season with Fall Harvest Family Days. The entire family will enjoy autumn activities including horse-drawn wagon rides, wheat treading in the 16-sided barn, a straw bale maze, early-American games and demonstrations. In addition to meeting "George Washington," visitors can also learn 18th-century dance steps! Potomac River sightseeing cruises are half-price while supplies last. Fall Harvest Family Days is included with admission to the estate this weekend: \$15 adults; \$14 seniors; \$7 children 6-11; free for children under 5. Visit www.MountVernon.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 28

QuinTango Cabaret. 5-8 p.m. Admission: \$25 + \$25 dinner. Proceeds from this event support QuinTango's work in Alexandria Public Schools, with StringTango classes for 5th graders and dance workshops for all ages. Carlyle Club,

411 John Carlyle St. Call 703-548-6811

Time Capsule Tour. Thomas Dolby's first U.S. full-band tour since the release of his critically hailed *A Map of the Floating City*. The Birchmere Music Hall is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Ave. Visit www.birchmere.com or call 703-549-7500.

Carmina Burana and Choral Dances. 4 p.m. at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center on the Alexandria Campus of Northern Virginia Community College, 3001 North Beauregard St. Tickets are available at www.newdominion.org or at the door. \$30 (general admission), \$25 for seniors, and \$5 for students and children.

Mad Science. 2-3:40 p.m. Come to the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum (located at 107 South Fairfax St.) to explore where real science and mad science collide. Tours start every 20 minutes, featuring historic medicines with surprising side effects. Admission is \$6 per person ages 5 and up. Reservations recommended at www.apothecarymuseum.org. Girl Scout and Boy Scout groups are welcome (program completes the Brownie Home Scientist badge). Come in costume-mad scientist/sci-fi encouraged-and receive a special take-home goodie. Call 703-746-3852.

Annual Halloween Dog Walk. 1 p.m. The Dog Park shop on King Street is organizing the popular Halloween Dog Walk. Trick-or-treating dogs and their humans are invited to stop by the Dog Park for a map and bag and then visit participating businesses for more treats. Free. The Dog Park, 705 King St. Call 703-888-2818.

Concert. 5 p.m. Words&Music, Inc. presents A Celebration of All Hallow's Eve featuring Schumann's Spanisches Liederspiel and other musical treats for Halloween. The concert will take place at The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Ticket prices are \$25 for adult and \$18 for students and seniors. 20 percent discount will be offered for members of the military and their families. Visit alexandriava.gov/Lyceum.

THROUGH OCT. 28

Homage. Free exhibition including "In the Garden" by Luisa Mesa, Target Gallery's "Homage: Past Influences." At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or call 703-838-4565.

Play: "And Then There Were None." 8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27 and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 21 and 28. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for children and seniors. Tickets and information are available online at www.acctonline.org. Call 703-660-2611 Aldersgate, United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Rd.

2nd Annual "Taste of Fair Trade." Ten Thousand Villages, located at 915 King St., will celebrate Fair Trade month with its second annual "Taste of Fair Trade." Call 703-684-1435 or visit www.alexandria.tenthousandvillages.com. Scheduled Tastings:

- ❖ Oct. 20-21: Iced tea, lemonade and other refreshing beverages.
- ❖ Oct. 27-28: Sample wines from South America and South Africa.

OCT. 29 THROUGH NOV. 4

Art Exhibition. Día de los Muertos:

See Calendar, Page 29

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Entertainment

From Page 29

The Art of Remembrance - Exhibition & Celebration. There will be a Costume and Dance Party on Friday, Nov. 2, 8-11 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at door, or two for \$35. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Visit www.torpedofactory.org/dayofthedead.

TUESDAY/OCT. 30

Poetry Presentation. 10:30 a.m. Join the "Tuesdays at Two" writing group showcasing talented local writers and poets. Free and open to the public. Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd. Call 703-765-4573 to reserve a seat.

Doggie Happy Howl-o-ween

Costume Contest. Registration 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; contest begins at 6 p.m. Jackson 20 and Kimpton's Hotel Monaco Alexandria host their annual Doggie Happy Howl-o-ween Costume Contest. Local pets and their human companions can model their Halloween finest while competing for prizes in a contest in the outdoor courtyard. Open to the public. Prizes will be awarded. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis, for a limited number of entries. Spectators are welcome. Event will be held in the restaurant's courtyard; use the Royal Street entrance. Admission is TBD. At Jackson 20 Restaurant, 480 King St. Call 703-842-2790.

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY/OCT. 30-31

Roaring 20s Halloween Soiree. 5:30-8 p.m. Party like the Fitzgeralds at this Roaring 20s-themed Halloween Soiree at historic Two-Nineteen Restaurant and Basin Street Lounge. Attendees are encouraged to arrive in 20s inspired dress to enjoy popular 1920s gourmet cuisine by Chef Ryan Ross and specialty cocktails. Live blues music, premium cigars, and a charity underground poker tournament are also featured at this event (proceeds to benefit the D.C. Central Kitchen). Visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/org/2778794346>.

THROUGH OCT. 31

"SKYSCAPE." Paintings of the sky landscape, by Maremi Hooft Andreozzi runs 9 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Tuesdays at Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Boulevard, call 703-768-2525. Visit www.maremi.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 1

6th Annual Alexandria Film Festival. The festival brings high-quality short and feature length films, documentaries, filmmaker panels and arts presentations to Alexandria. Presented by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and the City of Alexandria Office of the Arts from Nov. 1-4. Call 703-746-5592

FRIDAY/NOV. 2

Día de los Muertos Costume & Dance Party. 8-11 p.m. Presentation of the 4th annual Day of the Dead extravaganza featuring an exhibition of artist-made altars and a festive Costume & Dance Party. Admission: Advance \$15; Door: \$20 or two for \$35 (Tickets \$10 each with a student ID). Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St. Call 703-838-4565.

Drumathon. 4 p.m. Join Good Shepherd Housing and the Hollin Hall Senior Center to help raise funds and awareness for the homeless. Each drumbeat can help Good



T.C. Williams students (from left): Sam Davies, Sam Hanoura, Andrew Pickup, Stephanie Slaven, and Ray Lauchu rehearse their roles as half-human creatures in "The Island of Dr. Moreau."

'The Island of Dr. Moreau' at TC

T.C. Williams Drama Department presents "The Island of Dr. Moreau" adapted by Robert Kauzlaric; based on the novel by H.G. Wells. Wells' science fiction tale follows a shipwrecked Londoner who lands on the island of a scientist whose animal experiments create human-like beasts. The play confronts not only the ethical issues, but the very nature of humanity. Chilling, gory, and thought-provoking, this is the perfect show for the Halloween season. Oct. 26 and 27, Nov. 2 and 3, all shows at 7:30pm. Tickets available at the door. ACPS Students/Employees and Senior Citizens, \$5; adults-\$10.

Shepherd Housing reach the goal of 4,000 participants in Help the Homeless events, earning a bonus of \$50,000 for our work in preventing and ending homelessness. The event will take place at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Rd.

Audition. 6-9 p.m. Aldersgate Church Community Theater will be holding auditions for "Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr." Children ages 8-18. Visit www.acctonline.org.

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS/NOV. 2-17

Port City Playhouse. 8 p.m. Alexandria's award-winning theatre company continues its 2012-13 season with the regional community theatre premiere of The Soul Collector. There will be a performance on Tuesday, Nov. 13 too. Saturday matinees will be available on Nov. 10 & 17 at 2 p.m. Port City Playhouse performs at The Lab at Convergence, located at 1819 N. Quaker Ln. General admission tickets are \$14-18. Visit portcityplayhouse.org.

THROUGH NOV. 2

Death Comes to Carlyle House. To commemorate the 232nd anniversary of the death of John Carlyle, Carlyle House presents an exhibit on the mourning practices of 18th-century Virginia through the experience of the Carlyle household. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday, noon-4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission: \$5/adults, \$3/children, Free for members. Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St. Call 703-549-2997.

NOV. 2 THROUGH 25

Photography exhibition: "Telling Images." Opening reception is Nov. 2, 7-10 p.m. See photographic techniques and interpretations that tell a story without words. Call 703-960-3873, email jldtiff@cox.net or visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 3

Church-wide Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. The public is welcome to come and shop. Baked goods and lunch

Late Fall Classes at Art at the Center

Art at the Center is offering a half-session of several classes beginning next week. Visit www.artatthecenter.org for details and to register.

Art in the Afternoon

Children in half day preK and kindergarten programs enjoy studio time in the afternoon. Beginning with an introduction to materials and processes available in the studio we will work toward longer term projects, collaborating with peers and building layers in our work over the course of the session. Space is available in the Wednesday class meeting 1:15-2:30 p.m.

Art Explorers

The youngest artists work with a parent or caregiver to explore clay, paint, collage, line, color, and shape through activities that are collaborative, open-ended and encourage imaginative play. Space available Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m. or Friday 11:30 a.m.

After School Studio

This class will provide working studio time for elementary age students. Students can choose from media available in the studio each week or can work with on a single project or skill over the

also available for sale. At Cameron United Methodist Church located at 3130 Franconia Rd. Rain or Shine. If you want to be a seller, contact Marilyn by Oct. 22 at 703-765-6817 to purchase a table for \$20.

Movie: Courageous. 3 p.m. The movie will be shown in the fellowship hall of Plymouth Haven Baptist Church, 8600 Plymouth Dr. Refreshments will be served.

Audition. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Aldersgate Church Community Theater will be holding auditions for "Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr." Children ages 8-18. Visit www.acctonline.org.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Schools



Named to Honors Choir

Virginia Honors Choir auditions were held Saturday, Oct. 13, at Longwood University in Farmville. Open only to seniors, more than 700 of the finest singers in the state auditioned for the 135-member Honors Choir. Ernest Johnson, West Potomac High School choral teacher, said that two WPHS students — soprano Katie Carbone, and tenor Freddie Perez — have been selected to join the Virginia Honors Choir. These students will perform in the Virginia Honors Choir Nov. 17 at the Virginia Music Educators State Conference at the Homestead in Hot Springs.

School Notes

Email announcements to gazette@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

MONDAY/NOV. 12

Veteran's Day Ceremony. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mount Vernon High School invites all retired, former, and active duty military members to join

for a special Veteran's Day Ceremony. The program will be held in Bratten Hall. On the program will be members of the military and a special musical performance by our Madrigals honoring all branches of the military. Following the ceremony, a light luncheon will be served. RSVP to Jim Bermudez at jbermudez@fcps.edu by Nov. 7.

Military Notes

Navy Seaman Amy L. Gonzalez, a graduate of West Potomac High School, Alexandria, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Sara E. Mathewson has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader Development and Assessment Course, also known as "Operation Warrior Forge," at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash. She is the daughter of Ricky A. and Mary E. Mathewson of Bayberry Drive, Alexandria. Mathewson is a 2004 graduate of West Potomac High School, Alexandria.

Kendrick C. Carr has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader Development and Assessment Course, also known as "Operation Warrior Forge," at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash. Carr is the son of Mary E. Pennyfeather of Mary Evelyn Way, Alexandria. He is a 2006 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria.

Navy Seaman Apprentice BreeAnn M. Rhodes, sister of Lauren D. Lopez-Cano of Alexandria, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Rhodes is a 2010 graduate of Indian River Central High School of Philadelphia, N.Y.

Army Pvt. Jonathan Salinas has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. He is the son of Ruth Campos of Quantrell Ave., Alexandria. Salinas is a 2008 graduate of Annandale High School.

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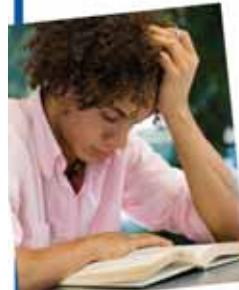
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(1) OFFERS INCLUDE VA TAX, FREIGHT, \$399 PROCESSING FEE, ACQUISITION FEE AND \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT. 36-MONTH LEASE WITH 12K PER YEAR. (2) TOTAL DOWN PAYMENT PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$399 PROCESSING FEE DUE AT SIGNING. (3) 0% APR FOR A LIMITED TIME ON SELECT NEW TOYOTAS WITH APPROVED TIER1+ CREDIT THROUGH TFS. EXCLUDES \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. (4) BASED ON BLACK BOOK TRADE VALUE MINUS EXCESS MILEAGE AND RECONDITIONING. (5) COVERS NORMAL FACTORY SCHEDULED SERVICES FOR 2 YEARS OR 25K MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. THE NEW VEHICLE CANNOT BE PART OF A RENTAL OR COMMERCIAL FLEET. SEE PARTICIPATING DEALER FOR COMPLETE PLAN DETAILS. VALID ONLY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND ALASKA. (6) TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICE COLLEGE GRADUATE PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH A PARTICIPATING TOYOTA DEALER AND TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES. NOT ALL APPLICANTS WILL QUALIFY. REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD THE AMOUNTS DUE AT LEASE SIGNING OR DELIVERY WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER LEASE OR FINANCE TRANSACTION. (7) REBATE OFFERED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC. REBATE WILL BE APPLIED ON LEASE CONTRACTS, FIRST TOWARD DUE AT SIGNING OR DELIVERY WITH ANY REMAINDER TO THE CAPITALIZED COST REDUCTION, OR TOWARD THE DOWN PAYMENT ON FINANCE CONTRACTS. ONE REBATE PER FINANCE OR LEASE TRANSACTION. NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE TOYOTA COLLEGE GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS. (8) ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS MUST BE IN CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY STATUS IN THE U.S. MILITARY. (9) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR 36 MONTHS ON PRIUS PLUG-IN FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS. (10) 0% APR FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR 36 MONTHS ON NEW 2012 CAMRY'S FOR WELL QUALIFIED BUYERS. (11) WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (++) FROM DATE OF TCUV PURCHASE. (+++) 1.9% APR FINANCING ON ALL CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED VEHICLES FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH TFS. \$399 DEALER DOC FEE. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE FINANCING DETAILS. ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 10/31/12.